Team Rocket September 26, 2023 newsletter

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Reno 2023

Reno 2023 was a great time, right up until the tragic crash of two T-6s on Sunday. I'm not going to comment on that, aside to offer sincere condolences to the families. What an awful way to end the Reno races.

In Rocket related news, there were at least 4 Rockets at the races:

744
09158
M CF

60
U-HAUL

From the top (above):
N158CF, F1 Rocket Evo, owned by Mark and Cheryl Frederick, flown by Tommy Ishii.

N229X, HR2, owned by Chris Schaich (did not race?)
N2691B, owned by Scott Prewitt
N67GS, owned by Chris McMillian

Vince Frazier, Savage Aviation crew member (*Sorry, I forgot his name*), Chris McMillian, and Mark Frederick.

2023 National Championship Air Races
Sport Class Bronze Results
Sunday, September 17, 10:45 AM
6 Laps, 41.317 miles

Place	Race Number	Pilot (Home Town)	Aircraft Name	Laps Flown	Penalty	Time	Speed
1	28	Pete Zaccagnino (New Brunswick, NJ)	Coming in Hot Super Legacy	6		08:55.851	277.579
2	92	David Robinson (Redmond, OR)	Top Shelf Lancair Legacy	6		09:08.832	271.014
3	23	Bijan Victor Maleki (Chandler, AZ)	Reno Bear Glaisair III	6		09:12.785	269.076
4	96	Chris McMillian (Greensboro, NC)	Sarah Smile F1 Rocket EVO	6		09:12.985	268.979
5	49	Bob Mills (Georgetown, TX)	Rocket Six RV-6	6		09:13.016	268.964
6	69	James Webb (Newport Beach, CA)	Leading Edge Lancair Legacy	6		09:14.129	268.423
7	21	Alan R. Crawford (Llano, TX)	Blackjack Lancair Legacy	6		09:24.797	263.353
8	60	Dee Child (Locust Grove, GA)	Miss'd Tuesday Glasair III	6		09:25.779	262.896

Reports are avaliable at: https://reports.airrace.org
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Complete race results can be found here: [2023 Reno air races]

In the Sport Class Bronze race, Bob Mills (#49) and Chris McMIllian (#96) were in a neck and neck battle for 4th place. Chris would appear to catch him on each straightaway, but Bob had the upper hand with the inside track, until Chris apparently decided that putting all of the remaining nitrous through his engine would do the trick. It did, by .031 seconds. Wow! That's close!

