

Midwest LSA Expo returns to Mt. Vernon Airport

This year's event will feature a new opportunity to buy or sell a used aircraft

BY GREG PETERSON
SENTINEL NEWS STAFF

MT. VERNON — Aircraft shoppers will have an opportunity to look at and test out a multitude of light aviation aircraft during the Midwest Light Sport Aircraft (LSA) Expo this weekend at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.

The expo will run from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. from Thursday to Saturday at the airport. The event offers free admission, free parking, and free camping.

Airport Manager Chris Collins stated, "This is year eight, and as far as the LSA Expo is concerned, there is really no change. It still remains focused on putting the exhibitors and the shoppers together in one convenient location."

He added, "What makes this event thrive is the ability for someone to travel to Mt. Vernon and comparison shop for different airplanes. And they can easily talk with all of the exhibitors and hop in the airplane and take a demonstration flight."

According to Collins, there are typically 40 different exhibitors at the Expo with approximately 30 different airplane models. He said inside the airport terminal there will be more service related exhibitors.

Collins also said there will also be an exhibitor at the event called Etched Memories. He said the exhibit pertains to laser cutting images into glass cubes. Though the exhibit is not directly related to aviation, Collins said individuals who may not be interested in aviation may want to attend the expo to see that exhibit.

In addition to the exhibits, there will also be free seminars and fo-



Sentinel Photo

LSA EXPO — Bob Snyder, CENTER, shows an AutoGyro Calidus to John Bertram, LEFT, and Bud Cool during the opening day of the 2014 Midwest Light Sport Aircraft Expo at the Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. This year's event will be at the airport Thursday, Friday, and Saturday.

Expo:

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runs held throughout the expo.

"We have a full slate of seminars that are going on at 11 a.m., 1 p.m., and 2 p.m. each day," stated Collins.

He said one of the seminars will be about earning your pilot's certificate. He said the seminar will be a chance for interested parties to learn about how to get their license.

There will be a big addition to this year's expo, informed Collins. He said there will be an Aircraft Sales Lot that will serve as a "parallel opportunity" with the LSA Expo. Collins stated, "If someone has a used aircraft

out there and they want to sell it, they bring it to the aircraft sales lot."

According to Collins, the Aircraft Sales Lot is sponsored by an Iowa based publication called Aviators Hotline. Collins said that the Aircraft Sales Lot will be managed by professional aircraft brokers who have knowledge of regulations and financing.

"It's a lot easier to sell an aircraft that way where you have somebody who knows what you are doing in the business and you are at a national event where there are shoppers," stated Collins.

He said there are approximately 10 pre-registered parties, but there may be as many as 25 airplanes and helicopters at the Aircraft Sales Lot. Collins said there will be

at least one helicopter there.

Individuals visiting the LSA Expo will also be able to experience the Jefferson County Hall of Honor and the Colonel R.D. White Veterans Museum inside the airport terminal.

Collins said the expo is always looking for volunteers. He said air shows at the Mt. Vernon Airport are known for the helpful volunteers who allow the events to occur. Collins said individuals interested in volunteering should contact the airport.

*gpeterson@
morningsentinel.com*

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