

June 2009

# Hangar Talk

News from Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 211,  
serving airplane builders, restorers, pilots, and airplane  
lovers in western Michigan



## EAA Chapter 211

### MEETING FRIDAY JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup>

#### MERLIN TERRILL – F-80 PILOT

The EAA Chapter 211 meeting will be Friday, June 5<sup>th</sup> at the clubhouse at the Grand Haven Municipal Airport. The program will be presented by Merlin Terrill. He was one of the first F-80 pilots and was on the Grand Haven airport board for 20 years. He also does magic. This should be an interesting meeting. Phil Michmerhuizen may have the Szekely engine at the meeting to show what a modern engine sounds like.

#### **GH Airport Anniversary & Dawn Patrol Breakfast** **June 21, 2009**

Everything is going to for the Dawn Patrol June 21<sup>st</sup>. The Chapter would like to help out with aircraft parking. The event starts at 7 AM, so volunteers should plan to be at the airport by 6:45 AM. Please consider being a volunteer for this great event.

See Ben Ennenga at the meeting for more information.

#### **Get the Macchi to Oshkosh**

A truck has been located to transport the Macchi to Oshkosh

It probably will require several people to unload and set up. Let a board member know if you are available, either at Holland before Oshkosh, at Oshkosh just before AirVenture to unload the Macchi, or later at AirVenture to load the plane for the return trip.

#### **July Meeting is one week late**

The July meeting will be July 10<sup>th</sup>, one week later than usual, to avoid the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend. Also, there is no August meeting. The August chapter event will be the Picnic that will be held either August 8 or 15.

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Cliff Cole

## Prez Sez

I have Mr. Merlin Terrill coming to speak at the June meeting. Mert was in the first class of F-80 pilots! - is a long time pilot, and was on the Grand haven airpark board for 20 years. His father was the city manager when the airport was started and dedicated. He also does magic (I don't think at the meeting) but I think he will be entertaining.

We expect to see and hear Phil's old Szekely(?) engine run at this meeting. I hope it runs better than I can spell.

Jason located a truck to haul the Macchi to OSH. Now we all have to get together to help load and as many as possible to help unload in Oshkosh. I've e-mailed EAA to begin the process. Most of my EAA time has been spent trying to surround loose ends for this lil' ol' project.

All you guys that will be at the show the day before it opens please let the board know. Also any who can help load at shows end!

Looks like the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration is proceeding well, we will need a few people to park the planes. Walt Clawson brought the flags to the board meeting - so it looks OK. bobk

Bob Kenrick

President - EAA 211



## Editors Notebook

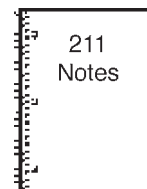
Summer is here already.

It looks like a busy few months coming up. The pancake breakfast at Grand Haven is in a few weeks. The board is working with Jason to work out a way to get the Macchi to Oshkosh. Those of you attending flying events be sure to take some photos for the newsletter; it helps me out to have your photos. *(Thanks Bill)*

My travels this summer will again be on two wheels rather than wings. I will have to look for airports to stop at while I ride.

I wrote about this a few months back, if any Chapter 211 member or nearby EAA member is interested in a wooden airplane project my Falconar-Jodel F12 is available. Now that the weather is good enough to leave the cars outside I plan to get the wing down from the ceiling so I can look it over and take some photos. If anyone wants to take a good look at the wing email me and I will let you know when the wing is down from the ceiling. If no one nearby is interested in the project I will offer it on the internet later this year.

