

Thoughts Aloft~::~



EAA CHAPTER 383 NEWSLETTER

Airshow meetings begin

January 19th saw the first meeting for Airshow 2006 and it looks like we will have a great lineup of performers and static displays. These meetings will be held on the third Thursday of the month through April and anybody can attend. Volunteers are actively solicited to help out with the event.

As usual, the Chapter will carry on the tradition of serving the best pancake breakfast this side of the Rio Grande so we're pretty well set in that role. If you have the urge to expand your horizons beyond that there is always a need for help in other parts of the show. Extra hands are always welcome.

For something different we'll have a B-25 on the field for a full week before the show. Not just sitting there looking pretty, but flying every day. How about a MiG-17 and half a dozen L-39s performing? Also, how long is it since you've seen "PEPSI" written in the sky? Well, we'll have a skywriter among the performers.

All in all, it sounds like this should be great show and if everything works out, next year should bring us the Canadian "Snowbirds".

Oshkosh "Open Cockpit Day"

March 4 and 5 are set for the second annual "Open Cockpit Weekend" at the AirVenture Museum. Shifts run from 9:30-1:30 and 1:00-5:00 both days and lunch is provided. Expect to shepherd people into about three airplanes during a shift. It really makes for an interesting day at the Museum.

Nicole Raudabaugh is running the show again this year and Dick Bronson and Bruce Morton have already volunteered for another go at it. More volunteers are still needed and if you are interested, you must make it known before February 25 to get on the schedule. Call Curt to sign up.

This month's meeting

Karl Meyer's son has spent some time in a place called Iraq. Not only that, but he has some pictures of the action there taken from a helicopter. A power-point type presentation has been put together that will be shown at our meeting Wednesday night. Be there to check it out.

Fly-outs

No particular destination has been picked for a February fly-out. With the unpredictable weather we have been having you can only depend on any kind of breakfast flight if it just happens to be a nice enough day to fly. In fact, it takes a pretty brave group to post a date for any kind of fly-in event since there's a pretty high probability of unsuitable weather.

Our "Fly-out Coordinator", Gary Huempfer does say that if any Saturday happens to be nice enough to fly, some of our folks are bound to be flying to breakfast somewhere.

This last Saturday was so bad (low ceilings and windy) that Gary and his faithful 172 just stayed in the pattern and shot crosswind landings in a 25 kt breeze.

383 THIS MONTH		
FEB 7	TUE	Nagirroc Flyers-1930 hrs
FEB 8	WED	EAA 383 meeting-1930 hrs
FEB 16	THU	Airshow 2006 meeting-1830 hrs Lakeshore Aviation

All meetings are at the Chapter Clubhouse unless otherwise noted – Second Wednesday of each month

From the PRESIDENT -

What an interesting winter. At the beginning of the fall season, we were contemplating buying a new set of skis for our J-3 Cub. A winter full of ski-plane flying sure sounded like fun. Well, I sure am glad we didn't; there sure hasn't been any snow around to have any fun with. They even had to cancel the ski-plane fly-in at Oshkosh this winter! They still did a chili lunch, but no planes. What a shame, from that standpoint, but I sure don't miss the shoveling!

Now that we're into February, the days are finally getting longer and it's staying light out a little longer each day. Soon, we'll be thinking of warm sunshine and spring days for our aviation events. Time to clean out the hangar and get the plane tuned up for the summer...don't forget "tuning up" yourself if you've gotten rusty over the winter.

Our meeting this month should be the first of a series with a presentation or speaker as a guest. We'll keep you posted on who's coming when. Try bringing a friend along to share the fun of flying! And don't forget to invite someone to come along on our Saturday morning fly-outs...it's always good to share the excitement of aviating!

Finally, we got our first couple of entries on the "Aviating Goals" contest at the chapter. Just write down your goal and your name on the sheet of paper at the clubhouse. Then mark it when you complete your goal and you're in the contest. There's a \$50 cash prize that'll go to one of the lucky contestants drawn from the folks that complete their goals. Go ahead, give it a try!

Keep the shiny side up!

Curt

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Happy Valentine's Day!

EAA Chapter #383 meets regularly on the second Wednesday of each month in the Chapter clubhouse at Hangar #22 at the Manitowoc County Airport. Meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. and visitors are always welcome.

-----Minutes-----

EAA CHAPTER 383 MEETING

January 11, 2006

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Curt Drumm at 7:30. The first order of business was the Treasurer's report prepared by Al Forner. Al also gave an overview of 2005.

