

Illinois Valley Beacon

September 2000

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Breakfast Saturday, September 2nd at our hangar at Mt. Hawley Airport, beginning around 8:00 AM.

The Chapter will host **Young Eagles Flights** on Saturday after our hangar breakfast. We expect about 35 Young Eagles. Please contact Joe Rex at 694-3792 if you can volunteer an aircraft or your time as a pilot or ground crew member, or if you know a Young Eagle who wants to fly. **See you there!**



September Our next Chapter meeting will be on the **Second** Thursday of the month, **September 14th**, at 7:00 p.m. at our Chapter Hangar at Mt. Hawley Airport.

Our guest speakers will be Jim Martin and his wife Colleen, who teaches at Wilder-Waite School. They will give us an update on the 70% replica mock up

of the **“Spirit of St. Louis”** that the students are building.

The Martins addressed our May Chapter meeting with a proposal for the project and we agreed to provide labor to help build the mock up.

The students at Wilder-Waite have made a lot of progress and the “Spirit of St. Louis” is being assembled in a rented storage space across from the school. This fall there will be a program in the school gym. The students will experience first hand the time it took and the dangers associated with Lindberg’s first nonstop flight across the Atlantic.

Last Month We assembled on Thursday, August 10th at 7:00 p.m. Treasurer Morrie Caudill called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m. in the Chapter hangar at Mt. Hawley. Vice-President Ric Waldow served as the acting Secretary. The minutes from the last meeting were read and approved.

Young Eagles Report: The 08/05/00 event was canceled. There was discussion about the organization and reasons for canceling. The event was canceled the prior to Thursday, August 3rd, due to a potential lack of pilots. Weather would have precluded the event on Saturday August 5th anyway, as one member was weathered in that morning on his way to breakfast. Radar was showing

thunder boomers with tops of forty-five to fifty thousand



Liberty Parachute Team – Line Dance at Oshkosh has local flair! Jack Tillman of Pekin is on the left, JT Hill of Galesburg is in the middle and Chapter member Jim Rinkenberger is the guy on the right. Blue skies!

feet to the west and around 10:00 a.m. all **\$@!@%& broke lose.

There is another Young Eagles event scheduled for Saturday, September 2nd. We hope to have approximately 35 Young Eagles ready for flights. All pilots are encouraged to participate in these events. Member pilots with four passenger aircraft are especially needed due to the higher efficiency in providing rides to large numbers of children.

B17 “Aluminum Overcast” Report: The financial results from EAA Headquarters are not in yet, but the estimate is that the Chapter should net approximately \$3,500 to \$4,000. It was a great success with 16 passenger flights being taken, all sold out.

The details of the revenue calculations were not available at the meeting, however the Chapter receives 20% of the gate admission on tours, 15% of merchandise, and a small portion of the fare for each passenger booked by the Chapter.

More flights could have been sold on Monday, however the aircraft was not available due to a routine, 30-hour, inspection. The Chapter also sold beverages, which were 100% profit, as Al Phipps persuaded the local Pepsi distributor to donate the soda.

One expense was paying Morrie Caudill’s monthly cell phone bill. The week of the B-17 visit there was a high volume of calls, all pertaining to the scheduling of riders

and volunteers.

The Chapter has a listing of all the passengers on the B17 flights and it was recommended that they be invited to the next meeting, to increase participation in EAA at the local level.

(Editor's Note: Since the August meeting the Chapter has received a check from Oshkosh for \$5,140.00. Apparently the B-17 visit was an even bigger success than we realized!)

August Breakfast

Report: Sam Sisk reported there were only 11 people for breakfast on Saturday the 5th. He had \$45 to submit to the treasury. The low attendance was partially due to inclement weather that morning and the fact that many members had spent the first part of the week at Oshkosh.

Treasurer's Report:

The books were not current, but without the B-17 receipts, the balance should be approximately \$4,500.

EAA Air Academy

Report: Joshua Herget, a student who participated in the EAA Air Academy was present. He described the 10-day event encompassing Oshkosh. In addition to the flight line experiences, classroom work included sheet metal work and wing building. The chapter had agreed to pay 1/2 of his expenses to the EAA Air Academy. This fall Joshua will begin college at Dubuque University, studying aviation. Morrie will check into using Young Eagles credits from the chapter and will reimburse the student.

There was no Technical Advisor's report and no Old Business.

New Business Report: We have a new hangar tenant, Mike Tillmans' Cessna 140A is now happily stored in the Chapter hangar.

Oh What a Flight! By Ric and Lisa Waldow

At the August Chapter meeting **Jim Hannemann** presented a Flight Advisor's report describing his Oshkosh trip.

This provided several lessons to all present in proper flight preparation and pilot



Spirit of St. Louis

preparedness. The details of his presentation will follow, however the important points are:

1. Have a patient and understanding wife.
2. Have a patient and understanding boss, or have one who takes lots of vacations, or be independently wealthy.
3. Pride has no place in determining pilot qualifications or making weather decisions.
4. Cross-country flight in 60-year-old open cockpit biplanes is as reliable as modern commuter airlines.

