



Air and Space magazine Editorial Calendar

December 2008 - Fall 2009

December/January

THE BLACK EAGLE OF HARLEM — The tale of Hubert Fauntleroy Julian, the Black Eagle of Harlem.

CANADA'S JETLINER — A look at Canada's Avro C102 jetliner and its supporters, which included Howard Hughes.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE PHANTOMS GONE? First in a Series: LEGENDS OF VIETNAM. The only fighter flown simultaneously by the Air Force, Navy, and Marines, as well as by 11 other nations.

MAILPLANES AT 90 — A trip through the antique airplanes fly-in at Blakesburg, Iowa, where some of the airplanes on display flew early mail runs for the U.S. Postal Service. USPS is marking 90th anniversary of air mail.

RED AND THE ROBOTS — Profile of Red Whittaker, one of the world's foremost roboticists. Red's rovers have explored volcanoes, deserts, and Antarctic ice fields.

BOOK EXCERPT: MIKE MALIN'S MARS — Excerpt from book by Andy Chaikin

VIRTUAL AIRLINES — An attempt to comprehend the growing trend toward piloting virtual airliners via home computers.

PRESENT AT CREATION — How the members of the First Flight Society, descendants of the witnesses on hand when Orville left the ground, commemorate the day each year.

HOW THINGS WORK: GROUND RESONANCE — Tutorial on the potentially destructive force that afflicts multi-blade helicopters whose engines are running while the aircraft is on the ground, or attempting landing or liftoff.

RESTORATION: STAGGERWING : Saga of the Staggerwing, which took Lloyd Cizek 18 painstaking years to restore. When the work is finished and the airplane certified as airworthy, however, he loses his medical certification and his right to fly. It's up for sale, but so far, no takers.

February/March

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO FLY A ROCKETSHIP? — Who will fly the first generation of space tourists on their pricey jaunts? How is flying a rocketship different from what they used to fly?

OLDEST RESIDENTIAL U.S. AIRPARK — Kentmorr in nearby Eastern shore, Maryland, has been a community for pilots since the 1950s. It's not just a neighborhood; it's life style.

RUSSIAN STAR WARS — A closer look at Russia's POLYUS program, the Star Wars laser satellite that came close to reaching orbit.

SPACECRAFT ESCAPE SYSTEMS — An important new feature of NASA's Crew Exploration Vehicle is that once again astronauts will have a way to escape in case of a launch pad accident.

THE ALSO-RANS — A photographic look at early European airplanes in countries where aviation design or development didn't quite take hold.

AIRCRAFT OF THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR — A look at the pilots and airplanes that flew in the Spanish Civil War and how aviation made a difference in that conflict.

HOW THINGS WORK: FUEL CELLS — Private aircraft have the chance to pull way ahead of their commercial brethren in the race to save fuel and fly green. How? Fuel cells.

HUMANS GO HOME — How will autonomous unmanned aerial vehicles improve on the missions that remote-controlled UAVs are doing, such as monitoring agriculture. We ask the experts at the Air Force Research Lab, the Office of Naval Research and elsewhere.

*Source: 2008 MRI Doublebase
Publisher defined Prototype



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SHOULDER TO SHOULDER: THE A-6 INTRUDER — Second in a Series: LEGENDS OF VIETNAM. When weather grounded fighters, bombers, and recon craft in Vietnam, the Navy sent in the Grumman A-6.

SUPERSONIC SALES CALL — How do you sell a fighter to a foreign government? With a show-off test pilot who likes to schmooze.

RESTORATION: CORSAIR — Making Connecticut the only state in the union with an “official” airplane.

April/May

AIRSHOW SPECIAL: THE TUMBLERS — When an airshow pilot wants to make the crowd hold its collective breath, he kicks his airplane into a lomcevak, a Czech word for “drunken bum” or “hangover” coined by the Czech aerobatic pilot who invented the fierce tumbling maneuver.

SUNSET ON THE SPACE COAST — The impact on NASA’s standing army of shuttle workers as the first of the orbiters retires.

THE MAN WHO’S FLOWN EVERYTHING — Profile of Hoot Gibson, four-time space shuttle commander, Reno racer, former Southwest Airlines captain, and Navy Top Gun.

FLYING THE B-47 — A famous B-47 pilot lets us in on the secrets of the bomber he loved to fly. Exploring the Kuiper Belt What will the New Horizons spacecraft find at Pluto and the Kuiper Belt when it arrives at this outermost region of the solar system in 2020? A look at the mysteries of the Kuiper Belt.

