

Thoughts Aloft~::~



EAA CHAPTER 383 NEWSLETTER

Thunder on the Lakeshore

After a period of uncertainty following two years of bad weather that really put a crimp in the finances of the airshow, a decision was made to continue for another year if enough advance financial commitment could be found to assure no losses this year. This approach was considered much better than simply having no show this year and then trying to bring it back next year. The fear was that many supporters would simply decide to sponsor other events and it would be difficult to regenerate their interest in the airshow next year.

Well, the show is on and it looks like a good lineup of performers is scheduled to be on hand to turn gasoline into noise for the benefit of the crowd.

Gene Soucy is the headliner this year with his big Ag Cat. John Mohr will return with his Stearman and we have an FA-18 and A-10 Warthog making their presence known with plenty of noise.

Everything, including the Saturday night balloon glow takes place at the airport this year so for a \$5 admission you can stick around from 7:00 am until 11:00 pm and not miss a thing.

May meeting date and time change

This is just another little reminder that an AOPA Air Safety Foundation seminar is going to take place on May 12th at 7:00 pm which, coincidentally, is the date and time for our usual monthly meeting. Since a lot of our members like to attend these seminars we will be changing our meeting to Saturday, May 15th at 11:00 am. The meeting will be followed by lunch at noon so there's no need to starve.



Banquet date and place?

So far we haven't said much about our annual banquet. Every year we seem to have a hard time getting organized and setting a location and date until just a little late in the spring. This usually means that our choice of location is limited by a lot of weddings that book ahead of us. That said, let's see if we can settle on a time and spot at this month's meeting.

Dues are due

Slipped your mind? We can accept that, but we would like to remind you that we are running a little behind. Our membership guy, Art Thomas, will be happy to accept your \$20 at the next meeting. Can't make the meeting? He also accepts checks by mail:

Art Thomas
855 Neumeyer Lane
Brillion WI 54110-9315

Thanks very much for your support.

383 THIS MONTH

APR 06 TUE Nagirroc Flyers-1900 hrs
APR 14 WED EAA 383 meeting-1900 hrs

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

From the PRESIDENT -

Good Day Fellow Fliers,

Spring has arrived! With warm weather on the way we hope to see more of you around the airport and, of course, at Hangar 22. The latest on Mel Otto is that he's slowly recovering and is out of the ICU. He's at St. Vincent's Hospital in Green Bay. If you're in the area, stop by and say hi or you can send a card or call Mary Ann. Mel's address: 7013 Dickenson Rd. Greenleaf, WI 54126. Home# 920-864-2449

Been looking up the original charter members of EAA 383 which was incorporated in June 1971. Don Gruett, Bruce Morton and Jim Parkin were the original instigators who gathered together a couple of aviation enthusiasts and started this club. The earliest newsletter, "The Flying Bull" from February 1972, Volume 1, Number 6 was saved by Richard Bronson. Don Gruett was the 1st. President and also started Nagirroc Flyers, Inc. on January 29, 1972 at Bruce Morton's house. Don was also interested in auto engine conversions for aircraft and purchased a four cycle liquid cooled auto engine for a project. Question for Don: Did it ever fly? From the sketchy information from records, I've come up with 15 charter members: Don Gruett, Bruce Morton, Jim Parkin, Chuck Klunker, Orland Hall, Karl Meyer, Robin Butler, Lance Jerale, Reuben Kodet, Mitz Beyer, Tom Berger, Dick Randolph, Carl Buerger, Don Pieschel and D. Rasmusson. Ten members are needed to charter a new chapter. Next month I'll review what some of those early pioneers undertook for projects.

Art Thomas told me last night that our current paid membership is at 40 although there are 79 members on our roster from last year. That means we're just 1 over half of last year. Cards are already made up so send your \$20 membership to Art Thomas (Membership) 855 Neumeyer Ln. Brillion, WI 54110-9315 or address it to EAA 383 Membership 1803 Freedom Way, Hangar 22 Manitowoc Airport, Manitowoc, WI 54220.

