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# Winds Aloft September 2013

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### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Tuesday, September 24 - Potluck and Meeting –** Gathering at 6 PM in Ted Lipinski's hanger at LITH Airport for potluck dinner with burgers and brats served by chapter members (donation \$4). Afterwards, at about 7 PM, the social setting continues with a presentation by Ron Liebmann on the chapter's 1941 Taylorcraft restoration project, gorgeously and meticulously accomplished by Chapter 790 members. Come see how a bit of history was made alive again! Driving directions to the dinner and meeting are at the end of the newsletter.

**Saturday, September 21 - Young Eagles Rally** will be held at The Landings Airport from 9 a.m. to noon. See Young Eagles article below for more details.

**Tuesday, October 1 - Board meeting** will be held at Pilot Pete's Restaurant on Schaumburg Airport; dinner gathering starts around 6, meeting will start between 7 and 7:30. All members, and guests as well, are welcome at board meetings.

**Saturday, October 13 - 790 Volunteer Pizza Party -** 6:00 p.m. at Nicks Pizza in Crystal Lake for all those who've volunteered for Young Eagles and the pancake breakfast. The chapter will provide the pizza. See Nancy's Young Eagles update further down in the newsletter.

**October 22 – 25 – San Diego Trip –** For details, see the four-day October Outing article below. Ron Liebmann is your tour host!

# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Next Tuesday is our monthly meeting at Lake in the Hills. Be making plans now to meet us at 6:00 for brats, hamburgers and hangar talk. At seven we will have a short business

meeting with some very important topics for the membership to discuss. It would be great to have you there to help plan the direction of your EAA Chapter. We will be diving into our chapter's history at this meeting as Ron tells us the story of the Chapter's Tayorcraft rebuild a few years back.

Last year EAA Founder Paul Poberezny sent this letter out to the EAA Chapter Presidents. His letter follows my column. Paul points out how important chapters are to the life of EAA. His legacy will live on through the fellowship found in EAA Chapters. You are that legacy.

- Elton

Dear EAA Chapter President,

It's a cool morning here in Oshkosh. A bit of autumn in the air and leaves showing a bit of color. As I sit here at my desk, I wonder to myself "why am I still here?" It was some 60 years ago that we founded EAA in my garage [airplane shop]. None of us ever thinking how it would change lives and the aviation community as well.

It was Ray Stits having a little airplane shop back in 1953 (Riverside, California) that suggested the forming of EAA Chapters to spread the word of EAA and what it can do for the homebuilt movement and all of aviation. Over time, some 1000 Chapters have been a very important part of our movement (especially to me). You are aviation's "churches" in the field – a most valuable community. I am personally thankful for every Chapter, the support of EAA and the many years of dedication to our organization and the aviation community.

Today I turn 91 years young, still serving as an EAA volunteer. I want to thank everyone for their love and loyal support given to Audrey and me all these years. It is a great privilege for me to personally sign this letter and all others to our Chapter leadership. Your Chapter is and remains the heart of EAA's structure and the driving force of its success.

Sincerely, Paul H. Poberezny, Founder

# YOUNG EAGLES UPDATE FROM NANCY

Ok, everyone. We have two more scheduled, walk-in Young Eagle events for this season. This Saturday, September 21st from 9:00am to noon we will be having our first event out at my home airport, The Landings. The Landings board will also be sponsoring their Annual Picnic after noon at the large hangar next to the fuel pumps. We are looking for people to come out and help with crowd control so we can guarantee a safe and fun event. For those who want to fly it or help on the ground, please let me know ahead of time, so we can plan accordingly. We should be setting up by 7:30 or 8:00am.

The last event of the season will be at Lake in the Hills airport on October12th. Please let me know if you will be able to help for this event, too.

We will be having a casual Thank You Party for all who have helped at Young Eagle events AND the Pancake Breakfast this year. These events have been incredibly successful because of the great support we have gotten from our members and friends. Pizza and pop will be provided at Nick's Pizza (856 Pyott Road, Crystal Lake) on Sunday, October 13th at about 6pm. Come out to enjoy the camaraderie and share stories. RSVP to me, so we can get a head count, too.

Thank you!! - - - Nancy Blazyk

## **CHAPTER OUTING TO SAN DIEGO: ITINERARY**

Ron Liebmann is the San Diego trip chairman, and he has an excellent itinerary developed for anyone interested in going. See the San Diego Air Museum, tour the aircraft carrier Midway, visit the Chino Planes of Fame with lunch on the field, and the Yanks Air Museum. It's a whirlwind four-day event, and Ron has all the details worked out, so all you have to do is call him to get things started.

