

SHOULD YOU PURCHASE AN AMATEUR-BUILT OR CERTIFIED AIRCRAFT?

Following up on articles in past club newsletters including one from December, 2012, "[NTSB PUTS GA SAFETY ON MOST WANTED LIST](#)" it seems that General Aviation (GA) is still having issues with crashes, especially fatal crashes, with amateur-built - "experimental" - aircraft. This has prompted some to say that they would only purchase certified



Looking for a used airplane

aircraft made in a factory. [AOPA SmartBrief](#) recently took a poll (unscientific) of readers and the results were nearly 50/50 as to whether the participants preferred amateur-built or FAA certified aircraft. In May, 2012, EAA wrote that the FAA published a [study](#) that stated that experimental amateur-built aircraft have a fatal accident rate 3 to 4 times higher than the rest of the general aviation fleet. In the [September, 2013, issue](#) of the *Pea Patch Post* there was a discussion at the August 10 club meeting where several members remarked about being cautious when purchasing used aircraft. On August 24, 2013, David J. Kenny, Air Safety Institute manager of aviation safety analysis, led about 60 pilots and aviation safety experts through the presentation, "Transitioning into a homebuilt: This is test flying," which provided an overview of who is buying used amateur-built aircraft, who is selling, and what the safety record says about the participants and the transactions. One reason buyers transition into

the experimental-aircraft market is to acquire more performance at a lower price than may be possible in the certified-aircraft market. But Kenny said buyers of experimentals should understand that "neither the aircraft nor its performance is going to be as predictable as a certified aircraft."

On the other hand, purchasing a used certified aircraft brings some of the same questions/problems as purchasing an amateur-built one. Larry Anglisano, magazine writer and editor, specializing in aircraft electronics and avionics systems technology, made these comments in [AvWeb](#) and also in *Aviation Safety Magazine*:

- Buying an aircraft for all the wrong reasons could be the setup for disappointment. He wrote "buying an aircraft for all the wrong reasons could be the setup for disappointment. Like a mismatched personal relationship with a member of the opposite sex, a mismatched owner/aircraft relationship can be draining to your bank account and psyche."
- Inspections should be accomplished by neutral parties. The folks that have wrenched the airplane for years shouldn't be the ones performing the pre-buy because they are just too biased to offer advice you can take to the bank.
- You might score that high-performance airplane for a song but you could be singing the blues when it comes to insurance costs and training requirements.
- You can bet that operating a cabin-class twin will require more maintenance effort than oil changes.

Read the complete article in [Is That Too Much Airplane for You?](#)

(Information from [AvWEB](#) 09/20/13, [AOPA eBrief](#) 09/16/13, [AOPA.org](#), 09/18/13, [Aviation Safety Magazine](#), 09/2010, [EAA](#), May, 2012, [Pea Patch Post](#), September, 2013, [Pea Patch Post](#), December, 2012, [National Transportation Safety Board's training center](#))

Members' Items for Sale

EAA 172 member Dennis Allen still has this for sale for \$350 OBO:

iFly 700a GPS unit, Yoke & Windshield mounts, Remote Control, AC adapter, Manual, Carrying case

Contact: cell: 706-829-2130 any time, Or EMAIL AT dennispilot@bellsouth.net

For the full version of this ad click on: [For Sale: iFLY 700a GPS](#)

EAA 172 member Keith Robbins still has this for sale for \$12,000:

Continental O-300-D engine with Airflow Performance injection.

Contact Keith Robbins by e-mail: kcr83406@yahoo.com

For the full version of this ad click on: [For Sale: Continental O-300-D engine](#)

Those who have always received the e-mailed *Pea Patch Post* might not realize that 40 copies of another version, with the color printing and photos in [grey halftone](#), are produced and [snail-mailed](#) to those who may not have access to e-mail or the world-wide Web. Besides being printed, those copies need [collating](#), folding, stapling, [adhesive tabs](#), [weighing](#), a 46¢ stamp (soon to be 49¢), and delivery to the United States Postal Service. Below is a notice [they see](#) in the mailed, printed issue:

You can see this newsletter in *living color* in the emailed *Pea Patch Post* and at eaa172newsletter.jcmservices.net

The e-mailed and Web versions have the ability to add extra features, video, animation, etc. which enable many of the articles to come to life with a depth and personality unattainable in the print version.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Listings on the "Upcoming Events" pages are often revised. Check the [Calendar](#) on the EAA 172 Website for any changes.

October 2013

Thursday-Sunday, October 3 - 6: *VAA Chapter 3 Fall Vintage Fly-In* Camden, SC, WOODWARD FIELD (CDN) (Elevation 302 feet. Runway 6/24: 5000 x 100 ft. Asphalt, in good condition; Runway 14/32: 2998 x 100 ft. Asphalt, in fair condition. GPS: 34°17.015' N 80° 33.892' E; CTAF/UNICOM: 123.0 -- Zip code: 29020.

