



Slipdown Mountain Publications LLC

For Immediate Release...

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MICHIGAN ARTIST'S WORK SELECTED FOR AVIATION MUSEUM DISPLAY Kerrie Shiel's Oil Painting "O-2A Hit My Smoke" Selected by the Jury for the 2006 EAA Sport Aviation Art Contest

Lake Linden, Mich. (April 21, 2006) – The jury for the Experimental Aircraft Association's 2006 Sport Aviation Art Contest recently announced the acceptance of Lake Linden artist Kerrie Shiel's 30"-by-24" oil-on-canvas painting "Hit My Smoke" into this year's competition. According to Jane Meilahn, EAA Airventure Museum registrar, "We had many fine and exceptional entries. It is a challenging task for the judges to reach a consensus, but choices must be made to accomplish diversity and to accommodate our designated space."

All paintings selected by the jury will be on display in the EAA Airventure Museum's Gorman Gallery from June 2006 through May 2007, including during this summer's Airventure 2006 convention, and will compete on 18 May 2006 for best of show and best of category awards and cash prizes.

Kerrie Shiel is a lifelong artist with previous awards to her credit. Her subjects include wild and domestic animals, landscapes, and aviation. "Hit My Smoke" is one of 14 paintings in her Cessna Warbirds Collection. It depicts a US Air Force forward air controller in a Cessna O-2A aircraft pulling up after placing a target-marking rocket on an enemy position in the jungles of South Vietnam.

Founded in 1953, EAA is now a 170,000-member international aviation organization based in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and sponsors the world's largest aviation gathering every summer at Wittman Field in Oshkosh – attended by more than 800,000 people from around the world. Besides artwork, the EAA Airventure Museum's collection includes 250 aircraft and over 20,000 other items from aviation history. EAA's annual art contest is the longest running aviation art contest in the US.

Shiel's aviation paintings depict eleven other Cessna aircraft used by the armed forces from World War II to the present plus the Lockheed T-33 and the Piper Cub. Shiel is a partner in Slipdown Mountain Publications LLC, an independent publisher of books and art prints, and creates all the original artwork used on the company's book covers.

Shiel's artwork may be viewed on the CessnaWarbirds.com and SlipdownMountain.com websites, where prints may also be purchased. She is currently developing a series of scenic paintings of Michigan's Upper Peninsula.

Based in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Slipdown Mountain Publications LLC publishes fine art prints and books on fiction, aviation history and cryptozoology. The company plans to publish two or three new books per year.

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