

Western Association of Mooney Mites
Vol. XXI January 1998

There are a few things that this time of the year brings about, one wishes everyone has a safe, healthy, good and Happy New Year; the other is that we wish we knew of a quick way of getting rid of the extra pounds put on during the holidays. WAMM hopes that the past holidays were pleasant and joyous for you with your family.

This is January whereby old man winter moves in to many parts of the country where some of you will park your mites for many a month until spring. A word of caution is in order here that mite owners in the snow country check their hangars for structural flaws that if repairs are necessary, take care of them now or move your magic carpet to safer quarters!!! Winterize your airplane to prevent mice, birds, squirrels or whatever from making a home of your mite. Plug exhaust stack holes with rags or a small rubber ball to minimize moisture going into the engine, unless you fly frequently. In plain words do whatever is necessary to protect the aircraft from the elements during its winter sleep!

WAMM Eastern Flyin

Ted Teach of Ohio (mite owner) and I have been in contact regarding a possible Mooney Mite Flyin gathering in the eastern part of the USA. Ted has agreed to take the helm with some help from other eastern members to follow thru on such an event. One in particular Mike Bolinger of Kokomo Indiana has expressed some interest, I think and hope so! Ted Teach sent me a copy of a letter to Mike suggesting a program which to me is a very good start. It goes like this:

The airport is private (Barnhart Memorial) at New Carlisle Ohio with adequate tie down space, a club house, nearby food (1 mile) with nearby motels within 5 miles. Also a number of airports are near for fly-to food for lunch or! The Air Force museum is only seven miles and would be an interesting place to visit.....A two day fly-in program might look like this;

Fri pm - Arrivals with dinner at a local restaurant.

Sat am - (a) Morning fly-out to Urbana (12 miles) for breakfast.

(b) Return & get acquainted, look at mites, shoot the breeze till noon.

(c) Have lunch locally then fly to Fred Schmidt's mite airport, look at his inventory of mite parts and goodies as well as several other interesting projects of Fred's, then fly to Sportys near Cincinnati to see their store; fly to Mt. Victory for dinner then return to home airport at New Carlisle.....Socialize as desired!!!!

Sun am - (a) Fly to breakfast at Barberton (25 miles)

(b) Present an award to longest distance attendee

(c) Present an award to best looking mite (by pilot vote)

(d) Depart for the Air Force museum & lunch there, return to our airport by 3pm.

(e) Say goodbyes and depart by 4pm.

If the flyin is held in May, darkness would occur at about 8:30 pm allowing enough flying hours to get home by Sunday evening. To those of you in the east or mid-west can contact Ted Teach at his home 5226 Kellenburger Road, Dayton, Ohio 45424 in expressing your interest of having a Mooney Mite gathering. We out in the West hold two of these flyins yearly with great results and satisfaction from the attendees regarding the fun with information gathered of our planes. The program that Ted has outlined is one that should arouse a great interest by the eastern mite owners! Do it!!!-----Thanks Ted.

Mite For Sale:

Robert E. Schneider of Miami, Ohio has his Mite for sale:

1954 M18LA - s/n#130 - 2225 TT -552 SMOH-fresh annual-all logs since new-always hangared-asking \$9500 with free delivery-phone 513-831-9283....

Gear Hardware Information

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Dan Beltrami of Sandy Oregon sent in this information regarding bolt replacements on M18C mite gears. I believe the bolts are the same for the M18L models also. He suggests using close tolerance bolts to compensate for the "slop" in the gear. Here is a list of the bolts and where used:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Part No.</u>	<u>Quantity</u>
Alum over center link	AN174-12	2 ea
Retraction trunion	AN174-13	2 ea
Right/left pivot bolt (top)	AN175-13	1 ea
Right/left pivot bolt (bottom)	AN175-22	1 ea
Steering Collar	AN174-15	1 ea
Lower end pivot bolts	AN175-15A	2 ea
Main lower pivot bolt	AN7-20	1 ea

The down side of these bolts is the cost--one to two dollars each depending on its size. Thanks Dan, there are mites out there that need new gear bolts to minimize the "slop"! Good idea on the oversize hardware.

Columbia Flyin

The mite flyin in Columbia Calif. last August had a great turnout of Mooneys and friends to participate in its events. Besides having a great time visiting and flying mites together we had a fine BBQ put on by member Pat Moran with his family on Saturday. We all flew to his airport near Waterford Calif. for the social gathering with beautiful weather/visibility to make it a fun day for all. Thanks Pat, wife and children---great food!!! Great BBQ!!!

The Columbia airport has a state park for pilot campers -so we all pitched tents for our hotels. Some went to local motels. Great fun for the fifteen attendees which included eleven mites, a piper, a Gruman yankee, also a Texas taildragger Cessna. WAMM members from Oregon and Washington states were in attendance, they were the distance runners.

The attendees decided that in 1998 that instead of Columbia, another site be chosen. The airport is located near Redding Calif., called Benton airport. We understand that the facilities necessary are available for our event in late August 1998! The dates for the Benton Calif. Mite flyin are 28th, 29th, and 30th falling on Friday, Saturday, & Sunday.

But first comes the early year flyin for us, the spring get-together which will take place on May 15th Friday, 16th Saturday, 17th Sunday in Porterville Calif. as every year.

OK folks. WAMM certainly hopes that all had a Christmas season to remember with family and friends....Also remember to keep the Good Ole Mites flying!!!!!!!!!!!!Happy New Year.....

