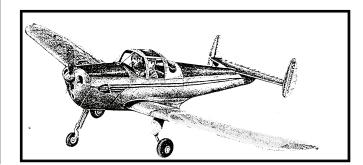
COUPE CAPES Volume 36, No. 12 December 2007

Ercoupe Owners Club Monthly Magazine 36th Anniversary



The Door Coupe

by Skip Carden

Many years ago a gentleman by the name of Howard Treadwell from Florida contacted me about Ercoupes. Mr. Treadwell was a handicapped pilot and thought that the Ercoupe would be a good plane for persons who had no use of their legs. We talked for a while and he said that he would stay in touch. Well in a short time I got a call from Howard, who was then the president of the Wheelchair Pilots Association, saving that he had purchased a coupe. He was very pleased with it and said that it was the perfect plane for him, but there was one drawback, that being the high fuselage sides which made entry and exit very difficult. He asked me if I had ever heard of anyone putting a door in an Ercoupe? I told him that I had not, but he could contact Fred Weick who also lived in Florida and maybe he could possibly help him. This conversation was the beginning of what was to be the only Ercoupe with a door! Over the next few months Howard and I had frequent conversations regarding adding a door to the coupe. He told me that he intended to move forward with this idea and to get an STC in the process. I advised him that this was the way to go but it would be a long and expensive project.

Over the next year or two Howard would call and tell me of his progress and I was right it was a long and expensive process! Then one day I received a call saying that it was completed and that he had the STC in hand and was ready to fly the Coupe with a door. Not only had Howard added a



(Continued on page 2)

Coupe Capers—December 2007

(Continued from page 1)

door but a seat that could be folded so he could store his wheel chair in the luggage compartment. He had also added a handle on the side that helped him transition from the wheel chair to the wing walk. I told him to send me some photos for the magazine. Not long after the Door Coupe was flying and Howard was flying it all around he decided that the Ercoupe was too small and too slow for cross-country flying. He subsequently sold the

coupe and bought a Cherokee. His contact with Fred ultimately resulted in Fred designing a hand control for the Cherokee and had it STC'd and gave it to the Wheelchair Pilots Association. I lost track of the Door Coupe after Howard sold it and he later told me that the STC was sold with it. To my knowledge this was the only Ercoupe ever to fly with a door! Later Howard passed away and so did information on the Door Coupe.

As Paul Harvey would say and now for the rest of the story! After many years of no news of the Door Coupe I received a call from a handicapped pilot in Texas asking me about the Door Coupe.



He told me that it was in North Carolina at Aero Services in Greensboro, NC and was for sale. He asked if I would go up and look at it for him and send him some photos of it. What a surprise the Door Coupe a mere 50 miles away! The next Saturday I drove up to Greensboro and took up a whole roll of film, as I had never had the pleasure of seeing this ship in person. I even volunteered to deliver it to Texas if he decided to buy it. I never had another conversation with the fellow but later learned he had bought it and was flying it. I also learned that it had been destroyed in an accident. Then one day out of the blue a fellow

called and said that he had Howard's STC and would the club like to have it? I responded that we would indeed! He said he was sending it...but it never arrived.

Over the past year I have had several calls from other handicapped pilots regarding the STC. I did a great deal of research and found photos of the plane and "N" number but that was all I could find. I was even told by one fellow the FAA had no STC for a coupe with a door, but I was sure that

(Continued on page 3)



Gross Weight Increase ERCOUPE 415C and 415CD

LSA: 1320 Pound; FAA STC SA02450CH

\$200.00

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FAA STC SA02493CH

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Details: WWW.ALPHA-AVIATION.COM

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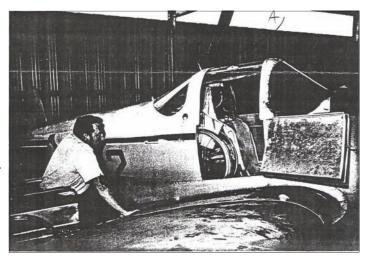
PHONE: 1-800-653-5112 FAX: 1-800-231-0948

(Continued from page 2)
Howard had an STC!

