

EAA Chapter 866 Smilin 'Jack newsletter

August 2018



Did you see the July edition of Sport Aviation? Big article in the Experimenter section featuring 3 of our members and the Panther airplane built in their hangar at Dunn Airpark, Titusville, FL. You didn't see this? You can check it out online...

https://sportaviation.mydigitalpublication.com/publication/?i=504279&p=&l=&m=&ver=&view=&pp=#{%22issue_id%22:504279,%22page%22:98} Lots more pictures and text in the article! *Larry Nistr Ed.*



President Report

Greetings Members and Friends of EAA Chapter 866,

“Experience is the Best Teacher!”, or so the old saying goes. Regular readers of this Newsletter may recall from last month that I was planning to fly the Panther to Oshkosh for the Airventure 2018 convention. Well, it was not to be. In terms of experience, I did not get to experience the thrill of flying a homebuilt airplane into Oshkosh, or the experience of so many aircraft and people gathered in one place to celebrate the wonders of flight, but I did gain some very valuable experience in planning and executing such a trip.

I departed Arthur Dunn Airpark early on the Thursday prior to Oshkosh. I had the little Panther loaded with all the essential gear for a full week of camping and adventures at the Airventure convention grounds. I had allowed an extra couple of days for weather contingencies, but it was not enough. The weather simply didn’t let me get very far. I did complete the first planned leg of the trip before 9 AM on Thursday. Then the Panther sat on the ground at the Suwannee County airport in North Florida for more than 3 days, as I watched the current and the forecasted weather along my route.

After three days, it became a pretty easy decision to turn the Panther around and fly it back home. The route I had planned through Tennessee and Kentucky was confronted with tornados and hail on the Friday before Oshkosh. As a matter of fact, a couple of towns in Iowa were hit pretty hard the day before by the tornados from that system. I certainly wanted to avoid being anywhere near that kind of weather, but I also didn’t want to arrive in front of it and then leave the Panther tied down outside in an area where weather such as that was forecasted to pass through. On Saturday, I awoke early only to see a line of severe thunderstorms across North Georgia and Alabama, and rapidly moving Southward toward Florida. In retrospect, it looked a bit like the University of Alabama Crimson Tide Defensive Line charging downward to gang tackle me! Time to Punt? When that line passed over me later that afternoon in N. Florida, the winds gusted to 40-50 mph for a few minutes. Needless to say, I was really happy to be stuck on the ground!!

All this while, there remained a persistent low pressure system rotating counterclockwise over the Ohio River valley and Great Lakes regions causing problems with excess rain and moisture along the Northern end of my route. It apparently cleared up pretty well by Monday and Tuesday to let more planes arrive. But even if I had gotten out of Florida sooner, the weather along the North part of the flight also appeared to be challenging for a few days prior to the start of the show. Oh, and I almost forgot to mention the morning fog each day that lasted until around 10 AM. That fog stole any opportunity to try to make forward progress in the early AM hours before the boomers got kicked off in the early afternoons. Hey, this is all supposed to be FUN right!?

In the end, the timing of the weather pattern was just too much of a challenge for my novice piloting skills and experience. So I punted. The Good news is that there will be another Oshkosh convention next year!!! And in a recent interview, EAA CEO {*Smilin*} Jack Pelton said there will certainly be a focus on the convention’s 50th year in Oshkosh since having moved from Rockford, Illinois, in 1970.

I know of at least FOUR of our Chapter 866 members who were at Oshkosh this year, so we were well represented, and they should have some good Oshkosh stories to share with us at the next Chapter gathering.

Keep on Building, Flying, and Flippin those *Smilin’-Flap-Jacks*!

