

EAA Chapter 866 Smilin 'Jack Newsletter

January 2017



Probably the biggest breakfast for our Chapter to date! Note the amount of folks still in line. Estimate 220 or so eaters

Happy New Year Members and Friends of EAA Chapter 866,

By Les Boatright

2017 may be a new year, but the *Smilin' Jack* chapter will have the same old officers as last year. Our annual chapter officer elections were held at last month's meeting. Having no challengers, all of your current officers ran unopposed and were quickly re-elected for another year. So, we will retain the same GREAT crew as before. Several of your officers have served in various chapter leadership roles for a number of years now, so be sure to thank these volunteers for going the extra mile. Our Complimentary December Pancake Breakfast was a great success!

Nobody does eggs like Deborah!

We had nice weather and a great turn out. We didn't keep a good count of the number of guests or planes we had, but it was a busy morning and everyone seemed to enjoy getting together! Thank You to all the Chapter members and volunteers who work to make these events so successful!

The highlight of last month's meeting was Kathy Anderson's terrific presentation about the construction and first flight of her new Ran's S-19. She kept us all entertained as she showcased her hard work over the past couple of years!! We were all impressed with her uncanny in-flight troubleshooting skills as she quickly restored a failed trim motor on her first flight; (it apparently works much better when the circuit breaker is closed). Jokes aside, it was a very successful test flight, and I think anyone who has seen her finished airplane will tell you that it's a First Class effort and really something to be proud of! I bumped into Kathy at the airport briefly this weekend, and she has already completed about 25 hours of her Phase-1 flight test program with no major issues. Way to Go Kathy!

2016 Year in Review:

As 2016 started, three of your chapter officers had the opportunity to attend and participate in an EAA Chapter Leadership Boot Camp hosted by EAA 288 at Spruce Creek and lead by several EAA staffers from Headquarters. This was an awesome way

for me to get started as your new president and we all learned a LOT of great stuff from the Boot Camp sessions and from the other folks attending as well.

As the year moved onward, we had an opportunity to use our freshly restored meeting facility to help support the kick-off of the new "Titusville Flying Club". By all accounts, this club has had a very successful first year. The Flying Club presentation from AOPA Ambassador Jamie Becket was an informative and entertaining pitch about the keys to operating a successful Flying Club, and our meeting room was jam packed!

We continued to improve our chapter clubhouse building by installing a French drain along the front to keep out rain water from the parking lot. We also purchased about 80 new folding chairs to replace many of the older ones that were worn-out, and we got a New Air Conditioner installed to help keep us cool and dry during the hot, humid months of the year! (Which is pretty much every month except January)

As another small initiative, we ordered some official EAA nametags for the folks that wanted them. I encourage each of you to wear yours at chapter meetings so that our guests can learn our names more quickly. I especially encourage everyone to wear them at our Pancake Breakfasts to help our guests know who we are and feel welcome.

We also celebrated our Chapter's 30th anniversary with a hangar party and chapter cookout. This was a lot of fun and gave many members the opportunity to see a few of the dozen or so build projects which are underway in our club. I'm always impressed when I visit another member's project and see the level of craftsmanship and detail they have put into their projects.

Later in the year we got some really interesting and amazing insights into the daily operations of our nation's Presidential aircraft, Air Force One. In July, we were really privileged to host as our special guest speaker Mr. Don Wilson (USAF Retired) who served as crew chief for Air Force-1 for ten years of his career. For more than an hour, he regaled us with many fascinating stories from his years of Air Force service.

In October, we hosted our annual Young Eagles Rally. The weather was not quite as good as what we've enjoyed in previous years, but we still flew about 25 Young Eagles. The young folks who got to fly with our volunteer pilots got plenty of good quality time with the pilots and planes. This made the experience all the more memorable and special. You should all be proud of the volunteer time you invested in these young folks, you never know where it may lead them in the future.

Near the end of the year, the Smilin' Jack chapter held a Pizza and Movie Night at the clubhouse! This little event came together very quickly, almost as an afterthought, but we kept it simple and it didn't require a huge amount of planning. There were about 25-30 folks in attendance at the movie night and all seemed to have a good time! The pizzas from Kelsey's Pizzeria were second to none, and the documentary film we watched about Bob Hoover was a fitting tribute to an aviation legend and hero!

We also had at least one first flight of a new airplane from among our chapter membership this year! And a few others should be following pretty close behind in this upcoming year. So 2016 was a great year for our chapter and I look forward to another great year for 2017!

