

Thoughts Aloft~::~



EAA CHAPTER 383 NEWSLETTER

Showtime!

It's June and that means that Thunder on the Lakeshore is upon us. Pancake mix is on hand, sausages are on order, servingware and all the necessary supplies are set to go. All we need is good weather and we should do well. Right now the forecast calls for much better conditions than we suffered under for the last two years.

On Friday, the day before the show, we will have our usual potluck at the Chapter hangar starting about 5 pm. So, come on out, have something to eat and enjoy an airshow to top off the evening.

If you want to show up a little earlier in the afternoon, we can put you to work getting ready for the pancake breakfast. Or maybe helping Tom Thomas set up the model of the first airplane to fly in the State of Wisconsin. Tom plans to arrive about 2 in the afternoon and will plan on placing the model along the north wall of the hangar. The whole display is about 8 by 8 feet in area so it won't take up a lot of room and it looks like a very interesting set up.

On Wednesday, June 3rd, Michael Goulian showed up with his Extra 300. Then, in the evening, he made a presentation describing construction of the airplane in detail. It's pretty obvious he knows every nut and bolt in this machine and he answered all questions posed by the fascinated onlookers. His description of the ins-and-outs of the air show/air race business was especially interesting.



The Lycoming powerhouse that pulls Mike Goulian's Extra 300 through the skies. Talk about nice and clean!

CALENDAR

- JUN 2 TUE Nagirroc Flyers-1900 hrs
- JUN 6-7 SAT- SUN Thunder on the Lakeshore airshow!
- JUN 10 WED EAA 383 meeting-1900 hrs
- JUN 13 SAT Young Eagles rides-0800-1200

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

Young Eagles Day

Set aside Saturday, June 13th for another session of airplane rides for kids. We should have a real good turnout this time since we will be advertising it during the airshow weekend and kids will know it's only a week away. This way mom and dad will have advance notice that it's happening real quick and not months away. A bunch of second grade kids recently toured Lakeshore Aviation and the eight year olds in that group sounded eager to go flying.

Right now we are looking for planes and pilots who will be willing to help out with what could be a record turnout.

From the PRESIDENT -

The Prez Says:

Hi everyone. It's Air Show Time again in Manitowoc. Lots of preparations are taking place around the field. We had a good meeting on May 23rd. It was the first time we've had a regular chapter meeting on a Saturday. And Don Wunsch thought it would never happen. Well, he was there (works evenings otherwise) and contributed to the discussions. Had to bring the meeting to a halt at noon. Bronson was hungry and motioned to adjourn.

The two major items we discussed were the Air Show Pancake Breakfast and the June 13th. Young Eagles Day we are hosting. To get the Hangar ready for the Pancake Breakfast, we're going to have a "Working VIP Pot Luck Gathering" early afternoon Friday (JUNE 5th) with dinner at 5pm and an Air Show at 6pm. Please come and join us for a little work and a lot of fun. Invite a friend or a neighbor kid who likes airplanes and may want to join our EAA Chapter. It's "Pot Luck", so bring something to share. We're going to use those beautiful newly refurbished tables that Jerry Fichtner has graciously worked on for the past few weeks. Nice job, Jerry. We're grateful to you.

The Breakfast pricing is the same as last year: \$6.00 for adults and \$4.00 for kids 6 – 12. Kids under 6 eat free because we're family minded. No free breakfasts for pilots or Air Show volunteers this year. However, EAA Members who are helping with the breakfast or have other jobs promoting the Chapter, don't have to pay for their meal. Just sign the sheet and indicate your job at the entrance table so we can keep a tally. There is a "Fly-By" at noon for EAA Members and local Plane Owners or Renters. Let's have fun and be safe.

Next Saturday, June 13th is the International Young Eagles Day and we're hoping to fly 100 Kids and enter them as EAA Young Eagles. For every Young Eagle flown, our Chapter receives a \$5 credit which we can put toward a scholarship for a youth who would like to attend the EAA Air Academy in Oshkosh. Pilots need to be EAA National Members and will be covered under our EAA insurance. To get credit, each pilot must fly at least 10 Young Eagles during the year. Our Coordinator for this project is Laura Braunel. Any EAA Chapter Members who have kids or grandkids who would like to attend the Air Academy this year, please see me this weekend at the Air Show so we can register them. Our Chapter 383 has \$200 or 40 credits earned as of today. We will contribute up to \$500.00 for each Scholarship. Two Scholarships for this summer are available. This Scholarship is limited to EAA Chapter 383 Family Members under normal circumstances.

Just got a call back from Lori Rommelsfaenger who is the director of the Sheboygan Aviation Heritage Center about the beautiful board room style table I was hoping they would donate to our chapter. She won't donate it to us but would sell it for \$250 without any chairs. It would have been a nice gesture on their part toward chapter friendship but so it goes.

