



LOOKIN' UP

The EAA Chapter of Modern Explorers

EAA Chapter #1093 - Midland, Michigan

P. O. Box 2464, Midland MI 48641-2464

Monthly Meetings held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM - Barstow Airport (3BS)

Volume XIII Issue 11

November 2007

Officers

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Historian	John Sorg	989-835-7796	Bldg. Manager	Bob Harrington	989-496-3887
Publicity	John Wilson	989-465-1993			

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 2007

Nov 1	Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm
Nov 10	Young Eagles 9 am – 12 pm
Nov 15	Chapter Board Meeting 5:30
Dec 6	Chapter Meeting 7:00 pm
Dec 8	Young Eagles 9 am – 12 pm

SPECIAL EVENTS – 2007-2008

November 6, 2007 Airport Advisory
 Commission Meeting – City Hall
 April 8 – 13, 2008 Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, FL
 July 28, 2008 Airventure, Oshkosh, WI

Coast Guard Air Rescue Group Presents Search and Rescue Program, Thursday, November 1, 2007

Our Chapter is extremely fortunate to be hosting a special presentation by members of the U. S. Coast Guard Air Station from Traverse City at our meeting on Thursday, November 1, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. (6:30 social time) at the EAA Aviation Education Center at Midland Barstow Airport.



LTJG Jeremy Loeb, pilot of the HH-65C Dolphin Rescue Helicopter and a Veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom II, will speak about Coast Guard search-and-rescue procedures, recommended safety precautions to expedite rescue, and proper ditching procedures for aircraft over water. He will be assisted in the presentation by **LTJG John Kirk** and **David Pflum**, a Coast Guard Air Auxiliary member.

The Coast Guard Air Station at Traverse City operates five Dolphin Rescue Helicopters which perform various maritime safety and security missions over a five-state area, including 65,000 square miles of Lakes Michigan, Superior, and Huron. The talk will be open to the public. For more information, contact Program Chairperson Tom Tolton, 989-835-5828.

From the Flight Surgeon – Dr. Greg Pinnell

One thing I often see during flight physicals is airmen with glasses who can barely correct to the FAA Standards. Our vision changes over time and an every two year visit to your eye health care professional will ensure your glasses or contacts prescription will give the best vision possible.

They will also check you for the common eye disorders such as glaucoma which, caught early, can be treated and avoid a totally preventable cause of blindness.

Fly safe and see the traffic!

Gregory Pinnell, MD
Senior AME/Flight Surgeon USAFR
www.ok2fly.com



Safety Corner – Dr. James Rieke

This month's Safety Corner highlights a new on-line course from the AOPA Air Safety Foundation on identifying **airplane structural failure**. I have taken it and find it accurate and useful. Those participating in the Wings program can receive credit for taking the course.

The Air Safety Foundation states, "With the average general aviation aircraft more than 30 years old, pilots and aircraft owners—even those of newer airplanes—should pay special attention to the maintenance of their airplanes." The course "defines aging aircraft, discusses factors that influence the rate of aging, and suggests inspection and maintenance practices for these aircraft. Manufacturer-specific concerns are addressed in four separate tracks: Beechcraft, Cessna, Mooney, and Piper."

To link to the course, the WEB address is: <http://flash.aopa.org/asf/agingaircraft/swf/flash.cfm?>

James K. Rieke, Commercial Pilot

New Member – Don Beckwith



Don Beckwith is the newest member of Chapter 1093. Don served during WWII and is a retired Dow Chemical engineer. He lives in Midland with his wife, Nicki and is very active when it comes to aviation. He started flying lessons in May 2006. He serves on the Barstow Public Relations committee and has been the guiding force behind the programs on MCTV-3 promoting our Airport. You may have seen Don interviewing pilots arriving at the May 2007 Pancake Breakfast and also at the 82nd Airborne Day in August. A big welcome from all of us.

Homebuilder's Update – Jim Powell's Taylorcraft



What a transformation from this 'before' picture (top) to the 'after' picture (below) – all thanks to Jim Powell's expert restoring of this 1946 Taylorcraft BC 12-D plane. Jim took it for its 'restored first test flight' shortly after retuning from Oshkosh this past August - the plane barely remembers its very first test flight in July of 1946. Since Jim's first flight he has put on about 7 ½ hours flying in it. He states that the only problem with flying it has been its not

wanting to idle –“all the other problems are my learning how to fly it.” Jim states that it's very heavy on the controls and is a real rudder plane as the wings are so wide that it produces an excessive amount of adverse yaw.



