



Bearhawk LSA



Whassup!

Wed 05 April
Chapter 322 Meeting
Dickie Fritz MOTH Hall, Edenvale

29 April to 01 May
EAA National Convention & AGM
Bethlehem

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Bearhawk LSA

Wayne Giles' Bearhawk LSA sees daylight for the first time

by Karl Jensen - Chapter 322 Johannesburg

Wayne Giles, EAA Chapter 322 member, has completed the construction of his second Bearhawk, this time a Bearhawk LSA. The LSA version has similar dimensions to his previous Bearhawk Patrol ZU-BHP, with the exception of the wingspan on the LSA version, which has approximately 12" greater wingspan. The Patrol has an IO-360 engine with a constant speed Hoffmann 3-blade propeller fitted.




The LSA version is fitted with a Continental O-200D with a fixed pitch 2-blade prop. I was present 3 weeks ago when the aircraft was wheeled from its birthplace and a temporary fuel tank was jury rigged to test the engine and alternator. The engine roared into life after the 1st blade passed TDC. All pressures and other indications were spot on - a testament to the care that Wayne exercised during construction.



ZU-IKO with wings fitted in Karl Jensen's hangar at Fly Inn Estate.

Wayne imported the kit for the new Bearhawk LSA in July 2016 and it is structurally complete at time of writing, barring aileron pulleys and cables, strut and undercarriage fairings. The fairings were not to Wayne's required high standards and they are presently being remanufactured.

Wayne moved the aircraft with registration ZU-IKO from his workshop at Fly Inn to my hangar for the fitting of the wings, as his workshop precludes access to the airfield for an aircraft with wings in place. The wing fitting took 2 days and the completed aircraft emerged into sunlight on Sunday 19 March, resplendent with Tundra tyres, which he has also fitted to the Patrol. These low pressure tyres will allow operation from unprepared surfaces and will make 'back country' flying a cinch and a new adventure for Wayne and whoever he allows to fly his Bearhawks.

Many of our members enjoyed a project visit to see the aircraft during construction in December 2016 and were hopefully as impressed with the build standard as I was. Wayne maintained this impressive quality throughout, and even though I have extolled the high standard of construction and finish on the Patrol, this new LSA has been constructed to an even higher standard. Well done, Wayne, and no doubt when the paperwork is completed, CAA will issue the necessary authority for proving flights followed by the Authority to Fly (ATF). 



Bearhawk LSA Wing, L to R: Rob Jonkers, Chris Linakis, Wayne Giles, Jeremy Woods.



Wayne Giles and nascent Bearhawk LSA with Eugene Couzyn.



ZU-IKO pushed into the sunshine for the first time.

Aeroclub Airweek 2017 - Parys

by Garth Calitz

Excerpts by courtesy of Pilots Post

www.pilotspost.co.za



The friendly town of Parys once again played host to the annual Aeroclub of South Africa Air week from 10 to 12 March. The Air week has become a very popular gathering of all sections of recreational aviation, with all sections being well supported, from the Radio Flyers to the Hi-impact unlimited aerobatics fraternity.

The goal of the Airweek is to raise awareness of the different recreational activities in South Africa between the section members, and moreover to be a recreational pilots social gathering. The turnout this year was inspiring to say the least, and at times the air traffic controllers were extremely busy with all the movements. The ATNS air traffic controllers, accompanied by the safety officer Nigel Musgrave and ramp controller Paul Sabatier, did a sterling job and ensured a safe and memorable event for all the right reasons.

Aircraft started arriving on Friday afternoon from all corners of the country, while the exhibitors worked frantically to get their stands up and ready. The atmosphere and camaraderie at these events is always heart-warming, with many old friends meeting up and new friendships made, all in the common love for all things aviation.

After the threatening weather earlier in the week, the weather on Saturday couldn't have been better if it was ordered; blue skies and beautiful warm sunshine made for perfect flying weather. Aircraft started pouring in from very early on Saturday morning, arriving to a hearty breakfast at the Parys Airfield Clubhouse.

The day's events kicked off with a SAPFA Spot-landing competition. The competition was flown under FIA rules, the overall competition was won by Ron Stirk in his Cessna 150, followed by Marcel Griffioen in a Pipistrel Sinus; they finished jointly on 22 points, but Ron's glide approach was marginally better, giving him the overall advantage. Allan Evans in a Super Cub and Rob Jonkers in a Cessna 182, who were third and


fourth, also had to be separated by the glide approach score. Frank Eckard, a former world champion, obtained fifth place, showing the level of competition on the day.