Our regular chapter meeting is scheduled for June 10th at 7pm in Hangar 22. Love to see you there. If you'd like to have a lunch together on Saturday the 13th since many of us will be working with the Young Eagles then, it might be a nice wrap up for the project. We can decide on Wednesday.

Your Leader,

Big Al

Happy Father'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 Meeting of May 23, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 11:18 by Al's gavel, followed by the pledge of allegiance and a prayer.

We had a new member present at our meeting, Patrick Turner.

Old business:

Pancake breakfast for airshow weekend. We decided that the airshow needs to provide tickets to the people who are entitled to a free breakfast. This will eliminate the sign in book, with names questioned after the fact.

Saturday, June 13, is Young Eagles Day, and a day we are having our Young Eagles fly in. If you are a pilot who can fly kids on this day, please let our new Young Eagles chairwoman know. Laura Braunel has agreed to take on the position for our chapter. Thank you, Laura!

Al Forner recently went to a Sheboygan EAA chapter meeting and saw a nice wood table. He was told that he could have it for free, with some chairs. It would be a nice addition to our club house. He is trying to find out who can actually make the decision to give the table away.

Friday, June 5, 2009 at 5:00 pm there will be a potluck for those who want to help set up for the pancake breakfast.

There was no new business because all who attended were hungry and ready to eat!

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Hartlaub, Chapter Secretary

View from the instructor's side

1952 was a time when most of us smoked cigarettes and no one thought it would hurt you. Moderate drinking was the norm and the Air Force urgently needed 14,000 new pilots. In the process I was fortunate to be an aviation cadet at Kinston, North Carolina. The local folks were soft spoken and firmly polite. Broad leaf tobacco was king. It was a civilian school with just barely enough military personnel enabling it to qualify as an air base. Best of all, the flight instructors were also civilians, crusty old salts of the aviation world. A further blessing was my instructor, Willy Dyer who in a previous time zone had piloted Lockheed Constellations for Chicago Southern Airlines. I was soon to learn that Willy's idea of a steep turn was a 15 degree bank. It was also a time when new pilot candidates were belted directly in the front seat of the North American T-6G.

Let's fast forward in the curriculum to where the cadets of class 53-B are taking night training. Imagine 30 aircraft departing and returning from cross-country trips or doing take offs and landings. Willy is in the back seat patiently doing his best to teach me a few facts about flying at night.

When another T-6 sidles at our three o'clock and turns on his landing lights. Yes, an unusual event, but considering the crowded sky, just an event until Air Force 383 is called by the tower and instructed to land immediately. We thought little of the request until we stepped on the black top where we were greeted by two Air Police. They're easily identified by their mean looks, the white helmets and the 45 caliber pistols. We were not so graciously escorted to the "green house" area of the tower where we were unpleasantly met by the base commander in his uniform, for the moment, being pajamas, bathrobe and a state of rage. I suddenly knew what it felt like when being marched to the guillotine. While Colonel Hardee explosively railed at Mr. Dyer, I did what cadets are supposed to do, stand at tight attention.

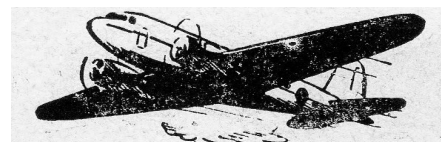
It seems our crime was departing the pattern and doing a very disruptive and noisy job of buzzing a Baptist tent meeting. The mighty T-6 is the perfect tool for destroying harmony between the good people of Kinston and the air base. The vindictives directed at my instructor promptly centered on his immediate dismissal and other horrible actions. Here's where I became extremely stupid, or to others, a hero. I simply discarded all pretense of being in the military, stepped away from the now painful stance, and stammered our truthful defense. "Colonel, we simply did not do it. If you fire my instructor, I will resign under protest." As I dig deep in memories, I recall a long silence as the officer cooled, then carefully looking us over I remember his famous words: "Sigman, if your'e lying to me I'll have your (not exact words) private parts swinging from the highest flagpole in the Air Force." His thick southern accent lent enrichment to the scene.

Wow, it was over! Or was it? About 25 years later, I received a call from a barracks mate and buddy, Lt. Colonel Pete Smith, who thought it was about time he'd 'fess up'. Yep, he did the deed. Thanks Pete, I feel better now.

Leon, CFI

P.S. Leon is constantly on the lookout for other folks to come up with some of the "Danny Dimwit" situations they may have gotten into in their flying experiences. Maybe you can contribute to this aeronautical wisdom. You can contact Leon at Lakeshore Aviation (682-0043).

Keep 'em Flying!



Bruce Morton
3712 Michigan Avenue
Manitowoc, WI 54220



FBO CORNER--