



The Lippisch Letter

January 2011

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 33

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From the President's Pen . . .

By Denny Hodge

Happy New Year and Happy Anniversary! As we begin a new year, we also begin the 51st year of Chapter 33 serving the aviation community in Eastern Iowa. Fifty years is a long time and during that time, there have been amazing advances in aviation, including commercial, general and experimental aviation. Members of Chapter 33 can be proud of the part their chapter has played in the history of aviation in Iowa . . . from our relationship with Alexander Lippisch to the wide variety of planes that have been built and flown by our builders to the kids that have had their first aviation experience riding with one of our pilots. Chapter 33 has been and continues to be an integral part of local aviation.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, you will see several articles about upcoming events celebrating this milestone. I would encourage everyone to get involved in these events and continue to demonstrate our commitment to the "growing" of aviation in Iowa.

As mentioned in one of my first columns in this newsletter, one of my goals is to improve communication between your Board of Directors and you, the members of Chapter 33. Toward that end, the board provided a survey that we asked you to participate in, so that we could have some direction from you for moving the chapter forward. Over the next several months, I'll be taking on topic each month and let you know what you told us in the survey. The board will be discussing these topics regularly in 2011 and look for you to provide input to, or even participate in those conversations.

The first topic I'd like to look at was actually question five in the survey: #5. In your opinion, what are the most important challenges facing our chapter over the next five years?"

The four top challenges facing the chapter (according to the members) are:

- Aging Membership
- Lack of Participation
- Declining Membership
- Lack of Direction (Chapter Level)

New board member, Minnetta Gardinier, will be working diligently with the board and members as the new Membership Chair, to improve our recruiting to address items 1 and 3. She will be looking for your suggestions and your hands-on support to grow our membership in the coming year. Much of what I have done since becoming your president has been focused on item 4, trying to provide our members with more of a sense of direction. Again, we will be looking for input from you regarding both how we communicate and what you, as members, want our direction to be.

Suggestions you provided within the survey:

Try to get others involved. Reach out to aviation fans. Not just existing builders.

More time between the newsletter publication date and a meeting. Gives more time to read and plan to be at a meeting. Another way to look at this is get the meetings planned out MORE THAN 30 days in advance.

Start by understanding what Chapter 33 is and what we want it to be, then fund raising, followed by a large PR campaign. Focus on GA growth.

Don't get tied up in growing aviation. Let's help people that are building their own airplanes. These people do not need recruiting, they have already been hooked.

Try for consistent meeting time & place and always have something to do with aircraft construction.

Re-introduce EAA 33 to local pilots. What value and/or opportunities does EAA 33 offer local pilots? Why should they want to be a member? We need to address these questions as a chapter and to then communicate our ideas to others in a meaningful way that makes them want to become a member.

Invite new families from the Young Eagle events to our Chapter 33 family/meeting events.

As you can see, some of these suggestions have already “left the gate.” Regular monthly meeting times with more advance notice and inviting families of Young Eagle events to participate in Chapter 33 events are already a reality. You will also notice that we have some conflict regarding chapter direction – Grow Aviation or Focus on Builders. These are the issues we will need to discuss as a chapter and determine where WE, all of us, want to go with Chapter 33. This discussion will begin at the January meeting. I would encourage you all to attend.

Last Meeting - Annual Awards Banquet and Social

On December 9th, 45 members and 6 guests attended the Annual Chapter 33 Awards Banquet and Social, held at the Clark Alumni House on the Coe College campus in Cedar Rapids. Music was provided by the Marion Chamber Trio (including member Rodney Ocenosak on Cello) and dinner was followed by presentation of certificates and pins to Young Eagles Ground Crew and Chapter Officers. Young Eagle pilots were also recognized. The evening concluded with drawings for door prizes and more time to socialize.





Plans Progressing for 50th Anniversary Gala

Plans are progressing for Chapter 33's BIG BASH! We will be holding our 50th Anniversary Gala Celebration at the Marriott Hotel in Cedar Rapids on April 15th, 2011. The evening will begin at 6:00 with a social hour followed by dinner at 7:00. The program will begin at 8:00, featuring special guest Rod Hightower, President of EAA, introduction of founding members, recognition of our namesake, Alexander Lippisch and much more. We will need to limit the number of attendees to 150 people. We want to make sure our Chapter 33 members have the chance to make their reservations before we open this important event up to other chapters in Iowa and members of the local aviation community. Please RSVP to Denny Hodge at dennyhodge@mchsi.com or by phone at 373-3465. More information will be available at the January meeting regarding pricing.

Next Meeting - January Meeting

The January meeting will be held on Thursday, January 27th at Public Safety Building at the Eastern Iowa Airport. The board will meet at 6:30 and the regular meeting will begin at 7:30. Tim Busch will be providing a Safety Seminar entitled "Simple Safety Steps." We will also have a regular business meeting and begin discussing chapter direction.

Meeting Reminder

Just a reminder that ALL monthly meetings in 2011 will be held on the fourth Thursday of the month, with the Board meeting beginning at 6:30 and the member meeting beginning at 7:30. The exceptions to this rule are:

April – No meeting because of the Gala on April 15th

July – No meeting because of AirVenture

October – Fall Social (date to be determined) will take the place of our regular meeting





Fly Market

FOR FREE I have a solidly built "H" frame free to any one in the building process. I will offer free delivery to any one in the Cedar Rapids area. Armin Jacobs Phone 319-465-5298---e-mail ajacobs@n-connect.net

FOR SALE: 2005 Starduster Too that was donated to EAA 517. For your bargain hunting members looking for an easy winter project. Fix it up in time for the spring flying season. We are accepting offers and would like to see it gone before Christmas. Please be kind enough to pass the word to your members. This link will take you to a web page that was donated to us with details about this airplane. <http://www.aircraftexchangenetwork.com/listman/listings/10024.php>

FOR SALE: NEW Slick wiring harness (for 4 cyl right mag). Slick P/N M2507. List \$176, I'll take \$70. NEW Garmin mounting tray for 150/250/300XL series \$20. Lammers 319-377-1425 or dave-lammers@mchsi.com.

FOR SALE: A gorgeous Cessna 175 for sale <http://www.greatusermanuals.com/c175/> Ed Wischmeyer 319-491-6904. Also available for rent, two slots in East Executive Hangar at CID.



Chapter 33 Calendar

Jan 27 7:30pm Chapter 33 Meeting, Tim Busch will be providing a Safety Seminar entitled "Simple Safety Steps." Public Safety Building at the Eastern Iowa Airport

Jan 29 11am-2pm 13th Annual Chili Fly-In, Greenfield Municipal Airport

April 15 Chapter 33 will celebrate its 50th Anniversary on April 15th of next year with an Anniversary Gala at the Marriott Hotel in Cedar Rapids. Keynote speaker Rod Hightower, new President of EAA.

July 9 7am Flight Breakfast, Zangger Vintage Airpark 2VA, 432704.9N 0962421.1W, 122.9 CTAF, left traffic 12-30, 17-35 taxiway only, Caution - hot air balloons. Coincides with "Larchwood Days" - transportation available to events in town. Sponsored by: "Larchwood Community Group" and American Legion.



In January 2011 Issue...

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