Then, recently, I was on the phone with a fellow in Texas who was selling a coupe for a deceased friend's widow and we were talking about double fork nose wheels. I told him I thought we had a 337 for this and I would fax it to him. I went to the 337 file and looked at the index but there was no 337 for the double fork in our files. I then saw a piece of folded paper that was an updated 337 list and there in folder number 78 was a copy of Howard Treadwell's STC complete with drawings!

For anyone interested it is STC# SA503SO. Although I found there is little or no value because under limitations it states "Data pertaining to this modification are considered inadequate for duplication to other aircraft. This approval is limited to the installation made in ERCO Model 415-C, S/N 465 only. So, I guess there was and will only be one Door Coupe.

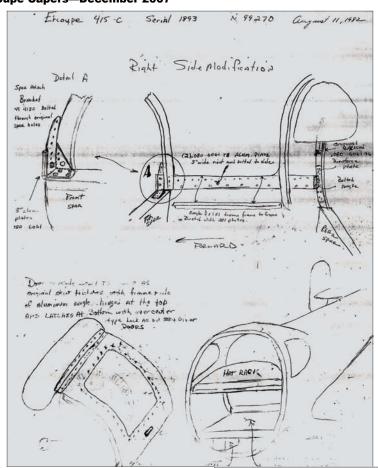
Getting into the 'Coupe



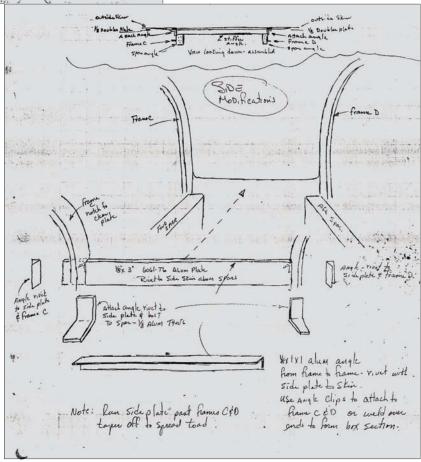
An old picture of Howard Treadwell getting into his 'Coupe with the door open and his wheelchair positioned in the passenger side area.

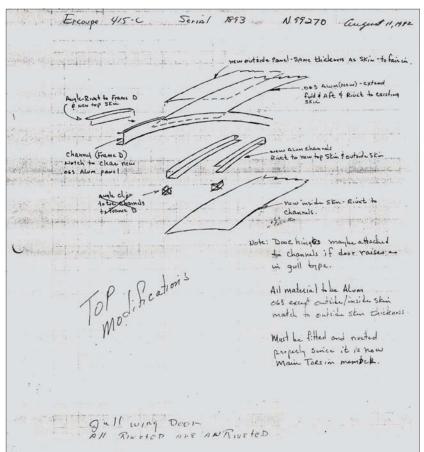
- Skip -

Coupe Capers—December 2007



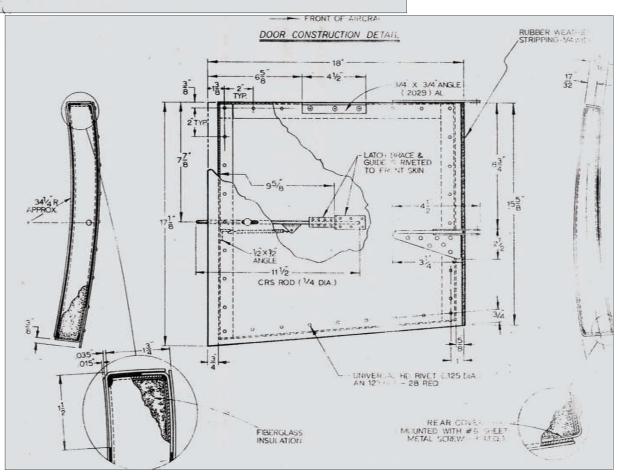
Right Side Modifications





Top Modifications

Door Construction Detail





MEMBERSHIP 2007

Regional Directors and Wing Leaders please take note of these members, add them to your list and contact them for your events.

