

EAA Chapter 565

General Membership Meeting

March 6, 2024

Attendees - 42 Members, 2 guests

The meeting was called to order by President McClure at 7:10pm with the Pledge of Allegiance

Larry Noffsinger introduced himself as a guest. Larry is from the Columbus, Ohio area and is interested in joining Chapter 565. He's lived in Florida for several years and just sold his Grumman Tiger. He was welcomed by the Membership.

Chapter 565 Secretary, Don Willecke, was introduced as the speaker for the evening. Don was a ship's pilot on the Great Lakes for 30 years before retiring and moving to the area four years ago. Don gave a presentation of what it's like being a pilot on foreign ships transiting the Great Lakes. He shared many insights of this career as well as numerous photos and videos taken aboard ships that he had piloted. His presentation was well received by the Members.

Secretary Willecke reminded everyone that 2024 Chapter dues are due no later than the next Chapter meeting that will be held on April 3 in order to remain in good standing. Members not in good standing will not be able to sign up for the monthly Membership dinners. He encouraged everyone to mail their dues in to the Chapter and to fill out the Membership renewal form. The form and Address of the Chapter are found on the Chapter 565 web site. <https://chapters.eaa.org/eea565> He also reminded everyone that you must also be a member of the National EAA in order to be a Member of Chapter 565.

Treasurer Hill reported that we had a net financial gain of \$2154 in February, but \$2000 of that was a donation from the Florida International Air show - so in essence the Chapter is breaking even financially.

Several Members reported on their building projects:

Jim Weston reported that things are moving along nicely on his RV-7. He's installed the steps and that was a pretty big project. He also reported that Van's prices have increased due to the company's reorganization agreement. The engine that he had previously put a deposit on through Van's has increased in price by \$7000.

Wally Rojem's Avid Flyer is coming along, but slowly. He's got most of the fabric on the fuselage.

Jim Strong is working on a Aeronica L-16 up north. The L-16 is the military version of the Aeronica Champ.

Dick Solar was not in attendance, but many said that they've seen his Luscombe, and it's looking great.

Kathy Futch introduced our second guest - Kalin Lady. Kalin is from the Space Coast of Florida and is training to be a Wing Walker for airshows on a Red Baron. She's visiting the area and will attend our pancake breakfast on Saturday. She's looking for someone to fly with to the space coast after the breakfast if anyone is interested in attending her organization's pancake breakfast later that morning.

President McClure reminded everyone that a group of Members get together at the Chapter building every Saturday at 8am for coffee, donuts, and good conversation. All are welcome.

The next pancake breakfast will be on Saturday, March 9 from 8 to 10am. The breakfast is open to to the public and all are encouraged to come.

The next Membership dinner will be held on Saturday, March 16. The social hour starts at 5pm with dinner to follow. The Members in attendance didn't particularly like the idea of chili that the Board had decided on, so the entree was changed to lasagne. Anyone that signed up for the dinner agreeing to bring a side dish should bring lasagne for 10 people. If you signed up for salad, please bring a salad. The Chapter will provide the

dessert. If anyone wants to bring garlic bread - that would also be appreciated. The cost will be \$5 per person to be paid at the door.

In Airport News, several issues were reported on. President McClure reported that he will start calling the old "North Ramp" the "West Ramp" since the South Ramp has not changed, and the Air Center ramp is now really the North Ramp. It makes sense to call it the West Ramp. This used to be called the Warbird ramp and is just below the tower where the 200 hangars are as well as the condo hangars, Flight Fast Track, and Sarasota Avionics.

Wally Rojem reported that the self serve fueling station on the "west ramp" should be operational by April 1. That will certainly be more convenient for those in the 200 hangars.

Rich Guilfoil reported that he was told by airport staff that it is now forbidden to wash planes at the airport. Apparently the EPA got involved and there is concern about the solvents as well as oil and grease washed off an airplane will leech into the ground. Apparently nothing has been said about aircraft on tie downs at the ramps when it rains.....

President McClure reported that the restaurant at the Air Center (Rosati's) will open Tuesday. He wasn't told which Tuesday - just Tuesday! It seems that they still have a way to go before they are ready to open.

Taxiway G is now operational from the Air Center to Taxiway A. That provides a lot shorter taxi from the 600 hangars and the Air Center to RWY 22, as well as from RWY 4 back to the Air Center and 600's.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Willecke, Secretary