

Thoughts Aloft~::~



EAA CHAPTER 383 NEWSLETTER

Airshow meetings begin

Preparations for Thunder on the Lakeshore 2009 began on Wednesday, March 4th with the first meeting of the committee chairs for all the areas that need to be covered for another successful show. If you have never been to one of these gatherings there are roughly 40 separate areas that require attention ranging from garbage collection to hotel reservations, transportation needs, sound system, vendors, food tent, aircraft parking, media coverage, marketing, kids area, mailings, static displays, parking, military hospitality and a host of others. In total, it takes a lot of advance planning to put together a show of this size and make it look like it “just happens” by some magic.

Fortunately, most of the committee chairs are up for another go at it so the experience factor is already in place and things will proceed in a nice orderly fashion based on past performance.

It looks like we will have both F-16 and F-18 demo teams here this year and it's nice to know that the military volunteer to come here because they are treated so well during their stay.

Chapter 383's part in the big show is also run by an experienced group of, dare I say, old hands, at this business. Our particular role doesn't take quite as much advance planning. Nonetheless, it certainly is an important part of our annual income picture.

So, get ready, June 6-7 will be here before you know it. Just don't look out the window because it will still seem like a long way off.

Chili lunch

Last month Karl Meyer thought it would be interesting to offer a little chili lunch to members on a Saturday just to have an informal get together and see if it would bring out a few folks who just wanted to have a bit to eat and sit around and do some hangar flying.

So, Karl got together with Eldon Riha and made up some chili to serve. Seems like it worked out pretty well. By the time it was over they had served about 40 chili lovers. Very casual, low impact because no heavy duty advance planning was needed and everybody had a good time.

It worked so well that Karl is now predicting that a sloppy joe lunch will take place on Saturday, March 14th. Check it out.

CALENDAR

- MAR 3 TUE Nagirroc Flyers-1900 hrs
- MAR 11 WED EAA 383 meeting-1900 hrs
- MAR 14 SAT Sloppy Joe lunch-1130—1330 hrs
- APR 7 TUE Nagirroc Flyers-1900 hrs
- APR 8 WED EAA 383 meeting-1900 hrs

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

Annual banquet

Julie has listed a few possible banquet sites in her meeting minutes. If you can think of other places please bring them up at the meeting. We should then pick a first and second choice for the event and phone to see when we can get a booking. In years past we waited a little too long and found that other folks had already signed up for the dates we wanted. Let's be early this time and get in before the spring wedding season hits.

From the PRESIDENT -

Lots of things happened last month and the future looks active. You've got some fine leaders running the show. Heard you had a great meeting without me. I spent several mornings at the Show Low airport last month waiting for the weather to clear to come home. Got to meet the FBO and some local EAA members and was given a free Show Low red cap.

Thanks to Karl, Eldon and spouses for a great **Saturday Lunch** last month. Seemed like 40 people showed up. They're going to do it again **March 14th. From 11 am to 1 pm**. Don't miss it.

Andy Anderson and I spent this past weekend at the Air Academy Chapter Leadership Conference. Andy is a new member who is getting involved. He's building a BD-4 and getting excited about it. There were 26 of us being wined and dined and enjoying every minute. My first stay at the Academy Lodge. What a great facility. I was hoping Paul Pobereznny would stop by but it was even better than that. Paul had dinner with us both evenings and we spent about two hours at his house sharing stories and looking at memorabilia. He autographed my copy of the first Experimenter Newsletter from Feb. 1953. He was sharp and quick witted and true to his political form.

My expectations for the week-end were exceeded by the sincerity, candor and dedication of the EAA staff. Another highlight for me was a personal tour of the museum Saturday evening by Adam Smith. His knowledge and ability to spin a yarn riveted our attention with that endearing British accent as we reminisced those earlier days of aviation.

As you know, we aren't getting any younger so we need to put some emphasis on recruiting younger men and women to our EAA chapter if it is to prosper. Here's a few things coming down the pipe from Oshkosh that just might help us:

★ A Six-Month Trial Membership Program will include all benefits of EAA membership.

★ \$5 credit per Young Eagle flown for EAA Air Academy Scholarships.

★ A Website for every Chapter to have a group page in the overall "Oshkosh365" community.

★ Adult Orientation Rides with simple guidelines.

