

Skyraider Sentinel

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Skyraider Aviation Welcomes New Club Members!

- Eric Liddell
- Frank Morris
- Steve Sample
- John Scott
- Don Smith

This Month in Aviation History



V-173 "Flying Flapjack"

November 23rd, 1942... On this date, test pilot Boone T. Guyton took to the air in the most radical conventionally-engined aircraft ever built, the Chance Vought V-173. Flight testing of the V-173 went on through 1942 and 1943, resulting in reports of "flying saucers" from surprised Connecticut locals. Nicknamed the "Flying Flapjack", the V-173 nearly became the first V/STOL (vertical takeoff and landing) fighter, but due to Vought's preoccupation with the Corsair and Kingfisher, the program proceeded slowly during the war. The arrival of the jet age ultimately put and end to the V-173 program.

"And if flying, like a glass-bottomed bucket, can give you that vision, that seeing eye, which peers down on the still world below the choppy waves — it will always remain magic."

— Anne Morrow Lindbergh, 'North to the Orient,' 1935.

Want the good news or bad news first?

The good news... after a nearly 4-month delay, our brand new Evektor SportStar finally arrived! Skyraiders **John Risi** and **Chris Dillis** picked up N617EV in Kerrville, TX on November 5th, and flew her back to Erie. The 670 nautical mile journey took almost 8 hours... about an hour longer than expected due to a strong headwind most of the way. Leaving Kerrville mid-morning on the 5th, the two pilots stopped only once (in Plainview, TX) before completing their marathon flying session later that day.

Now the bad news... 10 days later 7EV ran off the east side of runway 33 and was significantly damaged as it crossed a drainage ditch.



N617EV in the Ditch

Thankfully the student and instructor were not hurt in the incident, but the airplane will be out of commission for a while. The damage consists mostly of a wrecked nosewheel assembly and propeller. The broken parts will be removed, and replacement parts will be installed. The whole process should not take too long, and with any luck we could be reporting on 7EV's departure from the repair facility in next month's newsletter.

Gift Cards Now Available!



Looking for the perfect gift this holiday season? We have the card for you! Give the gift you know they will enjoy.

Skyraider Aviation gift cards can be redeemed in our store for:

- * Airplane Rental
- * Pilot Supplies