

EAA Chapter 866 Smilin' Jack

Newsletter May 2018



Sun n Fun 2018 evening Airshow

Greetings Members and Friends of EAA Chapter 866



Les Boatright

Last month was an aviation-filled extravaganza. With the annual Valiant Air Command Warbird Airshow over at TICO, our own *Smilin' Jack* pancake breakfast, and the Big Sun-N-Fun Fly-In over in Lakeland, there were plenty of opportunities to see a variety of airplanes in action.

I took the family out to the Warbird airshow, and we crawled through the C-17 Globemaster, and my girls even got to sit in the cockpit and meet the crew! I was also really impressed with the re-enactment of the attack on

Pearl Harbor flown this year at the TICO show! There were 8 vintage airplanes painted in period Japanese markings. They flew a highly choreographed routine for nearly 15 minutes, simulating the chaos of the attack with numerous low passes in every direction, making torpedo and bombing runs, with lots of ground pyrotechnics and smoke going off with every fly over! It was quite something to see. For just a moment, it made me think about how stunning and terrifying it must've been to witness the real thing back on that infamous Sunday morning in 1941. May we never forget our history. Some of the re-enactment airplanes were the very ones used to shoot the 1970 movie *Tora! Tora! Tora!*, and a couple of them were the same airplanes used in the filming of the movie *Final Countdown* which we just recently watched a coupla months ago at one of our Chapter 866 movie nights. I also crawled through the B-17 bomber at the Warbird airshow, it was a movie star airplane too, and was used in the leading role for the filming of the 1990 movie, *Memphis Belle*.



Scenes from the Tico Warbird Airshow



C17 Globemaster at TICO Airshow, April 6th, 2018



B-17 Instrument Panel

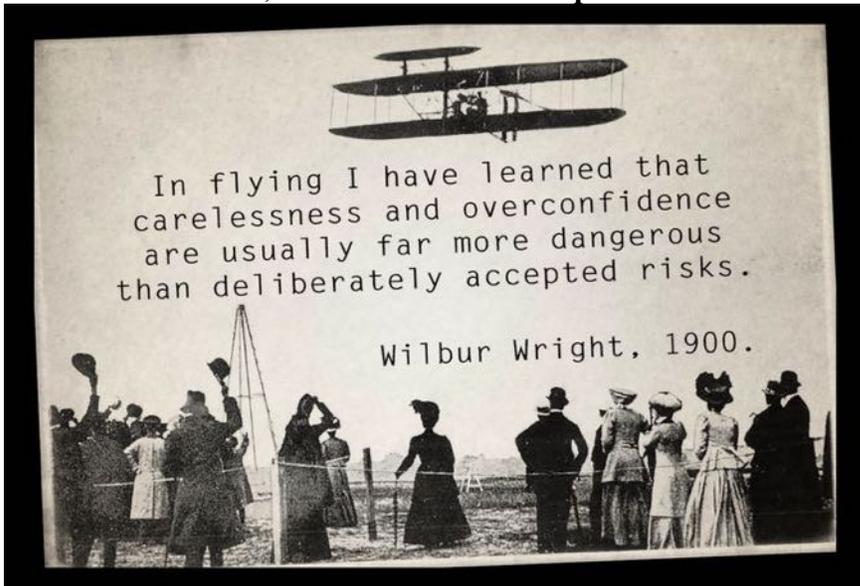
So, I hope you've all had the chance recently to enjoy some airplanes and get together with some great aviation friends.

Over the past month, I've also heard about some nice progress being made by our members on their airplane restoration and construction projects! I hope you make it to the chapter meeting on Wednesday to hear more details. I'm always amazed and inspired when I think about the many great little projects going on right here in our own chapter. Despite the small size of our chapter, we're very blessed to have a wealth of experienced builders and restoration experts. Maybe expert isn't the right word. You don't have to be an expert to do these sorts of things, to build, restore or fly your own airplanes. I believe the most important quality is having a willingness to learn! We seem to have a lot of great folks in our chapter who are interested in learning more about the sport and hobby of building and restoring airplanes. And they don't mind sharing the knowledge and experiences they've gained with the rest of us, so that we can all be smarter and more successful. That's a big part of what EAA is all about, and Chapter 866 can be proud of carrying on that tradition.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting, and don't forget the May pancake breakfast is This Saturday! I'd like to give a Big Thank You to all of you who help make the breakfasts go so smoothly, and work to make our chapter so rewarding! Very Well Done!