Throughout the day skydivers dropped in whenever they managed to get a pilot willing to drop them. Graham Field from Skydive Rustenburg also took a few people for tandem jumps, introducing them to the world of sky diving.

While all the flying activities were on the go, there were also several speakers sharing their knowledge. Tony Frost shared the strategy adopted by the Aeroclub for the future of Recreational flying in South Africa. Colin Francis, a former navigator on Vulcan bombers, shared his experiences in the 1962 Cuban missile crisis.

Daniel Ralefeta gave an interesting presentation on the ever-increasing role of drone use in commercial applications. Dan is the current chairman of the Aeroclub training and development section, and is also very involved in the training of drone pilots and formulating the legislation governing them.

A good day's flying was topped off by a 'mock' aerobatics competition. A seminar was held on Friday to train aerobatic judges and the competition was used as a test to evaluate the newly trained judges. Gary Whitecross was first up, flying a sequence in his Pilatus B4 Glider. Gary competes against powered aircraft using the same criteria. Unfortunately, no formal results for the mock competition were released, but the pilots did put on a spectacular show in aircraft ranging from a late 1940s Stearman and a Yak 52 to the modern unlimited machines like an Extra 300 and a Sbach.

After a long day filled with amazing flying, the night silence was broken by the roar of gas burners with members of BAFSA showing off the bright colours of the balloon against the dark black sky. Congratulations to the team from the Aeroclub for once again raising the bar and hosting a wonderful event. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to next year's event. 



Sling 4



Cessna 182



Boeing Stearman



Rob Jonkers and cousin Martin Meyer watching the spot-landing competition from the shade of an Extra.

Stars of Sandstone 2017

by Mike Brown - Chairman, Chapter 322 Johannesburg

Some of our members will be participating in the event, to be held at the end of March / beginning April over several days, but there is also the option of spending a day or a weekend (Sat 08 April / Sun 09 April).

The information below will give you all you need to know if you are interested in attending this event.
For lovers of steam locomotives, and all things mechanical, military, old and beautiful, this is a fun event!

The fourth 'Stars of Sandstone' event at Sandstone Estates, near Ficksburg, runs from 30 March to 07 April, with additional public Open Days on Sat 08 and Sun 09 April.

A daily entry ticket price for the Public Open Days enables the festival to be enjoyed by local communities.

The event offers food which can be purchased at food stalls for those who choose the self-catering option. We have reached the stage where our seating accommodation in our dining cars and in our restaurants is at capacity, so if you book from now on please book the non-catering option.

Camping is available on site, and there are a large number of excellent guest houses in the surrounding area.

Stars 2017 Pricing

Self-catering (30 March - 07 April)

- R912.00 inclusive of VAT and children over 18 per day
- R399.00 inclusive of VAT for accompanying spouse per day
- R228.00 inclusive of VAT for children 12 to 18 per day
- R85.50 inclusive of VAT for children under 12 per day

Public Days per day 08 and 09 April 2017

- Entrance per adult - R228.00
- Under 18 - R114.00
- Under 12 - R57.00

Camping will be available at R285.00 per campsite per night.

Please book online at <http://www.starsofsandstone.com/>

For those planning to fly in, the 900 metre grass airfield is available by prior agreement (PPN) only.
All aircraft are welcome, provided arrangements for permission to use the airfield have been made in advance. Please take note of the airfield information in the attached indemnity, and ensure that the airfield is suitable for your aircraft.

Please complete the attached indemnity and email it to the organizers in advance in order to obtain approval to use the airfield. No prior approval - no landing permitted!

[Pilots briefing and indemnity](#)

[Illustrated Rail Program](#)

EAA Chapter 322 Meeting - April

by Mike Brown - Chairman, Chapter 322 Johannesburg

Members and friends of EAA Chapter 322 are reminded about the next monthly meeting this coming Wednesday 05 April at the Dickie Fritz MOTH Hall in Dowerglen, Edenvale. There will be a discussion about the upcoming EAA of SA National Convention at Bethlehem from 29 April to 01 May, and we will be showing an aviation-related video after the break.

So please everyone, come and join us at 18h00 for 19h00 this coming Wednesday. You do not have to be a member and you certainly will not be 'press-ganged' into joining this vibrant EAA Chapter. There will be delicious refreshment from the kitchen awaiting us upon arrival, and as always there will be coffee, tea and a cash bar available.

We look forward to seeing everyone there.