RESTORATION: GRUMMAN F9F PANTHER — Restoration of the Grumman F9F Panther in Bowling Green, KY. What’s its place in early naval jet aviation?

MAX Q: HISTORY OF A BAND — History of the all-astronaut band Max Q, started by Hoot Gibson and others in the 1980s.

CHARLES BROADWICK’S PARACHUTE — Story of the invention of the parachute.

PIETENPOL CULTURE — What makes the Pietenpol Air Camper, which debuted in 1928, so popular with the homebuilt crowd today? We talk to the people who still build and fly it.

PHANTOM AIRSHIPS — Recounting the “Phantom Airship Scare” of 1909 in which airship scares sprouted everywhere in the pre-WWI era, from New England to New Zealand, often tied to fears of war.

HOW THINGS WORK: DEGAUSSING — Tutorial on how to de-magnetize an airplane to get the compass working again.

LUNAR SMACKDOWN — NASA’s upcoming LCROSS mission will slam into the moon. The impact should be big enough that the public can see, and NASA is asking for help from amateur astronomers who observe the collision.

Jun/July 09

FLIGHTS THROUGH THE MUSHROOM CLOUD — Story of the U.S. military pilots who flew through radioactive clouds as a scientific experiment.

AIRBORNE ASTRONOMY — Astronomers are using more than telescopes to make cosmic discoveries.

HOW THINGS WORK: REVERSE THRUST — A tutorial on the process of bringing a jet airliner to a stop, focusing especially on how the aircraft’s engine reverses thrust.

RETURN OF THE MOON BUGGY — NASA is testing vehicles now that hot rod around the lunar dunes.

HANDLERS — The local people who keep the global economy humming by smoothing the way of international business travel.

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FIVE CONTROLLERS WHO MADE A DIFFERENCE — On the July 19th anniversary of the UA 232 crash at Sioux City, we look at five situations that would have been much worse had the air traffic controller not been the voice of reason.

MAN-RATING A ROCKET — Making a rocket reliable enough to safely carry humans is the new trend for New Space companies. Who are the engineers who write the requirements and invent safeguards to protect astronauts?

RESTORATION: PITCAIRN AUTOGYRO — Restoration of the last flying Pitcairn.

PHOTO ESSAY: THE PRIVATE PLANETEERS — Computer geeks who stitch together raw data to create better likenesses of Mars and other worlds than JPL.

PUTTING OUT FIRES — Feature on airplane firefighting training exercise at Sea-Tac airport in Washington state, which has an \$800,000 custom-made airliner mockup.

LOGBOOK TALES — Evolution of pilots' logbooks, with 10 examples of interesting remarks recorded.

August 2009

P-39S ON THE LEND-LEASE HIGHWAY — U.S. pilots ferried P-39s from the Bell Aircraft factory in Buffalo to Nome, Alaska, where Soviet pilots picked them up for the flight into Siberia.

CHURCHILL'S LIBERATOR — Story of American pilot Bill VanDerKloot who flew British PM Winston Churchill around for three years in a B-24 during WWII.

TWO WEEKS TO TAXI — Story on the kitplane assembly program "Two Weeks to Taxi" in Arlington, WA. NetJets Ops How do they get a jet from Milwaukee to pick up a businessman in Las Vegas, bring him to Manhattan, and get him back to Vegas when the jet is needed in Miami?

SEARCH AND RESCUE/WARTHOGS & SANDIES — How the A-1D Skyraider's mission to fly suppression on SAR missions in Vietnam foreshadows the A-10 Thunderbolt's recent missions in Iraq.

RUSSIAN MISSILES TURNED TO LAUNCHERS — Jim Oberg travels to the Yasny base where the Russians launch converted ICBMs on commercial space missions.

AIR & SPACE TOURS SAN DIEGO — Aviation fans make pilgrimages to San Diego for the Miramar Airshow and the San Diego air and space museum.

RESTORATION: DC-2 — An impeccably restored precursor of the ubiquitous DC-3 is about to take up residence at Seattle's Museum of Flight

MAMA WAS A WASP — What did it take to be a member of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) in World War II?

ROVER DRIVERS — The people who work on Mars every day and make Spirit and Opportunity go.

Fall 2009

Special 7th issue:

THE "I'VE GOT IT!" ISSUE — Brilliant solutions from the past, bright ideas for the future, and stuff we want invented now.

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