

# EAA CHAPTER 104 NEWSLETTER

## EAA CHAPTER 104 MONTHLY MEETING

*Friendship & Flying – “For The Fun of It”*

*December Meeting will be conducted in the EAA chapter Room at the Porter County  
Regional Airport (VPZ)4207 Murvihill Rd. Valparaiso, IN 46383 at 7 PM*

**MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING TUESDAY- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

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

**CHAPTER WEBSITE: [www.eaa104.org](http://www.eaa104.org)**

**See you at the Dec. 10th meeting. Bring a Friend.**

**Experimental Aircraft Association**

**Jim Haklin, Editor**

**3363 W. 1350 S.**

**Hanna, Indiana 46340**

**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

**Presidents Page**  
**Rick Rozhon**  
**December 2013**  
**EAA104.ORG**



November is gone, and a cold one at that. I hope all of you had a great Thanksgiving and had the time to socialize with family and friends. We celebrated a little early this year so the kids could see all the family members during the season. The annual family Duck Hunt was in order this year as one of the boys had a draw at LaSalle. You have to understand that duck hunting with my kids is a form of religion so there isn't go no-go decisions (contrary to the elder thinking). At 3:15 am we were off on our journey, 13 degrees and a truck load of decoys and gear. Checking in at 4:30 seems a little silly, but we were not alone. The DNR personal told us that the low water was pretty much frozen but the open water was ok....not. The wise elder suggested a blind closer to the ramp, not facing in the wind, but was over ruled by the more seasoned hunter. So off we go, in the dark, a little moon light, a boat load of decoys and gear moving silently through the water towards the blind... or so you think. About 15 minutes into the trip, what's that crackling sound...could it be Ice? Ok so let's rock the boat to bust through. Another 15 minutes of rocking through ice and no blind in sight. Decision time, let's head toward shore. Ice getting thicker, temperature dropping, we finally arrive. There is still no sight of the blind. Ok, so the directions given to us weren't exactly correct, but we are here so let's set up. The eldest child starts breaking ice in a circular fashion by rocking and bouncing the boat deploying the decoys. As the boat moves the water behind is already skimming over with ice...this is not a good sign. Pops is already colder than hell and selects a tree to hunker down behind out of the wind. After what seems like an eternity the decoys are out, it's getting lighter and alas... the blind! We are only about 150 yards off. There is no way we are going to get there. As the sun rises, the temperature is dropping more, the wind is blowing more, the water freezing more, the youngest seasoned hunter is frozen solid and looks like ice man ...but we are here. Hooray! Where's the ducks? Bang, Bang, shots in the distance, kids start quacking.. but where's the ducks? Across the lake there's a high flying flock, close to where the elder suggested we go, but no shots taken in the deep water area. I had to walk around to get some circulation going...the kids thought I wandered off to die. At 8:40 am, the decision is made to divert to the ramp. But wait...the decoys are frozen in ice. 180 degree reverse...break the ice to get the decoys out. 40 minutes later, the boat packed to the brim we are under way.. but not for long. The ice is now thicker than what can be broken using just man and boat power. Rocking simply does not work. Using a tree limb (courtesy of pops) to break ice in front of the boat, and the oar to chip way the sides, we creep forward two foot at a time. As we tried to go back the way we came, the ice was much thicker so we decided to navigate virgin ice which seemed to be a little softer. Instead of a straight line to the ramp we decide to divert 60 degrees...the shortest path to open water, its only 250 yards away. Taking turns, beating ice, inching forward, 90 minutes later we hit open water. (During the process, pops splits open his thumb. Blood is now flowing freely from the glove getting over everything. Pops is tired.) Full steam ahead, but not for long...more ice, but only 20 yards. Finally we are free and headed towards the ramp. Since the time we left, the ramp area was frozen over. So I guess it was good that we got there last since a path was made for us. It's now 11:30 am. Some other duck hunting enthusiasts had some band aids that I graciously accepted. By the time we got loaded up and on our way back, it was 12:10...but a lot warmer at 25 degrees. The ironic thing was that the blind the elder suggested was in open water, never froze and didn't see any ducks either. The seasoned hunter said, "You were right Dad, we should have taken that other blind". I didn't have to say "I told you so", but I did anyway.