Technology Presentation

by Karl Jensen - Chapter 322 Johannesburg

On 15 March, Prof. Chris Atkins, President of the RAeS, gave a lecture entitled Technology, Innovation and Changing Product Strategies in Aeronautics, at the CSIR in the wind-tunnel building. The lecture was preceded by talks with Dr Glen Snedden, AeSSA President, on the South African division and its challenges. Rob Jonkers had kindly invited Chapter 322 members to attend the lecture if they were able to do so.



Rob Jonkers and Prof. Chris Atkins.

Bird-strike!

by Gordon Dyne - Chapter 322 Johannesburg



On Saturday 21 January I invited Ben Fincham, his son Benjamin and Benjamin's lovely young girl-friend Shada Pearman to fly in my Dragon with me. I had met this 'aviation mad family' at a recent 'safety evening' organised by well known and respected instructor Tony Kent at Springs Airfield. Ben Snr is a charter pilot flying Citations, Gulf-streams and heaven knows what else all over the world. What a life! Ben Jnr, at 19, is a PPL and intends following in his father's footsteps. Shada is a Commercial Pilot and, amongst other aircraft, she can often be seen flying her father's Tiger Moth in the Brakpan sky. Two weeks previously I had given the two Bens a ride in my Arrow 200. Ben Snr had owned an Arrow 200 many years ago and was very happy to reacquaint himself with this wonderful aircraft. During this flight Ben Snr flew us over an airstrip near Nigel, named after his grandfather - the Fincham Airstrip. On Saturday 21 January the weather was awful and we only had a 500ft ceiling. We could not go South as the cloud was on 'the deck' at the Ergo Slimes Dam. I decided to stay in the circuit and have some fun. I took all three of my guests up for about 25 minutes each and gave each of them control for a few minutes. I did not have a lot of time to fly, because I had to collect my wife Susan from the Little Company of Mary Hospital in Pretoria at 10h00. Ben Jnr was the first up and has a natural talent for flying. Unfortunately I had not taken cognisance of the fact that the long grass at Brakpan airfield had been cut during the previous week and many nests had been destroyed and many of the chicks who nested therein had been killed. I should have known better having had a very serious bird-strike some years ago, which almost killed me and did huge damage to my Dragon. However, this time I was not that low. I was way above the hangar roofs when this Kiewiet rose up from nowhere to meet the plane head on.

It smashed into my port wing, was killed instantly and left a big dent in the wing. We found the dead Kiewiet in the veld later on. Very sad, as I hate hurting any animal. We laid it to rest in the shade of a local tree.

After dropping Ben Jnr off, I then took up Ben Snr, who, despite his massive experience flying jets and helicopters, described his flying in my Dragon as 'proper flying'! I could not agree with him more. I finally took up Sharda, who loved flying in my unique plane. So ended another great morning's flying marred by the bird-strike. With winter approaching and the birds feasting off the remnants of the recently harvested mealies and so on, pilots are advised to fly high and keep a sharp look-out.

Sadly, my beautiful Chinese baby was destined for another month in the panelbeater at Springs and another huge bill to cover the repairs.



EAA of SA National Convention 2017



Full details of Convention and AGM to follow.

For information about accommodation in the Bethlehem area, [click here](#)

Convair 440

by Karl Jensen - Chapter 322 Johannesburg

This is the last Convair 440 Metropolitan of [Rovos Air](#), having just been test flown by General Brian Stableford and Fluff McKerchar at Wonderboom on 24 March. The Convair ZS-BRV is due for delivery to Switzerland in July by this team. This is the second and last 440 to leave our shores. The previous one, ZS-ARV, was flown to its new home in Australia late last year, without incident, after the crew had been trained by Brian Stableford.

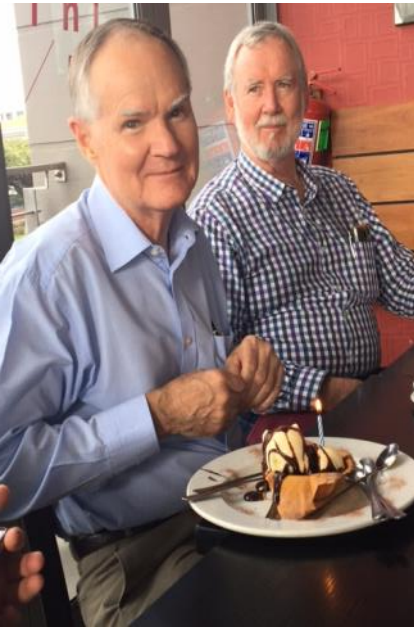


From L to R: Johan Barries Barnard, the mechanical magician who has kept [Rovos](#) aircraft flyable, Brian Stableford, Fluff McKerchar and Rohan Vos.