George



## Sun 'n Fun

Bill Scheltema provided a few photos from Florida



TerraFugia - a roadible aircraft design that recently made it's first flight



Ecoflyer - A light sport/utility plane with room for camping. Unfortunately this plane was destroyed in a crash after Sun 'n Fun





## EAA Chapter 211 May Meeting Minutes

### MINUTES

President Bob K. opened the meeting by leading the pledge. There were 22 members in attendance and one visitor. The minutes of the April 3<sup>rd</sup> were reviewed and a motion by Dan B. second by Gary K. passed. The treasure's report was given and a motion by Tom B seconded by Dan B passed

The project of taking Jason P's plane to Oshkosh was discussed. Bob K. said that to take Tom M's truck and trailer on the Badger would be about \$1,000, a little (lot) much and that a night run through or



around Chicago was much better. Jack B. said his vehicle would tow Tom's trailer. Walt C. and Bob K. have vehicles that could tow a light trailer containing the wings. A sign up sheet was started for help. More investigating will be done and reported at the next meeting. Chapter 1095 of Gaylord is hosting a fly in and camp on June 12-14<sup>th</sup>.

Vic M. reminded us that auto fuel can and does contain 10% ethanol and the companies do

not have to label the fuel as containing alcohol. Discussion



followed about the effects of the alcohol on numerous parts. It "eats" fiberglass fuel tanks, causes fuel line to swell and seals to leak, not to mention the parts in the carbonators. The

**WARNING** is that use the fuel with alcohol in a system that is not equipped correctly and you will probably be looking for a place, tree, pond, road, etc. to park your aircraft. The rest of the story is that in systems properly equipped the auto fuel with the alcohol is a good alternative. The question of obtaining fuel without alcohol was discussed and a couple of different ones said they would investigate because the alcohol is believed to be added at the terminal when the delivery trucks are filled.

Ben E. reported on the breakfast and a list for volunteers was passed around. Jack B. added that the wings of mercy

will do a breakfast in Muskegon on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Ken D. reported that April had a total of 245 accidents and that 26 were fatal with a total of 43 deaths. Of this group the experimental had 10 fatal with 10 deaths. There seems to be an increase in the number of accidents especially the fatal ones. These often are related to loss of control and the trend for icing

problems is on the increase. It was noted that Vans aircraft had 13% of the fatal and the Lancair have 50% of the fatal crashes.

Jack B. gave the tech report. He was checking a job in Grant that had some welding problems. The reminder to all is that welding tabs takes the temper out of the steel so be sure to use proper heat and rod and get the proper penetration to keep things safe. Break for coffee and we watched video of Tom K. Gnome running.



Our program was presented by Steve Zelle, chapter 113 from Wixom. He has spent an inordinate number of hours

# Mystery Aircraft



Cliff Cole provided this mystery photo



I think this is a Shorts Skyvan

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## Chapter 211 Minutes of May 1, 2009

researching private owned strips. Most of these are grass and as of date there are 549 in the State of Michigan. He explained the methodology of his research and the use of photo data and topographical maps to locate the exact placemat of these air strips. The majority of them could be used if needed and some welcome visitors. A few want no mention of their strip. There are two areas of concentration of these strips. One is the St. John's area and the other is Irish Hills area. After the explanation he projected some of his maps and asked if there were any that our members would like to know about...the next hour and one half dissipated like a small puff of vapor as we journeyed all over the state. He has list of these strips, with location, owner, etc. for sale and is constantly updating them.



## Pietenpol

Thanks to Al Smith for this photo of Clyde in the Piet

### **EAA Chapter 211 Calendar**

June 5.....Meeting  
June 21 ..... Grand Haven Dawn Patrol  
July 10.....Meeting  
July 27- August 2, 2009..... Oshkosh  
August 8 or 15..... Picnic  
September 4 or 11 .....Meeting

# **Grand Haven Memorial Airport 60th Anniversary Dawn Patrol Pancake Breakfast Fly- in Sunday, June 21, 2009 7 AM - 12 noon**

## **Planned Activities (subject to change):**

Free pancake breakfast for pilots who fly-in, \$7 for others

Trolley rides through downtown Grand Haven

Coast Guard Helicopter Show

Grand Haven Fire and Police Department Vehicle show

Antique Car Show

Airplane and Helicopter Rides

Radio Controlled Aircraft Demonstrations by the Tri Cities R/C Fliers

Face painting and balloons for kids

## **Sponsored By:**

Grand Haven Lions Club

Airport Support Group

B&B Aviation

Spencer Barnes Foundation

## **With Assistance Provided By:**

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