Moving Ahead for 2017:

There are several exciting events right around the corner. I just learned that the EAA Ford Tri-motor is scheduled to be in DeLand later this month, more details are below. If you've never flown on this airplane, it's quite an experience to see what air travel was like more than 75 years ago. I've flown on the Tri-motor twice and highly recommend it! This is also the month for the U.S. Sport Aviation Expo in Sebring, and we will also have our annual chapter Winter Party this month.

Reminders about the Winter Party:

NEW LOCATION this year: Indian River Golf Preserve in Mims

DATE: Saturday Jan 21st from 6-10 PM; Formal Attire

TICKETS: Available from Chapter Treasurer Herman Nagel for \$25

(this includes your annual chapter membership dues!)

Choice of Chicken or Beef entrée;

There will be Door prizes, cash bar, a DJ, & Dancing. Get your tickets FAST!

Also, if you have any stories for the Newsletter, please let myself or Larry know. With a group like ours, there are many aviation experiences and stories to share. Take a few minutes and reflect on things you've done or seen, places you've traveled, lessons you've learned, safety tips, flying tips, builder's tips, and write them down. Aside from making the Newsletter more interesting, we would all benefit from each other's knowledge and experience.

Best Regards,

Les Boatright (EAA #563003)

President EAA 866, The Smilin' Jack Chapter

“Life is what happens while you’re building your airplane.”

Some reminders about upcoming events:

Date	Event	Place/Info
Jan. 1	Happy New Year !!	
Jan. 4	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Jan. 7	OUR 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast for January	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Jan. 12-15	FLY the FORD, EAA’s Ford Tri-Motor coming to DeLand!! See more details below, or online: http://www.eaa.org/en/eaafly-flight-experiences/fly-the-ford-eaa-ford-tri-motor-airplane-tour	DeLand Arpt (KDED)
Jan. 21	Valkaria Chapter 1288 - Pancake Breakfast (3 rd Sat.)	Valkaria Arpt (X59) 8-10 am
Jan. 21	EAA Chapter 866’s Annual Winter Party! Don’t Miss! https://www.indianriverpreservegolfclub.com/	Indian River Preserve Golf Club in Mims (I-95 exit 223) / 6-10 PM
Jan 25-28	13 th Annual Sebring U.S. Sport Aviation Expo (KSEF) https://www.sportaviationexpo.com/	Gates Open 8AM – 5PM Daily
Feb. 1	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Feb. 4	OUR 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Feb. 18	Valkaria Chapter 1288 - Pancake Breakfast (3 rd Sat.)	Valkaria Arpt (X59) 8-10 am
Mar. 1	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Mar. 4	OUR 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Mar. 10-12	Valiant Air Command’s Warbird Airshow (40 th year) http://www.valiantaircommand.com/airshow	TICO Arpt (KTIX) / Gates Open 8:30 AM, Show starts 1:00 PM
April 4-9	Sun-N-Fun Fly-In (http://www.sun-n-fun.org/)	Lakeland Linder Arpt (KLAL)
July 24-30	OSHKOSH – EAA AirVenture 2017 (Blue Angels) (http://www.eaa.org/en/airventure/eaairventure-tickets)	Wittman Regional Arpt (KOSH)
Oct. 27-28	2017 AOPA Fly-In Location #4. Tampa, FL (http://www.aopa.org/fly-ins)	Peter O. Knight Arpt (KTPF)



Embark on a journey back to aviation's golden age, when the Ford Tri-Motor became the first airplane put into commercial airline service by the United States. You'll relive the excitement and wonder experienced by aviation's finest passengers and pioneers.

DATE & LOCATION:

Book your ride by clicking on the dates below.

January 5-8: Jacksonville, FL - Jacksonville Executive Airport at Craig

[January 5](#)

[January 6](#)

[January 7](#)

[January 8](#)

January 12-15: DeLand, FL - DeLand Municipal Airport

[January 12](#)

[January 13](#)

[January 14](#)

[January 15](#)

January 19-22: Zephyrhills, FL - Zephyrhills Municipal Airport

[January 19](#)

[January 20](#)

[January 21](#)

[January 22](#)

January 26-29: Fort Myers, FL - Page Field Airport

[January 26](#)

[January 27](#)

[January 28](#)

[January 29](#)

[View Full Tri-Motor Schedule](#)

PREBOOK COST

\$70 for adults and \$50 for children

Adult walk-up price is \$75

[Visit us online](#) for more information about the Ford Tri-Motor tour, payment options, Tri-Motor history, and much more. You may also call us at 877-952-5395.

