



The Flyer



Volume 45, Issue 7

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 44

July 2013

BOARD CALLS FOR AN ALL-HANDS-ON-DECK WORK SESSION

The Board of Directors is calling on ALL members to attend a SAC Saturday Work Session on August 10 starting at 10 AM. We have to clean up and pick up rocks and make the airport property whole again after digging up trenches for our water and electrical lines four years ago. It's the right thing to do, and we said we'd do it, so let's do it. Let's be good airport neighbors.

Jack Frenz and the other five guys who constitute what is left of the Saturday work crews would appreciate your help very much. It is just too much for the few of us to do by ourselves. With more hands we can make quicker work of the project. Bring work gloves and good shoes.

Hots and hamburgers will be served at the grill as this is also the August Open House day.

GUEST VISITOR ONE MONTH, GUEST SPEAKER THE NEXT

Last month we were fortunate to have as one of our guests Elmer Pankratz, the President of the Geriatric Pilots Association. As several members talked with him throughout the evening we realized he would be an excellent guest speaker. He will be our July 16 speaker.

Elmer is a WWII P-51 pilot and author of "I Needed A War To Do It, A Veteran Remembers." He will be talking about his wartime experiences. Members who have read his book have said they can't put it down. Elmer donated and autographed copy to our Library.

Thank you Elmer for your book.

AN HONOR & A PRIVILEGE by Rob Williams

A few weeks ago our chapter organized a gathering at Ledgeale Airport with a local group known as the Geriatric Pilots Association. The idea was to provide an opportunity for our members to meet and greet their members, thank them for their support of a variety of chapter projects like the Chummy reproduction that now hangs in the terminal of the Greater Rochester International Airport, and further enhance the association of our groups in a picnic-like environment. Several of our members showed up with aircraft for display and rides. It was really a very nice event.

The Geriatric Pilots Association is primarily comprised of veterans from WWII, including a few fighter and bomber pilots. I brought my Stearman to the event figuring that most of these men would appreciate seeing an aircraft from their era and that I might luck out and get to hear some of their stories of the days when they learned to fly in one. Well, I was not disappointed to say the least. The stories flooded out as the GPA members gathered around the old biplane. They were great to listen to.

Next came the opportunity to give a few rides. I wanted to give everyone a ride, but unfortunately not everyone could make the climb into the front cockpit, or were concerned about the status of an ailing body component surviving the flight.

One gentleman I took up was Elmer Pankratz, a P-51 pilot who flew recon missions over Europe. I was amazed at his spry leap up into the cockpit with all the enthusiasm of a young kid at a barnstorming event. There was no need for much of a cockpit familiarization talk and we quickly fired-up and taxied out. Once airborne

Continued on next page.

NIAGARA AEROSPACE MUSEUM REOPENS

(from their Press Release)

The Niagara Aerospace Museum is pleased to announce that it has reopened to the public at its new facility at the Niagara Falls International Airport, located in the former terminal building on Saturday, June 29.

The Museum's operating hours will be from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM Wednesday through Sunday. Group tours and special events are available by appointment.

The Museum is dedicated to preserving the rich aviation heritage of Western New York, and showcases the aviation and aerospace history of Bell Aircraft, Consolidated Aircraft, Curtiss-Wright, and many other companies that were once a vital part of this region.

The Museum collection includes artifacts, aircraft, helicopters, and rockets that represent over 100 years of Aviation from the Wright Brothers through the Space Program.

See a 1910 Curtiss Pusher, 1917 Curtiss Jenny, 3 early Bell model 47 helicopters, the Bell P-39 Airacobra and the Bell Rocket Belt. The space gallery includes the Apollo (LEM) lunar engine module and NASA EECOM control station.

If you are flying into the airport and require assistance, please contact Niagara Falls Aviation at 716-298-9307 and their courteous staff will assist you with any requirements you may have.

For more information, visit our Facebook page and website at www.wnyaerospace.org.

The NAM is looking for volunteers who may be interested in acting as tour guides and docents. If you are interested, please contact the museum at 716-297-1324 or niagaerospace@verizon.net with your availability.

Honor & Privilege con't

and leveled out, I invited him to fly. He grabbed the stick without hesitation and we were quickly kicking around the sky. I wondered at that time if he was thinking about ground strafing because he seemed to enjoy creeping down closer to the tree tops. I could see through the mirror on the upper wing his face grinning as he jinked around with determination.

Eventually we returned to the airport where I took control and made a not so pretty landing, which he commented with affirmation on the difficulty he sometimes had with the Stearman. Climbing out he was beaming and very appreciative.



