



# The Flyer

## SPORT AVIATION CENTER UPDATE

by Norm Isler



It may not look like much, but a dozen truckloads of top soil have been donated by Dave Goodwin for our landscaping. **Thank you Dave!**

Every year I convince myself how much I will get done over the course of the summer. Project one, project two, project three..... and so on. And every year I am reminded of reality: family vacations, picnics, other "important" projects that recur such as cutting the grass, painting trim, cutting the grass, edging the driveway, cutting the grass etc. (Most of you have seen my lawn and know what I mean!)

When you consider that everyone I know is faced with the same scenario, we have had a remarkable summer at the SAC. Much has been accomplished. As Ace Hardware would say, many of our "To Do" items have become "To Done" items. Concrete work is almost done for the porch and front sidewalk. We have two functional

## SURVEY SAYS... by TOM BOWDLER

In September at our membership meeting I distributed a survey which was intended to gauge the "pulse" of EAA Chapter 44 members. The survey asked about past experiences, favorable and not. Involvement in construction of the Sport Aviation Center both monetarily and with hands on participation came next as well as suggestions for its use. An opportunity to evaluate membership meetings including the meal, business meeting and program was presented. Finally questions about our chapter's future were posed and an opportunity to provide other thoughts rounded out the questionnaire.

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## CONTRIBUTION CORRECTION

At the previous General Meeting member Carl Bouwens informed us that his wife Carol was an equal contributor to the purchase of our signs. **So thank you Carol Bouwens for your support of the Sport Aviation Center.**

## HOME-COOKED MEALS AT MTGS.

One of the benefits of EAA 44 membership is the partaking of home-cooked meals at our General Meetings. This month Jeff Peters is bringing a ham dinner for our dining pleasure. As always, we invite you to bring a delicious dish to pass also. An appetizer or dessert which compliments Jeff's dinner would be appreciated.

**Thank you Jeff for your contribution this month.**

**SAC Update con't**

bathrooms, and decorative work is underway. We continue to progress towards our permanent Certificate of Occupancy. We have a useable main meeting hall. Most important, our new home is serving as planned. We have hosted multiple Young Eagle events, several speakers, and served many hots, burgers and assorted tasty treats to hungry pilots and aviation aficionados.

I remember a sales meeting I went to a few years ago. In the organization, I was the salesman with the largest percentage of increase over the past year. In fact, I had more than doubled my territory's sales over the past year! As we went around the conference table reporting to the other reps our success (or lack thereof!) from the past year, our director of sales left me for last. When it was my turn, beaming with pride, I reported my sales results of the past year. When the applause died down, my boss looked at me calmly, and with a perfectly straight face said "That was last year. What have you done for me recently?"

We still have some distance to go. Our building committee is reorganizing to take up the questions of "Who? What? When? Where? Why? And how\$. Many of our members have gone above and beyond time and again. To those that have worked so hard, Thank you. To those that have not been able to be part of some work crews, now is the time to sign up, buck up and "Just do it". If you haven't been part of the work parties, now is the time. It is, plain and simple, unfair for you to call yourself a member and not help.

Pick something you want to do, check in with Mike Clayton about time, funding and coordination, and become part of the "I did it!" team.

See you at the SAC!

**Survey Says... con't**

I was extremely pleased that 22 of our members completed the survey, most that evening, and provided insights into how many aspects of Chapter 44's programs are viewed. I will present the results, including all of your comments, to the Board of Directors and will have more copies available for completion at the October meeting for any that missed out.

So what did you all say to me? Primarily things are upbeat and positive as far as your Chapter 44 experiences are concerned. Several wouldn't change a thing while some have serious concerns about what we've done to date and where we are headed. I have read the surveys three times and, though it wasn't meant to be analyzed in a scientific fashion, several themes came through loud and clear.

First is volunteerism. You have been and plan to continue to remain active in your chapter. Building the SAC has loomed large in all our consciences for the past two years and many will continue to work toward its completion and participate in ongoing maintenance of the building. A number of you have said you would help provide meals and programs for our monthly meetings and you want to help our chapter continue to grow with new, interesting activities.