Our special guest speaker for April may be Mike Voechting, chief corporate pilot for Orion Lighting. Mike is planning on it but could be assigned a flight at the last minute. Just in case, we have a movie for a fill-in. Hope you can make it, Mike. Drive over on your "Segway".

Our May meeting will be on Saturday, the 15th at 11 am with lunch to follow our program. Scholarship applicants for the Air Academy are encouraged to attend along with their parents to meet the chapter members and give us a brief review why they should be selected for the scholarship. **May 15** is also **International Learn To Fly Day**. Look up this new event at www.learnstofly.org We'll discuss this at our April meeting.

Also our June meeting date will be the first Wednesday, June 2nd to get ready for the Air Show. And don't forget **YOUNG EAGLES DAY** June 12th. We need pilots and a good ground crew as well. Please be generous with your time. For insurance coverage, pilots must belong to EAA. Last year we flew over 60 kids. Let's try for 75 in 2010. Thanks for your participation. You might just be that positive influence that launches a young boy or girl into a new direction or career in aviation.

Does anyone want to build an airplane? In our next newsletter, we'll have Jim Carlson give us an inside report on his Aviation Education Project for 25 junior high school students at our hangar this June.

Be Safe and Enjoy the Skies.

Your Prez, **Al Forner**

CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

Al Forner
1370 Franklin Dr.
Cleveland, WI 53015
cell 920-946-8260

VICE-PRESIDENT

Jerome Fichtner
1325 N. 8th Street
Manitowoc, WI 54220
860-4994

SECRETARY

Julianne Hartlaub
6609 Northeim Rd.
Manitowoc, WI 54220
726-5296

TREASURER

Julianne Hartlaub
6609 Northeim Rd.
Manitowoc, WI 54220
726-5296

Newsletter Editor

Bruce Morton
3712 Michigan Ave.
Manitowoc, WI 54220
683-3078
bjmorton@greenbaynet.com

Website
www.eaa383.org

Happy Easter!

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

March 10, 2010

Meeting called to order by Al Forner at 7:08 pm.
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
Secretary gave highlights of minutes of last meeting.
Treasurers reports were passed around for members to see.

Jerry Fichtner volunteered to be the contact for the T-34 Association when they are here just prior to Oshkosh.

Young Eagles rally will be held the Saturday after the airshow, June 12, 2010. Susan Senglaub has volunteered to be the Young Eagles coordinator along with Shannon Pritzl and their sons.

We received a letter from EAA National regarding a Manitowoc girl who was looking to get help with going to space camp. A motion was made to give her \$100 towards her goal. The motion was passed. She will return and give us a presentation on the camp when she returns. Her family has joined our chapter.

Jim Carlson described his outline for the PMSD Summer School aviation program being held June 21 through July 2 from 8-12 Monday-Friday. We are looking for volunteers to be here during this time.

There is a man in Franklin, WI who has a drone that has been warehoused and never flown. He is asking \$100 for this unit. A motion was made to purchase the drone for \$100 and the motion passed. This will be a great item to have on display as part of aviation history.

Due to an AOPA safety seminar being held at the FBO on the same night as our May meeting, we have decided to have our regular meeting on Saturday, May 15 at 11:00 am. We will have a lunch to follow. Please mark your calendars.

Motion to adjourn at 8:15 pm.

Submitted by Secretary, Julie Hartlaub

View from the Instructors Side

Religion, sex and airplanes all come down to money. I'm not qualified to give advice on the first two, but I do know how to offer advice on cost reduction when securing a pilot rating. I prefer to do this on a face-to-face interview with a candidate. A friendly one-on-one chat allows for dispelling negative ideas, misconceptions and rumors. Some prospective students are sure that after they secure a private pilot certificate, American Airlines will offer them a job. Some are sure we cease flight operations in the winter because it's just

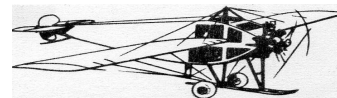
too cold. The big issue finally gets to how much pilot training really costs.