\$5 Registration NOTE: NO AIRSHOW THIS YEAR, BUT SEE THE ACTIVITIES BELOW!

Thursday, October 3 - Early Bird arrivals. Dinner, etc. at Fatz Restaurant. Friday, October 4 - Fly out to Timmonsville (58J) and BBQ at the airport Friday night. Saturday, October 5 - Fellowship and evening banquet. Camping and RV parking on field. Sunday, October 6 - South Carolina Breakfast Club on the airport. Transportation provided to and from hotels, airport, and banquet facility. Headquarters Hotel: Comfort Inn, Camden 803-425-1010. [Fall Vintage Fly-in Information \(pdf file\)](#)

For more information contact Jim Wilson 843-753-7138. E-mail: crosswindjim@homesc.com

Click <http://www.airnav.com/airport/KCDN> for airport info. For driving directions click on [Woodward Field](#).

Saturday, October 5: *EAA Chapter 905 St. Simons Island Fly-in* Gruber's Hangar at Malcolm McKinnon Airport (KSSI) on St. Simons Island, Georgia 31522. 5 miles E of Brunswick, Georgia. CTAF/Unicom: 123.05 mhz. 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM -- lunch at noon. Experience the world famous SSI Billy Burger! Offering St. Simons Island Trolley sightseeing tours. Fantastic Static Display. Waco Bi-Plane Rides. [Golden Isles Aviation](#) FBO special price on AV Gas. RAIN OR SHINE! EAA 905 Website. Travel [DIRECTIONS](#) to the airport. EAA Calendar Announcement [SSI Fly-in](#). For further information contact Jerry Latvala, President, EAA 905. Landline phone: 912-638-5960, Cell phone: 912-269-2155, e-mail: jblatval@bellsouth.net

Sunday, October 6: *SOUTH CAROLINA BREAKFAST CLUB* at Woodward Field Airport, Camden, SC (CDN) CTAF/UNICOM: 123.0. ZIPcode 29020. Arrival: 7:30 - 9:00 AM. Breakfast: Between 9:00 & 9:30 - 11:00 AM. Departure: 11:30 AM. Contact Anne Hawkins 803-432-9595. Airport info: [CDN](#), driving directions: [Woodward Field](#).

Friday - Sunday, October 11 - 13: *The Great Georgia Airshow*

Location: 7 Falcon Drive - Peachtree City, GA 30269. MapQuest directions: [Great Georgia Airshow](#)
Air Show Website: <http://www.thegreatgeorgiaairshow.com>

Saturday, October 12: *SPECIAL Monthly meeting of the EAA 172 Members* 10:00 AM -- FLY-IN PLANNING MEETING and OFFICER ELECTIONS FOR 2014 at the Pea Patch Aerodrome (61GA). A cold-cuts meal will be around 11:00 AM -- 12:30 PM. Runway 01/19: 2500' x 150' sod -- fair --; GPS: N33° 18.08' N / 82° 10.46' W; Elevation 434' , 4511 Boulineau Rd., Blythe, Georgia, 30805. UNICOM 122.7 mhz. For more information contact Sid Brown (706) 814-8853 eMail: sid@thesidbrowns.com or John Magnan (706) 547-3607 eMail: jcm2@earthlink.net Click [HERE](#) for directions (both land and air). Click [HERE](#) for the Mapquest directions. Click <http://www.airnav.com/airport/61GA> for airport info. For the meeting agenda click [HERE](#).

Saturday, October 12: *EAA Chapter 1211 Fall Fly-in* Blairsville Airport (KDZJ) in Blairsville, Georgia, from 10:00 am till 2:00 pm. They write "Come see the beautiful fall leaves as showcased by our mountains, visit with our very active EAA members and see some of our recently completed aircraft, enjoy a bowl of chili, and demonstrate your flying skills during our spot-landing competition." Rain date is the following Saturday. Fly-up and see us! For more information, click on the following links: [Announcement on their Website: EAA 1211 Fall Fly-in](#)
[Blairsville Airport Info: Blairsville Airport KDZJ](#) Click [KDZJ Directions](#) for Airport driving directions. For more information contact the EAA 1211 President, Stephen Thompson, at E-mail: f17070z@gmail.com

Saturday - Sunday, October 12 - 13: *Wings Over North Georgia Fly-in* at the Richard B. Russell airport, Rome, GA. (RMG) The two-day event will have the action-packed Black Diamond Jet Team and also feature the Smoke-n-Thunder Jet Car, the Aerostars Aerobatic Flight Team, and many more including the [Gary Ward Aerobatic Show](#) and the [Greg Connell Aerobatic Show](#) More than 50 professional barbeque competitors from across the country will gather with the goal of showing off their one-of-a-kind secret recipes at the Smoke 'n Thunder Barbeque Classic™. They will compete for a cash purse and prizes exceeding \$15,000. Driving directions: [Richard B. Russell Airport](#). Fly-in Website: [Wings Over North Georgia](#)