

Lightning Newsletter Index

By Dennis B., Lightning enthusiast from Iowa

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Volume 1, Issue 1 - February, 2008

News from the Factory

Original factory demonstrator N323AL sold to overseas owner
N324AL being built
New changes in current kit
59 kits sold/22 flying as of 8 Feb 2008

News from the Dealers

Australia dealer Dennis Borchardt orders 16th kit

News from Builders and Flyers

Frappier map
Gear leg/main wheel shimmy

Upcoming Events

Sun-N-Fun - KITPLANES writer to get demo ride
Oshkosh

Lightning Skunk Works

BB Lightning Bus: able to carry 2 Mini Coopers

Other Items

Contributions needed

Final Thoughts

Wheelbarrows
Speed of light

Photos:

N323AL (Yellow on White demo)
Mark and Mike work on 324AL
Blue on White in front of Lightning Aircraft Australia hangar
Linda and Joe's N59JL
Bill Hubbard's Lightning at Oshkosh
Buz's Esqual LS at Oshkosh 2007
Dana with Mini Cooper

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Volume 1, Issue 2 - March, 2008

Arion Lightning History

"The Early Days" of Arion Aircraft and how this fantastic aircraft got started.

News from the Factory

Update on the new 2008 factory demo aircraft. Flight testing finished; new trim system

News from the Dealers

Report from Ryan Groos at Green Landings - 3 completed currently flying; 2 in the shop
Dennis Borchardt, Lightning Aircraft Australia introduction

News from Builders and Flyers

Reports from Tex Mantell and Earl Ferguson - Earl comments on build process for serial #5

Upcoming Events

Sun-N-Fun
Virginia Festival of Flight
Oshkosh

Lightning Skunk Works

Australian detachment - Pete Disher's wing/flap gap seal and flap hinge fairings

Update on Naming the Newsletter

No name yet, so keep your suggestions coming

Other Items

Look for a flight report on the new 2008 demo in the April issue of the newsletter

Special Feature

Serial Numbers and Owners of Lightnings Sold - #59

Final Thoughts

Homebuilt community acceptance of the Lightning, comparison to Sonex sales over 10 years
Point and click interface
Thanks to Linda Mathias for editing

Photos:

Blue on white Esqual
Static load test of wing
"Frankensqual" demo
First flight of N233AL Prototype
N233AL at Sun-N-Fun 2006
N323AL in hangar
Electric elevator trim
2008 demo wingtip
2008 demo rear quarter
Lightning on beach
Blue on white Lightning at Green Landings
Jim Langley's fuselage
Australia Lightning in front of hangar
Raw kits in Australia
More raw kits in Australia
Tex Mantell's Kit Fox and Pedal Pitts
Tex's Panel
Earl's picture of crossing the Mississippi
Photos of Pete Disher's build

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Volume 1, Issue 3 - April, 2008

(The Arion F.L.A.S.H. - Fun Lightning Aircraft - Sierra Hotel)

News Flash

The 2008 Demo flies

How I chose the Lightning

Jim Langley - Lightning vs. Sonex, Sport Cruiser, Dynamic WT-9

News from the Factory

Update on the wing tip extensions and the new 2008 factory demo aircraft

News from the Dealers

Photos of demonstrators from Lightning North Central, Green Landings, Lightning Southwest

News from Builders and Flyers

Reports from Linda Mathias (builder assist) and Jerry Van Heeswyk (non-builder assist)

Upcoming Events

Sun-N-Fun
Virginia Festival of Flight
Oshkosh
Jabiru Engine Seminar
2008 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

The Vertical Take-Off Lightning

Other Items

Lightning Serial Numbers and Owners - #59

Final Thoughts

Attendance at Sun-N-Fun and Oshkosh encouraged

Photos:

Taxi for initial flight of N324AL
Nick adjusts canopy latching system
Arion Lightning prototype
Sonex
Sport Cruiser
Dynamic WT-9
Wing tip CAD drawings
Klingon cloaking device/yaw trim device/exterior canopy handle
Lightning North Central's demo aircraft
Green Landings' demo aircraft
Lightning Southwest's demo aircraft
Linda and Joe Mathias' N59JL
Linda and Joe with Cub
Joe in glider
Linda and Joe's Lightning - cowl off
Linda and Joe with completed N59JL in hangar
Jerry VanHeeswyk's N62JV
Early helicopter

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Volume 1, Issue 4 - May, 2008

News Flash

Lightning 2008 Demo Wins "Best Composite Homebuilt" at Sun-N-Fun

Sun-N-Fun coverage

Mostly photos

News from the Factory

Lynn Nelson's build at SYI

News from the Dealers

Buddy Carlisle's Lighting on display at Green Landings Sun-N-Fun booth

News from Builders and Flyers

Jim Goad - replaced tires, installed dowel rod on landing gear legs for shimmy; canopy seal; oil cooling scoop

Pete Disher - gap seals, Revmaster carb, pitch trim mod, upholstery, panel

Dick Cleavinger - Colorado altitude carb jet change, roll bias, rudder offset, gear shimmy, canopy seal

Johnny Thompson - Special Airworthiness Certificate received, initial tests

Upcoming Events

Virginia Festival of Flight

Oshkosh

Jabiru Engine Seminar

2008 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

Spy photos from Sun-N-Fun

Reader Feedback

Kerry Fores (Sonex, LLC) responds to "How I Chose the Lightning"

Rick Bowen suggests "Shock & Awe" as newsletter name

Scotty offers congratulations and paint scheme compliments

Other Items

Landings and "How to Prevent Landing Incidents" by Nick and Buz

Final Thoughts

Lighting and evolution

Photos:

Nick accepts 2008 Sun-N-Fun "Best Composite Homebuilt Aircraft" award

Tom, "Moostang" Mike and Nick at Lightning booth

Jim Austin in 2008 demo

Demo cockpit and panel

Demo wheel pants

Pete, Nick and Lightning wing tip extensions

"Moostang" Mike and Lynn Nelson work on engine mount

Rudder and brake pedal install

Firewall
Spar box
Buddy Carlisle's Lighting in Green Landings booth
Buddy's panel
Relaxing at Sun-N-Fun
Jim Goad's Lightning
Jim's oil cooling scoop
Pete Disher's gap seals and fairings
Pete's parking brake
Pete's Revmaster carb
Pete's pitch trim
Pete's panel
Pete's upholstery
Dick Cleavinger's 213RC
Johnny Thompson's Lightning
Johnny's taxi test - cattle on runway
Skunk works quiz: "Who is this guy with a biplane..."
Skunk works quiz: "Who is this guy with 'judges'..."
Skunk works quiz: "Looks like he won an award..."
Shock N Awe logo
Racing boat

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Volume 1, Issue 5 - June, 2008

Lead Story

Earl Ferguson and his world record Lightning flight - Savannah, GA, to San Diego, CA, in 31 hours, 14 minutes

News from the Factory

New wing tips
Sales update - orders through #73
Factory Assist Build Update - Wayne and Nell Lenox; Lynn Nelsen
New trim system
New canopy latch system
New angle of incidence jig

News from the Dealers

Lightning Australia - 3 kits shipped in May; another 3 in June!
Green Landings Flight Center - orders new demonstrator; original sold to Jack Benson (Silver City, NM)
Lightning Southwest and Greg Hobbs helping Walt Mendenhol build kit #62
Lightning North Central - first builder Bill Brown to fly his recently-completed Lightning

News from Builders and Flyers

Dave McCorkdale - long objects in the Lightning (rifles, fishing rods)
Jim Langley - Aluminum spinner with fixed-pitch wooden prop requires trimming

Upcoming Events

Virginia Festival of Flight
Oshkosh
Jabiru Engine Seminar
2008 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

Spy photos

Reader Feedback

Bill Applegate comments on landing techniques article, stresses stall practice and fundamentals
Jim Langley's response to Kerry Fores (Sonex) regarding decision making process
Mr. Scotty's Navy joke

Other Items

Do your homework before a first flight or initial flight in any "new to you" airplane

Final Thoughts

Light is faster than the speed of sound

Photos:

Earl Ferguson's Lightning N17EF, photographed from Buz's N32BZ
Mississippi River from N17EF

N17EF post-flight
New wing tips from several angles
Mark Stauffer
Wayne and Nell Lenox
"Moostang" Mike
Two Lightnings ready for paint
New trim system
New canopy latch in closed position
New canopy latch in open position
Angle of incidence jig
Rifles in baggage area
Fishing poles in baggage area
Spinner trimming
Spinner fit after trim
Skunk Works: Area 51
Skunk Works: Nick with RC biplane
Skunk Works: High speed dive recovery
Skunk Works: Gear check
Arion demo with Corvettes

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Volume 1, Issue 6 - July, 2008

A Tribute to Jerry Van Heeswyk
High Flight

Lead Story
2008 Demo Flight Report from Buz Rich

News from the Factory
Meet the Arion Lightning staff
Oshkosh news
Update on new tips, including flight report

News from the Dealers
Several first flights - Anthony Morrison, Lightning Australia; Bill Brown, Wisconsin; Clive James, England

News from Builders and Flyers
What good is glass anyway? Jim Langley's thoughts on choosing EFIS over steam gauges
Jack Benson flies Green Landings Demo home to New Mexico
Tex Mantell asks and Pete Disher responds regarding tie down eyes

Upcoming Events
Oshkosh
Jabiru Engine Seminar
2008 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works
FAA reviewing 51% rule, first SLSA Lightning, mystery box, mystery landing gear

Technical Tips
Great suggestion from Mike "Moostang" Jones: Mark your prop!

Reader Feedback
Jim Hausch's impressions of a demo ride
Craig Sumner reports progress on his Esqual
Mr. Scotty's Talking Dog joke

Other Items
Preparing for and responding to Engine Failure

Final Thoughts
How is your Latin?

