
EAA Chapter 175



Smoke Signals

Newsletter





July, 2015

Next Meeting: **Saturday, 07/25/2015**

Breakfast @0800

Our Speaker: Charles (Chick) Svoboda

Meeting @ 0900

President's Corner

Thank you for all you do for the chapter and for aviation in general. As we move along with our strategy of growing our chapter participation, I'd like for all of us to consider who we can bring along to our meetings. Surely, we all know someone who has an interest in aviation?! Think about it.

I'll see you next month as at this moment, I'm celebrating my wife's 40th high school reunion in the great country of Miami, FL!

Please give "Chick" a warm Chapter 175 welcome....Fly safe!

jpk

OUR GUEST SPEAKER

Our guest speaker is a multifaceted pilot and instructor with a decorated military career. We are fortunate to have a man of his caliber address us today.

His career spans several decades and include heavy transport and rotary aircraft. His bio includes recollections of the Cuban Missile Crisis and Viet Nam.

He summed up the time in the military in the following way.

Would I have changed anything about my career? I doubt it. I loved the Air Force, and still do. I never got rich in the Air Force, but that was never my ambition. I still remember my father's words on the two most honorable professions being the priesthood, and the professional soldier. I felt that then, and I feel that now.

The war began in Desert Storm on 16 January 1991, at 6:38PM EST, when US Army Apache helicopter gunships attacked command and control facilities after making a dash across a trackless desert. This blinded the air defense, permitting the Air Force to wipe out much of the defenses. But those Army helicopters were led by the MH-53 Pave Low helicopters of the 20th Special Operations Squadron. When I read of this and saw them on TV, I was proud and nostalgic. This was MY Viet Nam outfit, and the unit from which I retired.

I am still an active pilot, flying volunteer missions for the Coast Guard, as an aircraft commander and instructor pilot with the US Coast Guard Auxiliary. I'll continue to fly until I lose my health or my life. I've been retired from the Air Force for almost 23 years – longer than I was on active duty. I am now more than 65 years old, yet, like so many old war horses, if I were called upon to go to war for my country, I would do so in a heartbeat!

Charles D. "Chick" Svoboda
Lt. Col., USAF (Retired)
Pilot

EAA 175 CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

DATE: JUNE 27, 2015

LOCATION: Chapter House, Tampa Executive Airport (KVDF)

ATTENDANCE: 14

Business Meeting

The chapter meeting was called to order at 0900 by Jeff Kaloostian.

Old Business

Meeting Minutes:

May Minutes were included in the June issue of Smoke Signals. A motion was made and seconded to accept the May meeting minutes in Smoke Signals as emailed to the membership. The motion was passed without objection

Treasurers Report

Jeff gave a verbal overview of current chapter 175 finances. A motion was made to accept the treasurer's report. It was seconded and accepted without objection.

New Business

Jeff reviewed the chapter program schedule for the remainder of the year. He also stated that drones were becoming more popular and if anyone was interested in operating drones with FAA exemption approval, they could visit the FAA 33 Exemption website for information and application of exemption (http://www.faa.gov/uas/legislative_programs/section_333/)

Steve Reisser invited EAA Chapter 175 members to a free ground school (free only for all EAA 175 members-All others pay \$300 for a class). In late October, Steve will offer a Private-Commercial Pilot ground school each Saturday Morning, 0800-1200, and an Instrument ground school Saturday afternoons from 1300-1700. A minimum of 5 paid students is required for each class to be provided this fall. Watch Steve's ground school website for details at <http://groundschool.weebly.com>

Jeff mentioned that our current Young Eagles coordinator has taken a new job that requires his full time efforts, so we are looking for a volunteer to take over the position of Young Eagles Coordinator. Please contact Jeff Kaloostian if you are interested in the position.

