

# Prop Spinner Chatter



VOLUME 31 ISSUE 4 AMA Charter # 529 Eugene Prop Spinners <http://flyinglines.org> April 2023

## Club News and Other Information

### Last Club Meeting

March 18<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. at Orchard Point Park. Attending the meeting were Mike Denlis, Jim Corbett, Dave La Fever, Gene Pape, John Thompson and Gary Weems.

### Next Club Meeting

Meeting will be Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 10 a.m. at Orchard Point Park.

### Local Flying

**March 18** - John Thompson reports – We had another wonderful winter flying session at Orchard Point. Mild temperatures, almost no wind — again! Jim Corbett, Dave La Fever, Gene Pape, John Thompson and Gary Weems attended.

Highlight of the day was maiden flights on the Lieutenant built by the late Tom Kopriva. Tom never flew the plane but Gene and John put it through paces on Saturday. Typical of a Tom plane, it is an excellent flier! Watch the next newsletter for photos by Jim.

**April 8** - - John Thompson reports - Our rainy spring weather stepped aside and allowed a wonderful flying session at Orchard Point. The air was calm and the temperature in the mid-50s, so lots of flying was done.

Attending were Jim Corbett, Mike Denlis, Russ Hester, Dave La Fever, Gene Pape, John Thompson and Gary Weems. Gary's Cardinal, repaired from the stick-through-the-wing catastrophe, returned to the air. See before and after photos on the Flying Lines cover page.

### Ranch update

**April 7** - Water still standing on both the north and south of the circle.



Where our takeoff strip usually is



Normal wet spot still is wet

**Out of town – April 1** - Oregon Flying Fun No. 3 - Due to the nasty weather (rain and wind) those that showed up gathered at the Flight Line restaurant for breakfast and BS.

### Dues-R-Due

It's \$25 a year. You can give me cash or check at a flying session or meeting, or mail it to me at: John Thompson, 2456 Quince Street, Eugene, OR 97404. Make checks payable to Eugene Prop Spinners.



**Orchard Point Park - March 18 - Meeting and Flying**



Meeting



Flight line



Lieutenant (see article on page 4)



Electric Clown



Flight line



Orchard Point Park - March 18 - continued



Dave flying



John launches for Gary



Gary flying



Dave launching for Gary



John launching the Lieutenant for Gene



Gene flying the Lieutenant



**Oregon Flying Fun No. 3 - April 1 - at Bill Riegel Model Airpark, Salem**



Rain, wind and cold at the field



Breakfast, dry and warm

**Tom Kopriva's Lieutenant - March 18 - Gene Pape photos**



Tom Kopriva's Lieutenant before its maiden flight by Gene Pape.

The March 18 flying session at Orchard Point was a special one, and not just because of the great weather. It saw the first flights of the Lieutenant, built by the late Tom Kopriva, a longtime Prop Spinner and master builder of beautiful airplanes.

Tom built this Classic Stunt plane several years ago. The original plane, designed by Leroy Ducharme, was featured in the January 1958 issue of Model Airplane News. It also is in "Classic Era Construction Drawings" by Tom Morris. Power is a Tom Dixon-modified Fox .35. The plane, covered with silk, weighs 36 oz.

Because of his ongoing health issues, Tom decided last summer to pass along some of his control-line airplanes to others. He brought the planes to a summer flying session at the Can Do Ranch. Gerald Schamp, a Prop Spinner from Albany, purchased the Lieutenant from Tom's fleet.

After Tom died in December, Prop Spinners wanted to keep Tom's planes flying. Gary

Weems has put in many flights on Tom's Cardinal, also acquired last summer. Gerald Schamp recognized that because of his own physical issues, he would probably not be able to fly the Lieutenant, so he donated the plane to the Prop Spinners to allow current members to keep Tom's legacy alive by flying the Lieutenant.

Before handing the plane off to Prop Spinner Gene Pape, Gerald dis-assembled and cleaned up the engine and replaced the fuel tank, getting the Lieutenant completely ready to fly. Gene started off by getting the engine running. Then, he made the first-ever flight of the Lieutenant. After that, John Thompson put the plane through some Stunt pattern maneuvers and declared it an excellent-flying Classic Stunt plane. Smiles all around!

The Lieutenant now is in safe storage in Prop Spinner Mike Hazel's Zoot Ranch workshop, awaiting what will surely be some cameo appearances on our local flying fields.



Orchard Point Park - April 8 - continued



Flight line



Gary flying



Dave launching for Gary



Gary launching for John



Gary's repaired Cardinal



John launching for Gene



**Orchard Point Park - April 8 - continued**



Gene trimming



Russ launching for Gary

**Oregon Flying Fun**

Northwest Fireballs, Western Oregon Control-Line Flyers, Eugene Prop Spinners,  
Roseburg area CL fliers and Rogue Eagles present ...

# Oregon Flying Fun!

Four control-line fun-fly events

**Everyone invited — No entry fee! 10 a.m.-3 p.m.**

If the weather is bad, go to the alternate site listed for "hangar flying" socialization!  
(Check the listed cell number for last-minute updates.)

**Saturday, June 17** at Rogue Eagles circle, Eagle Point

Bad weather is unlikely. Sun shade provided!

Info: Rogue Eagles, [Jess Walls](#), 707-845-2833

- Bring any and all airplanes ... do any kind of flying!
  - Every flight is an entry in the "flying raffle."
  - Flying raffle prizes will be awarded after a drawing
- Come to all four fun-flies and support five great Oregon CL flying groups!*



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April 2023

«FirstLast»  
«Street»  
«CityStZip»



## Upcoming Model Activities

**April 21-23** - Jim Walker Memorial Spring Tune-Up, Jim Walker Memorial Field, East Delta Park, Portland, Ore., for Aerobatics, Combat, Navy Carrier, Racing and Speed.

**May 26-27-28** - 50th Northwest Control-Line Regionals, Roseburg Regional Airport, Roseburg, Ore.

**June 10-11** - Stunt-a-Thon, Auburn Municipal Airport, Auburn, Wash., for Aerobatics and Carrier. Sponsored by Northwest Skyraiders.

**June 17** - Oregon Flying Fun No. 4, Rogue Eagles circle, Eagle Point, Ore. Fly any plane just for fun. Flying raffle. Sponsored by Rogue Eagles.

**July 14-16** - AMA Northwest Jamboree, Sanderson Field, Shelton, Wash. RC and CL flying all weekend.

### **Prop Spinner Club officers**

Mike Denlis, President  
Jim Corbett, VP, Secretary, Newsletter Editor  
John Thompson, Treasurer  
Gene Pape, Safety Officer

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**Where the Action Is:** <http://flyinglines.org/Action.html> **Visit:** <http://flyinglines.org> web site.