

SPORT *Aerobatics*

OFFICIAL MAGAZINE of the INTERNATIONAL AEROBATIC CLUB



TM





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³ Actual mileage may vary. On plug-in hybrid models and electric models, fuel economy is stated in MPGe. MPGe is the EPA equivalent measure of gasoline fuel efficiency for electric mode operation.

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Congratulations to the winners!

—Reggie Paulk

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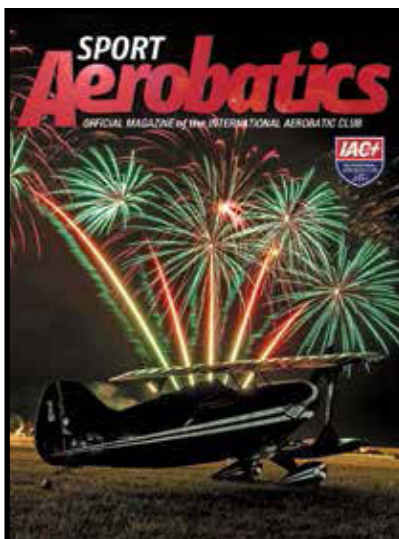
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THE COVER

Fireworks bedazzle Pitts N8M during the 2015 Airventure.
Photo Evan Peers.

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magazines, back issues.

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MIKE HEUER

COMMENTARY / IAC PRESIDENT, IAC 4

Please send your comments, questions, or suggestions to: mike@mheuer.com

The weeks ahead

THIS IS MY SECOND STINT as your International Aerobatic Club president, having previously served from 1981 to 1990. The decades of the '70s and '80s have often been called the golden age of aerobatics as so much happened during that time, and the growth of the IAC was phenomenal. In one month alone during the summer of 1985, we recruited more than 400 new members. It was in 1982 that the IAC was passed the baton of responsibility for fielding U.S. aerobatic teams in world competition and for staging the U.S. National Aerobatic Championships. We doubled in size in those years and peaked in the 1990s at more than 6,000 members.

Today our goals for growth are more modest but just as important. EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh once again proved that there is strong, ongoing interest in recreational aviation and sport aerobatics. Contest participation this year has been positive, and as I write this, we look forward to a successful and large U.S. Nationals in Texas. We see steady, solid growth in IAC membership and now stand at nearly 3,900 active members. We sanction 40 competitions a year organized by our 34 chapters, and our programs are vital and successful—from Achievement Awards to our printed and online publications. Interest in all matters of aerobatics is also strong, and our forums and seminars held in Oshkosh were often overflowing with attendees. The organization is financially solid thanks to the attention given to our budget by our treasurer Bob Hart and the IAC's finance com-

mittee. We are well-positioned for the future.

In September 1981, I wrote it will “take time, talent, and dedication to the job to harness that interest and properly promote the sport of aerobatics around the world.” That statement is still true today. I also spoke of the importance of volunteers, and today I am surrounded by incredible people on the IAC leadership team who are deeply dedicated to your future and membership services. As we gather at regional and national events, I am also reminded how much of a family IAC is—we socialize, fly, critique, and enjoy each other at contests, chapter meetings, and throughout the year, and those elements that bind us together as friends are extremely important. A new member may take a little time to discover this aspect of IAC membership, but it is there and very real, and it is why it is important to become involved in a chapter. The membership value you derive from those associations far exceeds the paltry \$45 a year you spend on IAC dues.

As we move into the fall of the year, the work of your officers and directors does not slow down but moves in a different direction. In October, I will attend the plenary meeting of the FAI Aerobatics Commission (CIVA) in Budapest, Hungary. While the agenda of the meeting is crammed with business relating to international championships and rules, there are issues that can affect the IAC. In the past, for example, we have closely

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LETTER FROM THE EDITOR
COMMENTARY / REGGIE PAULK

Recognizing excellence

AIRVENTURE

2 0 1 5

Congratulations to the winners! IAC awarded four plaques to Pitts owners during AirVenture to recognize their achievement in building, flying, and innovation.



REGGIE PAULK
Grand Champion Pitts – Winston Wright – Pitts S-1S N33HS



REGGIE PAULK
Jordan Ashley (right) presents the award for best customized Pitts to a shocked Brett Davenport. Best Customized Pitts – Brett Davenport – Pitts S-1SX N360BX



EVAN PEERS
Best Homebuilt Pitts – Ted Teach – Pitts S-1 N8M



COURTESY BRENNAN YORK
Longest Distance Flown – Brennan York – San Francisco – Pitts S-2C

Please submit news, comments, articles, or suggestions to: reggie.paulk@gmail.com



REGGIE PAULK

Peter Gauthier contemplates how best to unload his one-of-a-kind creation from the truck.



REGGIE PAULK

NX86401 is gently lowered to the ground from the back of the moving van.



REGGIE PAULK

Getting the tail of the airplane through the double doors proved to be a bit of a challenge—but the airplane squeezed through.



REGGIE PAULK

The Pitts replica draws the eye as the centerpiece of the new merchandising area.



Tom Poberezny (right) made a surprise visit to the IAC pavilion at Oshkosh and Mike Heuer (left) gave him the grand tour of the revamped facilities.



Tom Poberezny places his signature on a copy of the Pitts anniversary poster that was part of a giveaway during the annual IAC dinner at AirVenture.



IAC President Mike Heuer (left) introduced Sean Tucker (right) as the IAC's newest Hall of Fame inductee at the annual dinner on Friday evening.



Mike Heuer (left) stands with Margo Chase in the newly redesigned merchandise area of the IAC Vicki Cruse Pavilion. Margo worked tirelessly to redesign the IAC's branding and merchandise over the last year.





EVAN PEERS

The newly renovated entrance to the IAC Vicki Cruse Pavilion allows for a museum-quality display, while showcasing the IAC's trophies.



REGGIE PAULK



REGGIE PAULK

IAC manager Trish Deimer-Steineke with Natalie, who spent the week doing a brisk business selling Pitts-themed merchandise to the Oshkosh crowd.



REGGIE PAULK

Mike Heuer (sitting at table) briefs volunteers, employees, officers, and board members of the IAC before the start of AirVenture.



Longtime IAC volunteers Jean Taylor (left) and Jim Taylor (center) with volunteer Nancy Carter and the Pitts replica.



REGGIE PAULK

Budd Davison (left) discusses the Pitts exhibit with IAC President Mike Heuer.



EVAN PEERS