

# LSA Expo volunteers to receive training

*Volunteers to meet  
Tuesday, Wednesday  
evening in airport lobby*

**BY RICK HAYES**

MT. VERNON MANAGING EDITOR

MT. VERNON — Two nights of training have been scheduled for early next week for volunteers who will be helping with the Plane and Pilot Midwest Light Sport Aircraft Expo, scheduled Sept. 9 through 11 at the Mt. Vernon Airport.

Meetings are scheduled at 6 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday in the airport lobby. The meetings will

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Sentinel File Photo/TIM JOHNSON

**Aircraft expo — Salem pilot Richard Lively, FOREGROUND, checks out a Chee-tah light sport plane flown in from Wisconsin at the 2010 Light Sport Aircraft Expo at Mt. Vernon Outland Airport.**

## Expo:

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be geared toward training volunteers for their duties at the Expo. Volunteers will work four-hour shifts during the Expo, which will be open from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

“It’s an event we essentially can’t do without volunteer help,” said Airport Manager Chris Collins. “We simply can not do it without volunteers, we don’t have enough staff available. There’s many different places where we need people at. All the jobs are really easy: watching the gate and ticket takers, and running around checking on the exhibitors. It’s really a great way to be an ambassador for Mt. Vernon, Jefferson County and Southern Illinois.”

This will be the third consecutive year the Mt. Vernon Airport has been the host of the national event — the first however sponsored by the national publication *Plane & Pilot* magazine.

“This magazine, out of Los Angeles, took the title sponsorship this year. What that meant was we had exposure in their magazine, which has a readership of about 100,000,” Collins said. “We had a half-page ad in the magazine in all the months

leading up to the event, which gave us great exposure, and we feel like that’s going to give us more attendees to the event. It’s neat to see the website and its traffic count way up. So we’re hoping that translates into additional attendees.”

There is an admission charge to the LSA Expo, but free parking.

Collins estimates that about 40 Light Sport Aircraft, including Part 103, motorgliders and gyroplanes will be among the attractions at this year’s event. Attendees can also shop for the latest in aviation gadgets in an exhibitor’s hall filled with aviation suppliers.

This year’s event will also feature the Missouri History Museum’s 1934 Monocoupe, previously owned and flown by Charles Lindbergh. The exhibit will be open on Sept. 9 and 10 only.

Two free seminars will also be featured. “Pan, Pan, Pan,” a safety and survival seminar will be presented by Captain Denis Murphy. Captain Murphy has survived two ditchings in the Caribbean as a charter pilot and will be presenting programs at 11 a.m. Sept. 9 and 2 p.m. Sept. 10.

A special 911 remembrance will be held at 1 p.m. Sept. 11 by USAF Colonel Matt Swanson.

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