

Illinois Valley Beacon

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Breakfast

Saturday, February 3rd at

Doc's Mt. Hawley Inn, 8412 N. Knoxville Avenue, just East of Mt. Hawley Airport, beginning around 8:00 AM. See you there!

February — Twentieth Anniversary

Chapter Birthday Party at the *First Christian Church*, 6400 N. University Ave. on Wednesday, the 14th at 7:30 p.m. The First Christian Church is located just north of the new Post Office on University Avenue.

There will be a big Birthday Cake! All members are encouraged to attend the celebration! Especially the 13 current members who were present at the beginning: Ozzie Beckham, Brian Briggerman, Delbert Dester, Don Eckard, Victor De Croix, Bill Engel, Eric Manuel, Ken Rhoads, Larry Roberts, Ted Smith, Guy Snyder, John Stauthammer and Jerry Trumbold.

The original Chapter Charter will be on display and Vic DeCroix and Guy Snyder will say a few words.

Hangar Update

The Greater

Peoria Airport Authority will build at Mt. Hawley Airport a stand alone hangar measuring 53' X 60', with a concrete floor, bath room, utilities and a south door that is accessible to the runway. Construction will begin in early spring and the hangar should be ready for occupancy around June 1.

The Chapter has agreed to pay \$400 monthly rent and we now have commitments from 3 members to hangar their aircraft.

President Morrie Caudill has appointed Sam Sisk to chair a hangar committee. Many details concerning the hangar remain to be worked out.

One of the first orders of business will be furnishing the hangar. We will need a TV and VCR to play aviation videos during our monthly meetings. Dave Cook has donated a used VCR. If any of you have a used but serviceable 19 inch portable TV gathering dust in a back room, basement or attic, please consider donating it to the Chapter. We also need folding tables and chairs.

“Wannabee”

The Aviation Wannabee

Seminar at Mt. Hawley Airport on Wednesday evening, January 17th. was a **Great Success**.

Chapter 563, along with the Illinois Department of Aviation, North Point Aviation and the Greater Peoria Airport Authority, cosponsored the event. It was standing room only, with about 25% of those present being non pilots. All facets of aviation were represented: airplanes, balloons, gliders, helicopters and more, and of course the EAA.

We had two tables set up, along with the Chapter banner. Information about the EAA and Chapter 563 was distributed and we had 3 Ambassadors of homebuilding and restoration present. Ozzie Beckham and Joe Rex brought parts of their RV-6's and Jim Hannemann had WACO parts from his restoration project.

The Aviation Wannabee Seminar was intended for persons who have entertained the idea of learning to fly, but have never taken that first step.

The Pres Says

I'll start by saluting all the officers that retired last month. They have served the Chapter well and deserve your personal recognition. I salute also the officers and volunteers that have remained for another term. They must truly enjoy their work.

This is a new venture for me, just as flying was three years ago.

Oh I had flown many different aircraft -- singles, twins, military, stunt, combat, and air racers -- over the years. But they were all on the end of sixty feet of stainless steel wire. Some of them had wing spans of over forty inches.

You guessed it, model airplanes. The "Wire Flyers" didn't have the advantages that the R.C. people had. We could only fly "one mistake" high.

But what an education. Fifty years of aerodynamics -- nose heavy, tail heavy, high lift and symmetrical airfoils, low thrust and high thrust, fuel systems, props, building and finishing-- and I didn't go that extra mile until three years ago.

For all of you that have been there as I have for the last three years, I don't have to describe the feeling each time the wheels leave the ground.

Why did I wait all those years? I needed a push. Those of you that love to fly, share it with someone else, give someone a push, that's all it takes, they'll be forever grateful. Morrie

I WANT TO BE A PILOT

When I grow up I want to be a PILOT because it is a fun job and easy to do. That's why there are so many PILOTS flying around these days. PILOTS don't need much school, they just have to learn to read numbers so they can read instruments. I guess they should be able to read road maps too so they can find their way home if they get lost.

PILOTS should be brave so they won't get scared if it's foggy and they can't see, or if a wing or motor falls off they should stay calm so they'll know what to do. PILOTS have to have good eyes to see through clouds and they can't be afraid of lightning or thunder because they are much closer to them than we are.

The salary PILOTS make is another thing I like. They make more money than they know what to do with. This is because most people think that plane flying is dangerous except PILOTS don't, because they know how easy it is. I hope I don't get airsick because I get carsick and if I get airsick I couldn't be a PILOT and then I would have to go to work.By an 11 year old boy.

The Civil Air Patrol has agreed to help us with crowd control. All of those persons involved in making the previous visit a success will be contacted.

Additional volunteers from the Chapter will be needed to help host this event. Watch the newsletter for future details.

Reprinted at the suggestion of Bill Rutherford.

B-17 Returns Oshkosh has just announced that their B-17, "Aluminum Overcast" will once again be on tour this summer. Chapter 563 will coordinate the return visit at the Greater Peoria Airport. The B-17 will be on display June 10th thru the 12th.

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