Photos:
Jerry Van Heeswyk's N62JV
Silver demo Lightning
White prototype Lightning
Yellow-on-white demo Lightning

N324AL panel
N324AL seats
New trim tab
Pete and Barb Krotje
Dana Otterback and Pete
Chastity
Dana driving forklift
Mark Stauffer
Nick Otterback
"Moostang" Mike Jones
Bonnie
Prototype Lightning with extended tips
Wayne Lenox's extended tips
Wayne
Wayne's Lighting with wings attached
Anthony Morrison's Lightning
Anthony's panel
Clive James' Esqual
Jim Langley's N730AL
Jim's panel with EFIX
Green Landings demo on the beach
Tiedown ring addition
Skunk Works: Mystery box
Skunk Works: Mystery nose gear
Skunk Works: Mystery main gear
Prop marking
Silver demo with Corvettes
Craig Summer's Esqual
Adjustments to 2008 Lightning demo

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Volume 1, Issue 7 - August, 2008

Lead Story

Oshkosh Report

News from the Factory:

Wayne Lenox's airplane flying with new tips
Sales update - #70 + 6 more

News from the Dealers

Lightning North Central - Bill Browns' first flight

News from Builders and Flyers

Bill Browns reports on first flight and initial prop pitch/engine tweaks
Bill Browns follow-up after 20 hours including addition of tow bar pins
Ron Ritchie expects first flight soon
Jim Langley makes first flight

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar
2008 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

New model

Technical Tips

Camlock caddy

Reader Feedback

Mr. Scotty's commentary on the average American's MPG

Other Items

Continued guidance on dealing with engine failure - planning for emergency landings

Final Thoughts

Flying the Lightning - an addiction?

Photos:

Oshkosh Lightning tent
Mike, Bill and Nick at Oshkosh
Crowd at Lightning booth
Tom, John Chesbrough, Mark with silver demo
"Moostang" Mike and Greg Hobbes on Gator
Band
Nick at Lightning Forum
Bill Hubbard's Lightning in camping area
Buddy Carlisle's Lightning on display
Nick with Kitplanes cover
Wayne Lenox's Lightning
Bill Browns with N716MZ
Bill's panel in progress
Bill's Lightning
Bill's finished panel
Bill's tow bar attach system
Bill's nose pant
Ron Ritchie's Lightning
Jim Langley's Lightning
Lightning/Corvette formation
Camlock caddy

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Volume 1, Issue 8 - September, 2008

Lead Story

The Proposed 51% Rule Change by Nick Otterback - Lightning expected to qualify with proposed changes

News from the Factory

The Lightning Wing - Airfoil and Tips (including comments from Buz, Nick and Dr. Cyrus Ostowari)
Factory Assist Build Update - Paul "Bear" Bryant" starting Lightning build in September

News from the Dealers

Shelbyville - Lynn Nelson's Lightning N13LN first flight
Australia - Ron Ritchie ZK-TDT first flight
Green Landings - Gary Winkler building #73

Special Feature

Engine Failure - It Happened to Me by Anthony Morrison; CFI lands Jabiru J160 dead-stick

News from Builders and Flyers

Pete Disher - fairing transition between wheel pants and gear legs
Wayne Patterson - receives kit #65 in Perth, Australia
Dick Clevenger - updates to #42 - new trim tab, cable tension, reset toe in (toe out), Telluride performance
Pete Disher - Australian registration notes
Selwyn - more on Australian registration

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar
2008 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

Olympic Speedo swim suit technology reaches the Lightning

Reader Feedback

Tex, Doug "K", Clive - regarding the Kitplanes article
Wayne P. requests more trip reports
Bill Applegate seeking tales of builders overcoming building challenges

Technical Tips

Nick and John Eynon advise Bill Applegate on canopy skin trimming
Gary Pennington provides example of tail tiedown
Reprint of Pete Disher's wing tiedown points

Other Items

Third installment regarding engine failure

Final Thoughts

Poetry

Photos:

Nick Otterback
Lynn Nelson's N13LN
Ron Ritchie's ZK-TDT
Jabiru J160
Anthony Morrison with his Lightning
Main gear fairings
Dick Cleavinger's N213RC
Clive's Esqual
Gary's tail tiedown
Pete's wing tiedowns
Esqual LS and Pitts
Mooney Bomber...

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Volume 1, Issue 9 - October, 2008

Lead Story

2008 Lightning Fly In held at Shelbyville

News from the Factory

Katie Bosman joins Arion as factory pilot
New tip extensions - performance report, with testing data graphs
Factory assist build update - Paul "Bear" Bryant Lightning ready for paint
Sales update - Pat and Carl Beatrice purchase #78
Other factory news - Nick explains weight reduction since the prototype
Pete has completed Zenith 701 with Jabiru 2200

News from the Dealers

Australia - Peter Mitchell #58 has been inspected
Southwest - Walt Mefford's N881WP #55 ready for inspection
Green Landings - several in-process

Centerfold of the Month

Wow.

News from Builders and Flyers

Dick Cleavinger on high-altitude flight in Colorado
Tex using Aeroleds landing light
Jim Langley correcting engine valve stem/valve guide "gunk" issue

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar

Lightning Skunk Works

Prop blade envy vs. propeller challenged

Technical Tips

Tex Mantell - rudder cable attach fitting modification
Linda Mathias - wheel shimmy corrected with balancing

Reader Feedback

Malcolm Ferguson with lessons from Lancair accident/fatality rate

Other Items

Three simple rules for smooth landings, and lost pilots

Final Thoughts

Buz, the non-employee

Photos:

Lightning formation
Dick Cleavinger
Jim Goad
Joe and Linda Mathias with "Moostang" Mike
Taxi-out of flight-of-three
Earl Ferguson and Katie Bosman
Nick flyby

Mark, Dick and Jim examine Dick's engine
Group photo
John watches Dick work on his engine
Dana with "Cleco"
Pete and Dawn
Chastity
Katie in Lynn Nelsen's Lightning
Katie working on Lynn's wheel pants
Silver demo with new tips
Turn about SYI with unpainted tips
"Bear's" engine
"Bear's" wing tips
Pat and Carl Beatrice
Pete's Zenith 701
701's cockpit (not)
Walt Mefford's N881WP
Several Lightnings at Green Landings
Centerfold
Base to final at KLXV
Lightning at Leadville
Aeroled landing light
Jim Langley over Green Landings
Jim's Lightning
Many props
No props/ground
No props/in flight
Tex's rudder cable attach mod
Group in hangar

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Volume 1, Issue 10 - November, 2008

Lightning of the Month
Wayne and Nel Lenox

Lead Stories

Two Special Reports: Bear builds a Lightning and Charles goes to "engine school"
"The Build" by Paul "Bear" Bryant - First five days of a factory build assist
"Jabiru Engine Seminar Review" by Charles Gallagher - Overview of the September 2008 class

News from the Factory

Nick provides information on how to make the long and short wing tips interchangeable
Mark Stauffer - 79 kits sold, 30 flying; status of Bear's, Bill Strahns, Nick and Mark Blanks, Brazil planes
Katie Bosman - introduction and background

News from the Dealers

Ivo Ramos reports from Brazil. Factory demonstrator N323AL is now Dr. Jacinto Lay's PU-LAY

News from Builders and Flyers

Linda Mathias shares a Condition Inspection Checklist for the Lightning
Tex Mantell sends pictures of build progress - painting and upholstery

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar
US Sport Aviation Expo
Sun-N-Fun
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Oshkosh
2009 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

Mystery aluminum aircraft part

Technical Tips

Jim Goad cools voltage regulator via PVC blast tube in oil cooler NACA duct
"Tex" Mantell provides example of canopy lock system and rudder cable cover

Other Items

Fuel management - starvation, siphoning, switching tanks, running tanks dry

Final Thoughts

The mythology of Arion

Photos:

Wayne and Nel Lenox's Lightning of the Month
Paul ("Bear") working on wings
"Bear" with Clecoes
Wing tips
"Bear" drilling
"Bear" installing landing lights
Engine hung
"Bear" measuring fiberglass strips
Paul and "Moostang" Mike working on the plane
Disassembled Jabiru
Group studies engine case
Pete with engine group
Group working on engine
Installing piano hinge for removable tip
Long tip attached with piano hinge
Group of Lightnings in hangar at Lightning Fly-In
Dr. Jacinto Lay in PU-LAY
Tex Mantell's Lightning
Tex's interior
Aluminum aircraft part in a box
Jim Goad's voltage regulator PVC blast tube
Tex's lock configuration
Tex's rudder cable cover layup
Tex's rudder cable cover finished part
Tex's rudder cable cover installed

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Volume 1, Issue 11 - December, 2008

Lightning of the Month

Anthony Morrison

Lead Stories

Bear's build experience and Katie's test pilot experience
"The Build - Part Two" by Paul "Bear" Bryant - Weeks two and three of a factory build assist
"Life as a Lady Lightning Test Pilot" by Katie Bosman - Katie's story of transitioning to the Lightning

News from the Factory

SLSA Lightning update - what is an SLSA, and why the Lightning? Initial elevator mod testing with the demo
Lightning sales update - 74 sold, 68 delivered, 34 flying

News from the Dealers

Five first flights
Peter Mitchell in Australia
Peter Disher VH-PD1 in Australia
Paul "Bear" Bryant N82PB in Shelbyville
Gary Winkler N428GW at Green Landings
Walt Mefford N881WP in Arizona

News from Builders and Flyers

Pete Disher reports certification and first flight
Carl Beatrice on selecting their LSA and working with Arion
Pat Beatrice on the Jabiru Engine Seminar
Jim Langley offers RC combat challenge for next Fly-In

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar
US Sport Aviation Expo
Sun-N-Fun
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
2009 Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

New Mini Lightning

Technical Tips

Tires and maps

Lynn Nelsen reports success with Nick's suggestion to add tire inflation access to wheel pants

