

“Nifty Fifty’s” Feb. 2020 News Letter

Presidents Corner

Not too long ago I was talking to an Aviation Guy, and I ask him a question? “Why do you not fly in or even better base your airplane on the Historic Hinde Airport”? The more I thought about this persons answer the more I realized the many changes in aviation since yours truly soled a Champ and Taylor Craft the same day in 1957!

His answer was “Ben the runway is only 2000 feet and grass” and again I was awakened by the new thinking in aviation. People are simply not aware that we have had operating out of Hinde, Air Tractors spraying local farm fields, Piper Apaches carrying families, Cessna 310 from a local company’s aircraft that flew cargo out daily, we have had flight instructors based here and teaching here, Helicopters doing Lake Tours and believe it or not the Ford Tri Motor has landed at Hinde!

It still kind-a scares this “Ole Fly Boy” when I realize we have pilots flying today that have never soloed a conventional gear aircraft, have not done real stalls, have never done a roll, a loop, or a spin, the super fun things that make flying your aircraft real fun. It’s all about today, how can we make this aircraft fly its self? The pilots today in many cases want to get in their aircraft start her up then punch the numbers in the glass panel and wait till they land. It would not surprise me if some day and perhaps already like a car you simply use remote start to warm her up! We got pilots today that are so concentrated on GPS, Telephones, and their I Pads, they are forgetting to look out and see the world, and really observe where they are or who their flying by. Well I guess I can just sit here and pretend I’m flying and watch my ADS B. Honestly I think we need to reevaluate are pilot training and young men and women’s educational options. It breaks my heart when a Boy Scout in our BSA program would rather play in the simulator then fly in a real aircraft.

Just, an “Ole Fly Boys” opinion! God Bless America! Ben

“Ercoupe Progress Engine is Apart”



By the time the flying club is formed, because of our super volunteers like Ed Rusch, Roger Munsterman, Bruce Molnor and Ed Beers this aircraft is getting ready to FLY but not without some hidden cost.

What do you know about WW 2 Aircraft?

Did you know the North America P-51 holds the ranking of the #1 all around single seat fighter in WW 2? They had various engines from British Rolls-Royce Merlin's, USA Allison 1200 HP. and some were even powered with the Packard V 1650 7 a Licensed version of Rolls Royce Merlin 61! They weighed 7126 #'s empty and max speed was 437 mph at 25,000 ft. Before the fuselage was changed from straight back to canopy they were flown by the famous Tuskegee “Red Tail Devils”!



OK I'm an EAA 50 Chapter Member do I know my fellow members? Think about that question? A couple words tells a lot

John Beck owns a piper Cherokee based in Norwalk Ohio. Joe Bores he and his wife Elaine own the Historic Hinde airport. Michel Bores son of Joe and Elaine Bores own the 2nd biggest cycle salvage shop in the USA domiciled on the Historic Hinde Airport. Scott and Nicole Bores son of Elaine and Joe Bores owns a Cessna 150 based at Hinde in his hangar. Gary & Pam Burnett aviation folks and own beautiful riding horses. Jeremy Colvin corporate pilot owns his own airport and owns many ultra-lights. Tim Drum former high school teacher and coach is building a CH701 and flies Powered Para Chutes! Grant Fisher EAA 50 Scholarship winner received his coveted private pilot license and is currently in Air National Guard. Doug and Diane Galloway Diane is considered one of the best sewing experts in the USA Doug is a Pilot owns several aircraft flies Young Eagles and is a co-owner of the famous Mather Airport on Bradshar Rd Sandusky, Ohio. Ben Gleason is a retired VP and has been flying since solo in 1957, owns built and has restored several aircraft. Jim Graham is the owner of a Ercoupe recently rebuilt by he & his father under the watchful eye of our Ed Rusch Jim is also a Captain on the Vermilion Ohio Police Force Dr. David Grayson private pilot and FAA Examiner! Tom Griffing, owner of Griffing Aviation Port Clinton Ohio. Tracy Hille, pilot an engineer restoring a Piper Vagabon based at Hinde. Don Hostetler world traveler and building an RV at home in Vermilion. Dan Leclair retired CIA owns and flies a Cessna based at Norwalk. Gene Leonhardt aviation buff spends time between Marble Head and Arizona, son owns Aeronca based at Hinde. Kris Leonhardt Gene's son building an RV and flies his Aeronca. Kurt Lloyd currently learning to fly at Griffing Aviation also owns a chair and table rental service.

