



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EXPERIENCE OF 1920S LUXURY AVIATION WITH EAA'S FORD TRI-MOTOR TOUR

EAA AVIATION CENTER, OSHKOSH, Wis. — (April 9, 2013) — EAA's immaculate 1929 Ford Tri-Motor and its "sister" from the Kalamazoo Air Zoo will be touring the country this spring and summer offering an opportunity for passengers to experience flight aboard the world's first mass-produced airliner. During EAA's Ford Tri-Motor Tour, passengers will travel back to the early days of what was considered luxurious commercial air travel.

The Ford Tri-Motor or the "Tin Goose" was first built by the Ford Motor Company in the late 1920s. EAA's Ford Tri-Motor was constructed in 1929 and has an intriguing history, with roles ranging from service as Cuban airliner to extensive background fighting forest fires while transporting smoke jumpers.

After a thunderstorm wrecked havoc on the airplane in 1973, EAA Founder Paul Poberezny purchased the aircraft, which then underwent a 12-year restoration. Since then it has been hangared at the EAA Museum's historic Pioneer Airport and only departs to make public appearances and for its touring.

EAA's Ford Tri-Motor has also made a celebrity appearance in two major movies—1960's "Family Jewels" starring Jerry Lewis and 2009's "Public Enemies" starring Johnny Depp.

It's "sister" Tri-Motor was also constructed in 1929. It was brought to National Air Transport where it traveled across the United States delivering freight and mail. In 1945 it received a complete overhaul from Monroe Airways. From there the Tri-Motor performed a variety of duties providing scenic flights down to the Grand Canyon and also fighting forest fires. In 1991 it was purchased and rebuilt by Kal-Aero and then donated to the Kalamazoo Air Zoo.

Both Tri-Motors can carry up to ten passengers at a time, and every seat has a window. Passengers are encouraged to bring a camera to record and share this experience. Tickets purchased in advance are \$70 for adults; walk up tickets are \$75 and \$50 for children 17 years old and under.

2013 tours begin May 24 in Kalamazoo, Mich. and go through July 21 encompassing 11 different states. Book your spot on the historic "Tin Goose" through a secure flight-reservation system at www.flytheford.org, EAA's Tri-Motor tour website. You can also pre-book a flight by calling 1-800-843-3612.

About EAA

EAA embodies the spirit of aviation through the world's most engaged community of aviation enthusiasts. EAA's 176,000 members and 1,000 local chapters enjoy the fun and camaraderie of sharing their passion for flying, building and restoring recreational aircraft. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 800-JOIN-EAA (800-564-6322) or go to www.eaa.org. For continual news updates, connect with www.twitter.com/EAAupdate.

Model 5-AT

The Ford Tri-Motor was the world's first mass-produced airliner. Between 1925 and 1933, the Ford Motor Co. built 199 Tri-Motors. Today, only about 12 Tri-Motors remain.

The Air Zoo's 5-AT Ford Tri-Motor (N4819) came off the assembly line in 1929 with serial number 58 and was delivered to National Air Transport where it probably delivered freight and mail. It quickly went to Ford Motor Company for modifications and then was sold to Northwest Airways flying the Minneapolis-St Paul to Chicago run. It was one of five Tri-Motors bought by what would become Northwest Airlines.

Ford Tri-Motor 5-AT Specifications

Original Engine	P&W Wasp 420HP
Gross Weight:	13,500#
Cruise speed:	122mph
Stall speed:	64 mph
Range:	560 miles
Rate of Climb:	1050 fpm
Ceiling:	18,500'
Engine Out:	10,500'
Wing Span:	77'6"
Wing Area:	835 sq.ft.
Length:	50'3"
Height:	12'8"
Cabin width:	4'6"
Cabin height:	6'0"
Cabin Length:	18'9"
Cabin Cubic ft.	529'
Max. seating:	10
Fuel Capacity:	277-355gal

Eventually it flew out to Seattle, Washington where it was purchased by the co-founder of Northern Air Transport. It was based in Fairbanks, where it carried freight for what became Wien Alaskan Airlines (later to become Alaska Airlines).

Later on, the Tri-Motor was flown all the way from Alaska to Monroe, Michigan in 1945 where Monroe Airways completely overhauled it and used it for barnstorming and selling rides. From there, the Tri-Motor's list of uses included: being used for scenic flights down into the Grand Canyon, delivering smokejumpers to forest fires and was also rented back to Northwest Airlines in 1956 to participate in the company's 30th anniversary where it was even featured on the Arthur Godfrey Show.

Kal-Aero of Kalamazoo (later bought out by Duncan Aviation) purchased the Tri-Motor and started rebuilding it. After many years of work, the new Tri-Motor flew again on July 15, 1991. It was purchased and donated to the Air Zoo, which flew it until it was time for a complete overhaul.



MAILING ADDRESS: EAA Aviation Center, PO Box 3086, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3086

MISSION: To grow participation in aviation by sharing “the spirit of aviation.”

YEAR FOUNDED: 1953

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP: Approximately 177,000

WEBSITE: www.eaa.org

NAME, SCOPE AND SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATIONS:

Experimenter and Sport Aviation are operated by EAA staff and contributors.

Sport Aviation – Published monthly and distributed to all EAA members. Scope ranges from current aviation-related news to how-to, safety and construction articles, restoration techniques, aircraft features and monthly columns.

Experimenter – A monthly digital magazine for individuals that have an interest in learning about building as well as flying experimental aircraft. The digital magazine also addresses questions, identifies and explains fears and apprehensions, and provides learning tips for prospective and new builders.

Vintage Airplane, Warbirds and Sport Aerobatics are publications from EAA’s Communities for those who have an interest in specific areas of aviation.

Vintage Airplane – Published bimonthly and distributed to all Vintage Aircraft Association members. The magazine deals specifically with maintenance, safety and restoration of antique, classic and contemporary classic aircraft. Also includes how-to articles, reports on antique and classic aircraft restoration and fly-ins, monthly columns and editorials.

Warbirds – Published eight times a year and distributed to EAA Warbirds of America Division members. The magazine deals with the maintenance, safety and restoration of Warbird aircraft. Also includes how-to articles, specific aircraft restoration case histories, monthly columns and editorials.

Sport Aerobatics – Published monthly and distributed to EAA International Aerobatic Club (IAC) members. The magazine deals primarily with maintenance and safety articles that related to aerobatic aircraft owners and competitors. Also includes articles on aerobatic judging, technical tips, monthly columns and editorials.

ANNUAL DUES:

EAA Membership (regular or corporate) – \$40

EAA Membership Plus Spouse – \$50

Student Membership (age 18 or under) – \$10

Vintage Aircraft Association (must be an EAA member to join) – \$42

Warbirds of America (must be an EAA member to join) – \$45

International Aerobatic Club (must be an EAA member to join) – \$45

SPECIAL ACTIVITIES:

The annual EAA AirVenture (www.airventure.org) gathering is known as one of the world’s largest and most significant aviation events. Each summer in Oshkosh, Wis., more than 500,000 people and 10,000 airplanes attend a week-long celebration of flight. EAA AirVenture features nearly 1,000 educational forums, seminars and workshops presented by the top names in aviation. It also includes competition judging of the best aircraft in a variety of different categories, from design and restoration to actual construction.

EAA also has a very active network of Chapters located worldwide. Many of the nearly 1,000 EAA Chapters sponsor their own fly-Ins, workshops, airport days and other aviation-related events. EAA Chapters alone account for more than 14,000 aviation activities each year.