Lynn also shares the addition of a map box to N13LN

Other Items

FAA re-opens comment period on 51% rule policy changes

Fuel starvation - behavior and actions

Final Thoughts

Pilots welcome here

Photos:

Anthony Morrison's Lightning of the Month

Paul ("Bear") working in the shop

Empennage

Bare interior

Starter solenoid

"Bear" works in cockpit

Paul's panel

"Bear" works on fuel sending unit

"Bear" with vise

Wing installation

Scale readings

Proud builder

N82PB in twilight

Katie in her "office"

Lightning formation

Extended wingtip in flight testing

Peter Mitchell's Lightning

Pete Disher's VH-PD1 in hangar

VH-PD1 in progress

Pete's panel

Pete's seats

Paul "Bear" Bryant's N82PB in the hangar

N82PB taxi

Lightning and moon

N82PB twilight taxi

Gary Winkler's N428GW

N428GW seats

N428GW interior

N428GW trim tab

Walt Mefford's N881WP rear 3/4 view

N881WP

Walt's panel

Arizona Lightning fleet

Walt Mendenhol's Lightning

Pete Disher's VH-PDI

VH-PDI panel

Pete D's trim tab installation

Pat and Carl Beatrice

Jabiru engine seminar group

Group works on Jabiru

Jim Langley fying RC

Dana with Mini Cooper

Mini Lightning

Lynn Nelsen's inflation valve access mod

Lynn's map case

Sinners welcome

===== Volume 2, Issue 1 - January, 2009

Lightning of the Month

2008 Lightning "RG" Demo (SNF 2008 "Best Composite")

Lead Stories

Bill Brown - "Recording and Analyzing Data from a GRT EFIX"

Peter Mitchell - "Building & Flying the Lightning"

News from the Factory

Lightning SLISA Testing Update from Nick - preparing for structural testing
Lightning Sales Update - Gary P., Bear, Pete, Gary W. and Walt first flights. Customer build in 3 1/2 months.
Bill Strahan first flight

News from the Dealers

Australia - Four Lightnings finished and flying in Australia
Green Landings - new video in progress; photos of Jim Langley's plane with pants and fairings

News from Builders and Flyers

Lynn Nelsen provides info on installation of autopilot in N13LN
Gary Pennington describes first flight
Tex Mantell shares photo of his "test pilot"
Craig Sumner forwards Risk Management article by Max Trescott
Lynn Nelsen sends link to video of Ercoupe and Lightning

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar
US Sport Aviation Expo
Sun-N-Fun
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Oshkosh
2009 Lightning Fly-In

Technical Tips

Dennis Borchardt, Dick Cleavinger offer thoughts on landing gear shimmy
Mark Stauffer suggests changes to throttle cable stop to remedy engines quitting at idle
Tex Mantell shares modification of fiberglass engine cooling ducts to ease removal

Lightning Skunk Works

Aviation technology for automobiles

Other Items

Escape map technology and Monopoly

Final Thoughts

Power + Attitude = Good Performance

Photos:

2008 Lightning "RG" Demo Lightning of the Month
Bill Brown's N716MZ
N716MZ panel
Bill in cockpit
Peter Mitchell with Lightning
Lightning powerplant
Peter's panel
Peter in hangar
Peter taxiing
Lightning with extended tips
Dennis Borchardt's Lightning
Anthony Morrison's Lightning
Peter Mitchell's Lightning
Peter Disher's Lightning
Jim Langley's Lightning
Doug Koenigsberg with Buz's J3
Lynn Nelsen's N13LN panel
Gary Pennington's panel
Gary's Lightning
Tex Mantell's "test pilot"
Mark Stauffer's throttle cable stop mod
Tex's cylinder cooling duct mod
Skunk Works: automobile airplane technology
Mustangs in flight

Lightning of the Month
Jim Langley's N730AL

Lead Story
Joe Cooper - "Living with my Lightning" - Joe's private strip and conversion of garage to hangar

News from the Factory
SLSA "Lightning Sport" Update - construction manual, paperwork, testing rigs and methods
Lightning Sales Update - 77 sold, 38 flying, 22 first flights in 2008
Steve Biele, Bill Strahan first flights
Mark's Zenith Zodiac progress update

News from the Dealers
Australia - Steve Biele 19-5562 first flight; Pete Disher travel log

News from Builders and Flyers
Walt Mefford discusses similarity of Jabiru magneto with his Ford Model T
Wayne and Nel Lenox share New Year's Day tradition flight and announce Lakeside Lightning Show and Tell Fly-In
Allan Maxwell asks about heavy stick with flaps on his Esqual; Buz replies and notes bungee trim Lightnings similar
Dennis and Angela Borchard (Lightning Australia) warn against flying without wing root gap seals, seconded by Nick
Pete Disher reports on first flight squawks and fixes
Wayne P. asks about paint color and surface temperature issues; Buz and Nick respond with testing from Sun-N-Fun
Lynn Nelsen provides write-up on aileron trim installation
Craig Sumner on flight safety and the importance of good checklist discipline

Upcoming Events
Wayne and Nel Lenox's Fly-In Lunch
Sun-N-Fun
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Oshkosh
Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works
Air car and Horner tip winglet

Technical Tips
Clive James offers modification to relieve flexing of rudder cable ends, with follow-up from Gary Pennington
Tex Mantell compares two Champion sparcs plugs to simplify use of CHT fing probes
Brian Whittingham inquires about Buz's fuel valve - Buz describes the selector from Andair
Nick gives tips about cold weather starting

Reader Feedback
Greg Couchley, former SkyRanger owner, describes his introduction to the Lightning and why he bought one

Other Items
Buz attended a briefing on the F-22, and shares his thoughts

Final Thoughts
Bounced landings - causes, hazards, and prevention with airspeed control

Photos:
Jim Langley's N730AL Lightning of the Month
Joe Cooper's N396JC in his garage hangar
N396JC in front of hangar
Lightning SLSA rudder pedal test with forklift
SLSA motor mount test
Alternate view of motor mount test
SLSA drop test rig
Bill Strahan's N197RW
N197RW panel
Mark's Zenith in process
Steve Biele's 19-5562
19-5562 panel
Forster Tuncurry Inlet
Town of Forster
Forster Tuncurry looking North
Looking South from Crowdy Head to Harrington Inlet
South to Forster Tuncurry
East coast looking North to Harrington Inlet

Pete Disher's Lightning
Pete's panel
Crowdy Head looking south
Approaching Taree
Taree Airfield
Walt Mefford's Ford Model T
Wayne and Nel Lenox's Lightning
Airport
Allan Maxwell with his Esqual
Lynn Nelsen's Lightning
Lynn's aileron trim tab
Aileron trim switch
Lynn's Lightning in Florida
Skunk Works: Aircar
Skunk Works: Horner winglet
Clive James' rudder linkage mod
Tex Mantell's spar plug and CHT ring install
Andair fuel selector
F-22 Raptor
Next-gen jet

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Volume 2, Issue 3 - March, 2009

Lightning of the Month
Bill Hubbard's N316H

Lead Stories

Sebring Report - Carl and Pat Beatrice share photos
"To MGL or not to MGL? (Not even a question...)" by Jim Langley - Choice and installation of the Odyssey EFIS

News from the Factory

SLSA Lightning Sport Update - LS-1 build on-schedule; drop test; SLSA options
Lightning Sales Update - Dave Jalanti, new Northeast region dealer, introduces himself

News from the Dealers

Australia - Peter Mitchell to send travelogue

News from Builders and Flyers

Jim Goad shares aileron trim system based on RV design
Brian Whittingham gives a heads-up about a touchscreen EFIS
Tex Mantell provides winter photo
Paul "Bear" Bryant finishes transition training and solo first flight in his Lightning
Pete Disher describes his hinged instrument panel
Johnny Thompson provides info on Greg's updates to his Lightning, and reports repair and modification of N8WN
Carl and Pat Beatrice report on propellor manufacturing at Sensenich

Flight Safety

Craig Sumner on Fuel - preventing emergencies, Avgas/Jet/Autogas properties and behavior, best practices

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar
Sun-N-Fun
Jabiru Engine Seminar
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Oshkosh
Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

New advertisement - "The Lightning Laugh"

Technical Tips

Linda Mathias reports on tire balancing to correct or prevent gear leg/wheel shimmy

Reader Feedback

Ivan from Sweden asks about differences between Esqual and Lightning; Buz replies

Other Items

More fuel thoughts - watch refueling for type, quantity and correct tank - and general emergency airmanship

Final Thoughts

Flying suggestions - take a passenger, practice, get involved, attend a gathering

Photos:

Bill Hubbard's N316H Lightning of the Month
Sebring from above
Nick with demo
Carl with demo
SLSA Jabiru
Pete sharing knowledge
MGL EFIS diagrams
MGL EFIS screens
MGL EFIS installation components
Jim Langley's glass panel install
"Moostang" Mike working on the LS-1
SLSA drop test rig
SLSA test scale reading
LS-1 ready for paint
Elevator trim tab
Kitfox 7 with Jabiru 2200
Jim Goad's trim tab control
Jim's trim tab install detail
Jim's N166JG
Tex's winter picture
Paul "Bear" Bryant with Lightning
"Bear" in front of hangar
Katie in "Bear's" Lightning
Pete Disher's hinged panel
Pete's hinged panel, front view
Pete's panel, buttoned up
Johnny Thompson's flame paint job
Greg working on lay-up for canopy trim
Johnny's N8WN on lift
Skunk Works: Lightning Laugh
Linda Mathias - racing go cart wheel balancer

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Volume 2, Issue 4 - April, 2009

Lightning of the Month
Ron Ritchie

Lead Stories

"Kingston to Bunbury by Lightning" by Peter Mitchell
"Winter in the Colorado Rockies" by Dick Cleavinger

