

THE BIG NEWS!!

***The monthly chapter breakfast is starting up again Dec. 5
Merry Christmas***



EAA Smilin 'Jack Newsletter December 2020-11-29



Greetings Members and Friends of EAA Chapter 866,

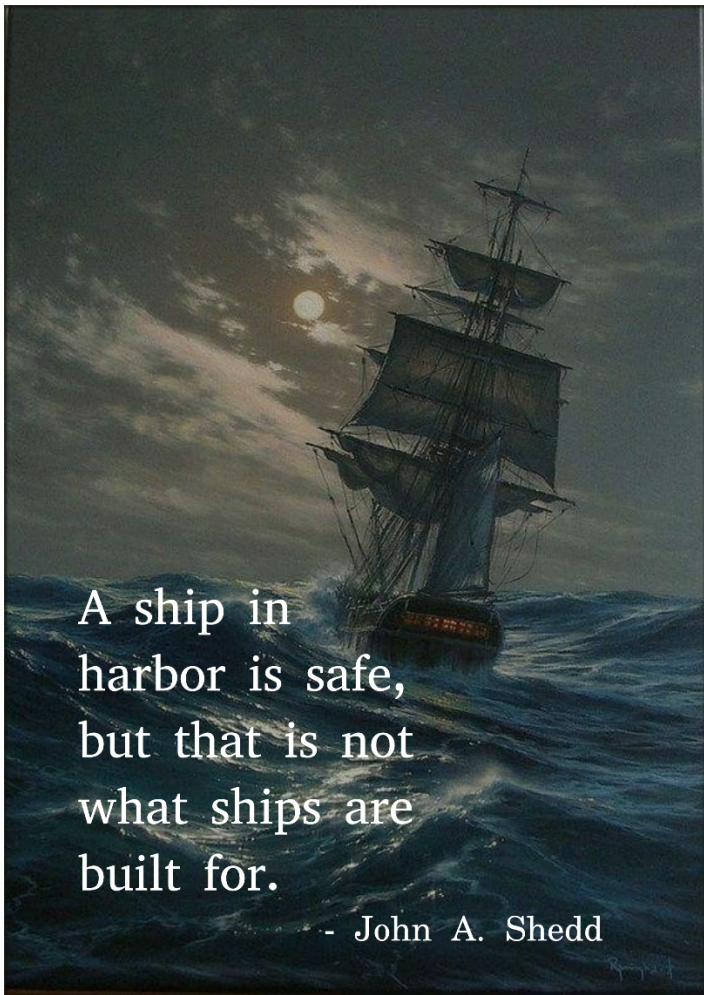
I hope everyone had a safe and Happy Thanksgiving weekend this year! Things sure have been a lot different this year, and the Thanksgiving Holiday was no exception. In my family, we traded a big 80+ person family gathering for smaller

individual household gatherings. We really missed cousin Mary's devil'd eggs, and Uncle Ron's smoked sausages, the fried turkey, the fresh creamed corn, and all the pies and cakes, and the family football rivalries too. Most of all, we missed seeing so many of our extended relatives. We were most grateful to be able to spend time with family, for everyone's health, and for some much-needed down time. Here's hoping the year 2021 will be the best we've ever SEEN, and we can say so long to COVID-NINETEEN!!!



Come on out on Dec. 5th and have a Short Stack with *Smilin' Jack* !!

The Big Chapter news for this month is that we will be Re-starting our monthly chapter pancake breakfasts on December 5th. Over the last several months, we've had many discussions amongst the Chapter membership about how to do our pancake breakfasts the right way during the ongoing pandemic. For eight months we have suspended our breakfasts out of an abundance of caution. While there may be some risk to moving ahead, there are also risks with staying in an ongoing Breakfast Hiatus. If we want things to begin to return to normal, then I believe we should exercise a little leadership, and take a few carefully measured risks, but WITH reasonable mitigations in place.



A ship in
harbor is safe,
but that is not
what ships are
built for.

- John A. Shedd

I'm reminded of the old adage about "*Ships in Harbors*". The same could be said about "Airplanes in Hangars", or "Breakfasts in Hiatus". So, let's *shove-off* from our anchorage and see how things go with the pancake breakfast this month, we can always make a 180 degree Return-to-Port if we have to.

As we restart our monthly Pancake Breakfasts, there will be some noticeable changes to our operations, at least for the near term.

