



THE SOCIETY OF EXPERIMENTAL TEST PILOTS

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2009

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**MESSAGE FROM THE
PRESIDENT**



Greg Lewis (F)
Deputy Director
National Test Pilot School

I just returned from a great one-day symposium at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, Ohio, where Brig Gen (ret) **Jay Jabour (AF)** organized a thought provoking day focused mainly on military programs, as you would expect for a regional event where the preponderance of local flight test personnel are associated with the US Air Force. A highlight of the activities was Lt Gen (ret) **Dick Reynolds (F)** luncheon address that briefly covered looming changes to the US DoD system acquisition process which will undoubtedly affect all flight testers dealing with the US military. Dick has some ideas on how we might beneficially involve SETP to influence some of those changes. There may be more on that in the coming months as Dick works with the Board of Directors to formulate potential ways forward.

Improvements to the SETP web site (www.setp.org) continue behind the scenes. The changes being made by a company we hired last year have already improved several aspects of the

members' only section. Soon we should have the capability to do all event registration, payments, etc through the web site, which will greatly ease the workload at the HQ, perhaps allowing us to avoid hiring additional permanent staff. We're also, at a lower priority, seeking to enable web-based member voting.

The Board of Directors has received two suggestions for changes in our Constitution. In the past the Board has been reluctant to approve ballot initiatives due to the high cost of printing and mailing ballots to nearly 2,400 members. If the cost can be reduced substantially by at least a partial use of web-based balloting we may soon submit those suggested changes to the membership, in accordance with the provisions in our Constitution. If you have any suggestions for possible changes, this would be a good time to forward them to the Board of Directors.

Don't forget that Kincheloe and Doolittle award nominations are due in August.

Greg Lewis
President

SYMPOSIA HIGHLIGHTS

**Central Section
Symposium
Cessna Aircraft Company
Wichita, KS
15 May 2009**

The annual Central Section Symposium was held in Wichita, Kansas at the Cessna Aircraft Company Conference Center on May 15. Attendees and guests enjoyed a nice reception at

the Hangar One Restaurant overlooking Mid Continent Airport the evening prior. The theme this year was "Lessons Learned and Industry Updates" with six excellent presentations: *Flight Testing and High Reliability Organizations*, **Dr. James Casler (AF)**, University of North Dakota; *Multi-Pilot Systems Usability Evaluation of Model 3000 Integrated Avionics*, **Daniel Hinson (M)** and **David Sitz (M)**, Hawker Beechcraft; *Certification of Winglets on Citation X*, **Michael Voight (M)**, Cessna; *Boeing 767 Tanker Flight Test*, **Steve Stowe (AF)** and **Rickey Kahler**, Boeing; *Cold Weather testing at Cessna*, **Will Gibbons (AM)**, Cessna; and *CRM Basic Techniques Adapted for Flight Test*, **Marc Mannella (AF)**, Bombardier. Marc's excellent presentation on CRM aspects in flight test earned this year's Lloyd C. Stearman Award for outstanding presentation. The Luncheon Keynote Speaker was **Al Lawless**, Honda Aircraft, who gave a candid look at *The Rise and Fall and Rise of Grob Aerospace*. This year's symposium was open to SFTE and the local chapters of SETP and SFTE will look into joint venues in the future with a goal of being better able to attract industry sponsorship. Many thanks go to **Will Gibbons (AM)**, Central Section Vice Chairman, for organizing an outstanding symposium and to Cessna Aircraft Company for offering their new Conference Center for SETP to use.

**Great Lakes Section
Symposium
Wright Patterson AFB Club
Dayton, OH
28 May 2009**

Great Lakes section conducted a very successful Symposium on 28 May at Wright Patterson AFB Club and Banquet center. The event was well attended by both section membership and non-members interested in the society. **Greg Lewis (F)** kicked off the activities with a briefing on the state of the society. This was well received by the members. Greg participated in the symposium and luncheon, as well as the post-briefing social hour.

The theme for the Symposium was "The Combined Test Force". There were four great papers and a 90 minute panel discussion that was focused on issues and ideas for CTF organization.

