



# DIRIGO FLYER

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EAA 87

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## Time to Catch Up: Mid-Winter Meeting Notes and Special Events

• Two good meetings have been held since the September newsletter. In October, several members attended the 30th Northeast Aero Historians meeting at the New England Air Museum at Bradley Field, CT. A very interesting two-day program was held, with plenty of time to tour this exciting and diverse museum. The 31st Annual Meeting will be held October 13-15, 1995 (Columbus Day weekend) in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. The highlight will be the newly reopened Canadian National Aviation Museum at Rockcliffe. Make plans to go now — maybe we can get up a group.

• The next weekend, we met at Jack Denison's shop opposite Sky Haven Airport in Rochester, NH. Gracious Jack had coffee and Cokes and donut holes for all, plus videos. We also saw the fine craftsmanship he's put into his new homebuilt plane.

• On January 14th, a meeting was held at the Jetport Conference Room. Among those present were Scott Grant, Neal Strange, Al Spalding and son Sam, Clay Carkin, Ed Goldman, Rob Rohr, Jim and Wanda Chichetto, Cliff Haines, Norm Houle and Leo Boyle. Most members present paid their '95 dues and, with others by mail, we now have over \$600 in the treasury and no outstanding bills except for the non-profit status.

• On December 16, Norm and Kay Houle and Leo Boyle attended the Christmas Open House at Presidential Aviation at the Sanford Airport. Regrettably, the DC-3 in Northeast Airlines colors of the Dakota Aviation Museum would not start and was not present. Among others, we met Don Yeskoo and Jan Murray of the Sanford Airport Commission and Jim Jackson of Presidential. They are all quite enthusiastic about our locating at Sanford and are willing to help all they can. In the meantime, all options are open and if you have any ideas or suggestions, please let us know.

### Let Your Voice Be Heard

Please let us know what we can do to help you, or things you would like us to plan. We are your society, and we need your ideas. For further information, please contact:

**Maine Aviation Historical Society**  
101 Monroe Avenue, Westbrook, ME 04092-4020  
or call (207) 854-9972.



For those of you who are not members, why not join us and help preserve Maine's aviation heritage? Join the excitement and receive the *Dirigo Flyer* regularly.

## UPCOMING ... UPCOMING ... UPCOMING ... UPCOMING

### Spring Expeditions Planned

At least two major expeditions are planned for this spring. Jim Chichetto will be leading a mission to the Staceyville area to the site of the *Sea Fury* crash (plus two or three others close by). Oscar Blue will be leading a mission in the Katahdin Iron Works area to search for lost aircraft in this area (maybe even the *White Bird*?). The March meeting will be a briefing meeting for these "when the snow goes, before the foliage comes out" events. We need major support including a helicopter, an aircraft, hand-held GPS, metal detection equipment, four wheel drive vehicles and experienced and non-experienced woods people. Please let us know what you can do and try to be at the March meeting.

### New Display Boards Needed

We also need pictures, material and ideas for interesting display boards for the Owls Head, Brunswick and Greenville meetings. These will show some of Maine's interesting aviation history and what we are doing to preserve this history. The Brunswick display should commemorate the 50th anniversary of Presque Isle, Houlton, Bangor (Dow Field), Brunswick Naval Air Station and its satellite fields at Sanford, Lewiston-Auburn, Rockland and Trenton.