Evaluating those meetings, all thought the meals were top notch, good for fellowship, increasing membership and bringing the chapter together. My favorite comment was that the meal is "hard on diets." The business part of the meeting could be shorter most felt, eliminating parts that could be dealt with by the Board of Directors and reported in the newsletter. Programs have been well received and ideas for future programs and speakers were suggested.

As for the future of our chapter a resounding theme is "stay focused on aviation". You seem

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**OLD GOAT BOOK REVIEW  
BY ART THIEME**

Black Crosses Off My Wingtip by I. F. Kennedy

Mike Stoddard bought this book at the Canadian Warplane Heritage Museum. The book was published in Ontario, Canada. And that is appropriate as the story is told about and by a Canadian pilot who flew Spitfires in the Mediterranean Sea area, mainly in Malta, Sicily and Italy. He was later transferred to England and was part of the invasion forces. After surviving numerous enemy in Africa he was shot down by AA fire behind enemy lines. He managed to evade being captured and made his way to friendly forces. His story describes his flying and that of his friends, many of whom never made it. He remarks that one of the peculiarities of Fighter Command is that the pilots with experience tended to survive, while the rookies made up most of the casualties. The reason was obvious, one learned the tricks. They learned to scan the sky to see the German aircraft before they attacked.

His favorite aircraft was the Spitfire IX. He tells about shooting down German aircraft, but there is no totals listed. He does point out that they knew the aircraft as Me 109s after Willie Messerschmitt but the correct designation is Bf 109 after the factory Bayerischer Flugzeugwerke.

The story contains many pictures of his flying group, a number of them not returning from a mission. Once started, I could not stop reading. I found it most interesting, perhaps because it was my war. And I love those WWII piston aircraft.

I think that Mike will let you borrow the book. Well worth reading.

**EAA 44/46 HOLD ANNUAL JOINT  
YOUNG EAGLE RALLY**

We again shared our joy of flight with our friends from the Buffalo Chapter as we flew 49 new Young Eagles at Batavia. **Thank you to the pilots and the ground crew.**



This is the same Young Eagle before (above) and after (below) her flight. Think she liked it?



**SURVEY SAYS con't**

excited about expanding our youth programs; school sessions, Young Eagles and Aerocamp. You want to continue to host events like the AOPA safety seminar and provide a place where aviation is enjoyed by pilots and non-pilots alike, including the recently announced Young Eagle-type program for adults. You want to learn more technical aspects of building and maintaining our aircraft. Some want a flying club, trips to aviation destinations and more joint activities with other aviation groups. It might even be possible to sponsor an airplane building project with local young people.

So from your President's perspective the survey tells me that for Chapter 44 the sky's the limit! All it will take is continued enthusiasm of the members, but more than that, a willingness for more of you to take ownership and spend time planning and executing chapter activities. As in so many organizations a relatively small group carries most of the burden. My challenge to all of you is to step forward and take on a task that will make our chapter even better. I can't do it, neither can the officers and board but WE can do it. Let's make it happen!

**LETTER TO THE EDITOR**

by ACE ABBOTT

Dear EAA Chapter 44,

What a wonderful evening with a wonderful group of people. I have always enjoyed my book events with EAA chapters but your group very definitely represents my high-water mark for book events.

I hope that you all enjoyed the experience as much as I did, I am headed to Florida in a few days but perhaps we can engage in another rendezvous next summer.

Thanks again for your gracious hospitality and a special thanks to Tom Bowdler for the very thoughtful reader review that appeared in your newsletter. Blue skies. Ace Abbott, aka Allen Morris

**BOTTLE QUEEN REPORT by GAIL ISAAC**

Don't forget to save your "nickels" to help the SAC progress to completion. I am still collecting all that you want to donate to the cause. I check our crate regularly. Our permanent Certificate of Occupancy is close and every nickel helps. Kudos to all of you for your efforts! Keep drinking!

