

Builders, owner and pilots of homebuilt aircraft met at airport



The national gathering of builders, owners, and pilots of the KR series of homebuilt aircraft wrapped up over the weekend at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport. The gathering drew aircraft from as far away as southern California, eastern Pennsylvania, and southern Georgia. Twenty KR aircraft made the trip to Southern Illinois, breaking a record for the most amount of KR's at a gathering. The previous record was set at the 2004 event in Mt. Vernon. Over 150 KR builders from all over the country, as well as builders from Canada, and one couple from the United Kingdom, were guests in our city during the event. Special gathering guests included Mrs. Jeannette Rand and Ms. Susan Rand of Los Angeles, Calif. Jeannette is the widow of Susan is a daughter of the airplane's designer—the late Ken Rand. The gathering attendees voted at their annual banquet on Saturday, Sept. 30, 2006 to return to the King City for an unprecedented fourth time. The 2007 KR Gathering will be held at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport in late September 2007. The event was hosted by KR Owner Larry Flesner of Carterville, Ill., the Mt. Vernon Airport Authority, SRT Aviation, and EAA Chapter 1155. SUBMITTED PHOTO