### Great Photos, Got Any More?

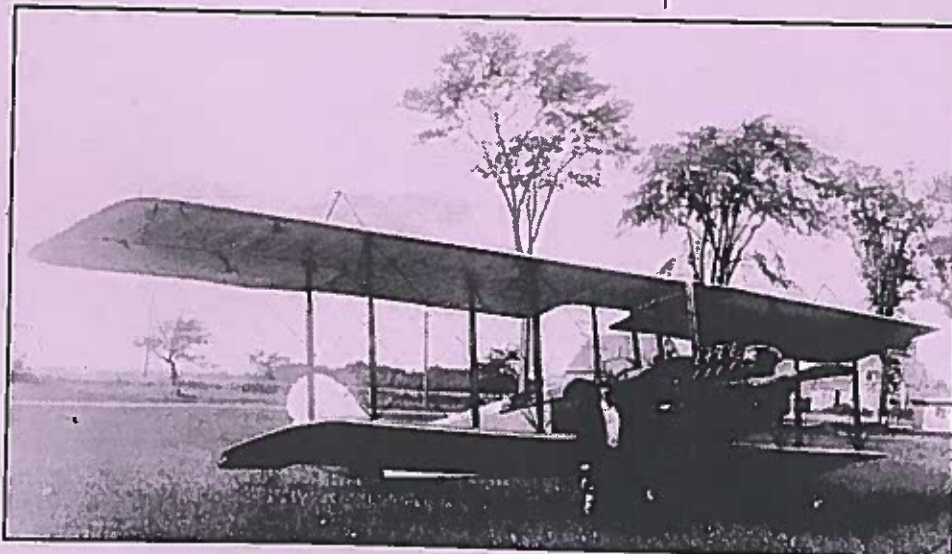
We do get photos! Our sincere thanks to the following for their contributions. Member Don Brown of Salt Lake City, Utah sent the group shot reproduced opposite. Norm Houle did a lot of work on this, as did others, and the photo ran in the November/December *Windsock*. We now have fairly positive identification of all the people. If we're wrong, please let us know right away.

Carl Thurston of Westbrook donated three photos of the Martin MB-2 that made a forced landing in Yarmouth in 1923.

Member Sherman Tinkham of Florida sent five photos of himself around the country during the 1920s and 1930s, one of which is reproduced on page 4.

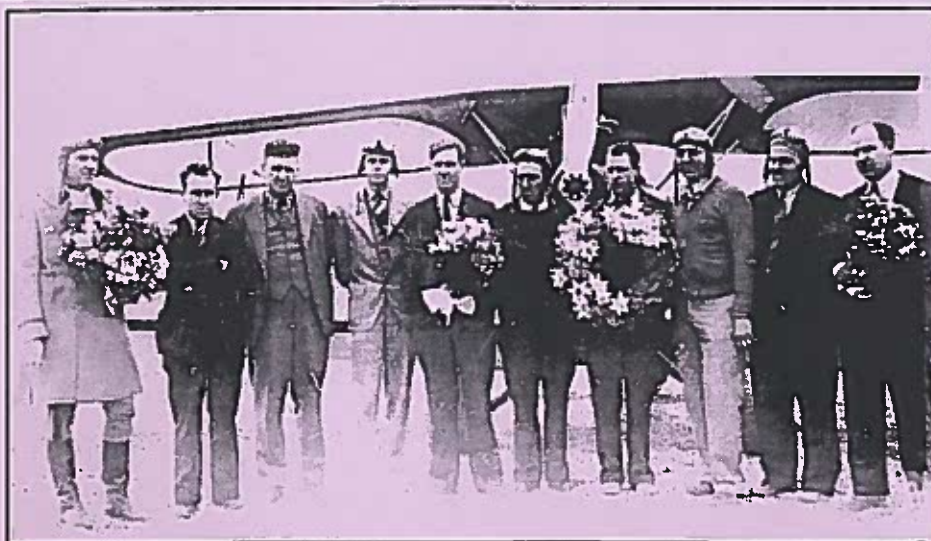
Finally, Norm Houle has two great pictures taken in Maine in the 1920s. One is reproduced below. Does anyone know who, what, when, where, why?

Still needed are photos of the Belfast Airport, information on the old Bleriot weathervane at Poland Spring, John Butler Ayer's (Eagle Squadron) college, work and flying details.



Norm Houle Photo

*A neat looking Standard J-1 with an intrepid Maine(?) aviator, somewhere in Maine waiting for some brave passengers to go joy-riding. Who was the pilot, where and when was this picture taken?*



*Don Brown Photo*

This picture was taken at Godfrey Field, Bangor on Memorial Day 1938 prior to take-off for a fly-by in memory of Merle Fogg. Merle was from Enfield. He did quite a bit of barnstorming in Maine in the '20s and started a flying service in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. He was killed in a crash on May 1, 1928.

