



# **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, Garland Wadsworth, Curt DeBaun, and Tom Flock

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August, 2009

### Idle Chatter

Well, it was Oshkosh month. And it was excellent. Matt and I went for the week and worked the Warbird Jet line under the excellent leadership of Dave Thomas. The regular Jet Line Lead was on injured reserve this year, so Dave was 'THE MAN' and he did an outstanding job. We had 21 jets on our line to recover, park, ready, and launch for the show each day and for any other flying the pilots wanted to do – and there was plenty of it. Our group also did all of the tugging for Warbirds in Review, a special place by Warbird HQ for presentations by pilots and owners of classic warbirds. We were busy most of the time every day from as early as 7 am to as late as 8:30 pm. We got a little time off to check out the show, but there was always work to do. It was GREAT. Final score: no aircraft dinged, no people hurt. If this hot link comes through, it will take you to a very cool panoramic picture of the jet line. John Watler took it with his homemade camera mount and indexing system. It is over 80 high res pictures stitched together with voodoo software.

<http://www.gigapan.org/viewGigapan.php?id=29434>

It was my first time to be at the show for all 7 days, and my first time staying in a motorhome. That is the way to go. A good bed, a solid roof, protection from the rain, A/C, a flush potty and all walking distance from Warbird HQ and our work area. My tenting days are over and it is so much more convenient than the dorms or a hotel room 30 minutes away.

OH, and the show was very cool. The Airbus 380 did an SOB landing. Check it out from this link.

[http://www.avweb.com/avwebflash/exclusivevids/EAAAirVenture2009\\_AirbusA380\\_HardLanding\\_200850-1.html](http://www.avweb.com/avwebflash/exclusivevids/EAAAirVenture2009_AirbusA380_HardLanding_200850-1.html)

And White Knight Two, now dubbed Eve, was a very interesting contraption. Leave it to Burt to come up with another blank sheet of paper design to carry the next generation of space tourists into space. The tow bar was even an interesting creation. Matt and I got an up close and personal look at Eve when she was holding on the far side of the field awaiting tow back to Aeroshell Square.

And when the Airbus left, a C-5 showed up... but the coolest thing for me was the Lancaster bomber parked with a Spitfire, a Hawker Hurricane, and a lend-lease P-40 and Corsair, all in British markings. That was a great display. Of course there were warbirds everywhere. A lot full of P-51s, P-40s, and other cool aircraft; a nice line up of warbirds for sale; dozens of T-6s, a field of T-34s (9 with turbines), 42 T-28s (they were having an anniversary year), and lots of other stuff.

And the field of RVs was unbelievable. I don't think anyone had ever seen that many before. All in all, it was a great show. The dates for 2010 are July 26 to August 1, so start making your plans for next year. More on who else was there in the member news section.

We also had a great memorial for Ernie Winters. More on that in a later section.

## **The Last Meeting - Jeff Wellum**

Our July meeting was on 7-11 in the Hulman Field Board Room. Our special guest speakers were Dennis Wiss, the new Director of Terre Haute International Airport (HUF), and Ted Green, the Chief flight instructor at HUF. Many topics of discussion were covered including: The future of airport operations, the progress of the runway resurfacing project, the different phases of the runway project, a brief discussion about the condition and future of runway 18/36, T hanger tenant concerns, Taxi way maintenance and condition, and dozens of other topics. Dennis and Ted stayed for over 3 hours and answered all our questions honestly and directly. It was an excellent session and many of us are encouraged about our outlook for our airport.

This turned out to be a very interesting question and answer session that addressed many of the concerns of the local GA group. The meeting went a little long but I was surprised at how fast it seemed to go. The meeting was capped off with a showing of several prints and plane models that the airport has for sale.

The meeting was called to order by President Bill Foraker followed by the pledge to the flag. Members in attendance: Bill Foraker, Jim Fisher, Jeff Wellum, Cleone Markwell, Ken Lorenz, Sonny Haumesser, Floyd Haumesser, Mike King, Eric and Cindi Hettlinger, Harry Foy, Matt Throckmorton, John Watler, Kelvin Roots, Jerry Badger, Larry Richter, Chat, Nick Mahurin, and Linda Winters. I counted 21 in attendance.

Thank you Dennis Wiss and Ted Green for coming to the meeting and sharing with us.

## **Young Eagles Report – Jeff Tucker**

We had a Young Eagles rally scheduled for last weekend, but it was cancelled. We were to fly some YEs as part of a program for the Terre Haute Children's Museum, but insurance issues held up the rally. Maybe next time.

We have yet to get a date for our Honey Creek Middle School rally that typically happens each fall. I'll keep you posted.

## **Web Report – Jeff Tucker**

I hope you like the new 'coming events' section, and you will note that I reinstalled the picture section on the main page per several comments (complaints, whiners, etc.) At least you're paying attention...

## **Recent Sightings – Member News**

So what's new with our members? Well,

Alan Harder is now flying and has an aircraft in his hangar. It's not the Chief that will come along later, but a very cool Flutterbug. It is on loan until the work is done on his Chief. Alan has been flying it about a week and he can barely stop grinning. I'll put some pictures at the end.

Eric retrieved the Tiger and last I heard, all is well. Hope to see it flying to Casey.

Others at OSH include Dave and Stacy Thomas, Michael King, Kelvin Roots, Dennis and Victoria Dunbar, John Watler, Larry Heath, Linda Winters, Jesse Beyer, Chuck Drake, Chat, Mike Wonder, and Larry Wheelock who presented workshops. We understand there were lots of RV guys from Indiana, but we didn't see them. It sounds like west central Indiana was well represented.

