



**Come and join us for a remembrance of Bernard Pietenpol,
"The Father of Homebuilt Aircraft"
Saturday October 7th at 10:30 a.m.**

**Voyager Village Airport
9WN2, 28851 Kilcare Road Danbury, WI 54830, 715-259-3910**

A presentation will be given by Bernard Pietenpol's granddaughter, Linda Pietenpol-Kelley, who is a local area resident from Chisago City, MN. Linda grew up watching her grandfather build these wonderful aircraft in Cherry Grove, MN and flew right alongside with him. Linda has written two books on the life and history of Bernard Pietenpol and his airplanes (Bernard Pietenpol: Mementos and Memories & B.H. Pietenpol's Scrapbook) and an article, "Flying With Grandpa Bernie", for the EAA magazine.

Bernard Pietenpol was born in 1901. He was a self-taught mechanic who lived most of his life in the small community of Cherry Grove in southeastern Minnesota.

One of Pietenpol's goals was to create a plane that was affordable and easy to construct for home builders from material that was, in the 1930s, readily available from local sources. His most well-known design, The Pietenpol "Air Camper" is an airplane he designed to be built and flown by the "average American" of the 1930s. Building an Air Camper requires basic woodworking skills and tools. The plans for the Pietenpol Aircamper were originally published in the Modern Mechanics and Inventions, then in the magazine's 1932 "Flying and Glider" manual. Pietenpol's design was sturdy, simple and affordable.

Air Campers have been built using many (over 50 have been recorded) different engines. The original model was flown using an Ace four-cylinder water-cooled engine. The Model-A Ford engine later became the standard powerplant used. In the 1960s Pietenpol began to favor converted engines from the Chevrolet Corvair automobiles. The Corvair engine was smoother, stronger and significantly lighter in weight compared to the Model A. Many modern Pietenpol builders prefer Continental A65, C85 or C90 powerplants.

In 1981, the Pietenpol Workshop and Garage was added to the National Register of Historic Places. His hangar was disassembled and relocated to Pioneer Airport, in Oshkosh, Wisconsin as part of the EAA Airventure Museum. Pietenpol died in 1984, and was inducted in the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame in 1991.

Hosted by EAA Chapter 1537 and Voyager Village