EAA'S TRI-MOTOR TAKES TO THE SKIES

A flight aboard this beautifully restored aircraft will have you recalling the energy, passion, and excitement of the Roaring '20s. Affectionately known as the "Tin Goose," this was the largest civilian passenger aircraft of its time. [Watch video >>](#)

This Months' Flying

Larry Gilbert

The most fun this month was with a WWII Martin Mars pilot. Harold Beauman, (he said his handle when he was flying was "Beau") a 94 yr old veteran hadn't flown for a long time and I think he told me it had been 50 yrs! Dick House, another 94 yr old WWII pilot who I fly with a couple of times a month made the arrangements through an acquaintance of his who is Harold's niece. When they arrived I asked Harold what he'd like to do on our flight and he asked if we could do the Shuttle Landing Facility low pass so, after we took off, I contacted NASA tower and they said call on 2 mile right base for rwy 15. Crossing the Indian River I asked Harold if he wanted the controls and he said he'd try it. I gave him the airplane and said to him that I knew he couldn't see all of the instruments and I'd keep an eye on them and tell him what is happening. He replied, that's OK all I need is to see the horizon. Now that's a pilot! It brought back memories of my primary training in

the J3 Cub. My instructor sitting in the front seat blocked my view of most of the instruments so he taught me to fly using the horizon! I don't remember him ever saying anything about airspeed! It was just the nose in relation to the horizon and he yelled at me many times if the nose wasn't where it was supposed to be. No headsets, just George Donnelly, (WWII vet pilot) yelling the instructions back to me.

Beau and I flew out to the St. Johns River and did some good old fashioned maneuvers , I did a spur of the moment chandelle without doing any planning for it and it didn't come out exactly right and I said "that's nothing to brag about", and Beau said "just

so you recognize that", like the old instructor that he is!



Harold "Beau" Beaman WWII Martin Mars pilot

Ray Thomas and I do flight reviews for each other and we did this during December. If you've never had a flight review or any training with Ray you should get some. Only if you want to learn something though. Have him demo the "hunting camp" stall This is a scenario that happened to a couple of airline pilots flying a C172!



Ray Thomas and the Piper Cub that he first flew in 1947

Mitch Bronson's Project

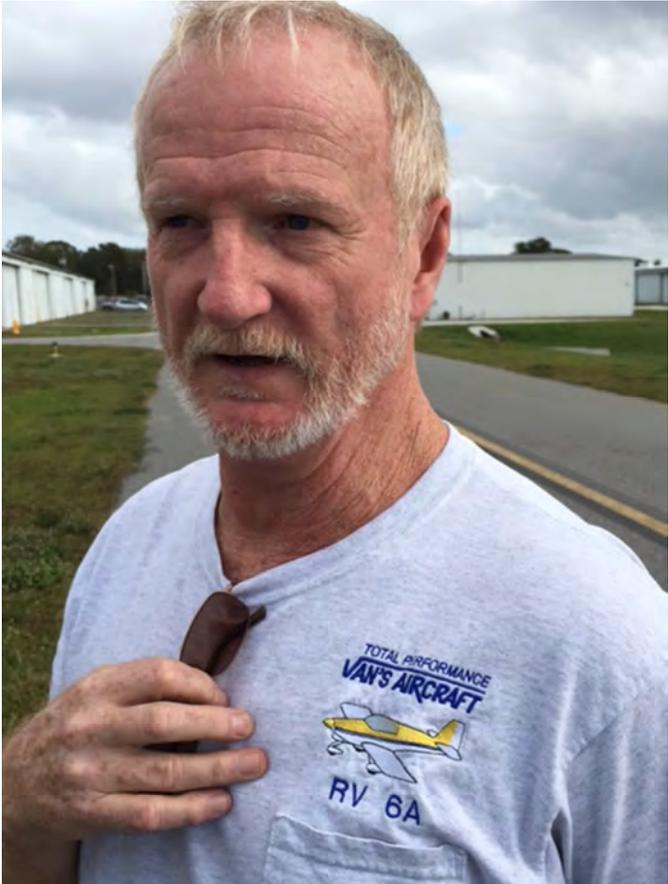
Mitch built a pedal plane for Aden, (grandson)



Beautiful



Test Flight



Chapter officers

President Les Boatright 3640 Fraizer Ct. Titusville, Fl 32780 321 269 1723 amvandles@juno.com

VP – Edward Brennan 501 Water Side Circle Titusville, Fl 32780 EJB.USMC@gmail.com

Secretary – Kip Anderson 5812 Deer Trail road Titusville, Fl 32780 321 269 4564 kipapilot@cfl.rr.com

Treasurer – Herman Nagel 21425 Hobby Horse Lane Christmas, Fl 32709 407 568 8980 bhnagel@earthlink.net

Newsletter – Larry Gilbert 2002 Malinda lane Titusville, Fl 32796 321 591 8783 larryglbrt@gmail.com