As he looks back on his restoring project he emphasizes the problems of restoring an aircraft with no documented plans for it. One of the hardest things he had to encounter was drilling out all of the old rusty rivets and replacing them with new aluminum ones then trying to get the cowling to fit back together again.

In January, 2006, he painted his Taylorcraft its red and white scheme in Jack Hallett's paint booth. Since it was so cold then his epoxy paint

wouldn't harden, so he is not pleased with his paint job. He plans to repaint some parts of the plane in the future; he doesn't like the 'orange peel' look on several of the parts. However, he overlooked these flaws as he wanted to fly it so badly.

This 'classic' airplane feels right at home in one of the bays of a hangar that was reassembled after being transported from the original Midland Airport (presently the site of Midland High School) – an antique airplane in an antique hangar! By Dot Hornsby

Donations to the Chapter

Many thanks to Chapter member **Lewis Webster** who has donated several items to Chapter 1093, including a commercial gas griddle, a high-speed oven to be used for pizza making and a pizza warming cabinet. All of these items will be used for fund raising efforts. We appreciate this generous donation, Lew.

Our thanks to chapter member **Richard Sipp** who donated several hand tools for use by the members in aircraft construction. These tools will be added to the tool box in the EAA hangar.

Election to be held for 2008 Officers and Committee Chairpersons

The slate of officers will be voted on at the November 1, 2007 meeting and new officers will be installed at the December meeting.

Young Eagles Saturday, November 10, 2007

Saturday, October 13th there were 6 pilots who contributed their time to the Young Eagles program: Dave Bickmore, Dot Hornsby, Mike Klele, Linda Langrill, T. Rairigh and Mike Rehberg. It was a beautiful day and 7 young people showed up. All had a good time. Thanks to all the pilots and to Sue Lyon and Jim Rieke for assisting. Brad Goodall, former Midland Aviation Camper, also took pictures of the Young Eagles. Join us for the next Young Eagles event on **Saturday, November 10** from 9 am – 12 noon.

Dave Schmelzer, Young Eagles Coordinator
schmelzerdavid@sbcglobal.net
989-631-7590



Thank you to Family and Friends of Dean Thompson

The chapter has received a check for \$500 from the family and friends of Dean Thompson of Hope, who passed away recently. We appreciate this generous donation to be used towards the Young Eagles training and scholarships in Dean's memory.

September 2007 Pancake Breakfast a Great Success!

Our final pancake breakfast in September was again a great success. There were some concerns since the date was changed this year and was not on the same weekend as the balloon fest and also on the same day as a major fly-in in the southern part of the state. Actually, this turned out to be the largest attendance of the year.

We had a dozen or more airplanes fly in, but the community provided the largest attendance. The word keeps being passed around about the quality of our breakfast, and it will continue to grow.

I would like to thank all the volunteers who make the breakfast possible. We have an unusual group of people in the 1093 in that most everyone is willing to do any job I ask them to do. All seem to have a good time working and spending time together. The positive comments continue about the food and the variety. Thanks again to everyone who worked hard to make this a success.

Dave Schmelzer
Pancake Breakfast Coordinator

Scholarship Winner Earns His CFI Rating!



Marcus Plessner, one of our Chapter 1093 Scholarship winners and Kids to Oshkosh participant, just obtained his CFI rating at Northwest Michigan College in Traverse City. He will now flight instruct while still attending classes there. Marcus is working on a 4-year degree in conjunction with Ferris State University. His next immediate goal is obtaining his CFII (Instrument Instructor) rating. Marcus attended the Midland Aviation Camp in 2001 and has been one of its student leaders for the past several years. Congratulations, Marcus!

Proposed Airport Observation Area Topic at November 6, 2007 Airport Advisory Commission Meeting – Pilots Encouraged to Attend

Jim Cordes, member of the Barstow Public Relations Committee, will present a formal proposal from the committee to the **Airport Advisory Commission** to create an Airport Observation Area. The proposed area, to the west of the terminal building, will provide a comfortable area from which Midland residents and visitors can observe and enjoy activities at the airport.

Your support is encouraged by attending the Airport Advisory Commission meeting on Tuesday, **November 6, 2007 at 5:30 p.m.** at the City Council conference room in City Hall, 333 W. Ellsworth Street, Midland.

Note from the President

Dear Chapter Members:

Thank you to all those who have said yes when asked if they were willing to serve as a chapter officer or committee chairperson. Our chapter represents diverse interests and will continue to grow only if we include new voices to help guide that growth.

I look forward to serving as your president during the coming year 2008. Your feedback is welcome and you are invited to attend chapter board meetings which are held the third Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m.

John

John Abbott, President
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