Dan Canin, Lockheed Martin discussed flight testing of the F-16 Automated Ground Collision Avoidance system. **Sam Ryals** briefed the Goodrich effort on Sense and Avoid technology flight test for the Air Force Research Lab. **Capt HAVOC Nielsen** briefed Integrated Systems Evaluations of F-16 block M5.1 conducted in conjunction with Red Flag and **Jay Jabour** gave a historical briefing on Advanced Tactical Fighter Combined Test Force. Our best paper committee, under the leadership of **Robbie Robinson**, awarded the Wright Brothers Memorial Trophy for Best Paper at the Great Lakes Symposium to **Capt. Michael HAVOC Nielsen** for his paper on the F-16 ISE testing, congratulations to HAVOC. **Dick Reynolds** was our luncheon speaker and his remarks on the changes coming in DoD acquisition were timely and very informative.

For the first time we included a panel discussion with the symposium. The theme of the panel was the Combined Test Force, Organization and Issues. Thanks to the members of the panel; **Jon Beesley** (Lockheed Martin), **Robbie Robinson** (ATK), **Tom Severyn** (USAF) and **Don Weiss** (Northrop Grumman). The panel members used their experience to discuss how a CTF can help the USAF Program Mangers meet their needs in testing complex weapon systems. The discussions and questions were lively.

**SYMPOSIUM & BANQUET
INFORMATION**

**53RD Annual
Symposium & Banquet
Anaheim, CA
23-36 September 2009**

This year the Society and the Grand Californian Hotel are pleased to announce that due to the difficult economic climate rates at the Grand Californian and the symposium registration fees will not be raised this year to allow maximum participation.

The Grand Californian Hotel and Paradise Pier are now accepting room reservations. The group rate is \$196 for single/double at the Grand Californian. For those wishing to stay at the Paradise Pier, located across the street from the Grand Californian, the room rate is \$168.00 single/double. A very limited block of U.S. military/government rooms has been reserved at the Paradise Pier Hotel, for active U.S. military and government employees at a rate of \$122.00. Please note that the hotel will no longer take reservations for retired military personnel at the government per diem rate.

Reservations for both hotels can be made by calling 1-714-520-5005, by fax at 1-714-520-6079, or online at <https://resweb.passkey.com/go/SETP2009>. When

booking your reservation please indicate that you are with Society of Experimental Test Pilots and mention group code GCSI09A. The cut-off-date for reservations is Monday, 7 September 2009. Reservations after the cut-off-date are subject to availability.

Please check the SETP website frequently for updates. Registration and symposium information will be available in early July.

**REQUEST FOR NOMINEES
FOR KINCHELOE AND
DOOLITTLE AWARDS**

The Board of Directors of The Society of Experimental Test Pilots has issued a call for nominations for the Iven C. Kincheloe Award and the J. H. Doolittle Award. Any member or person who has knowledge of a candidate's accomplishments may submit a nomination(s) for either or both of these awards. To help in determining appropriate nominees, information about each award is given below.

Nominations for the Kincheloe and Doolittle Awards must:

• Be presented in writing not later than 19 August 2009

• Contain pertinent information concerning the candidate's work.

• Be submitted to the SETP Board of Directors, P.O. Box 986, Lancaster, CA 93584.

Selection will be announced at the 53rd Awards Banquet on 26 September 2009 at The Grand Californian Hotel, Anaheim, California.

The presentations of these Awards are highlights of the Banquet. Each recipient will receive a small replica of the

respective award, while the perpetual trophies remain on display at SETP Headquarters.

**THE IVEN C. KINCHELOE
AWARD**

(Sponsored by Lockheed Martin) - In 1958, The Society of Experimental Test Pilots established the Iven C. Kincheloe Award in memory of the late Captain Iven C. Kincheloe, USAF. The purpose of the Kincheloe Award is to recognize outstanding professional accomplishment in the conduct of flight-testing.

**KINCHELOE SELECTION
CRITERIA**

1. Recipient must be a living member of the Society.
2. The accomplishment or at least a significant phase must have occurred during the past year (1 July to 1 July).
3. The accomplishment must involve actual flight-testing conducted by the individual and represent outstanding contribution to an aerospace flight program while acting as a test pilot thereon.

**THE J. H. DOOLITTLE
AWARD**

(Sponsored by Boeing) - was established to honor outstanding accomplishment in technical management or engineering aspects of aerospace technology. It was presented for the first time in 1966.

**DOOLITTLE SELECTION
CRITERIA**

1. Recipient must be a living member of the Society.
2. A significant phase of his accomplishment must

have occurred while a member of the Society.

- The accomplishment clearly must be in technical management or engineering aspects of aerospace technology.

