

DIRIGO FLYER

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Newsletter of the Maine Aviation Historical Society • P.O. Box 2641, Bangor, Maine 04402 • 207-854-9972

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MAHS Life Member Honored at Bingham

By Leo Boyle

Kenneth Cianchette of Pittsfield, life member of MAHS, was honored at the Gadabout Gaddis Fly-In in Bingham on Sunday, September 27, 1998 when he was awarded the Gadabout Gaddis Trophy for 1998.

The award is presented annually to recognize those who have made a major contribution to aviation in Maine. Ken has had a lifetime of active participation in aviation, probably being best known to thousands for his aerobatic demonstrations as the Red Baron in his replica Fokker DR.I triplane at the Owls Head Transportation Museum. A trustee of the museum, he has also donated his Fokker C.IV trans-Pacific

biplane to the museum and hopes to test fly it soon

The trophy was passed on to Ken by Leo Boyle, MAHS Secretary, who held the trophy for 1997. They were introduced by Wes Baker of Bingham, who coordinated the Fly-In and is looking forward to the 1999 Fly-In. Plan now to attend next year's event.

MAHS Secretary Leo Boyle presents the Gadabout Gaddis Trophy for 1998 to Ken Cianchette at the Bingham Fly-In. (Leo Boyle Photo)





MAHS life member Ken Cianchette of Pittsfield with the Gadabout Gaddis Trophy which he was awarded for 1998 in Bingham on 10/27/98. (Leo Boyle Photo)

ELECTION ALERT! Mark Your Calendars and Cast Your Vote Today

Election time is upon us again. It is time to choose the candidates for office to lead us through the coming year. Our outgoing President, Jim Chichetto, has appointed Norm Houle(#1), to be in charge of nominations for the upcoming elections.

We need nominees for the offices of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The current Vice President, Scott Grant, Secretary, Leo Boyle, and Treasurer, George Tinker, have agreed to serve another year if nominated and re-elected. It is your Society and we must all work on the best nominees who will serve us best in the forthcoming year. We especially need nominees to fill the shoes of our outgoing President, Jim Chichetto, who has served us well for the past three difficult years as we have transitioned from a great club to a growing, dynamic historical society. Please be sure your nominees are able and willing to serve as our dynamic leader. Now!

Please communicate your thoughts, ideas and nominees to:
Norm Houle, P.O. Box 563, Barrington, NH 03825-0563
Telephone: (603) 664-5631 e-mail: nhoule8751@aol.com
Election ballots will be in next month's (November) *Dirigo Flyer*and should be returned by December 12, 1998 or brought to the last
1998 meeting which will be held on that date in Portland. The new
officers for 1999 will be announced and installed at that meeting.

New Plans for October Meeting

The October MAHS meeting will be held on Saturday, October 17 (not October 10) at 9:00 a.m. at the Maine Air National Guard Facility at the Bangor International Airport in Bangor, Maine. This is because of the Columbus Day holiday the week before.

See directions elsewhere in this issue.

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ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

President open until 1/1/99

Vice President Scott Grant (#70) Box 17632, Portland, ME 04112 207-775-3404 e-mail: sgrant7777@aol.com Secretary Leo Boyle (#2) 101 Monroe Avenue Westbrook, ME 04092-4020 207-854-9972 e-mail: pshaw@mainerr.com Treasurer George Tinker (#11) 54 Thomas Hill Road Bangor, ME 04401-4622 207-942-2036

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Monthly meetings are held at 9 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month at various locations. See schedule for details.

Ellsworth

October Meeting: New Date and Place

The October MAHS meeting will be held on Saturday, October 17th instead of October 10th because of the Columbus Day holiday. It will be held at the Maine Air National Guard Facility at Bangor International Airport at 9:00 a.m.

An interesting program is planned, plus important updates on the "White Bird" search, and the progress of the museum will be discussed as well as where we are going and how do we achieve our goals in 1999.

Passes will be available for pick-up at the gate; just ask for directions to the meeting place. See you there.

"White Bird" Update

Jules Arel and Don Saunders travelled Downeast to check out new leads on the "White Bird." They have a new lead and plan to check this out with a preliminary look-see this fall. We will keep you posted.

U.S. News and World Report magazine had a short piece on this possibility in their September 14, 1998 issue, in which MAHS was mentioned.

Resignation

It is with great regret that we anounce the resignation of Jim Chichetto, our President. Jim felt that he had to step back and re-examine his priorities and plan his future. He plans to remain an active member, going on aircraft search hikes and continuing to write articles for the *Dirigo Flyer*. We wish him the very best in the future, look forward to seeing him at our get-togethers, and will call upon him for his wisdom and counsel. His leadership will be sorely missed.

For the balance of the year, Vice President Scott Grant will be Acting President, with the help of Secretary Leo Boyle, Treasurer George Tinker and the Board of Directors. Our new President for 1999 will be elected in December.

The Frye Island Air Force?

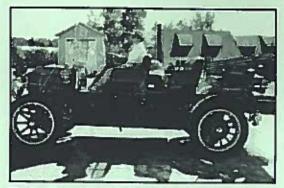


The Grumman Albatross Amphibian of the Frye Island Air Force on Sebago Lake, July 4, 1998 as Frye Island became Maine's newest town. (Stephan Gilman Photo)

Scenes from the Greenville Seaplane Fly-In



Grumman Goose flies low in the sunshine (!) at the Greenville Seaplane Fly-In. (Leo Boyle Photo)



Member Herman Bayerdorffer and his wife silently creeping away from the Greenville Seaplane Fly-In in his beautiful Stanley Steamer. (Leo Boyle Photo)

The Greenville Seaplane Fly-In was held on September 12-13, 1998 with the usual rainy day on Saturday. Loads of floatplanes and flying boats were there for your viewing, plus hundreds of landplanes at the Greenville Airport. We had our table set up in Folsom's Hangar, manned mostly by Peter Marini, Jack Denison, Scott Grant and your editor. We saw loads of members and gained new ones, distributed lots of newsletters and talked with interesting people. If you haven't tried helping at the table at these events throughout the season, you ought to consider it for 1999. You make new friends, educate people, learn new information and have fun doing it.

