

101 0711 p1

July 2011



JUNE MEETING



MONTROSE, CO * MYJ * THE X CHAPTER

EAA Chapter 1373

The meeting at Lowell's was very informative.
Thanks to Dee for the great Sloppy Joe's.

A Perfect Day of Flying with Lowell

It began normally enough—water the garden, then break out the exterior primer. Today's project was the paint for the new window frame. As I'm about to put brush to paint, the door opens. It's Dawn with phone in hand. "It's Lowell," she says. "Hi, Lowell, what's up?" "Today might be the best chance we have for that flight I've promised you. If you don't have anything more important going on, meet me at my hangar in 45 minutes."

By 9:00am, we're in the air over Dominguez Canyon headed for Gateway. What a beautiful day for flying—light wind and unlimited visibility. Lowell informs me our first stop will be Dolores Point. We make a low pass over the strip. It looks like a Jeep trail with a dog leg left and a windsock at the end. I'm loving it—my first back-country landing. It's perfect! I think the man has done this before.

As he turns the plane around, Lowell tells me we can park and take a short hike to the canyon's edge. "No", I say, "Let's put this bird back up in the air." I haven't been flying in 30 years. I can hike any time.

Next stop is Mineral Canyon on the Colorado River—a little strip on a sandbar next to the river. But after a closer look, there's water in the ditch next to the strip and the river's running high. Can't see any mud but might be some under a thin crust.

It's off to Mexican Mountain. This place is too neat—a cliff-like mountain shaped like a Mexican hat sitting in the middle of a big canyon. At first, it looks like a box canyon but opens up to the left. Lowell says if you go to the right, it is a box canyon. A low pass shows a nice little strip surrounded with tamarisks and cottonwoods. What great fun! Another perfect landing. A pit stop and a short walk to some petroglyphs. Perfect takeoff—didn't even use half the airstrip. This guy is boring.

Lowell and I decided to use the BLM strip at Gateway and walk down to the Paradox Grille at the Gateway Canyons Resort. A great lunch at Gateway.

On the way back to Delta, Lowell let's me take the controls. A first for me.

It was the perfect day except for one thing—I forgot the camera. Fortunately, Dee had lots of pictures of this area from their previous flights.

Thanks, Lowell, for a really great day. I learned a ton about backcountry flying. You've inspired me to work more on my airplane and get it flying.

Jim Moorhead

EAA 1373 JULY MEETING

WHEN: July 9, 10:00am

WHERE: Graham's hangar, Delta Airport



Dolores Point



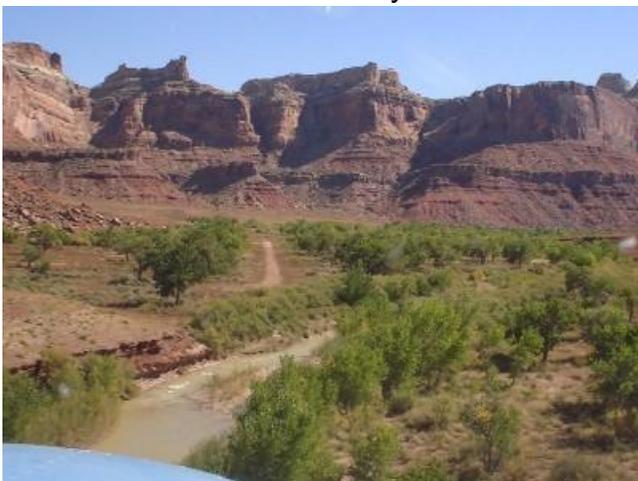
Touchdown at Dolores Point



Mineral Canyon



Mexican Mountain Long Final



Mexican Mountain Short Final



Mexican Mountain Touchdown

EAA Chapter 1373
C/O Jim Moorhead
20092 High Park Rd.
Cedaredge, CO 81413



Mexican Mountain



Gateway

Important Chapter Members

President	Graham Meyer 970-835-5200 Gmeyer1@mail.tds.net	Tech	Ross Hauck 970-249-2737
Vice President	Herb Anderson 970-249-5400 Chuck Richey 970-275-4049 chuck@montrose.net	Counselors	ross@rossreels.com Lowell Manary 970-209-5661 sperocco2@yahoo.com George Hanna 970-921-4286
Sec/Treasurer	Art Pontow 970-201-6878 art.pontow@gmail.com		Graham Myer 835-5200 gmeyer1@mail.tds.net Bob Triumphfeller 856-6785 bob@mesawood.info
Designated AWR	George Hanna 970-921-4286	Young Eagles	Norm Pesch 970-249-3399 normpesch@mac.com
Webmasters	Bob Triumphfeller Jeff Buchanan http://eaa1373.org	Newsletter Editor	Jim Moorhead 970-856-7838 dawnsud@tds.net