

# EAA Chapter 866 Smilin 'Jack newsletter



**May 2019**

*Short final rwy 22 at Dunn. Markers are now visible, BIG improvement!*

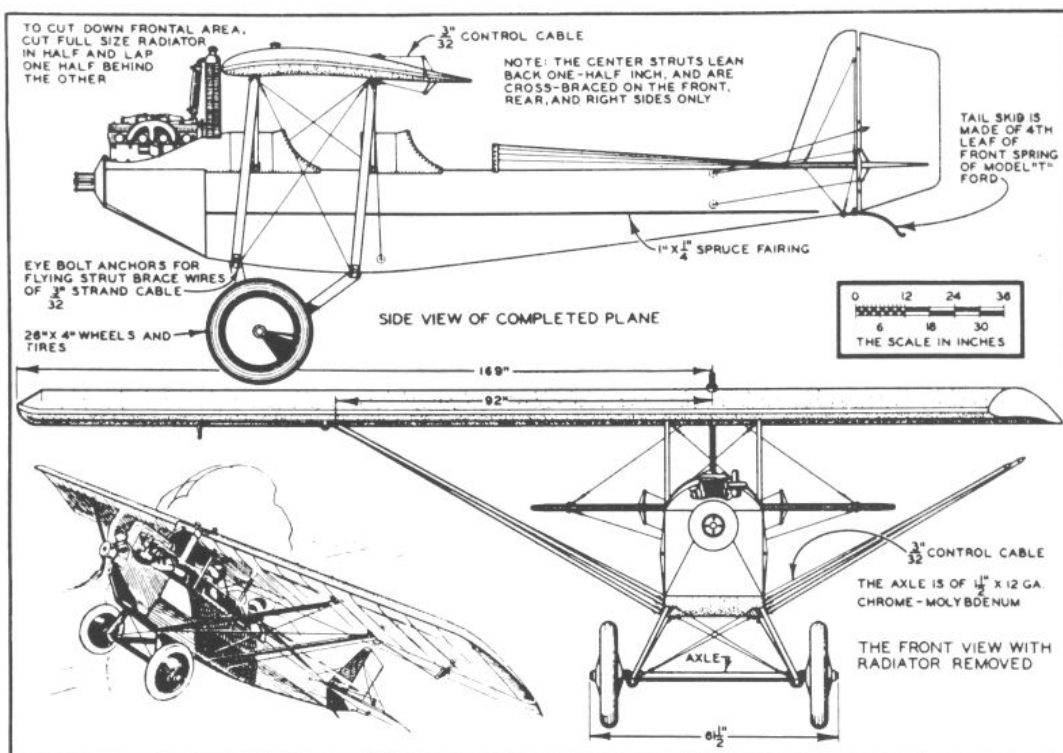
*Greetings Members and Friends of EAA Chapter 866,*



Did you know that this year was the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Pietenpol Air-Camper? The first plans for this design were developed by Bernard H. Pietenpol in the earliest days of sport aviation, and went on to be popularized in the pages of the *Flying and Glider Manual* of the 1930's.



The robust simplicity of this classic plans-built design has brought much satisfaction and enjoyment to the many builders and flyers of the Pietenpol. That includes one of our own Chapter 866 members, Ben Charvet. I'm very much looking forward to hearing more about the history of the Pietenpol design from Ben at an upcoming chapter meeting. I hope you can join us. In fact, over the next couple of months, we have a very interesting line up of speakers, so mark your calendars for the first Wednesdays of the month.



**In the meantime, you can see how much enjoyment Ben gets from his airplane just by taking folks for a ride. That's what recreational aviation is all about!!**



**Say, did you happen to show up at the chapter clubhouse last month expecting to eat some great pancakes?? Well, if you did, then don't feel bad. Apparently in spite of the announcements at our chapter meetings, the newsletter notices for 2 months, and the notifications we made at the March breakfast, there were**

still a few folks who did not get the message about the breakfast being cancelled for Sun-N-Fun. Some of them called up V.P. Eddie Brennan and myself that morning asking when we were gonna open up. Well, the simple answer is May 4<sup>th</sup> ! We plan to be back this Saturday, Flippin' those *Smilin' Flap-Jacks*, and serving up a great breakfast. We've had quite a good turnout of breakfast guests over the last 5 or 6 months, and that's a real testament to all the hard work that you, our members, put into the event.