In the evening, Leo Boyle presented his slide show to a packed house at Squaw Mountain.

Sunday dawned bright and sunny and the flying began in earnest. Particularly impressive were the fly-bys by the Grumman Flying Boar. Where else can you see an Albatross, a Goose and Widgeons in formation?

We want to thank Frank Woodworth and Dick and Max Folsom for their generosity and help in providing us dry space and making it a grand success.

Peter Marini and Leo Boyle man the MAHS table in Folsom's Hangar at the Seaplane Fly-In in Greenville. (Jack Denison Photo)



Successful Start for the First Annual Starliner Fly-In

The first annual Starliner Fly-In was held at the Auburn-Lewiston Airport and member Maurice Roundy's Starliner Place on September 26-27.

Regrettably, it was bedeviled by fog, and the Collings Foundation's WWII Boeing B-17E Flying Fortress did not arrive until noontime Saturday. Member Mike Farrey's C-47 (DC-3) in Northeast Airlines colors dropped in through a break in the fog and parked by the Starliners. Member Dan Bilodeau flew in his Luscombe 8A which was also on display.

A large crowd showed up on both days despite the fog, and Scott Grant and Leo Boyle manned the MAHS table, Scott holding down the fort on Sunday while Leo was in Bingham.

One of the highlights was the running up of all four engines of the Starliner—it was a great sound when those huge radials were running! The B-17 sold rides and had a solid success. They want to return next year, hopefully with their Consolidated B-24 Liberator as well, and plans are already underway to set a date for the second Starliner Fly-In next year.

Our special thanks again to Maurice and Jane Roundy for their help in making it all possible.

Join the Maine Aviation Historical Society

For more information, please call Leo Boyle at 207-854-9972 or write to 101 Monroe Avenue, Westbrook, ME 04092

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A Peek at What Our Members Have Been Up To . . .



Member Rob Rohr looks out of the B-17 Flying Fortress, on which he was acting as a crew member, at our Owls Head meeting. (Photo via Jim Chichetto)



Liz Levant portrays Amelia Earhart with member Oscar Blue's 1931 Franklin air-cooled car at the 1998 Telephone Fair in Ellsworth. (Oscar Blue Photo)



Member Norm Houle and his grandson. Norm's wishing he had his Northeast Airlines captain's uniform on. (Jim Chichetto Photo)



Carlton Willey (MAHS member) and Henry P. Smiley, Bangor area pilot dating back to the 1930s (now living in California), attended the Brewer Airport Pancake Fly-In on Saturday, August 22, 1998. (Norm Houle Photo)



The Collings Foundation Boeing B-17E 909 at Auburn-Lewiston with Rob Rohr making sure it's parked right. (Jim Chichetto Photo)



Member Mike Farrey's Dakota Aviation Museum DC-3 and Mike himself at Auburn-Lewiston. (Jim Chichetto Photo)

Upcoming MAHS Meetings and Calendar of Events

October 4 10 a.m. Foreign Car Oktoberfest, OHTM.

October 25 10 a.m. Great Fall Auction, OHTM.

November 14 9 a.m. MAHS Meeting, TBA.

December 12...... 9 a.m. MAHS Meeting, TBA.

July 24-25, 1999 All Day Great State o' Maine Air Show, BNAS, Brunswick, Maine.

Meeting sites are flexible. We are always looking for suggestions on locations, guest speakers, slide shows, etc. Call Scott Grant at 207-775-3404 if you have any ideas or can be of help. *We will have a table at these events — volunteers needed!

Welcome New Members!

263. Warren C. Christensen (Aviation)
30 Pomeroy Street
Wilbraham, MA 01095-2232 413-596-4873

264. Allen W. Faraday

P.O. Box 36 South Casco, ME 04077 207-655-2306

265. Henry P. Smiley (Crash Investigation)
710 Cathy Lane

Cardiff, CA 92007 760-753-1849

266. H.C. Mike Lamoreau ("White Bird") 502 Hudson Hill Road

Hudson, ME 04449 207-884-8126

267. Ralph D. Smart

5 Glenwood Street

Orono, ME 04473-1309 207-866-3679

268. David Barker

156 South Road

Readfield, ME 04355 207-685-9004

269. Alex Rich

1076 Norway Road

Glenburn, ME 04401 207-942-7872

270. Martin V. Landry (Old Aircraft)

122 Pride Road

Auburn, ME 04210 207-784-9524

Next Month — Richard Theriault and His Steen Skybolt



Richard Theriault of Rumford, Maine, and his modified Steen Skybolt biplane in which he set records for time and distance for biplanes in 1978.

Look for his story in the next **Dirigo Flyer**.



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HISTORICAL
SOCIETY Dues will be for the calendar year, and those joining later in the year will receive all newsletters retroactive to January of that year. All renewal of dues shall be due on January 1st.

Annual membership includes 12 monthly newsletters! Mail payment to: MAHS 101 Monroe Avenue, Westbrook, ME 04092-4020

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Maine Aviation Historical Society P.O. Box 2641 Bangor, ME 04402

Note: October Meeting Update

Saturday, October 17, 1998 9 a.m.

Maine Air National Guard Facility Bangor International Airport