1. We will be accepting cash only. It helps us if our guests can come with exact change. But no problem if not, we can make change as always. Our cashier will be wearing gloves and there will be hand sanitizer available at the greeting podium for guests.
2. The Tables & Chairs will be spaced out more. They will be wiped down before and after use. We will take advantage of our outdoor venue to help provide plenty of ventilation and dispersal of any unwelcome microbial guests.
3. We will have a slightly reduced menu. Pancakes, Fried Eggs, Sausage, & Bacon are still the mainstays. We will also have 1 or 2 additional items such as hash-browns and fruit. The reduced items on the buffet will help us keep

food spaced well apart and will minimize any handling of serving spoons by our guests. We plan to have a server for each item, so guests will not have to handle the spoons.

4. Coffee and Juice will be poured and served at a separate table. Individual creamers and sugars will be available as always.
5. We will Not have syrup bottles or salt & pepper shakers out on the tables. We will have pre-packaged individual serving-size syrups available. We will Not have common storage trays for the utensils. Instead, we will provide guests with pre-packaged, individually wrapped & sealed utensils, and each will include a salt & pepper packet.
6. We will have plastic curtains hanging along the serving table to act as sneeze guards. Our servers will also have gloves.
7. We ask our guests to make ONE trip only through the serving line. This should help minimize any potential for spreading germs. We have always tried to provide our breakfast guests with a good value by providing plenty of food options in exchange for their small donation. Our breakfasts were never meant to be an all-you-can-eat buffet.
8. Be respectful of others' space, and be patient. This really goes without saying, as we have all learned to do this better over the last many months.
9. Last of all, just like when you fly your airplane, YOU are the person who is primarily responsible for YOUR own safety. As Pilot-In-Command (PIC), YOU get to establish your own personal safety minimums. In this COVID-19 world, we will do our best to take practical steps to help facilitate everyone's safety at our Chapter breakfasts. Please understand that no one is an expert at this, and no one is perfect. There will be lessons learned as we go forward with future breakfasts. But if you do not feel safe with our breakfast event, then it is your responsibility to simply "Waive-Off" for the time-being. Just like flying, YOU are the "Participant-In-Command", and if something doesn't feel right to you, then you have the option to select an "alternate". And you are most welcome to re-join our breakfast traffic pattern anytime when you feel the conditions are more favorable for you.

With all that, we want to extend our warmest and most heartfelt gratitude to everyone who comes out to support our pancake breakfasts, and to all the volunteers who work so hard make it happen!!! We look forward to enjoying the 4 "F's" of our Chapter Pancake Breakfast . . . Flying, Friends, Fellowship, & Food!

Mark your new calendars NOW!

IT'S WINTER PARTY TIME!!!



The planning for our annual Chapter Winter Party is well underway. The date will be Saturday, Jan. 30th, 2021, (6-10 PM) and the location this year will be moving North to the Indian River Preserve Golf Club in Mims. The cost is \$25 per person and includes your annual Chapter 866 membership dues renewal. (Note: your EAA *National* membership dues are a separate item as usual). Tickets will be available for sale at the December & January meetings, and also at our pancake breakfasts for December & January. More details at the Chapter Meeting, so come prepared to purchase your Winter Party tickets.

WHAT: EAA 866 Formal Annual Winter Party

WHEN: Saturday Jan 30th, 2021. From 6 to 10 PM

WHERE: Indian River Golf Preserve (Mims

3950 Clubhouse Drive, Mims, FL 32754

HOW MUCH: \$25 per person (see Herman & Becky for your tickets)

WHAT FOOD: Choice of Fish, Chicken, or Beef

ENTERTAINMENT: Live Band will perform, & dancing available

ATTIRE: Formal

The Ticket price for the party includes your Annual Chapter 866 membership Dues.

What a Deal!

CHAPTER MEETING AND ELECTIONS

Our Chapter Officer elections will be held at the December meeting. In accordance with our by-laws, the terms for each officer last for one year. We typically, elect, re-elect, or re-affirm our chapter officers at the end of the year so that it aligns with the annual chapter renewal process which occurs in December.

