

## Chapter Contacts

Please forward to your members!



Rob Morales reports that IPMS/Marietta is alive and well and building models ....and playing with them “just a little” too. (O.K., we know you do it too, so just admit it ...we all do it!) Rob says this picture shows “Fred” (not this Fred, but no further I.D. offered) making “blup-blup-blup” helicopter sounds.



The helo (it looks like Lindbergh's old kit, but Rob didn't say) is Lockheed's AH-56, a high-speed compound helicopter (meaning it had both a rigid rotor and wings for lift), with retractable landing gear and a pusher propeller at the rear. This attack helicopter was a 1972 cancellation victim of the never-ending "Roles and Missions" battle over the CAS (close air support) mission between U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force. (One positive result of this skirmish was the Air Force's A-10 "Wart Hog" ....ask any Army combat veteran if he likes this Air Force airplane!)



If you'd like to see the real thing, three survive on display at Fort Campbell KY, Fort Rucker AL, and Fort Polk, LA.

It happens at every meeYng: a beauYful model has its picture taken, but the editor then can't tell us who brought it ....so, who does this VERY nice Sopwith Camel belong to?



Another of the models on the tables at the last meeting was a little (1/144th) Boeing 737-800 of Kulula Airlines.



Kulula is a South African “no-frills” airline of which you probably have never heard, but with nevertheless one of the most famous liveries (fancy word for “paint job”) in the airline industry. It proves that “The World’s Funniest Airline” doesn’t take itself too seriously! Named “Flying 101”, this Boeing 737’s lime GREEN exterior is covered with descriptive names for airliner technology, so a neophyte passenger can sound like a seasoned traveller ...sort of a primer, as it were. For more pictures of Kulula and this airplane, see [https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C2LEND\\_enUS499US518&biw=573&bih=297&site=webhp&tbm=isch&sa=1&q=kulula+airlines+flying+101+livery&oq=kulula+airlines+flyin&gs\\_l=img.1.1.0j0i30k1.23749.26424.0.28316.19.9.0.2.2.0.92.608.9.9.0....0...1c.1.64.img..12.6.281...0i24k1.YChGgK5wF7w#imgsrc=D\\_pTn05PAvoR0M%3A](https://www.google.com/search?rlz=1C2LEND_enUS499US518&biw=573&bih=297&site=webhp&tbm=isch&sa=1&q=kulula+airlines+flying+101+livery&oq=kulula+airlines+flyin&gs_l=img.1.1.0j0i30k1.23749.26424.0.28316.19.9.0.2.2.0.92.608.9.9.0....0...1c.1.64.img..12.6.281...0i24k1.YChGgK5wF7w#imgsrc=D_pTn05PAvoR0M%3A) ....also <http://blog.flightstory.net/1472/kulula-air-with-new-funny-livery/>



My iPhone picture taken at the Columbia national convention might even be of the same model!

There is one more bit of Kulula's "airliner technology" terminology that doesn't necessarily demand mentioning ....but I'll do it anyway. Note below that the left rear of the fuselage is marked as having a "Loo" inside. If you've travelled to countries where English-English (as in Great Britain or South Africa) is spoken, you'll know that in those countries the slang word for bathroom or toilet (or on an airliner, a "lavatory") is "loo".

But if you look CLOSELY at the inscription below the word "Loo" on Kulula's

"Flying 101", you'll note the phase "...or mile high club initiation chamber".

Among the generations of lore created in aviation's first century, there are strong, oft-repeated legends and myths of locations in and on aircraft that have been and are used by participants of an organization called "The Mile High Club".



And not just airliners: today there are aviation companies that dispense with the pretext of foreplay: they hire out small executive airplanes for the specific purpose of such "initiations" at higher than (you guessed it) more than one mile altitude. (I'm not sure if that's more than 5,280 feet above sea level ....aviation's standard method of controlling/reporting air traffic ...or that distance above ground: it can make a difference!)

Supposedly, the practice dates back to 1914, although in what type aircraft such secret event allegedly occurred a hundred and two years ago was unspecified. In the classic 1966 movie, *The Blue Max*, Leutnant Bruno Stachel (George Peppard) wasn't picky about what spot he and his paramour-countess, the General's wife (the delectable Ursula Andress) picked for their adventures, but we can be fairly sure it

wasn't in his Pfalz DIII!  
Image result for the blue max medal



Detail of diorama by Dr. D. O'Connor; 1/32nd Encore kit of Stachel's Pfalz DIII from Louisville's "TacCcal Notes" for December 2015....a great build arCcle! Ask me nicely and I'll send that issue to you as a PDF aJachment.

**If you have a few hours, Googling "Mile High Club" can provide hours of all sorts of titillating but admittedly second-hand entertainment.....**