We have another Young Eagles flights coming up October 17th at KTPF for military children whose parent/s are deployed. A poll of available aircraft was taken at the meeting and very few pilots are available. We need many more aircraft and pilots to participate in this event. We also need ground crew volunteers to be present on October 17th. Please reach out and recruit as well as plan to help us at Peter O'Knight airport.

The garage has been further cleaned and all sheet metal has been cataloged. Cataloging of other items will continue as well as building shelving for efficient storage.

The Board of Directors has been working for several months on a final draft of the Chapter 175 Strategic plan. Jeff presented the current plan to the chapter for approval. The plan was approved by the attending chapter membership

Program John Leenhouts presented a program updating the chapter on the current status and activities of Sun'n Fun. He began with an excellent 5 minute, 26 second video describing the enthusiasm, passion, and excellence behind ACE (Aviation Center for Excellence).



Sun'n Fun has gone far beyond just a single fly-in event. There are activities and events planned throughout the entire year. One of the most impressive is ACE and the Central Florida Aviation Academy (CFAA). CFAA is a total aviation orientation high school going beyond the standard Florida high school graduation requirements and offers specific career path curriculum. Students also have the opportunity to earn a private pilot license. This year 30 students have earned their pilot licenses. Several will be flying vintage aircraft to Oshkosh stopping to provide Young Eagle flights at locations enroute to Air Venture. AOPA has recognized the ACE program as a showpiece and benchmark for aviation education.

A couple other facts were noted. There will not be a military flight demonstration at the 2016 Sun'n Fun Fly-In due to previous commitments by the Blue Angels and the Thunderbirds. Sun'n Fun has also made successful efforts to reduce the overhead costs of operations but still needs to maintain the 4,000+ volunteers and 19 full time staff members. Volunteers are greatly needed and appreciated.

When asked what EAA 175 could do to help support and extend the ACE program in our community, Mr. Leenhouts stated that there are two things we could do to generate more enthusiasm to stimulate the atmosphere for new pilots.

1. Schedule events to "Fly Anywhere". Fly-Out taking people on a flight in the community. Rather than going around "the patch", actually take people somewhere (i.e., out for lunch at a nearby airport).
2. He suggested we make an effort to Mentor some qualifying young person to get a pilot's license. Provide both monetary and one-on-one mentoring throughout the entire process of getting a pilot's license. Help them prepare for the FAA written test, meet frequently to help talk about their flying lessons, challenges and successes.

"Likes", as he is commonly referred, concluded the program by stating that Sun'n Fun is a showcase for aviation; one of the best, if not the best, in the nation. Often pilots stress "safety first". The ACE program emphasized "Professionalism First" and safety is a natural byproduct of that professionalism.

The program presented by John Leenhouts concluded at 1010.



SUN 'n FUN Fly-In, Inc.
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Communications and Public Relations
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (6-4-15)

SUN 'N FUN 2015

The 41st Annual SUN 'n FUN International Fly-In & Expo held April 21-26, 2015 presented by Visit Florida and the Florida Restaurant and Lodging Association is once again in the record books as a stellar experience for aerospace and Florida audiences and was the 2nd largest revenue producing event in SUN 'n FUN History. The support of the Lakeland Linder Regional Airport was unparalleled and made the difference between success and failure. Following on the footsteps of the record breaking 2014 event, Florida's largest annual convention offered many highlights that were measurable - many were anecdotal.



Nearly 200,000 people from all 50 U.S. States, the District of Columbia, and 2 U.S. territories participated in the event in Lakeland, Florida including spectators, airshow performers, exhibitors, vendors, volunteers, students, educators, media reps, and their guests. International guests arrived from 77 countries. The top 10 countries included a ranking order of Brazil, Canada, United Kingdom, Argentina (moving up 3 spaces from 2014), Germany, Colombia, Norway, England, Venezuela and Switzerland. Florida is a popular destination and our sponsors helped with the International Visitor Fest (Experience Kissimmee, Visit Central Florida, Florida Restaurant and Lodging and Visit Florida) to facilitate the Southern Hospitality offered by all volunteers.

