



First Quarter 2019
 Volume 12, Issue 1
 February 2019



Letter from the Editor:

Hi folks,

I have not been so busy this time, but this issue is still a little late. I was only able to get over to the US Sport Aviation Expo in Sebring for one day, but I did have a nice time. The forecast weather for the afternoon was not good, so I drove the 2 hours to Sebring instead of flying for about 20 minutes. Very disappointing. It turned out that I could have flown, but you have to read the forecasts and make your decisions. I chose the safest one.

The Arion Aircraft factory is really busy and you will get to see a bit about that later in the newsletter. It is good to see things moving along. It has been hard to get information out of Lightning Aircraft West. They lost their Webmaster and there have been almost no updates. I will do my best to get more from them during Sun 'n Fun. I will be there all week.

I would like to hear from you folks. Send me some updates on what you have been doing. Send a friend request on Facebook. I can then see if you are posting about your trips and flights. I would really like to know how things are going out there.

The Sun Flyer has made another first flight with the Siemens motor. The motor has the equivalent of 120 horse power for takeoff and 94 horse power available for continuous operation.

The picture on the right is Nick showing off the new airworthiness certificate for the XS Demonstrator. If the weather would accommodate, maybe it will get to go fly. No pictures of a flight yet.

Blue Skies,
 Dennis W. Wilt
dwwilt@aol.com

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Airworthiness Certificate

US Sport Aviation Expo 2019 (Sebring, FL)

Article by Dennis W. Wilt



A T-51 with a Young Lady on the Wing

The show at Sebring is always interesting. This year was the 15th anniversary of the first show. I did not take pictures of the entire show, just pieces that are interesting to me. There were the normal fly byes and demonstration flights for most of the manufacturers. Tecnam has their hangar right there on the show center and I did not take a picture of their fleet. They were well represented. Cruiser Aircraft operating out of Sebastian Municipal airport was there. They had two airplanes and two young ladies from Czechoslovakia there to help show off the planes. They also had a few guys there to give a ride or two and actually sell the planes. The young ladies were there last year as well.

The weather was much better this year on Friday than last year. It was a really pretty day while I was there. There were several tents set up for seminars and forums and they were very busy. There was a large tent set up for the big seminars, like the Rusty Pilot seminar put on by Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) I got to say hello to Jamie Beckett just before he started his three hour seminar at 1 pm.

The one surprise that I had was the Drone Zone. Last year it was huge. There were lots of vendors, and events. There was a lot of racing going on last year. This year there were three small booths and

that was all. They were busy and I did not get a chance to talk to them, so that was something.

So, I am not sure if it is worthwhile for Arion to attend. I am not sure how much payback it would provide Arion to go, but I would likely stay longer if they were there.

The Jabiru Aircraft folks were there and I talked just a bit to Scott Severen, owner of US Sport Planes for a bit. He was really busy talking to potential customers. It looks like the Jabiru is doing well. On the next page are some pictures of the event.



Jabiru Aircraft



A Warner Sportster for Sale



One of the Sportcruisers



Bristell was Front and Center



Magnus Aircraft



The Florida Institute of Technology Booth



A Picture Looking Down the Line - It was busier after lunch.

News from the Factory

I always like seeing the Arion Aircraft hangar busy. Nick and crew are just nice folks and it is great that he has been able to make a living doing what he really loves to do. I know that is not always easy. To get my information, I take a jog down the Facebook trail and gather as much information as I can. Mostly Nick has been working on customer projects or doing maintenance on existing airplanes.



A New Lightning XS In the Shop

Above is one of the pictures from the Homecoming. I really like these evening shots with the Hangar full of airplanes. The flag is hung properly and I think it is really pretty. But then, I'm an airplane nut. Certifiable crazy about airplanes. Just ask anyone.



The New XS is Moving Along Nicely

Above is the panel all fired up and running for the Demo airplane. It's pretty, too. And Nick gets to fly once in a while. The picture on the right came from one of his flights at the end of a hard day's work. These are the reasons that many of us fly. Pretty days and the freedom of being able to maneuver in 3 dimensions. Fun flying is what I do.