Keep on Building, Flying, and Flippin those *Smilin'-Flap-Jacks!*
Les Boatright (EAA #563003)

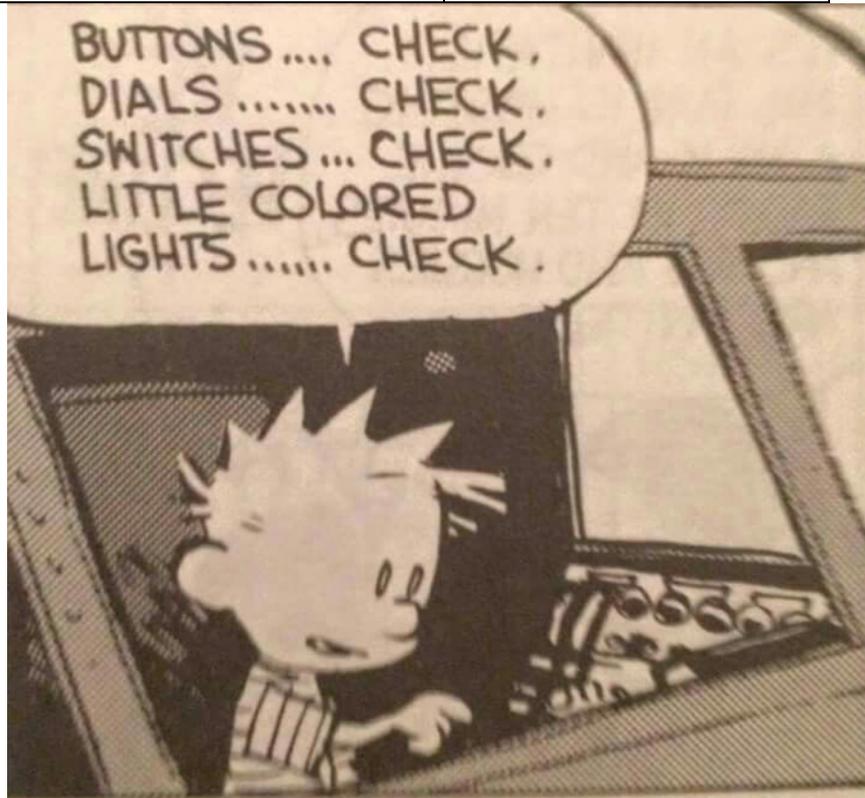
President EAA 866, The Smilin' Jack Chapter



Some reminders about upcoming events:

Date	Event	Place/Info
May 1	Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome Museum Opens for 2018 Season! May 1 st through Oct 31st https://oldrhinebeck.org/	Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome (Pvt); 9 Norton Road, Red Hook, NY (Fly-Ins by permission only!)
May 2	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
May 5 th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast (Happy Cinco de Mayo!)	Building 10 / 8-10 am
May 11 th -13 th	Valdez Fly-In & STOL Contest http://www.valdezflyin.com/	Valdez Pioneer Field, Alaska (VDZ)
May 20-21	91 st Anniversary of Linbergh's New York-to Paris Flight; Winning the Ortieg Prize. http://www.charleslinbergh.com/plane/orteig.asp	
May 28 th	Memorial Day Holiday Observed – Thank a Veteran!	
June 2	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
June 1 st – 3 rd	National Biplane Fly-In http://www.nationalbiplaneflyin.com/	Freeman Field (3JC), Junction City, Kansas

	Come drag your Tail in the Grass!	
June 6th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
July 4 th	Independence Day Holiday	
July 4 th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting (Meeting should be over Before the Fireworks)	Building 10 / 7 pm
July 7 th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
July 19 th -22 nd	Annual Pietenpol Reunion (by the Cheeseland Chapter 431) http://www.pietenpols.org/annual-pietenpol-reunion/	Brodhead Airport, WI (C37)
July 23-29	OSHKOSH – EAA AirVenture 2018 (https://www.eaa.org/en/airventure)	Wittman Regional Arpt (KOSH)



Checklist! Checklist! Checklist! Always remember your Checklists!

