





EAA C866 Smilin 'Jack Newsletter Sept. 2012



President's Notes Sept 2012

Life has been pretty busy for me lately, and I haven't been hanging out at the airport nearly as much as I would like. Part of my busyness is my day job, and the other has been my new (temporary) part-time job as a property renovator. I've probably flown less in the last 2 months than any 2 month period since I started flying again about 5 years ago. The great fall weather is coming, with clearer skies, lower density altitudes, and cooler temps. Its time to re-think my priorities I guess

A few months ago we were asked to sponsor Ryan Farrington, a young man from Melbourne, to take part in the National Blue Beret Academy at Airventure in Oshkosh. Ryan is a senior at Viera High School, an EAA member, and also a Cadet Second Lieutenant in the Civil Air Patrol. He will be coming to share his experiences at Airventure at our meeting next Wednesday Sept 5. Don't forget our monthly breakfast this Saturday Sept 1.

Ben

August Meeting

Our August meeting was attended by 23 members and friends. The highlight of the meeting was our guest speaker J.R. "Lites" Leenhouts, president of Sun n Fun, Lakeland, FL. The Sun n Fun facility is expanding its activities beyond the annual Spring fly in. Their main effort will be towards education. They are establishing a training center aimed primarily at youth for aviation degrees similar to Embry Riddle. The Sun n Fun organization has established an Aero Club with 50 youth participating right now! Get this, for qualified youth the SNF will provide a 75% scholarship to learn to fly for these club members for all of the ratings except ATP. Their mission statement is about building the pilot population in the USA. They are also planning events such as a world class southern barbeque (competition, I think) that Lites said would bring folks and their airplanes down from the north and all over to participate in this. Anyway, it was an uplifting presentation with a lot of positive stuff about our flying hobbies and the Sun n Fun place in Lakeland.

During the regular part of the meeting we discussed having a Young Eagle rally on the 20th of Oct. Larry asked that the membership think about this and let him know if pilots and their airplanes will be available on that day and to think about contacting youth groups to get some Y-E candidates for that date.

Project reports were given. Bill Bilsky has purchased an engine for his helicopter project. In fact he bought 19 turbine engines and is using one of these for his project and intends to sell the rest. I think that these are rated at around 200hp. See Bill if you are interested in one of these. Bruce Hotz did an interesting and humorous report on some things he's doing. He bought a miniature table saw at harbor freight and said it makes good sawdust. The thing winds up to 14,000rpm and might be a good thing to cut balsa wood with. When asked for a demo, he plugged the thing in, turned it on and when it was up to speed he put a 2x6 to it and it managed to nick the wood and promptly stalled it. Bob Rychel reported that he has 43 hrs on the Zodiac and after getting a new harness built for his transponder and encoder by Sarasota avionics (where he purchased these) and when he gets his new Icom A210 radio back, he will finish up his training for LSA pilot and take the practical. Ed Brennan finished the doors of his project and will be getting his Viking engine soon. He's reviewing procedures for covering the plane using the Stewart system. Kip Anderson moved his Sonex from his shop to the garage. He has the landing gear on and found an issue with the drum brakes and is ordering a better set. The tail is on and he is working on connecting the throttle and mixture cables on and is mounting the carburetor. Almost ready for engine start he says. Les still working on cowling cutting and fitting trial and error method. He said he has a lot of respect for those who build fiberglass planes now. Al and Steve returned from Airventure and Al said he had a carb heat problem and had some work done at Zanesville, Ohio airport. He said that they treated he and Steve like royalty and charged a very small fee for the work.

August Breakfast

Another successful breakfast held on Aug. 4 at Dunn Airpark! One hundred and thirty + eaters showed up and we heard many nice comments about the affair. The Spruce Creek pilots showed up in force once again and there were at least two planes that we hadn't seen before. One was a nice Blue and Yellow Cub and the other, a blue Porterfield. Not sure but I think they were a husband and wife. In addition to our regular fare, Loretta made a blueberry coffee cake and some cinnamon rolls that brought rave reviews! The breakfast crew did a fine job as usual. Just as we were pushing the last piece of equipment into the building we were hit with a heavy rain shower. Our timing was excellent!

This Month's Flying RV12 Ride

Most of us have seen Jeff Wilde's beautiful RV 12 he finished this spring. I was lucky enough to have a ride with Jeff in his plane. We departed 15 at Dunn and made a downwind departure to the north out of the pattern and flew along the west bank of the Indian River at 1400' to Scotsmoore. The visibility out of that plane is awesome! The instrument panel is a Dynon glass panel and it is nice but takes a little getting used to, I found. He let me fly the plane a little and the only thing I did was a couple of medium banked turns. The plane handles nice and I don't think it would take long to get used to. The 912 Rotax is remarkably quiet and you feel as though it's similar to a Cherokee, just a little lighter. When Jeff shuts the engine down with the ignition switch the lightweight composite prop comes to a very abrupt stop in about 1/2 of a revolution. Unless you know this is the way it works, you'd think

that the engine just seized. This is a great example of a LSA airplane and this one is exceptionally beautiful and Jeff handles her well.

Bob Rychel has flown the time off of his Zodiac 650 and he and I made a flight to practice maneuvers in preparation for his practical Sport Pilot test. This little airplane is another delight to fly and a lot like the RV12. Bob pretty much has it all figured out and only has a couple of little things left before his check ride. After that he and Jan will be tooling around the neighborhood with 'Little Bit and off on adventurous cross country excursions soon.

Dick House and I have been flying 'Fancy around some and I really enjoy flying with him too. He's 87 yrs young and taught cadets to fly during WWII. I can learn something from everyone and Dick likes to fly "Fancy as though she is a BT13 (Vibrator) that he taught in. I'm still learning from folks like him too. I never would have thought that at my age now (73) I'd be learning from older people. I'm blessed!

Young Eagle Rally Coming up

Pictures at top of newsletter are from our Y-E rally of 2011

October 20 will be our Y-E rally. Hopefully we'll have around 5 or 6 planes and 20 to 30 youth to fly. The biggest thing is finding the kids who are interested in the program. So, I need your help with this. Let your church youth dept. or your local Scout kids know about this. Hey, FREE airplane ride for youth 7 – 17yrs. Shouldn't be that hard if we make a little effort! Ask your friends and neighbors. The 20th is the third Sat in Oct and the location is our meeting room bldg. 10 by the Skydive center. We intend to fly over the Shuttle Landing Facility once again this year. Ground help is as important as flying the kids and we need you to help. We usually have an airplane to do the ground portion of the event. We need the plane and a volunteer to do the presentation about what makes the airplane work, etc. We need people at the registration table to do the required paperwork and keep things flowing smoothly. Also we need you to escort the kids safely back and forth to and from the flight line. Take pictures enjoy and enjoy the day. We'll talk more about at the Sept meeting.

Larry Gilbert Y-E co ordinator.

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Monthly Breakfast
Sat. Sept 1, 8:00 – 10:00
Dunn Airpark Bldg. 10
Titusville, Fl

Chapter Meeting
Weds. Sept. 5, 7:00 pm
Dunn Airpark Bldg. 10
Titusville, Fl

Young Eagle Rally
Sat. Oct 20
Dunn Airpark Bldg. 10
Titusville, Fl 32796