- Tuesday, 10/22/13
  - Depart O'Hare for San Diego to arrive about 10:15am.
  - o Get rental van and proceed to San Diego Air & Space Museum.
  - o Tour Museum until 4:00pm. Then check into the hotel and do dinner.
- Wednesday, 10/23 morning:
  - Drive to aircraft carrier Midway in the harbor.
  - Tour carrier until 4:00pm and then drive to Chino
  - o Check into the hotel and do dinner
- Thursday, 10/24
  - o Drive to and tour both museums at Chino airport. Lunch there.
  - Check into hotel and dine there
- Friday, 10/25
  - Drive van to LAX and return it there
  - Proceed to flight home

Hotels, museums & shared van rental (assuming eight in the van) totals \$315 per person. Airfare and meals are additional.

Call or email Ron at: 847-997-0801 rliebmann@comcast.net. Act NOW!

## TRIP REPORT: WASHINGTON ISLAND

By Tom Solar EAA Chapter 790, radio call sign AB9CI

On August 20, 2013 I flew the "Cutie" to Washington Island to visit an amateur radio operator named George Ulm, call sign W9EVT. George was featured in the Ham Magazine QST "Calling all Stations" last Winter and has an extremely large complement of vintage amateur radio equipment.

I always wanted to fly to Washington Island (2P2), the home of the original Fish Boil at which each year in July they hold a fish boil fly in. This year there were 174 planes.



Several years ago my wife and I made a trip to Door County landing at Ephraim (3D2) with plans the next day to fly to the Isle. However, the winds were extremely gusty, so we had to postpone the flight there. This flight was very smooth cruising at 2300 ft with a 20 mile tail wind. I flew over the NE end of the Island and spotted three guyed-towers with directional beam antennas. Landing on RWY 20 (both are turf) was uneventful.

Upon arrival I ran into Walter on a scooter who opened up the office and let me use the phone to call George. His wife gave me the ham shack phone number. George said come on over and gave me directions. Walter gave me the lock code to borrow the airport van, which rumbled and groaned as it moved me along. George had bought a cherry farm a number of years back and set up his home, B&B and ham shack.

When entering the shack (a large house, subdivided), one immediately takes note of a long room with four levels of ham gear on both walls. George was sitting at his ham desk communicating with Hawaii while music played in the back ground. George gave me the whole morning and afternoon, talking about his family heritage and how he wound up on the island. He was born in Danzig in 1930 and his father's family owned the Shipyard in Danzig which was quickly taken over by Hitler. This shipyard built the battleships; Bismarck, Tirpitz, Graf Spee and many submarines.

His father, Eric, married a lady from Chicago who was touring Europe with her aunt. She had once been found injured as the only survivor of a plane crash. After George was about five and the world was in the Great Depression they moved to the US, his mom was lonely for the States. Eric tried his hand at farming in Florida but settled back in Chicago with his wife's family and worked as a reporter for a German newspaper in Chicago. When WWII progressed, circulation died on the paper and he entered the silk-screening business using Japanese POWs for labor.

George's introduction to ham radio came from Carl Hasel who was related to his mother's family. Carl was co owner with Fred Schnell whom built radio receivers and the first broadcast station in Chicago, 9ZN,

A Bit of Radio History

Prior to and during WWI the Navy controlled all radio frequencies. Spark gap transmitters were the mode of long distance wireless communications. They generate via spark noise across a wide spectrum of radio frequencies. One today would call them interference generators. At the time, however, most any receiver would be able to pick up the signal regardless what frequency the receiver was tuned to.

By the direction of Teddy Roosevelt to sail the Great White Fleet of battleships around the world to show America's new-found might, a young junior naval officer by the name of Fred Schnell brought on board the ship a homemade transmitter and receiver. Ham operators were much in demand during the prewar and war years to operate radio equipment.

When the fleet was out of range of the spark gap transmitter, the young officer could reach his friend back in the states via his home-brew unit. He was able to inform the Admiral of the birth of his son before the Navy could get the information. Fred immediately was promoted communications officer and helped lead the Navy into new form of wireless а communications.

across from the old Edgewater Beach Hotel in Chicago. This business was later funded by a successful car dealership owner and later became Zenith Radio. Carl noticed George as a youngster was neither fluent in German nor English, so he taught him another language, Morse code, in a unique manner. Rather than learning code letter by letter, Carl taught him to listen for words, beginning with the word "the".