Page 1



506 exhibitors brought over 4,000 representatives to SUN 'n FUN who stayed in hotels for the week creating 25,000 room nights for Central Florida and filled more than 700 exhibit spaces on the grounds. From all reports, exhibitor sales exceeded their expectations.

591 media representatives were credentialed from 19 countries and a summary listing of coverage can be found at www.sun-n-fun.org. An estimated 4,000



aircraft flew more than 9,000 air traffic movements during the week. Throughout the week, 40 airshow acts offered an average of 180 minutes of entertainment daily.



Prior to the 2015 event, the Warbirds of America constructed a new Headquarters building on the SnF grounds and a new archway proudly led guests to Warbird Country helping to capture the warbird spirit. The building will be used for facility rentals throughout the year providing substantial funding for education programs designed around aviation-based STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculums. Harold Cannon, President of the EAA Warbirds of America reported "174 planes registered on the Warbird Ramp (increased from 152 in 2014) with a variety of aircraft represented including 15 jets and multiple examples of 'heavy

iron.'" Photos from SUN 'n FUN can be found on the www.warbirds-eaa.org publication website."



A memorable salute from Brigadier General Chip Diehl was captured early in the day. As a component of the "My MacDill" campaign, the Texas Flying Legends B-25 Mitchell, followed by 4 T-6 Texas aircraft, and 4 Yaks left Warbird Country and flew in formation around Tampa Bay. Initiating this activity was a team led by SUN 'n FUN Board member Pat Hill who helped with the information flow needed for major airspace coordination and permissions from local towers. President/CEO John R. "Lites" Leenhouts stated, "SUN 'n FUN was thrilled to recognize the men and women in service around the world by sending vintage military aircraft over MacDill in a 'salute to veterans fly-by' during the 41st Annual SUN 'n FUN International Fly-In & Expo."

The Tampa Bay Defense Alliance President John Schueler expressed, "we are thankful to SUN 'n FUN management, staff, volunteers and pilots who made this historic one-of-a-kind Fly-over possible. From the bottom of our hearts, Hooah!"



The highlight of the week was definitely unique. The Breitling Jet Team made their first U.S. appearance and their precision and skill in seven (7) aircraft exceeded all expectations. Crowds gathering for the team's performances increased throughout the week. SUN 'n FUN is pleased to announce that the Breitling Team will be returning to Lakeland for the 42nd



Annual SUN 'n FUN International Fly-In & Expo (April 5-10, 2016.) Customer service and camaraderie with the guests was an obvious commitment from all the team members and the Breitling staff. As flares dropped from aircraft at the end of their daylight show, the audible appreciation was heard by all.



The USAF Thunderbirds participated in the 2nd Annual Student Assembly in the Aerospace Pavilion. Students from around the State had the opportunity to learn about military careers as pilots, mechanics, and even physicians. The team performed on the weekend and their patriotic presence, as well as their airshow performances, were well received.

2,000 students and chaperones were hosted for school tours. A narrated tour of the SUN 'n FUN Convention Campus was highlighted with hands on activities for students of all ages.

2,200 students participated in twelve STEM workshops designed for older students.



Page 3



The Veterans Plaza was a popular destination as Re-Enactors offered scenes from all major conflicts amid military vehicles, Veterans' services and Air America Veterans celebrating the 40th year of their departure from Vietnam.

Guests remarked on the thrill of being able to spend time with veterans and civilians who were knowledgeable in many areas of military history.

UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicles) were the topic of conversation in many areas of our 2,200 acres during the event. Presentations by

government representatives, vendors and colleges at the FAA National Safety Center, the Aerospace Pavilion and Aerospace Discovery at the Florida Air Museum introduced the rules, regulations and possibilities for using UAVs in the aerospace industry. New workshops are being planned for the end of 2015 to cover this exciting new arena.

