

Thoughts Aloft~::~



EAA CHAPTER 383 NEWSLETTER

Annual corn roast meeting!

It's that time of year again. Larry Gerroll will roll out the old corn cooker and we will be treated to another taste treat. Don't bother to have supper before the meeting since this one always starts at 6:00 pm and there is always enough to satisfy the heartiest appetite.

Bring a dish to pass if you'd like to add to the variety of goodies available. But most of all, be there to enjoy!

North American Top Gun

An AT-6 and an SNJ have been filling the sky with round-engine noise from August 24th to September 3rd. These good old WW II Warbird trainers have been selling rides to those who want to relive their younger military lives and also to those who never got the chance to fly in these great birds.

Pilots Bruce and Mike and ground crew Andy and Velda were kept busy every day with a constant stream of eager "pilots" excited to take the controls of

a historic military aircraft. And they actually did have the opportunity to fly the planes once they were in the air. There they were, in the front seat, and in control of the airplane, theirs to fly. Most of them also opted for the aerobatic routine! They all came back grinning from ear to ear.

The Top Gun team is doing 24 airports in ten months this year. That's a lot of airports and a lot of flying.

During their stay in Manitowoc their trailer is parked alongside our clubhouse to enjoy enough electricity to keep the lights on and the luxury of indoor plumbing when they aren't on the job flying happy warbird aviators.



The SNJ returns with another satisfied customer. That's the customer standing in the front cockpit, Andy is on the wing, Mike is in the rear cockpit and Velda is standing behind the wing. Andy's job was to get plenty of still pictures of the client to document the flight.

Note on Dick Bronson

Although Dick is presently still at River's Bend, latest word is that he is going to be returning home on Friday, September 7th. He might just show up at our meeting on the 12th.

CALENDAR

- SEP 4 TUE Nagirroc Flyers-1900 hrs
- SEP 12 WED EAA 383 meeting-**1800 hrs**
Corn roast. Don't miss it!
- OCT 2 TUE Nagirroc Flyers-1900 hrs
- OCT 10 WED EAA 383 meeting-1900 hrs At Bill
Herman's house

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

From the PRESIDENT -

The past month has been a little wet for flying—but well needed rain.

At “Oshkosh”---Chapter 383 member Gene Wilhelm was one of 68 EAA'ers from around the country to play in the orchestra at the Theater in the Woods on Tuesday night during the convention. Congratulations!

Thanks to Fred Statler for a great presentation on finding the full history of the Swallow aircraft that the EAA rebuilt at Oshkosh.

In October we will have the Midwest Antiquers coming. We may get to see Green Bay Chapter 651 member Vern Heyerman's recently purchased flying machine, a Cessna Air Master. He and Jay Baeten flew it back from California in July. He also won Best of Show at “Oshkosh '07”.

I'd like to cancel our \$100,000 hangar insurance policy and replace it with the \$50,000 policy. This will save us \$562 in premium costs. Members with aircraft in our hangar check your policy. It should read “covered while not in motion”.

Also, the insulation above the ceiling in the hangar needs to be leveled, especially around the northeast window.

Try to get your aircraft work done before the cold weather comes.

Had a nice time at Don and Jack Kiel's corn roast. Thanks!

Hope to see Dick Bronson and Kevin Wehner at Larry's corn roast in September.

See You,

Mel

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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 7:00 p.m. and visitors are always welcome.

-----Minutes-----

EAA Chapter 383 Meeting of August 8, 2007

Meeting was called to order at 7:06 pm by President Mel Otto.

Minutes of the July meeting were approved. Mel is looking at reducing our hangar insurance costs by \$500 and will give the details at the next meeting. Reported that Dick Bronson is still at the nursing home recovering from hip surgery and will be home at the end of the month.

Al gave a brief update on Kevin Wehner's condition and status after speaking with Kevin's mother, Tracy, just before our meeting. We expect Kevin will be back for the September meeting and "Corn Roast" to assume his duties again.

Laura gave her Treasurer's report on bills paid and those outstanding. Chermak Sausage will be paid immediately. Manitowoc Airshow will be billed this week for pancake breakfasts served to volunteers during June's Thunder on the Lakeshore Air Show.

Because of inadequate records on paid membership, a motion was made and passed to forgive all outstanding unpaid memberships from this year. Last year members can pick up their 2007 membership card at the next meeting. Membership runs from January 1 to December 31.

Our September meeting is our annual corn roast hosted by Larry Gerroll. Chapter 383 members are asked to bring a dish to pass. We have also invited Sheboygan Chapter 766 to join us. The feast starts at 6:00 pm.

A number of new faces were present. Sorry, I didn't get all their names, Maybe they'll show up in September. Jack Erdmann for the Sheboygan Chapter also invited us to tour the Oshkosh tower with them on October 20th. Check out the bulletin from Jack:

Tour of Oshkosh Tower
by Jack Erdmann

Due to vacation scheduling at Oshkosh, and better communication from the Tower Supervisor, there have been a few changes made for this tour.

We are now focusing on a date of October 20th for the tour. They have also taken away the limit of twelve people. As MTW Chapter 383 has expressed interest in this tour, they have been invited to join us.

We would like to travel to OSH by air, weather permitting. If you are interested in going, are a pilot (with an available airplane!) and willing to take along passengers, please let me know!

We will stop for either breakfast or lunch depending on the actual time for the tour which will be set mid-September.

Please contact me @ jerdmann2@wi.rr.com or 920-207-5173 if you are interested in going along on this tour.

Thank you.

Our October meeting and program will be held at member Bill Herman's home at 4819 Sunset Road, Manitowoc at 7 pm. Bill will show us his RV-7 building project.

The Antiquer's meeting will be held here again at our EAA hangar on the third Sunday in October (Oct. 21st) don't miss it!

Gary Huempfer was nominated and voted in as our new VP. Congratulations, Gary. (Say, what does a VP really do?)

Gene Wilhelm showed his "Music Achievement Award" for participating in the musicians concert at AirVenture. There were 68 musicians from all over the world who played their instruments together. He said they got a standing ovation from the audience. Well done, Gene. Will you play for us some time?

Our program speaker tonight was to be the EAA Museum Director, Adam Smith. However, Adam broke his wrist on Tuesday afternoon and went to the hospital emergency room and couldn't be with us. In his place regular Oshkosh volunteer, Fred Statler presented a riveting power-point presentation on the story of the recently restored "Laird Swallow". It was fascinating how Fred's research uncovered story after story of the original builders and subsequent owners over the years.

Our meeting and program ended somewhere around 9:00 pm.

Only temporary secretary,
Al Forner

AOPA Seminar

The AOPA has scheduled another seminar for Manitowoc. The last one went over so well that they will have a return visit on Wednesday, October 3rd. This one is "Regulations: What every pilot should know".

This time the date won't interfere with our regular chapter meeting so there won't be a conflict in timing. Expect more details to be available at Lakeshore Aviation in the near future.

These seminars are always interesting and they are free!

Bruce Morton
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