

Thoughts Aloft~::~



EAA CHAPTER 383 NEWSLETTER

Spring is here!

Well, March did come in like a lamb. Does this really mean that it will go out like a lion?

Certainly the early part of the month treated us to a variety of weather conditions from early cold followed by a good week of solid statewide fog followed by above normal temps with lots of sun followed by more cold and so on and so on. Makes it pretty tough to call any of this as some kind of trend. Maybe 'unsettled' is the best description.

Oh well, 'we will weather the weather, whatever the weather, whether we like it or not.'

Sun 'n Fun

A sure sign of spring is set to happen in Florida from April 13-18 and more than a few local folks will be making the trek to enjoy a few days in the sunshine state.

On the other hand, a few of us will remain behind to hold down the fort and wave goodbye with a certain amount of envy for those heading to a warmer clime.

AOPA seminar in May

Lakeshore Aviation will be hosting another AOPA Safety Seminar on May 12th at the FBO hangar. Coincidentally, this is also the date for our regular chapter meeting. Since a lot of chapter members like to attend these seminars, our chapter meeting will be moved off to Saturday, May 15th about noon. We'll have more details on this in next month's newsletter but just keep this date change in mind for future reference.

International Learn To Fly Day

Something else to add to our calendar is the first ever International Learn To Fly Day. This is also happening on May 15th. I'm not sure what we can set up to help out but it's worth talking about. Maybe we can give a few people airplane rides.

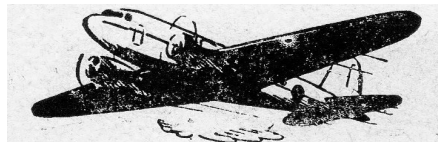
EAA Headquarters is involved in this and would like to know if we have any plans to hold an event in support of the idea. Hq. would like to know by March 31st. Check out www.learntofly.org for more info.

CALENDAR

03/02/10TUE Nagirroc Flyers-1900 hrs

03/10/10WED EAA 383 meeting-1900 hrs

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



Dues are due

Sure enough, it's that time again. Please be good enough to either pay at the meeting or send your \$20 to:

Art Thomas
855 Neumeyer Ln.
Brillion, WI 54110-9315

Many thanks for your support!

From the PRESIDENT -

What a beautiful day. Hope you're enjoying the sunshine, fellow flyers!

Most of you have probably heard that Bruce Morton is a bit on the tired side after his chemo treatments. He's going to rest some before tackling the Newsletter again. Anyone interested in giving him a hand? Hope you enjoyed last month's program with Brian Morgan of Morgan Aircraft Co. from Sheboygan. He certainly is taking a bold and adventuresome step in updating aviation with a "Fly Anywhere" aircraft. Hope he succeeds!

I spoke with Jason Kelly the other day about having the Chapter 383 come out to his home and see his RV9A Home-built Project. We need to move the date to March 20th (Saturday) from 10am to noon since Jason will be in Chicago on the 13th. Meet at Hangar 22 for a rideshare. Jason's address again is: 5606 West River Rd., Hilbert, WI 54129 Phone: 920-853-3741.

This Saturday, March 13th from 9am to 4pm is the **17th Annual Wisconsin Light Aviation Safety Seminar. The New Location is the EAA AirVenture Museum "Founders Wing" Oshkosh, WI.** Admission is free with lots of Door Prizes and Big Ticket Raffle Items. Let's ride together and leave Hangar 22 around 7am. Registration is at 8am. In the past coffee and donuts were free at registration.

Karl and Eldon may have a "Smelt Luncheon" on Saturday, March 27th at the Club House. Stay tuned. Karl will update us at our Wednesday night meeting. Speaking of which we're going to have a brief Board Meeting at 6pm. Everyone is welcome to come early and join us. It's an effort to keep the regular meetings short and get on with the evening's program. There is still an opening for this month's Chapter Leaders Academy Weekend in Oshkosh. It's the last weekend in March but call quickly: 920-426-4876. There's No Charge for this.

April is our annual Chapter Banquet time. Hope you can make it. Info at the March Meeting.

Still looking for a Young Eagles Coordinator. Someone to organize the event and tell the rest of us what to do. INTERNATIONAL YOUNG EAGLES DAY – JUNE 12TH. We need both Pilots and Ground Crew.

Air Academy Scholarship Applications and Info can be found at the Air Academy website. You must be a Chapter 383 member to receive one of our \$500 scholarships. Please submit your application to me or any committee member before April 30th. Committee members: Al Forner, Keith Hartlaub, Jerry Fichtner, Jim Carlson and Curt Drumm.

See you Wednesday. Peace.