George Shallbetter, 12130 45th Ave N, Plymouth, MN 55442 Thurman Pangburn, 6750 US Hwy 27 N Unit Q5, Sebring, FL 33870 Wayne Woldt, 3301 W Davey Rd, Raymond, NE 68428 Terry Ott, 547 County Rd 625, Earth, TX 79031

Terry Lemon, 147 E 11th St, Bloomsburg, PA 17815

Richard Carter, 2403 S 725 W, Hurricane, UT 84737

Donald Wood, 1920 W Dawn Dr, Tucson, AZ 85704

Tom Dinndorf, 1865 Birmingham Blvd, Port Charlotte, FL 33980

Bill Chalker, 217 Francis Parker Rd, Georgetown, SC 29440



Coupe E-Mailers

Permission is required for the E-Mailers List. E-mail permission and information to:

coupecaper@aol.com

Bob Montgomery bobm2226@comcast.net George Shallbetter gshallbetter@aol.com Thurman Pangburn - N3667H, '46-C thurmanpangburn@ embarqmail.com Wayne Woldt - N99310, '46-C

wwoldt1@hotmail.com Terry Ott - N2576H, '48-C ottpilot@amaonline.com

Terry Lemon—N2769H-CD n3xts@yahoo.com

Richard Carter—N1028Q, Baby Lakes, rbcarter@beyondbb.com

Tom Dinndorf - N99807, '46-C tomarydinn@comcast.net

Bill Chalker—N94191, '46-C bcflyer2003@yahoo.com

EOC - www.ercoupe.org **Coupe Capers** online

Be an Electronic Member and print out your "Coupe Capers" from the club website.

[Issues from April 2003]

2007 Calendar of Events

(*EOC Coupe Events)

*Dec 30—Reg 3, OR Coupers, monthly mtg., 1 pm lunch, Albany, OR



2008

Jan 1-19—Reg 6, PA Coupers, Fly Now! Aviation posters, CPAM, College Park, MD

- *Jan 12—Reg 7, CA Coupers, Cable Air Fair
- *Jan 14—Reg 8, AZ Coupers, monthly mtg, Deer Valley, AZ
- *Jan 26—Reg 7, CA Coupers, San Gabriel 99's Poker Run, CA

2008 Major Fly-ins

*Sun 'n Fun - April 8-13—Lakeland, FL *July 25-28 - EOC National—Wausau, WI (those wishing to will fly as a group to EAA AirVenture on July 29)



From "The Leader"—magazine of ERAU 2007 by Robert Ross

A winning formula. No, it doesn't fly. But a race car designed and built by students from Embry-Riddle is as different as you'd expect. It's a hybrid, from start to finish.

The Embry-Riddle car—dubbed "Shredder" - won the Most Innovative Design Award at the inaugural Formula Hybrid International Competition in New Hampshire. McGill University, in Canada, took the top award.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

October 24, 2007

Dear Mr. Carden,

Thank you very much for your generous support of the Fred E. Weick Endowed Scholarship at ERAU.

Please find enclosed your donor report for the fiscal year 2006-2007. Your report includes the fund's balance at the end of this fiscal year and donations applied to the fund during the fiscal year. Your report also includes the amount awarded and information regarding the recipients of the awards.

Once again, on behalf of the entire Embry-Riddle community, thank you. The Fred E. Weick Endowed Scholarship truly makes a difference in the lives of our students.