**Next Chapter 866 Pancake Breakfast: Saturday May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 8AM**

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Speaking of Sun-N-Fun, even though I only went for a day and a night, it did not disappoint! I brought my daughter Emily with me on Friday evening and Saturday for her first taste of Lakeland's version of Spring Break for Pilots. I don't know if they broke attendance records on Saturday, but it sure seemed like the biggest crowd I've ever seen.

Emily and I had the pleasure of camping overnight with a couple of friends from the EAA chapter. Then we spent Saturday exploring the Sun-N-Fun grounds and we eventually found a place to park a chair and watch the night airshow. The airshow was nice, and the evening fireworks certainly rivaled almost any 4<sup>th</sup> of July display.

As you can imagine, we saw all sorts of wonderful airplanes and people. We crawled through the B-17 bomber that played the role of the famed *Memphis Belle* in the 1990 movie. Emily managed to get a smear of grease on her leg as she went through the bomb bay area. I told her "Don't wash it off, that's historic grease!!" She liked the jets, especially the Blue Angels, and also the Sonex JSX microjet. I told her she could build one, but she'd have to let me fly it some. As you can see, we had a great time!!



Emily didn't understand why I was so excited to see the XP-82 Twin Mustang



Emily liked the Jets, like this F-35 from Eglin AFB, FL



The beautiful Tobul F-4U Corsair



Some great WW2 Re-enactors with the "Belle" at Sun-n-Fun 2019. Emily & I had just stepped out through that side hatch, right out of 1944 and back into 2019!



Seen at Sun-N-Fun 2019: “*That’s All Brother*”, recently restored, this is the actual C-47 that lead the D-Day invasion on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1944, some 75 years ago! History preserved, Lest We Forget.

If you’d like to be Chapter President for a Day, and you have an idea for a meeting presentation, please let me know. There are still a few months available during the remainder of the year.

Oh, and Let’s not forget the FIVE F’s . . .

Friends, Flying, Fun, Fabricating (our flying machines), & Food (Flapjacks of course!)

I look forward to seeing you all at our next chapter event!!

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

Les Boatright

EAA Lifetime #563003

President, EAA Chapter 866

The *Smilin’ Jack* Chapter

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A couple of Go-Backs from prior months . . .

If you attended our March chapter meeting, then you know we had an amazing speaker. Author and Naval Aviator Robert Gandt gave us a fascinating talk about his book called, *Angels in the Sky*. This is an account of the true story of how a band of volunteer airmen saved the new state of Israel during the 1948/1949 war. Many of our members bought a copy of the book, and I really hope you’ve had a chance to read it! I

managed to squeeze in time in the evenings during late March to get through it, and I wanted to let you know it was a thoroughly enjoyable and educational read. This is a truly fascinating piece of history that has almost been forgotten. Do yourself a favor and get a copy.

**“President for a Day” Reminder**

If you’re a current Dues-Paid member of EAA Chapter 866 member, then you can be chapter “*President for a Day*”! See the schedule below. There are several slots available. Give a safety talk, introduce a guest speaker, do a presentation about your project, give a flight or trip report, bring a video, the sky’s the limit! Just let me know, it’s that simple.