At this juncture, I stand on my chair and start proselytizing. Yes, we are a business and we want you to sign up. It is our duty to be realistic about costs. It's time to expound on costs that are often glossed over such as the physical exam, the written exam, headsets and personal equipment, books, the practical test, and like any other budget planning, allowing for contingencies. These pre-flight interviews, often lasting over an hour, now reach serious cost reduction ideas. As a flight instructor of these many decades, I find that simply showing up for at least two flying lessons per week will reduce your investment by \$500 to \$1000. Educators use the terms recency and frequency. It pays off.

The FBO sometimes offers a program where you purchase 10 hours of aircraft rental at one time and receive one additional hour as a bonus. Experts in math tell me that's nearly a 10% savings. Other ideas for cost reduction are simply sitting in the airplane and practicing the check list. Develop a friendly relationship between yourself and the various switches. And what about the reverse side of the check list? It's devoted to emergency procedures. Have you ever looked at it? Another big freebee is the weather computer. It's just there waiting to be used. It might save your butt some day. Let's not forget, there are breakfast and lunch fly-outs. Usually there are plenty of seats available, all in the first-class section.

One major cost that is seldom emphasized is time expenditure. Flying needs your serious attention via reading, watching DVDs, and even hangar flying with the guys in the lobby. If you wish to become a pilot, plan on commitment. In the game of golf, if you forget something from Sunday to Sunday it won't hurt you. But flying requires skills to the required level. This translates into your personal safety. Flying has high dollar and abstract costs, but the rewards are a bargain.

Leon, CFI



Pancake & Porkie Breakfast Fly-In!

Nicolet Airport

Sunday, May 16 8:30 to 11:30

Hosted by EAA Chapter #651

* * * * *

Bruce Morton
3712 Michigan Avenue
Manitowoc, WI 54220



FBO CORNER-----

Spring is finally here, and things are busy at the Manitowoc Airport. It sure is nice to be able to go outside without a coat (not quite every day, yet) and see a ramp full of airplanes. People around town are noticing the activity in the air, and we're hearing some great comments from the public.

The Airshow balloon glow is moving to the airport this year, and is taking on a whole new venue, including a night Airshow and live music featuring the Happy Schnapps Combo. Airshow organizers are still looking for a service club or group to staff the food & beverage operation from 5-11pm. That group will receive a cut of the proceeds for their services. A Chairman is also needed to oversee the event, although most arrangements have been made. Please contact Airshow chairman Curt Drumm if you're interested or know of a group. Phone is 920-682-0043. See www.ThunderOnTheLakeshore.com.

For those following the "yes you can, no you can't" saga of FAA Exam Testing Centers (CATS and Lasergrade), in a surprise move, FAA reversed their previous decision to cancel over 50% of the testing sites in the US and reinstate them all to full-time status. That means you can still take your written exams right here in Manitowoc. Special thanks to Deb Gebhart, chief of staff in Congressman Tom Petri's office in Washington for taking special interest in this, and working hard with AOPA, EAA and others to resolve the situation.

Lakeshore Aviation's "Buy 10, Get 1 Free" promotion is getting quite popular. Any renter or student may participate. Buy 10 hours of any aircraft time, and get 1 hour free. This could save as much as \$500 or more on your private pilot license! See Lakeshore Aviation for details. Offer valid through June 30th. Flight hours must be used within one year. Payment must be cash or check only for this offer.

Seaplane training season starts on April 15th. Contact Curt Drumm for more information if you're interested.

The staff of Lakeshore Aviation thanks you for your continued business and support. Whether you're picking up 5 gallons of 100LL or 500 of jet fuel, getting a tire changed or learning to fly, we thank you for supporting your local airport. We do it all for you! If you have any suggestions on services we could offer, or things we could do better, just let anyone on our staff know. Thanks!