

EAA Smilin 'Jack Chapter 866 Newsletter August

September 2016



This lady and her friend were the first to fly in to our August breakfast in their Grumman



President Report

Well done EAA 866 volunteers!!! We continue to have a very nice turn-out for our monthly Pancake Breakfast events, and last month was no exception. Everyone is doing a great job to make things run smoothly. I generally try to stay clear of the actual cooking part . . . and trust me, it's safer for everyone that way! Instead, I try to focus on some of the support activities like the set-up and take down of tables & chairs, or raising the flag, or collecting garbage. However, at our last breakfast, I did manage to log some batter-mixing dual instruction from Kip, our chief pancake batter "mixologist". Like a lot of things, great pancakes begin with great batter, and just like your airplane engine, it is critical to get the mixture ratio just right in order to have a smooth running batter operation! I won't give away Kip's secrets to making the perfect pancake batter, but you can trust me when I tell you he has it down to a fine science. I was surprised to learn that we often use 20 pounds or more of dry pancake mix for a typical monthly breakfast, so if you fly-in for breakfast, be sure to re-

check your weight & balance on your way back to the plane! Greetings Members and Friends of EAA Chapter 866,

We are very blessed to have all the great folks who fly in to our event! It really adds something special to our Saturday morning when we get see those beautiful formations of airplanes pass overhead or see a tight formation of SX-300's speeding around our traffic pattern!! It's always a treat to walk the ramp area and see each pilot's pride and joy on display. We appreciate all of our breakfast guests and I hope they enjoy coming to our chapter breakfast events half as much as we enjoy having them!

Well, I managed to exercise my "Airport Bum" membership card a few times this month. Sometimes, I think it might be in jeopardy of getting revoked due to lack of use. But the card still opens the gate, so I must be doing something right! My RV-4 project was sitting there quietly in the hangar, patiently waiting for me to finish fitting the right-hand wing flap. It had a minor interference where the flap meets the fuselage and requires some sheet metal re-work to get it just right. I made some progress on that ol' flap this month, but that proverbial "Tuesday" when I finally fly this machine always seems like it is on next year's calendar. I was recently reminded of a Proverb which says "Hope deferred makes the heart sick." (Prov 13:12) I suspect that is a sentiment which many airplane builders have felt at one time or another when the project takes longer than hoped, or when "Life" gets in the way forcing us to make delays.

At such times, it is good to be reminded of the goal, and also that the journey is often just as important as the goal. I have met so many wonderful people on this airplane-building journey, and that alone makes it worth all the drilled-out rivets and bucking bar blisters. On some Tuesday in the not-too-distant future, that ol' RV-4 and I will finally 'slip the surly bonds' and 'dance the skies on laughter-silvered wings'!! I look forward to sharing that story with you someday.

In the meantime, I look forward to seeing you at the next breakfast (Sept. 3rd) or at our next chapter meeting on Sept 7th. We're hoping to have a guest speaker for September, and if you would like to be the speaker for a future meeting, or write up a story for the newsletter, just let me know.

Best Regards,
Les Boatright (EAA# 563003)
President EAA 866, *Smilin' Jack* Chapter
"Life is what happens while you're building your airplane."

Hmm, you reckon Magee wrote his famous poem on a Tuesday?? - - - Les

High Flight

by: John Gillespie Magee, Jr. (RCAF; written 8-18-1941)

"Oh! I have slipped the surly bonds of Earth
And danced the skies on laughter-silvered wings;

Sunward I've climbed, and joined the tumbling mirth
of sun-split clouds, — and done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of — wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence. Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along, and flung
My eager craft through footless halls of air....

Up, up the long, delirious, burning blue
I've topped the wind-swept heights with easy grace.
Where never lark, or even eagle flew —
And, while with silent, lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed sanctity of space,
— Put out my hand, and touched the face of God."