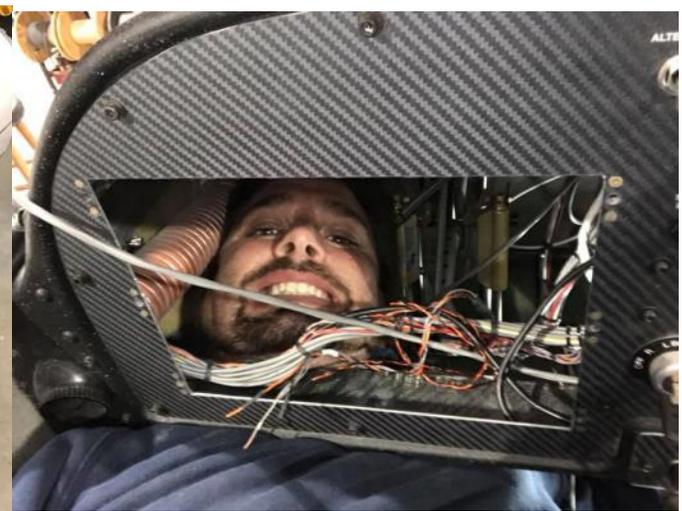


A 10 Day Crate to Paint for a New Jabiru



When You Know What You are Doing, Things Go Fast

Never saw any of the paint pictures, but I am sure this Jabiru aircraft is all painted nice.



Wiring Up the New XS Demonstrator

I hope Nick doesn't get stuck down there. I have been in that position and thought I was never going to get back out again.



An Older Lightning Getting a Mark 2 Tail



Girl Scout Cookies Anyone?

Pete Krotje used to help the Girl Scouts store their cookies every year there in Shelbyville. Arion has continued this tradition and here are a bunch of cookies getting ready to be distributed to troops so they can sell them at the local grocery stores and Walmart.



The Sun Flyer on its Flight with the Siemens Motor

News from The Dealers

From Lightning Aircraft West:

I am going to show some of the pictures from the last issue so you can see before and after of the gap seals. The builder is Craig Powell. I can't wait to see the finished airplane and the reports about the performance with the gap seals. You almost can't tell they are there on the after picture. Looks really nice. In the pictures of the shop, you can see Craig working on his Jet. And then there is the Carbon Fiber Instrument panel and fuel console. I like it.



Before During Installation and After Completed



Some Pictures of the Shop



Carbon Fiber Instrument Panel Mount and Fuel Console



Some Snow in Arizona

If you have been reading the news, Arizona has been getting a lot more snow than they have in years. Greg sent a picture of the mountains all snow covered.

Current Lightning Dealers or Representatives



Arion Lightning, LLC, contact Nick Otterback, Shelbyville, TN, 931-680-1781,
www.flylightning.net



Southwest: Geronimo Experimental Aircraft, Greg Hobbs, 18750 West Avra Valley Rd, Marana,
AZ 85635, 520-405-6868 www.lightningaircraftwest.net



Russia and CIS, AVIA-NIANIA Ltd, Moscow, Russia, Phone: + 7495518-62-75, Mobile Phone: +
7925518-62-75, avianiania@mail.ru or avianiania@aol.com



That XS You Saw in the Pictures Before, Well Here She is Again

News from Builders and Flyers:

There was nothing this time from our builders and owners.

Please send me some updates on projects and maybe some pictures of your airplane. I really would like to add a Lightning of the Quarter or a Pilot Spotlight.



Taking off at Sun 'n Fun Several Years Ago



The Florida Coast Line

For Sale:



N335CE

\$59,900 OBO located at Arion

2009 Light sport Compliant E-AB, 433 hrs. TT, GRT EFIS, EIS6000 EMS, Garmin SL-40, Garmin GTX-327, Autopilot, MK2 tail upgrade. (This is a great deal folks.



N214DG

Experimental – Light Sport Compliant, Located at Geronimo Experimental Aircraft, in Marana, AZ

Asking \$87,000



Contact Lightning West for details and more information. They also have a Jabiru aircraft for sale.

Propellers for Sale at the Factory:

(Low Time - Used for Flight Testing at the Factory)

Sensenich W64ZK51 wood composite for Jabiru 3300, \$500

Sensenich W64ZK54 wood composite for Jabiru 3300, \$500

Sensenich W64ZK55 wood composite for Jabiru 3300, \$500

Sensenich W60ZK53G wood composite for Jabiru 3300, \$500

Upcoming Events

Melbourne Air and Space Airshow

March 30 – 31, 2019



[Melbourne Air and Space Show](#)

Airport Identifier (KMLB)

Sun – N- Fun Fly-In–Lakeland, FL

April 02-07, 2019



[Sun 'n Fun](#)

Airport Identifier – KLAL

Jabiru Engine Seminar April 26-27, 2019



Airport Identifier - KSYI
Shelbyville, Tennessee

AOPA Fly In - Frederick, MD May 10 - 11, 2019



[Fly In to Frederic](#)

Frederic Municipal Airport (KFDK)

The Great Tennessee Air Show - Smyrna, TN



[The Great Tennessee Air Show Web Site](#)

SMYRNA/RUTHERFORD COUNTY AIRPORT (KMOY)

Lightning of the Quarter and Pilot Spotlight Guidelines and Question

The following questions are to be used for your submittals of the Lightning of the Quarter and Pilot Spotlight articles. Every single Lightning out there deserves to be in the Lightning of the Quarter. Every single pilot has a story to tell. I hope you take some time and used these questions and guidelines to tell your story for the rest of us. Although similar, the stories for a Lightning of the Quarter and the Pilot Spotlight are just a bit different.