In fact, he gave me a personally autographed copy of his book, "I Needed A War To Do It." I was honored by this and the opportunity to provide one of these heroes who was willing to sacrifice his life serving freedom a flight in his first airplane. Their contribution was amazing and the satisfaction that came from seeing his face after the flight was priceless to me. CAVU

OLD GOAT RAMBLINGS

by Art Thieme

Old Goat indeed. Just checked my email and had 38 messages. Tried to open one and couldn't because of some error. Deleted all the rest. If you have a timely message, call me. Otherwise, let me sleep.

Here is what I was trying to find last month: FLYING, May 2013 reports that Richard Bach completed JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL. The book, published in 1970, was originally written in four parts but only the first three were published. Bach made the final edits while recovering from the crash of his amphibian. He was flying "Puff" when he hit power lines. He suffered serious brain and spinal injuries. We was in a coma for a week and remembers nothing of the crash or the week after. He is doing much better now and plans to rebuild his SeaRay and resume flying.

Become a Navy SEAL- You can scratch that off my Bucket List. Actually, it was never on it. After reading NO EASY DAY by Mark Owens (not his real name) I knew that I'd never make it through the program Owen was a member of SEAL Team 6 that took out Osama Bin Laden. He describes the selection process for becoming a SEAL. He points out that you really had to want to be a SEAL to get through the selection process. In my younger days I could have survived the physical process but doubt that I would put up with the constant harassment. Owen describes a number of operations he was on and finishes with the Osama Bin Laden raid. He give no real names of his buddies or any secret operation details. It is a good read.

And those special Navy, Army and Marine units deserve our respect and thanks.

Old Goat, Out.

LAST MONTH'S GUEST SPEAKER

Our June meeting was our annual "Fly-in/Offer Rides Meeting." In the past this was more of a special event as we didn't have airport access at our previous property so nobody ever flew in to a meeting, and by having our meeting at Spencerports' grass strip, the location gave the gathering a completely different feel.

Now all of our meetings are potentially fly-in meetings, and members regularly do fly in and offer rides, but at this meeting more planes flew in than usual (10). Rob's Stearman was again the popular choice for a ride. As Whit Becket said with his forlorn C-210, "Don't ever try to compete with a Stearman."



Dave Goodwin's Kitfox

Thank you to Craig Ritson, Jeff Paris, Rob Williams, Whit Beckett, Norm Isler, Larry Greeno, Dave Goodwin, and 3 visitors for flying in and offering rides.

Thank you also to the hots and hamburger grillers and the salad and dessert makers. It all made for a wonderful evening.

AIRPLANES OF THE SAC

We are very fortunate that the Sport Aviation Center attracts many different kinds of aircraft to our events. Besides our Chapter mix of Cessna/Piper/Beech's and RV/Sonex/Zenith's, our guests fly in with some unique aircraft. Here is a sampling.



Dwight and Lorraine Meyers' Navion



Bob Northrup's RV-8A



Dave Amsler's Sonex



Former EAA President Hightower came to a Grass Roots Tour stop here in this TBM-850.



Visiting GlasStar and Jeff Paris's Zenith Zodiac

ROCHESTER AVIATION HISTORY ALBERT STONE PHOTOGRAPHS

Albert Stone was a photojournalist for the Rochester newspapers in the 1920's and '30's. These examples of his work show the creative mind of homebuilders, and charlatans, in the early days of Rochester aviation.

Thank you to the Rochester Museum & Science Center for permission to use these images.



The original Taylor Chummy on which we built our replica at the Rochester airport.



1917 Clasgen-Geiger model



1908 Fairport Balloonfest

1908 Fairport Balloonfest



Businessman/Charlatan John Cooley convinced several Rochesterians to invest in his flying machine above, only to skip town with the money and leave the unfinished craft to be destroyed by weather.

Businessman/Charlatan John Cooley convinced several Rochesterians to invest in his flying machine above, only to skip town with the money and leave the unfinished craft to be destroyed by weather.

**EAA Chapter 44
Board of Directors' Meeting
11 June 2013**

Board Members Present: Hurd, Clayton, Byers, Nelligan-Barrett, North, Williams, Isler

Other Members Present: Greeno, Northrup

Reports:

- President (Rob Williams):
 - Greetings to Bob Northrup.
- Vice President (Norm Isler):
 - Very successful AOPA Safety Seminar. They were so pleased that they've already asked to reserve the facility for a fall presentation.
 - Need to get a grounds crew organized to tend to the outside of the SAC.
- Treasurer (Dave Hurd):
 - Read and approved.

