

EAA CHAPTER 866 SMILIN 'JACK NEWSLETTER



AUGUST 2015

Think you're not being watched? I shot this picture about 6 wks ago at Dunn airpark. - Larry

President's Message

Greetings All,

While we did not make the cover of the Rollin' Stone, we are in Sport Aviation for July- how cool is that? Many, many thanks to all who helped to organize and execute our fabulous 4th of July Breakfast! We had over 150 guests who came to enjoy our hospitality. Very special thanks to Loretta who worked tirelessly all night baking fresh biscuits, making gravy and the wonderful pastries that everyone enjoyed. Special thanks goes to Eddie who took the 7 containers of bacon grease away (Yea!). We also had a new Baconator in Ray's absence- Bob stepped up to the grill, spatula in hand and cleaned the grill afterward, too. Wow! THANK YOU! He just didn't understand how much fun it could be, 'til now! We had 43 airplanes visiting the airfield and many walk-ins, drive-ins, bike-ins, a few who dropped from the skies with parachutes strapped to their backs and one very special red Corvette. The event was completed by a top notch display of formation flying by our friends from Chapter 288 at Spruce Creek. How lucky we are to witness to such a wonderful display! Thank you again to all who helped make it so! Many of you have noticed Bob's Herculean efforts on the repair of the trusses, as well as a new face on the old roll up door. When the project is complete, we will all be amazed. There will be lights and a few more outlets, repaired purlins and trusses, some paint to freshen things up and all for a lot less than anticipated thanks to Bob and all who have come forward to help clean-out the unused equipment, take down the old

conduits- some that did not even have wires in it, and the myriad tasks that were performed to arrive at this stage of the project. Lots of stuff has found temporary lodging in hangars here and there; thanks to all who have donated a little space for this and that, it makes the work flow easier when stuff is out of the way. There is more to come... We also received a very generous donation from a member towards the roof repair. Many thanks to this special person! Our speaker for July was Charlie St. Germain, from Watkins Paint in Titusville. He showed us some nice new products to make our paint jobs easier. He gave us some tips about dealing with orange peel effects in the paint and explained some of the new equipment examples he brought for show and tell. Normally we would have a speaker present for about 20 minutes, but Charlie's presentation was so riveting and interesting, he spoke for nearly an hour. I think everyone came away with some tips for better paint and a little something in the way of door prizes. Lots of progress on personal airplane projects, too. Everyone building had a little something to add. When we do this, it helps everyone. Maybe you are having issues with a phase of construction- brainstorming to find a solution is what being part of our Chapter is all about! We had a few guests as well as a full house for our meeting- Tom Wade, who will be joining our Chapter; Tracy, from the truss company, and her son Caleb, joined us as well. Caleb is attending Embry Riddle and studying aerospace design. Congrats to him on receiving a generous scholarship to fulfill his dreams!

At our next meeting, I hope to have a full report on AirVenture to share.

Blue Skies and Tailwinds! Deborah

July Breakfast

A nice turnout for a breakfast being held on America's Independence day! We didn't know what to expect but, we were pleasantly surprised at the number of eaters who showed up. No one gave me a count but Loretta had set out 197 plates and there were about 20 left when it was over so, that means we had between 160 and 180. Some eaters think they need to use more than one plate and we don't know how many times that happened so we can't use a plate count to determine the actual number of people.

Look what showed for our July breakfast



At the breakfast, Ron Thompson donated \$50.00 towards our building repairs.

Bob Rychel agreed to try his hand at the bacon operation and that worked out well. He kept up with the rush and cooked that bacon to perfection. Bob will be available for our August breakfast but not September so we will work that one out.

A good time was had by most!

Building Repairs

Project manager and job superintendent Bob Rychel is doing a fabulous job of planning, organizing and running the job. The job has been broken down into phases the first being to prepare for the repairs by removing all unnecessary parts and pieces and remove all conduits and wiring from the room . This was done during the week of July 5. Then, on Friday of that week the materials were delivered for the repairs. Saturday Bob had new scaffolds set up and all of the tools needed to do the job for that day. Around 8:00 am a good sized crew of 866 members showed and all of the basic repairs were made in the matter of a couple of hours. Loretta had a container of iced tea + cookies and rice krispy treats for the crew. When the mornings work was completed the crew enjoyed this. Since then the room has been re wired so that the power cords will no longer be needed. All of the wiring is in conduit and even the serving table is hard wired. By the time of our next breakfast we will have new lights up. The lights (LEDs), were purchased and donated by Bill Bilsky. Our old fluorescent lights rarely worked and the lamp sockets were so brittle that they crumbled when we removed the lamps. The next and final phase will be the replacement of the purlins that are rotting and then, the actual roof repair which will involve replacing some of the metal roofing pieces. By this breakfast we'll have the tools put up and Loretta will have everything scrubbed and clean and ready for the breakfast gang.



The boss



Hander uppers



Men at work



Les in trusses



Break time



Hammer man



There we were at 10,000 feet with lightning flashing everywhere.....Oh not that story again!

Young Eagle Event

We can't start planning too soon and now's the time to start. As Young Eagle coordinator, I'd like to hold our annual rally on Sat. October 17. For the past several years we've used the 3rd Sat of October and lets just stick with that. Start spreading the news to any youth or youth organization you know.

A few days ago I stopped at Watkins for fuel and when it came time to pay, a young man was attending the register. After I had paid him, he asked me if I was a pilot because I was wearing the AOPA hat. I told him that I'm a pilot and he began to tell me that he got a Young Eagles ride at Arthur Dunn in 2013 and as a result he is learning to fly! He takes two lessons a week at TICO. A few questions and I found out that he rode with Jeff Wilde in his RV 12. He was so excited about it all he joined EAA natl. I'm going to try to get him to come to our breakfast and the next meeting. He is the son of the owner of Watkins Oil co.



Took me a long time to find this pic. of Andrew Watkins and Jeff Wilde at our 2013 Y-E event

So, I'm even more excited about this years' young Eagle rally! Another pilot in the making! I'll be getting our supplies and arranging for event insurance with EAA and getting the permit form the airport authority for 10/17, the 2015 EAA C866 annual Young Eagle rally. So, tell all of your friends with boys and girls of the age that they can participate in this. Getting the word out is the hardest part. The rally is the most fun I have every year with our chapter. Pilots, let me know if you'll be flying Young Eagles with us this year. Larry Gilbert C866 Y-E coordinator

This Months' Flying

Not much flying but, made two interesting landing maneuvers though, a wheel landing at Valkaria we started a swerve to the right but we kept the dance up and got it under control before it was too late. Lenny Duncil and I were doing the same thing at TICO and had landed on the mains and slowed until the tail came down and we decided to fly it off again as we had been given the option by the controller. We put the throttle in and the plane started the swerve to the right, we pulled the power and kept it from going around with some fancy footwork. Both of these landings were with a quartering headwind from the right. Then, Dick and I were out doing some 2G turns just stirring the air up some and then he made a maneuver and pulled hard with full power on all of the way up into the stall and as we stalled we hit what must have been our own wake. Surprised us a little, again, pulling the power and some footwork kept us from going over. Dick is a WWII pilot 92 yrs young!

Larry

Check out our facebook page EAA Smilin jack Chapter 866 and <http://www.866.eaachapter.org/apps/photos/> Our website

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Chapter Breakfast

Sat Aug 1, 8:00 – 10:00

Dunn Airpark Bldg 10

Chapter meeting

Weds. Aug. 5 , 7:00 pm - ?

Dunn Airpark Bldg. 10