



# Illinois Valley Beacon

March 2003

Chapter 563 Chartered in 1976

Volume 10 Issue 3

**Breakfast-** will be on Saturday March 1 at the EAA Hanger at Mt. Hawley Airport from 7:30 till 9:00.

**Meeting -** will be two weeks later on Thursday, March 13, at the hanger at 7:00 P. The program chairman for this meeting is Al Lurie. He has asked Howard Brooksbank to relate some of the many, many experiences he acquired while going through flight training in both WWII and the Korean War and flying over a hundred hours a week on active duty. I'm told it even involves a burning nightclub in Japan.

## Don't forget—Dues are Due

If you were a member in 2002, you do **not** have to provide any other information unless there has been a change. Please keep me (your editor) current with your Email address.

If you are a new member or have major changes in your mail address, telephone number, or Email address, include the new info with your dues. The dues for the year are \$20.00.

**Mail or give your dues and/or new information, to Jim Hooker, Treasurer. His address is on the back of the newsletter.**

## Secretaries Report for

-February-

MEETING MINUTES - February 13, 2003  
The meeting was called to order in the Chapter Hangar at 7pm by President Jerry Pilon. Minutes of the January meeting were approved with one correction: The proper dates for the B-17 visit are July 15 - 17. (Incorrect dates were also listed elsewhere in the February newsletter).  
Finances reported by Treasurer Jim Hooker were approved as read.

Regarding the Beacon, editor Morrie Caudill reports some people still have trouble receiving the newsletter by Email. It was suggested that the chapter set up our own website, where the newsletter could be posted. Members could then be notified by brief Email when they could access it, thus avoiding possible overload of their mailbox. Jerry and Morrie will work on this. Young Eagles coordinator Morrie noted that there are plans for events in March and June. Tech Counselor Al Lurie reported no requests for help this month. Jerry asked that anyone with ideas for aircraft wiring to please let him know, as they approach that stage of the Kitfox project. Jerry asked for volunteers for committee chairmen for the B-17 visit. A lot of preparation is required for a successful event.

Bill Engel reported on his attempt to get the Spirit of St Louis replica to visit us. It appears that its schedule is pretty well filled for this year. Al Lurie noted that Erik Lindbergh (grandson of Charles) will be speaking in Peoria soon for the Historical Society.

Program for the evening, presented by Morrie, consisted of the year in review, as recorded in the Beacon.

Respectfully Submitted, Bill Engel, Secretary

## Aluminum Overcast World War II Artifact

The Chapter will benefit substantially from sponsoring the B-17 for three days. As you know from our treasurer reports, the Chapter just breaks even on expenses under our current conditions. Working the exhibit is not hard, just time consuming. The three committees, show coordinator, Publicity, and Equipment can be handled by two or three people on each one.

At the airport, we have to handle the crowd, parking, and the souvenir table under the nose of the B-17. The airplane flies in the

morning so we just need people in the afternoon from about 1:00P to 5:00P.

One person in the parking lot, two at the table taking money for the tours through the plane, one in our tent selling cold drinks, and at least two selling and coordinating the people purchasing rides on the B-17 makes about a total of 18 or 20 over the three days. Don't hold back if you are able to be there. It's too much work for 6 or 7 people if there is no relief.

The first and last day there is a lot of preparation of the show site. Even if you only have a few hours, call a committee chairman and volunteer.

Besides, it's a great opportunity to meet people. I have been asked, "How did they get this here? On a truck?". And I have watched veterans just stand there, with tears in their eyes, and say nothing. They, the veterans, will bring pictures and newspaper articles to share. I met a tail gunner, his daughter took his picture sitting in the tail gunners position, and a ball turret gunner. This kind of living history is fast disappearing.

The way things are going today, this may be the last time this type of venture can be offered to the public.

### Notable Quote

".....Reminds me of my safari in Africa. Somebody forgot the corkscrew, and for several days we had to live on nothing but food and water."  
—W.C. Fields

### Young Eagles

There will not be a Young Eagle event this Saturday after breakfast. Your Chapter coordinator was lazy this month and didn't put enough effort in it to get it organized in time. The month went by very quickly for some reason.

## Letters To The Editor

I don't know how many of you saw the letter I wrote to the Journal Star about the snow plow wasting our tax dollars on my street on Sunday morning trying to plow a half inch of snow.