Chapter Monthly Breakfast

Sat. 7, 8:00 am

Dunn Airpark Bldg. 10

Bring an extra \$50.00 or a check so that you can buy your party tickets

Titusville, Fl

Chapter Meeting

Weds. Jan 4, 7:00 pm

Dunn Airpark Bldg. 10

Titusville, Fl

Chapter Annual Winter Party

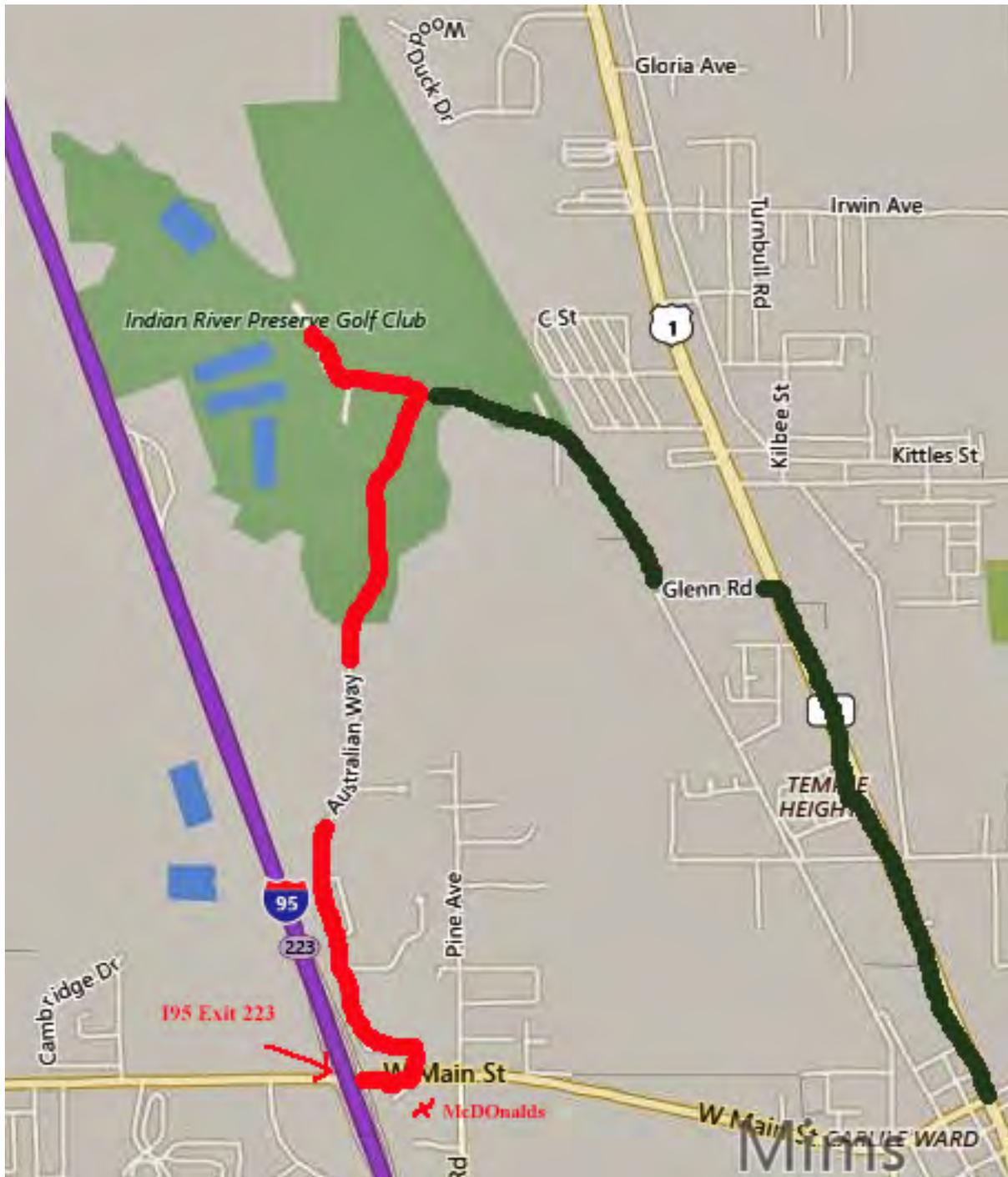
Sat. Jan 21 6:00 pm

Indian River Preserve

Mims, FL

Use your GPS and enter 3950 Walkabout way, Mims, FL 32754

See map next page



Easiest way for me to explain directions to party site is

1 exit I 95 at exit 223 and go East (rt 46) you'll see a Mc Donald's on right side, almost opposite of Mc Donald's.

On left side of rt 46 turn left, There is at sign at this road that says Indian River Preserve.

Follow this road almost 2 miles to end and go left, you'll see the clubhouse on the right

See you there 6 pm

Larry