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Annual Holiday Luncheon

There will **NOT** be a breakfast or regular meeting this month. The Holiday Luncheon will be held this Saturday, the 4th, as you were told in the last mailing. The luncheon fare will be turkey and all the trimmings and the cost is \$15.00 per person. We will all be entertained after lunch by Linda Schumm and Rose Emhoff relating some of their crazy, exciting, aeronautical adventures. Please make your reservation as soon as possible by calling Sam Sisk at 309-243-5729.

This event has been the traditional way we end our Chapter 563 year. The gathering will take place at the Cater Inn on Pioneer Parkway at 11:30. Please come, bring a friend, and enjoy a very nice meal with

Executive Board Meeting

There will be a meeting of the executive board on the **9th** of December. The meeting is changed from the third Thurs. due to the necessity to complete some work before the end of the year.

Secretaries Report

MEETING MINUTES - 11 Nov 04

President Pilon called the meeting to order at 7 pm in the Chapter hangar. Minutes of the special membership meeting on Saturday, September 4, and the regular October meeting were approved as printed in the Beacon. The October financial report, presented by Treasurer Joe Ernst, was approved as read.

It was decided that we not have a membership meeting in December, or the usual First Saturday Breakfast, because of our Holiday Luncheon to be held on December 4. Sam Sisk has booked the Cater Inn for this event, and the cost will be \$15 per person. More information will be coming soon.

Jerry Pilon stated that an agreement has been reached regarding gate passes. We will coordinate with the FBO to make passes available to Chapter 563 members. Those members wanting a gate pass should get on the sign-up sheet. There

will be a \$5 deposit for each card.

We have been approached about renting our hangar to a non-member for a party. After discussing the pros & cons, consensus of those present was that we decline.

Proposals for new Standing Rules were discussed. Rules 2 through 8, covering duties of Standing Committees, and Rules 9 & 10, covering Hangar usage, were passed with no dissenting votes.

The Budget Committee presented its recommendations for 2005. This is the first time the Chapter has attempted to project finances a year ahead. Jerry cautioned that we need to make some improvements in policy in order to stay financially sound. A suggestion that we hold our Saturday breakfasts twice a month to increase income was well received. After discussion the proposed budget passed without dissent. Also, at the recommendation of the Committee, we decided not to renew our CD, to avoid penalty if we needed to cash in.

A prime feature of the November meeting is elections. The slate by the Nominating Committee was posted, Sam Sisk declined his nomination, and there were no further nominations from the floor. Directors elected for 2005 are:

President - Steve Bonfoey
Vice Pres - Jerry Pilon
Secretary - Bill Engel
Treasurer - Joe Ernst

Director - Morrie Caudill

Director - Dave Cook

Director - Bill Hounshell

It was decided that meetings of the Board of Directors be held on third Thursdays of the month. Our first one will be Nov. 18, 7 pm in the hangar.

Respectfully Submitted, Bill Engel, Secretary

Fly Out

The last Fly Out was held Nov. 21. It was scheduled for Sat. the 20th but the weather god said she was not ready so we went on Sunday morning. Three very fast planes and my 150 made the trip to Decatur airport. The next time I am going to leave 20 minutes early so I can get there at the same time as the "fast" guys. (then they will not have to wait for me, which really defeats the reason to fly fast) A good breakfast and a good time was had by all. Those of you that would like to ride, call Jennie at Midwest Avtec Inc. and reserve a seat. There is always room for one more.

Next Years Dues

Yes- - - - Dues will be due once again in a couple of months.

And this year, when you pay your dues, you will be required to fill out an application in order for us to get all the pertinent information that we need to keep this Chapter humming.

It is required to be a national member in order to be a voting Chapter member. If you want to just be a visiting, guest, walk in off the street, type of member. That's up to you. I don't think anyone will be turned away.

I encourage you to go all the way. Jump in with both feet. Get involved with your Chapter and make it better for everyone. It does pay dividends.

Please fill out a membership application and turn it in to Joe Ernst, out Treasurer.

Need a Reason to Fly?

Jenny, at Midwest Avtec Inc, has a sign up sheet on the counter at Mt. Hawley Airport if you need a good reason to go flying.

She is organizing the second "flying activity" which will be held once a month. You get to vote on where we go and all suggestions are welcome. See the first "Fly Out" report on page 4 of this publication.

If you are interested, please sign up, give your E-Mail address, or call Jenny @ 693-2372 or E-Mail her @ mwa@geckoct.com.

"What's Happening at your FBO"

The Holidays Are Coming! Gift ideas are as near as your FBO! Stop in at Midwest Avtech and we'd be happy to assist you (or your loved ones) with gift giving ideas.