Photo from Facebook, by Kevin Eccles

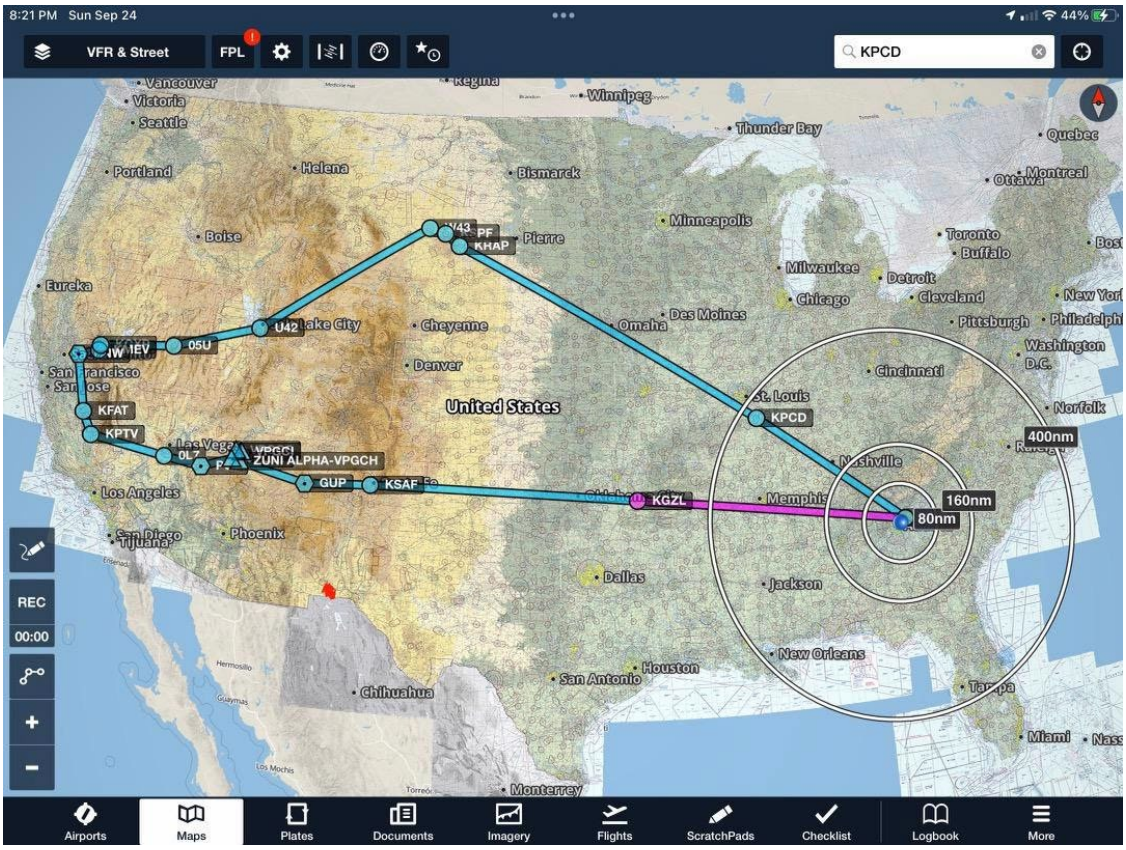
In the photo above, #23 Bijan Maleki in his Glaisair II "Reno Bear", #96 Chris McMillian in his F1 Rocket EVO "Sarah Smile", and #49 Bob Mills in his RV-6 "Rocket Six" finish 3rd, 4th, and 5th in the Sport Class Bronze Race at the 2023 Reno National Championship Air Races. What a close finish for 4th place!!

Bob Mills (#49) had a brand new carbon fiber wing on his Rocket Six. I believe that he saw an extra 12 knots from the new wing. Nice!

Photo from Facebook, by Kenn Smith

Reno funny stuff

Aside from the maniacs in section 3, where an orange T-shirt is mandatory, I did also see a few other funny things. One was this tattoo of well-known P-51, *Miss America.* The young lady, I believe her name was Andrea, mentioned that she plans to add noted Bearcat " *Rare Bear*" to another part of her anatomy. I didn't ask where.