Our current cadre of Chapter Officers are:

President: Les Boatright (outgoing)

Vice President: Ed Brennan (outgoing)

Treasurer: Herman Nagel (option to retain)

Secretary: Kimberly Brennan (outgoing)

We have a lot of great talent among our esteemed Chapter Members, and I encourage anyone to consider being a Chapter Officer. All candidates must be dues-paid members of EAA National, and EAA Chapter 866. For your reference, the roles and responsibilities of each position are generally outlined in the EAA reference guide linked here:

<https://www.eaa.org/-/media/Files/EAA/Chapters/Resources/Chapter-Officer-Reference-Guide-Final-webedition.ashx>

As you may know, 3 of our officers will be transitioning out to do other roles, so we need your help to fill those slots. Our nominating committee has been working to help make it a smooth transition. If you have an interest in serving our chapter, please contact myself, or any of the existing officers And Please come to the meeting to support your EAA Chapter, THERE WILL BE REFRESHMENTS AFTERWARD !!



I also wanted to remind everyone about the upcoming Toys for Tots breakfast event at the Merritt Island airport on December 12th, (8:30 AM) hosted by our neighbors at EAA Chapter 724. I believe they have been holding this event for more than 25 years!!

As I understand it, this will be a little different from their previous years. In the past, they have served fresh pancakes and sausages. But with COVID, I believe this will be more of a Continental Style breakfast, with no cooking, just fresh doughnuts and coffee available. For more information, please contact Don White (easyhouse@yahoo.com), or EAA Chapter 724

<https://chapters.eaa.org/EAA724>

This is a great opportunity to do something to benefit a less fortunate child by donating a NEW, Unwrapped Toy to the U.S. Marine Corps Toys For Tots Program. PLUS, it is a great excuse to go flying somewhere!!

See you at our next chapter get-together!

Les Boatright

(EAA #563003)

President, EAA Chapter 866

The *Smilin' Jack* Chapter

“Life is what happens while you’re building your airplane.”

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

Some reminders about upcoming Chapter events & others:

Date	Calendar Event	Place/Info
Dec. 2 nd	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting (Officer Elections)	Building 10 / 7 pm
Dec. 5 th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Dec. 12 th	EAA Chapter 724 Toys 4 Tots – Continental Bkfst https://chapters.eaa.org/ea724/toys-for-tots-breakfast	900 Airport Road Merritt Island Airport (COI)
Dec. 25 th	CHRISTMAS DAY HOLIDAY	
Jan. 1 st , 2021	NEW YEAR'S DAY HOLIDAY	
Jan. 2 nd	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Jan. 6 th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Jan. 30 th	WINTER PARTY – EAA Chapter 866 Buy your Tickets Now & Renew Your Chapter Dues!	Indian River Preserve Golf Club (Mims) 6-10 PM
Jan. 28-30 th	DeLand Sport Aviation Showcase https://www.sportaviationshowcase.com/ (NOW CANCELLED, Targeting Nov. 11-13, 2021)	DeLand Municipal Airport (KDED)
Feb. 3 rd	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Feb. 6 th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
Mar. 3 rd	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
Mar. 6 th	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
April 3 rd	OUR Chapter 866 Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Building 10 / 8-10 am
April 7 th	Regular Chapter 866 Monthly Meeting	Building 10 / 7 pm
April 13-18 th , 2021	Sun-N-Fun Fly-In (<i>Fingers Crossed</i>)	Lakeland, FL (KLAL)
July 26 th - Aug 1 st , 2021	EAA Airventure (<i>Fingers Crossed</i>)	Oshkosh, WI (KOSH)

PLEASE, SEND IN in any additions or updates to our Calendar of Events. Thanks



Tom Charlton and his wife in their Piper J3 departing Dunn for Sebring one Sat. morning in November

Note the spectators on the windsock

Breakfasts again!

On the first Sat of November, the chapter held a practice breakfast so we could be ready for the real thing, the return of the 1st Sat. Smilin 'Jack breakfast at Dunn Airpark. Everything seems to be a go! This breakfast has been a tradition since the year 2000 when we started this. In the year 2006 was the first time that we had over 200 attendees! Since then we range from 150 to around 200 folks every month. In 2003 we started to offer the free breakfast every December to show appreciation for our visitors.

Any chapter member can help with this fun time. If you're interested in helping just show up around 6 am to help set up and stick around till 10:30 or so to help put stuff away and clean up. We'll be on time and a half after 10:00 for this – what a deal!

Chapter Meeting

Weds. Dec.2, 2020, 7:00 pm

Bldg. 10 Dunn Airpark

Titusville, Fl

Chapter Breakfast

Sat. Dec. 5, 2020, 8:00 am

Bldg. 10 Dunn Airpark

Titusville, Fl