Now Offering 10% discount on Aircraft Rental! Prepay 10 hours of aircraft rental and receive 10% off! OR think of it as flying for 9 hours and the next hour is free!! This offer is available for rental on any aircraft and must be redeemed for only that aircraft. Prepayment is non-refundable.

Do you know anyone who wants to learn to fly? Please pass the word that we are having a "Learn To Fly" day on Saturday, November 20th. Tell them to come out between 8am-4pm, and we'll be having 20-minute demo flights for ONLY \$20/per person! What a cost-saving way to be introduced to flying. And speaking of cost-saving financing is now available for students to help them afford getting their Private Pilot's Certificate! So much good news for general aviation enthusiasts!!

Call Adama at Midwest Avtech for details: 309-693-2372.

Midwest Avtech, Inc. would like to continue the tradition of having a Christmas potluck for anyone wishing to attend on **Wed., Dec. 22nd**. Bring a dish to share for a noon-time meal!

BOARD MINUTES - 18 Nov 04

The first meeting of the new Chapter Board of Directors was called to order at 7 pm in the chapter hangar. Present were President-elect Steve Bonfoey, Secretary Bill Engel, Directors Morrie Caudill & Bill Hounshell, and chapter member Al Phipps.

In accord with procedure recommended by EAA HQ, we reviewed chapter rules and our insurance requirements so board members are up to speed. Our annual report to Oshkosh is due in December.

Each of the seven new Standing Committee Chairmanships is to be held by a Chapter Director. Through some volunteering, and some appointing, the chairmen are:

Morrie Caudill-

Publications Committee

Youth Outreach Committee

Jerry Pilon-

Program Committee

Bill Engel-

Properties & Safety Committee

Dave Cook-

Public Relations Committee

Steve Bonfoey- (w/Don Wolcott)

Membership Committee

Bill Hounshell- (w/Al Phipps)

Special Events Committee

It was agreed that the third Thursday of each month be our regular board meeting night. In the meeting notices to be sent out will be items for the agenda. Each board member is asked to contact the secretary with items they want on the agenda. If there is apparently insufficient business the meeting may be canceled. Chapter members who would like to attend a board meeting should call the president or secretary for particulars.

The chapter's web site was discussed; Morrie and Steve will try to install a chapter calendar. Also we will look into creating a "members only" section, which might include such things as financial reports, a membership database, and any other items that should have only limited access. Whether on the web site or not, a good database needs to be created.

Gate cards are now available to chapter members. Let the president or secretary know if you want one. They will forward your request, and you may pick up your card for \$5 at the Mt. Hawley counter.

The Board, in response to increasing financial pressures, and in support of the recently passed budget, voted to increase the fee we charge for aircraft storage and project workspace. Those members currently paying fees are agreeable to the increase. To further enhance the financial picture, it was decided to try two breakfasts per month, starting with January 15, 2005. If this goes well, they will continue on the first & third Saturdays of the month. Please come... AND BRING A FRIEND!

Our Holiday Luncheon, at Cater Inn on Saturday, December 4, may or may not have a formal program. In any case, it will be a good time for socializing. A calling committee is planned, and reservations should be made with Sam Sisk.

In anticipation of our new tax-exempt status, we now have a form which may be used by anyone wishing to make a donation to the chapter. Get the form from the secretary, fill it out, and make it available to the IRS for your tax deduction.

Respectfully Submitted, Bill Engel, Secretary

Gate Passes

Gate passes will be made available to Chapter 563 members soon. You must be a Chapter member to retain the pass. A reservation fee of \$5.00 is required when you sign up for the pass at the FBO. More information will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

BURP

This picture does not relate to the one on the right, but I bet the drinks are free on this flight also. This is a back fire usually caused by a bird ingestion. Bill Engel sent the longer explanation, which I would be glad to email to you, but it's too big for this column.



"Ladies & Gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Let me urge you to look out the right window, in a few minutes you will see the Grand Canyon, or the Eiffel Tower, or something. Don't look out the left window. In fact, please pull the window shades on the left side of the airplane closed without looking out. By the way, we are offering unlimited liquor service to the passengers at no cost for the remainder of the flight."



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. Hetherwood Dr. Peoria, IL. 61615, Ph. 692-6272 esteban@bwsys.net

Treasurer: Joe Ernst, 2708 W. Winterberry Ln, Peoria, IL, 61604, Ph 5660643, joseph_owen_ernst@alum.bradley.edu

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. 266-5195

Newsletter/Web 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 jrhanemann@aol.comm

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