Darryl and Milanka Hudec's big trip

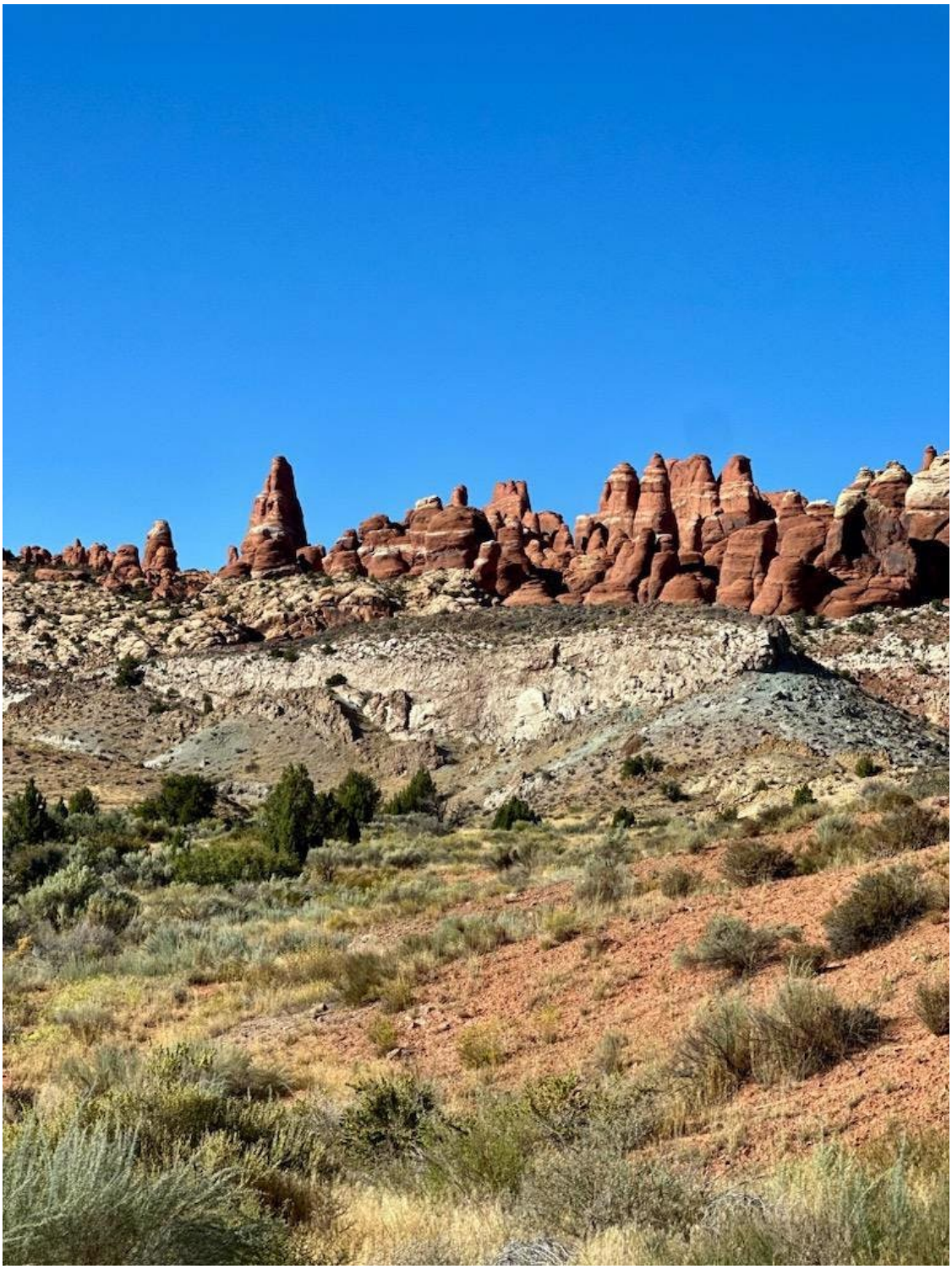
Recent Airventure homebuilt grand champions, Darryl and Milanka (Minya) Hudec took their F1 Rocket for a cross country adventure, covering roughly 4600 miles (4000 nautical) miles. The map above shows their stops.

Minya reports that it was just fabulous to travel in your own aircraft. Go where you want, when you want, stay as long as you want, and it's fast too! Who can argue?

She mentioned that she could ask Darryl to fly lower, for a better view, and it seemed like you could just reach out and touch the mountains.

She also said that they had a brief stretch of IFR. She used that time to take a nap or read because there was nothing to see. Well, except the back of Darryl's head. ;)

I can't possibly show all of their photos in this newsletter, but here's a few really nice shots. You can see more on Facebook on Minya's page.



BOSE

N255D

If seeing a trip like this, in a machine like Darryl and Milanka built, doesn't light a fire under you, nothing will. Amazing.

Freedom!

Shop Update

I include these updates so that everyone understands that, even though the house and shop construction took freaking forever, we're working as fast as we can to get parts back into production ASAP.

A couple weeks ago, we moved the new 10' 7" capacity press brake into the shop. It is just wide enough to bend the spar C-channels for either the Sport or the tapered F-wing. Plus it'll be super handy for a million other bending tasks. Once the electrician installs the power, we plan to add some Hurco (or similar) controls and backstops.

And as of yesterday, the 16' CNC router spindle moves, zeros, and is doing what a CNC router should do. We still need to add the vacuum system, dust collector, and spoil boards... but, by gosh, it's working!

More next time! See you at the airport!

Vince Frazier,
a Team Rocket authorized distributor

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