



# 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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September, 2009

### Idle Chatter

Where has the summer gone? It seems like it was just raining all spring and now it's almost time for the excellent **Lee Bottom, Wood, Fabric, and Tailwheels Fly-In**. For me, Lee Bottom marks the beginning of the end of flying season. No doubt we'll get some nice days in October and maybe a couple in November, but pretty soon we'll be plugging in the block heaters again before we go flying.

On the bright side, some very cool stuff happened this summer. Jeff Wellum got his private ticket and bought an airplane, his brother, Rob, is about to finish his ticket, Matt had an incident but walked away, then he bought a very cool aircraft tug, George Bakken bought an airplane, Alan Harder is flying the Flutterbug, Michael King bought into the Big Six, Nick Mahurin bought a very nice V Tail, Chat got his hangar queen flying, several of us got to work ground ops for some cool air shows, Eric looked for a Stuka and finally got his Tiger back, many of us got to AirVenture, we got lots of neat flying in, and we got a new airport director at HUF who is a reasonable and intelligent guy, so I guess it was a good summer after all. I just hate to see the nice weather end. More details on some of the items mentioned above later in the newsletter.

Hope to see you at Winters...

And sorry for the short newsletter. I'm packing for the Sacramento Air Show where I'm working ground ops and ran myself out of time.

Chattering SOB

### The Last Meeting - Jeff Wellum

August 15, 2009 at Casey, Illinois

Meeting called to order by President Bill Foraker followed by the Pledge to the flag.

Attendance;

Matt Throckmorton, Matt Cheetam, Patrick White, Alan Harder, Jeff Tucker, Eric and Cindi Hettlinger, Rob Wellum, Dale Barkley, Nick Mahurin, Michael King, Kelvin Roots, Larry Wheelock, George Bakken, Steve Larabee, Kevin Davidson, Cleone Markwell, Betty Debaun, Larry Richter, Floyd Haumesser, Jerry Cox, Matt ? and fiancé Amber, Steve Johnson, Jody Johnson, Howie, Sandy, Jeff Wellum, John Watler, Bill Foraker, Linda White, Chris White. I counted 32 plus in attendance.

Aircraft: Comanche, 3 Cessnas, Cherokee 6, Bonanza, Mooney, Tiger, Flutterbug, Quickie 2, and a Tinkerbell HiMax

Member news;

Bill and Matt relayed their experience working the jet ramp at Oshkosh for the entire week. Sounded like a great time. I am definitely jealous.

By a show of hands, approximately 10 people in attendance went to Oshkosh.

Eric and Cindy Hettlinger are having good results with the new engine in the Tiger.  
Kevin Davidson is working with fiberglass on his RV-7 tail and hoping for wings for Christmas.  
Cleone Markwell reported the completion of his medical. (it's quite a story. Get a beverage before you ask about it. – ed)  
Dale Barkley also went to Oshkosh this year.  
Mike King and Kelvin Roots also shared their Oshkosh experience, especially the flying in part.  
Larry Wheelock gave a Stinson forum at Oshkosh this year.  
John Watler has been taking pictures with his high tech, panoramic camera.  
Jeff Wellum (me) reports the recent acquisition of his private pilot certificate and the impending co-purchase of the Wellum family plane, a 1979 Grumman Tiger.

Young Eagle Report: Jeff Tucker

The young eagle event scheduled for the kids from the children's museum had to be cancelled due to insurance issues for the museum.

There is a YE event for Honey creek on Oct 10th with rain date 17th.

Web editor Report: Jeff Tucker

Check out the new "upcoming events" section in the web site. You'll see details on:

Sept 5th 18th Annual Marion Fly-in Cruise-in

Sept. 12th and 13th Mid-eastern Regional fly-in at I74

Sept 11th and 12th Berlin /Warbird weekend at Indy Exec TYQ

Sept. 12th and 13th at Putnam County Airport Appreciation day 417

Sept 18, 19, & 20th EAA Sport Aviation Weekend at Rough River 213

Sept. 26 Lee Bottom Wood, Fabric and Tailwheel fly-in

Business New/Old:

Letter from HUF ATC

Customer feedback from HUF ATC

Thank you everyone from Casey Airport (1H8) for your hospitality and great food. The meeting definitely killed my diet for the weekend!!!

The only thing that could have made this meeting better was if I could have flown to it!!! This was my first meeting holding a pilot certificate. It is definitely a feeling of accomplishment to have this completed but I am under no delusion that my learning experience is done. I view this as an experience that is just beginning with lots to learn. I look forward to flying and further developing my rudimentary skills. I can only hope to achieve the level of aeronautical skill that I know some of the members of this group possess and, while I am at it, I hope to have fun!

