



# THE FLYER



**August 2009 Edition**

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[www.EAA304.com](http://www.EAA304.com)

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The editor thanks Ken Shuman and Earl Scott 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 a hot dog potluck on Wednesday, August 5 at 6:00 PM.** Please note the change in time for this next meeting. The Board of Directors will not have a meeting that day.

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*Got a news item to share? Please call Jim Buist at (517) 930-2265 with the information. Or, better yet, send an email to Jim at [jimbuist@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbuist@yahoo.com)*

## **Chapter Meeting Summary**

As has been tradition for several years, August's general membership meeting was a cookout, which from what Earl Scott tells us, "came off very well. We served hot dogs, pulled pork, chips and pop, plus some members brought dessert. We had 45 to 50 people there and Kent Maurer (airport manager) cooked the hot dogs just right."

Earl went on to say, "Thanks Kent and other members who helped with tables and chairs, especially to those who helped afterwards by putting things back in order."

In addition to the cookout, Jack Snyder was presented with photos from his flight in the B-25 on his 83rd. birthday. Thanks go to George Race for taking the pictures and putting together the photo album.

## **President's Remarks**

I hope everyone had a good time at Oshkosh this year. From the remarks and comments you guys have been making, I think you did. I'm glad Dan Ashley was there and was able to connect with some of you. There were some great things to see with the Airbus A380 and Burt Rutan's space ship launch vehicle, "White Knight 2" (aka "Eve") and of course many other things.

I sure appreciate the turnout for the Hot Dog Roast and also the fact that several brought their wives, they are always welcome. I also feel the Pacer project is moving along, thanks to everyone's help. John is doing a good job of getting things done. Volunteers are needed and he will be putting a schedule of work times on E-mail. Your help will be much appreciated.

See you at the next meeting.

Earl

## **Pacer Project Progress**

The Pacer project is moving along. Earl Scott tells us that he and Dan Stanton painted the fuselage during the week of AirVenture Oshkosh. Earl wants to give "a special thanks to Dan, as he did the painting" while also putting up with Earl as he "pointed out some spots that were missed or needed more!" That makes me wonder if Earl maintained his light complexion, or did he end up looking a little green by the time Dan was finished! Earl said that it took a good 6 hours to do the work and turned out very nice. It sounds like it was worth the effort. Thanks again, Dan.

Earl finished by saying, "We are getting ready to start assembly on everything inside before we cover it. We will need some volunteers now to clean parts and start assembly." Please give the guys a hand whenever you can. This is a great opportunity to share your talents or learn a new skill while partaking in some good camaraderie with your fellow EAA304 members.

## General Chapter News

*For the latest news, please check the "Latest News" page on our chapter website and contribute in any way you can. If you need any help with that part of the site, call Jim Buist or email him at [jimbuist@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbuist@yahoo.com).*

- **Our next regular chapter meeting will be on Wednesday, September 2, 2009.**
- As a follow up to last month's story about George Race and his CNC milling machine, George is now offering a couple of new products. Now available are instrument panels, including design and construction. Also available is the design and construction of 2 and 3 axis electric trim controllers. For more details go to: [www.mykitairplane.com](http://www.mykitairplane.com)
- Editors Note: This month's newsletter is a bit late in getting out. Part of that was due to my own, personal schedule and part was due to a minimal amount of news from our members since last month. Please send any news stories and information to the editor as soon as possible for inclusion in the next edition. I know I enjoy reading of your adventures, trips, tips, etc and I'm sure your fellow members do, also. Your contributions make the difference between having a short newsletter and one filled with interesting material. Thank you in advance.

## Flying Destinations

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

- Many of our members attended AirVenture Oshkosh this year. A couple shared their experiences, which follow.
  - Ken Shuman had a short stay in OSH this year, but it was a trip of celebration. Following is an email Ken sent to the editor.

