

# EAA Chapter 866

## Smilin 'Jack Newsletter Jan. 2015



*The pilots from Spruce Creek made a pass over the field with smoke on as they departed Dunn after breakfast Dec. 06*

**Happy New Year to All!**

### ***Pres. Report***

**Our December Elections returned the 2014 slate of Officers to office. I will continue as your President for 2015, Les Boatright will remain Vice Pres, Kip Anderson will remain Secretary for 2015 and Herman Nagel will continue to serve as our Treasurer for 2015. Larry Gilbert will continue on as Newsletter Editor and Young Eagles Coordinator not to mention Chief Pancake Baker! Thank you all for your service. Our Chapter is very blessed to have these members as our leaders. So much gets done by them to keep the Chapter running smoothly.**

**Other new developments: We now have our very own Flight Advisor. Don Garrison has agreed to perform this very important function for our Chapter. Kip Anderson has also applied to EAA to be one of our two Tech Counselors. We will be able to help our own members with these essential services! These two postings put us in league with larger chapters. Thank you both for stepping up to the plate!**

**Other items that have been completed are: A successful fire inspection- no dings thanks to Eddie and Les for getting the propane storage job box installed, painted and placarded, and ground stake installed. The stake was donated by Bill Bilsky – THANK YOU! This was a big job but we are in compliance with fire safety rules. The fire extinguishers have been updated as well. I asked the technician at Bobb's why hitting the canisters on a tree before putting the new sticker on cost \$40. He said, "Knowing where to hit the canister on which tree and when, is why it was \$40!" There's a laugh!**

**Our complimentary December Breakfast was a hit and 166 eaters came to do us proud! It was non-stop mixing, frying, and pancake baking for two full hours! Many many thanks to all who participated setting up, cooking, baking, shopping, clean-up and all the myriad details that go into one of our Super Breakfasts. We had a non-stop parade of aircraft along with a beautiful day!**

December was also special for 10 of us: we had the opportunity to tour the MCO Tower and TraCon. This fascinating 4+ hour tour was amazing. It is no wonder that ATC get stressed! Many thanks to Alberto for making it possible for us to do this!

Les Boatright led the effort in our entry in the Titusville Christmas Parade. My unfortunate fall off the airplane trailer and ensuing sprained foot kept me out of the festivities, but I just know everyone who participated had a great time! Thanks, Les, for handling that! (The trailer is now blocked up underneath so that won't happen again!)

December 13th was a busy day for several of our members who also belong to Merritt Island's Chapter 724: Don White and his Flying Elves led the Toys for Tots drive with a pancake breakfast and our very own Pancake Mixologist, Kip Anderson, and his trusty drill, helped that effort along!

The January Meeting will feature Marcie Katz. She is a professional organizer and pilot. "Getting Your Hangar Organized," will be her topic on the 7th January.

Breakfast is on the 3rd of January. This will be an opportunity for you to pay your dues and get your Holiday Party tickets for the January 24th Gala at La Cita. Kimberly and Eddie Brennan have been working hard to make this happen for us in this swanky setting. There will be music to dance to, good food to eat and door prizes- While you are getting those tickets from Herman, be sure to see Kip so he can update the roster for the Chapter.

What an amazing group we have in Chapter 866! I am so proud of everyone and the efforts you put into our communities as aviation outreach. Your mentoring of young up-coming aircraft builders, pilots, and leaders in the community is astounding! Let us make 2015 as incredible as 2014!

Blue Skies!

Deborah

### *January 2015 December Breakfast*

The annual complimentary breakfast went very well and once again we didn't run out of any foods, thanks to Loretta's good planning and knowing the habits of our eaters. In addition to buying a little extra stuff like eggs and bacon, she baked extra biscuits, cooked more grits, and made extra sausage gravy. We pulled in to the bldg. 10 parking lot at 5:45 am to get things set up and heat the grills and clean them up. About 6:15 Ray and Donna showed with lots of breakfast desserts and Ray began cooking the bacon and sausage to get the needed head start on that stuff. Les and Eddie showed a little later and started the table and chair set ups. By 7:30 most of the rest of the crew arrived and we were ready to get started. At 8:00 our eaters started showing up and there was a steady line until about 9:30. Eddie relieved me of the pancake duty at about 9:00 so, I got to see some of the planes and take a couple of pictures. We had everything cleaned up by 10:30 and packed our truck with the crock pots, syrup bottles and water containers so we could clean our share of the stuff up. Ray and Donna take the other half of the stuff to their house to clean up. We didn't get a count of the number we served but it was quite a few. I know that when I went out to the flight line there were 37 planes that had flown in! Good breakfast! - - - lg

### *Flight Adviser*

Several members asked me if I would serve as Flight Adviser for the chapter and since no one else had volunteered I took the materials home and looked them over. After studying the manual I thought it over and decided that there might be someone more qualified than myself to do this so, I approached Don Garrison and handed him the manual and asked him if he'd look this over and consider this chapter position. He did this and informed me a few days later and we filled out the paperwork and gave this to Deborah to place her signature on the form and send it in.