News from the Factory

SLSA "Lightning Sport" LS-1 Update - control systems tested, passed; paperwork; intend to complete process by Sun-N-

Fun

Lightning Sales and Build Updates - 77 delivered, 38 flying; Pat and Carl Beatrice at SYI for build phase 2

News from the Dealers

Northeast - Dave Jalanti visits the factory at SYI and works with Pat and Carl
Australia - Dennis and Angela Borchart report first flight of new demo

News from Builders and Flyers

Words from Earl Ferguson after hip replacement
Gary Pennington sends notes from flying around Arizona
Lynn Nelsen adds vinyl screw covers to panel
Bill Browns points out that 50- and 100-hour engine inspection checklists available on Jabiru USA web site
Johnny Thompson updates paint

Engine Clinic

Information about how the Bing Altitude Compensating Carburetor functions from Pete Krotje at Jabiru USA

Technical Tips

Clive James and Pete Krotje provide more information on the engine idle/stopping on final cause and fix
Dick Cleavinger, Wayne Lenox and Gary Pennington discuss the gear leg shimmy issue - alignment, retreads, pressure

Reader Feedback

Aircraft carrier photo captions

Lightning Skunk Works

Floats

Upcoming Events

Sun-N-Fun

Jabiru Engine Seminar

Virginia Regional Festival of Flight

Oshkosh

Lightning Fly-In

Flight Safety/Other Items

Crosswind landing techniques, directional control

Final Thoughts

Grass runways

Photos:

Ron Ritchie's Lightning of the Month

Peter Mitchell's Lightning

Ridge Top Tour

Oodnadatta

Pink Road House

Curtin Springs

Kings Creek Airstrip

Warburton Fuel Stop

Scenery

Boulder, CO

Golden, CO

Continental Divide

Grandby

Dillon

Vail Village

Leadville

Crossing 16 for left downwind to 34 at LXV

Arrival at Leadville (LXV)

11.5K at Corona Pass

Grandby

Elevator hinge line test

LS-1

LS-1 panel

Rear of LS-1 panel

Stick force gauge test rig

Pat and Carl Beatrice's Lightning in process

Pat and Carl's panel

Carl and Pat hang engine

Mark, Nick, Moostang, Pat, Pete, Carl celebrate Mike's birthday

"Moostang" Mike

Dave Jalanti works at the factory

Dave and Mark

Lightning Australia

Earl Ferguson's physical therapist Kate

Nuclear power plant northeast of Buckey, AZ

Parker Dam, Lake Havasu, AZ

Lake Havasu

Lynn Nelsen's panel

Johnny Thompson's updated paint job

Bing carb

Bing carb main spring

Bing carb diaphragm

Bing carb throat

Bing carb float, jets

Throttle stop mod

Terminal block used for throttle stop

Dick Cleavinger's wheel pants

Skunk Works: Floats

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Volume 2, Issue 5 - May, 2009

Lightning of the Month
Dick Cleavinger

Sun 'N Fun Report
Buz reports on turnout, the experience, events and forums

News from the Factory
SLSA "Lightning Sport" update - engine install photos, tiedowns, testing and approval; performance and specifications
Lightning Sales and Factory Assist Build Updates - Carl and Pat Beatrice first flight

News from the Dealers
Southwest - Greg Hobbs Build Center walkthrough, with amenities
Australia - demo first flight
Green Landings - Bob Haas first flight

News from Builders and Flyers
Paul "Bear" Bryant - pilot report on N82PB at 35 hours
Johnny Thompson - gear fairing cleanup

Flight Safety
Johnny Thompson - defueled fuel tank explosion from suspected static discharge

Upcoming Events
Jabiru Engine Seminar
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Oshkosh
Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works
Jabiru 1100, 40 HP engine; Lightning "FM" (Family Model)

Technical Tips
Dick Cleavinger - balancing wheel pants
Mark Phillips - homebuilt tool to make coiled cable ends

Engine Clinic
Pete Krotje continues the article about the Bing altitude compensating carburetor

Reader Feedback
Gary Winkler asks about rudder trim; Buz responds

Special Feature: Air to Air Photos
The SLSA LS-1 N325AL in flight, enroute to Sun-N-Fun

Final Thoughts
Packing the Lightning for a trip

Photos:
Dick Cleavinger's Lightning of the Month
LS-1 in flight
Buz's Esqual LS
Allan Maxwell's Esqual "SL"
Earl and N17EF
The LS-1 on display
Demo and Bob Haas' Lightning
Lightning crew
LS-1
Bob Haas' EAB Lightning
Fantasy of Flight
LS-1 crowd
Pete Krotje
Ben Krotje
Cool dudes
Interviewing Nick
Press with Nick
Nick and Dana

Ryan, Al, Clair, Mark, "Moostang" Mike, Tom, Dick
"Bear" and "Big Jim"
"World Record" Earl
Earl camping
LS-1 engine cooling ducts
LS-1 tiedown
Crew working on LS-1
N325AL on ramp after first flight of LS-1
LS-1 on display
Blessing of Carl and Pat Beatrice's N767CP
Mark wiring N767CP panel
Mark performing N767CP first run
Carl and Pat pre-first-flight
Carl installing wheel pants
Katie training Carl
Dave Jalanti from Lightning Northeast
Dave's paint scheme
Greg Hobbs' Build Center
Exercise equipment
Guest bedroom
Paint booth
Decor
Australia demo
Australia demo interior
Australia demo panel
Bob Haas' Lightning
Bob's Lightning with short winglet tips
Paul "Bear" Bryant's Lightning
Johnny Thompson's wheelpants
Johnny's axle fairing
Gear leg to pants transition
Axle fairing
Johnny's Lightning
Trailing edge deformation
Lower wing damage
Skunk Works: Jabiru 1100
Skunk Works: Mark in back seat of Lightning FM
Dick Cleavinger wheel pant balancing
Cable end attach coils
Cable end coil tool
Bing carb compensation diagram
Needle jet diagram
LS-1 photos
Baggage load for Buz's trip

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Volume 2, Issue 6 - June, 2009

Lightning of the Month
N325AL, the SLSA LS-1

Flight Testing Your Homebuilt
Buz provides an overview of the goals and objectives of a flight test process, including a 5-phase 40-hour program

News from the Factory
SLSA "Lightning Sport" Update - Dan Jonson from Light Aircraft Manufacturers Association tests the LS-1 and loves it
Lightning Sales Update - 78 delivered, 42 flying

News from the Dealers
Southwest - Johnny Thompson sends an update for Greg Hobbs - minor mods for engine cooling
Northeast - Dave Jalanti modifies carb heat muff to increase heat

News from Builders and Flyers
Pat and Carl Beatrice report on the build process and the completion of Phase 1 testing
Katie Bosman is featured in 99 News, The Official Magazine of the International Organization of Women Pilots
Craig Sumner writes to thank Katie for the assistance with Phase 1 of his Esqual
Dick Cleavinger describes his Lightning's roll bias (and Buz responds), and notes that his wheel shimmy is cured

Safety Items

Johnny Thompson offers a fuel cap modification to prevent a fuel vapor explosion

Engine Clinic

Pete Krotje's third installment discussing the Bing carburetor, specifically the mixture adjustment process

Upcoming Events

Green Landings Open House
Oshkosh
Lightning Fly-In

Lightning Skunk Works

Special Light Sport Helicopter being developed by Tom and Al at Lightning North Central

Technical Tips

Use of rubber electrical nipples to cover electrical connections

Other Items

Buz attends a local museum event, and spreads the word about the EAA Young Eagles program

Final Thoughts

Speed, fuel burn and looking great

Photos:

N325AL, the SLSA LS-1 Lightning of the Month
Buz's planes
Buz's Pitts
Linda and Mark doing an engine run
Olympus digital recorder
Buz over SYI
Lightning prototype with chase plane
Lightning prototype
Lightning prototype, closer
Prototype banking away
Prototype banking toward
LS-1
Test run of Greg Hobbs' aircraft with cowling off
Dave Jalanti's carb heat muff modification
Carl and Pat Beatrice's Lightning
Pat and Carl's panel
Pat and Carl work on wheel pant
Katie Bosman on the cover of 99 News
Katie with Earl Ferguson
Katie in silver demo in formation
Katie and Aaron Sumner
Katie and Aaron in Esqual
Bill Strahan's Lightning
Dick Cleavinger with N213RC
Johnny Thompson's fuel cap grounding mod parts
Johnny's fuel cap mod, outside
Johnny's fuel cap mod, inside
Johnny's fuel cap mod, assembled
Fuel filler label
Johnny's N8WN
Lightning Skunk Works: SLSH
Aircraft Spruce rubber electrical nipples
Linda Mathias's Lightning
Linda's firewall, with electrical contact protection
N58SX (SX-300)
Lightnings in formation
B-1 for sale

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Volume 2, Issue 7 - July, 2009

Lightning of the Month

Steve Biele's 19-5562

In Memory of Duane Sorensen

Meet Lightning's Mark Stauffer

Mark introduces himself, discusses his history with aviation, homebuilding, the military and joining Arion

News from the Factory

SLSA "Lightning Sport" Update - Nick describes the testing and paperwork to satisfy F2245 LSA standards
Lightning Sales and Factory Assist Build Updates - Katie reports on the trip to Tallahassee AirFest 2009
Virginia Festival of Flight - several photos of the Lightning (and hats) on display

News from the Dealers

Green Landings - Photos and notes from the Open House

News from Builders and Flyers

Jack Benson summarizes his first year of owning Lightning #103, N414GL (Green Landings' former demo)

Jim Goad compares the stock wheel pants with those made in Moore Haven, FL; also notes nose gear stop bolt was damaged

Clive James provides brief update on updating his Esqual and touring the south coast of the UK

Johnny Thompson sends an update on Greg Hobbs' rebuild of Lightning #3 and updates to the oil cooling system

