



Flight 506 News

Volume 12, Issue 2

February 2006



Chapter Events

Mark Your Calendars!

**Saturday,
February 11, 2006**

EAA Chapter 506

Meeting

8:30 am Breakfast

9:00 am Meeting

Chapter 506 Clubhouse

Breakfast will be
provided

By the Breakfast
Committee at a cost of
\$4.00 per person.

President of the Month's Corner

By Dave Courtney

"Flying with Bob!"

January's program was a brief talk about my trip with Bob Parker out to Sulphur Springs, Texas to pick up his new Legend Cub. A more complete description of the trip was provided as part 2 of the January newsletter.

The subject of planning for a long VFR trip and the considerations for the length of segments was the key point that was made. For pilots used to cruising in a small area of the Charlotte sectional, a trip that was 900 nautical miles in each direction represented a leap of faith in the airplane and the pilot. Pilots who are used to long cross country flights may not remember their first excursions out into the unknown. It almost becomes a rite of passage that improves your skills and your confidence.

Low level flying in the VFR space means that extra attention has to be paid to towers, ridges and potential landing areas. The trip to Texas also showed how much open space still exists in the USA. It showed the power of the wind to affect the mission. It was certainly disconcerting to have semi-trucks passing us on I-20 in Mississippi and Louisiana when your airspeed is showing 110 knots.

The final topic of discussion was formation flying. The loose formation allowed two pilots to stay in visual contact while avoiding physical contact. It was made more difficult by one plane lacking the ability to transmit on a radio. It was certainly interesting having flight following for a flight of two when only one plane shows up on radar.

Bob Parker insisted on rebuttal time. He talked about the stability of the Legend Cub and its performance. He briefly covered the aspects of the plane that allowed it to qualify as a Light Sport Aircraft. He also made an appeal to the membership to help recruit new members for the chapter.

January Meeting Minutes

By Ken Dunaway

An excellent breakfast of scrambled eggs, sausage, pancakes and Debbie Fink's pecan rolls was enjoyed by all. Thanks to Nancy Normark, Debbie Fink and Roxanna Mancusi for hosting the feast.

After a hotly contested campaign, Ken Dunaway was (s)elected as the Chapter secretary for 2006. He wants to thank all of the other candidates who withdrew their names so he could be elected unanimously.

January Meeting Minutes (continued)

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the president, Bob Parker. Three guests were present, Sarah, Wayne and Norman. We hope they return as new members.

Secretary report:

The minutes from the December meeting as printed in the January newsletter were approved.

Treasurer's report:

The incoming treasurer accepted the turnover of the records and promised an accounting at the next meeting of the Chapter.

Old Business:

Members were reminded dues for 2006 are due now.

The new low rate of \$24.00 per year is now in effect.

Service recognition awards for 2005 were presented by Bob Parker to last year's officers.

New Business:

Jack Schultz proposed that it would be helpful to have a program coordinator for those members interested in building projects. He volunteered to serve as the facilitator for this effort. By voice vote, the proposal was accepted.

The January program followed.

The Standby Mouse

by Dave Courtney

There is something about New York City in January that always sends chills down my spine. I think it is the weather. Since 1978 I have been making an annual pilgrimage to the city to attend the National Retail Federation's (NRF) conference for retailers and vendors. For many years, I went for IBM. Now I go for my own company to visit this annual extravaganza of trade show booths to see what other vendors are trying to convince retailers that they cannot live without for another season. My

feet give out after a few hours of walking the concrete floors and I ache to go home.

So there I was sitting in the waiting area of American Airlines at LaGuardia airport waiting for the flight to Raleigh. I had gotten to the airport early and on an earlier flight. All was quiet, as quiet as an active airport can be, when a lady using a cell phone exclaimed "there's a mouse". The lady was standing in the main traffic corridor looking into our waiting area. "There it goes." People started looking around at their feet until the target was spotted scurrying along under the seats toward the gate door. The mouse was no more than two inches long and dirty gray in color. It blended in well with the carpet and the molding and the floor tiles. Only when it was actually moving did it appear. It scurried very fast.

Flights to Boston and Madison, Wisconsin were dispatched from the same gate. The ebb and flow of travelers brought new people into the area. The mouse still scurried through the area. It became bolder and went into the seating area, up and down the rows of chairs. As people discovered the mouse, packages and bags were retrieved from the floor and stored on open seats. New travelers were alerted to the mouse by previous arrivals to the waiting area. It was the flash of gray that gave the mouse away. It became a common experience for all of the travelers and broke down the usual reserve that New York City travelers usually exhibit in airports and other public places. People actually talked to each other.

I was in the area for almost two hours waiting for the flight to Raleigh. I knew more than a half dozen people like myself that were on their annual trek to the NRF show. Conversation alternated between what we had seen at the show and where was the mouse now. The mouse stopped scurrying and disappeared from sight as it came time for the Raleigh flight to board. It was last seen heading toward the check-in counter. It was forgotten about as the boarding process began down the cold jet way to the regional jet that was taking us to Raleigh.

The last people on board were two more people that I knew from Raleigh. They had been on the later flight and had arrived early enough to snatch standby seats on our flight. The flight to Raleigh took almost two hours from the take-off conga line

to the swirling gusty final approach into Raleigh. As we approached the gate, the captain announced that it was 68 degrees in Raleigh. Welcome home.

As we began to deplane, one of the late arrivals said "There's a mouse in my bag!" His briefcase had an outside pocket and in it was the standby mouse. The word flashed through the plane. The mouse had made it to Raleigh. Smiles and

laughter broke out. Now we knew what the mouse was doing. It was trying to get out of New York City to some place warm. It passed up flights to Boston and Madison for a trip South to Raleigh. The bag was unceremoniously emptied of its passenger on the jet way and life returned to normal.

Safe flying.

Interesting Weblink:

<http://skyvector.com>

2006 Chapter 506 Programs & Activities:

<i>Date</i>	<i>Program Responsibility</i>
January 14	Dave Courtney – "Flying with Bob"
February 11	Ned Nutt – "Medical Questions and Answers"
March 11	Joe Mancusi
April 8	Larry Fink
May 13	Byron Covey
June 10	Mort Altman
July 8	Jack Schultz
August 12	Ron Normark
September 9	Paul Bellman
October 14	Art Armeni (JNX open house and Young Eagles event)
November 11	OPEN
December 9 (PM)	Nancy Normark & Ida May Covey

Other EAA Chapter News

EAA Chapter 1407 at Wilson Industrial Airport (W03) has a pancake & sausage breakfast on March 4 from 7 am to 10 am. AYCE \$5.00. Regular meeting follows. Speaker is Mr. Jerry Davis, a former U-2 pilot.

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EAA Chapter 506:

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Visit Chapter 506's Website

<http://www.blueasp.com/506/>

Submission deadline for an article is two weeks before the next meeting. Articles appearing in this newsletter may be reproduced in full, only if proper credit is given to the author and the Flight 506 News.

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