Before publishing any story, I will likely make some edits for spelling, punctuation, and clarity. So, with these guidelines, I hope I get a lot of input for future issues of Hangar Talk.

Lightning of the Quarter Questions:

If you are interested in submitting your jet for the Lightning of the Quarter, just use the questions below and submit some nice pictures of your plane. A picture of the panel is also interesting, at least it is to me. Take a look at the prior Lightning of the Quarter articles and use them as guidelines when you put your story together. Your story will be great - they all are.

Questions for Lightning of the Quarter.

1. Do you have an online build log? If so, and would like to share it, provide the URL.
2. Where did you get your interest in aviation and what are your earliest memories of wanting to fly?
3. Does your spouse share your interest and does he/she fly as well?
4. What made you choose the Arion Lightning for your aircraft?
5. Did you build it or buy it?
6. Is it an S-LSA, E-LSA, or E-AB? If it is an experimental, does it meet Light Sport requirements?
7. If you built your plane did you build it at the factory, a dealer, or at home?
8. How was the build process?
9. What type of flying do you do with your jet?
10. Have you flown it to a major fly-in? Which ones?
11. Finally, include some (3 or 4) nice pictures of you and your plane and some captions for each picture.

Pilot Spotlight Questions:

If you would like to be highlighted in the magazine, we do that in a Pilot Spotlight article. Each of us have unique stories about our aviation interests, careers, and/or hobbies. Each story deserves telling and they are all interesting to me.

1. Where are you from? Hometown? Current residence?
2. How did you get started in aviation? When did you begin being interested in flying? Why did you want to become a pilot?
3. What were the circumstances for your first airplane ride? Explain in detail.
4. What was the first plane you flew / soloed?
5. What is your favorite aircraft to fly?
6. Did you have to pay for your flight lessons yourself? If so, how did you do that?
7. Tell about your education. If you have a college degree, where did you go to college? What did you study? Do you have any advanced degrees?
8. Did you work in the aviation industry? If so, what was your occupation? If not, what was your occupation?
9. Did you fly commercially? Explain who you flew for, what aircraft you flew, how long did you fly commercially?
10. Were you in the military? Which service, when, how long? Did you fly in the military?
11. When did you meet your spouse? Was she/he supportive of your flying?
12. Have you owned an airplane before the Lightning? How many? What models? How long have you owned them? Which ones did you like best and why? Worst?
13. Have you ever built an airplane? What model(s)? Why did you choose that / those model(s)?
14. What are your favorite aviation events?
15. Have you attended AirVenture or Sun-N-Fun? How many times?
16. What are your other hobbies? Tell about them in some detail.

Final Thoughts:



My 1967 Mustang Convertible

The picture above was taken at the Williamsburg – Jamestown airport (KJGG) several years ago. I have had it off the road for a couple of years because I began replacing the fuel tank and changing some gaskets. I am still only partially done. I need to get back on the job and finish it up. This past week would have been a great time to go cruising with the top down.

This past week I have been flying a couple of times, once in the Lightning and once in the C-152. Both are fun, but very different. I was going to go fly yesterday but Skydive Sebastian has started up a skydiving competition for this week. It's crazy out there. Maybe later in the week.

I intend to go to the airport this week and take some aerial pictures with my Unmanned Aerial System. The airport manager wants some new pictures. He is having a new taxiway put in for Runway 5 – 23 and he had some shade hangars installed. One of our EAA chapter members already has a spot in them. He has purchased an RV-12 and will take delivery this summer. I told him he owed me a flight since I took him for a ride in my Lightning. That should be fun.

So, I hope I see some of you folks at Sun 'n Fun. I will be there all week. I usually work in the Society of Aviation and Flight Educators (SAFE) booth in the mornings and then go to the Arion booth in the afternoon. Come by and chat at either place. It should be fun.

Have fun! Go flying!

Blue Skies,
Dennis W. Wilt
dwwilt@aol.com



Arion Aircraft at Night – Love These Pictures