Don and Heidi in their beautiful RV 8

**Don's brother Jim was nearly killed in his experimental on his first flight, he crashed on takeoff from Dunn Air park several years ago. Some of you chapter members may remember the talk that Jim gave at one of our meetings after he recovered from his injuries, the talk was about being really prepared for that first flight.**

**Soon we will have an official Chapter Flight Adviser and a really good one too! Don is a very accomplished pilot with credentials like ATP – CFII – Commercial/ Instrument and MEI and flies his RV8 which he built and did the first flight in. Well qualified, don't you think?**



*This is how serious this is, folks! This is Jim's plane where he crashed it*

**Larry Gilbert**

### ***MCO Tower/Tracon Tour***

**Member Alberto Silva did an outstanding job arranging for a tour of the Tower and Tracon facilities at at Orlando international airport on Dec. 11. The Orlando officials can only accommodate ten people at a time so Alberto set it up that the first 9 respondents to his invite would be the ones to go. I'm glad that I was one of those 9! Imagine being in a control tower in the middle of that large airport at over 300' looking out the windows seeing the big jets landing and taking off and moving about on the ground of that huge airport. Not only that, while you're up there you are shown all of the displays the controllers work with and get an expert explanation of what you're looking at. It is so thorough and well explained that even I almost understand it! Beautiful!! Then they took us down into the small very dark Tracon training lab and then into the actual control room where you hear the radio exchanges between approach and aircraft and even communications at other towers if they are selected. You see the action on their screens and we even saw some alerts to possible conflicts between aircraft. All of these were at other airports and not MCO and not in contact with Orlando approach. You're in there with the pros, where the action is!**

Amazing!! Big thanks to Alberto for making this arrangement.

Larry

### *Toys For Tots Flight*

Our Citabria was a little hard to start on Sat. Dec. 13, the day of the annual Merritt Island toy fly-in/breakfast. She doesn't like cold weather. After a frantic pumping of the primer that puts raw gas into two cylinders, she ran on those and finally the other two cylinders got the message and picked up the pace and she developed the LYC O235 600 rpm rhythm that is familiar to me. Taxied out, did all of the checks, then lined up on 33, there were a lot of seagulls on the runway just beyond intersection Bravo so, because I knew it would only take about 700' roll to be airborne, I started down the runway and accelerated to about 30 mph to give the GU 11s a chance to take off before we ate them up and spoiled the whole day for us and them. As soon as we scared them off we put the power in and were on our way. We talked to the TIX controller and flew by their airport at 1000' over the west bank of the Indian river. At 8:05 we stepped out of the plane and tied it down. We were the first arrival and Kip was there to greet us as we walked in the hangar to give them the toy and have a couple of pancakes. Kip told us that he couldn't start his Sonex so, he drove in. Kip had taken his new homemade pancake batter mixer and our pancake batter dispenser down to help them out with the pancake cooking but, they didn't want to use Kip or any of his equipment.

Kip ate with us because he didn't have anything else to do. It was nice for the three of us to be on the eating end of one of these breakfasts for a change.

Since we were the first to get to COI, we were the first to leave. As we were taxiing out there were a few airplanes arriving so they probably had a good turnout. We departed 29 into a quartering head wind from the NW and by the time we crossed the departure end of the runway we were at 400'. Fancy likes these conditions, you know, cool temps and a little wind coming down the runway. In twenty one minutes we were entering x wind for 33 at Dunn and after a passable wheel landing we exited the runway and taxied in and put Fancy to bed. Fun!

Larry

### *2014 Christmas Parade*

This year the C866 parade float was one to be proud of and our contingent of chapter members did an exemplary job of representing the Smilin 'Jack chapter of EAA.







[jackson8655@cfl.rr.com](mailto:jackson8655@cfl.rr.com)] Do know anyone at Dunn AP that would be interested in sharing a hangar with my son and his VariEz.?

Check this video out..... Do you remember our program put on by Frank Chapman?

<http://www.chonday.com/Videos/fivebujawe2>

**There are three simple rules for making a smooth landing: unfortunately, no one knows what they are!**



866 Contingent at Valkaria monthly breakfast Dec. 20, 2014

## ***We Have Company!***

Loretta and I flew up to X50 (Massey Ranch) for fuel (100LL \$3.79 per gal) for our trip to Valkaria the next day and while we were taxiing out after refueling and listening for inbound traffic, we heard an announcement that someone was downwind for 36, the active runway. When using 36 there you have to back taxi about 1/3 of the runway length to get to the end for takeoff. The downwind traffic announced they'd extend for us to taxi out and take off and there was another announcement that went like this, Silver RV 8 over I95 waiting for our departure. We recognized the voice of Don Garrison and acknowledged his call. Our plan was to takeoff, make a left turn out and make a downwind departure to the South. We did this and as soon as we departed the traffic area of the airport the silver RV8 was forming up on our right side!

We flew along like this for 5 or six miles and then Don dropped back and soon appeared on the left side and all the while Loretta is in the back seat snapping pictures of Don and his shiny RV. We parted company as we approached Dunn and soon we were at the hangar and Don taxied up a few minutes later. He's hangared next to us. Fun!!



### ***Chapter 866 Officers***

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# **Chapter Breakfast**

**Sat. 01/03/15**

**8:00 am Bldg. 10**

**Dunn Air park, Titusville, FL**

# **Chapter Meeting**

**Weds. 01/07/15, 7:00 pm**

**Dunn Air Park - Bldg.10**

# **Winter Party**

**Sat 01/24/15**

**La Cita Country Club**

**\$25.00 ea Contact Herman Nagel**

**for tickets**