Mike Matesic owns "Bandit Field" in Green springs Ohio and several aircraft and volunteers working on Ford Tri Motor in Port Clinton. John May curator at Maritime Museum in Sandusky rebuilds Lyman boats owns and flies an Aeronca chief based at Hinde. Jim Missler owns airport located on Missler Farms built and flies a Kitfox, Jim flew for Island Airlines. Bruce Molnar, business executive, licensed private pilot and member of 50's board. Jim Molnar retired FAA, licensed A&P flies Young eagles and does aircraft annuals. Roger Munsterman retired GM outstanding "Fifty" volunteer currently working on our Ercoupe. Bob Opper construction company owner has his private airport flies a Piper Saratoga and is "Fifties" Young Eagle coordinator. Bob was named Young Eagle pilot of the year at Air Adventure! Don Paolucci for years owned the Wakeman Airport and operated a flying business out of it. Don owns and flies a RV and Cessna and is currently retired. Gary Patzke all ratings IFR, Flt. Instructor but did you know Gary is also an author publishing books under the name MT Bass. Santa brought me his latest! Doug Risner, talk about an aviation family Doug's father was a chapter member and a home builder Doug flies ultralights and is an exceptional "Nifty Fifty" volunteer. Steve Risner is Doug's son and a "50" officer and is a P-51 nut. Steve is currently building his own airport next to his home. Dave Ross professional pilot, considered to be the top RV guy in our area. Has his own runway on his farm and he and Patti fly EAA's Tri Motor all over the USA! Don Roth owns two aircraft a piper J-3 and an aero commander based at Hinde. Don Flew commercially out of Norwalk for many years and is still active in attempting to help resolve 5A1's problems. Ed Rusch this man holds every rating, thousands of hours in many different aircraft, flew single engine aircraft solo from California to Hawaii and has flown all over Asia in addition to being an A&P. Brian Safran is co-owner of Valley City Airport owns a Fleet Bi plane a Aeronca Sedan and is a retired commercial pilot! Richard Shenk simply loves airplanes and the "Nifty Fifty" newsletter and

airplanes. Dennis Sokol retired hospital executive owns two aircraft based in Norwalk Cessna 140 and 180 avid "50" volunteer and is on the "Nifty Fifty" board as our Secretary. Jim Stransky builder of a Sonex based at Hinde. Jim is an excellent "50" volunteer and par excellent aircraft builder. Sue Weber is our Treasurer, Sue has worked with the Young eagles program for many years and in addition to being an aviation enthusiast she owns horses and works with other horse owners in the area. Mike Weisenberger, one very experienced aviation guy, flew commercially and retired, Mike is an active farmer has own airstrip and several aircraft! Thomas Wisnor is a long time "50" member due to age, Tom doesn't attend a lot of meetings but loves getting on line correspondence from "Fifty" and loves aviation. Dr. Tom Work owns a Piper Pacer based on Hinde, is an FAA examiner flies back and forth to Michigan many times each year and is active in our educational meetings. Michel Barefoot is an active aviation member works security with Huron County Sheriff and school system comes from a "Cherokee" family. Wesley Missler flies his uncles Kit Fox from the Missler farm strip loves to fly ultralights, sits on the "Nifty Fifty" Board with par excellent opinions and input. Dave Hirt private pilot owns Cessna 150 based at Port Clinton great volunteer and has good chapter input! Andy Overly one of the best helicopter pilots in our area ran a crop dusting service for many years flew Helicopters for Don Brown and managed his facility for many years also assist local Sheriffs. Don Mather one of our areas most authoritative aviation pilots Don's father was very active in aviation owned his own airport. Don and his family brothers and sons are all active pilots. Dottie Patrick one of our most beloved members well in her 90's had most all flight ratings built a Bucker Jungmeister in her living room and flew it! Dottie also owned several aircraft and partnered in others. She is super beautiful! Eugene Fitzthum outstanding "Nifty Fifty" volunteer in addition he is an A&P mechanic but he is also a Snow Bird. Have fun in Florida! Roger Miller brilliant EAA

50 Board member knows more about promotion of the “Nifty Fifty” than most members understand. Outstanding Volunteer! Jerry Roberts, Simply one special man. He is building an experimental light sport he is a Veteran on disability I can only thank him for his service and God Bless! Jerry donated parts to the chapter and a scooter we raffled! Stanley also known as Al Gahagan has a Tylor Craft based at Hinde, winters at his home in Texas with his Cessna Summers at Franklin Flats on Huron River. One outstanding “Nifty Fifty” volunteer!

Well that’s all for now folks hope I did not miss anyone, but you know old guys always have an excuse. Let’s see? Dementia that would work!

Our February 1, 2020 Educational meeting was SUPER!



Ed Rusch -
conducted an educational meeting on how to get to know your aircraft better by performing legal maintenance under you’re A&Ps guidance and reducing cost with owner assisted annuals.