Flight Safety

Steve Sundquist, Walt Mefford and Johnny Thompson discuss static buildup, grounding and the fuel cap mod

Upcoming Events

Oshkosh

Jabiru Engine Seminar

Lightning Fly-In

Jabiru Engine Seminar

Lightning Skunk Works

DBR - Green Landings group photo

Technical Tips

Engine cylinder compression check tester

Engine Clinic

"Cooling the Jabiru Engine" by Pete Krotje - information on cowl design, use of the ram air ducts and deflectors

Other Items

Preparing for Oshkosh (and other long cross-country flights)

Final Thoughts

Go green

Photos:

Steve Biele's Lightning of the Month

Mark Stauffer, headgear model

Mark at the 2005 Presidential Inaugural Parade

Mark's Maxair Drifter

Mark's Zenith in process

Mark's Zenith in paint

LS-1 in flight

Wing structural testing

Horizontal tail structural testing

Hinge line testing of 233AL

Engine mount load test

Tie down point test

Rudder pedal force test

Drop test, side view

Drop test, front view

Jabiru at Tallahassee AirFest 2009

LS-1 at AirFest

Nick with Joe and Linda Mathias

Jim Langley's Lightning at AirFest

Pete Dough K'Berg

Gary Winkler with his Lightning

Group in the shade

LS-1 with signboard

Pete and Nick

Judge Joe

Linda and Ryan

Departure from AirFest
Main work hangar at Green Landings
Sky Ranger at Green Landings
Attendees of GL Open House
Buddy's hangar
Charlie's Lightning
Greg's Lightning
N235SC, destined for Spruce Creek
Ryan's son Jet
"Jet" in "jet"
Jack Benson's Lightning
N414GL on the beach
Wheel pant comparisons
Bent nose stop bolt
Clive's photos of the UK
Greg Hobbs' Lightning with new paint
Greg's panel
Greg landing
Lightning #3 before rebuild
Skunk Works: Green Landings squadron
Differential compression tester
Spark plug adapter for compression tester
Jabiru cooling ramair ducts
Cowling inlets
Ramair ducts with deflectors
Buz's "jet" at Airventure 2007
Lightning
Cub

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Volume 2, Issue 8 - August, 2009

Lightning of the Month
Dennis Borchardt

Oshkosh Photo Coverage
Many pictures of the people and planes at Airventure 2009

News from the Factory
Long-time Lightning "employee" retires - the prototype N233AL to be removed from service
N324AL, the current Lightning demo, SOLD - Richard Edzel of Kansas has purchased the award-winner
Lowering aileron deflection force by modifying the bell crank extension
New AeroLED landing, navigation and strobe lights available
Factory Build Assist Updates - John Krizman first flight
Other News from the factory - next factory demo build to start
Flight Report on 325AL - evaluation test of LS-1 with new leaning system, report to follow
Update on Mark's 601XL - close to completion
Cleco the office cat 1 year old

News from the Dealers
North Central - Stephen Hacker build update

News from Builders and Flyers
"TruTrak Digiflight Configuration" by Bill Browns - in-depth report on installation and configuration
Carl Beatrice reports on trip to EAA Chapter 146 pancake breakfast; Northeast dealer Dave Jalanti volunteer chef
Paul "Bear" Bryant shares "Lightning-enhanced" Sun-N-Fun poster

Flight Safety
Keep your patterns tight!

Upcoming Events
Jabiru Engine Seminar
Lightning Fly-In
Dana's birthday
Jabiru Engine Seminar

Technical Tips & Engine Clinic
Flight test of HACman mixture control system from Green Sky Adventures, Inc.

Lightning Skunk Works
Spy photos from Oshkosh

Other Items
The history of "pitot"

Final Thoughts
Kids at Oshkosh, respect of flag and anthem, hair and the Lightning Fly-In

Photos:
Dennis Borchardt's Lightning of the Month
Oshkosh Lightning/Jabiru booth
"Moostang" Mike Jones, Mark "Possum" Phillips, Dave "Kline Kill" Jalanti and Dean "Green Landings" Gross
Barb and Pete Krotje
Greg and Crystal Hobbs
Dana and Nick Otterback
"Moostang" Mike
Tom Hoffman
Tom and Greg
Pete
Rod Stiff (President and Founder of Jabiru)
Lightning Forum with Nick, Tom, Ryan and Mark
Lightning gathering
Rick Bowen, Nick and Carl Beatrice
Ryan and Tom Nash
Buz
Mark and Rick
The Lightning Choir
Buz, Carl and Pat, Rick Bowen and Jim Langley
Doug, Tom, Greg and Crystal, Mark, Nick and Ryan
The Lightning prototype
Prototype, sans engine
Prototype engine on bench
N324AL demo
Aileron bell crank acces
AeroLED landing light
AeroLED strobe/nav light
John Krizman's N104KJ
N104KJ takeoff
N104KJ approach
Mark's Zenith panel
Mark's Zenith paint job
Cleco the cat
Stephen Hacker
Steve's daughter Lesley
Steve's panel
Bill Browns' N716MZ
Bill's panel
Bill's autopilot servo
Kline Kill pancake breakfast
Kline Kill attendees
Waco YQC-6
Sun-N-Fun poster
Bill Strahan's N197RW
HACman components and representative installation
Engine compartment with HACman
Cockpit controls for HACman
Skunk Works: Spy Photos

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Volume 2, Issue 9 - September, 2009

Lightning of the Month
The recently-retired prototype

Sandpoint, ID, Fly-In
Dick Cleavinger participates in Grandby, CO, EAA Chapter 1267 fly-out to Sandpoint, ID, and provides a report

LS-1 Flight Report

Buz provides details on LS-1 differences, flight behavior and performance

News from the Factory

Richard Edzel from Lawrence, KS, checks out in N324AL and flies it home; new demo build in-progress
Lightning Sales Update - 78 kits delivered in 3 years, with 44 flying; sales continuing in down economy

News from the Dealers

News from Builders and Flyers

Tex Mantell reports first flight
"Like Father, Like Daughter" by Laura Hacker, daughter of Stephen Hacker - her experience helping dad build
Paul "Bear" Bryant talks about converting landing and taxi lights to AeroLEDs, and buying a custom canopy cover
Jim Langley has sold N730AL to Larry Boyer

Safety Items

Paul "Bear" Bryant found a heat blister in his brake lines, caused by heavy brake use

Upcoming Events

Jabiru Engine Seminar
Lightning Fly-In
Dana's birthday
Jabiru Engine Seminar

Lightning Skunk Works

The wide-body Lightning

Technical Tips

Lynn Nelsen's axle extensions to aid jacking
Rotec's article on their TBI-40 Throttle Body Injector

Other Items

1920 Regulations for Operation of Aircraft

Final Thoughts

Poetry

Photos:

The recently-retired prototype Lightning of the Month
Lake Pend Oreille
Dick Cleavinger's Lightning
Dr. Birds' museum
Group at the museum
Approaching KSZT
Sandpoint EAA Fly-In
More aircraft at Sandpoint
Quest aircraft factory
Quest aircraft on ramp
Beach at Lake Pend Oreille
Restaurant on the beach
Greybull, WY, firefighting aircraft boneyard
LS-1 in flight
LS-1 wheel pants
LS-1 on display
LS-1 maneuvering
Tex Mantell's Kit Fox and pedal Pitts
Tex's test pilot
Laura and Steve Hacker
Laura, Steve and Pete Carlson work on the firewall
Laura working on engine install
Paul "Bear" Bryant's new landing lights
Landing light close-up
Paul's new canopy cover
Jim Langley's Lightning
Jim's Jet on the cover of Aviators Hot Line
Blister in plastic brake line
Replaced brake line
Skunk Works: Wide Body Lightning
Lynn Nelsen's axle extension for jacking
Lynn's axle extension

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Volume 2, Issue 10 - October, 2009

Lightning of the Month
Linda Mathias' N59JL

Lead Story - The Real Lightning
Several of the aircraft that have been called "Lightning" - Lockheed P-38 and F-35, English Electric, Arion

News from the Factory
Mark reports new Arion Lightning website up and running
"Moostang" Mike retrieves 2 kits from the factory - one for Jim Johannes from Huntsville, AL; one for S-LSA
Mark says 2009 demo is back from the paint shop
First lightning in Russia makes initial flight - Dmitry Shramenko is the builder and dealer
Mark has performed the first flight of his Zodiac
83 kits sold, 45 flying

News from the Dealers
Green Landings - first flight of N325SC

News from Builders and Flyers
Stephen Hacker has completed N335CE and is awaiting inspection
John Jenkins is looking at the Rotec BI and building a PC-based flight recording system

Safety Items
David Bradshaw walks through an Evektor Sportstar landing incident to highlight human factors in the accident chain

Upcoming Events
Lightning Fly-In
Engine Seminar
Engine Seminar

Lightning Skunk Works
Armament modification

Technical Tips
Randy Cotteleer cautions against the use of copper brake lines
Nick describes a home-built jig for bending pulley U-brackets

Reader Feedback
(none)

Other Items
How fore and aft CG affects handling and performance

Final Thoughts
The Lightning Homecoming

Photos:
Linda Mathias' N59JL Lightning of the Month
P-38 Lightning
P-38 in flight
English Electric Lightning
UK Lightning in flight
F-35
Prototype Lightning
New Lightning demo
Dmitry Shramenko's Lightning
Christening Dmitry's plane
Mark's Zenith
Mark after first flight
N325SC
N325SC takeoff
N325SC landing approach
N325SC landing
Stephen Hacker's N335CE

Side view of Steve's N335CE
Skunk Works: Armament
Rudder pulley U-bracket jig
Tennessee brat cooker
Creeper races
Shopping cart bike

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Volume 2, Issue 11 - November, 2009