<b>Meeting Date</b>	<b>2019 “President for a Day” Program</b>
<b>Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>LES Boatright</b>
<b>Feb. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>ED Brennan – US Postal Service’s history and influence on our modern air travel</b>
<b>Mar. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>DAN Hillman – Guest Speaker Robert Gandt Author of Angels in the Sky</b>
<b>April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>NO MEETING! – Enjoy going to Sun-N-Fun!</b>
<b>May 1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>BEN Charvet – History of the Pietenpol Air Camper (90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the design)</b>
<b>Jun 5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>KIMBERLY Brennan – Guest Speaker is Author Spencer Lane. Topic: “The Life and Times of General Billy Mitchell, and his role in The First World Flight in 1924”</b>
<b>July 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>RICHARD VanTreuren – Brings us a Guest Speaker: WW2 veteran, and recent Author Joseph Reus talks about his experiences as a B-24 Navigator in the 8<sup>th</sup> Air Force over Germany in 1944. Don’t Miss This One!!</b>
<b>Aug. 7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>ED Brennan</b>
<b>Sept. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>OPEN SLOT</b>
<b>Oct. 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>OPEN SLOT</b>
<b>Nov. 6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>OPEN SLOT</b>
<b>Dec. 4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>LES Boatright - (Officer Elections for 2020)</b>

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## Project Tin Goose

At one of our previous chapter meetings, I talked about the ongoing effort to replace the wings on EAA’s Ford 4AT Tri-Motor. Last year Chapter 866 had a very rewarding experience when we joined forces with the Valiant Air Command to host the 5AT Tri-motor. Since hearing about the effort to replace the wings, we’ve discussed a few ways in which our Chapter might be willing to support. One idea was to put out a cash donation jar at one of our pancake breakfasts and



collect some extra funds to donate. Another idea was to select one month and then donate all proceeds from our monthly chapter breakfast for that month, minus expenses. After some discussion, the membership seemed to be receptive of doing something to help the effort. It's time to firm up any plans to support the Tri-Motor maintenance effort, and then let the membership cast a vote up or down. In my opinion, keeping these vintage aircraft operational and safe so their history can be preserved and shared with future generations is one of the most noble activities of the EAA organization!

<https://www.eaa.org/en/ea/news-and-publications/ea-news-and-aviation-news/news/03-07-2019-Keeping-EAAs-Ford-Tri-Motor-in-the-Air-Tin-Goose-Alert>



The effort to replace the wings on the EAA 4AT Tri-Motor is progressing nicely.

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Some reminders about upcoming events:

Date	Calendar Event	Place/Info
May 1 <sup>st</sup>	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
May 4 <sup>th</sup>	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
May 15 <sup>th</sup>	<a href="http://www.learnstofly.org">Intl. Learn to Fly Day!</a> <a href="http://www.learnstofly.org">www.learnstofly.org</a>	
May 18 <sup>th</sup>	EAA Chapter 635 – Young Eagles Rally & Breakfast	DeLand (KDED) 8 – 11 am
May 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>MEMORIAL DAY HOLIDAY -</b>	
May 31 <sup>st</sup> Jun 1 <sup>st</sup>	National Bi-Plane Fly-In - This is the <i>Last Year</i> of this event! <a href="https://www.nationalbiplaneflyin.com/">https://www.nationalbiplaneflyin.com/</a>	Junction City, Kansas (3JC) Come Drag your Tail on the Beautiful Grass Runways !
June 1 <sup>st</sup>	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
June 5 <sup>th</sup>	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
June 8 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INTERNATIONAL YOUNG EAGLES DAY !</b>	
July 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
July 4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>INDEPENDENCE DAY HOLIDAY</b>	
July 6 <sup>th</sup>	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am

