



Annual Christmas Dinner

Our annual Christmas Dinner was held on January 16 at the SD Air & Space Museum, and it was a big success. Before dinner was served, people had a chance to visit and to wander through the museum and look over all the displays. After an incredibly scrumptious meal, President John Glasford introduced MSGT Jim Blair. MSGT Blair updated us about future plans for the museum. Next up was Chuck Childs who was one of the Berlin Airlift pilots who attended the Independence Bowl in Louisiana. The pilots who were able to attend were awarded the Spirit of Independence Award on behalf of all Berlin Airlift participants. Then Shawn Gab shared a video of last summer's Open House at the Rapid City airport and of the Ford Tri-Motor that we will be sponsoring at this year's Open House. It was a wonderful event, enjoyed by all who were able to attend. THANK YOU, BETTY AND MILO!





John's Jabberings...

By John Glasford

I hope everyone enjoyed our Christmas party and dinner at the Ellsworth Air and Space Museum. It was a nice venue and food was good. I want to thank everyone that attended for coming out on such a cold January evening. MSGT Jim Blair gave us a great presentation on the museum, what they have done in the past year and some of the future plans. I would also like to thank Milo Schindler for his hard work in organizing our party. If anyone has feedback on the party venue or meal please take some time and let me know. Next year we will need someone to step up and take the reins from Milo, so I'm looking for a volunteer.

The weather has been a pretty typical January with lots of wind and clouds. There haven't been too many good flying days, so I'm getting pretty antsy for better flying weather. I am looking forward to getting a project or two started for our chapter. As I mentioned at the party Gary Schroeder has an RV8 that is in process and he has agreed to let the chapter members become involved. At our February meeting I would like to discuss our next steps and get a group organized to start on this project.

I am still looking for input and ideas on opportunities on what the interest is for education and speakers at our monthly meetings. I would like to see a mix of things to keep it interesting for everyone. The way for this chapter to stay healthy and grow is through involvement from every member. Let's see what we can do to make this a great EAA chapter! Our February meeting will have Bill Eldridge speaking about his B2 experiences.

Hope to see everyone at the meeting.



Interesting Runways

Madeira Airport



Coming soon: Dan B.'s new Tri Champ

Next Meeting:
Tuesday, February 9

at **Chapter 39 Clubhouse**

6:30 Hangar Talk
(Scott & Molly. will provide treats.)

7:00 Meeting

Program: Bill Eldridge will be speaking about his B2 experiences



Chapter 39

Officers

President	John Glasford
Vice President	Mike Harmon
Secretary	Gary Schroeder
Treasurer	Scott Christiansen

Volunteers

Newsletter & Web Manager	Molly Benkert
Young Eagles	Brenda Nolan
Safety Officer	Jerry Densmore

Tech Advisor Jerry Densmore

Hangar Space Available Soon

Bruce Bowen will have some hangar space available sometime soon at Sturgis Airport 49B. If you are interested please contact him at [605-490-1139](tel:605-490-1139) or email at bbgunssturgis@gmail.com

Have you paid your 2016 chapter dues?

If you haven't, checks should be made out to EAA Chapter 39 and mailed to Scott Christiansen at 13091 Mission Hill Loop, RC 57702

Rob Burton shares his memories of AirVenture 2015 on pages 4 & 5. It's not too early to start thinking about AirVenture 2016!

February Birthdays:



Milo Schindler—4th
Darrel Sauder—9th
Molly Benkert—9th
Randy Daughenbaugh—10th
Dan Benkert—10th
Rob Burton—11th
Don Williamson—21st
Howard Larsen—24th
Larry Vail—25th
Ken Post—27th

TREASURER'S REPORT

By Scott Christiansen

Balance brought forward.....\$2414.47

Income:

Dinner and dues.....2021.00

Expenses:

Air & Space Museum donation.....400.00

EAA renewal & insurance.....490.00

Dinner.....1390.00

Balance on hand.....\$2155.47



All smiles after the Tri-Motor ride

“A HIGH-NOTE IN MY LIFE’S SONG”



Dawn at the South 40 Campsite

After flying with me to Oshkosh this year to spend a few days camped under a wing after his 30-year absence from EAA's AirVenture, my cousin stated "This trip will definitely be a high-note in my life's song!"

Cousin Scott Ellis' last visit to Oshkosh was in 1985, camping with his dad and grandpa in a Volkswagen Combi, and he's been after me to drag him along for the last few years. An avid writer, camper, and life-long airplane nut, I knew he'd be entertaining on the ground as well as helpful in the air. All through the VFR rail-road approach to KOSH with its wing-wagging, heavy traffic, and tight pattern work the smile never left his face. The endless taxi to our camp site gave him great photo opportunities and a sense of the show's size. Our daily ritual consisted of covering one major area before the airshow—classics and antiques one day, homebuilts the next, followed by warbirds, and finally the commercial exhibits. Side trips to the museum and seaplane base were on his must see list, along with the ultra-lights and LSA areas. While it's probably impossible to see everything at Oshkosh, we did our best to pack each day with all things aviation. When the mosquitos drove us into our tents around dark, I for one was pretty well used up! We enjoyed good neighbors all around us in the South 40, home to the Contemporary class of aircraft built between 1955 and 1970. Great folks, each with an interesting airplane and an interesting story to share. You quickly learn the best time to shower, where and when to eat, and—most importantly - when the outhouses are cleaned! It's been my experience that each trip I see improvements to the facilities and the services I utilize during my stay, and I'm thankful to all those who make it happen each year. And as I found out this year, bringing someone along who finds great joy and excitement around every corner rekindles in you the spirit of your first trip to the Big Show! Oh—and to all those Chapter 39 members who called me the first day to comment on my landing skills, I was TRYING to hit all three colored spots in one landing—I think it might be a record !!

Taking in the daily airshow while lounging at home

Just part of my balanced diet

deHavilland Mosquito—the "Wooden Wonder"



OSHKOSH 2015



Pretty little Knight Twister



Flight deck of the Avro Lancaster



B-29 "Fi Fi" - One of the last flying examples

P-51 N4132A— "Pecos Bill" - The plane that was stationed at Bus Field Airport in Belle Fourche during the summer of 1962, owned by a Co-op of local ag producers and equipped with underwing silver iodide generators to increase area rainfall. It moved on to race at Reno for many years, now on the airshow circuit, sharing rides to WWII veterans - like Chuck Childs!



Julie said she was thinking about a different boat, so I sent her pictures of this beautifully restored Beaver for her consideration. Sadly - No Sale!!



Airbus A350 framed by the bombardier position in the nose of the Lancaster.



Deep fried cheese curds with every meal



Great bus service to the southern suburbs



Where each day begins and ends!!