Old Rhinebeck

Another check off on my bucket list! A visit to Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome in upstate NY. You may have heard about the place up there close to the Hudson River about 40 mi south of Albany. A beautiful place that contains the best collection of early airplanes in the world! A lot of them are in flying status and many actually were flown while were there. My friend Bobby Hargrove and I spent a day there. We started the day with a ride in a New Standard D25 biplane. 1929 model, I think. This ride took us out to the east side of the gorgeous Hudson River and then over the countryside of upstate NY. Before we landed the pilot did a couple of impressive Lazy 8s and pulled into a nose up attitude and then pushed to give his passengers the weightless sensation for a couple of seconds! We overflew the Aerodrome from east to west and then set up for a landing on the runway from the south. A side slip down between the trees, straighten out and plant a nice 3 pointer on the runway and oh, a little burst of power to compensate for the rising terrain of the runway.



Hudson River

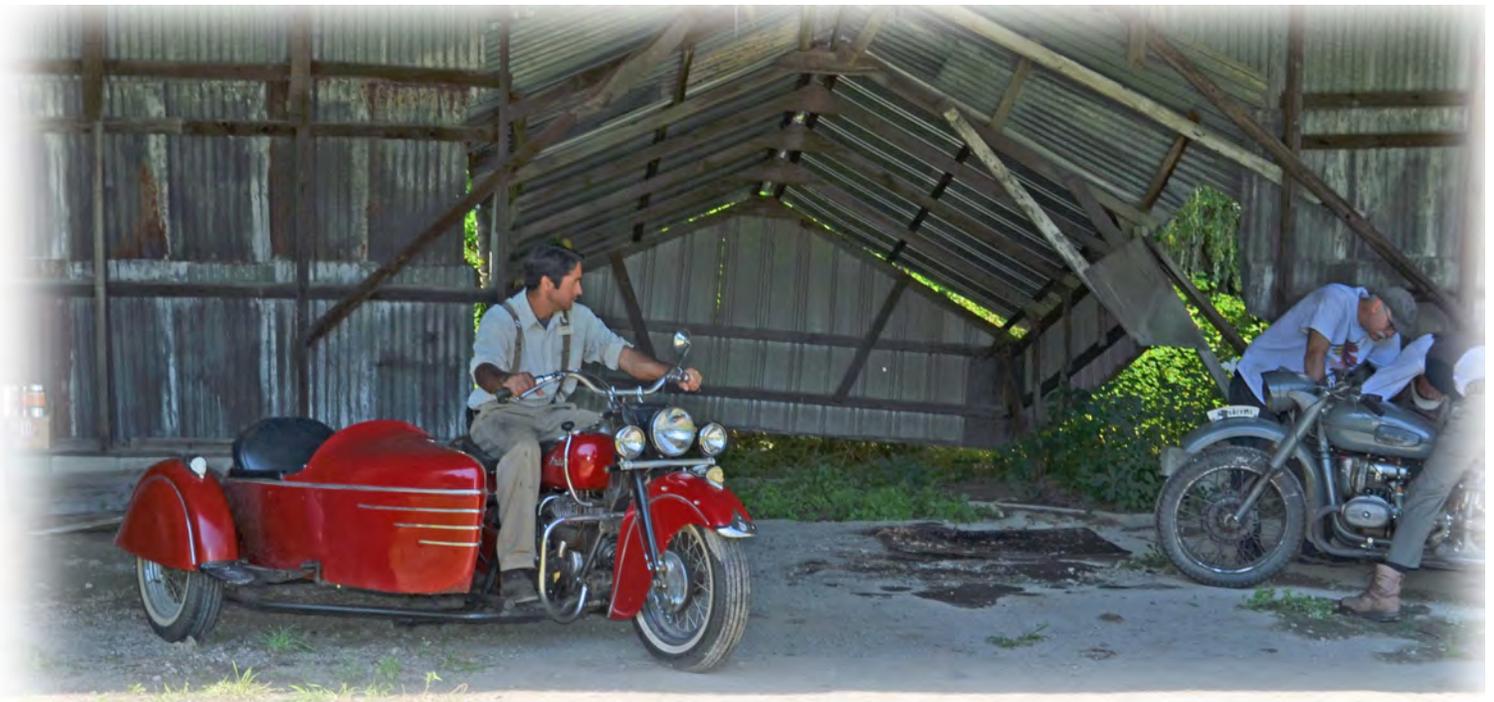


Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome



New Standard D25 on final

At Old Rhinebeck there are 4 museum bldgs. And a stunning array of historic old airplanes and old motorcycles and cars all WWI vintage.