**AND INTRODUCING...THE METAL MAIDEN!:** Now is the time to clean out the house of all metal that is just hanging around and taking up space. **On Saturday, October 15th (THIS SATURDAY!), I will be collecting all metals at the SAC from 10AM to 3PM.** The next week, we will be taking them to Metalico for recycling. NOTE: All propane tanks have to have a hole drilled in them or they will not take them. This has proven to be a real money maker for EAA and a clean-out for your garage and house. Brass, copper and clean aluminum tend to be the money makers. Clean aluminum means nothing if it is attached to plastic, etc. I took an old house aerial and found that out. They will take it but for much less. Got that old stove, grill, H2O heater? We will take it. Old wire is also good but if you can strip the copper out, it is worth more as what they call bright copper. Got search those nooks and crannies and bring it on down!



## MONTHLY GUEST SPEAKERS

At our September General Meeting we were fortunate enough to have TWO speakers. Ace Abbott, aka Allen Morris, author of “The Rogue Aviator” spoke about his book. He told us that his pseudonym came to him because it had a nice ring to it, and always the marketeer, it would be first in an alphabetical listing of aviation authors!

He read a section of his book to us and regaled us with many funny fascinating stories. One was about his flight smuggling Reggae singer Bob Marley out of Jamaica during political unrest. On the flight, members of Marley’s party in the back of the plane were practicing their Rastafarian religion by smoking huge “spliffs” of marijuana. When Ace’s co-pilot started singing “The Redemption Song” along with them, Ace put both of them on oxygen masks for the rest of the flight!

Our second speaker was member Rob Williams, just back from crewing for a race team at the Reno Air Races. Rob calls himself a “ramp whore,” meaning he’s available to work for any team that will have him. This year he was crewing for the #67 team with a Cosworth Vampire. Their plane qualified at 504.9 mph.

Rob had a first-hand account of the recent crash of a P-51 Mustang into the crowd. Reports at the time, and scuttlebutt around the pits, was that a separated elevator trim tab was a significant factor in the accident. Photos that day show it separating, and then not there just before impact. Estimates put the planes’ instantaneous pull-up at 22G’s. Death occurs at only 4-5 G’s.

Rob reported that several spectators have not been found and are suspected to have been vaporized by the impact.

A Vietnam-era Huey helicopter was on display at the races and was immediately put into action by the pilot to medevac the injured to nearby hospitals.

Our condolences to all impacted by this event.

## EAA Chapter 44

### Board of Directors’ Meeting

13 Sep 2011

**Board Members Present:** Hurd, Isler, Clayton, North, Hazen, Nelligan-Barrett, Stoddard, Isaac

**Non Board Member Officers Present:**  
Bowdler

### Reports:

- President (Tom Bowdler):
  - Working on member survey for next membership meeting, hoping to get more member involvement.
- Vice President (Norm Isler):
  - Lightspeed Foundation competition – voting ends Friday (16 Sep).
  - AOPA – holding ASF seminar on 13 Oct 11 (Thursday). Need to arrange for chairs, looking at Tom’s church. Need a cleaning crew. Also need to provide sound system. Phil Hazen will look into refreshment possibilities. Details for parking procedures have to be worked out, will need helpers.
  - Building committee – need to get restarted.
- Treasurer (Dave Hurd):
  - Report read and approved.
  - Finance committee – Dave Hurd / Elise Isler / Kurt Bradford. Review of Chapter financial reporting to meet IRS requirements and other accounting activities.
- Secretary (Stephen North):
  - Minutes read and approved.

### Business:

- Sport Aviation Center (SAC)

