



# LOOKIN' UP

The EAA Chapter of Modern Explorers

EAA Chapter 1093  
Midland, MI  
Jack Barstow Airport  
KIKW  
June 2011

## President

Dave Schmelzer  
989-631-7590

## Vice-President

Jack Hallett  
989-708-3008

## Treasurer

Dick Sipp  
989-832-2528

## Secretary

Sarah Lund  
989-750-3412

## Past President

JT Rairigh  
989-513-2841



**Instructors & campers from Aviation Camp 2011**

## NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING

**Thursday, July 7**

**6 pm social hr,**

**7pm meeting**

### In this issue:

- Aviation Camp
- B25 Crew
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- Air show dates

## 2011 Aviation Camp

We had an excellent Aviation Camp experience this year, again thanks to the many volunteers who work to make it possible. The staff included Sarah Lund, Dot Hornsby, Christian Smith, Justin Bentsen, Kris Anderson and Janine Rairigh, Camp Administrator. We had help several days from Claire Hadley and Jacklyn Hallett. On Monday during the Aviation History



Timeline Challenge we enlisted help from John Abbott, who portrayed Burt Rutan.

We had guest speakers each day, including Captain Jack Hallett, homebuilder Dennis Peden, Dr. Greg Pinnell, WWII Greatest Generation carrier pilot Bill Eyre, aircraft mechanic and riveting workshop leader Paul Fancey and team from Dow Chemical, aircraft mechanic and speaker on engines Jim Dobben, Young Eagles Flight Leader and early pioneer of the Young Eagles program Walt Suminski, Army aviator and Vietnam veteran Larry Meier, Air Traffic Controller Phil Scott from Willow Run tower, Civil Air Patrol representatives Major Steve Duquette and Major Kurt Schulze, Northwest Michigan College graduate, former Midland Aviation Camp Lead Instructor and currently a commercial pilot, Marcus Plessner. Don Brettrager from Chesaning flew in on Friday afternoon in his



beautiful blue and yellow BT 13 Vultee basic trainer, and there were sailplane launches and demonstrations plus bi-plane flyovers that kept the campers and their parent's eyes looking skyward.

Thanks to Dave Schmelzer for our lesson on wind directions and traffic patterns, to Chris Welch, Captain, Dow Corning Aviation, for the tour of their facility, to Paul Fancey for the tour of Dow Chemical's Aviation Department, to the Fire Station personnel at MBS Airport and to the air traffic controllers who gave us a tour of the MBS Air Traffic Control Tower. Thanks to the pilots who hosted our daily hangar visits: Dennis Peden, Bob Baringer, Pete Swan, Jeff Nielsen John Shriner, John Abbott, and Malcolm Brubaker.



Young Eagle flights were conducted separately on June 18 by pilots Dan Graiver, Dave Schmelzer, Tom Tolton, Greg Pinnell, Mike Woodley, John Swantek, Mike Rehberg, John Wilson, Dick Corbat, Dot Hornsby, Tom Ryden, and John Abbott.

Many thanks to everyone.

Linda Langrill

## Flying the B-25

### Family and Friends,

As most of you know, we have been hanging around the Yankee Air Museum in Ypsilanti for the last couple of years sweeping floors, driving a few rivets, wiping oil off of airplanes, attending ground schools and in general trying to be a squeaky wheel. This spring it finally paid off when the B-25 Chief Pilot said. "all right Sipp, show up on Saturday and we'll see if you can fly this thing."



We've now been to 3 air shows/events and logged a grand total of 12.5 hours of copilot time, flying the airplane about half of the time. We have had six half hour hops carrying 7 paying passengers for rides on each flight.

The Yankee Air Museum B-25D named "Yankee Warrior" is unique for a number of reasons; it is the only flying "D" model and one of only a few flying WWII war birds with a documented combat record. The Museum has extensive historical data on the airplane including individual combat flight orders with targets, crew names, and formation position. Remarkably it only has 3500 actual flying hours logged since 1943.

I have always had a fantasy in the back of my mind that I was born 20 years too late and missed flying WWII era airplanes and so, being able to fly this airplane was initially a selfish dream come true.

What I did not realize was the reward that comes from flying passengers who have a personal connection to the airplane and who after the flight say it was "the experience of a life-time." The airplane attracts so many people and stories from the "Greatest Generation" each one is awe inspiring. I now understand the people who own or operate these airplanes when say we are not the "owners" they belong to those who flew them in combat; we are only the current caretakers.

If you go to "You Tube" and enter: "B-25 Yankee Warrior" there are numerous film clips of the airplane. One in particular, "Gathering of Eagles 2007" is very well done.



Participating in this type of activity has a down side, if you screw up, it will be on You Tube in a heartbeat. Reminds me of an astronaut on the launch pad that said "please God, don't let me screw up now."

Tailwinds  
Dick



Jack readies the Pitts for its next flight

### **N21DJ Flies!**

Congratulation to Jack Hallett and Dave Schmelzer on the first flight of their modified Pitts Biplane.

### **Upcoming events**

- July 7th -Regular membership meeting.  
(7pm)
- July 9<sup>th</sup> - Young Eagles (9am)
- Pancake breakfast dates:
  - September 10<sup>th</sup>

### **Classifieds**

Please submit your ads by the 24<sup>th</sup> of each month. You can reach me at:

[jcsorg@att.net](mailto:jcsorg@att.net) or 941-7704

**If you have** anything you would like included in the next newsletter, please get it to me by the 25 of the month to ensure it will be included. Please note, my new e-mail address is: [jcsorg@att.net](mailto:jcsorg@att.net)

### **Reoccurring chapter events**

- First Thursday of each month is the regular membership meeting at 7 pm. Social hour starts at 6 pm.
- Second Saturday of each month is Young Eagles flights. 9 am -12 am.

### **About our chapter**

The Midland Chapter 1093 was organized in 1995 and presently has approximately 80 members. As a chapter, we support homebuilding, aviation in general and, a special emphasis on aviation education.

#### **Officers**

President	Dave Schmelzer	989-631-7590
Vice-President	Jack Hallett	989-708-3008
Treasurer	Dick Sipp	989-832-2528
Secretary	Sarah Lund	989-750-3412
Past President	JT Rairigh	989-513-2841

#### **Class II directors**

Newsletter Editor	John Sorg	989-941-7704
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Find us on the Web: <http://eaa1093.org/index.html>

John Sorg  
1093 Newsletter