Sincerely, Maxine Sowinski Coordinator, Donor Relations

Fred E. Weick Endowed Scholarship

This report covers the period from July 1, 2006—June 30, 2007

Fund Balance as of June 30, 2007: \$251,663.21

New Donations: \$2,178.00

Amount Awarded: \$8,000.00

Award Recipients:

Justin Bredbenner, PA

Aerospace Engineering, Daytona Beach Campus

Christian Jones, CA

Aerospace Engineering, Prescott Campus

Andrew Pacific, MA

Aerospace Engineering, Daytona Beach Campus

Regional Directors Elected 2008 - 2009

We are very grateful to these directors for their willingness to serve another term as volunteers in this position and helping to continue the legacy of Ercoupes.

Region 4: Bob Petersen

ID, MT, WY

Region 6: Gene Olinger

DC, DE, MD, NJ, PA WV

Region 12: Joe B McCawley

AL, FL, GA, MS

Region 13: Marvin Dunlap

IN, MI, OH

EOC members, please show your appreciation by supporting and volunteering to help if you are called on by your Regional Director or your area Wing Leader.

Volunteers Still Needed...

Regional Directors

Region 7: California

Region 8: AZ, CO-West, NV, UT, NM

Region 10: KY, NC, SC, TN, VA

Contact: Skip Carden, EOC Executive Director 52 Hunters Lane, Timberlake, NC 27583 coupeclub@aol.com

Wing Leaders

Region 1: MA, NY

Region 4: ID Region 8: UT Region 10: KY, SC Region 12: MS

Contact: Carolyn Carden

coupecaper@aol.com or Fax 910-575-2758

Regional News



Region 6 Maryland News

College Park Aviation Museum's fundraising arm, "Field of Firsts." We are having an August 2008 tour of Seattle (Boeing plant, Museum of Flight) and other locations including the Abbotsford Air Show. Betsey Weick, Fred's daughter, says "hi to all." She is treasurer of our board. Bob Kovalchik, President [more information to come]

Region 7 California News

The Flabob Veterans Day Fly-In was held Saturday November 10th. The weather was comfortably warm with light breezes & reasonably clear skies (a bit hazy, but nice). This event is like taking a step back about 50 or 60 years and enjoys a WWII & 50's vintage environment & event with chow hall, a big band, classic cars, hot rods, & airplanes, etc. In the past we've had great turn out at Flabob however; the past year or so the weather has worked against us.

Attendees included: Linda Abrams N3437H, Larry Conley N3452H, Sean & daughter Alex Farrell N269DS ("Fast Ercoupe" - RV-7A @ WVI), Larry Fortier N6373V (drive in), Dan Hall & Anna Marie Flowers N3968H, Jeff Scholz N99732 (drive in), MJ Rado Drive in (restoring a Coupe).

Region 11 REKLAW 2007

Alan Fairclough Texas Wing Leader

The fourth weekend in October is the date for the annual event that has now turned out to be Texas' #1 aviation event

This year exceeded all expectations. Unfortunately, not all those who attended registered or paid the small voluntary suggested fee that keeps this event running, so a complete count was not possible. The EAA associations that prepared the food report having fed more than 1000 people on Saturday. They ran out of food twice and had to make two quick raids into town to get more.

The best count was over 400 aircraft. The weather was absolutely perfect and everything went just fine during the three-day event. Many had arrived on Thursday so for some it was a four-day event.

Many ercoupers had other engagements or mechanical problems so turnout of coupes was lower than previous years, however those who did won the following awards:

- ■Longest distance flown: Dennis Babbitt with only 151 miles. (easy win).
- ■Youngest pilot:

Dennis Babbit again, born in 1960 (too easy) but as these are

my awards, they are also my rules so the next in line is John Clark, born in '54 who will get the youngest pilot award.

■Oldest Project award:

Neil Strong with his coupe being rebuilt for over 7 years now and counting. He claims there is not that much work remaining but hopes to have it finished before the next Nationals.

■That leaves the oldest pilot award that I won for the first time in my life and I am still fighting the associated depression

Other attendees were Mike Sinclair who will only get a T-shirt and one other Ercoupe who arrived and left before anyone could get his name. (No T shirt for him)

Awards will be mailed out today and should arrive before Christmas.



