



EAA CHAPTER 83

Terre Haute, IN.



A Non-Profit Organization operated for the Advancement of Aviation Education, Homebuilt Aircraft, and Private Aviation and dedicated in the memory of John Blouch and Garland Wadsworth

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April, 2009

Idle Chatter

Well, I intended to introduce the motion to rededicate the chapter and add the names of Tom Flock and Curt DeBaun, but I forgot at the last meeting. So I'll do it in April. Please tell me your thoughts on this.

We had a great meeting in March with our speaker John Van Etten narrating his video footage and telling some additional stories of his flying time in SEA. If you missed it, you missed a good one. John was a FAC, Forward Air Controller, in SEA during some of the heaviest combat times. A FAC flies a little airplane low and slow, calls in the fast movers and tells them where to shoot. They also coordinate all activities for SAR missions for downed pilots. I believe he has created a new urgency for a resurgence of Hangar Movies and the next showing will most assuredly be BAT 21 as John was the FAC in command for part of that mission. There may be several breaks in the showing so that we can have additional narration by John. It promises to be a fun event – even better than our meetings – because we often bring our favorite beverages.

With the better weather, we've been getting some flying in lately. Matt and John flew to BMG to try to see the Black Cat, but they were unsuccessful. So Matt headed south and here are the two pictures he sent just to make me jealous. He looks to be in Mobile, Alabama, preparing to tour BB-60. Then he's planning to head to NAS Pensacola to visit the Naval Air Museum and hopes to catch a couple of Blue Angel practice sessions. Some guys have lots of fun...



Here is an F-4 on a stick at Battleship Park



And here is the USS Alabama in Mobile Bay. It's a great tour if you ever get the chance to visit.

As I think you know from my weekly Chatterings, The Museum of the Air Force is having an open cockpit night on May 15. There is discussion of flying to a nearby GA airport, doing the museum deal, staying overnight, then flying to Burke Lakefront in Cleveland the next day to visit the WWII Submarine and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, both walking distance from Burke. Here's hoping for good weather.

The planning is underway for our May meeting which we hope will be a person tour of the Black Cat. One of our members knows the new owner and is working on a deal for us. We'll keep you posted. If this works out we won't have to break in to the hanger to see it.

Don't know what else is news, so 'Set Chatter to Off.'

The Last Meeting - Jeff Wellum

Our last meeting was a Rose-Hulman in the GM room. We had 17 members attending when we started and then several more joined after SOB quit talking and John started. Seven or eight of us ate at the Rose-Hulman cafeteria before the meeting. Wow!!! Never had cafeteria food like that when I was in college!

Past events

SOB regaled us with vivid prose about a trip to Don Bussart's that a few of the members made a few weeks back. Three planes landed on the grass strip including SOB, Matt Throckmorton, and John Van Etten. According to SOB, John and Don swapped stories and info about their exploits in SEA. SOB didn't understand much of what was said, but he still thought it was interesting.

We were reminded of the following events.

June 6 & 7: Army wings and wheels at Poplar grove airport.

July 10,11,12: Air show at Peoria.

Correspondence

President Chatter received correspondence from the EAA indicating that the Founders Wing is looking for contributors. Let him know if you are interested in reviewing the info.

Program/Speaker

John Van Etten gave a great presentation about his 366 days in Southeast Asia where he flew 198 combat missions as a forward air controller. He showed some very cool film footage that he took with an 8mm camera from the seat of an OV-10 Bronco. John also participated in the BAT 21 search and rescue mission. He relayed some great stories and information. We ended the meeting with a big thank you to John for his presentation.

From Your Treasurer – John Watler

Keep your dues coming in. We are doing well so far this year, but you don't want to be on the SOB cut list when he stops sending newsletters and other blather because you haven't paid. We're not cutting anyone off yet, but the day is coming when you'll be blather-free.

Young Eagles Report – Jeff Tucker

I am working with Boy Scout Troop 434 from North Terre Haute who would like to work on their aviation merit badges. This may be a typical Young Eagles Rally or may develop into a bigger event if we get enough volunteers to present the materials they need to master for their badges. I'll keep you all posted as the event develops, and it looks like it might be a very fun day. So far, there seems to be considerable interest in this.

Recent Sightings – Member News

As reported in the last newsletter, Michael King is now a partner in the Cherokee Six at HUF. Presently he's flying off his required insurance hours, but will probably be done before the next meeting – if the weather cooperates.

Eric Hettlinger is having some work done (an overhaul) on his Tiger, so if you have a seat for the next couple of months, offer the guy a ride. Update: Eric got a ride to SIV in Nick's 'new' Bonanza (pictures in an earlier newsletter) and he proclaimed it 'A Sweet Ride.' He had a great time and now won't even answer my calls to go with me. BTW, Eric's Dad is the speaker for our meeting.

Several of us went to SIV for breakfast a couple of weeks ago. There was a big turnout with at least 5 aircraft from Chapter 83 in attendance. After breakfast, a few still hungry pilots headed for MTO where we encountered a very nice Piper Clipper and a cool Ercoupe pictured below. A fun day.



