

EAA CHAPTER 104 NEWSLETTER

EAA CHAPTER 104 MONTHLY MEETING

Friendship & Flying – “For The Fun of It”

Meetings held in the EAA Clubhouse – Porter County Airport-Valparaiso IN

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MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING TUESDAY- September 8, 2009

Socialize & Coffee-6:30 pm – Meeting: 7:00pm

CHAPTER WEBSITE: www.eaa104.org

See you at the September 8th meeting. Bring a friend or neighbor!

**Experimental Aircraft Association
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FIRST CLASS

EAA CHAPTER 104 MISSION STATEMENT

Foster, promote, and engage in aviation education.
Promote, encourage and facilitate membership
in the Experimental Aircraft Association.
Support and promote the mission, vision, goals
and objectives of the EAA.

President's Page

Ed Hanson

September 2009

I have been attending the Chapter ground school classes as a review for me and because my wife Judi is taking the course. It's been a long time since I first started my ground school in the mid sixties. My first classes were at the Chicago-Hammond Airport now called Lansing. We were given a mimeographed sheet each week to study. I started my flying lessons there also in a Piper J5A.



My friend, who was taking the ground school and flying lessons with me, heard of a new place to take ground school using a modern Sanderson Programmed Learning System with film strips and record lessons you could take at your own speed. They also had new metal Piper Cherokee airplanes to fly with radios! Soon we were off to Aerotech flight school at the Gary Airport and signed up.

It turns out that the fancy modern classes and new airplanes cost more to enjoy so we had to figure out a way to work through this. Being resourceful, we succeeded. The training room at Aerotech lacked any storage facility for the numerous ground school multimedia materials and the owners didn't want to purchase any cabinets as they had just bought all these fancy and expensive airplanes. Soon I cut a deal to build a storage cabinet in exchange for complete access to the ground school materials at my leisure. My friend was a teacher so he convinced the owners it would be a good idea if we conducted a ground school with their materials at Crown Point High School which might attract new students to the flight school. This was before a ground instructor rating was required.

Our plan worked and we both passed our private pilot written exams with exactly the same score of 94% although we each didn't miss the same questions. Continuing our flight training as funds allowed and bouncing from flight instructor to flight instructor, each with his own idea of what to cover during any given lesson, we both earned our private pilot certificates.

Today's flight training utilizing a uniform syllabus seems a much better approach.

As for me, I'm still building to satisfy my flight needs. This time it's an airplane.

Please work, play and build safely.

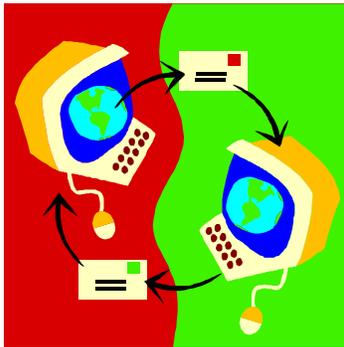
Ed Hanson

The Chapter extends our sincere condolences to the **Larmon** family for the loss of 18 year old **William S. Larmon** in an automobile accident Tuesday September 1st.

A big thank you to **Jim Hamlin** and **Dave Thomas** who donated the cost of the porta potti for the pancake breakfast. **Thank You!**

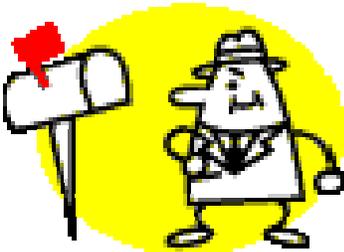
Also, we want to extend our thanks to **Dan Thomas's** daughter Erin and her husband Mike for helping the very few chapter members with the Food Booth tear down. **The extra help was really appreciated!** We didn't mind looking at her Leno edition Corvette either. Did dad ever get to drive it??

Chapter 104 Website contacts helping others: Every month our chapter website receives contacts from non members with questions or seeking information. As the general membership never hears about these, we thought we would share a few with you. These confirm our site is working and helping others.



Contact: I'm looking into buying a plane based on your field. Do you know of someone who could do a pre-purchase inspection? **Chapter action:** We matched up a chapter member and in a couple of hours the member and potential buyer had secured an agreement which ultimately lead to not only a pre-purchase inspection but an annual inspection as well. The purchase was completed and the buyer was very happy. His comment was "thank goodness for an organization like EAA".

Contact: I'm looking for information on a past president of the Howard aircraft Company who was involved with building racing cars..... **Chapter action:** We passed this request on to our chapter Howard expert for research and also provided contact information for a local well known race car builder and driver who should know the person in question. The individual who contacted us was appreciative of the information stating he was unaware the former racer was still alive.



We have received the mailing list of national EAA members residing within a thirty mile radius of VPZ to use in our member recruitment process. There are approximately two hundred names on the list including our members. Please bring your ideas on what we should include in our recruitment mailing to the September 8th meeting so we can get this project completed this fall.