Jeff Wellum, Secretary

### **Member News Update:**

Rocket Matt has gone to the other end of the speed spectrum, but stayed at the high end of the coolness chart. Last Friday, he purchased a 1942 Clark Clarktor 6, Mill 44, heavy duty aircraft tug. MORE POWER, arrrgh, arrrrrrghhhh, arrrrrrggghhhh. This baby will pull 180,000 lbs of whatever it is hooked to. Matt can give you more details, but this is the coolest tug ever. He plans to refurbish it over the winter and have it ready to use for the 2010 air show season. The work will begin as soon as he can get SOB off of it. He keeps it around the ramp and grinning like a panda in a bamboo forest.

Top speed on this baby in 3<sup>rd</sup> gear is 12 mph, but the coolness factor is very high. This is a true WWII tug and will look very cool on a ramp of warbirds (next year at AirVenture). The only problem is some SOB is trying to work on it and is breaking parts. He's already crushed the cap on the brake master cylinder and done other untold mischief, but he's trying. Actually, Matt, John, Jeff, and Chatter have all been working on disassembly and tinkering so far. Other than some very frozen nuts and bolts, the tug is in great shape considering it's 67 years old.

**You gotta see this to believe it.**

## Local Notams (Upcoming Events)

As Jeff noted earlier, this section is copied from the front page of our web site and is updated often, so check there for places to fly. Also if you are reading this via email, the dates below should be hot links and take you directly to more info on the event. You webmaster at work...

### [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, 4I7

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

EAA Sport Aviation Weekend at Rough River Kentucky, 2I3

### [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

### [Saturday, 10/3/2009](#)

Paoli Municipal Airport Aviation Day Fly In at I42

## Our Next Meeting...

will be at Winters' Airpark in Monrovia/Eminence, Indiana, on Saturday, September 19. Chapter 83 will eat at 11 and meet at Noon, but go early and harass join the Greencastle Chapter as they have their meeting at 10 am. Linda will be hosting and you know it's always a great meeting in combination with other groups and some very cool cars. Winters strip is on the sectional and if you're driving, don't ask me for directions. I get lost every time I drive there.

## And now, some pictures...



Here's the Wellum Family Traveller. It's Jeff's and Rob's 'new' Grumman Tiger.

Ask Jeff about the scud running story picking up his airplane, and about the hair raising flight from RZL to Casey. Lots of flying firsts for Jeff that day.

Here's Jeff after taking and passing his insurance check ride, but before the flight to Casey. Notice the clouds in the background? Well, some SOB thought we should fly ABOVE them, so we did, but getting up, finding each other again for the pictures, and getting down took some doing.



And now, what you've been waiting for: Pictures of Matt's new tug...



Let's see, foot brake, hand throttle, choke, parking brake, clutch, start, and Hold On...

Is this a beast or what?

The fenders weigh over 900 lbs each, and the total vehicle weight is over 5,000 lbs. You gotta have that when your towing loaded bombers.

It's like driving a 5,200 lb go kart...

It runs a little rough yet, but we're working on it. Got some carb work, some governor work, some transmission work, some manifold work, some brake work, some gas tank work, some electrical work, a seat to design, fabricate, and mount, a tow bar rack to fabricate and mount, not to mention the R&R for repair and paint. Matt hasn't decided on a color yet, but OD and Traffic Yellow are both authentic WWII colors for this tug, so he's got a decision to make. We also have to find and mount two hitches, one on each end. One of the hitches Matt removed is in good shape and may get remounted after cleaning and paint. We took off the left front wheel on Sunday to fix a flat, and while it was off, removed the bearings and checked the spindle. They are perfect. What a great project!



You can see a bit of the Traffic Yellow color peeking out from under the fender. We're pretty sure it was yellow for part of its life, but we are still not sure what color it left the factory in.



**And here's a message for Duane Skoog, Pres of the Greencastle chapter about the Airport Day this weekend. Go over help and have some fun if you can...**

Greetings all,

Well the weekend is finally upon us. I think we are fairly squared away, but I want to present a couple of updates.

1.) Remember we are hanging around for a pot-luck with the Ramp-Rats on Saturday after we are done. John is supplying the burgers and brats. Please bring a covered side dish to share.

2.) I have a couple of young ladies available to sell drinks out of the golf cart. However, I don't remember who supplied the golf cart. If you are reading this, can we use it again? ;)

3.) The week long forecast doesn't look good. Keep everything you have crossed.

4.) Bill, tell any of your guys they are welcome to come over and fly Young Eagles with us.

4.) I have to be on campus for the Great Debate, so I won't be able to be out at the airport to help with set-up. Any of you able to show up to help with Doc's tent and marking off the grass parking and the Balloon area and cover for me would be greatly appreciated.

Cheers,

g. duane skoog

President, EAA Chapter #1374