

# Illinois Valley Beacon

March 1995

Volume 2 Issue 3

## Breakfast

Saturday, March 4th at Doc's Mt. Hawley Inn, 8412 N. Knoxville Avenue, around 8:00 AM. Doc's is just south and east of Mt. Hawley Airport. See you there!

## March

Next month we will meet at Leisure Acres Club House on Wednesday, March 8th at 7:30 p.m. Our guest speaker will be Terry Kelley of Galesburg. Terry will discuss the efforts involved in salvaging a twin beech out of the ice in Greenland. This should be a very interesting evening! Where have we heard this before?

## Last Month

We met at Leisure Acres Club House on Wednesday, February 8th. at 7:30 p.m. Treasurer Al Phipps reported that our checking, savings, and cash balances total \$2,597.12. It was brought to our attention that chapter technical advisor Al Lurie was in the hospital recovering from surgery.

President Sam Sisk reported that a Young Eagles Flight day is being planned and there was discussion concerning the best date for our annual Chapter picnic. A Saturday fly-out to some outlying airport, one with a good restaurant, is also planned.

## Last Month

## From Desk

Last month we had an unexpected cancellation by Terry Kelley for our meeting night. This caused some scrambling by Lou Carr and me to find a replacement. Neil Pobanz graciously agreed to fill in at the last minute and fill in he did. Neil has a very interesting background of which many of us are envious. From his Army days to his present status of starting an FBO at Marshal County, he kept our attention throughout the evening. Thanks Neil!

Terry Kelley is on the docket, again for March, to tell us about getting a Twin Beech off the ice in Greenland or was it getting a Twin Beech off of the green in Iceland. Whatever, knowing Terry, it will be interesting.

There were several of our members at the potluck at Marshal County on Friday, February 17th. What a great idea. The food and fellowship was terrific. Even the Director of Aviation for the State of Illinois, Bill Blake, was there and enlightened us on aviation in Illinois.

We have an interesting schedule for the spring and summer months. The project visits will be June 3rd, and sometime in the near future we plan to have a fly-out breakfast, as well as the picnic on August 19th. The chapter officers welcome any and all suggestions for activities so please give it some thought.

Sam

## Sam's

Neil Pobanz  
graciously  
agreed to fill  
in!

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## PROFILE.... RON WRIGHT

by Joe Rex

Because Ron's Dad was a Radio Operator/Gunner on a B-26 during WWII, Ron was exposed to and became interested in 'airplanes' at an early age. He 'read' illustrated/pictured airplane books, built models, and at age 8 actually began flying lessons in an Aeronca Champ — which was owned by his Dad and Uncle. These early lessons consisted of the "ground—up" learning technique which allowed Ron to wash and dry the Champ; help push it to the gas pump; clean the windows; and YES, FINALLY get to go for a ride in the plane on a given Sunday afternoon! During that period, Ron also had the opportunity to 'take lessons' in a DGA Howard; a BT-13; a J-3 Cub and an old bi-plane. These times were really the "good ole days."

After completing two year of college, Ron decided to "Join the Service and see the World." He enlisted in the U.S.A.F. and was trained as a Para-Medic, and was eventually transferred to West Germany — being assigned to a helicopter rescue detachment. This proved to be an interesting assignment as the Para-Medic's aircraft position was the co-pilots seat and these units were constantly deployed to various training exercise areas, such as England, France, Italy, Spain, Africa, Turkey, Belgium, Scotland, etc. Approximately 1/3 of Ron's 3 year Germany tour was spent outside of Germany! This travel opportunity was really GREAT! Having to occupy the co-pilot seat allowed Ron to fly the HH-43-B helicopter (in transit) to give the pilot "a break."

Ron has over 100 hours "P.I.C." time and over 500 hours crew-member flight time in the HH-43-B.

Ron began formal flying lessons at Mt. Hawley Airport in 1972. Sam Sisk was Ron's primary/initial instructor and persevered thru the experience until Ron got his Private License. THANKS SAM! Ron then enrolled at Byerly with Mac and Jean and obtained a Commercial; Instrument; Multi-engine Land; Single engine Sea; Certified Flight Instructor and Ground Instructor ratings.

Ron has owned a '46 Taylorcraft; Cessna 140; Globe Swift and is currently test flying a homebuilt Cougar—Tailwind. Ron tributes the rebuild project to many E.A.A. Chapter members and flying friends who have all helped him, over the past several years, to get the Cougar into the air. THANKS EVERYBODY!

Ron has held various Chapter 563 offices; participates in the Annual North Central E.A.A. Old Fashioned Fly-In at Sterling-Rock Falls, and flies for the Illinois Valley Parachute Club. Ron has also recently been designated as an E.A.A. Flight Advisor.

## (Continued)


A few 1995 EAA calendars are still available for purchase.

Sam Sisk noted the popularity of our first Saturday of the month breakfasts, with between twenty and twenty-five members and guests present each month.

Joe Rex reported to the membership on a recent RV Forum he attended at Plainfield's Clow Airport, southwest of Chicago. Four persons from the Peoria area attended the forum.