As most of you know, Wayne is flying his 'new' RV. He's got some radio trouble right now, but is working through it. Two weeks ago, Wayne made a presentation on kit aircraft fabrication to the Rose-Hulman student chapter of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. After his talk, about 30 students came to HUF and 5 of us opened our hangars, displayed our aircraft, and talked about them. It was a fun evening for us and many of the students seemed to enjoy the visit.

Michael King has flown off his insurance hours and has been set free. Now we'll see even more of the Big Six in the air.

Chat has flown off his time and is good to go solo in his 'new' 152. He's still getting used to the airplane for now, so he doesn't go far, but it won't take long...

Local Notams (Upcoming Events)

SATURDAY APRIL 18TH, 2009 ☐ 7:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M, Second Annual Purdue Pancake Fly-In and Professor Dunk Tank! KLAFF – Purdue University Airport Hangar 5. All you care to eat breakfast: Pancakes, sausages, juice and coffee. Admission: ☐ \$6 Adults, \$3 Kids (10 & Under) RSVP: Mandy Sullivan at mdysullivan@ymail.com ☐

This from the FAA and our friends at SIV:

THURSDAY, APRIL 23, 2009 at 7:00 PM, FAA Wings Program, Topic: New Wings Program and Aviation Information

Location: Sullivan County Airport, 2001 North County Road West, Sullivan, IN 47882

Select Number: GL1124024

Description: An overview of the new online Wings program and how to navigate the system will be presented. Also discussion of various accidents, pilot deviations, airspace difficulties, and various required FAA items for seminar credit will be presented.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2009, 9:00 AM, Terre Haute Air Center

ISU Aviation Technology is sponsoring a Glass Cockpit Symposium. Presenting and also sponsoring are Dixie Chopper Air, Indy AERO, and Muncie Aviation. Tad Foster is organizing this and tells me that a Piper is coming from Muncie and a Cessna is coming from Mount Comfort to display aircraft with glass cockpits. He has also invited Indy Aero and asked them to bring their G1000 stand-alone trainer as an interactive display. Sounds like an interesting event. If you would like more info, you can email Tad Foster at wtfoster1@verizon.net.

Tad Foster is also a CFI and is checked out in the Diamonds from Dixie Chopper Air. He has offered to bring the aircraft to HUF and provide instruction in them if anyone is interested. Email Tad at the address above for details.

Our Next Meeting...

Our next meeting will be at NOON on Saturday, April 18, at the Dixie Chopper FBO Conference Room, at the Greencastle/Putnam County Airport. We will have our regular chapter meeting and then hear a guest speaker, Retired Major General Frank Hettlinger Sr.

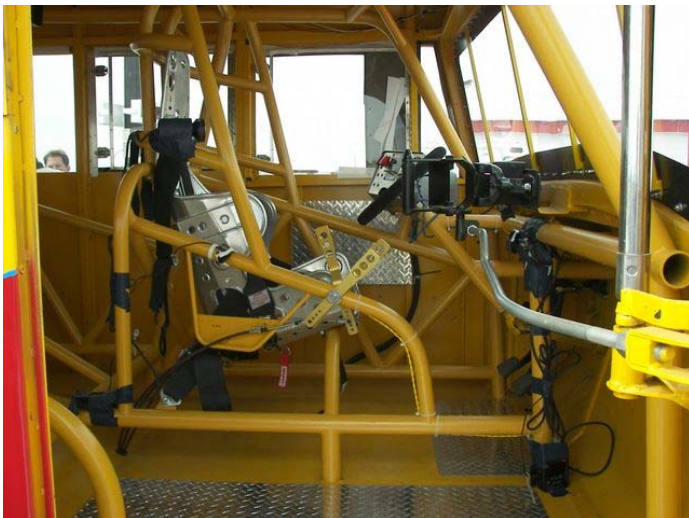
Gen Hettlinger flew in WWII and then was stationed in Japan during Korea, flying F86's. He returned home to PA and flew P-51's with ANG. The rest of his flying time was at HUF flying the F-86, F-84, F-100 and F-4C. Gen Hettlinger was Base Commander at HUF until 1979. From 1979 to 1984, he was the Wing Commander at the 122nd FWA and flew the F-4E. From 1984 to 1989, he was Chief of Staff for the Indiana Air National Guard and retired from this position. The F-4C tail number 565 on static display at HUF was his aircraft.

As always, for anyone interested we'll eat at the restaurant there at 10am before the meeting, UNLESS we decide to go to the Purdue breakfast noted earlier. Stay tuned to your Chatter mail for late week updates.

Just for fun, here are a few pictures of the jet bus that Matt and John got to see at Crawfordsville last week. First the engine...



And here are the seats. Yes, seats in the plural. First the driver's seat.



And now, the PASSENGER Seats!!! Yeah, you can ride in this baby at over 200 mph!