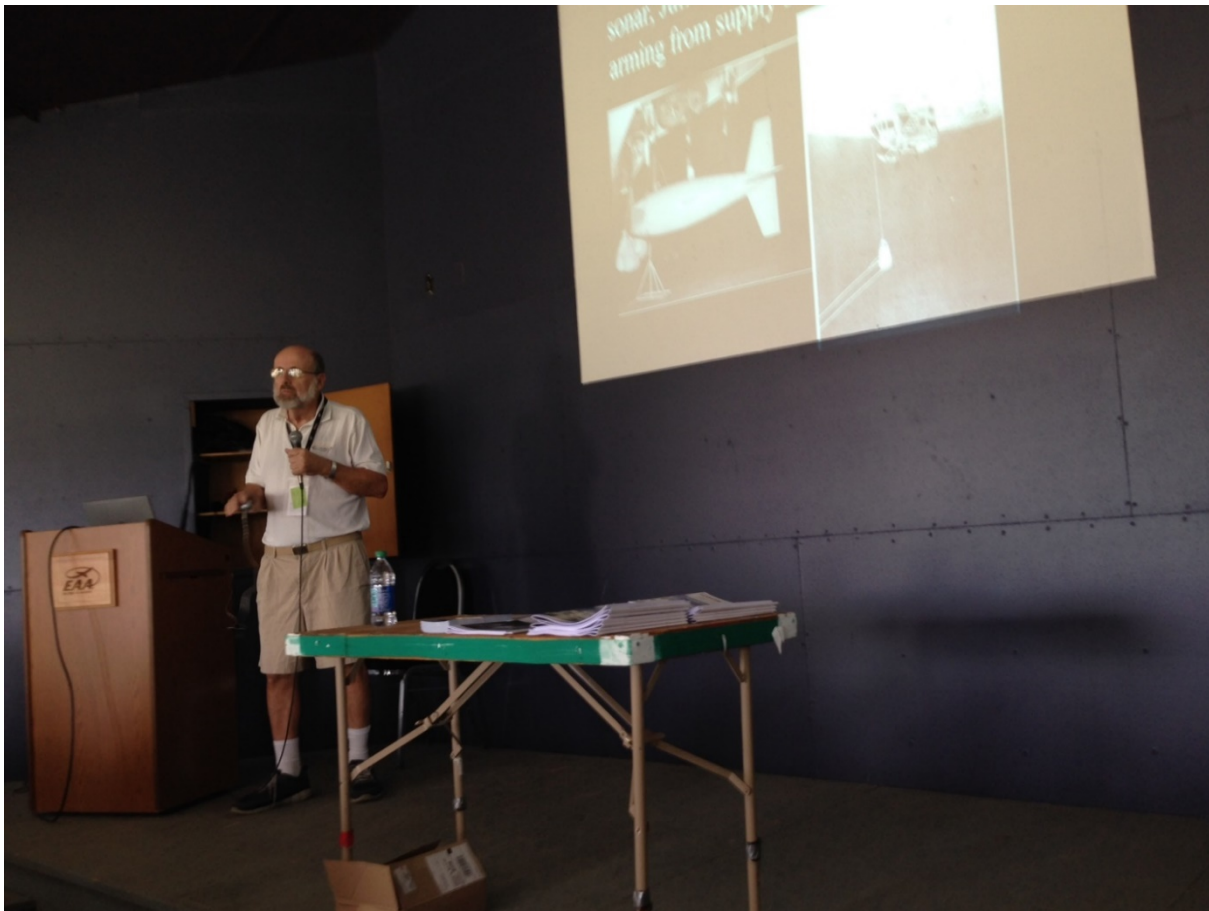
Les Boatright (EAA #563003)

President EAA 866, The *Smilin’ Jack* Chapter

In response to how he checked the weather, the pilot answered: "I just whip out my Blue card with a hole punched in it and read what it says: *'When color of card matches color of sky, GO FLY!'* "

Once Upon a Time, a student pilot became lost during a solo cross-country flight. While attempting to locate the aircraft on radar, the ATC controller asks, "What was your last known position?" The Student replied: "When I was number one for takeoff".

One of Chapter 866's very own, Richard VanTreuren, making a Lighter Than Air (LTA) presentation last Friday at EAA AirVenture 2018!!



Way To Go Richard!

Wanna Read about all the statistics from this year's Oshkosh? Check this out!

