

# Illinois Valley Beacon

December 1996

Volume 3 Issue 12



## Christmas Luncheon

Our Annual Chapter Christmas Luncheon will be Saturday, December 7th, at Cater Inn, 1224 W. Pioneer Parkway. A social time with hot apple cider will begin at 11:30 a.m. and a buffet lunch will be served at 12:00 noon. The cost is \$16.00 per person.

David A. Lombardo, Associate Professor and Associate Dean for Aviation at Lewis University will be the guest speaker. Be there!

## Last Month

We met at the First Christian Church, 6400 N. University Ave. On the agenda was the Election of Officers for 1997. All the current officers have agreed to serve and were nominated and re-elected for next year, with one exception. Joe Fox will serve as Chapter Secretary in 1997. The entire Chapter Hangar Committee, which has served for only a few months, was also nominated and re-elected for 1997.

It is now time to pay your dues for next year! A renewal slip and return envelope are enclosed with this newsletter. At the November meeting the members decided that beginning now, for 1997 the \$15.00 annual dues **would not** include an EAA Calendar. Calendars are available for an additional fee of \$5.00 for Chapter members and \$10.00 for non members.

At the business meeting next January it was suggested that we should work on a Chapter plan. We need to come up with some ideas for fund raising. One possibility to be discussed is a Fly-In Breakfast.

After the business meeting Ernest Thorp was our guest speaker. Ernie was a B-17 co-pilot, flying out of England during World War II. Over Germany his bomber was hit by flack and lost an engine. They left formation and headed back toward England and promptly lost a second engine. Then about 20 miles off the coast they caught fire. Ernie had to bail out over the water and was rescued by a German fisherman. He spent several years in a German prisoner of war camp before being released by Allied Forces.

## Young Eagles

We have two different sorties to report. On Saturday, November 2nd, at Mt. Hawley Airport, we flew 8 more Young Eagles from the Junior ROTC unit at Peoria High School.

On Saturday, November 30th, at Marshall County Airport we flew 17 Young Eagles from Lacon! The pilots for those flights were: Brian Briggerman, Neil Pobanz, Bill Doyle and Ron Wright. Thanks to all who helped with these flights.

## Hangar Work Party

After breakfast on Saturday, January 4th, there will be a work party to install panelling along the lower portion of the hangar wall to protect the insulation. All the needed materials will be on hand so that good progress can be made on the project.

Presently the restroom in the hangar is enclosed and heated. There is no running water and the restroom fixtures have not been installed. The heating equipment has arrived, but the contractor has not yet completed the installation. Hopefully by January 4th the heating system will be functional.

Please note: does your plane or project need a new home? If so contact Vic DeCroix at 383-4293 to get your name on the hangar waiting list.

## Calendar

### January 1st — NAPPANEE, INDIANA

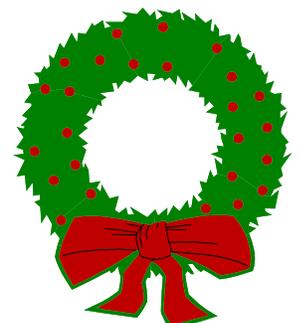
EAA Chapter 938 Fifth Annual New Year's Day Hangar-over party/fly-in. 11:00 a.m. — 2:00 p.m. Contact: "Fast Eddie" Milleman, 219/546-4997.

### March 1st — SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

Illinois State Ultralight Safety Seminar.

### July 30th thru August 5th — OSHKOSH, WIS

EAA OSHKOSH '97 — 45th Annual EAA Fly-In and Sport Aviation Convention at Wittman Regional Airport. Contact John Burton, EAA, 414/426-4800.



Recently we received the following letter from fellow Chapter member Jerry Kuntz. Late last year Jerry sold his home in Bartonville and moved to the St. Louis area to be near his ill daughter. Just before leaving Peoria Jerry confided to your editor that one of the things he found disappointing about his adopted home was the fact that there did not seem to be an EAA Chapter in the area.

Dear Friends,

Hope everything is OK up that way. Just a note to let you know we have started a new EAA Chapter, No. 1162 at Metro East Airport.

The chapter wants to promote the Young Eagles Program in the near future. Any help from your program would be appreciated down here; such as forms, insurance forms, suggestions etc. All for now — Fly Safe!

Jerry Kuntz  
10 Wheel Ranch  
Glen Carbon IL 62034

### 1996 Chapter 563 Officers

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