July 18-21 <sup>st</sup>	Hatz/Pietenpol Fly-In - <a href="http://www.eaa431.org/">http://www.eaa431.org/</a> Hosted by EAA 431 – The Cheeseland Chapter <b>90 Anniversary of Pietenpol!</b> <a href="http://www.pietenpols.org/annual-pietenpol-reunion/">http://www.pietenpols.org/annual-pietenpol-reunion/</a>  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2Ch9QhwyBY">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-2Ch9QhwyBY</a>	Brodhead, WI (C37)
July 22-28	<b>OSHKOSH</b> – EAA AirVenture 2019 ( <a href="https://www.eaa.org/en/airventure">https://www.eaa.org/en/airventure</a> )	Wittman Regional Arpt (KOSH)
Aug 3 <sup>rd</sup>	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Aug 7 <sup>th</sup>	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Sept 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>LABOR DAY HOLIDAY</b>	
Sept 4 <sup>th</sup>	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Sept 7 <sup>th</sup>	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Sept 20-21	28th annual Zenith Aircraft Open Hangar Days and Homecoming. <a href="http://www.zenithair.com/events.htm">http://www.zenithair.com/events.htm</a>	Mexico Memorial ARPRT, MO (MYJ)
Oct. 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Oct. 5 <sup>th</sup>	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Oct. 14 <sup>th</sup>	<b>COLUMBUS DAY HOLIDAY</b>	
Nov 14-16 <sup>th</sup>	Deland Sport Aviation Showcase – Thurs, Fri, Sat <a href="https://www.sportaviationshowcase.com/">https://www.sportaviationshowcase.com/</a>	Deland, FL (KDED)

PLEASE SEND IN any additions / updates to the Calendar of Events.  
We'd like to keep this current and accurate!

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**Stay on Centerline !**

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*Which is safer, a parachute or a backpack?*

Chapter member Mike Arman sent this link for us to check out. I checked it out and for a few minutes I was scratching my head trying to understand what they were trying to get across. Check it out.....Thanks Mike

<https://bigthink.com/surprising-science/parachute-study>

***Most Anyone Can Find the Turf Runway Now!***

**This actually applies to only a few of us in the chapter because most folks use the paved runways at Dunn (X21) but a few of us actually prefer the turf 04/22 runway. For the 20 years that I've been flying out of Dunn it has been almost impossible most of the time to even find the turf runway if you're not familiar with the surroundings. Check out the before and after pictures here.**



Before



After

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***Subject: Fuel Trailer For Sale at Spaceport***

**Hello Spaceport friends,**

**we have a little unusual email today, i decided to share with our community, we have a fuel trailer for sale which work great for aviation.**

**We built it and never used it. The price we sell it won't even buy the parts, this is it:**

**<https://www.ebay.com/itm/143220724553> We figured our aviation community would be a good place to share this info. Extremely useful in hangars or flying clubs to get the cheapest gas in the most efficient way possible.**

**Anybody that refers this to a friend who buys it, will get \$100 as a referral fee from Spaceport ;-)**

**If anybody of you is interested we will sell it with \$250 discount (only people on this email list).**

**Thank you all!**

*Former Chapter member celebrates 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday*



Long time 866 chapter member, Bill Furnholm celebrated his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday a couple of days ago and Loretta and I attended his party and had a wonderful time with this amazing man.

Bill was on the submarine Nautilus in 1958 when it made history by being the world's first operational nuclear-powered submarine and the first submarine to complete a submerged transit of the North Pole on 3 August 1958. He also served two tours in Vietnam and was wounded while on river boat patrol one night when they were ambushed.

He regularly flew a Baby Ace from Dunn. He served as VP of the chapter for a number of years and we have many fond memories of being with Bill at Dunn Airpark and he is still fun and interesting to be around.

*Larry*

## *Jim Dodson Oil story*

*Larry Gilbert*

Just got done with volunteering five days over at SUN n FUN and when we're there I always think of the flights we made with our EAA Chapter 400 friends from the early 80s through 1999 when we moved down here. This isn't a story of one of our flights to the show but is more about the characters involved.

On our dirt strip Airport, Blue Knob Valley, 7G4 in Duncansville, Pa is where most of our chapter members kept our airplanes. One of these guys was a man named Jim Dodson who owned a C170. The 170 was a hangar queen and Jim wasn't flying it anymore. Jim was older than the rest of us and had problems climbing up into the plane. He was a little crippled up from a plane crash he was involved in during the 50s.