SECTION NEWS

EAST COAST



(L-R) Jesse Ashby, Vice President SFTE Patuxent River Chapter, David Culbertson (AF) Calspan, East Coast SETP Chairman, Tom Phelan (M), Wyle, USNTPS Alumni Association President

The East Coast Section of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots (SETP) joined with the Patuxent River Chapter of the Society of Flight Test Engineers (SFTE) and the United States Naval Test Pilot School (USNTPS) Alumni Association to congratulate the USNTPS Class 135 on their graduation and welcome them to the community of flight test professionals. The Graduation reception was held Wednesday 10 June at the Flight Deck Lounge at the Patuxent River Naval Air Station. Nearly hundred people base wide came to welcome the graduating class of thirty two Test Pilots, Test Naval Flight Officers, and Flight Test Engineers. In addition to the reception, David Culbertson (AF), the East Coast SETP Chapter Chairman, presented an information brief on the organization and mission of SETP. After the event, all of the pilots present signed up to be Provisional Associate Members.

SETP BREITLING WATCH



The Society is now offering the membership an SETP Logo Breitling watch. We must have 25 confirmed orders to proceed. If you are interested in ordering a watch please contact Shawna Mullen at 661-942-9574 for more information.

A Search for Test Pilot Visual Records (What's In Your Garage?)

Our test pilot history is a valuable resource for both members and non-members but there are two problems. First, these media are virtually inaccessible in this world of the Internet and computer files. Secondly, and sadly, the original material will deteriorate over time. Color shifts in Kodachrome and Kodacolor films, acetic acid outgassing on 16mm films and storage temps and humidity can have permanent, irreversible effects on these visual media. Our test pilot history can literally melt away.

The Society has a small collection of historically significant 16 mm films, 35mm slides, VHS and Beta tapes and still photographs and we have decided to begin the task of properly archiving the collection and then digitizing it. This historical data will then be available to our members as well as legitimate researchers. In addition, the original films, tapes and pictures will be professionally documented, stored properly to preserve them and controlled to make sure they don't "walk away" over time, yet remain available for use in projects which enhance

the history and image of test pilots.

Most of us have collected similar test pilot "stuff" over the years that sits in boxes in garages, attics and related nooks and crannies.

This is a request to donate your private collections to the Society where it can be preserved and made accessible in a digitized format for our members and non-members just as we currently do with our SETP papers.

Contact Paula Smith, Executive Director, at SETP Headquarters to arrange for your donations. You can contact her at:

Phone (661) 942-9574

E-Mail: setp@setp.org

Snail Mail:
The Society of Experimental Test Pilots/ Archives Project
P. O. Box 986
Lancaster, CA 93584-0986

Thank you for your help in preserving our history.

Paul Metz
SETP Archive Project

SETP NEW MEMBERS AND UPGRADES

The Society would like to welcome the following new Members:

Anderson, Quintin (M)
Maj, USAF
Aunapu, Nichole (PAM)
Capt, USMC
Cain, Charles (PAM)
Maj, USAF
Chiasson, Marc (PAM)
Maj, USAF
Coldsnow, Matthew
Maj, USAF
Poisson, Matthew (PAM)
Maj, USAF
Rippy, Dennis (PAM)
LT, USN
Seager, Chris (PAM)
Capt, USAF
Teo, Soo Yeow (PAM)
Maj, Singapore AF

Congratulations to those members who have upgraded their membership!

Bush, R. John (M)
LCDR, USN

DiGiovacchino, John (M)
LCDR, USN
Holton, Michael (AF)
Northrop Grumman
Ikeya, Toshio (AM)
Maj, JASDF
Plumb, Gary (AF)
Col, USAF

SETP SECTION CHAIRMEN

CENTRAL

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SOUTHWEST

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WEST COAST

Chuck Coleman
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MEMBERS CAN CHANGE THEIR INFORMATION ON-LINE

If you have recently moved or have changed your contact information you can now change your information on-line at http://66.102.193.156/user_area.asp

WANTED: TECHNICAL ARTICLES

The Society is soliciting appropriate technical articles from SETP Members for publication in *COCKPIT* magazine. If you have presented a paper at a symposium and would like to

have it published, please feel free to send it in. We are also interested in historical and humorous articles

To submit articles for the Newsletter please contact Shawna Mullen at 1-661-942-9574 or Shawna@setp.org.

**SETP Headquarters
P.O. Box 986
Lancaster, CA 93584**

For up to the minute info please check www.setp.org

2009 Calendar of Events

53rd Symposium & Banquet

23-26 September 2009
Grand Californian Hotel
Anaheim, CA

Flight Test Safety Workshop Europe

10-12 November 2009
Vienna, Austria