



**By the Numbers:
547 Passengers Flown;
747.31 Gallons of Fuel Used;
1 Ford Tri-Motor at the Chapter General Meeting;
Boom.**

Mission: EAA Chapter 44 is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization of aircraft builders and aviation enthusiasts in Western New York dedicated to promoting aviation and encouraging participation in aviation-related activities. These include designing, building and restoring aircraft, education, advocacy and youth outreach programs. We promote flying with high standards of safety in an environment that supports freedom, family and personal fulfillment.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS EVENT

by Bob Nelligan-Barrett

As I've been building this newsletter I've been thinking about why I think it touched me and so many people both within and with out of the Chapter.

In 2006, when we broke ground for the Sport Aviation Center of Western New York, many of us had a dream of this facility becoming a focus for aviation activities in our area. Over the past ten years we started with monthly meetings with aviation guest speakers and Young Eagles. We had the President of EAA at our Grand Opening. Then we added school programs and scout camps, and more Young Eagles. Soon AOPA came knocking to ask if they can use our building for twice-a-year Safety Seminars.

And now ten years later, after repeated bidding for the opportunity to host, EAA selected Chapter 44 for a first-time tour stop of their 1929 Ford Tri-Motor. We are satisfying our Mission of "promoting aviation and encouraging participation in aviation-related activities." And having fun doing it. But it's a lot more than that.

As a kid going to my first airshows at Mercer County Airport in Trenton NJ, I remember seeing the speed and tight formations of the Blue Angles and the graceful lines and sweeping triple-tail of a Connie, but no Tri-Motors. They may have been there, but I don't remember them. But for many people these Fords WERE part of their life experience many years ago. And we brought those memories back for them..

For others we gave them a new memory, a visual, tactile, auditory AVIATION experience like none they have ever experienced. (Continued on Page 6)

HANGAR FUND CHALLENGE ALTIMETER

For every dollar donated to our Hangar Fund, an additional dollar will be matched by an Anonymous Donor now through 12/31/2017. Our current total is \$2,615. The Altimeter will be updated monthly.



Now that our Altimeter has broken a \$1,000 threshold, our Anonymous Donor will add his/her match to the Hangar Fund. At every \$1,000 milestone our Donor will add their matching \$1,000.

Make your tax-deductible donation payable to "EAA Chapter 44" and put "Hangar Challenge" in the memo line. Mail or give your donation to Treasurer Gail Isaac, 6 Clearview Dr., Spencerport, NY 14559.

Thank you to our Anonymous Donor and thank you to YOU for your support of the Sport Aviation Center Hangar Fund.



TRI-MOTOR MEMORABELIA DONATED TO CHAPTER 44

On the first day of our Tour Stop, a gentleman came up to me and showed me a framed black and white photo of the Island Airways Tri-Motor (top left). The inscription on the back dates the photo at October 1965 and mentions how this plane was used as a school bus for children on the islands going to the mainland. I thanked him for sharing it with me and tried to give it back. He said no, this is for your chapter. I was floored because he was so generous and this was so unexpected.

My apologies to our donor that I don't have his name at press time. If I can discover it, I will publish recognition in the next newsletter. He is however, sitting on a SAC bench under the Tri-Motor wingtip on the cover of this newsletter.

The next day Michele Lewis came to me showing her Certificate of Flight and a ticket for a ride she took as a child ON THE SAME ISLAND AIRWAYS TRI-MOTOR MENTIONED ABOVE (middle left.) How ironic! She sent me a photo of the certificate, her ticket, and now our business card added to the frame. While she isn't ready to donate this item to us yet, it is promised. In the meantime we will display a photo of her pieces as a holder for the originals.

Finally, Major Ron Ford of the Finger Lakes Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol donated a plaster casting of the Stout Metal Airplane Company seal on the side of the Tri-Motor (bottom left). We will construct an appropriate display box to protect this artifact.

What is fascinating to me is that these people donated items to us that they have personally held for a minimum of 30 years or so, and they are giving them to us. **Thank you very much to the Gentleman, Michele, and Ron.** We will develop an appropriate display for these items.



Jim Weinkauf had the honor of towing the Tri-Motor to the hangar with his tractor. You can bet he's going to frame THIS photo and send it to John Deere for photo of the year.



Sponsors had displays for the public to see their products, yet they also took time for flights. On the left above, Randy Spurr and his fellow employees, and on the right Angela Beebe from Oris Watches and David Cornell from Cornell Jewelers. Some of these folks also got a ride in Rob William's Stearman.



Becky Hurd shot this family and passenger enjoying their day at the airport "Flying the Ford."



Many pilots have to “stick” their tanks to get an accurate fuel level. But VERY few have to YARD-stick it. (A real yardstick was not harmed, or used, in the measuring of these tanks.)



54 times throughout the weekend crowds lined up to take pictures of the take-off. The Sport Aviation Center was a perfect location for this event because it gave visitors an up close and personal connection to the Tri-Motor.



What do you get when you put an Old Goat in a Tin Goose? A Tin Goat? a TurGoose - Goaten?, An airport oddity? You decide.



Special thanks go to our new Honorary Chapter Members Gerry and Diane Flaughner and David and Patti Ross. They were wonderful to work with, despite our requests to pose the plane for and to speak at the General Meeting, to do fly-bys, and their offer to provide all the volunteers a complementary ride for their hard with work.



In the interest of safety, and fashion, all un-attended vehicles were secured with color-coordinated chocks.

