

EAA Smilin 'Jack Chapter 866 Newsletter



February 2023

Do you think these two old pros might be in for a good time? Tom Charlton (back) Carlos Rosaly (front), both retired professional pilots



February Meeting Report from EAA 866 President: Ott Thiele

January got off to a slightly “Deer in the Headlights” start for me. Still getting moved into Florida from Ohio (which box did I leave my liquid electrical tape in? – still trying to find it!). My Gyroplane is scheduled to arrive on my Birthday (February 9th) at the Jack Edwards Airport (KJKA) in Alabama. Jack Edwards 100LL is \$6.65/ gal. – I’m probably going to haul my Gyro to X21 to finish the 40-hr. test flight period.

My Car hauler modifications are mostly complete.



Figure 1: Load testing the rotor removal mast.

Now more about what's going on with the Chapter 866:

The January Fly-in Breakfast was a great success thanks to the 866 members and volunteers! Thank you for all your hard work!! I think we had about 183 eaters and 43 aircraft at the breakfast (the aircrafts didn't eat much).

I felt kinda like a "deer in the headlights" for the January Meeting. Hopefully, I will do better as a President in the February Chapter meeting.

Many Thanks to Debbie & Richard Van Treuren, Ben Charvet (Master of Ceremonies). Debbie worked very hard to put the Chapter 866 Party on good footing!. It was exhilarating to watch Larry Gilbert and Loretta dance, and Bob Rychel line dance (Larry has a video). Great Fun, food, fellowship- can't wait until next year's party.

Herman Nagel, Chris Fauver, and I attended the EAA Chapter Leadership Boot Camp on Saturday January 24th – so much information (it was like drinking out of a fire hose).

Whenever I go to Arthur Dunn Airport, I look for open hangers to see if there are new prospective members- you can never have too many members! Please let me know if you find any Hanger Neighbors that are not part of our Chapter.

Please Come to the February 1st 2023 EAA 866 meeting and/ or the February 4th Fly-in Breakfast if you didn't make it to the EAA Chapter 866 Annual Party on January 21st so we can get your information updated in the upcoming Chapter Data Base.

We will be having a 15 min FAA Wings credit topic on Aircraft Transition Training.

I have flown 6 different Light Sport Fixed Wing airplanes, 5 Certified Fixed wing airplanes, and 6 experimental Gyroplanes. 4 of the LT Sport Fixed Wings and 1 Gyroplane were crashed by other pilots after I flew them. I also did my most recent biennial in Larry Gilbert's 172 Cessna (now where did that nose cowling go???). Yikes! He had me do stalls (haven't done stalls in 4 years). His plane flies better than later model 172s.

2023 Topic Status:

1. Benefits of using oxygen when flying.
2. Looking for a TICO or New Smyrna air traffic controller to come to our meeting and explain how they operate and their issues.
3. Richard Van Treuren is working on a spreadsheet of Chapter Members. When it is most complete Don White has volunteered to make it into a Chapter data base that the members can share information easier and keep private what each member does not want to share (like Top Secret and Confidential Documents).
4. What to do when the weather gets bad (besides praying to Jesus). Thinking of a review of advantages of Foreflight and other similar programs.
5. What is the abandoned building in front of the X21 Building 10- Old FBO or flight school (looks like it may have extra restrooms).

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for your help.

Keep Warm and Keep Flying!

Ott

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Bob Rychel pressure washing Bldg. 10, Jan 14, 2023

EAA Smilin Jack Chapter 866 Bldg. 10

Discussions have been on going about washing and re coating the roof of bldg.. 10 for about 5 or 6 months now and the roof has been washed and is ready for coating. This subject will probably come during our February meeting. What we normally do is to assemble a group of volunteers for a Saturday work detail involving the coating process. In the past we've done this, and it is only about a two to three hour project, and we've always had fun while doing it. Bob Rychel is superintendent of the project and will probably be asking for YOU to volunteer for this.

Bob Spent around five hours washing the mold and mildew off the roof (a very tiring process) and you can see the contrast in the picture of what it looked like before the washing and what it looks like now. I was the ground crew and kept the equipment positioned and operating and, oh yeah, I was in charge of the weather!

Larry

The first EAA Chapter 866 meeting of 2023 was held on January 4 at 7:00 PM at the regular meeting.

New Chapter President Ottmar Thiele presided over the meeting.

Chris Fauver, new Chapter Vice-president, Herman Nagel, Chapter Treasurer, and Richard Van Treuren, Chapter Secretary, were in attendance.

Deborah Van Treuren, member-at-large of the Chapter Board of Directors was also present, as was much of the regular membership of Chapter 866, numbering around 30, thereby establishing a voting quorum.

The meeting began at 7pm with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pablo, a visitor from Chile, and Cyrus, from Titusville, attended and told of their aircraft projects.

A report on the January 21st upcoming banquet was given by Chair Deborah Van Treuren.

Brad Berry shared his experiences bringing their Cessna Cardinal back from northern California with co-pilot Adam Cherwinski.

The meeting adjourned for coffee and pie about 7:45.

A presentation on building a gyrocopter and Saturday's FAA Safety briefing were offered.

Safety Briefing for Feb.

Transition Training

The FAA and industry will conduct a public education campaign emphasizing the best practices and benefits associated with Aircraft Transition Training.

Background:

The General Aviation Joint Steering Committee (GAJSC) Loss of Control Work Group studied a group of General Aviation accidents that may have been caused by inadequate or no transition training received by the pilots involved. THE GAJSC feels that thorough airframe-specific Transition Training conducted by a qualified Flight Instructor is essential to flight safety.

Many thanks,

Joe

The Winter Party

The party this year was very nice and well attended. Our MC, Ben Charvet is becoming a pro with announcements and comments doing this job! The food was good and the band was nice. The annual awards were handed out to chapter officers and their helpers and gift cards handed out as door prizes too.

The funnest part was watching some of our members get out on the floor and do solo dances! Performances were done by Bob Rychel, Marty Gross and Deborah Vantreuren. This was followed up by ordinary dancing by a lot of chapter couples.

There were pictures and some video taken at this event and if you're interested in seeing any of these check out website <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea866> and then click on Winter party Jan. 21, 2023 .

Sun n Fun

This is coming up next month and starting March 22. I'm really looking forward to this show mostly because of the friendships we've developed by volunteering at that event. We volunteer with GAP (General Aircraft Parking) this is a group run by Donna Frantz who does an amazing job with it! I work on the flight line where we see lots of action by directing moving airplanes to and from parking spots. Lots to see there with an abundance of spectacular aircraft moving by. During the airshows we have a comfortable place to watch from too.

A few trips through the exhibition buildings to see what's new and maybe buy something for my two girl friends Loretta and Tango. Gotta visit the Fly Market too! FUN!

If you want to see everything you need to spend a few days there then volunteering is the way to do it because you get admission, parking, and camping if you happen to have something to sleep in like a tent or motorhome. Sure you're volunteering for no pay but, think of the benefits!



Chapter Officers

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Monthly Meeting

Weds. Feb 01, 2023, 7:00 pm

Dunn Airpark

Bldg. 10

Titusville, FL 32796

Monthly Breakfast

Sat. Feb 04, 2023 8:00 am

Dunn Airpark (X21)

Bldg. 10

Titusville, Fl 32796