 



**VORTEX**

**MARCH 2020 VOLUME 51 NUMBER 03**

**2020 CALENDAR**

March 26, 2020 Chapter Meeting - NO MEETING THIS MONTH

April 09, 2020 Board Meeting

April 30, 2020 Chapter Meeting

May 05 - 10, 2020 Sun N Fun - Lakeland, Florida

May 14, 2020 Board Meeting

May 16, 2020 Young Eagles Day

May 28, 2020 Chapter Meeting

June 11, 2020 Board Meeting

June 25, 2020 Chapter Meeting - Annual Potluck Supper

July 09, 2020 Board Meeting

July 20-26, 2020 AirVenture, Oshkosh, WI

August 13, 2020 Board Meeting

August 16, 2020 EAA/Duck's Picnic

September 10, 2020 Board Meeting

September 13, 2020 Fly In, Drive In, Ride In

September 24, 2020 Chapter Meeting

September 26, 2020 Young Eagles Day

October 08, 2020 Board Meeting

October 29, 2020 Chapter Meeting

November 12, 2020 Board Meeting

December 05, 2020 Chapter Christmas Party

 **ITEMS OF INTEREST:**

**BREAKFAST ON SATURDAY:**

**NOTE: We are still having Breakfast!**

We are having breakfast on Saturday mornings from 8:00 to 9:00 AM. Come have pancakes, eggs, & sausage with "the gang" ! Or we could have a surprise from whoever the cooks are. You can sign up to do breakfast and have what you want. SEE YOU AT BREAKFAST!!

**MONDAY EVENING:** There is a Monday Evening building getogether at the hanger. They meet at 7:00 PM at the Hanger. I have also heard there is Popcorn involved at that meeting. Open to everyone ~~~~~

**Chapter meeting**

**No meeting this month, March 26, 2020. In the safty of health reasons regarding the Coronavirus we will not be meeting this month. Our next regular meeting is April 30th. This meeting will be Wings Part 1 with the completion after breakfast on Saturday, May 2, with fly-out TBD.**

**Plan to attend ~~~~~~~**

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**Have you paid your annual dues??**

 Dues are $20.00 for the year. If you can not pay at the meeting you can also mail your dues to: Jerry Hostetler, 24640 Co. Road 54, Nappanee, IN 46550 or you can go online to: eaa132elkhart.weebly.com. ============================================================

WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT:

Dear EAA 132 Family,

I know I am talking to many who either are or have parents from the 'greatest generation' according to historians and rightly so. We have faced so many huge obstacles, soon we will look back and probably see our current state affairs as not living up to the hype, but prudence requires we not take take the risk for granted. I want you all to stay healthy, stay safe and thrive. If you are ill, please let us be there to help in ways we can, and if you are just home bored, reach out via the virus-free devices such as your phone, email or social media and encourage your fellow aviation enthusiasts.

We won't be having a March meeting, not because we anticipate over 250 people (but wouldn't that be a fun problem to have:-), but because of the average age and number of silver heads in our midst, it's best we not put anyone in unnecessary risk. We WILL be holding our Saturday Breakfasts at 8 am in the Clubhouse with extra cleaning, but if you are unsure, just stay home, we'll be sure to talk fondly of you with those of us who meet. We will hold our April meeting with the WINGS re-currency training and fly-out on May 2nd (weather permitting) We have Young Eagles coming up May 16th so get your self immune and healthy for both of these events. Airventure is right around the corner as well as the Ride-Fly-Drive-In this summer and fall.

We also have an exciting event in the works, we are going to be able to be part of the Centennial of the first cross-country Air Mail trip on Sept. 11, 2020. Let's give a big shout out to Shawn Avery who is going to fly his beautiful Beech 18 to Bryan, OH pick up the mail bags and fly to Joliet, IL with a stop in good ole Elkhart so we can show our support, have some celebrations for all to enjoy and create a caravan flight to Joliet for Movie night and celebration with our fellow aviator friends in IL. We should be in Elkhart about 3pm on the 11th, so put it on your calendar and contact the EAA board of how you'd like to volunteer or support to this effort.

We had a great time in Oshkosh for the annual work party, working on B-25, Swallow, Ercoupe, Aztec, Skycatcher and Glassairs. We also found out who the table tennis, carpet bowling and pool sharks are in our midst. Please go to our Facebook page and YouTube and subscribe and follow EAA132's channel 'Michiana Flyer' to see all the latest happenings and to stay connected.