21st North Las Vegas Ercoupe Fly-In & Halloween Party

by Dan Hall, California

The <u>21st</u> annual North Las Vegas International Ercoupe Fly-In & Halloween Party was the weekend of November 2nd to 4th, and is now history. Many thanks to Max, Joan, Tom and others from the NV & AZ Ercoupe Groups for their efforts putting on such a special & long running event.

Several NorCal VIP Ercoupers drove or flew to Jean on Thursday, while a gaggle of SoCal Ercoupes flew out on Friday. We joined a total of about 30+ Ercoupers at Jean to celebrate life, flying, and our special airplanes.

Ercoupers gathered once more at the Jean Sport Aviation Airport (OL7) adjacent to the Gold Strike Motel & Casino. The airport is a 5-minute walk from the Gold Strike Casino however; Ercoupers who drove provided regular rides to and from the Casino for those who preferred not to walk.

The weather cooperated nicely Friday, Saturday, & Sunday; de-

spite warnings of Santa Anna winds due to a frontal passage a day earlier (Thursday). The days were CLEAR, sunny, and warm; and the nights cool & crisp. We did have some mild to moderate winds but they probably didn't exceed 20 MPH and were straight down the runway - no problem for our Ercoupes and nothing to prevent some fun flying to the dam or a nearby dry lake bed.

Upon arrival about sunset on Friday, the SoCal Coupers were greeted by our hosts and treated to food & drink at the Jean Sport Aviation Airport Pilots Lounge (BTW - it's quite nice!), which served as home base for the group & event. Old acquaintances were renewed and some new ones formed as everyone made the rounds meeting & greeting each other. Some retired early, while others sat and chatted, and the more adventurous took in the Casino's various activities (a moderate and appropriate bit of celebrating & libations).

Saturday dawned sunny & mild with moderate winds. Several NV Ercoupers arrived during the day, stayed for a few hours to say hello and show their support, then departed.

The vast majority stayed for the Saturday evening 5:00 PM Happy Hour and 6:00 PM dinner. Sunday morning dawned with fair skies. Those who had flown or driven in prepared to leave and made the rounds to say 'So long until next year'.

We all enjoyed ourselves and look forward to next year's event. We hope to see the same friendly faces and a few more at Jean in October of 2008



Max Doubrava



Jean Doubrava

"All the Gang"



MEMBERS' ADS Buy, Sell, Trade

FOR SALE:

'46 Ercoupe – Serial Number 2737 - \$28,000. Owner has history of plane from 1947 to present. 0 time 75 hp Continental Engine, twin fork nose gear. Replaced rod end bearings, ailerons, nose wheel steering September '90. New AC battery, new ELT battery '91. Nose gear serviced '91, new brake rotors '91. EAA – auto gas STC. Wings removed and recovered Oct. '93. Windshield replaced July '99. Removed wings and checked for corrosion May '03. Rebuilt Magnetos Dec. '04, replaced wing drains. New exhaust stack right side '06, new fuel pump '06. All ADs through 2007. Compression check #1-74, #2-73, #3-76, #4-75 Contact: Leroy Wells, OH. 740-369-3608 home or 740-272-6296 cell.

'70 Mooney M-10 Cadet, N9523V. Less than 2000 TTAE, 160 SMOH, cont C-90-16F. Present instrumentation and avionics makes aircraft operation day VFR only. Aircraft needs painting. Interior okay. One owner past 31 yrs.. \$17,000. Bill, TX. 830-232-5235 info (10 AM-7 PM CT).

WANTED:

Rudder peddle set complete. Sam, FL. 863-324-6339.

I need an LSA eligible airplane that has the extended baggage compartment or can be otherwise modified to accommodate my long legs (I am 6'6"). I'm looking for a solid VFR airplane that has a good radio with a Nav component and a Mode C x-ponder. Interior and exterior are not priorities. I promise to conserve the airplane and pass it on the next generation in better shape than when I acquired it. Because of my location, my first choice would be a West Coast airplane, but I'll try to work with someone who has the right airplane, regardless of region. Contact: Bob, CA. bobm2226@comcast.net.