Also at OSH, Chuck Drake along with Linda, organized a wonderful tribute to Ernie. Several of us attended a service at the Memorial Wall on Sunday morning and then we all went to Compass Hill and toasted the good man that Ernie was and all that he accomplished. It was one more great memory of Ernie for us to hold.

Matt ran his engine parts to Oklahoma for rebuild. So far, so good. On his way down, he stopped and visited with Bruce Dallman. He is still flying and rebuilding his house in Kansas. Also, ask Matt about our conversation with Jack Roush at OSH. Very interesting...

That's all for this issue. Y'all gotta send me more stuff...

## ATIS (Communications)

I got a letter from Cindy Coram, the Air Traffic Manager at HUF, about operations at HUF. The letter reads as follows, except that I put in some abbreviations to save some typing:

*The Terre Haute Airport Traffic Control Tower (HUF ATC) is proposing a change to the air traffic control services provided to the local aviation community.*

*Currently the control tower is open 24 hours a day. The approach control services are transferred to Indy center between 10 pm and 0600 am local. The proposal is to reduce the hours of operation of the tower and maintain the radar approach control airspace 24 hours a day. HUF would be an uncontrolled field between 10 pm and 6 am each day.*

*This change in ATC services would benefit a larger contingent of aviators and reduce the risks related to transferring the airspace to INDY Center.*

*The FAA will remain flexible in the hours of operation to accommodate any future midnight operations at the airport.*

*We welcome the EAA's comments and input in this matter. Please submit comments by Friday, July 24, 2009.*

*Respectfully,*

*Cindy Coram*

Back to me...

I got this letter a few weeks ago and had about a week to comment. I was very busy at work and home, took two weeklong vacations, and the letter got put in my EAA pile. I just uncovered it in writing this newsletter. I did not submit any comments, but frankly, I think we are better served by approach at night than by tower at night from a safety perspective. With that said, I don't fly much between 10 pm and 6 am, so I'm really not qualified to comment.

Please feel free to contact Cindy directly or give your input to me. I'll see that she gets it. I have found her to be a reasonable person who is primarily concerned with providing us the best air safety with the budget and personnel she is provided. Let me know if you have other thoughts.

## Local Notams (Upcoming Events)

As I have done recently, I cut and pasted the events from our web site to this section. If your browser supports hot links, you should be able to click on the date of any event below and get more info on it.

[Saturday, 8/15/2009](#)

Sullivan County Airport Day, 9 am to 5 pm

[Saturday, 8/15/2009](#)

Hendricks County Airport, 2R2, Fly In Lunch

[Sunday, 8/16/2009](#)

EAA Chapter 1315 Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast at Taylorville, IL, TAZ, 7 to 11 am

[Saturday, 9/5/2009](#)

19th Annual Marion Fly-in Cruise-in

[Friday, 9/11/2009 - Saturday, 9/12/2009](#)

Berlin Airlift / Warbird Weekend Celebration at Indy Exec, TYQ

[Saturday, 9/12/2009 - Sunday, 9/13/2009](#)

Mid-Eastern Regional Fly-In (MERFI) in Urbana Ohio at I74

[Saturday, 9/12/2009 - Sunday, 9/13/2009](#)

Putnam County Airport Appreciation Days, at Greencastle airport, 417

[Friday, 9/18/2009 - Sunday, 9/20/2009](#)

EAA Sport Aviation Weekend at Rough River Kentucky, 213

[Saturday, 9/19/2009](#)

Prairie Aviation Museum Airport Day at Bloomington-Normal, BMI

[Saturday, 9/26/2009](#)

Lee Bottom Wood, Fabric and Tailwheel Fly-In

Our Next Meeting...

is our annual fly in to the Casey Airport, 1H8, in Casey IL, on Saturday, August 15. We'll arrive between 11 and noon IN time, 10 to 11 IL time, eat lunch, and then have our meeting. Eleanor Markwell and her excellent culinary friends will be hosting lunch, and it's a pitch in so bring a covered dish or dessert if you can. Howie and Sandy run the FBO and are ready for us, so it will be a great meeting, especially with all the Oshkosh and other stories. See you Saturday.

And now, some pictures...



Friends of HUF, Jerry and Ginny O'Neill got to fly on Liberty Bell for 2.75 hrs from CT to VA last week. They had a blast. Ginny set up to bomb the bay bridge/tunnel and Jerry strafed all nearby GA...



Your officers on duty at OSH patrolling Aeroshell Square – making sure the wind doesn't blow away the Airbus...



**Matt after tugging and parking an L-39 and a T-28.**

**Chatter tugging/parking an F-86 Sabre. Can you believe Dave trusted him with a \$5 million jet? Well actually, Dave wasn't there at this moment. This was early in the morning and Dave was still sleeping...**



**The Hoppers, a group of L-39s, as part of our jet ramp.**



Here is Allen on his first HUF approach in the Flutterbug, and the bug tucked away at HUF...



Here are some shots from the fly-in at Keydot that Jeff attended a couple of weeks back. I think they have lots of fun there. What a cool OV-10 RC.



And it appears they have their very own SOB, or at least a guy who flies like him...



**George Bakken made a recent flying trip around the Rockies and sent these pictures as proof...**



**Steve Cox also did some great flying and sent me pictures of Gastons, but the link expired before I got them downloaded. Rats...**