



10



20

## CONTENTS

- 1 Straight and Level
- 2 VAA News
- 4 EAA AirVenture 2005 VAA Aircraft Awards
- 6 Reminiscing with Big Nick  
The Pylon Club—Part II  
by Nick Rezich
- 10 The First Practical Airplane  
Part II: The season of success  
by H.G. Frautschy
- 16 Restoring Versus Buying: The Realities  
Being objective about your restoration  
by Budd Davisson
- 20 The Forgotten Performers  
Part II: NC251M is resurrected  
by Vic Pike
- 25 Mystery Plane  
by H.G. Frautschy
- 26 Pass it to Buck  
Prop'er Behavior  
by Buck Hilbert
- 28 The Vintage Instructor  
Try it . . . you'll like it!  
by Doug Stewart
- 31 Calendar
- 31 Classified Ads

## COVERS

**FRONT COVER:** Thinking about buying or restoring a light-plane? You can restore a Taylorcraft like this beauty rebuilt by a the son of C. G. Taylor himself, Bob Taylor, or you can choose to buy one already restored. See the article on building or restoring by Budd Davisson in this issue of *Vintage Airplane*. EAA photo by chief photographer Jim Koepnick. Shot with a Canon EOS 1n on Fuji Velvia film. EAA photo plane flown by Bruce Moore.

**BACK COVER:** One of the highlights of this year's EAA Art Competition was the submission of this painting by Houston, Texas, resident Jonathan Frank. The oil painting, titled "Era of Enchantment," captures the look and feel of a sandy tropical beach being overflowed by one of Pan American's oceanic clipper ships during the late 1930s.

## STAFF

Publisher	Tom Poberezny
Editor-in-Chief	Scott Spangler
Executive Director/Editor	H.G. Frautschy
Administrative Assistant	Jennifer Lehl
Managing Editor	Kathleen Witman
News Editor	Ric Reynolds
Photography	Jim Koepnick Bonnie Bartel
Production Manager	Julie Russo
Classified Ad Manager	Isabelle Wiske
Copy Editor	Colleen Walsh
Director of Advertising	Katrina Bradshaw
Display Advertising Representatives:	
Northeast: Allen Murray Phone 609-265-1666, FAX 609-265-1661 e-mail: <a href="mailto:allenmurray@mindspring.com">allenmurray@mindspring.com</a>	
Southeast: Chester Baumgartner Phone 727-573-0586, FAX 727-556-0177 e-mail: <a href="mailto:cbaum111@mindspring.com">cbaum111@mindspring.com</a>	
Central: Todd Reese Phone 800-444-9932, FAX 816-741-6458 e-mail: <a href="mailto:todd@spc-mag.com">todd@spc-mag.com</a>	
Mountain & Pacific: Keith Knowlton & Associates Phone 770-516-2743, e-mail: <a href="mailto:kknowlton@eaa.org">kknowlton@eaa.org</a>	