He became an Eagle Scout and assisted a man named "Skippy" from Chicago who was running the Boy Scout programs on Washington Island in the summertime; this was his first introduction to Washington Island.

George ran convention businesses around the world. He worked in Taiwan and knew Madame Chiang Kai-shek (Soong May-ling) after Mr. Chiang had passed on. George had met William J. Hallison, the founder of Halliburton Radio. Halliburton Radios were purchased by the military in WWII and used extensively for coast communications in the Pacific and throughout European and African campaigns.

Back at the shack George introduced each one of his Vintage radios and explained their purpose, frequency range and design quality - he was showing me his adopted children. This is the greatest collection of Vintage Ham equipment I have ever seen; Halliburton, Collins, National, Motorola and others.

Unfortunately I had to leave and tried graciously to excuse myself for over an hour since I would be bucking a 20 MPH-plus headwind and I wanted to get home before dark. After

exchanging QSL cards saying my goodbyes' and thanking George for sharing his hobby, history and Ham information I left in the old groaning Van and returned to the airport.

Taking off later in the day was extremely gusty, but the "Cutie" handled the ride very well with smooth air once again at 2300 ft. I had to make a stay over at Manitowoc, and Curt at the FBO suggested a fine Italian restaurant on the SW side named Luigi's. Food and service was great. Got back home the next morning again with smooth air at 2300 ft.



If anyone wishes to meet George, visit his radio collection or stay at his B&B on Washington Island, Greengate Farms, he or his wife Sue can be reached: Ham Shack 920/847-2500 or Home 920/847-2502.

73's and Happy Landings!

- Tom

### **BOARD MEETING**

EAA Chapter 790 Board Meeting Notes September 3, 2013

The EAA Chapter 790 Board meeting was held at the Lake in the Hills Airport and began at 7:10 p.m. Attendees were Nancy & Larry Blazyk, Lon Danek, Tom LeGates, Mike Perkins, Ole Sindberg and Tom Solar. Absent were Glen Brisson, Elton Eisele, Ron Liebmann, Jim Pratt and Joe Rossi.

**Chapter Meeting Locations:** The future availability of the Barrington Library for meeting space was again discussed. Various plus and minus points were raised comparing the library to the LITH airport as a meeting location. Possible other meeting locations were also briefly reviewed and dismissed. Member input is needed to finalize a decision, and this will be a topic for the next member meeting.

**Party:** We have finalized the date and location for the Young Eagle and pancake breakfast volunteers party. It will be on 10/13, 6:00 p.m., at Nicks Pizza in Crystal Lake. The chapter will provide the pizza.

Young Eagles: The next rally will be at The Landings on 9/21, from 9 a.m. to noon. Nancy has worked out a plan for staging the aircraft that will be flying, and a location for participant registration and other paperwork.

**Board Meeting Location**: The October board will be held at Pilot Pete's at the Schaumburg airport. Ole Sindberg will host the November meeting, and Nancy & Larry Blazyk will host in December.

**Equipment Needs:** The need for a new computer (Young Eagle rallies) and a projector for meeting presentations were discussed. The board has set a maximum amount that is expected to be needed for these purchases. Elton will be checking further on projector options, and Larry Blazyk will pursue the new laptop for the chapter.

**Annual Scholarship:** The board has decided to again make available a \$1000 scholarship. We will attempt to coordinate this with the Young Eagle program as a way to attract applicants, and will look for other inputs as well. If possible, a recipient should be selected in time to present the scholarship at the banquet in February 2014.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Submitted, Tom LeGates, Interim Secretary

#### DIRECTIONS TO SEPTEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

Ted Lipinski's hanger, P60, is in the west-most row of hangers at LITH Airport. To get there, enter the airport at the south-most gate (south of Blue Skies). On the security gate keypad, punch in #1228 (five keystrokes – pound-one-two-two-eight). You will hear a beep and a few seconds later the gate will open. Drive west as far as you can straight ahead, taking you to the west-most row of hangers. Ted's P60 hanger faces east. Park on grass anywhere in the vicinity, but for wing clearance please insure your car does not overhang any hard surface. There is also a lot of additional space south of Ted's hanger for parking. If you arrive after 6:45-7:00, you may have to park in the main parking lot by Blue Skies Pilot Shop and walk over.