Sun n Fun Air Operations

Larry Gilbert



Our crew starts before sunrise each day, this picture was taken at sunrise from my post this year at Sun n Fun

This year Loretta and I started on Monday, the day before the show, working aircraft parking and marshalling airplanes everywhere on the show side of the airport at Lakeland. This is known as GAP (General Aviation Parking). It is serious business out on the line as you're constantly dealing with moving vehicles most of which have spinning propellers on them. These planes being operated by people, some who are excited to be at the show, especially first timers. Some pilots have attitudes that make our job more dangerous by moving too fast and not following the NOTAMS that apply to flying in. One of the NOTAMS states that you must display a sign to ground crews what type of parking you need. There are special places for Vintage, Homebuilt, handicapped overnight camping and General Aircraft Parking etc, etc. If they display NO sign, we just have to send them to a spot where we can stop them and find out where to send them. This slows the whole operation down which makes the whole thing even more dangerous as sometimes they wind up taxiing in to conflicting places with other planes that are going where they are supposed to. We provide special spaces for planes with spindly, castering, nose wheels and some planes with minimal prop ground clearance. Airplanes are not the only vehicles either! There are so many motorcycles that sometimes it looks like "Bike Week" in Daytona. They escort special airplanes like the Warbirds to parking and departing points. There are also vans, fuel trucks and many golf carts too. We all have to follow strict rules out there. All of the folks who work this can tell you stories about situations out there. It is the best place to volunteer during Sun n Fun week!

This year a fuel truck hit one of our supervisory people while he was driving his ATV. Also two heavy motorcycles traveling side by side came together and spilled the riders.

No collisions of aircraft and no propeller incidents though, mostly due to the rules of handling by GAP!

Donna Frantz runs the show with her talented co chair people and it is run well!



Sunrise over the Warbirds Sun n Fun 2018

Valkaria Breakfast (sad news)

Larry Gilbert

The breakfasts, held once a month on the third Saturday at X59, the Valkaria Airport, is one of my favorite places to fly out to every month. This is probably because we know a few of the folks there and after all there are generally a few planes and pilots from there who attend our breakfast. Art Irvine who is the man who started and runs the monthly breakfast at Valkaria was kind enough to call and leave a message about the fact that the breakfasts are being shut down so we wouldn't have to make the trip for nothing. Jeff Wilde and we were planning to go there in April. There have been as many as four C 866 members fly our planes there for their breakfast.

The Valkaria Aviation Association Inc (VAA) is the sponsor of this breakfast and the proceeds are used for charitable purposes. They support a local Boy Scout Troop and allow the scouts to help with the breakfast so they can learn how this activity works and to be around airplanes and pilots. A worthy cause in my opinion! Art has informed me that the airport manager has told him that the FAA has some issues about this operation on the airport and they have contacted the Airport Authority about this and the Authority has consequently informed the VAA. Sounds like a mess to me! If you've ever been to the breakfast there you know that it is well run and an enjoyable event to attend and enjoy the camaraderie with aviation enthusiasts. Too bad if this worthy cause has to be terminated isn't it? I do remember once when we flew down to that breakfast that one of our planes was damaged due to a non aviation activity going on in the parking area of the airport and I guess that activity has ceased because I've never seen that activity since, when we fly in there. Once these breakfasts are interrupted it usually takes a toll and even if it is ever started up again and it takes a while to get the event functioning again. I'd think that they could get the issues resolved and keep it going rather than shut it down. That's my opinion.

Chapter officers

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Monthly Meeting

Weds. May 2, 2018, 7:00 PM

Bldg. 10 Titusville, Fl

Dunn Airpark

Monthly Breakfast

Sat. May 5, 2018, 8:00 AM

Bldg. 10 Dunn Airpark

Titusville, Fl