EAA Smilin 'Jack Chapter 866 Newsletter
December 2019

Captain Dave turning base to final for runway 09 at TIX in the Ford AT5 Tri-motor in March 2018

Greetings Members and Friends of EAA Chapter 866,

The Tri-Motor is here! As you should already know, the *Smilin' Jack* chapter is again joining forces with the Valiant Air Command museum to host a Ford Tri-Motor tour stop in early January. We hosted the 5AT Tri-Motor back in March of 2018, and had a wonderful series of 4 days of flying and sharing that wonderful airplane with our local community. The staff at EAA Headquarters and the pilots and support folks that run the Tri-Motor tour operation had such a positive experience when they were here last time, they asked to return. In fact, they requested the VAC museum to let them bring EAA's 4AT Tri-Motor down early so it could stay over in December for the airplane's Winter maintenance activity. I just confirmed that the 4AT Tri-Motor arrived at the museum as scheduled on the Monday prior to Thanksgiving and will be here thru Jan. 12th.

It's our job as a chapter to support the Tri-Motor tour stop by promoting it with our social contacts, and then volunteering to help during the event as we can. I should have posters, cards, and other printed promotional materials to hand out at our next chapter meeting. Please share this information with any other clubs or groups you may be a member of. We've already passed around a volunteer sign-up sheet and there's been a wonderful response. We could still use a few volunteers for the time slots on Sunday Jan. 12th, and I'll have the volunteer sign-up roster available again at our next meeting. This event is a lot of fun! We get to share our love of aviation with others, and the Tri-Motor tour guests get to experience an extremely rare and unique opportunity to actually ride on a historic 90 year old airplane!

The Joys & Wonders of Flight are Timeless, especially thru the windows of a 90 yr-old airplane!

Chapter Movie night review. **If you missed our chapter movie night last month, you missed a really good time and a great aviation movie that had lots of great WWI aircraft flying and aerial stunts. We had about 17 or 18 members and guests come out on Friday, November 8th. I'd like to thank everyone that brought food and goodies. We didn't let Debra take home one drop of her wonderful Chili! Speaking of movies, I saw the new release of *Midway* a few days ago, and I highly recommend it, lots of flying action.**

DeLand Showcase review. **This was the 4th year of the DeLand Sport Aviation Showcase event, held last month on Nov. 14th thru 16th. Unfortunately, the weather for this event was less than optimal for much of the 3 days. I originally intended to take off work on Friday and fly our little Panther kitplane up for the day, and possibly even camp overnight. The persistent low clouds and occasional light rain put that idea to rest pretty early in the week for this VFR-only flyer. Nevertheless, I did drive up to see what was going on and to support the Panther crew and their customer cookout on Friday. It was a relaxed atmosphere, and I saw some nice airplanes and several friends. Zenith Aircraft had a big presence there and ran a three-day builders workshop on how to build an aluminum aircraft, such as their CH750. There were several forums, including AOPA & EAA presentations. There was lots of musical entertainment from the Flying Musicians organization. And the Local EAA Chapter 635 was serving up delicious breakfast and lunch options every day. Our very own Bob & Kathy Anderson managed to bring in both the Rans S-12 and the Rans S-19 to show off their Viking power-plants. It was great to spend part of my day with Bob & Kathy! I also ran across Charlie Becker who was down from EAA Headquarters manning the booth for the EAA National organization. There was not a lot of flying on account of the weather, but several of the STOL aircraft were still putting on a show with their ultra-short take-offs and landings! This event has a lot of potential and hopefully the weather will be much better for them next year.**

If you didn't make it to DeLand, here's a YouTube of Paul Bertorelli's review on AvWeb:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=1&v=fSzywz2Tw_c&feature=emb_logo

I'd like to express a huge Thank You to Kathy Anderson for sharing a video she made at our last chapter meeting. It was a video of a cross country flight that Kathy & Bob made last Summer. This video was very well edited, set to music and everything, and contained a lot of amazing aerial footage of the beautiful landscapes out West. We got to share in their trip, see the many airports they used, and vicariously experience some of the rewards of having the freedom to fly our own personal airplanes. Great job Kathy!

Winter Party. **Our Annual Chapter Winter Party is scheduled for Saturday Jan. 18th at LaCita Country Club in Titusville. This is the same venue we've used for several years. Last year we enjoyed the musical talents of an aviation inspired band called "Fly by Night", but this year we will be entertained by a band called "KittyHawk", and you just might recognize them! Formal attire is requested. Tickets are only $25.00 per person and that includes your annual chapter membership dues renewal for the year 2020. The Winter Party is being coordinated by your most capable Chapter Secretary, Kimberly Brennan, so please take a moment and thank her for all she is doing to pull the details together. What a deal, renew your membership dues, eat a nice dinner and be entertained with live music for only $25!! Get your tickets at our December or January chapter meetings or breakfasts!**

Officer Elections. **It's that time of year again to elect Chapter officers. Chapter 866 has 4 elected officer positions and 2 slots for at-large Board Members which are appointed by the chapter President. Requirements for holding any of the officer and board positions, as well as requirements for voting eligibility are spelled out in the Chapter By-Laws. If you want a copy of the By Laws to review, you may request it from myself or any of the officers at any time. Initial nominations for elected officer positions were made at the November meeting, last month. If you're interested in serving our chapter as an officer, but didn't get nominated last month, you may still have the opportunity to be nominated at the December meeting as a write-in candidate. Yes, we will be trying out written ballots this year. Please try to attend the meeting on Dec. 4th so you can have a say in how your chapter is run.**

We have an awful lot to be thankful for, not the least of which is our freedom to exercise the privilege to build and fly our own personal flying machines!