Old motorcycles with sidecars are readied for the weekly show



Think electric cars are something new? Nope, this is a 1914 Baker electric and they drove it all over the field!

The story goes, this was developed because women were beginning to drive more and starting (think crank) and operating the gasoline engines was difficult for them so Baker developed this car. They didn't sell so, they went out of business.

Enough pictures already, we had a great time up there. If there is any interest, I'll put together a slide show for the chapter. I've got at least 100 pictures.

Larry

Young Eagle Rally Coming up Fast!!

Help! We need Young Eagle candidates and the biggest thing you can do as a member of our chapter is to help find these youth. Put the word out at your work, church, and social circles. We now have a larger fleet of airplanes and can accommodate more rides. Last year we flew 50 kids and maybe this year we can do a few more! Help!

We have a banner that will be posted temporarily on the end of bldg. 10 advertising the Young Eagle rally. I'm working on getting the event permit from TICO and insurance from EAA to cover this and ordering current literature from EAA. We will need ground crew and flight line workers. Please sign up for this. I will have a form at our meeting for you to sign up on. Pilots, please have your Youth Protection Certificate with you so we can log that. On the ground, we need at least two personnel with the certificate also.



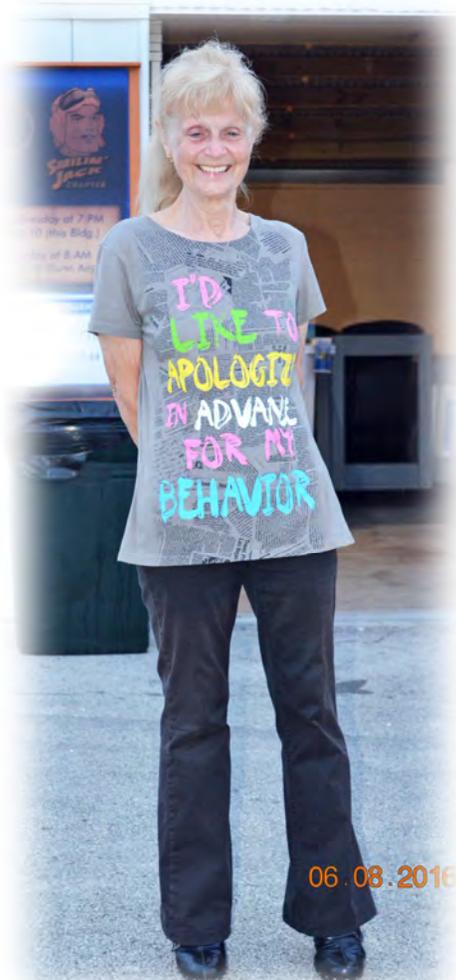
Hangar space needed. Wanting to share at Arthur Dunn Air Park. Please call Roger at [407-748-4311](tel:407-748-4311).

August Breakfast

The August breakfast was a huge success with 37 aircraft showing and about 167 eaters. We got a lot of compliments from visitors on our breakfast because our outstanding crew did an outstanding job!



Cooker hard at work



Loretta makes a statement



Nice line up of fly-in airplanes at our August breakfast- *Chapter 866 Officers*



Bob Rychel celebrating his 75th birthday

Chapter Officers

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Monthly Breakfast

Sat. Sept. 3, 2016

Dunn Airpark (X21) Bldg 10, 8:00 -

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Titusville, Fl

Chapter Meeting

Weds. Sept. 7, 7:00 pm

Bldg.10 Dunn Airpark Titusville, FL