Save the date. Mark your calendar now. Our final **Young Eagle Rally** of the year will be on October 24th with the 25th as a rain date. We need volunteers and we will be serving lunch so come join us and help the Young Eagles and their parents learn about the joy and excitement of aviation.

Supplies for GI's. Chapter 104 will again be helping out as **Cheri Cope** hosts her fall packing gathering on November 15th. This time we may also be helping her fill out the required paperwork for each of the many boxes. We may do this in the chapter room on a day other than the packing day. Donations for postage are sincerely appreciated. **Come and support our troops!** They really like getting the packages and dividing up the goodies. We will provide more information as the date gets nearer.



Free firewood for chapter members. It's that time of the year again when we must replenish our firewood supplies. **Ed and Judi Hanson** offer members all the free firewood you care to cut. You will need to provide your own chainsaw and safety equipment. We need to determine if we want to schedule this as a chapter family activity and pick a day, or just do it on an individual basis. Bring your thoughts and comments to the September 8th meeting.

Fog-Free Protection Mask

Do you have problems with your glasses fogging up when you wear a dust mask while sanding on your project? Are you then tempted to cheat and not wear the mask? We recently acquired a product for testing that you may like. Kimberly-Clark makes a TecnoL Fluidshield Fog-Free procedure Mask with WrapAround Splashguard Visor. This product is also natural Latex-Free. Reference number is 47147. <http://www.kchealthcare.com>.

Air Venture Food Booth Volunteer Hours

We have the report on the hours worked to staff the food booth this year by Chapter 104 and the Porter County Pilots Association members. A total of over 326 volunteer hours were recorded to staff the eighteen shifts. This does not include the set up or tear down time. All those who volunteered did a great job! However, we were short about thirty percent of volunteers to cover all the shifts, so the volunteers who had already worked had to pick up the slack. We must address the lack of volunteers for next year in some manner.

Chapter 104 Private Pilot Ground School continues every Wednesday at 7 to 10pm. You are welcome as a member to attend any or all the classes. We can all use a little review and learn something new. See you there.

Are Airports for People Who Don't Fly?

By Charlene Falkenberg

How can an airport be for people who don't fly? I'll bet that question never entered your mind. To most of us in the aviation world we think we are the sole owner of airports.

However, airports serve many needs-some you've probably never even thought of. An airport regardless of its size, serves the same basic purpose as river harbors, or train depots did in the past. An airport is a vital part of the local economy.

In many communities, I think of Lansing Municipal or Porter County airport, the airport is the location of a business center. Airports and related aviation activities play a vital role in the health of the nation's economy by employing more than one-half million people just at the airports served by scheduled air carriers.

I'd like to consider the economic impact of this country's general aviation airport. Only general aviation can provide the total air transportation network by connecting the entire population with the air carriers. General aviation flies more hours, more miles and hauls more cargo than do the air carriers. General aviation airports create wealth. They are home to aircraft that save lives, enforce laws, fight fires, protect crops, search for energy, and work for business and industry. Have you ever thought of beside providing personal and business transportation many skilled pilots fly air ambulance, search and rescue, transporting blood and organs.

Many hundreds of Ninety-Nines fly blood for the American Cancer Society. I am sure you have heard of Angel Flights. It was initially begun by a 99 from Illinois. We have 99s who transport greyhound dogs when they are retired, and we transport daffodils each spring for the American Cancer Society. How many times do you see a bad accident and helicopters are called in to transport the injured?

General aviation is also used for law enforcement. Many gutsy pilots and tough machines of general aviation take on the difficult and often dangerous job of search and rescue.

There is a group of non-flyers who find enjoyment at the airport. Think of a picture I am sure you have seen, a small child looking skyward at an airport watching the planes. There are the many youngsters who dream of someday being an aviator because they received a ride from a Young Eagles pilot.

And, last but not least, if your local airport has a place where pilots do hangar flying, think how much enjoyment is received by a pilot who has lost his medical due to no fault of his own. He loves listening and talking to pilots.

**Yes airports are for people who don't fly!
Invite someone to your airport today!**

**EAA Chapter 104
Porter County Municipal Airport
Valparaiso, IN**

Minutes of Monthly Meeting, August 11, 2009

The meeting was called to order and The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Ed Hanson at 7:00 PM
No guests were announced at this meeting

BUSINESS MEETING:

Old Business:

The minutes from the July meeting were approved by the members.

New Business:

Amerigas may be donating a new grill to the chapter. The Chapter is working out details with them. We need to think about sending someone to Air Academy. Young Eagles will be held Oct. 24th. Jim Haklin brought up a Red Tail Squadron documentary requiring a \$100 donation it was decided that the chapter would provide the funds.