Be Well, Stay Optimistic & Thank you for being part of the EAA 132 Family,

Dr. J. Douglas Busch

EAA132 President 2020 \]

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**NEW HATS FOR THE SUMMER**

We have new hats on order. Pretty Blue and White summer hats. The cost is $15.00. See Steve Lesher or go on line to: eaa132elkhart.weebly.com.

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Minutes by Sectretary Jim Butler

Monthly Meeting February 27, 2020 6:30pm to 8:55pm

The evening started out with a half hour (6:30-7:00) mix and mingle.

Drinks, chips and pinwheels were available for snacking.

The meeting came to order at 7:00pm by President Dr. Doug who welcomed the 21 members and guests present.

Our National Anthem was played.

The project update for the month was Jon Nace’s nice Waco. The full video is available on YouTube.

On March 13th a group of youth from the Edwardsburg STEM program will be visiting from 11:00am to 1:00pm. They will tour the EKM tower, IFC FBO and our own Chapter 132 hanger.

We will also be providing lunch. Anyone available to attend is welcome.

Our spring EAA work party is coming up the weekend of March 6,7, and 8. At this time we have reached the maximum number of participants. Doug has lined up an evening program for those attending on Friday at 6:00.

Our Chapter is wanting to affiliate with a VMC club. Anyone who is interested should contact Doug.

Dave Tan, President of the Telos Flying Club was introduced. Dan covered the history of the flying club (it started in 1959) and the current club aircraft which is an RV-7A 200HP, IFR and ADS-B equipped. Currently they have 8 members but are looking for an additional 4.

Our program for the evening was Aviation Wiring 101, given by Marty King from King Aero.

After giving a talk on basic aviation wiring terms and definitions he had us all practice making a short wire bundle. It was both fun and educational.

A couple of upcoming events were covered; On March 19th the MAA will be holding an Open House at the Administration Hanger. Starting at 6:00pm with pizza being provided.

Anyone who is interested in finding out more about the MAA is invited to attend.

April 28th and May 2nd will be a WINGS program given by Sam Heiter.

September 13 will be our 4th Annual FI/DI/RI and September 26 will be our Fall Young Eagles event. Volunteer pilots will only be asked to make six YE flights.

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EAA 2020 Spring Work Party March 6,7,8

Cast of characters: Vic, Jim, Steve, Chris, Dick, Bill, Doug, Leon, Tim, Madelyn, Ken, Jim, Don, Dan, Sam, Mitch, Ryan, Paul and Jeremy.

That’s 19, the largest group yet. Age range from late teens to middle eighties. Experience from none to A&P.

Friday, March 6

Most drove and we had one group fly. Local weather was mid 30’s with light snow. Snow and wind picked up around LaPorte where the roads were pretty slippery. By Chicago things cleared up with a decent drive the rest of the way.

Mitch’s Mom (Jenny) and Grandmother (Diane) came along to help get Mitch moved into his new digs. Mitch will be starting his new job at Basler Flight Service as a new A&P. We all wish Mitch the best of luck in his new endeavor.

EAA put us up at the EAA Lodge for the weekend and after getting settled in, we all met at The Golden Corral at 6:00pm for dinner where Doug had arranged for a private room. After eating way too much food (gotta get your money’s worth) Brian O’lena who is the head of the Young Eagles program for EAA gave a short talk. Turns out Brian is from the Elkhart area and can relate to Chapter 132’s shenanigans. Doug then recognized the many 132 members who have flown Young Eagles and have helped via the ground crew.

Upon returning to the Lodge some hit the hay and the remainder ventured downstairs to the game room. A pool table, ping pong, and a game called carpet ball was available. No one knew how to play carpet ball, but instructions were available so as a last resort they were read. Ping pong was enjoyed by those who were proficient and tolerated by the rest. Dan taught us all how to play the pool game of “cutthroat” which was a lot of fun.

Saturday, March 7 Sunny and 50

EAA provided breakfast for us. Cheese Omelet, Sausage, Hash Browns, Juice and Coffee.

From there we all ventured over to the EAA Maintenance Hangar.

Working on a variety of aircraft, doing a variety of things.