There is a memorial plaque to him naming the airport "Merle Fogg Airport."

*Tentative Identifications: (Left to Right)*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <i>Captain Burtis F. Fowler, Maine Aeronautics Commission and State Police</i></li> <li>2. <i>Wilson "Wick" Boober, friend of Merle's, organized fly-by</i></li> <li>3. <i>Frank Crymble, Crymble Aircraft Corp., Godfrey Field, Bangor</i></li> <li>4. <i>Ralph Eye, Bangor mortician and pilot</i></li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. <i>Percy Billings, well-known Eastern Maine pilot</i></li> <li>6. <i>Bob Mott, Millinocket</i></li> <li>7. <i>Member Don Brown, who sent photo</i></li> <li>8. <i>Charles Treat, early Maine aviator</i></li> <li>9. <i>Francis Ohland, worked for Crymble</i></li> <li>10. <i>Bob Palmer, Bangor groceryman and pilot</i></li> </ol> |
|---|---|

The plane is a Great Lakes 2T1A of Captain Fowler.

If we're wrong, please let us know right away. Thanks to all who contributed to get us this far.

## **Enola Gay, Hiroshima and the Smithsonian: History Out of Context**

Just look at the controversy the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum has stirred up over their proposed Enola Gay-Hiroshima exhibit. Let's remember one thing: history was made in a different time than the one we're living in today, and values may have been very different then than now.

Our job is to preserve history, not to change it. I would like to quote Henry Cord Meyer from the book *Airshipmen, Businessmen and Politics, 1890-1940* (published by the Smithsonian).

In reference to Count von Zeppelin, Meyer states, "It does him no dishonor to see him clearly as a child of his times . . ."

## **Notes From the Mailbag**

We get lots of letters and we try to answer them as soon as we can. (I'm still trying to catch up!) Clark Thompson of Bangor sent us some great dates to look up in the Bangor papers regarding early flights there. He is very interested in Bass Park/Maplewood Park history and wonders if anyone has any information. I'll be glad to forward it.

Lloyd Gates sent a photocopy of a Selfridge Field plate that he acquired in Hallowell about 10 years ago.

Butch Beaver of Pittsfield is looking for a Lawrence 5-cylinder engine for a Newport 28 replica he is building. He also needs information on landing gear details. Can anyone help?

## JOIN IN ... SPEAK UP ... STAND UP AND BE COUNTED

### Welcome New Members

We are happy to welcome the following new members in this issue:

84. Frank L. Woodworth (*Maine Aviation*)  
P.O. Box 95, Pittsfield, ME 04967  
207-487-3261 / (B) 207-487-5284
85. Bob Loring (*Airplanes*)  
Box 103, Center Conway, NH 03813
86. Charles H. Smith (*Maine Aviation History*)  
204 W. Lockport St., Plainfield, IL 60544-1940
87. LTC Don Brown, USAF (Ret.) (*ME Av. Hist.*)  
2270 Carriage Lane, #81  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84117-4441
88. Donald W. Littlefield, Major, CAP (*CAP*)  
11 Hunt Street, #9, Portland, ME 04103-3245
89. Bruce Hazelton (*Air Mail*)  
P.O. Box 67A, Cumberland, ME 04021  
207-829-3427
90. Wayne F. Briggs (*Maine Aviation*)  
3 Sextant Lane, Scarborough, ME 04074  
207-883-3503

### Any Speakers Out There?

Anyone who would like to speak at one of our meetings, or has a slide show or video, please let Leo know so he can schedule you. We want to make our meetings interesting and enjoyable to all.

### Maine Pilots Association

If you're not already a member, you should consider joining the Maine Pilots Association. In addition to all the other good things they do, they publish their journal, *Windsock*, six times a year under Clay Carkin's editorship. It just gets better with each issue and alone is worth the \$23.00 annual dues. Send to *Maine Pilots Association, P.O. Box E, Lisbon Falls, Maine 04252.*

### Dues News

1995 dues (\$20.00) are coming in well. We would appreciate receiving them as soon as possible to help the Society and ease the bookkeeping. If dues are not paid, the February newsletter will be the last one you will receive. Help keep us growing! Renew, and bring a friend in too!