As many members know, this year, to simplify and encourage membership renewals, letters with everything needed to renew were sent to all existing and some former members. The letters were very successful at the time of the meeting.

Curt Drumm announced that he has a series of special speakers and events planned for our upcoming meetings, and gave a general overview of upcoming events this year including the air show, antiques fly-in and Yak/Comanche fly-in.

Next was a discussion about the runway work that will be done this summer directly after the airshow. The work is expected to go quickly with a 6 day a week, 12 hour a day work schedule.

The first point of new business discussed included the need for the Chapter to be disassociated with the Green hangar which is now owned by eight separate entities and that the Chapter needs to get building insurance on our hangar/clubhouse.

In order to cut down on expenditures, it was suggested and discussed whether or not the newsletter should be sent to members via e-mail, which would save the Chapter roughly \$400 annually.

The next Young Eagles day will be held some time in mid-May since runway 17-35 will be out of service after the air show.

The meeting was adjourned at 2055.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kevin Wehner

Newsletter by e-mail

Beginning with this issue, the newsletter will also be available by e-mail. To take advantage of this just send me your current e-mail address and you will be put on the mailing list, that's bjmorton@greenbaynet.com. The newsletter will show up as a PDF attachment so your Acrobat Reader will open it.

If you prefer the e-mail instead of hard copy this will save us a certain amount of money as mentioned by Kevin above. Currently, 112 issues are mailed each

month which amounts to quite a few 39 cent stamps, not to mention the cost of printing.

The newsletter will finally show up on the website as well. The format of all three versions will be the same and the online look will feature color which is not available in the printed copy.

A side benefit will be more prompt receipt of the material by cutting out the time needed for postal delivery.

This month everybody will still get the printed version so you can make up your mind individually as to whether you want to just go with the e-mail version or stick with the printed. Those who opt for the e-mail only, will save us a few bucks as mentioned earlier. It's an optional choice.

Anyway, we'll try it out and see how it goes.

Runway rebuild

A meeting was held on January 31st to outline the details of construction for the rebuild of runway 17/35 scheduled to begin the week after Airshow 2006.

This was to schedule the sequence of events to take place during the project so as to minimize the impact of the construction on flying activity. Clearly, jet traffic will be out of the question once construction begins but the County wants to keep light aircraft activity running as long as possible.

No details are yet available on the proposed timetable of events, but as soon as they are we will let you know.



Here's a shot of Don Wunsch's Chevy Vortec powered RV-6A sitting pretty on one of our few sunny days.

Don has spent a lot of time on his project. First, getting the paint just right, then fixing the endless little details that seem to crop up. First thing you know, it will be ready for nothing but flying!

Bruce Morton
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FBO CORNER----

Educational opportunities abound for pilots in the Manitowoc area. Please pass the word around to anyone interested in learning more about flying. The list is always growing, so stop in and check what the latest update shows you!

Thursday night, Feb. 9th. Night Flying Class. 6:00PM. This one's a freebie for those interested in brushing up their night flying skills. Jim, Leon and Curt will share educational tips and stories about flying in "black air". Take the mystery out of night flight, and polish up your skills. Instructors available afterwards for dual instruction (your airplane or ours) at normal rates. (Feb. 13th rain date for the class in the event of poor weather.)

Feb. 25 & 26. Weekend Instrument Ground School. 8AM to 8PM each day. This intense ground school is designed for those who are prepping for the IFR written exam. It will be taught by Stevens Point CFI Wanda Zeuge, and is rapid-fire and high tech. Exciting color graphics aid in the review of all IFR matters, and instructors tout a 100% FAA pass-rate for those who take the course and pass their practice exam. Cost is \$250, and includes meals both days. Lakeshore Aviation is a CATS testing center, so you can take your written afterwards and have 2 year to complete your rating. Sign up now at the FBO. If you already have your IFR rating, you can take this course as a review for only \$50!

March 7 through April 25. Private Pilot Ground School. 6:30pm to 9PM on Tuesdays. This is the 3rd time we're teaching the classroom version of the Private Pilot Ground School, and have gotten rave reviews from past attendees. A weekly class, taught by Jim, Leon and Curt will cover all the fundamentals of flight, rules and regs, airspace, etc. Class culminates with a spring field trip to Green Bay to tour GRB tower and approach controls, as well as Flight Service Station. Share the class with someone else, let a new interested pilot know, or just take it as a refresher. Only \$99 plus materials.

Please stop in at Lakeshore Aviation to sign up or if you have any questions