

Title Page & Abstract

An Interview with Scott Schertz

Part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library
Agriculture in Illinois Oral History project

Interview # AI-V-L-2012-029

Scott Schertz, owner and president of Schertz Aerial Service, Incorporated with over 26 years of experience in aerial applications, was interviewed on the date listed below as part of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library's *Agriculture in Illinois* Oral History project.

Interview dates & location:

Date: Jun 19, 2012 Location: Schertz Aerial Service, north of Cooksville, IL

Date: Jul 23, 2012 Location: Soybean fields north of Bloomington, IL

Date: Oct 29, 2012 Location: Schertz Aerial Service, north of Cooksville, IL

Interview Format: Digital video

Interviewer: Mark R. DePue, Director of Oral History, ALPL

Technical Support (cameraman, etc): Mark Suszko, Tony Bateman and Greg Lipe, Illinois Information Service

Transcription by: _____

Edited by: _____

Interview being
processed

Total Pages: _____ Total Time: 1:01 + 0:25 + 0:18 / 1.02 + 0.42 + 0.3 = 1.74 hrs

Session 1: Scott's early life and an overview of the aerial application industry

Session 2: Aerial footage & narration

Session 3: Scott gives a visual tour of his AT-602 Air Tractor aircraft

Accessioned into the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library Archives on December 17, 2013.

The interviews are archived at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library in Springfield, Illinois.

Abstract

Scott Schertz, *Agriculture in Illinois*, AI-V-L-2012-029

Biographical Information Overview of Interview: Scott Schertz was born in July, 1961 in Bloomington, Illinois and spent his early years on the family farm. He graduated from El Paso High School in 1979 and attended Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, where he majored in agriculture and aviation. Scott earned his pilot's license while still in high school, and was flying for an aerial application firm (formerly referred to as crop dusting) by 1981, graduating from college in 1982. After a variety of aviation related jobs, Scott took over his father's aerial application business in July of 1986.

Schertz earned a master of business administration degree in 1996, but otherwise has focused his energies on his growing aerial application business, Schertz Aerial Service, Inc. Scott became the president of the National Agricultural Aviation Association in 2005, and in 2008 he became a member of a Federal Advisory Committee advising the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on aerial application related issues. Scott talks at length about the challenges of his business, narrates a video clip of him flying an aircraft while applying fertilizer to a soybean field, and also gives a walk-around tour of one of his aircraft.

Subject Headings/Key Words: aerial application; Schertz Aerial Service, Inc.; applying fertilizers to crops; applying pesticides to crops; safety issues in aerial application industry; cover crop applications; National Agricultural Aviation Association; advising the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; AT-602 Air Tractor aircraft; Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC)

Note to the Reader: Readers of the oral history memoir should bear in mind that this is a transcript of the spoken word, and that the interviewer, interviewee and editor sought to preserve the informal, conversational style that is inherent in such historical sources. The Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library is not responsible for the factual accuracy of the memoir, nor for the views expressed therein. We leave these for the reader to judge.

COPYRIGHT

The following material can be used for educational and other non-commercial purposes without the written permission of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library. "Fair use" criteria of Section 107 of the Copyright Act of 1976 must be followed. These materials are not to be deposited in other repositories, nor used for resale or commercial purposes without the authorization from the Audio-Visual Curator at the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library, 112 N. 6th Street, Springfield, Illinois 62701. Telephone (217) 785-7955