Lightning of the Month
Jim Goad's N166JG

Lead Story - Lightning Homecoming
Third-annual Fly-In a success, despite the weather; Carl and Pat and Jim Goad receive "Lightning Bolt" plaque for distance

News from the Factory
Angi Skinner joins the Lightning team
T-shirts available for \$15
Jim Johannes' and demo aircraft in-progress
Katie reports on Midwest Light Sport Aviation Expo in Mount Vernon, IL

News from the Dealers
North Central - Steve Hacker first flight

News from Builders and Flyers
Tex Mantell Lightning completed and flying
Craig Sumner reports on flights in his Esqual

Engine Clinic
Pete Krotje describes the Jabiru engine lubrication system

Upcoming Events
Sun-N-Fun
Oshkosh

Safety
Cold weather flying - airframe icing and carburetor icing

Lightning Skunk Works
Improving on the ballistic recovery parachute

Technical Tips
Tex Mantell adds holes to the static port to improve accuracy; notes oil cooler line rub spots; finds source for spark plug crush washers

Other Items
Tips to ease cold-weather starting

Final Thoughts
FAA Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)

Photos:
Jim Goad's N166JG Lightning of the Month
Fly-In Lightnings in the hangar
Fly-In Lightnings on the ramp
Joe, Carl, Earl, Katie, Dana and Jim
"Possum," Pete, Tom Nash, Pat and Dawn
Linda, Carl, Earl, Mark, "Moostang" and Katie
LS-1
LS-1 in the weather
"Possum" Phillips, Tom Nash, Dana, Katie, Linda, Pete, Mark and Clare
Mustang
"Moostang"
Nick, Buz, Earl lay out creeper race course
Mark and Nick practice
"Moostang" Mike
"Canzer" Mark
"Danica" Dana

Mark at speed
Paul maneuvering
Dana and Nick in finals
Winner - Dana
Creepers race fans
Group vote
Group forum brake
Pete with group
Group in hangar
Pat, Carl and Nick
"Bear" and Buz
Two-ship taxi
Formation over Shelbyville
Mark in Zenith
Gale and Geri Lyle
Savannah Summer
Victoria
Nick
Pete, Barb and Judy
Clare and Mark
"Moostang" Mike, "Bear," Carl, Linda and Joe
Angi Skinner
Angi's first flight
New T-shirt
Dana in new Lightning shirt
Lightning in progress
Landing light install
Elevator lay-up
Ready to ship to Brazil
LS-1 at Midwest Light Sport Aircraft Expo
Over Mount Vernon, IL
Mark airborne
Nick warms up
Steve Hacker's Lightning
Tex Mantell's Lightning
Craig Sumner's Esqual
Craig with his Esqual
Clive James' photo from France
Skunk Works: Recovery chute improvement
Tex's static port improvement

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Volume 2, Issue 12 - December, 2009

Lightning of the Month

Pete Disher

Lead Stories

Clive's Trips - Clive James attends on three European fly-ins and shares the experience

Revised 51% Rule - Buz and Nick report on the changes and new checklist, and detail how it applies to the Lightning

News from the Factory

Arion Lightning team attends the AOPA Convention in Tampa

N327AL, the new demo, makes its first flight; initial performance numbers provided

82 kits delivered with 58.5 completion rate over 3.5 years

Nick reports some wear in nose fork phenolic block; suggests adding oillite bushing to the block

Sales update - Australia dealer Dennis Borchardt orders 3 more kits; factory S-LSA N325AL for sale

News from the Dealers

Northeast - Dave Jalanti reports progress

News from Builders and Flyers

Pete Disher sends pictures of his Lightning

Jim Johannes from AL will use builder's assist in Shelbyville; praises the newsletter

Stephen Hacker reports his panel looks fantastic and has flown off about 10 hours

Gerd Nowack of Germany is building first Lightning in Europe

Reader Feedback

Earl Ferguson suggests articles on prop balancing and features of the GRT EFIS

Engine Clinic

"The Jabiru Electrical Generator" by Pete Krotje - operating characteristics and tips

Upcoming Events

US Sport Aviation Expo
Sun-N-Fun
Oshkosh
Lightning Homecoming and Fly-In

Safety

More information on landing on crosswinds, specifically 90-degree crosswinds

Lightning Skunk Works

High-G with a dog

Technical Tips

Tex Mantell - avoiding scratches on front wheel fairing when removing/installing lower cowl
Pete Krotje - setting the ignition coil gap
Nick Otterback - improving the geometry of the rudder cable attachment bracket

Other Items

EAB, SLSA and ELSA

Final Thoughts

Veterans and freedom

Photos:

Pete Disher's Lightning of the Month
French Jabiru ladies
Clive and Shirley
Clive's Esqual
Blois, France
Millennium
Millennium kit
Corvus Phantom
JMBVL3 fixed gear
LeJunka UL
Autogyro
Sywell
Edgely Optica
Texel
The white cliffs of Dover
Clive and Shirley with piano
Blue Lightning LS-1 demo
Blue Lightning in flight
LS-1 at AOPA convention
Bahamas chocks
New Blue LS-1
Nose fork mod with oillite bushings
Dave Jalanti's Lightning in progress
Dave's wheel pants
Dave's wheel pant brackets
Pete Disher's Lightning
Pete's plane on the ramp
Pete's panel
Stephen Hacker's panel
Steve's Lightning at Lightning North Central
Gerd Nowack receives Lightning
Gerd in fuselage
Gerd at the stick
Gerd working on tail
Gerd's daughter and wife
Earl Ferguson's Triumph restoration project
Skunk Works: High-G dog
Tex Mantell's nose gear fairing protection
Rudder cable attachment
Joe Mathias in his Cub
Joe in Cub cockpit

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Volume 3, Issue 1 - January, 2010

Lightning of the Month
Tex Mantell

Happy New Year
New Year's Resolutions - fly more, take someone flying, join an EAA chapter/present the Lightning, attend a fly-in
Vote for Lightning of the Year
Germany's First Lightning - Gerd Nowack introduces himself, explains how he decided on the Lightning

News from the Factory
New Lightning dealer in Florida - Max Voronin, Moonshine Aviation, LLC, at DeLand Municipal Airport
"How to Back Up and Restore Your Settings for Your Grand Rapids Technologies Sport EFIS" by Mark Stauffer
Overview of Nick's build project, a Steen Skybolt
Lightning Sales Update - Since 2006, 85 sold, 82 delivered/49 flying in the US, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil and Russia.

News from the Dealers
Max Voronin introduces himself and Moonshine Aviation, LLC

News from Builders and Flyers
"Why I Chose the Lightning" by Carl Beatrice
Helmut from South Australia reports Kit 36 is finished
Jim Johannes in Huntsville, AL, reports Kit 87 received its Airworthiness Certificate

Reader Feedback
Steve Hacker's N335CE was ferried to Eden Prairie, MN; flight instructor enjoyed the aircraft

Upcoming Events
US Sport Aviation Expo
Sun-N-Fun
Oshkosh
Lightning Homecoming and Fly-In

Safety
Flying the standard pattern to reinforce a typical sight picture; the advantage of a glider rating

Lightning Skunk Works
Lightning Kandahar

Technical Tips
Aluminum and chrome spinners, and their care, from Cummins Spinners
Bill Strahan discovered that vibrating oil cooler lines had worn the pushrod tubes
Tex Mantell shows use of thick rope as a chock
Craig Sumner shares an article regarding troubleshooting and correcting VHF noise issues

Other Items
Articles needed!

Final Thoughts
Baby on an airliner

Photos:
Tex Mantell's Lightning of the Month
2009 Lightnings of the Month
Gerd Nowack
Gerd's daughter and wife
Gerd's workshop
Gerd at work
Thumb drive
GRT "Set Menu" soft key
GRT settings menu
GRT EFIS settings backup
Backup settings item
Skybolt wing build
Prototype Lightning
Olena and Max Voronin

Max
EAA group, including Moonshine partner Bulat
Carl and Pat Beatrice's Lightning
Ray Gage's Esqual
Helmut's Lightning 19-5412
19-5412 engine
19-5412 panel and interior
19-5412 seats
Jim Johannes' N563J
Mark with N563J
N563J in hangar
N563J engine
N563J ready for first flight
N563J first flight
Jim's panel
Grand Rapids EFIS - HX version
Jim's panel - pilot side
Jim's panel - copilot side
Steve Hacker's Lightning
Buz's "Jet"
Skunk Works: new dealer
Tex Mantell's rope chock
Bubble gum

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Volume 3, Issue 2 - February, 2010

Lightning of the Month
Lynn Nelsen

Lightning of the Year
Top four candidates... and the winner is Jim Langley's N730AL

Lynn Nelsen's Lightning and Airport Home
Lynn Nelsen describes his decision to build a Lightning, the builder assist process, his background and his airport home

News from the Factory
Brief report from Sebring, including sale of two SLSA Lightnings
Mark Stauffer has purchased an RV-9A kit

News from the Dealers
Dave Jalanti reports on his ELSA build, and offers tips on adding a USB A/B switch and boarding step protection

News from Builders and Flyers
Tex Mantell provides updates on the first 35 hours of N251TM, including performance numbers; recommends aligning fairings
Clive James documents a trip to Florida, visiting Universal, Kennedy Space Center, Kermit Week's and more
Dick Cleavinger checks in with 257 hours on the Hobbs

Reader Feedback
Jim Dabney offers a writeup on his Pulsar, which could be compared to the Lightning

Engine Clinic
Oil Analysis - how it gives insight into engine wear and can predict issues; tools and tips

Upcoming Events
Sun-N-Fun
Oshkosh
Homecoming and Fly-In

Safety
Never trust your fuel gauges - why burn rate and time are better

Lightning Skunk Works
3-D EFIS

Technical Tips
Tex Mantell - alternate axle extension jack
Stephen Hacker asks about canopy frost; Dave "Corky" responds