After the conclusion of the business meeting refreshments were served, courtesy of Al Lange. Since guest speaker Terry Kelley was unavailable, Neil Pobanz from the new FBO

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at Marshall County Airport entertained the group by relating some of his experiences in sport aviation. During the course of the evening Neil became the Chapter's newest member! Until recently Neil was a member of Chapter 75 in the Quad Cities.

## AVIATION SAFETY — EDUCATION SEMINAR

An Accident Prevention Program and Operation Raincheck by the Peoria, IL Air Traffic Control Tower will be held on Wednesday March 15th and Thursday March 16th from 7:00 PM until 9:30 PM each night at the Squadron Operation — Red Room, Building No. 18, Peoria Army National Guard, on the East side of the Greater Peoria Airport, on Harmon Highway.

Topics covered during these two sessions will include, AFSS Services, Army Guard Operations, Pilot Proficiency Awards Program, Causal Factors of Accidents, ATC Procedures, Update on Greater Peoria Airport, New C-130 Aircraft, and Navigation and Communication Equipment.

In addition, pilots can schedule a "Plug—In" session at Peoria Tower, consisting of one (1) hour on a control position in the tower and one (1) hour on a position in the radar room (TRACON). This will enable each pilot to observe everything that the controller sees, hears and does.

Reservations for this seminar are required. Please phone the Peoria Tower at 309/607-0751 between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM, Monday thru Friday to register. For further information contact: Gene Gardner, Peoria ATC, 309/697-0751 or John Blohm, FAA, Springfield FSDO, 217/492-4238.

## HOMEBUILT AIR FORCE

Photo and story from "Flying," March 1995.



Some cash-conscious military forces are liking to the homebuilt and kitbuilt aircraft sectors for their equipment. The Nigerian Air Force has recently taken delivery of the first batch of AIEP Air Beetle T18s, a locally developed production version of the Van's RV-6A, 60 of which are on order. The Air Beetle features extensive modifications to make it suitable for the primary trainer role, and is powered by a 180-hp Lycoming O-360-A1A capable of running on auto-gas because avgas is not always available in Nigeria. Air Beetles are being manufactured at the rate of three per month by Aeronautical Industrial Engineering and Project Management (AIEP) at Kaduna, and the airplanes are replacing British Aerospace Bulldogs in the Nigerian Air Force. Eventually all 200 pilots in the Nigerian Air Force will have their own Van's RV-6A. **FLASH!** AIEP plans to market the airplane outside Nigeria.

## DISCOUNT OIL

taken from "The Lake Flyer"

As a consumer of about 4 cases of aviation oil annually, I was shocked on a recent visit to our most popular discount warehouse, Sam's Club. There, on the main aisle, was a display of Aeroshell W100 for \$16 a case (\$1.33 a quart).

After immediately loading two cases onto my cart,

I asked an employee how this specialized item got into their warehouse. She said, "All our airboat customers demanded it. They were offended by airport prices." After seeing the

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difference in prices, I was too. The company's SWC code is 7168 for a 12-quart case.

## KEEP ONE AS A SPARE?

*from the Aeronca Aviators Club*

What if Number 4 is doing nothing at all? It is then a "cold" cylinder which is not pulling its weight and can be spotted by an unmelted wax pencil mark on its exhaust pipe. The wax won't melt on the pipe form a "cold" cylinder, but will melt quickly on a cylinder which is firing. This was a tip from Neil Pobanz, from the Oshkosh Emergency Repair Barn. Hope to see you back in '95 Neil!

## Calendar

### **MARCH 18th — STEVENS POINT, WISCONSIN**

2nd annual Wisconsin Ultralight Safety Seminar at Holiday Inn Holidome. Co-sponsored by the Wisconsin Bureau of Aeronautics and the Wisconsin Ultralight Council.

### **MARCH 20th — DAYTON, OHIO**

EAA Day at the U.S. Air Force Museum. Contact: Mark S. Waxman at 216/382-0781.

### **MARCH 25th — SAVOY, ILLINOIS**

IFR/VFR AIRMAN RECURRENCY and FLYING COMPANION SAFETY SEMINAR at the Departure Lounge, Old Terminal Building, University of Illinois, Willard Airport, from 0830 to 1500 hours. Sponsored by the Illni — Area Chapter of the Illinois Pilot Association, FAA SPI FSDO, Central Illinois Chapter of the Ninety-Nines, Flightstar Corp., IDOT Division of Aeronautics, Institute of Aviation at the University of Illinois, Frasca Air Service and the University of Illinois Flying Team. For Further Information Contact: John Blohm, FAA Springfield, IL FSDO, 217/492-4238, or Dale Rust, Illinois Division of Aeronautics, Springfield, Illinois, 217/524-5269 or Omer Been, Champaign, Illinois, 217/352-4465.

### **APRIL 9th thru 15th — LAKELAND, FLORIDA**

Sun'n Fun '95 at Lakeland Linder Regional Airport.

Contact: 813/644-2431.

### **APRIL 22nd and 23rd — SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS**

Second Annual Charlie Wells Memorial Fly-In/Drive-In. Contact: 217/483-3201.