I hope everyone had a very Happy Thanksgiving, and I'm looking forward to seeing you all at our next chapter gathering!!

Keep on Building, Flying, and Flippin' those *Smilin'-Flap-Jacks*!
Les Boatright
EAA Lifetime #563003
President, EAA Chapter 866
The *Smilin' Jack* Chapter

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Some reminders about upcoming events:

Date	Calendar Event	Place/Info
Dec. 4th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting – Chapter Officer Elections	Building 10 / 7 pm
Dec. 7 Dec. 21	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast Monthly Breakfast EAA Chapt 1288 Valkaria Airport	Building 10 / 8-10 am Terminal building
Dec. 25th	CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY	
Jan. 1st	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY	Building 10 / 7 pm
Jan. 4th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Jan. 9th -12th	Ford Tri-Motor Tour Stop Returns to Titusville!! https://www.eaa.org/eaa/events-and-experiences/fly-the-ford-eaa-ford-tri-motor-airplane-tour	TICO Airport (KTIX) VAC Museum, Titusville
Jan. 18th	EAA 866 Annual Winter Party – Tickets are on sale NOW! ($25 per person) Formal Attire requested	LaCita Country Club 5-9 PM
Feb. 1st	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Feb. 5th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Mar. 4th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Mar. 7th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am

Mar. 31st – Apr. 5th	Sun-N-Fun Aerospace Expo & Fly-In https://www.flysnf.org/	Lakeland Linder Arprt (KLAL)
Apr. 1st	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting Possibly CANCEL due to SnF Conflict??	Building 10 / 7 pm
Apr. 4th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast – CANCEL due to SnF?	Building 10 / 8-10 am

PLEASE SEND IN any additions / updates to the Calendar of Events.
We'd like to keep this current and accurate!
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This Months Flying

Larry Gilbert

Landing

Our Citabria is fitted with only a few flight instruments, airspeed, altitude, and turn coordinator is all you get when you fly this plane, just the basics! You really don't even need all of these when landing, in fact, the airspeed is the only one you might need.

This month a friend wanted to fly to refresh operations flying a tail wheel plane so, we put him in the front seat of the Citabria and we put me in the back. Landings are what everyone worries about the most in a tail wheel plane so concentration on the landing maneuver was in order. We all know that a good approach usually leads to a good landing, right? Sometimes we have to adjust for the 50' obstacle that was only imaginary when we learned to fly. On final approach when the obstacle is looming in front of you followed by a runway that is a lot shorter than what you're used to, this is reality! When turning from base to final I glance at the airspeed instrument just to make sure we're at about 70 mph and no more than that. When there's someone up front doing the flying I mention this to them. Depending on the size of person in the front seat, a lot of times I can't see any of the instruments. At Dunn Airpark there is a REAL 50' obstacle when you're landing on runway 22. TREES! A stabilized approach with airspeed hovering around 65, if everything is working right, you just miss the trees and glide down to the runway flare at the red stakes (runway end markers) and land where the green stakes are. These mark the beginning of the landing portion of the runway. These are displaced 297' from the red stakes. Now, here's what happened on the flight we made. We were on final and on speed. The pilot found us to be a little low and began to pull to clear the trees. You probably know where I'm going with this, low power, slow speed and the tree is growing so, we try to clear the tree with pitch up! What's wrong with this? What is the proper correction that we should make? What is the danger in what we tried to do by pitching up to clear the trees?

I'm just curious about your thoughts on this. Talk to me.

Larry

Toys For Tots Event at Merritt Island Airport

Larry Gilbert

December 14, 2019 is the annual Toys for Tots event at KCOI this year. Our chapter has helped with this event by cooking and serving the breakfast that is served there. Kip has always mixed pancake batter for me and now he's not here, so, we'll be taking the small chapter grill over to cook the pancakes and sausage they serve. Loretta will be mixing the batter for me. Several other of our members generally go and help with the setup and other things that have to be done there. Want to help? All you have to do is show up at about 7:30 at the FBO on the South side of the field.

Our chapter members used to do a fly out to that event and we had as many as 7 of our planes would fly in weather permitting. All you have to do is bring an unwrapped new toy with you and donate this. You'll get a free breakfast if you do this!

Larry

Chapter officers

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Hey chapter members, I need stories for the newsletter. It's your newsletter and I know some of you have had some things happen to you while involved in this airplane stuff that is interesting. Just send me a simple story about the time something went bang and the engine blew up or maybe you got some smoke in the cabin. Maybe nothing like that ever happened to you but, you had an interesting first solo. If you flew when we didn't have GPS or any of those wonderful nav aids but only had paper charts, an E6B and a time piece. We used to get lost sometimes! Please send something. *Larry*

You've heard of the Canary Islands, right? Well, there's no canaries there! You've heard of the Virgin Islands too, well, there ain't no canaries there either!

We'll see you all on Weds. at the meeting, it's ELECTION NIGHT!

Monthly Breakfast
Sat. Dec.7, 2019 8:00 am
Dunn Airpark (X21) Bldg. 10
Titusville, Fl. 32796

Chapter Monthly Meeting
Weds. Dec.4, 2019 7:00 PM
Dunn Airpark Bldg.10

Titusville, FL. 32796

BIG EVENT AT TICO JAN 9 THRU 12
OUR CHAPTER WILL BE HOSTING THE EAA FORD TRI-MOTOR AND HOPPING RIDES

YOU DO WANT TO BE THERE FOR THIS!!