



# **EAA CHAPTER 83**

## **Terre Haute, IN.**



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

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March, 2009

### **Idle Chatter**

High, Fliers. Well, it appears we have been teased by an early taste of flying weather. I flew both days last weekend and one this weekend, although both of them were flyable. I know we'll get some nasty weather yet, but it was nice flying with the heater off and the vent on for the first time in several months.

We had a fly-out planned for Rough River, but the forecast did not include the rain and overcast that presented itself, so we opted for another plan. Many of the local fly-outs are either planned one day in advance or on the morning of, so if you'd like to be on the list, just send me an email and you will start getting the emails. The real plan actually happens the morning of after we check the actual weather, so cell phone is the way to stay connected.

Matt, John V E, and I visited Don Bussart two weekends ago for a really nice Sunday afternoon. Don's field easily supported a single and Twin Comanche and Matt's Rocket. Don hasn't rolled it yet, but it was fine. Matt and I used the grass at MTO last Saturday and it is very nice. John was a FAC in Viet Nam and hearing him and Don swap stories was fascinating. It was the longest I've been quiet for a long time. More on John's stories in the 'next meeting' column.

I know we were supposed to plan a visit to Ropkey's Armor Museum, and we will. I just haven't done it yet, but will soon. Anyway, some of us are getting an early start, so come on out to the airport. We'll put you to work...

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

We started off with the pledge and introductions with member news. That took a while as there were 37 attendees including 15 members and 3 HUF ATC folks, along with 19 students that Victoria Dunbar invited. It was great to have them at a meeting and meet some of the younger aviators in the area.

For member news, we heard from Nick Mahurin who commented on his recent flight to Washington DC., and Kevin Davidson brought his beautiful, newly fabricated, vertical stabilizer for the RV-7 that he is building. Kevin talked about how his building is going so far.

For his report, President Foraker briefly, or at least brief for SOB (Sweet Old Bill), covered changes in the meeting role taking and newsletter format. The new single column newsletter format makes it easier to insert pictures and read on the web. So far most of the feedback he has received has been in favor of the single column format. Let him know what you think.

### **Treasurer Report**

John Watler reported that the chapter is solvent. The new dues structure of \$10.00 for members who receive the electronic newsletter and \$15.00 for those who are still prefer a paper version was reviewed. John made available free Chapter 83 window stickers to the attendees of the meeting.

## Young Eagle Report

Jeff Tucker reported the recognition of EAA chapter 83 in the Vigo County School corporation newsletter for the 2008 Young Eagle activities. The article has been submitted to the Young Eagle Office and the Chapter Office at OSH, so we'll see if we get some additional press out of it.

## Web Editor Report

Jeff Tucker reported that this year's hosting fees for the website have been paid. He also reported that the spammer situation that had plagued the website has been resolved.

## Past events

The possibility that Victory Days may not be held this year was discussed although no decision has been finalized.

## Program/Speaker

We then had the highlight of our meeting - a presentation by HUF ATC folks Cindy Coram (Facility Manager), Mike Judd (Front Line Manager), and Tim Piroli (CTO and private pilot). They showed a runway safety DVD featuring Patty Wagstaff, then gave a short description of local operations. That was followed by an excellent Q and A session about runway and airport procedures at HUF. There were many questions and comments that were addressed by the HUF representatives. A few of the topics discussed included radio procedures for contacting Approach and Tower, Taxi procedures at HUF (especially F3), problems with contacting GND when on the main ramp very near the tower, the upcoming refurbishment of runway 5/23, HUF staffing and hours, and the use of Indy Center at night as a substitute for HUF Approach. They welcomed tours of the facility to better inform local pilots and create a better working relationship between pilots and controllers. For tower/TRACON tours or with any questions or concerns about HUF ATC ops, call 877-7730 and talk to Cindy or Mike.

We wrapped up by thanking our presenters for a useful and informative show. Thanks again to Cindy Coram, Mike Judd, and Tim Piroli.

## Chapter Business

As you know, our chapter is dedicated to the memory of John Blouch and Garland Wadsworth. I would like to propose a modification of this dedication to also include Tom Flock and Curt DeBaun. Without these two great members, our chapter would certainly not be what it is today. Please let me know your thoughts on this change.



Tom Flock with Burt Rutan and Sky King Airport



Crew Chief Curt DeBaun with his baby

## Recent Sightings – Member News

Michael K. purchased Nick M.s share of the Cherokee Six, so now there is no excuse for him not going flying with us.

Kelly Wilson is selling his RV-4 kit. The airframe is almost complete and it has been converted into a single seat RV4, but could be changed back to the original 2 seat configuration without too much work. If you may be interested, let me know and I'll send you the details.

### **ATIS (Communications)**

EAA HQ sent me a fund raising piece on the new Founders Wing at OSH. It is a very interesting opportunity for those interested in supporting this new development. If you are interested, let me know and I'll pass the materials along.

I just got an email from an EAA member from Cookeville/Sparta TN. He also runs the FBO there and is offering fuel discounts and free food by their EAA chapter for pilots bound for Sun N Fun. They are at the Upper Cumberland Regional Airport (SRB). I have more info so let me know if you are interested.

### **Local Notams (Upcoming Events)**

On Thursday, April 2, at 6:30 IL time (7:30 IN time), I will be making an Introduction to Aviation presentation at the Marshall Public Library. Come over and heckle if you're looking for something to do.

Ron Walker, the manager at SIV, told me they are having breakfast on April 4. I think I'll go and you might too.

Army Wings and Wheels is scheduled for June 5-7 at Poplar Grove airport near Rockford IL. It sounds Victory Days like and might be fun. They would welcome our help for aircraft ground ops. More info as it unfolds... In the meantime, I have some flyers about the event. They would like us to take them to airports we visit, so let me know if you would like some to distribute.

I know it's early for this, but Lee Bottom has its first Sinful Sunday of 2009 scheduled for June 14. Put it in your calendar. You've never been to a more fun place or met nicer people. And don't get me started on their annual September Fly-In...



**Bird strike mitigation. A B-25 with an assortment of guns and a big cannon too!**



**Can you say party cockpit? This is a Vought XTBU-1. How many crew are in there?**

### **Our Next Meeting...**

**Our next meeting will be at 12:30 pm (that's NOON Thirty for you Air Force types) on Saturday, March 28, in the GM room at Rose-Hulman. The later meeting time is necessary as the room is in**

use by another group until Noon. This is the same room we used last month. Our presenter will be John Van Etten and he will talk about his flying career and narrate some aviation camera footage. This will be very interesting, so make it if you can.

If you are so inclined, we'll brunch at 11:00 at the Rose-Hulman Main dining room before the meeting. This is in the Union building and a short walk from our meeting location. Brunch will be \$5.50 and includes made to order omelets as well as an assortment of lunch items. We'll eat cafeteria style with the students in the big room, but you'll get good food at reasonable prices. I plan to walk over at 10:55 from the lobby area outside the GM area. I will be easier to park for the meeting and walk to brunch. From the map at the link below, the meeting is in building S and lunch is in building M. If you have trouble, call me at the number listed below.

<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/tour/printable/>

The GM Room is on the main floor of the south end of the main classroom building at Rose. If you enter the main entrance, take your first right, and then your next left. Park immediately in the lot to your right. Don't go in the closest building where we have met several times. Look around and find the water tower. Go in the door closest to the base of the tower and go up one flight of stairs directly ahead of you when you enter. Don't go up the second set of stairs. Go around the second set and walk straight ahead into the meeting room. If you get to the level with the skylight, go down one floor. If you have trouble, call my cell at 208-4816.