- First pour for porch is complete, final pour soon.
- Clean fill delivered, need to spread around.
- Building needs something for moisture control to prevent mold, winter will buy us some time to develop remediation plan (fans, dehumidifier, etc).
- Capital Campaign (Mike Stoddard)
  - No report
- General
  - Young Eagles – September 17<sup>th</sup> at Batavia. Pilots meet at KGVQ at TBD.
  - Eagle Scout project – no update, expect approval in progress
  - Bottle Queen / Program Host – Programs coming up:
    - October: Trafford Dougherty (“Flying in 1911”)
    - Bottle receipts reported
    - Scrap metal drive? Like the idea, Bob N-B proposed 15 October (Sat).
  - Storage building task force (Phil to lead)
  - Donor Recognition – previously had picnic and rides planned for 15 October (Sat). Bob Nelligan-Barrett / Norm Isler to work up proposed thank you package. May extend the latter to all including members.
  - Pinch Hitter Course – have documentation package from Sporty’s, no specific plans at the moment, hold for next year.
  - Nominating committee – BOD members up for re-election: Isler / Hazen / Williams / Isaac / Nelligan-Barrett. All have agreed to run again, need to solicit nominations from General Membership.
  - December Unmeeting (20 Dec) – Bob Nelligan-Barrett / Gail Isaac. Looking for decoration donations.
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**EAA 44  
General Membership Meeting  
20 Sep 2011**

**Reports:**

- President (Tom Bowdler):
  - Tom distributed a survey intended to gather member feedback on a variety of topics including meeting format, SAC, level of volunteer commitment, etc.
- Vice President (Norm Isler):
  - Update on Lightspeed Foundation status – Unfortunately Chapter 44 did not get enough votes to qualify for a grant but we were very close. Norm thanked all who helped.
  - Darryl Byers has agreed to lead the Building Committee. Meeting schedule TBD.
  - The AOPA Air Safety Foundation is renting the SAC for their 13 Oct (Thurs.) Safety Seminar. We need volunteers to help clean on the 12<sup>th</sup> and to set up on the 13<sup>th</sup>.
- Treasurer (Dave Hurd):
  - Report read and approved.
- Secretary (Stephen North): Minutes read and approved.

**Business:**

- Sport Aviation Center (SAC)
  - Work continues as funding allows.
  - Coordinating landscaping project with Eagle Scout candidate.
- Capital Campaign (Mike Stoddard)
  - No report.
- Oshkosh Airlift (Steve North)
  - Looking for an assistant for the 2012 Airlift. Need someone to help with the pre-trip planning as well as being a chaperone on the ground at Oshkosh.

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Stories and photos by the editor unless otherwise noted. Article deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month. Send submissions to Editor Bob Nelligan-Barrett.

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Chapter 44 is a 501(c)3 organization. Gifts of cash, securities or other property to EAA Chapter 44 in the interest of the Sport Aviation Center are welcome and fully tax deductible. Contact Dave Hurd for details.



**Sport Aviation Center of  
Western New York**

## REGIONAL CALENDAR

Sadly, there are no aviation events happening in the near future other than local fly-in breakfasts. For events and dates of those, I encourage you to check the Upstate NY Aviation Calendar at: <upstatelist.org>.

### More from the Young Eagle Rally



Elise talking to parents at Sign-In.



Her son is a "frequent flyer." This is his second rally. He's hooked.

## EAA 44 Calendar



### NEXT GENERAL MEETING

On Tuesday Oct 18, **Trafford Doherty, Executive Director of the Glenn Curtiss Museum** will be speaking on "Flying 1911 Aircraft."

Join us at 6:30 for a home-cooked meal, and at 7:30 for the presentation. Please bring a dish to pass.

### Oct. 15 Metal Recycle Day

Nov. 5 SAC Work Crew

Nov. 8 Board Meeting

### Nov. 15 Annual Election Meeting & Steak Night

Nov 19 SAC Work Crew

Dec. 3 SAC Work Crew

Dec. 13 Board Meeting

Dec. 17 SAC Work Crew

### Dec. 20 Holiday Dinner

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### HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012!

Jan. 7 SAC Work Crew

Jan. 10 Board Meeting

Jan. 17 General Meeting

Jan. 21 SAC Work Crew

Feb. 4 SAC Work Crew

Feb. 14 Valentines Day Board Mtg.

Feb. 18 SAC Work Crew

Feb. 21 General Meeting

**All activities take place at the Sport Aviation Center unless otherwise noted.**

### Sport Aviation Center

Eisenhower Drive

Brockport Airport/

Ledgesdale Airpark (7G0)

### Board Meetings-

2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month, 7 PM

### General Meetings-

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month

Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30

### SAC Saturday Work Crews-

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10 AM -?

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