

January 2014

HANGAR TALK



Meeting Friday, January 3, 2014

Project Reports

The EAA Chapter 211 meeting will be Friday, January 3, 2014 at the clubhouse at the Grand Haven Municipal Airport. This program is an annual favorite, where everyone gets a chance to tell the chapter about their project(s). If you have some parts you're working on you'd like to share or to illustrate a problem or a solution, bring them in. I don't want to spoil anyone's story, but I personally know someone who just purchased a partially completed project I know you are going to want to hear about. See you there!

Dues

We will have envelopes for your dues at the meeting on which you can check and update your information for the 2014 Roster. Dues are \$22 for the year. Please add \$3 (\$25 total) if you want a hard copy of the newsletter snail mailed to you.

New Officers

Our new Officers for 2014 are:

Doug Formsma – President

Ed Cech – Vice President,

Ben Gerhardt – Secretary Treasurer.

Stan Briggs who was elected to the 2014 Board of Directors along with Earle Bares and Walt Clawson has resigned due to his personal work-load and so the Board decided to ask Tom Marotta, who received the next most votes in the November election, to take his place. Tom has agreed and is looking forward to serving again.

Website

Be sure to check our website regularly. www.211.eaachapter.org for information and updates about upcoming meetings. The website is updated as information arrives, sometimes mid-month, before an email or the next newsletter goes out.

Prez Sez

Greetings everyone,

As winter settles in I find myself spending a little more time on the iPad checking out Florida routes and airports and even some old Caribbean charts that I still have. But for any of that to become a reality I have to get the airplane back together. And when its 20 degrees in my hangar and a lot easier to stay home, it's that dream that gets the parts back on the airplane. The same was true during the years when I was building the RV-7A. And whether it's flying the back country of Idaho and Montana or a trip to the Bahamas or just flying low and slow along the lake on a summer evening it all started for many of us a long time ago when we dreamed of flying the airplane ourselves instead of just being a passenger.

As we head into the new year, think about passing that dream on. Something more than a 15 minute ride to a 10 year old. Possibly someone older who is already used to putting money into that "sinking fund" called a boat that they use for 4-5 weekends during the 3 months of summer. Or even helping someone rekindle the dream and getting that homebuilt out of the corner of the garage or attic and back on track, or someone who has hit a frustrating spot on their project and just needs a couple of weekends of help to get going again. (I have been there). Maybe it's someone who soloed years ago but got no farther toward the license.

For EAA and our chapter to remain vibrant we need to pass the dream along.

Expecting a great year ahead.

Doug Formsma
EAA Chapter 211 President

Editor's Notebook

The Christmas Dinner & Awards Banquet held December 14, 2013, was a huge success despite the weather which, once again, made for a challenging drive. John Gill's hangar was warm, the atmosphere was friendly and festive and the food was delicious and plentiful. Thanks to John Gill, Sparta EAA Chapter 704 and everyone who contributed.

Jack Brewer was awarded a framed certificate in recognition of his achievement of 50 years of safe flying operations and 50 years of service as an A&P, receiving the Wright Brothers Master Pilot and Charles Taylor Master Mechanic awards earlier in 2013. Earning either award is impressive. Earning both is almost unheard of, as Jack is one of only two people in Michigan to have earned both awards. The Chapter is incredibly proud of Jack's accomplishments.

George Wolter was also honored with the presentation of a wall clock/plaque by the Chapter in appreciation service as EAA Chapter 211 Newsletter Editor. Month after month, for 23 years, George did a stellar job developing and producing Hangar Talk.

With the newsletter being the primary means of communicated, Chapter 211 wouldn't have been the same without his hard work and dedication. Thank you again, George.

As you can see by the look of this newsletter, I don't have my computer fixed yet. I did purchase (and have installed) a new hard drive this week, but I still need to get the recovery disk from HP and re-install all my software. Hopefully I will get that done before the next issue of Hangar Talk is due.

American Eaglet Project

Work continues on the Eaglet. Join the fun Thursdays, January 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 and Saturday January 18. Thursday sessions are 6pm to 9pm, Saturday 9am to ???

Be sure to follow Tom VanderJagt's excellent blog on the Eaglet at

<http://www.1935americaneaglet.wordpress.com>

There is a link directly to his blog on our website as well.

S.T.E.M. In Flight

I mentioned in last month's Hangar Talk that in November I received an interesting call from Ebiri Nkugba of the Kent Intermediate School District, inviting Chapter 211 to participate in a one-day symposium with local educators. Since then I've had a conversation with Mr. Nkugba to gather some more information.

Mr. Nkugba is working with local schools in the area to excite the next generation of pilots, mechanics, scientists, technologists, & engineers using aviation as a backdrop. His focus is specifically the STEM disciplines: **Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics**. As you well know, aviation is built upon these principles (and a lot of hard work- which students need to learn about too!)

Mr. Nkugba is inviting our chapter to contribute our expertise at a one day symposium where local K-12 educators can come learn from us how powerful their lessons can be by including an aviation component? If we reach the teachers we can multiply our efforts.

Tentative plans are to hold the symposium in March at the Kent ISD's Aviation Center at Gerald R Ford International (KGRR). There will be a morning session and an afternoon session. Volunteer presenters would only need participate in one or the other. He would like presenters to speak to 4 or 5 times to small groups of educators for about 10 minutes each throughout the morning or afternoon, and then answer questions they might have.

Please consider how you might be able to contribute your expertise in this regard and let me know if you would be interested in participating to hopefully multiply our efforts to inspire a new generation of aviators. -- Dale Hagen

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