Buz passes along a Bonanza list tip for an inexpensive pre-heater
Clive James provides Roger's Bing carb choke mod to improve cold-weather starting

Other Items

Old pilots at Starbucks

Final Thoughts

Hours of boredom, moments of stark terror

Photos:

Lynn Nelsen's Lightning of the Month
Silver Demo
Jim Langley's N730AL
Ron Ritchie's TDT
Steve Biele's 19-5562
Lightning of the Year
Peter Mitchell's Lightning
Lynn's Lightning
Lynn's panel
Lynn's Lake Clinch Airpark location
N325AL, the LS-1 demo
Blue and cream LS-1
Dave Jalanti's N81DJ demo
N81DJ in snow with bow
Dave's tip for USB port in center console
USB port install
Thumb drive in port
Hidden under armrest
Dave's interior
Heat shrink tubing
Tubing for boarding step
Protected step
Tex Mantell's first planes
Tex's Lightning
Pictures from Clive James' trip to Florida
Dick Cleavinger near Steamboat Springs
Pulsar
Oil filter cutting tool
Oil filter disassembled
Skunk Works: 3-D glasses
Skunk Works: 3-D experience
Tex's axle jack
Axle jack in use
Inexpensive pre-heater
Pre-heater in use
Bing carb choke mod
Boredom
Terror
Cool

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Volume 3, Issue 3 - March, 2010

Lightning of the Month
Carl and Pat Beatrice

March 2010
Snow and such

Around the top end (of Australia) by Peter Mitchell - Peter documents a trip around northern Australia with friend Chris Bell

News from the Factory
Mark's report from US Light Sport Aviation Expo in Sebring, FL, with photos from Tex Mantell and Mark
Two purchases at Sebring - Ed Ryan bought an LS-1 after several demo rides, and Tom Herbert of Titusville, FL, bought N325AL
Lightning Sales Update - Ken Wilson of Guntersville, AL, bought kit; Philip Beeson of Winter Haven, FL and Bob Ponti of Dallas, TX, bought LS-1s. Ed Ryan's LS-1 in paint shop
Thanks for the word-of-mouth and referrals - Lynn Nelsen apparently influenced both Tom Herbert and Philip Beeson

News from the Dealers

Northeast - Dave Jalanti's is nearing completion
Southeast - Max Voronin says N787FL is on-schedule
Green Landings - Greg Crouchly's Lightning complete; Dave Cummock's panel with Garmin G3X on display

News from Builders and Flyers

Carl and Pat Beatrice held their Lightning Homecoming, though the weather did not cooperate
Steve Hacker soloed his Lightning; Jeff Dalton posted story to the Hummingbird Aviation blog
Steve warned about checking for the towbar and asks about winter fuel; Buz responds

Reader Feedback

Steve compliments the newsletter and comments on the November, 2009 Final Thoughts

Upcoming Events

Sun-N-Fun - Lightning forums and get-together to be held
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Sentimental Journey, Annual Cubs return to Lock Haven, PA
Oshkosh
Lightning Homecoming and Fly-In

Flying Safety

The "secret" Lightning landing technique

Lightning Skunk Works

The four-place Lightning

Technical Tips

"Bear" Bryant shows how to add a 12-volt external battery charging jack to the inlet scoop
Tex suggests a fuel measuring stick; Buz offers the process to follow to create it
Tex provides a picture of a starter relay cover
Tex also recommends checking the oil return lines for clearance and interference issues

Other Items

LSA speed limit clarification - how "max continuous power" applies

Final Thoughts

Official Goodwill Ambassadors of Aviation

Photos:

Carl and Pat Beatrice's Lightning of the Month
Lightning newsletter HQ - winter
Sick of winter
Peter Mitchell's Lightning
Peter in the cockpit
Peter's travels
Karratha Salt Farms
Karratha Industry
Broome Resident
Ord River Dam
Buccaneer Archipelago
Horizontal Falls at Buccaneer Archipelago
Chris and Peter
Approaching El Questo
Relaxing in Kunna Nurra
Dinner at Kakadu
Near Burktown
Karumba
Cape York
Airlie Beach
Qantas graveyard, Longreach
Birdsville
Birdsville cake shop
In the hangar at Alice
Chris at Bond Springs
Peter with Lightning
Light Sport Aviation Expo gate
Lightning and Jabiru booths
Canopy breaker tool
Sebring Airport fuel farm

Nick departing for demo
LS-1 on display
Aveo switches
Garmin G3X
Sebring Airport
Max and Olena
Max and Olena with LS-1
Nick with Jim Johannes and Ken Wilson
Greg Crouchly's Lightning
Greg's interior
Dave Cummock's panel
Steve Hacker with Lightning in snow
Steve after first solo
Skunk Works: Lightning FM
"Bear's" 12v jack charging mod
Charging jack inside
Charging jack battery wiring
Charging jack battery attachment
Charging jack in air scoop
Trickle charger
Buz's charging attachment
Tex's fuel dip stick
Wooden fuel dip stick
Tex's starter relay cover
Oil cooler return line
Return line with cooling duct in place
Vette

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Volume 3, Issue 4 - April, 2010

Lightning of the Month
Dave Stanley's N297S - 50th to Fly

Introduction
Denis B. from central Iowa producing newsletter index
Dave Stanley introduces himself, discusses his background and his at-home build
Happy birthday to Dave, Tom Herbert and Joe Mathias
Buz's evaluation of the iFly 700 GPS from Adventure Pilot (co-owned by Bill Strahan of S/N 75)

News from the Factory
Service bulletin for LS-1 to improve control stick rod-end bearing attachment - recommended for EAB
Mark Stauffer reports Ed Ryan's LS-1 N346BR received initial inspection and certificate for flight testing
Mark notes 92 airframes delivered, 51 flying (55% completion rate)
"Moostang Mike" to pick up 2 more kits - one for Ken Wilson, one for new 2010 LS-1 demo
Prototype Lightning N233AL officially retired and stored in the factory hangar
Preparations for Sun-N-Fun: Lightning forums on Tuesday and Friday @ 1300 in Forums tent #11
Lightning get-together at Sun-N-Fun at Lightning booth on Friday @ 1100

News from the Dealers
Australia - Dennis reports 2 almost finished, 3 additional kits enroute, asks about canopy breaker source
West - Crystal Hobbs reports sale of Esqual, completion of shop bathroom and avionics room, new addition
Crystal follows up with additional photos, including Ralph Marsh's airplane, in progress
Northeast - Dave Jalanti is working on registration of N81DJ
Florida - Max sends pictures of The Moonshine Lightning in the paint booth

News from Builders and Flyers
Tom Herbert writes about taking ownership of N325AL and provides some background info on himself and his decision
Ray Gage checks in from Spruce Creek, FL; 3 Lightnings on-field, considering a 3-5 plane demo team
Clive James sends photos of artwork carved into a hill in South England

Reader Feedback
Denis B. volunteers to work on newsletter index; provides his background and describes why he selected the Lightning
Jay Schmitt from Tijeras, NM, praises the newsletter and Matronics group, which help greatly with his Esqual N117DA

Upcoming Events
Sun-N-Fun 13-18 April; Lightning Forums Tuesday and Friday (13th/16th), get-together at Lightning booth Friday
Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Sentimental Journey, Annual Cubs return to Lock Haven, PA

AirVenture Oshkosh
4th Annual Lightning Homecoming and Fly-In

Engine Clinic

"The Jabiru Engine Ignition System" by Pete Krotje - Details about Jabiru's modern magnetos, and why start RPMs are important

Technical Tips

Pete reinforces the engine (and compression test) portions of the annual condition inspection
Buz re-visits the compression testing tech tip from July 2009

Flight Safety Tips

"More on Big Patterns" by Linda Mathias - Designated Pilot Examiner relates real-life observations and suggestions

Lightning Skunk Works

Operation BEWORN: Beat Earl's World Record Now

Other Items

Altitude selection for economy, speed, safety

Final Thoughts

Advanced avionics and taxi distractions

Photos:

Dave Stanley's Lightning of the Month and 50th to Fly
Dave's N297S on the ground
Dave with N297S
N297S with canopy cover
N297S on the ramp
Adventure Pilot iFly 700
iFly 700 views, including mounting options
iFly 700 in flight
iFly 700 readability
iFly 700 rotated for track-up
iFly 700 in closed case
iFly 700 in open case with foam
iFly 700 flight plan display
iFly 700 on-screen keyboard
iFly 700 on glareshield with Garmin Aera 500 and sectional
iFly 700 with sectional
iFly 700 on glareshield in-flight with sectional
iFly 700 mounted low in-flight
iFly 700 charts
iFly 700 arrival sample
iFly 700 example route screen
iFly 700 airport information screen
iFly 700 enroute chart
iFly 700 moving map with instrument layout
iFly 700 pre-flight weather display
iFly 700 night mode
iFly 700 and Garmin Aera 500 cost comparison
Service bulletin - addition of washers to control stick rod-end attachment
Ed Ryan's LS-1, N346BR, in process
Philip Beeson's LS-1, N897PR, in process
Prototype N233AL in flight
N233AL in rafters
N233AL on the shelf
Factory hangar - John Krizman's and Jim Johannes's Lightnings, Mark's Zenith
Canopy breaker tool
Lightning West addition interior
Lightning West hangar addition exterior
Lightning West addition approach area
Lightning West addition interior entrance to living area
Ralph Marsh's Lightning in progress
Ralph's panel
Dave Jalanti's N81DJ ready for first flight
Max's Moonshine Lightning in paint booth
Tom Herbert's LS-1 N325AL in flight
Clive James' photo of South England hill

Jay Schmitt's Esqual N117DA
Jabiru engine flywheel with magnets
Jabiru ignition coil
Jabiru distributor
Jabiru ignition system
Compression tester
Compression tester spark plug hole adapter
Franklin, VA (KFKN) pattern diagram
Linda Mathias' N59JL
N59JL with B-25
Skunk Works: Earl's N17EF in formation
Skunk Works: Operation BEWORN
The Original American Idol