### **MAY 7th — McNABB, ILLINOIS**

FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN Breakfast, Sponsored by EAA Chapter 948, the first Sunday of the month, from 7-11 A.M. at Hartenbauer's Airport on McNabb Road, rain or shine. Contact: 815/882-2371.

### **MAY 7th — DAYTON, OHIO**

EAA Chapter 48 Funday Sunday Breakfast. Moraine Airpark. Contact: 513/878-9832.

### **MAY 7th — ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS**

EAA Chapter 22 Annual Fly-In Breakfast. Contact: 815/332-4708.

### **MAY 7th — DAYTON, OHIO**

EAA Chapter 325, EAA Day at the U.S. Air Force Museum. Contact: 216/382-0781.

### **MAY 13th and 14th — BENTON, ILLINOIS**

Third Annual open house and ultralight meet at Benton Airport. Rides, flying demonstrations, Sunday pancake breakfast. Contact: 618/993-3764 or 618/435-3526.

### **MAY 21st — CANTON, ILLINOIS**

34th Annual Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast.

### **MAY 21st — MT. MORRIS, ILLINOIS**

Fly-In Breakfast. Contact: 815/734-4320.

### **MAY 21st — ROMEOVILLE, ILLINOIS**

EAA Chapter 15 Annual Pancake Breakfast. Contact: 312/735-1353 (after 6 p.m.).

### **JUNE 2nd and 3rd — BARTLESVILLE, OKLAHOMA**

Ninth Annual Biplane Expo '95. Contact: 918/622-8400.

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**JUNE 3rd — PEORIA, ILLINOIS**

Annual EAA Chapter 563 Parade of Projects visits, after our monthly Saturday breakfast.

**JUNE 4th — McNABB, ILLINOIS**

FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN Breakfast, Sponsored by EAA Chapter 948, the first Sunday of the month, from 7-11 A.M. at Hartenbauer's Airport on McNabb Road, rain or shine. Contact: 815/882-2371.

**JUNE 4th — DEKALB, ILLINOIS**

EAA Chapter 241 Fly-In breakfast at DeKalb-Taylor Municipal Airport. Contact: 815/286-7818.

**JUNE 9th thru 11th — OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA**

Fifth National Gathering for Canard Type Airplanes. Contact: 405/946-5003.

**JUNE 10th and 11th — MUSCATINE, IOWA**

"A Theater In The Sky." Contact: 309/496-2844.

**JUNE 10th and 11th — COLUMBUS, OHIO**

Alexander Aeroplane's Builders' Workshop. Contact: 1-800/831-2949.

**JUNE 17th — GRAIN VALLEY, MISSOURI**

EAA Chapter 91 Fly-In/Air Show. Contact: 816/358-1458.

**JUNE 17th and 18th — TOLEDO, OHIO**

Fourth Annual Midwest KR Gathering. Contact: 419/882-8478.

**JUNE 17th and 18th — TOLEDO, OHIO**

EAA Chapter 582 Fifth Annual Fly-In Festival. Contact: 419/382-2924.

**JUNE 18th — LACON, ILLINOIS**

Father's Day Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast.

**JUNE 18th — LACROSSE, WISCONSIN**

Father's Day Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast. Contact: 608/781-5271.

**JUNE 22nd thru 25th — MT. VERNON, OHIO**

Thirtysixth Annual National WACO Reunion Fly-In. Contact: 513/868-0084.

**JUNE 24th and 25th — DAVENPORT, IOWA**

Quad City Air Show. Contact: 319/285-7469.

**JUNE 24th and 25th — GREELEY, COLORADO**

17TH Annual EAA Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In/Airshow. Contact: 303/798-6086.

**JUNE 25th — ANDERSON, INDIANA**

EAA Chapter 226 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast. Contact: 317/778-4391.

**JULY 2nd — McNABB, ILLINOIS**

FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN Breakfast, Sponsored by EAA Chapter 948, the first Sunday of the month, from 7-11 A.M. at Hartenbauer's Airport on McNabb Road, rain or shine. Contact: 815/882-2371.

**JULY 2nd thru 6th — OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN**

Young Eagles Aviation Camp for 12-14 year-olds. Contact: EAA , 414/426-4888.

**JULY 5th thru 9th — ARLINGTON, WASHINGTON**

26TH Annual Northwest EAA Fly-In/Sport Aviation Convention. Contact: 206/435-5857.

**JULY 15th thru 31st — OSHKOSH, WISCONSIN**

EAA Air Academy for 15-17 year-olds. Contact: EAA , 414/426-4888.

**JULY 27th thru AUGUST 2nd — OSHKOSH, WI.**

43rd Annual EAA Fly-In and Sport Aviation Convention. Wittman Regional Airport. Contact: John Burton, EAA, P.O. Box 3086, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3086, 414/426-4800.

# Scot Decker's PITTS S1S project

Chapter Technical Counselor Al Lurie took this picture of Scot Decker with his PITTS S1S project in East Peoria. The aircraft was started by another builder. Scot has removed the fabric and is redoing items that he finds that can be improved, including replacing the upper landing gear arms, which have been redesigned since the project was originally started. Good Luck with your project Scot! And thanks for the picture Al!



## CHAPTER OFFICERS

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