The Treasurer's Report was given and approved. Waiting on payment still due on purchases of OJ and/or sausage. Charles offered to donate a refrigerator to the chapter. A motion was made to allow family membership for the \$15.00 chapter member fee. Motion was carried.

We need to purchase a new 4x 8 sheet of dry erase board for the chapter room. Jim Haklin brought up an excellent idea of trying to find an enclosed trailer type food wagon where as allowing the food booth to be contained inside rather than how it currently is wide open.

President's Report:

We are going a little greener. If you would like to help the Chapter save money, ink, paper and postage, sign up for the electronic only copy of the newsletter. We have emails for 36 members and only 14 have signed up for the electronic only newsletter. We hope by the end of the year to need only a handful of printed copies that we could print on a home printer. We can see significant savings by doing this and help to keep the dues low. We are in the process of compiling member information to include a new member directory. We intend to include a digital photo of each member with their information. Ground school continues at 7pm Aug. 12th with discussion of aircraft systems, flight instruments and regulations. We are considering sending post cards to EAA national members regarding Chapter 104 membership. We need to revise the current bylaws. A vote was put forth as to if the grandson of Bones whom is enrolled in the current ground school should pay members dues of \$15.00. A yes vote was the majority as a family membership should be considered immediate family. A Food Booth report can be found at bottom of newsletter.

Young Eagles Report:

Do we want to consider sending a youth to the Air Academy next year as we will have several points earned towards the cost. We need to order 50 log books for the Oct 24th Young Eagles event. A discussion was held on whether we need to set a cap on the number of YE's we register so we don't overload the available pilots. We are looking into several ideas.

Webmaster's Report:

Oshkosh held a web managers workshop which Rick attended. A new website can be used by all chapters at oshkosh365.org.

Builder's Night and Project status:

Builder's Night is every Tuesday except the monthly meeting night.
Larry was sick for builder's night so work was done on the door.

Eagle Soars:

Bruce is still looking for candidates for Eagle Soars. We may have at least 2 possible candidates.

We Care:

Ray Dolph is home trying to gain some weight before another attempt at a heart procedure Charles and Dick visited him at home he needs to fatten up a bit. They helped to contribute some cheer and laughter for him.

Important Thanks:

Special thanks to Bones aka Perry Bonner for the use of his trailer for the food booth cartage and also to Dan and Dave who provided the tow vehicles and Al for the cart
We give a big thank you to Dan's family who helped with the tear down on Sunday. We needed them since we were short on volunteers.

Two Month Look Ahead:

Please remember that Char is always looking for information to include in the newsletter.

Direct Eagle Soars candidates to Bruce.

PCPA Burger Bash and Poker Run will be September 12th at 1 PM.

PCPA Hawaiian steak fry is Aug. 15th

Build night is every Tuesday except meeting nights

Next meeting is September 8th

Next Young Eagles event is Saturday October 24th with the 25th as a rain date. Mark your calendar.

Food Booth: Quality control and comments. What worked & what didn't.

We were about 30% short on volunteers for the eighteen shifts and teardown. Even on a weekend. I am disappointed in the lack of participation. The PCPA couldn't get any more volunteers either. This meant the few that volunteered had to pick up the slack significantly. Teardown was tiring for the few old members that tended to the chore. The lack of help must be addressed for the next year in some manner. We cannot continue without more volunteers.

Some Food Booth Comments and Observations:

Almost every customer was a happy customer who would return

It was suggested that we use a thermometer to check the brats for doneness.

We should be open a day earlier VPZ fueled about 38 airplanes that day that we could have served.

Brought up that maybe we should be set up Friday.

We should serve some fruit maybe apples or bananas.

We could charge \$.50 each

Do we need to be open at 6am? The airport doesn't open until 7 so our cash box isn't available.

We could open earlier only for the first couple days due to EST flying in.

We should consider selling ears of corn.

We have tried in the past did not sell got stuck with corn.

We should paint FOOD BOOTH on the top of our tent so fly-overs will see us.

Agreed to paint or use duct tape on top of tent for next food booth event.

We need to set up the tents just outside the fence to help channel the rain away due to the gap in tent design.

It was agreed to remember that for next year.

We need to make a sign to place at the other side of the ramp for the Collins bombers customers so they can find us.

Dave agreed to make a new one.

We should fill in some low spots in the ground inside the tent area for the volunteer's safety.

Agreed and Jim Haklin can get compost free to fill in

We need to implement some type of online schedule sign up for volunteers.

Will work on this

Send out postcards to EAA members within a certain radius to invite them to join our chapter.

Ed will be taking care of this.

Respectively submitted,

Pam Ray

Chapter Secretary

THIS PAGE RESERVED
FOR
YOUR CONTRIBUTION
TO THE CHAPTER
NEWSLETTER