### 1994

### MAHS Calendars

### Still Available

We have a limited number of 1994 MAHS Calendars available at \$4.00 each (plus \$1.00 postage, if by mail). Please add .24 sales tax in Maine.



*Sherman Tinkham Photo*

*Member Sherman Tinkham (l) and Robert Tinkham (r) in front of Dr. Clifford Strange's Curtiss JN4D-2 on the sands of Old Orchard Beach in 1925.*

### Upcoming MAHS Meetings

February 11	9 a.m.	TBA, Norm Houle, Maine Airplane Slide Show
March 11	9 a.m.	Augusta-Pittsfield Area. Oscar Blue updates us on the crash search in the Katahdin Iron Works Area.
April 8	9 a.m.	TBA
May 13	9 a.m.	TBA
June 10	9 a.m.	TBA
July 1, 2	9 a.m.	Military Air Show, Owls Head Transportation Museum *
July 22, 23	9 a.m.	Great State o' Maine Air Show, Brunswick Naval Air Station *
August 12	9 a.m.	TBA
September 9, 10	9 a.m.	Greenville Seaplane Fly-In, Greenville, Maine *
October 19	9 a.m.	TBA
November 11	9 a.m.	TBA
December 9	9 a.m.	TBA

\* Indicates that we will have a table and display at these events.

All these upcoming Maine Aviation Historical Society meetings are tentative and subject to change. The definite ones are July 1 & 2 at Owls Head, July 22 & 23 at Brunswick, and September 9 & 10 at Greenville.

### Calendar of Events

February 18	9 a.m.	First Meeting, NH Aviation Historical Society, Conference Room, Terminal, Concord (NH) Airport
March 17-19		TICO, Titusville, Florida
April 8		Annual Meeting, New England Air Museum, Chris Terry, Canada, Speaker
April 9-15		Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, Florida
May 20		Walter J. Boyne Lecture, New England Air Museum
May 28	10 a.m.	Air Show and Ford Festival, Owls Head
June 3-4		Mid-Atlantic Air Museum WWII Weekend, Gabreski and Morgan
June 4	10 a.m.	Air Show, Convertible and Custom Show, Owls Head
June 17-18	10 a.m.	Maine State Soap Box Derby, Owls Head
July 1-2	10 a.m.	Military Air Show, Owls Head
July 9	10 a.m.	Air Show and 50s-60s, Owls Head
July 22-23	9 a.m.	Great State o' Maine Air Show, Brunswick Naval Air Station
July 22-23	10 a.m.	Air Show and Truck and Tractor Meet, Owls Head
July 27-Aug. 2		EAA Fly-In Convention, Oshkosh, WI
August 5-6	10 a.m.	Aerobatic Show and Transportation Rally, Owls Head
August 10-13		Sentimental Journey, Lock Haven, PA
August 12		Waterville, N.S. Fly-In
August 18-20		Wings of Eagles Air Show, Batavia, NY
September 9-10		Greenville, ME Seaplane Fly-In
October 8		Fall Flying Finale, Owls Head
October 13-15		31st Northeast Aero Historians Convention, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
October 22		Great Fall Auction, Owls Head

As we get dates, other events will be added. Let us know what you know.

## 1995 Flying Down East Maine Aviation Historical Calendar

Sixteen great exciting old photographs of planes and people in Maine, plus important history-making events listed. *Still only \$6.95.*

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## MAINE AVIATION HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Special Interests \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Membership Dues are \$20.00.

Please mail payment to: **Maine Aviation Historical Society**  
101 Monroe Avenue  
Westbrook, ME 04092-4020

- New  
 Renewal

For more information, call 207-854-9972.

Maine Aviation Historical Society  
101 Monroe Avenue  
Westbrook, ME 04092-4020



Camille m. Cyr  
7 Algonquin Lane  
Brunswick, ME 04011

**NEXT MEETING:**  
Sat., February 11th - 9 a.m.  
Conference Room  
Portland International  
Jetport