List of aircraft we worked on:

Ford Tri-Motor

B-25

Ercoupe

Cessna C-162

Cessna C-210

Aztec

Sparrow

GlaStar

Break for lunch back at the Lodge. BBQ Chicken, Veggies, Chips and Cookies.

Afternoon was more of the same. Loud, way cool noise from outside so many ran outside to check it out. Was a T-38 (from who knows where) doing low passes over the runway then around the pattern to do again.

Work ended at 5:00pm with us returning to the Lodge to get cleaned up for dinner.

The Ramsey clan decided to go out to eat but the rest of us ate dinner the EAA provided at the Lodge. Tossed salad, Lasagna, Garlic bread and Brownies.

After dinner a VCR tape was played covering the history of the Mail Express.

About the time that finished those who had gone elsewhere to eat returned and many went downstairs to once again play games. The first game of cutthroat went on for a LONG time as the rules allows a “scratch” to prolong the game. And we all seemed to be very good at that. Game two of cutthroat was a little shorter but sinking the white ball was a well-established habit by that time. Both pool and ping pong were dominated by Dan and Steve.

Sunday, March 8 Sunny, 63 and windy.

Some left early to head home but most stuck around to visit the Museum.

The Museums posted opening was 10:00am but Doug was able to sweettalk someone into letting us in at 9:30am.

So, after breakfast at some of the local establishments, we all joined up at 9:30am for a quick tour of the Museum.

This was a return visit for many but the first for some. Enjoyed by all as the Museum is constantly changing.

Everyone headed home putting the end to another fun filled Spring Work Party.

Many thanks to all those at EAA who makes these trips possible.

The Lodge staff and the nice ladies who prepared our very good meals.

Tracy and the rest of the maintenance hangar staff who kept us busy and answered our questions.

The Museum staff for letting us in a little early.

So, that was our weekend.

All had a good time with friendships renewed and bonded.

We got a ton of work performed (contrary to what our wives may think) and can be proud of how much help we were able to provide.

To those who missed or were unable to attend, I’m sure we will return next year so hopefully everyone who wishes, will be able.

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Board Meeting March 12, 2020 7:08pm to 7:56pm

Present; Doug, Jerry, Steve, Tim, Cindy, Jim, Dan, Michelle, Don, Karen

Discussion regarding the upcoming March member meeting and the Covid-19 virus.

It was finally decided that since we did not have a program in place we would go ahead and cancel.

Board member Roy Bickell’s wife Dakres, as of Wednesday, March 4 was still in the hospital.

Current status was unknown. Thoughts and prayers are with her.

The memorial brick fund for George Watt currently stands at $385. Cost of the brick is $500 so we are asking those who can to contribute what they can to make up the remainder needed.

Discussion on whether we should continue the Saturday morning breakfasts and it was decided we should. Will leave it up to the individuals to decide to attend or not.

Both Chapter House doors could stand to be replaced. Dan will look into cost and report at next month’s board meeting.

It was decided that the 6:30pm to 7:00pm pre-meeting mix & mingle was a good idea and well received at the February member meeting. Everyone is reminded that we should all made a concentrated effort to get to know any visitors or new members attending.

The Edwardsburg STEM student tour/lunch scheduled for Friday; March 13th has been canceled due to the Covid-19 virus.

New Chapter hats are done. Jim will take pictures and post on our website. They will also be available at our Saturday morning breakfasts and monthly meetings for purchase.

On Friday, September 11 a recreation of an Air Mail flight will be making a stop at the Elkhart Airport. Chapter 132 and the City of Elkhart are in the planning stages for this event. Included in the preliminary plans is to accompany the flight to the next location in Joliet for an evening of festivities.

Since the Air Mail event is scheduled the same weekend as our FI/DI/RI we need to consider changing the date as this would be asking a lot from our members to squeeze into three days.

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 **2020 OFFICERS**

President Doug Busch Young Eagles Coordinator: Doug Busch

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 **Directors:**

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 **Steve Lesher (574) 264-7320**

 **Roy Bickel (574) 298-8800**

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**Board Meetings: 2nd Thursday of each month**

**Building Meetings: Monday Evening 7:00 PM**

**Regular Meetings: Last Thursday of the month unless**

 **Other Plans are made**

 **7:00 PM at Chapter House Chapter**

**GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

**Karen Duck**

**21825 Mason Street**

**Edwardsburg, MI 49112**