MISC:

Windshield Care Kit: Sporty's has assembled a Windshield Care Kit with cleaner, polish and cloths ideally suited for aircraft use. The Kit can be kept in a flight

Personal ads are free to all members of the Ercoupe Owners Club. NO COMMERCIAL ADS PLEASE! The cost to non-members is \$5.00 per month in advance. Repeat ads must be sent in each month. NO PHONE ADS! Ads must be received by 10th of month preceding next months publication. MAIL: EOC, PO Box 7117, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469-1117. Fax 910-575-2758 or E-mail: coupecaper@aol.com

bag or in the airplane for everyday use.

The kit contains one can of foaming cleaner designed not to run or drip, one can of polish to remove fine scratches and 50 Dupont Sontara® window wipes. Each component is also available individually, so refills can be ordered without having to purchase an entire kit.

Sporty's Windshield Care Kit [#1505A] is available for \$24.95, a Deluxe Bag [#6180A] is available for \$12.95. Order at sportys.com or by calling Sporty's at 1.800.SPORTYS.



From the Editor: LAST CALL!!

EOC information update for the **2008 Directory**

- Sold your plane
- Bought a plane
- Changed your e-mail address
- Changed your phone number
- Changed your mailing address
- Have a good AP/IA who works on 'Coupes

News...News... Regional Directors, Wing Leaders and Members

Send me your 2008 Fly-in/out Calendar of Events and airplane articles/pictures (maintenance or fun) ASAP for *Coupe Capers*. Let's make 2008 a great year for Coupe News...

Send updates and news to: Carolyn Carden PO Box 7117, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469 coupecaper@aol.com

2008 Sun 'n Fun April 8 - 13 Lakeland, Florida

Thinking about going to Sun N' Fun?

Why not fly in as a group?

Make your plans now!

You're invited to join us anywhere along the way.

I'm planning to leave Wausau, WI on the morning of Friday, April 4, with a fuel stop in Aurora, IL, fuel & lunch stop Owensboro, KY, and overnight in Tullahoma, TN, weather permitting.

We leave Tullahoma Saturday, April 5 and stop for fuel in Rome, GA, stop for lunch & fuel in Dawson, GA and arrive in Crystal River, FL for overnight.

Sunday we'll then fly to Sun N' Fun as a group!

If we land together we can park together.

Call my cell phone at 715-573-7063 to find out where we are.

Ercoupe Forum Thursday, April 10 in Tent 5 at 10 am. Leaders: Lynn Nelson, AP and Syd Cohen

Ercoupe Dinner Thursday evening at the Sam Seltzer's Steak House

Syd Cohen Region 5 Director, EOC Wausau, WI

Now Available



The official Ercoupe Owners Club

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Available in S, M, L, XL and XXL
Only \$12 each
which includes shipping and
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Questions? sydlois@charter.net

Or 715-573-7063

[124 shirts sold as of 11-29-2007 raising \$248 for the Weick Scholarship Fund]

Coupe Capers—December 2007



2007 Coupe Mechanics A&P/IA

EOC MEMBERS:

George Applebay, 9412 Gutierrez Rd NE, Albuquerque, NM 87111 gapplebay@aol.com

William Claxon, PO Box 144, Gifford, IL, 61847 phone/fax 217-568-7810

Donald Coleman, 1870 10 Rd, Mack, CO 81525 720-635-4194 drdonc@earthlink.net

Tom Cook, 7339 E Wilshire Dr, Scottsdale, AZ 85257 480-946-1506 tcook@prodigy.net

John Cooper (Skyport), PO Box 249, Rensselaerville, NY 12147 518-797-3064 skyport@access4less.net

Floyd Culp, 20888 S 4100 Rd Unit E, Claremore, OK 74019 918-341-4009 airind@earthlink.net

Mark Hardin, 7 Silent Wings Blvd, Terrell, TX 75160 972-563-1749, fax 972-563-5304 pq13@aol.com