You might know it. A couple of days later we got 6 or 8 inches. I figured the plow drivers would have a red line through my street name and we would never see a plow again. They did come by the next day and it wasn't so bad after all.

I was surprised how many people commented on the letter and agreed with my thoughts on government waste. I even had a call from a Park Board candidate, and a letter from a nice lady in Washington, Il.

### Hot Email

From: "jtorset" <jtorset@3dinet.net>  
To: <Undisclosed-Recipient:;>  
Subject: Special Forces Broadcast  
Date: Sunday, February 23, 2003 1:32 PM

The news show 60 Minutes II will air a segment on a recent Naval exercise that involved USS Florida (SSBN-728), one of four Tridents nuclear submarines that will be converted to an SSGN configuration. The SSGN conversions offer remarkable strategic options to our troops in our fight for freedom. The broadcast is scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 26. NBC Nightly News co-anchor Brian Williams will tell the story of his embarkation on USS Memphis (SSN-691) in a two-part story to be broadcast Monday, Feb. 24, and Tuesday, Feb. 25. The 60 Minutes II show will describe the Navy's "Giant Shadow" exercise, a 10-day series of demonstrations held recently in the Bahamas that brought together defense contractors, support ships, submarines, SEALs and USS Florida, playing the role of an operational SSGN. The demonstrations involved the first-ever firing of Tomahawk cruise missiles from an SSBN and the use of unmanned undersea vehicles and unmanned aerial vehicles. Check your local listings for broadcast times.

[http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/cno/n87/usw/issue\\_6/ssgn.html](http://www.chinfo.navy.mil/navpalib/cno/n87/usw/issue_6/ssgn.html)



## Calendar of Events 2003

March	1	Chapter 563 Breakfast and Young Eagle Event
	12-13	General Aviation Maintenance Seminar, Lewis University
	13	Chapter 563 Meeting
April	2-8	Sun and Fun
	5	Chapter 563 Breakfast
	10	Chapter 563 Meeting
	26-27	Charley Wells Pancake Breakfast, Capital Airport, Springfield, IL
May	3	Chapter 563 Breakfast
	15	Chapter 563 Meeting
	16-18	Midwest Aeronca Fest, Kewanee, IL
	18	Airport Day Flyin, Ogle County, IL
June	1	Pancake Breakfast, Olney, IL
	7	Chapter 563 Breakfast
	12	Chapter 563 Meeting
July	5	Chapter 563 Breakfast
	10	Chapter 563 Meeting
	15-17	Aluminum Overcast, Peoria, IL
	23-29	EAA Airventure Oshkosh

## If You Have Internet Access, You Must See This

Directions: Check the link below. This is really a sight to behold. The image is a panoramic view of the world from the new space station. It is a night photo with the lights clearly indicating the populated areas. You can scroll East-West and North-South. Note that Canada's population is almost exclusively along the U.S. border. Moving east to Europe, there is a high population concentration along the Mediterranean Coast. It's easy to spot London, Paris, Stockholm and Vienna. Check out the development of Israel compared to the rest of the Arab countries. Note the Nile River and the rest of the "Dark Continent". After the Nile, the lights don't come on again until Johannesburg. Look at the Australian Outback and the Trans-Siberian Rail Route. Moving east, the most striking observation is the difference between North and South Korea. Note the density of Japan. The bright spots in Alaska tell another story. What a piece of photography. It is an absolutely awesome picture of the Earth taken from the Boeing built Space Station last November on a perfect night with no obscuring atmospheric condition.

*If you can't get it this way, let me know and I'll email it to you.*

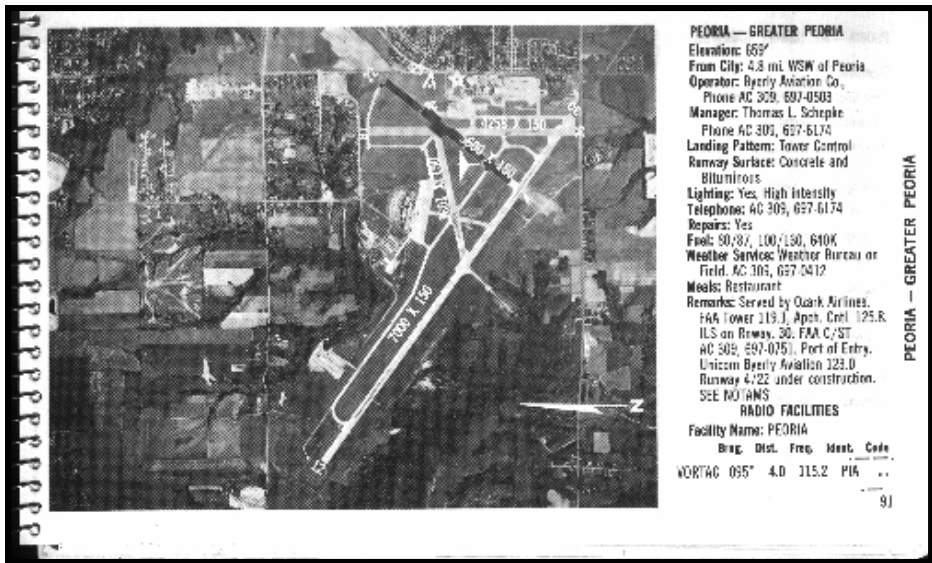
[http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/image/0011/earthlights\\_dmsp\\_big.jpg](http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/image/0011/earthlights_dmsp_big.jpg)



**Physician claims these are actual comments from his patients made while he was performing colonoscopies:**

1. "Take it easy, Doc, you're boldly going where no man has gone before."
2. "Find Amelia Earhart yet?"
3. "Can you hear me NOW?"
4. "Oh boy, that was sphincterrific!"
5. "Are we there yet? Are we there yet? Are we there yet?"
6. "You know, in Arkansas, we're now legally married."
7. "Any sign of the trapped miners, Chief?"
8. "You put your left hand in, you take your left hand out. You do the HokeyPokey..."
9. "Hey! Now I know how a Muppet feels!"
10. "If your hand doesn't fit, you must Aquit!"
11. "Hey, Doc, let me know if you find my dignity."
12. "You used to be an executive at Enron, didn't you?"
13. "Could you write me a note for my wife, saying that my head is not, in fact, up there?"

**If The Name Was Covered Up, ??????????????????  
Could You Identify This Airport**



The Illinois Airport Directory this picture came from is 1968 when Samuel Shapiro was Governor. There were 123 public airport pictures in the book and 341 private. The airport pictures only show runway numbers on the larger airports. Helicopter Pads were listed for the first time.

Everyone knows the PIA layout pretty well. But do you remember it as it was 35 years ago when it had three runways and a fourth one was being built? Do you remember when 31/13 was 30/12? Why didn't 22/4 change to 23/5? If you live long enough you will see all the runway numbers change.

**2003 Chapter 563 Officers**

- President: Jerry Pilon, 110 WindRidge Dr., Washington, IL. 61571, Ph. 745-1139 pilongt@hotmail.com  
 Vice President: Steve Bonfoey, 4620 W. Heatherwood Dr. Peoria, IL. 61615, Ph. 692-6272 esteban@bwsys.net  
 Treasurer: Jim Hooker, 217 N. Cloverfield Dr. Chillicothe, IL. 61523, Ph. 274-3940 hookeja@mchsi.com  
 Secretary: Bill Engel, 7114 N. Willow Bend Pt., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 691-6466 engelwk@mtco.com  
 Program Chairman: Joe Fox, 19 Northmoor Ct., Morton, IL. 61550, Ph. 265-5195  
 Newsletter Editor: Morrie Caudill, 5320 N. Sherbrook Ln., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 691-3613 flyvfr@insightbb.com  
 Technical Advisor: Al Lurie, 605 E. Armstrong Avenue, Peoria, IL. 61603, Ph. 682-1674  
 Young Eagles: Morrie Caudill, 5320 N. Sherbrook Ln., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 691-3613 flyvfr@horizon222.net  
 Flight Advisor: Jim Hannemann, 1404 Miller St., Washington, IL. 61571, Ph. 444-4062 hanneman1@mindspring.com  
 Flight Advisor: Sam Sisk, 7214 W. Legion Hall Rd., Dunlap, IL. 61525, Ph. 243-5729 sesisk@mtco.com  
 Flight Advisor: Ron Wright, 616 Kerfoot, East Peoria, IL. 61611, Ph. 694-1527 e-mail wright.ronald1@mcleodusa.net