

'Pobereznyized'

Sam Burgess' Acro Sport National Tour

Visit 48 states in less than three months, flying the prototype Acro Sport, N1AC. That was the plan EAA Founder and Chairman Paul Poberezny and the late aerobatic pilot Sam Burgess devised in March 1974 to promote sport aviation and EAA's Project SchoolFlight for high school students. Sam, who had completed a 50-state tour in his homebuilt Bücker Jungmeister replica four years earlier, jokingly claimed "he'd been Pobereznyized" into making the trip.

Pobereznyized or not, in 38°F weather Sam left Burlington, Wisconsin, in the open-cockpit craft on April 20, 1974. His 15,000-mile journey

took him south to Florida and then north along the Atlantic coast to Maine, after which he zig-zagged west to California, up to the Northwest, and back to Wisconsin. By trip's end on July 2, he'd flown 135 hours and visited 126 EAA and IAC Chapters.

Paul designed and built the high-performance Acro Sport aerobatic biplane in 1971, and it became a favorite among homebuilders and Project SchoolFlight classes because of its sound yet uncomplicated design. N1AC resides in EAA's "mini-museum" near the PHP Conference Center.

—Kathleen L. Witman