5. When checking weather, three pieces of information are critical to have:
1. Weather depiction chart,
2. Radar,
3. Visual check of the departure area.

While away for Reserve duty for two weeks, Jim received a call checking his availability to fly from New York State to Oshkosh in a freshly restored Waco UPF-7

(NC29303).

The owner, Richard Ash of Piffard, NY, had just received it 2 weeks earlier from restorer John Shue. Despite experience in a Baron and a Cessna 140, Ash was not ready to solo the Waco, much less make a long VFR cross-country.

Jim is on the Board of the American Waco Club and is their Fly-In Chairman. Restorer John Shue suggested Jim for the flight. Ash arranged for a Cessna 310 to take Jim out to NY on Tuesday afternoon.

Thus with one day back at work, Jim headed off for a vacation trip to Oshkosh. They were to depart Wednesday for OSH and hoped that the severe weather systems between NY and OSH would give them a window to sneak through. At this point the thought of being stuck out somewhere with no hangar and a beautiful antique was not appealing to the either Jim or Ash. With these comforting thoughts, they took off for the 600 NM trip in a VFR only airplane that was straight out of a restoration and had 10 hours flight time in the last 30 years.

The first two stops, on grass strips in Mount Vernon OH and Lowell IN went well, despite winds forecast to be 25 knots (remember Antique biplane taildragger). The next



Photo by Dennis Biele - Copyright 2000

Liberty Parachute Team at Oshkosh



Photo by Greg Holfner - Copyright 2000

landing, after circling south of Chicago to remain over farm ground – NOT Lake Michigan or suburban development, was at Dodge County in Juno WI. Although this airport has several runways to minimize the crosswind component, this was to be Jim's first pavement landing in this aircraft.

It was at this point that the owner disclosed to Jim that he had spent \$203,000 on restoring the aircraft. Jim landed successfully the second time, after doing a touch and go just to demonstrate his mastery of the aircraft under adverse weather and psychological conditions (that's how an instructor describes a bounced landing/go around).

After OSH re-opened the field following the air show, the duo flew the short distance up to OSH only to have the tower change runways and approaches on them. You have to be heads up for changing conditions and traffic at all times.

After parking in the Antique area, the ritual of removing suicidal bugs was performed (note: always clean the lower wing first of positive stagger biplanes. Failure to do so is not fatal, however it clearly identifies a rookie). The owner of the aircraft was educated that cleaning bugs is an enjoyable activity, and a by-product of good pilot judgment exercised by landing on grass runways whenever possible.

The airplane won the **Antique Bronze Lindy for Champion Customized Aircraft** at the Monday night awards ceremony, so the effort was worthwhile.

The next morning Ash found a business card left in his cowling. It was from "Jim Franklin Airshows." Franklin flies the jet powered Waco UPF7. On the back of the card was written, "Your Waco is absolutely beautiful," signed Jim Franklin.

Departure from Oshkosh was Tuesday morning, so after breaking camp and thanking Al Lurie for his hospitality and help during their stay, it was time to head back to NY. By departure time it was raining, so the duo spent the

remainder of the morning keeping updated on the three weather checks. It did not look promising.

Just prior to the air show there was a window of opportunity so they started their homeward journey. They made intermediate stops in Kankakee IL, and Findley OH (overnight). On Wednesday they made it back to NY, despite fog in the morning and thunderstorms in the afternoon.

The return trip to Peoria was not as successful, as the commuter airline connection from Chicago to Peoria ended up being canceled late at night. The final part of Jim's journey was by rental car. So if you really want to be somewhere either drive or fly an antique airplane.

Jim has promised some photos for the October newsletter.

NorthCentral Old Fashioned Fly-In

Just a reminder to all Chapter members that the North Central EAA Old Fashioned Fly-In at Whiteside County Airport in Sterling/Rock Falls will be Saturday, Sept. 16th and Sunday, Sept. 17th. Be sure to mark this weekend down on your calendars.

As one of the host Chapters sponsoring this event, we are expected to provide volunteer workers. We need volunteers to man the registration desk Saturday and especially at the Sunday morning Fly-In Breakfast. If you want to volunteer, please contact Ron Wright at 694-1527 or e-mail him at wright.ronald1@mcleodusa.net.

Fun-Fly 2000 The Heart of Illinois Ultralight Fly-In will be at Logan County Airport in Lincoln, Illinois on Saturday, September 9th. There is on field camping, with motels nearby. Ultralighters know how to have a good time! This is a fun event. For further information contact: Tom Jensen—309-394-2539 murphyrebel@bwsys.net.

Peoria Superfest - Central Illinois' Largest Garage Sale, Radio, and Computer Show. If you enjoy Flea Markets this will be a Big One....HUGE! Discounted and Wholesale Prices.