Mobil Oil Co. had developed and introduced a synthetic multi viscosity aviation oil called Mobil AV1 for piston engines around the mid eighties and Jim was convinced that this was the oil he wanted to use in the "Hangar Queen" C170 even though he wasn't flying it. So, since he couldn't buy this anywhere near Blue Knob Valley boondock airport, he waited till spring and it was time for our group to fly down to SUN n FUN. He managed to get a seat with another chapter member who had a C172. We made it down to the show and Jim found the Mobil Oil booth among the vendors and bought a case of the Mobil 1 aviation oil and as a matter of fact he rode down to Sun n with us for the next 4 yrs and bought a case of Mobil 1 each year and brought it back and stacked it atop the others in his hangar.

We always had a good time talking about Jim and all of the oil he was buying for the C170 that he wasn't flying. One day in the airport lounge we were talking about this and Jim wasn't there. I told how Mobil sent me to a sales meeting where they demonstrated how pourable their automotive oil was in cold weather. They used a tub of kerosene with dry ice in it and put a quart can of Mobil 1 in the tub and brought the temperature down to - 20 f in the kerosene and after an hour of the oil can being in that cold, they took it out and inserted a spout and poured the oil into a jar to demonstrate how well the oil flowed in the extreme cold weather. One of the guys in the lounge picked up on this and said lets tell Jim that that Mobil 1 has a shelf life and if it isn't used in 2 years, before you use it you have to rejuvenate it by putting it in - 20 degree kerosene and then remove it and let it slowly come up to room temperature. Then it would be useable! At first Jim didn't believe this at first but, enough of us pretended we knew about this and after a while Jim wasn't sure anymore whether we were pulling his leg or not! We told him that next trip down to Fl., He could visit the Mobil booth at SUN n FUN and ask them about the rejuvenation process.

Spring came and we formed up once again and headed down to SUN n FUN. During the first day of the show, Jim limped over to the Mobil booth and told the representative he needed some new oil because he didn't want to go through the rejuvenating process with his old oil. The rep. questioned Jim and asked where he heard that story and Jim told the man his friends told him, the rep said "You don't need new oil, you need new friends!" ..... *Larry Gilbert*

## **PROJECT FOR SALE !!**

**SPENCER AIR CAR PROJECT/PLANS** • \$100 • Plans, Completed wing structures - less covering, miscellaneous parts & wood materials; This project was saved from the estate of local builder. The workmanship seems very nice. For a motivated plans-builder looking to build a 4-place amphibian, this is a good jump start on the project! • Contact [Les Boatright](#) President EAA Chapter 866, located Titusville, FL USA (X21) • Telephone: 321-269-1723



**STANDARD DATA:** Gross wt. 3,200. Empty wt. 2,190. Fuel capacity 94. Wingspan 37'4". Length 26'5". Engine 285-hp Continental.

**PERFORMANCE:** Top mph 147. [Cruise](#) mph 135. Stall mph 43. Climb rate 1,000. Takeoff time 16 sec. Range 700.

The Air Car is a four-place retractable with a strong family resemblance to the old Republic Seabee. The resemblance is no accident because the Air Car was designed by the same man, P.H. Spencer. The Seabee was designed in metal, but Spencer has gone back to wood covered with fiberglass for the basic Air Car hull structure. Extensive use is made of molded fiberglass for the fuselage, cabin section, engine cowl, wing root fairings, tips, floats, and miscellaneous parts. The heart of the [Air Car](#) design is a single steel-tube weldment combining the engine mount, wing-spar carrythroughs, and lift strut attach [points](#). This steel skeleton attaches to the hull and carries all major flight loads. The all-wooden wings have a mahogany threeply skin. The original powerplant was a 260-hp Lycoming; a 210- or 285-hp Continental may also be mounted on the airframe.

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### Chapter officers

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## Chapter Breakfast



**Sat. May 4, 8:00 am**

**Bldg. 10 Dunn Airpark, Titusville, Fl**

**Chapter Meeting**

**Weds May 1, 7:00 pm**

**Bldg. 10 Dunn Airpark, Titusville, Fl**