



THE FLYER



July 2009

Published by Jackson Chapter 304 of The Experimental Aircraft Association

Located at the Jackson County Airport, Reynold's Field - KJXN

Sport Aviation Center - 3600 Wildwood Ave. - Jackson, MI 49202

Edited by Jim Buist

www.EAA304.com

This month's contents

Page 2

- June 2009 Board Meeting Summary
- June 2009 Chapter Meeting Notes
- President's Remarks
- Pacer Project Progress

Page 3

- General Chapter News
- Airport News
- General Announcements

Page 4

- Flying Destinations

Page 5

- Safety Item

Page 6

- Upcoming Events

The editor thanks Nihl Storey, Randy Coller, Chuck Furgason, Steve Wellman, & John Eiler for their contributions of information to this month's newsletter.

Chapter Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the Sport Aviation Center unless otherwise published. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend and we'll do our best to welcome them.

Our next regular, chapter meeting will be Wednesday, July 1 at 7:30 PM. The Board of Directors will typically meet one hour earlier and you are welcome to attend and listen.

Officers:

President:	Earl Scott	(517) 783-3988
Vice Pres:	John Eiler	(517) 474-4878
Treasurer:	Chuck Furgason	(517) 783-1066
Secretary:	Stephen Matthews	(517) 789-8798

Board Members:

Steven Wellman	(517) 782-7261
Daniel Stanton	(517) 764-3489
Charles Moore	(517) 787-3364

Appointees:

Tech Counselor:	Jay Cavender	(517) 581-0995
Tech Counselor:	Joe Phelan	(517) 783-5040
Web Master:	Jim Buist	(517) 930-2265

Got a news item to share? Please call Steve Matthews or Jim Buist with the information. Or, better yet, send an email to Steve at smmatthe@gmail.com or Jim at jimbuist@yahoo.com

Board Meeting Summary

June's board meeting was somewhat abbreviated. However, the board did approve a donation of \$1,000 to the Aviation Heritage Park for the purchase of a "kiddie airplane ride", which, as Earl Scott says, "is a bouncy type ride which will be located in front of our hanger." Earl went on to say, "We have several school tours and this will be an attraction for the kids."

Chapter Meeting Summary

As with the board meeting, the June member meeting was limited in scope. The bulk of the meeting concerned setting up for the pancake breakfast, which occurred on Sunday, June 7, 2009.

President's Remarks

The chapter officers and members want to thank everyone who worked so hard during our annual Pancake Breakfast. We couldn't do it without your help. The weather wasn't the best, but we are used to this every so often. I don't have the final figures yet, but I think we will clear at least \$1500 after expenses.

Thanks again everyone, Earl

Pacer Project Progress

Nothing has happened on the Pacer in the past month. According to John Eiler, no one has been showing up for the work sessions. As of press time, the editor does not know whether sessions are scheduled for the future, so it is advised that you contact John or one of the other officers for more information, if you have a desire to work on this chapter project.

General Chapter News

For the latest news, please check the chapter website and contribute in any way you can, by adding information to our Latest News page. If you have any questions or have any trouble signing in to use that part of the site, call Jim Buist or email him at jimbuist@yahoo.com.

- Our upcoming, July meeting will be on Wednesday, July 1, 2009 at 7:30 PM.
- The electronic building sign is now on the building. Originally placed on the south side of the building, it was discovered that the sign was unreadable except from the road immediately in front of the facility or directly across the street. So, the sign was moved to the east end of the building where it can now be seen by approaching traffic.
- Member Mike Moore is trying to pull together a Young Eagles event during the Jackson Hot Air Jubilee. Volunteers are needed for all aspects of this endeavor, which includes ground personnel and pilots (and their airplanes). Please contact Mike ASAP at mimoore67@excite.com or (517) 937-9185 for more information and to volunteer.

Airport News

- The Jackson Hot Air Jubilee (HAJ) is July 17 – 19, 2009. Randy Collier reports that there are 39 balloons registered for the event and that there will be a “pyro show with the T-6s on Saturday night.” Earlier in the day Saturday, some helicopters will be flying in for static display.

The previous request for volunteers still stands. While they have many now, they can always use more, including help with crews for out of town balloonists. Also wanted are other static displays, including projects, experimental aircraft, ultralights, production aircraft, airplane relics, RC models, and anything educational. ***Please volunteer in any way you can by contacting Randy Collier at (517) 784-0237 or via email at rcscruffy@yahoo.com.***

Randy also says, “Many thanks to Pro-Flight this year for being 'headquarters' for the balloon competition.”

General Announcements

Did you know that the Jackson Squadron of the US Civil Air Patrol (CAP) meets at the EAA 304 building every Tuesday from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM? Have you ever wondered what CAP does?

The most widely known “mission” of the Civil Air Patrol is that of “Inland Search and Rescue” (SAR). In fact, CAP conducts 95% of all Inland SAR in the United States. These missions include both air and ground search teams.

CAP is the Official Auxiliary of the US Air Force. While CAP's airplanes are owned by

the US Air Force, they are flown by an all volunteer force of CAP pilots. And, did I mention that these flights are flown at no cost to the crew members?

Most flights are flown by a three person crew. Thus, while CAP is always looking for new pilots, you do NOT have to be a pilot at all to fly. CAP has three distinct jobs during the “sorties”, each of which is vital to the mission at hand. Therefore, non-pilots are just as important to the job as pilots.

In addition to SAR, CAP assists with other Emergency Services, including aerial surveys and photography after disasters. One example was the first set of photos taken of the World Trade Center site right after 9/11, which were taken by CAP.

CAP is a great way to put your aviation interests to work while getting the reward of knowing that your efforts make a difference. A friend of mine often uses the quote, “If your airplane went down, wouldn't you want someone competent searching for you?”