Happy Birthday Clive King!

by Gordon Dyne - Chapter 322 Johannesburg

On Friday 24 March, a number of aviation friends came together at Turn 'n Tender at Nicholway to celebrate the 70th birthday of popular EAA 322 member Clive King. Clive, who does not look a day over 40, puts his youthful appearance down to decades of clean living! As usual, Turn 'n Tender provided some terrific steaks for lunch and then all the staff came to our table and presented Clive with a delicious ice-cream and chocolate sauce, of which all guests enjoyed a taste. Everyone then sang 'Happy Birthday' to Clive and rounded off the lunch with a hearty rendering of 'Shosholoz!' Clive's face was a picture!



Chapter 322 Teddy Build

March progress report

by Karl Jensen - Chapter 322 Johannesburg



From L to R: Tendo de Paravicini, Andre Swanepoel, Karl Jensen, Stephen Theron and Mike Haupt.



From L to R: Ron van Lear, Mike Haupt and Jeremy Woods.

It is very pleasing that our Teddy Build Project is alive and well. In February we had a meeting to map the way forward with this wonderful project.

For one reason and another, the build seemed to be stalling and our Chapter 322 Chairman, Dr Mike Brown, questioned the ongoing viability of the project. As I was the Chapter Chairman at the time the project was taken on, I offered to take the reins from Marie Reddy who had led the build. Marie has professional pressures that often preclude her attendance at the build days.

With the guidance of Kevin Hopper who donated the basic structure, we determined that the build continuation is both viable and desirable, and have projected a budget that was presented at our previous Chapter 322 meeting in March. The regular participants are increasing in number and by all accounts, the members really enjoy the build and are all learning new skills. The aircraft build is at a stage where each added component becomes an incentive to do more. It is with much appreciation that Mike Brown, despite his health and academic issues, put in an appearance on Saturday 18 March and got his hands well and truly stained by epoxy glue.



From L to R: Nicholas van der Merwe, Mike Haupt, Jeremy Woods, Andrew Lester, Robyn van der Merwe, Karl Jensen, Stephen Theron and Mike Brown.

The woodwork of the fuselage has been largely completed for some while. The metal empennage is awaiting the addition of fittings and protective coating. The metal undercarriage parts are nearly complete, with the wheel materials in the hands of Kevin Hopper at Skyworx for machining. Both wings are nearing structural completion of the woodwork. As is well known amongst the aircraft homebuilding fraternity, 90% completion means 90% to go! At our last build day in March, there were about 20 people who came by, including several first-timers.

[Comment from Mike Brown: I thoroughly enjoyed my Reddy, Steady, Teddy project build visit to Teddy Headquarters at Krugersdorp on Saturday 18 March. It didn't take long before I was press-ganged into getting my hands thoroughly dirty, and I soon felt quite at home mixing with the more seasoned builders – my dexterity with the glue pot is something to behold! For those who haven't made the pilgrimage, I would urge you to do so – you will be pleasantly surprised how much fun it can be! Take your family along, there's always something for everyone to do, no matter what your level of experience or lack thereof. I'm certainly planning to be back whenever I can.]



From L to R: Andrew Lester, Nicholas van der Merwe, Michale Lester, Mike Brown, Karl Jensen and Ron van Lear.

Parts Galore



Hennie Pieterse, an ex-colleague at SAA and a long time aviation enthusiast, has a stack of aircraft parts which he is disposing of. The parts are both new and used and include rivets, nuts and bolts, washers, fasteners of all kinds, circuit breakers, switches, landing lights, beacon lights, LEDs, pulleys, control cables, turnbuckles, rudder pedals, brake cylinders, pipe unions, pneumatic tools, brackets, fittings, used VHF radios, instruments, aircraft grade styrofoam, plywood, etc. Hennie is prepared to sell the new parts at the same price as quoted by Aircraft Spruce, EXCEPT that he is using US\$1.00 = ZAR1.00 - in other words, at approx 1/13 of the catalogue prices. - Karl Jensen, email karlpix@icon.co.za

CONTACT! Is the official newsletter of EAA of SA. This edition was compiled by Kevin Marsden and edited with love and kisses by Trixie Heron. All material is gratefully received from Chapters, members and non-members alike. Remember that this is your newsletter, so please submit material as it happens to news@eaa.org.za