<https://www.eaa.org/en/airventure/eea-airventure-news-and-multimedia/eea-airventure-news/eea-airventure-oshkosh/7-30-2018--eea-airventure-oshkosh-2018-facts-and-figures>

While you're at it, check out all these terrific photos from Oshkosh 2018:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/eaairventureoshkosh/>



Chapter 866 MOVIE NIGHT, Coming August 24th

Cue up the famous voice of Don LaFontaine:

Before Iron Man, Before Superman, it was the Golden Age of Aviation, the era of daring aviators and *Smilin' Jack* comic strips. Now, prepare yourself for aerial intrigue and adventure . . . as Chapter 866 screens "*The Rocketeer*". (One night only, free admission to chapter members and guests)



Join us for some Food, Fun, and a Movie on Friday, August 24th

DATE: Friday, August 24th

DINNER: Likely Pizzas or Subs, and drinks, served at 6PM

SHOWTIME: Movie rolls at 6:45 PM (it runs about 1 hr 40 mins).

PLACE: Chapter 866 Clubhouse; Building 10 at Dunn Airpark (X21)



See you all for Breakfast this Saturday (8/4) at Arthur Dunn Airpark!!
Come on out and have a Short Stack with *Smilin' Jack*



Some reminders about upcoming events:

Date	Event	Place/Info
Aug 1 st	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Aug 4 th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Aug 24 th	Chapter 866 MOVIE NIGHT! <i>"The Rocketeer"</i>	Building 10 / 6 PM – Enjoy some eats 6:45 PM – Roll Movie
Sept 1 st	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Sept 3 rd	Labor Day Holiday	
Sept 5 th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Sept. 12 th –16 th	RENO National Championship Air Races http://airrace.org/	Reno-Stead Airport (RTS) Nevada
Oct. 3 rd	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Oct. 6 th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Oct 8 th	Columbus Day Holiday Observed	
Oct. 16 th –18 th	NBAA Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition https://www.nbaa.org/events/bace/2018/ Orange County Convention Center & Orlando Executive Airport (KORL)	Orlando, FL
Nov. 1 st – 3 rd	DeLand Sport Aviation Showcase https://www.sportaviationshowcase.com/	DeLand Arprt (KDED)
Nov. 3 rd	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Nov. 7 th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Nov. 11	Veteran's Day; (Holiday Observed Nov. 12 th)	
Nov. 22 nd	Thanksgiving Day Holiday	
Dec. 1 st	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Dec. 5 th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Dec. 25 th	Christmas Day (St. Nick takes to the skies again!)	
July 22- 28	OSHKOSH – EAA AirVenture 2019 https://www.eaa.org/en/airventure	Wittman Regional Arprt (KOSH)

Chapter members were active at Dunn Airpark this Saturday morning!

Pictures by Lennie Duncil



Bob Anderson rotates for takeoff rwy 22



Kathy Anderson on very short final rwy 22 – powered chute standing by



Armstrong starter for Ben's Pietenpol



Bob Anderson with the Rans S12

Flying This Month

Larry Gilbert

This month was kind of slow in the flying dept. Ray Thomas and I flew the 65 hp J3 Cub one morning and had a lot of fun just doing maneuvers like slow flight (it's all slow flight in a Cub) OK, 40 mph w/ turns, steep turns, (kinda) and all like that. Also had a flight with Tom Gordon in his J3 Cub with C85 armed with a seaplane prop. BIG difference on takeoff compared with the J3 w 65 and cruise prop! Did some flights in "Fancy" as well, one with Bob Anderson, one with Lennie Duncil and a couple with Bob Rychel. We never went more than 15 miles from the airport! Just plane fun!

Larry



Chapter officers

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Monthly Meeting

Weds. 1 August , 7 pm

Bldg. 10 Titusville, Fl

Dunn Airpark

Monthly Breakfast

Sat. August 4, 2018, 8:00 AM

Bldg. 10 Dunn Airpark

Titusville, Fl

Movie Night

Chapter 866 MOVIE NIGHT, Coming August 24th

6 pm bldg.. 10

Movie starts 6:45