★ Online Insurance Process for a paperless, quick turnaround for event approval.

★ Online Calendar of Events for EAA chapters to promote their local events to pilots & public.

★ Online Speakers Bureau to search by location, subject matter or name for entertaining speakers.

★ Chapter E-Gram with News and Ideas to insert into our own Chapter Newsletter.

★ "Spirit of Oshkosh" DVD for Chapters to show at a monthly meeting.

★ Chapter Camping to allow chapters to reserve group space at Camp Scholler.

Other things to talk about next month or elaborate on the above. Keep the shiny side up!

Your Leader,

Big Al

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

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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 pm and visitors are always welcome.

-----Minutes-----

EAA CHAPTER 383 MEETING Meeting of February 11, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:05 by Treasurer Karl Meyer. President Al Forner was stuck in Denver with a commercial flight

New Business

Julie Hartlaub wants to compile a booklet on the Chapter 383 members, and put it together in a bound book of some kind. Idea was approved, there is a questionnaire included in this newsletter, please complete and return to Julie by 4/30/09. If you do not have a digital photo, please include a regular photo and we will scan it.

The price for some beverages has changed. The new prices are posted on the refrigerator door. Beer remains at \$1.00, soda and water are now \$.50.

By June the hangar roof should be painted.

We have an address for Ray Hurtienne for anyone who would like to send a card or visit.

Ray Hurtienne

Pine Haven-Room 320

531 Giddens Ave.

Sheboygan Falls, WI 53085

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Karl Meyer presented the current status report.

Things Karl knows are due:

\$506.00 to EAA National

¼ property tax bill

Karl is going to check on our 501(c) 3 status, and see if he can get this info to Manitowoc, so we do not have to pay property taxes.

Karl is also going to research money market CD's. Saturday Feb 14, 2009 we had a great turnout for our chili lunch.

Thank you to Karl Meyer and Eldon Riha for making the chili. A good time was had by all who attended.

After the next meeting we will have a video called Long Props and Big Rocks. We will try to have a short meeting and then show the video.

Next meeting we need to decide on a date for our Annual Banquet.

Suggestions of the following places were made:

Machut's

Lighthouse Inn

7 Lakes Golf Course

Luigi's in Manitowoc

Motion to adjourn made by Gary.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Hartlaub

Secretary

View from the instructor's side

It was the only time a serious program was developed to buy back single engine airplanes and factory convert them into multi-engine machines. It was the sexy looking Temco Navion built right after WWII. With sliding canopy and many vestiges of its older brother the P-51, the twin Navion caught on. The design was the height of pizzazz. Even the military used a few in the Korean thing.

Now enters a guy who so loved this make and model that he sacrificed buying a washing machine for his wife and food for his children. He selected a particular N number from the furthest reaches of Texas. Since the buyer was not multi rated he selected an instructor by the name of Nurdly Jumpercable. So no one recognizes who the instructor really was, we'll change his name to Danny Dimwit.

So, on to the deep South to retrieve his purchase. We'll then flash forward into his multi-engine training. The airplane was a little more to handle than a 172 but the new owner did a commendable job of mastering a complex multi-engine machine. Ah, slide that canopy back just a little—look at me Grandma, I'm a fighter pilot....

AWOS said clear and seven; another federal half truth. It was hot, hazy, sort of like flying in two month old lemon Jell-O. Add to the mix it was 6:45 pm and when lined up for 25 at Manitowoc, the laws of physics combined to yield very little forward view. Nurdly, the instructor suddenly defined light fixtures and the tires sweetly caressed the blacktop—which just happened to be the taxiway and not the runway. In a microsecond the crew realized that someone just might be taxiing in the opposite direction. Then, a second emotion of joyous elation finding no one was in the way. And if something bad happened it would have been the dumb instructor's fault and not the dumb student's because the regs state the instructor is supposed to be smarter than the dumb student.

There are times when you do a perfect chandelle or lazy 8 and no one sees it, but just land on a taxiway and the entire county board and everyone at the airport knows about you in capital letters. Mrs. Jumpercable (Cecelia) thought it was so funny she bought vanity license plates "25 LEFT" for Nurdly and his poor car for three years. We laugh now but it could have....

Leon



Keep 'em Flying!

Bruce Morton
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Manitowoc, WI 54220



FBO CORNER--