Business:

- Building Committee (Darryl Byers / Mike Clayton)
 - No report.
- Capital Campaign (Larry Greeno)
 - Mike Clayton moved that we accept the Mission Statement as proposed in the June newsletter, seconded by Norm Isler. Motion passed unanimously.
 - Beyond the Mission Statement, Larry discussed the importance of establishing a vision for the organizations goals. He shared a recent "Sport Aviation" article that described the success that the EAA chapter in Flabob, CA

has had in aviation education and youth outreach.

- Larry laid out a proposed timeline that captures the general order of activities to establish a successful fundraising program.
- Rob requested that the Building Committee begin looking into cost estimates for a hangar extension to the current SAC.
- Old Business:
 - Induction loop system – Bob Nelligan-Barrett reported on the possibility of installing a sound amplification system for the hearing impaired. The system should work within the Great Room. Looking to include this as part of an overall sound system.
 - Geriatric Pilots visiting this Saturday, 11:00 – 3:00. General open house, serving hots and hamburgers, offering plane rides.
 - Looking at options for clock donation from Mike Kuyt.
- New Business:
 - Norm moved that we buy 8-10 additional white tables for the Great Room. Dave Hurd seconded, passed unanimously.
 - The Board donated funds out of pocket to kick off the hangar fund.
 - AOPA Giving Back Program – A program that provides grants to worthy aviation organizations. Individual awards of up to \$10,000 are available. Bob Nelligan-Barrett to work on application.
 - Letter from Mike Kuyt with membership growth ideas. Rob to follow up with Mike.

CONTACT EAA 44



The Flyer is published monthly. For an electronic copy, go to <eaa44.org> and enter your email address where requested. For a mailed hard copy (\$10), contact Treasurer Dave Hurd. For membership info, contact Treasurer Dave Hurd.

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

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EAA 44 is a 501(c)3 organization.

Gifts of cash, securities or other property to the Chapter for the benefit of the Sport Aviation Center are welcome and fully tax deductible.

Contact Treasurer Dave Hurd for details.



Sport Aviation Center of Western New York

REGIONAL CALENDAR

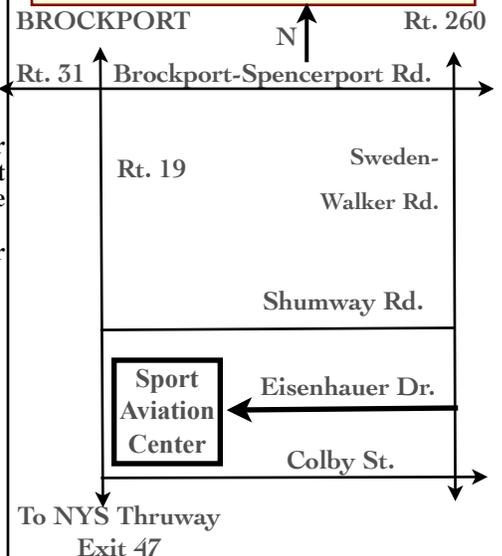
Please see the Upstate NY Aviation Calendar at <upstatelist.org> for pancake breakfasts and other events in our area.

GENESEO AIRSHOW featuring the DeHavilland Mosquito
July 13/14, Geneseo Airfield (D52)

AIRVENTURE 60th Anniversary
July 29 - August 4
Wittman Field (OSH), Oshkosh, WI
<eaa.org>

NATIONAL AVIATION DAY
marking Orville Wright's 142nd birthday.
August 19

NYS FESTIVAL OF BALLOONS
Aug 29-Sept 1, Dansville Airport (KDSV)
<nysfob.com>



EAA 44 Calendar



NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday July 16

Elmer Pankratz, WWII pilot, author and President of the Geriatric Pilots Association will be speaking to us. See article in this newsletter.

Please bring a dish or side dish to pass to complement our pizza and wings dinner.

**July 13 SC Open House
(hots and hamburgers provided)**

July 16 General Meeting

**July 21 Hendershot's Annual,
Last-ever Fly-in Breakfast,
Hilton NY (34NY)
EAA 44 to park airplanes**

July 27 SAC Saturday Work Day

**Aug 10. SAC Open House
(hots and hamburgers provided) &
All-Hands-on-Deck Saturday work
crew**

Aug. 13 Board Meeting
Aug 20 General Meeting
Aug 24 SAC Sat Work Day

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

Sport Aviation Center

44 Eisenhower Dr. 14420
Brockport Airport/
Ledgedale Airpark (7G0)
43° 10' 56" N 77° 55' 1" W

Board Meetings-

2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 PM

General Meetings-

3rd Tuesday of the month

Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30

SAC Saturday Work Days-

2nd & 4th Saturdays, 10 AM

Bob Nelligan-Barrett
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