N. Isler photo



Mrs. EAA, **Evelyn Alice Amsler**, with NC-8407 at Oshkosh 1988 (above) and this month in Brockport 2016 (below.)

D. Amsler photo above



I think for those of us who had the opportunity to get up close and personal with the Tri-Motor, it was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Every day during the stop, we got to the airport early to put our hands on the door frame or wheel struts and PUSHED the Tri-Motor out into the sunlight for the days flying, and then got our volunteer ride, or possibly a Co-Pilot seat ride, HANDS ON THAT BIG FORD STEERING WHEEL BANKING AND TURNING. What other pilots have touched those controls and sat in that right seat? Amelia, Lindy, Bernt? Who knows. (They probably weren't in the RIGHT seat, but...) And at the end of the day we put her away and wiped her down from the days exertions. Do you know what they call grease on that airplane? Tri-Motor blood. I'll never wash that stained EAA 44 shirt. These are moments rarely experienced at a typical airshow.

Imagine plucking any plane of your choice out of the National Air and Space Museum, bringing it to little old Brockport, giving 500+ of your newest friends a ride in it, and watching their smiles after the flight. That's what this was like for me. EVERYONE was smiling when they deplaned. The Crew were having a good time. We were having a good time. Sponsors were enjoying themselves. The Weather Goddess smiled upon us. What was not to like about the weekend?

Who knows what seeds we've planted. We've received a handful of new membership applications, and that is great. And these are teen-age youth members. EAA 44 and the SAC can give these people the opportunities some of us didn't have when we were their age.

Thank you one last time for everyone's support and cooperation and hard work.

Bob



CONTACT EAA 44

The Flyer is published monthly. For an electronic copy, go to <eaa44.org> and enter your email address where requested. For a mailed hard copy (\$10), contact Treasurer Gail Isaac. For membership info, contact Treasurer Gail Isaac

Stories and photos by the editor unless otherwise noted. Article deadline is 1st Tuesday of the month. Send submissions to Editor Bob Nelligan-Barrett.

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EAA 44 is a 501(c)3 organization.

Gifts of cash, securities or other property to the Chapter for the benefit of the Sport Aviation Center are welcome and fully tax deductible.

Contact Treasurer Gail Isaac for details.

REGIONAL CALENDAR

Look to Upstate NY's Aviation List at <upstatelist.org> for regional fly-in breakfasts and other events.

AIRVENTURE

OSHKOSH WI

July 25-31

**ROCKETS, RAY GUNS
& ROBOTS**

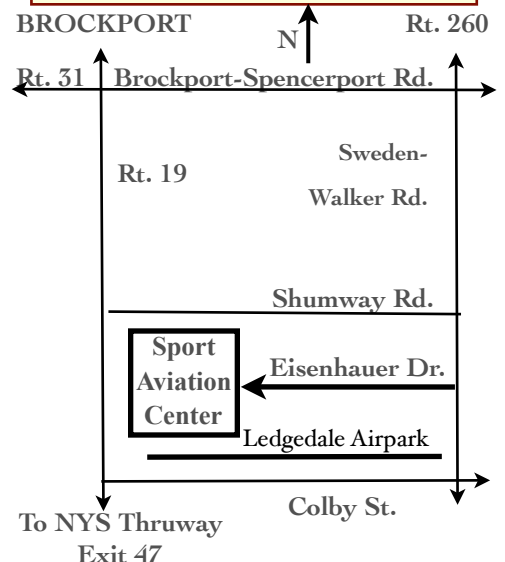
The Strong

National Museum of Play

<<http://www.museumofplay.org/exhibits/rockets-robots-and-ray-guns>>

Through Sept 5

Blast off! The imaginative universes of science-fiction classics await at Rockets, Robots, and Ray Guns. Explore the ways that science-fiction books, toys, movies, and video games have captured people's imaginations and shaped the way they play. Travel to distant futures and faraway galaxies to explore key sci-fi themes in zones that couple artifacts from The Strong's collections with dynamic, hands-on activities: Aliens & Monsters, Future Perfect, New Frontiers, Ray Guns, Robots, Rockets, space Heroes, and Time Travel
(text from The Strong's website for this event.)



EAA 44 Calendar



NEXT GENERAL MEETING

Aug. 16

Norm Isler will talk about his experience losing his aircraft in a hangar accident.

Dinner is not determined at press time so please bring a dish to pass or dessert to compliment anything.
Thank you.

Aug. 9 Board Meeting

**Aug 13 Young Eagle Rally
(rain date Aug 14)**

Aug 16 General Meeting

Aug. 19 National Aviation Day to
Celebrate Wilber Wrights
Birthday.

**Aug 20 Chapter Leadership
Boot Camp**

Aug 21 Rotary Pancake Breakfast

Sept 10 SAC Work Day
(remember those?)

Sept 13 Board Meeting

Sept 20 General Meeting

(Photo on the masthead is
by Pete Swanson.)

**All activities take place at the
Sport Aviation Center,
& are free & open to the public
unless otherwise noted.**

Sport Aviation Center

44 Eisenhower Dr. 14420

Brockport Airport/

Largedale Airpark (7G0)

43° 10' 56" N 77° 55' 1" W

Board Meetings

2nd Tuesday, 7 PM

SAC Work Day

2nd Saturday, 10 AM

General Meetings-

3rd Tuesday

\$5 Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30

Bob Nelligan-Barrett
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