Your Prez, Al Forner

Happy St. Patrick'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 7:00 pm and visitors are always welcome.

-----Minutes-----

EAA Chapter #383 Meeting of February 10, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Al Forner.

The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

Al introduced new member Jim Carlson, who is a teacher with the Manitowoc Public Schools, who wants to have a summer class for kids in upper elementary to Jr High. This would be a ½ day class that will run from 6/21/2010 to 7/2/2010. It was discussed that the class could be held in our Chapter Clubhouse, some of the class days would be at the FBO for some of the subject matter. A motion was made, and vote was approved to hold the class in the clubhouse.

Al asked if anyone was interested in being on the scholarship committee. This committee will work on getting information out about the Air Academy Scholarships that we voted on last month. They will also be responsible for receiving the applicant's essays and deciding which applicants will get the scholarship funds. Those on the committee are:

Al Forner
Keith Hartlaub
Curt Drumm
Jerry Fichtner
Jim Carlson

It was brought up that the chapter should possibly think about a scholarship that would offer some matching funds for youth to take flight lessons. Due to the overwhelming negative response it was tabled for another meeting.

It was discussed that we should think about possibly offering free chapter membership to student pilots to encourage youth to be a part of our chapter. The FBO could give out recruitment information to those taking flying lessons.

During the meeting a good question was brought up, "What does this Chapter do for fun?" We should all seriously think about this and bring some ideas of some Chapter activities to the next meeting. We do need to do more together as a Chapter.

7:35 we adjourned. We had two guests, the first was Dr. Augustine, who is an FAA Medical Examiner in Manitowoc. He briefly discussed the medical process. Dr. Augustine was followed by a presentation by Brian Morgan of Morgan Aircraft Company. It was a very interesting presentation on his vertical takeoff aircraft they hope to be building at the Sheboygan County Airport in the near future.

After Brian's presentation, we made a motion to the members that were left about donating \$250 to the air show this year to keep it going. Without the air show we would not have the opportunity for our biggest fundraiser. The motion was approved.

We also approved the clubhouse being open to the T-34 Association that will be in Manitowoc doing formation training just prior to Oshkosh. This is like the Red Stars we have hosted in the past. We need someone who will make sure the building is open each day for them and that it is locked in the evening. We need your help.

View from the instructors side

It must be the smell of avgas that creates mellow and kindly folk who hang around airports. It was and is an early form of drug addiction, an addiction to flying. It took me 62 years of drinking airport coffee to find one exception to the mellow and kindly rule and that single exception was a real jerk. His name was Larry. He really was not an evil person; his major flaw was his selfishness. Of all things, he wanted to keep the labors and joy of flying all to himself.

His career skipped the years usually devoted to being a flight instructor, a time that allows for flying skills and human relation skills to develop. Instead he went directly into air taxi and corporate flying. In those ancient times several aircraft were certified by FAA for single pilot operations. Many of the smaller twins as in Aztec, Navajo, King Air 90 and one edition of the Citation were on the approved list. There were accidents and the insurance companies soon mandated a second pilot to fill out the crew. Larry hated the new rule.

The subsequent trips with Captain Larry were usually three hour legs and most of them overnight stays. Wow, what a nifty deal, two days pay on most missions. I bought a new rider mower. A pool of four right seat pilots was established and it looked like we were guaranteed one trip per week. Sadly our opportunity to fly a Navajo and King Air were spoiled by Larry's total disdain for the guys in the right seat. Imagine watching a three hour football game while strapped in a chair, forbidden to move or work. Our duty parameters allowed us to pick our nose but did not allow us to do anything that might be related to flying a complex airplane.

I would painfully pinch my leg to stay awake. I'd pop different flavors of Life Savers...maybe a lemon flavor when the DME said 80 K, anything to stay awake because if I did doze off he would have cause to have me fired. There go the lawn mower payments.

At first I took his nasty attitude very personally. Maybe he didn't like my bad religion or my bad breath or any other bads that constitute a person. After consulting with the other right seaters I was relieved to find that we were all treated like scum from the same pond. If our readers will allow the opinion that animosity and tension do not belong in the cockpit. It could be dangerous, i.e. the loss of an extra set of eyes and hands that otherwise could make the trip a happy, safe learning experience. Larry, it's your loss.

In more recent times I've had the privilege of flying right seat for Red Lake Air with Fred Vogt and Ken Koch as PIC's. The flights always yielded a learning experience. Ken and Fred shared their knowledge as a beneficial gift. Again referring to Earnest Gann, we are a band of brothers. Remember that when flying with someone else.

Leon, CFI

Bruce Morton
3712 Michigan Avenue
Manitowoc, WI 54220



FBO CORNER--