*My trip to Oshkosh this year was for a special purpose, to celebrate the first day of my retirement from GM - 41 years! I left on Saturday, the second to the last day of the show. I loaded up my RV6 and took off into a beautiful blue sky Saturday morning, but by the time I got about 3/4 of the way across Lake Michigan, dark clouds and rain showed up.*

*I did the Fisk arrival procedure and landed. No one else was in the pattern, a big difference from previous years when I arrived early to a busy approach procedure. The clouds finally moved out and the day was fine.*

*Sunday was good, too, but that night it got very windy with storms: lots of rain and the tent was flapping pretty good. I left Monday for Merrillville, IN for a visit to my daughter's house and had to dodge more rain around Chicago. Great trip!*

**Congratulations on your well earned and deserved retirement, Ken. What a great way to celebrate! - ed.**

- The days that Ken was not there, the editor, Jim Buist was. My thoughts follow:

*My trip started late in the day on Sunday, July 26. I had hoped to get an earlier start, but one thing led to another that day and my departure (via pickup truck) got delayed until after 6:00 PM EDT. By the time you put in bad traffic, too many*

toll booths around Chicago, and more potty stops than I care to mention, my road trip took a solid 8 hours. Plus, I had to make a last minute stop for some supplies and dinner, so my total road time (from the Indianapolis area) was closer to 9 hours.

Arriving in the early morning hours of Monday, I expected to not have the greatest choice of camping sites, but never did I expect to have to camp SO far away. Holy Crap! I had never seen Camp Scholler so full and indications from the EAA folks are that it was record attendance, at least in the camping areas.

As I have done the past few years, I attended many of the forums and workshops. I particularly enjoy learning about things I don't know much about, even if I don't necessarily think I will use the skill. A couple of good ones for me this year were the gas welding workshop and a forum on aerial photography.

If you have never attended the welding workshop, I highly recommend it. You won't become a pro, but you will definitely learn the basics and you'll have the opportunity to practice welding quite a bit over the course of the week. After attending the "class" portion, the workshop area is opened up to you for the rest of the week, allowing you to go back whenever you want (space permitting) to practice welding. After "running a bead" over several pieces of metal (and several times per piece), I got to where I could maintain a fairly uniform bead and was allowed to be promoted to "butt welding" practice.

I got help from several different volunteer instructors, but the last day the main instructor (Joe) and one of the assistants (Aaron) helped me out a lot, with lots of one on one attention by Aaron. By the time I left, I had an "art project" I could bring home to show my family and friends of my mediocre work, but work that showed some good progress and knowledge that I can put towards learning and practicing more, if and when I choose.

Another great forum I attended was one on aerial photography. I had originally hoped to get some tips on technique, as we actually do some photography work in the Civil Air Patrol. However, this forum actually focused more on the business aspect of shooting pictures from airplanes, which got me to thinking about a potential business of my own. It sounds like a great way for a pilot to make a living without the grind of an airline schedule.

I did stand in line for an hour and 20 minutes for the tour of the Airbus A380. I figured it wasn't going to seem worth it, yet when else was I going to get the chance to go inside one of those huge metal tubes with wings? While the tour was rather anticlimactic, as expected, I was impressed by the maneuverability of the airplane in the air, especially at airspeeds as slow as 100 kts!

Overall, I had a great time, even though I could almost reach out and touch the semis on US41 each night! The weather couldn't have been much better, only getting rain one day during my stay and the temperatures were on the cool side, even rather cold overnight. Like Ken said, it was a great trip!

## Safety Item

Do you carry a “survival kit” in your airplane? Have you ever thought about what you might need in the event of a forced landing? Having a few basic items, such as water, some peanuts or other energy food, a space blanket, and a signaling device can make the difference between being found alive and just surviving the “crash”. What you pack in a survival kit certainly will vary with the time of year and the terrain over which you fly, but it likely will take up only a small amount of space, could probably fit in a back pack, and probably will have minimal weight. How about sending your suggestions for survival kit contents to the editor at [jimbuist@yahoo.com](mailto:jimbuist@yahoo.com) for inclusion in an upcoming list to be posted on the chapter website?

## Upcoming Events

*Do you know of any aviation events that you would recommend to our members? Please pass on any information you have to Jim Buist so he can add them to our on-line calendar and the newsletter.*

- As mentioned in previous months, there are almost too many sources for learning about Fly-Ins. Thus, it seems more appropriate to post on our website and here, in the newsletter, only those events that are particularly noteworthy, different, or (most importantly) **recommended by our members**. Since the last couple editions, nothing new has come in, so the list is getting shorter and shorter. **Please, share with the editor any aviation events you think other members may be interested in and they will be posted.** Thank you in advance.
- Wednesday, Sept 2, 2009, 6:00 PM: Monthly EAA Chapter 304 Meeting
- 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](http://www.flyincruisein.com). A copy of their flyer is on our chapter website on the “Newsletter” page at [www.eaa304.com/newsletter](http://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/](http://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](http://www.leebottom.com). Lee Bottom also sponsors “Sinful Sundays” the second Sunday of June, July, & August. See their website for more info.