With the help of the Lakeland Linder Regional Airport, Visit Central Florida, Experience Kissimmee, and the Hillsborough County Airport Authority we were able to reach guests returning home to Florida or visiting the state. The \$64m indirect economic impact on the I-4 corridor can be measured in a number of ways. Guests arriving at Tampa International were greeted with electronic signage on elevators and in baggage areas. The Florida Aerospace Historical Annex was opened during the 2015 Fly-In in partnership with the Albert Whitted Airport Preservation Society. The Annex showcases Florida's unique contribution to aviation history such as the Benoist Flight and National Airlines.

More than 5,700 aviation enthusiasts participated in Forums held in the Central Florida Aerospace Academy and 2,285 registered for Workshops. AOPA and FAA forums at the exhibit spaces were a highlight of the week for all.



CFAA students Clayton McHugh, Luke Liptak, Viola Gould, and Lexi Wines were honored by the Commemorative Air Force ceremony of Tuskegee Airmen Leather Helmets with assistance from WWII Pilots. The Red Tails "Rise Above" exhibit hosted 860 adults and 350 students and facilitated the participation of the pilots that included Col. Charles McGee and Lt. Col. George Hardy, original Tuskegee Airman Pilots, with WWII Pilots Lon Cooper and Doug Canning.





The new Piedmont Aerospace Experience was dedicated during the Fly-In. Students started the aircraft in front of a large audience as the ribbon was cut. A Boeing 727 on the SUN 'n FUN Convention Campus is becoming the only fully functional aircraft being used as a learning center on a high school campus in the world. It is a new laboratory setting at the Aerospace Center for Excellence adjacent to the Central Florida Aerospace Academy, Aerospace Discovery at the Florida Air Museum with interactive STEM displays, and the Buehler Aerospace Skills Center.

Students will begin classes inside the aircraft in September 2015. Also being built into the aircraft is the Bernie Little Conference Center, offering a new perspective of the aerospace industry to local and national business leaders and educators utilizing the facility. The Piedmont Aerospace Experience is becoming a reality thanks to contributions from local philanthropists, the Tom Davis Fund, and the Emil Buehler Perpetual Trust. The first group to utilize the plane for a photo-op were educators participating in the Annual Aerospace Educators Workshop.

Management is pleased to report that as this is written, SUN 'n FUN is able to continue support in excess of \$2 million to education programs, activities, facilities and scholarships as a result of the commitments made by sponsors, advertisers, exhibitors and attendees year round. Funds donated to date just helped to certificate the 33rd high-school pilot.

THANK YOU to everyone. Make plans now to participate in year-round events. Introduce your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, friends, and neighbors to a "Brighter Future through Aviation."



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Safety

1. See if you can “pass the tests” at AOPA’s Safety Foundation!

<http://www.aopa.org/Education/Safety-Quizzes>

Interesting Aviation News

1. Something for those who love Warbirds:

<http://justacarguy.blogspot.com/2015/07/the-most-flown-warbird-in-ww2-european.html>

2. A B-52H bomber made its first landing ever at Oshkosh this weekend, squeezing onto Wittman Field's longest runway and using a parachute for its landing rollout. It will be on display through the week:

<http://www.avweb.com/videos/Video-B-52-Lands-at-AirVenture-224443-1.html>

3. Check out this new LSA from Samson Motors:

Dear Jeff,

I am contacting you as president of EAA Chapter 175, to share our recent news with you and your members. Our company, Samson Motors, is developing the Switchblade Flying Car, a kit aircraft. We are currently building the full scale prototype in Central Oregon.

I wanted to speak to you before sending you our recent eNewsletter but am hoping this email introduction will suffice and that you can be on the lookout for my follow-up email today, with the Switchblade newsletter and a brief note from me, inviting your members to give us their feedback and follow our progress. Thanks for your assistance. If you would be so kind as to let me know you received the follow-up email, and were able to forward it on to your members, I would really appreciate it. Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or thoughts.

Best,

Martha Hall Bousfield

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