Training is provided for everything CAP does and being a flight crew member is a fun way to get some free time in the air. Plus, CAP aircraft are often available for use by pilots at a much lower cost than they can be rented elsewhere.

So, whether you are a current pilot or just someone who desires to get back in the air, why not check out CAP? The editor (Jim Buist) is a member in the Indiana Wing and you are welcome to contact him with questions. But your local Jackson contact is Mike Connor, who happens to be the 2nd in command of the Jackson Squadron. Mike would love the chance to tell you more about the Jackson Squadron and how your skills and interests can be of help. You may reach Mike by email at connor.5@comcast.net or by phone at 900-9013 (home) or 745-3423 (cell).

Flying Destinations

- Where our members have been flying and where you might want to go!

- In our last edition, we reported that Nihl Storey and Lynn Matteson had planned to attend *The Virginia Festival of Flight*. While they planned to leave early Friday morning, May 29, Mother Nature woke up in a foul mood that day and caused them to delay their departure. After waiting it out a bit, the pair took off only to discover the clouds were more solid than forecast, causing them to turn around and call it a day.
- The 100mph Club has been somewhat active in past month. Nihl Storey has kept us apprised of the group's adventures with the following reports.
 - Lynn (Kitfox) and Jack & Marge (C172) reported in Tuesday morning, June 23, that the restaurant at Flushing is open again. One of two reports indicated that the trio “partook of their hospitality”, so we assume that means it was a good experience!
 - During the weekend of June 20-21, there was a lot of rain and very wet runways at the grass strips, but Lynn (Kitfox) flying out of Howland Field and Charlie (C150) flying out of Jackson (KJXN) made the Three Rivers and the Charlotte fly-ins.
 - Joe finally got his new Rans S6S home from Florida. As Nihl understands, it took him 5 days dodging the weather, but he made it.
 - Carl put his Quail down in someone's pasture. Nihl was told it spit a plug.

- Nihl's Super Waix is mostly built. He is currently plumbing the engine and installing switches, instruments etc. with about 90 days to lift off. He has been negotiating with John (Harman Rocket) for some handicap when race day gets here.
- Chuck Furgason is about to depart on a 3200 mile, three week trip in his TriPacer and may well be on the trip as you read this. We have no details at this time and hope to get some regular updates during his trip. If so, we will post them on the website under "Latest News".

Safety Item

We've all probably heard this anecdote: "Any landing you can walk away from is a good landing." And further, "Any landing where you can use the airplane again is a GREAT landing!" As funny as those are, they miss one very important point. Just because you got back in one piece doesn't mean you were SAFE.

Safety is an attitude in everything we do, whether that be flying, driving, or even mowing our lawn. And remember that safety isn't just about YOU. It is also about minimizing and managing the risk to those around us and those we fly over.

Recently, a friend of mine, a non-instrument rated pilot, made an error in judgment. Departing on a cross country flight, he decided to climb above a scattered layer of clouds. He watched as the clouds changed from scattered to broken to overcast. His first thought was, "that's OK, I have a GPS for navigation." But what if the engine had quit? He would have had no choice but to fly through the clouds, something he really isn't proficient at. And, this friend is no stranger to the effects of an engine failure.

This same friend is normally a very good, very safe pilot, and one that I would gladly fly with. But that one error in losing track of the ground could have cost him dearly, along others on the ground, should the unexpected have occurred. He learned a pretty good lesson on that flight and, fortunately, made 180 degree turn before anything bad happened.

What about you? Are you really safe when you fly? Or, do you just tell yourself that you are because you get back in one piece?

There are numerous opportunities to learn more and refresh your memory about safety. Both the FAA and AOPA put on various safety seminars throughout the year, which can be found on their respective websites: www.FAA.gov and www.AOPA.com. The editor highly recommends these seminars as you are sure to find something useful and enlightening in each one.

Here's to hoping you stay safe and have fun flying!

Upcoming Events

Do you know of any aviation events that you would recommend to our members? Please pass on any information, including flyers or website addresses (if you have them), to Jim Buist or any officer so we can add these to our on-line calendar and the newsletter.

- There are numerous sources for learning about Fly-Ins. They are so numerous in fact, it seems redundant to post just any of them here in our newsletter and/or on the web. Rather, it seems more appropriate to post those events that are particularly noteworthy, different, or recommended by our members. Thus, if you know about a particular aviation event you think our members would like to know about, please tell us so we can post the information and keep this list relevant to our membership's interest. Thank you in advance.
- Wednesday, July 1, 2009: Monthly EAA Chapter 304 Meeting
- July 17 – 19, 2009: Jackson Hot Air Jubilee (HAJ). To volunteer, contact Randy Coller at (517) 784-0237 or via email at rcscruffy@yahoo.com. For more info, go to: www.hotairjubilee.com/
- July 27 – August 2: EAA AirVenture Oshkosh; www.AirVenture.org
- Saturday, September 5, 2009: 19th annual Fly/In Cruise/In & Pancake Breakfast at Marion, IN Municipal Airport from 7 AM – 2 PM. More information is available at www.flyincruisein.com. A copy of their flyer is on our chapter website on the "Newsletter" page at www.eaa304.com/newsletter
- September 12-13: Mid-Eastern Regional Fly-In, Grimes Field Airport (I74), Urbana OH. For more information see www.merfi-urbana.webs.com/
- September 26: Wood, Fabric and Tailwheels fly-in, Lee Bottom Field, (64I) Hanover IN. For more information go to: www.leebottom.com. Lee Bottom also sponsors "Sinful Sundays" the second Sunday of June, July, & August. See their website for more info.