We now have some new personal minimums, and remember the next trip you plan ... know before you go!

The Chapter annual Pizza Party will be held on our regular club meeting night, Tuesday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. All members, guests, significant others are welcome. We would like to get an approximate head count so we

can plan appropriately. Please let us know the number of people in your party if you haven't already done so. Please feel free to bring a dessert or side dish to go with the pizza. There will not be a business meeting, only food and fun. Hope to see all of you there.

We will not be publishing a January news letter due to the holidays. The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, January 14, 2014. Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

### **Frankfort Clouds**

As I was planning my last trip to Seymour, the weather was marginal and ceilings were around 2500 but improving. The MOAs were hot and IFR kept popping up around Knox and Rochester so I decided to take the western side of the MOA flying to Rensselaer, Frankfort, Indy, and down where the weather was much better as the front pushed through. I took a few photos at 5500 around Frankfort using the IPAD. I was able to fly on top for awhile but then I decided to go back to 3000 as the ceilings rose. All in all it was a beautiful day.



**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Tuesday January 14, 2013**  
**EAA Chapter Room**  
**Porter County Regional Airport (VPZ)**  
**7 PM**

**See you there.....**

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Rick Schreiber led us in the pledge to open the meeting.

Tonight we had 14 members present.

**Newsletter** – Snail mail mail-outs of the newsletter apparently did not happen for October. A copy of the October newsletter was circulated to the members present that did not see the electronic copy.

A motion to approve the October newsletter was made by Dennis Funkhouser and seconded by Dick Cains. The motion carried.

**Treasurer report** - A motion to approve the October Treasurer's report was made by Dennis Funkhouser and seconded by John Hack. The motion carried.

**Webmaster report** – A video of the Henkle jet engine startup was posted on the website. We are still having problems with the chapter room repeater for our WiFi connection.

**Newsletter editor report** – No report this month. Any write-ups or photos can be emailed to Jim Haklin at [jhaklin@gmail.com](mailto:jhaklin@gmail.com)

**Young eagles report** – Jim Hicks talked to people at the Watervliet flyin recently. They do a lot of Young Eagle flights and had some interesting ideas such as hooking up with local Scout Troops. Jim will get be getting in touch with EAA and getting more Young Eagles information.

**Old Business** – We still have not heard from the Chesterton High School Aviation club.

We are planning on getting some CPR and First Aid training from the Porter Co. EMS. This will be done jointly with the PCPA. The cost is minimal but we need a headcount soon. If you are interested contact Rick Rozhon or Dean Ricci.

**New Business** – The AOPA is planning on starting regional meetings instead of a National Convention. Porter Co. Reional Airport is in the running for one of the regional meetings. The AOPA will be coming here soon to check us out.

**Club Activities** – Another reminder that December we will have our annual Pizza Party. The party will be on our regular meeting night which is December 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Project Reports-** John Hack hung his engine today. He will be back working on firewall forward construction now.

Rick Schreiber is working on windshields.

A motion to adjourn was made by Dennis Funkhouser and seconded by John Hack. The motion carried.

Jim here is a picture of my completed windshield. As usual it took much longer than I thought it would, plus the cold weather didn't help. All total I would guess I have 40 hours of work in it and I still have the one for the front pit to do.



Rick S. is doing a fine job working on his Piet, even in the cold weather.

Don't forget to let el Presidente know if you'll be coming to the December pizza party. I can't be there for this special event but I'll raise a glass of Margarita to salute everything that is EAA 104 and let you guys know that I'll be there in spirit.

Also, please, please, please send me info that can be put in the NL...Ok?

Hasta pronto,

Jim H