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Volume 3, Issue 5 - May, 2010

Lightning of the Month

Bill Brown's N716MZ - Bill provides info on configuration, performance, panel, home base

Sun-N-Fun Recap

Mark and Buz share their photos and notes from the show; Jim Johannes wins Reserve Grand Champion Light Sport Aircraft

Steve Biele's Lightning Wins NATFLY

Steve Biele wins Best Overall Aircraft at the Australian National Fly In; provides info on his aircraft
Paul Tyrrell reports in from Australia with his notes on NATFLY

News from the Factory

New modified landing gear for LS-1; new wheel pants

News from the Dealers

Green Landings - Greg Crouchley's Lightning (SN 82) was the 52nd to fly

News from Builders and Flyers

Ray Gage reports in from the Spruce Creek Fly-In community and events; discusses his Esqual-Lightning
Allan Maxwell from Louisiana sends photos of his Esqual being updated with Lightning parts

Upcoming Events

Virginia Regional Festival of Flight
Sentimental Journey, Annual Cubs return to Lock Haven, PA
AirVenture Oshkosh
4th Annual Lightning Homecoming and Fly-In

Engine Clinic

The Top Overhaul, What's it All About - by Pete Krotje - overview of the process and estimated costs

Technical Tips

Pressure-bleeding your brakes, and use of MIL-H-5605 or other suggested fluids
Pete offers suggestions on proper grounding straps for the Jabiru engine
Jim Goad provides info on modifying the canopy latching system with a latch rod housing

Flying Safety

Transition training tips and flight training in the Lightning; Nick has a training guide available

Lightning Skunk Works

Composite aircraft on radar

Other Items

Accidents and "pilot error" - train well and practice often

Final Thoughts

Lightly-loaded wings - go fly the Cub

Photos:

Bill Brown's Lightning of the Month N716MZ
N716MZ on the ground, canopy open
Bill's Lightning, buttoned up
N716MZ panel
Bill strapping into N716MZ
Bill with his Lightning
Tow bar attach system
Wheel pant with tow bar hole
Jim Johannes' N563J in flight
N563J interior
Jim's Lightning on display in Sun-N-Fun Lightning booth
Greg Crouchley's Lightning in Lightning booth at Sun-N-Fun
Greg's panel
Ed Ryan's LS-1 on display at Sun-N-Fun Light Sport Mall
Dean from Green Landings
Jim's Lightning on display
Tex Mantell checking out Greg's engine
Bear Bryant welcomes World Record Earl to Sun-N-Fun
Carlos Fernandez at Grant Rapids Technologies, Inc. display
Lynn Nelsen's Lightning at Sun-N-Fun
Mile High T-Shirt
Adventure Pilot iFly 700 booth
Adventure Pilot iFly 700 screen
Olena from Moonshine Aviation at Sun-N-Fun
Max from Moonshine Aviation at Sun-N-Fun
Buddy Carlisle with Light Sport Corvette
Ryan, Nick and Doug Koenigsberg
Fine dining sign...
Mark and Nick at Lightning Forum
Moostang Mike at Sun-N-Fun
Mark with Bill Beasley
Formation over Lightning
Tom Hoffman and Nick with customers in the booth
Earl and Bear at Lightning meeting
Tom, Nick and Data with group at the booth
Max, Olena, Dean and Ryan with Nick at the booth
Jim Johannes congratulated by Sun-N-Fun chief judge for Reserve Grand Champion Light Sport win
Thunderbirds in formation
Dancers
Bteve Biele with trophy for NATFLY "Best Overall Aircraft"
Dynon EFIS
Steve's Lightning
Steve's panel
Steve's 19-5562, Lightning of the Month for July 2009
New spar box design for new landing gear
Old spar box design
Wider stance of new gear
New wheel pants
Greg Crouchley's Lightning at Sun-N-Fun
Ray Gage's Esqual-Lightning at Spruce Creek
Ray's N83TW
N83TW in front of hangar
N83TW on taxiway
N83TW, left side
Allan Maxwell's Esqual-Lightning cowling/canopy off
Allan's wing in-process
Allan's new canopy
Allan's finished aircraft
Pressure brake bleeding options
Jim Goad's canopy latch rod housing parts
Jim's mod - brass plate

Jim's mod - solder tack
West System epoxy
Jim's mod installed
Jim's mod - latch in
Jim's mod - alternate view
Jim's Lightning of the Month, November 2009
Skunk Works - on patrol
Corvette - All rise

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Volume 3, Issue 6 - June, 2010

Lightning of the Month

Jim Johannes' N563J - Jim discusses his return to flying, his build at Shelbyville and his Lightning

Virginia Festival of Flight

Photos of the Green Landings booth and attendees; Buz invites readers to visit him and the Cub

Clive's UK travelogue flights

Clive provides more of his travels, including Sywell, Cornwall, Boscastle, Padstow, Wadebridge, Dorset and more

News from the Factory

Nick shares paint scheme of new LS-1 demonstrator; panel to include GRT Sport EFIS and Garmin GDU 375 moving map GPS

News from the Dealers

Southwest - will be attending several fly-ins: Golden State, Arlington, Rocky Mountain and Copperstate

Green Landings - Ryan and Doug attend Virginia Festival of Flight, provided demos, gathered several prospective customers

Northeast - Dave Jalanti presents the first non-factory built (E-LSA) LS-1.

Florida - Moonshine Aviation has flown their new demo, N787FL

News from Builders and Flyers

Tom Herbert reports on transition training and solo as the new owner of the first SLSA LS-1, N325AL

Tom also shared photos and a note from his CFI

Helmut from Australia will be providing articles for the newsletter: his brother's Lightning, a tech tip and fuel injection

Buz clarifies his e-mail address is N1BZRICH@AOL.COM (N, the number one, BZRICH at AOL.COM)

Bernardo Melendez checks in as a new customer, and includes pictures and info on his CJ-1 Corby Starlet

Reader Feedback

Neil Jansen asks about the LS-1 and the ballistic chute, and air speeds

Buz responds, and mentions Vno (max structural cruise) for the LS-1 is 133 knots; Va (maneuvering speed) is 108 knots

Allan Maxwell has made Lightning mods to his Esqual, and shares photos of the completed project

Jay Schmitt is also adding Lightning parts to his Esqual, shares a picture and asks about fluid for his Esqual brakes

Buz suggests 5606 in most cases (availability, standard, compatibility with newer fluids), but warns about system compatibility

Jay reports back that his Esqual requires DOT fluid - Esqual master cylinder O-ring seals swell in 5606

Buz shares his history with Corvettes, and Jay responds with pictures of his Vette and custom 1919 Ford C-cab panel wagon

Upcoming Events

Sentimental Journey, Annual Cubs return to Lock Haven, PA

AirVenture Oshkosh

4th Annual Lightning Homecoming

Technical Tips

Propellers - Selection and Care - including pitch selection and maintenance for wooden props

Gary Winkler provides a nose gear tip - cleaning the nose leg shaft, adding spacers to correct a "pulling" issue

Tex Mantell provides three tips - using header wrap to fix exhaust leaks, proper orientation of the Bing carb atomizer for balanced CHTs/EGTs, drilling out carb jets to ensure proper sizing

Flying Safety

A Transition Training Syllabus for the SLSA LS-1 Lightning

Lightning Skunk Works

Secret report - DBR

Other Items

The FAA "Nuts and Bolts" newsletter includes an article about Bing carb corrosion

Final Thoughts

Memorial Day and Veterans; the Flag and National Anthem

Photos:

Jim Johannes' Lightning of the Month N563J

Jim's N563J with rainbow

Jim's panel

Jim's interior

Ryan Gross and Greg Crouchley clean Greg's N126NM in Green Lightning booth

Linda Mathias' N59JL at Virginia Festival of Flight

Greg's panel

Greg's N-number

Joe Mathias, Doug K'berg and Ryan Gross at Festival of Flight

Ryan and Greg preparing for flight

Ryan with Dennis Wilt for demo flight

Greg with Cub

Cerne man

Historical Sywell airfield photo

Early Brooklands Flying Club aircraft

Bridge across the Severn

Cornwall

Boscastle

Roserrow's Strip

Padstow and Wadebridge

Cerne man from above

Royal National Lifeboat Institution

Needles

New 2010 Lightning LS-1 Demonstrator

Greg Crouchley's N126NM

Dave Jalanti's E-LSA Lightning

Moonshine Aviation demonstrator N787FL

N787FL interior

N787FL panel

N787FL parked

N787FL taxi

N787FL in flight

N787FL on the ground

Tom Herbert with N325AL

Tom in the cockpit

Tom with panel

Tom taxiing

Tom with N325AL at Titusville hangar

Bernardo Melendez's CJ-1 Corby Starlet

Bernardo and CJ-1 in flight

Allan Maxwell's new paint

Allan's Esqual/Lightning, front view

Allan's panel

Jay Schmitt's Esqual/Lightning

Buz's fast vehicles (Esqual LS/Corvette)

Jay's Corvette

Jay's 1919 Ford C-cab panel wagon
Bad wooden prop
Gary Winkler - Corrosion on nose gear
Gary - Nose gear blocks
Gary - Nose gear bracket wear
Gary - Nose gear block spacer plates
Gary - Nose gear fork clearance
Gary - Nose gear fork spacers
Tex Mantell - Header wrap on exhaust/muffler connections
Made in the USA

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Volume XX, Issue XX - XX, 20XX

Lightning of the Month

News from the Factory

News from the Dealers

News from Builders and Flyers

Reader Feedback

Engine Clinic

Technical Tips

Safety

Upcoming Events

Lightning Skunk Works

Other Items

Final Thoughts

Photos: