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Breakfast- will be on Saturday July 5 at the EAA Hanger at Mt. Hawley Airport from 7:30 till 9:00.

Meeting - will be one week later on Thursday, July 10, at the hanger at 7:00 P.

Don't miss the next meeting. Steve Bonfoey just returned from his flight to Alaska. The way he described it to me was, "Thirteen planes departed on Friday the 13th and it was downhill from then on." His talk will include the details of Canadian Customs refusing to let one plane into the country, the engine failure of the group leader and his landing on a sand bar, and the stress of maintaining position in trail with twelve other airplanes of varying sizes in weather that varied from bad to worse.

I don't want to exaggerate the experience but I understand his wife was heard to say, "I thought this was supposed to be a vacation."

Secretaries Report

MINUTES - June 12, 2003 meeting

In the absence of the president and vice president, the meeting was called to order by Morrie Caudill at 7 pm in the Chapter hangar. Minutes of the May meeting were approved as printed in the Beacon. There was no financial report.

Morrie noted that the replacement sign is now mounted on the side of the hangar for all to admire.

Members were reminded of the Marshall County fly/drive-in breakfast this Sunday, and the Safety Seminar there on Monday evening.

Publicity materials for the B-17 visit July 15-16 have arrived from EAA HQ. Support from chapter members will be needed to make the event a success.

Member John Tidwell is replacing his kitchen cabinets and donating the old ones to the

chapter. Joe Fox volunteered to arrange getting them to the hangar.

Along this line, it was suggested that we set up a special fund for those wishing to contribute for chapter improvements. A motion was passed that a separate accounting category be established for this purpose, with the names of contributors recorded. The first contributors were Jerry and Audrey Trumbold, followed by a pledge from Morrie Caudill.

Program chair for the evening, Sam Sisk, introduced our speaker, Fred Etherton. Fred began his eleven years of Navy service in 1945. He went through an accelerated education program for



aviators that was comparable in result to what Annapolis provides to mariners. He was trained for equal capabilities as pilot, navigator and bombardier. His service was at the time of budget cutback fever at the end of WWII, so they needed to scrounge a lot to get the supplies and ordnance they needed to conduct their missions in the Korean conflict. They used the Lockheed PV2 variations for patrol and for enemy supply interdiction. Fred showed us some memorabilia that enhanced his story. Thanks, Fred!!

Respectfully submitted, Bill Engel,
Secretary

Keeping on Keeping on

This is about preparing for the future. Planting seeds that may grow into something that resembles General Aviation as we know it. I have no doubt that everything will be different in the next 50 years of G.A. but all we can do is put the idea in the heads of young people today and perhaps one out of ten will remember and be a part of this passion we all share today.



This group of kids were sponsored by Caterpillar Inc. and brought to Greater Peoria Airport to see a presentation on General Aviation and also visit the Caterpillar hanger.

From Jerry:

Some time ago, John Tidwell asked if I would participate in a program for a group of youth from district 150 schools in cooperation with Caterpillar to sponsor a program showing and talking about the technology and different aspects of private aircraft both manufactured and home built versions. He asked if Morrie and I would fly over to PIA in Morrie's 150 to demonstrate the two-seated craft and at the same time show his new 172.

John and I spent the day before setting up our Kitfox in it's entirety. We set up the fuselage, the wings, engine and instrument Panel, (that Morrie built for us) along with samples of different GPS', prop, and control surfaces. Morrie took pictures so you will be able to see how we had it set up. It looked like something you would see at "Oshkosh by gosh"

On Thursday, June 19th, a bus showed up about 10:00 AM loaded with about forty or so grade school and junior high aged students accompanied by a cameraman from Caterpillar to record

the event along with adult sponsors. My understanding is that this particular group of young folks had expressed and interest in technical skills.

We divided up the participants into three groups and each of us took them around to each airplane to explain the fundamentals of flight, instruments, map reading etc. The questions that came from many of the kids showed good interest in what we were explaining to them.

Questions like "how do you know where you are if your instruments are not working? How does the airplane turn? what makes the plane climb and descend? How far can you go on a tank of gas? One lady asked "Since I am a woman how much baggage can I take.?"

The morning finished up with group pictures and the kids were all taken over to the Caterpillar hangar to see some bigger more sophisticated stuff. I said the kids went over. I should have said the kids, Morrie Caudill, and Joe Fox.

It turned out to be a very worthwhile project and I think I can speak for John Tidwell and Morrie Caudill by saying we would do it again. It is good to see the interest in aviation, technology, and community activities such as this.

Jerry Pilon
President EAA Chapter 163

From Morrie:

I can speak for Joe and I. I have been wanting a tour of the Cat Hanger for a long time. Joe and I both commented as soon as we stepped in that it was a typical Cat facility, the floor was immaculate.

AS soon as we entered the hanger we ran into Chad Pobanz who ushered us into the cockpit of the Bombardier Challenger. What a way to go. Glass cockpit, bar, leather seats. Due to the restrictive rules of the corporate world we weren't allowed to take pictures so, for the record, the following pictures were not taken there.



Calendar of Events 2003

July

- 4 Fly-in Breakfast, Mt. Morris, Ill
- 4-6 Prairie Air Show, Thunderbirds, Peoria, IL
- 5 Chapter 563 Breakfast
- 10 Chapter 563 Meeting
- 15-17 Aluminum Overcast, Peoria, IL
- 29-8/4 EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, Wis

August

- 1-4 Oshkosh

September

- 6 Breakfast, Decatur, IL
- 14 Breakfast, Ogle County, IL
- 19-21 Springfield Air Rendezvous
- 27 Hanover, IND Wood, Fabric, and Tailwheels, eat "Cajun Avgas"

October

- 11 Chilli Day, Decatur, IL

The Chapter activities chairman, Joe Fox, has been working hard trying to arrange the annual picnic. He tried to have it this month but July is so busy with the air show, the B-17, Wings Weekend, and a potential Young Eagle Event that he had to move it back to August.

I am working on a Young Eagle Event on the 19th or 27th. Be forewarned. I will be looking for volunteers for one of those Saturday mornings.

Attention Retirees

There is a new virus: it's code name is "work".

If you receive "work" from your colleagues, your boss, via e-mail, or any one else, do not touch it under any circumstances!

This virus "work" wipes out your private life completely. If you should come into contact with this "work" virus, leave immediately,

Take two good friends and go straight to the nearest pub. Order three beers, or a vodka, and after repeating 14 times you will find that "work" has been completely deleted from your brain.

Forward this warning immediately to at least 5 friends. Should you realize that you do not have 5 friends, this means that you are already infected by this virus and "work" already controls your whole life.

This virus is deadly. Please pay close attention and take heed. "Work" will ruin your life if you let it!

B-17

A meeting with Solomon Balraj and Mary DeVries, PIA Security, PIA Maintenance, and Dean Stagers, Byerly Aviation was held last week. Everyone is enthusiastic about the coming event. Sandi Gebhardt, Air Trade Manager will handle the major publicity for us. She deals with the media every day for PIA. We, the Chapter, will sell cold drinks and the food service at PIA, operated by PARC, will set up next to us and sell hot food. So far there are no major problems and everyone is looking forward to a rewarding visit.

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