Edward Meyer, 216 Sunshine Dr, Bolingbrook, IL 60490 630-759-0326 edwardapac@aol.com

Lynn Nelsen, 1851 County Rd 630 W, Frostproof, FL 33843 863-635-7916, fax 863-635-1392 iflysmodel@aol.com

Arthur Patrum, 10340 W County Road 1000 N, Stilesville, IN, 46180 (317) 996-4068 normsfld@ccrtc.com

Arnie Rubenstein, 12119 Elnora Dr, Penn Valley, CA 95946 530-432-2900 arnie@nccn.net

Harold Singrey, HES Aero Service, 8778 Ridge Rd, Williamsfield, OH 44093 phone/fax 440-293-8200 haljoy@mailbag.net

Robert Steinman, PhD, 5314 Lemons Rd, Fort Worth, TX 76140 817-478-0180, fax 817-478-0006 rqs@sbcglobal.net

Wilburn Tackett, 3612 Dahlia Dr, Grand Prairie, TX 75052 214-956-4900 (W), 972-263-4928 (H) wtackett@sbcglobal.net

Parrish Traweek, PO Box 846, San Manuel, AZ 85631 (owner assisted 100 hr annuals/your airport/hangar 520-664-4812 parrishjill@msn.com

John Walzl, 28156 Yale Ave, Gallatin, MO 64640 660-772-3291 vinciew@greenhills.net

Thomas Westall, PO Box 876370, Wasilla, AK 99687 907-376-6897, fax 907-376-6815

John Wright, Sr, 958 Flossmoor Rd, Springfield, IL 62707 217-546-0585

Carl Ziegler, PO Box 594, Hugo, MN 55038 651-982-2972 planemech@yahoo.com

Order: Ercoupe Owners Club

PO Box 7117 - Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469-1117

Club Patch

\$3.00 each postpaid



Club Decal

\$1.00 each postpaid



2007 Club Directory 2007 Single Coupe Capers \$ 2.50 each postpaid 2006 Coupe Capers

"I Flew the Coupe" Vinyl Bumper Stickers

\$ 3.00 each postpaid \$15.00 set postpaid

.50 each postpaid



EOC Technical Support

Technical Rep.

John Wright, Sr., A&P, IA 958 Flossmoor Dr. Springfield, IL 62707 217-546-0585 (before 9:00 p.m. Central)

Assist. Technical Rep.

Marvin Dunlap 8181 East M-36 Whitmore Lake, MI 48189 810-231-3392 - mlrdunlap@yahoo.com

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We also now sell used engine parts.
15 day money back guarantee
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Wanted: Ercoupe parts, projects, basket cases, or salvage

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409 Sweet Pea Lane Swansea, SC 29160 803-796-2605 (H) 803-360-2061 (C) - 803-551-0164 (Beeper) PLEASE NO CALLS AFTER 10:00 PM EST vgregoryg@aol.com



COUPE CAPERS

Periodicals Postage Paid at Durham, NC 27701-9998 Postmaster: Send address changes to Ercoupe Owners Club PO Box 7117, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469-1117

Executive Director: Skip Carden 3557 N Roxboro St, Durham, NC 27704-2740 919-471-9492 - fax 919-477-2194 coupeclub@aol.com Overall EOC management.

Editor/Membership: Carolyn Carden PO Box 7117, Ocean Isle Beach, NC 28469-1117 910-575-2758 voice/fax

coupecaper@aol.com

Submission of articles for publication, ads, calendar items, events and membership

Coupe Capers: Ads Deadline: 10th of month preceding Other Materials Deadline: 2 months preceding Membership: dues, renewals, address changes, etc.

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Ercoupe Archive Bowling Green State University, OH

CAC has 35 plus years of Ercoupe Owners Club material; Fred Weick's material and The Ercoupe: A Touch of Class by F. Saletri on file. For a fee you can receive copies of anything in the Ercoupe Archive. Jerome Library - 5th

Contact:

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