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, SEPTEMBER 15th thru 17th. at EXPOSITION GARDENS. Tickets are \$5.00. There are hourly drawings for prizes.

WORKSHOPS SCHEDULE

B-17 Pilot Ground Schools - November 3rd-5th

B-17 Pilot Ground Schools (and you don't even need to have a pilot's license to attend) are set for Nov. 3rd-5th. Cost \$750 for Non-EAA Members, \$650 for EAA Members and price includes meals, materials, lodging and flight in "Aluminum Overcast." Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for information or reservations.

Ford Tri-Motor Pilot Ground Schools - October 20th-22nd and October 27th-29th

Jim Franklin's jet powered Waco UPF7



Ford Tri-Motor Pilot Ground Schools (both pilots and non-pilots are invited to participate) have been scheduled for the first time in 2000. Classes will run May 12-14, October 20-22 and October 27-29. Cost is \$450 for EAA Members and \$550 for non-EAA Members, which includes a flight in the Tri-Motor, instruction, materials, meals and lodging. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for information and to make reservations.

Lancair Workshop - September 14th-17th

Will present the necessary instruction to build the Lancair aircraft. All problem areas and specific techniques used for assembly of the Lancair will be presented. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for more info. or to make a reservation.

Engine Workshop - October 2nd-6th

Basic course in engine disassembly, cleaning, evaluation and reassembly. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for more information or to make a reservation.

Building the RV Series of Aircraft - October 9th-13th

Join well known and skilled RV builder, Alex Sloan for this week-long session on building the Van's RV series. If you're in the process of or thinking about building the Van's RV, you'll want to attend this session. Call Pat, toll free at (888)322-3229 for more information.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH "If a man speaks in the forest, and there is no woman there to hear him, is he still wrong?" Unknown. From EAA Chapter 111 newsletter

For Sale

1969 CHEROKEE 140B, 3350 TT, 1300 SFNEW, IFR, King avionics, same owner 30 yrs. \$30,500. Phone Barb: 309, 274-5089 or 309, 246-3700.

Calendar

Aug. 31 – Sept. 4 **Antique Airplane Assoc. Convention**, Antique Airfield-Blakesburg, IA

Sept. 1 - 4 **ASC Nationals at Kimo** Brooks Field Marshall, MI Contact: ASC 616-781-4021

Sept. 3 **Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** Harttenbauer Airport

Sept. 4 – 9 **29th Annual Stearman Fly-In** – Galesburg, IL

Sept. 8 - 10 **Midwest Antique Airplane Assoc. Grass Roots Fly-In** – Brodhead, WI

Sept. 9 **Heart of Illinois Ultralight Fly-In** Logan Co. Airport Lincoln, IL Contact: Tom Jensen—309-394-2539 murphyrebel@bwsys.net

Sept. 10 **EAA Chapter 682 Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** - Mt. Morris, IL

Sept. 16 – 17 **North Central EAA Old Fashioned Fly-In** – Rock Falls, IL

Sept. 23 **EAA Chapter 475 Fly-In / Drive-In Breakfast** – Freeport, IL

E-Mail All members with e-mail addresses please notify Chapter newsletter editor Dennis Mellen of your address at dennis.mellen@mcleodusa.net.



2000 Chapter 563 Officers

President: Robert Thompson, 416 St. Marks Ct. Peoria, IL 61603, Ph 673-4471, Fax 673-4475, e-mail ret@iaonline.com

Vice President: Ric Waldow, 1307 S. Lee Avenue, Morton, IL 61550, Ph 263-5522

Treasurer: Morrie Caudill, 600 W. Melbourne Avenue, Peoria, IL. 61604, Ph. 685-8547

Secretary: Jack Frost, 3331 N. Chestnut, Peoria, IL. 61604, Ph. 685-8300

Newsletter Editor: Dennis Mellen, 2333 N. Ellis St, Peoria, IL. 61604, Ph. 682-7890 e-mail dennis.mellen@mcleodusa.net

At Large Board Member: Bill Mathis, 1408 W. Holly Hedges Dr., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 693-6113

Technical Advisor: Al Lurie, 605 E. Armstrong Avenue, Peoria, IL. 61603, Ph. 682-1674

Young Eagles Coordinator: Joe Rex, 295 E. Lucille St., East Peoria, IL 61611, Ph. 694-3792 e-mail jfr@ix.netcom.com

Flight Advisor: Jim Hannemann, 1404 Miller Street, Washington, IL. 61571, Ph. 444-4062

Flight Advisor: Sam Sisk, 7214 W. Legion Hall Rd., Dunlap, IL. 61525, Ph. 243-5729

Flight Advisor: Ron Wright, 616 Kerfoot, East Peoria, IL. 61611, Ph. 694-1527 e-mail wright.ronald1@mcleodusa.net