



# Illinois Valley Beacon

June 2003

Chapter 563 Chartered in 1976

Volume 10 Issue 6

**Breakfast-** will be on Saturday June 7 at the EAA Hanger at Mt. Hawley Airport from 7:30 till 9:00.

**Meeting -** will be one week later on Thursday, June 12, at the hanger at 7:00 P. Sam Sisk will introduce the speaker for the evening, Mr. Fred Etherton, who will talk about his experiences flying as a patrol plane commander during the early part of the Korean War. He was part of Patrol Squad #6 which was the most decorated squad of that era. They flew submarine patrols and were the first unit to take a midshipman into a war zone.

## Secretaries Report

*Submitted by Steve Banfoey who was filling in for Bill Engle  
EAA Chapter 563 -- Minutes May 8, 2003*

Maurie Caudill – Since the inception of the Young Eagles program Chapter 563 has provided airplane rides for 1100 boys and girls; Sam Sisk has personally provided rides for 110.

Jerry Pilon – The insurance policy for the July B17 sponsorship at Peoria airport has been received.

Bruce Chien – Has obtained an excellent C/D based safety program on airport signage and runway incursions. Bruce offered to provide a safety program for the membership, either as a program during a monthly meeting or in the form of a copy of his C/D.

The evening program was provided by Sam Sisk, who had arranged for Solomon Balraj, the new manager of the Peoria Airport, to address the membership. Solomon is a lawyer who joined the Cleveland mayor's office and was involved in community development and the Cleveland airport operation. He is not a pilot. He discussed

organization of the airport and the need to increase commercial service. His primary concern is the effect poor service has on companies which might otherwise locate plants or facilities in Peoria. Peoria is already at a disadvantage because most travel from Peoria requires a connection in Chicago or St. Louis.

Solomon offered to facilitate and help promote the visit of the B17 to Peoria.

Comments and questions from the audience centered on the future of the Mt. Hawley airport and the high cost of fuel at Peoria and Mt. Hawley and. Solomon indicated there are no plans to close Mt. Hawley, in fact they to improve the taxiway this year. Members of the audience pointed out that fuel costs as much as 50 or 60 cents more at Mt. Hawley, Peoria, and Pekin than fuel purchased at outlying airports. In effect, the local FBO's impose a surcharge of \$5.00 or \$6.00 for every hour flown for a local airplane consuming 10 gallons per hour. Solomon indicated that this was not directly under his control.

## What is Your Sign?

Take a good look at the new Chapter sign on the West side of the hanger. Bill Engle, the Chapter Secretary and official sign maker has triumphed



again. The graphics are unique and it can be seen from the runway very easily.

## The Adventures of Jerry and Me

Once again the two brave souls set out to find the elusive perfect pancake and sausage breakfast.

We had four choices believe it or not. The closest was Mercer County Illinois which is located up near Moline. The AOPA book said it had a gravel runway (that's a negative) but it was only 57 miles away. The second was DeKalb Illinois. A good airport about 60 miles away. The third was Lansing Illinois about 70 miles away under Chicago's class B airspace ( that's a negative also). The fourth was Olney Illinois, about 150 miles from here South East of Springfield.

So—— obviously we choose to fly the longest distance so we could have more flying/fun.

Peoria gave us flight following down to Lincoln and handed us off to Champaign and they carried us to about 60 miles North of Olney (OLY).

It was getting on to be 10:00 o'clock and we were still 40 miles out but there was a lot of traffic landing on 30 at Olney so I called ahead and told them to keep a few pancakes hot and we would be there in about 20 minutes. I was afraid they would stop cooking when the traffic slowed down like we do. As it turned out I didn't need to worry. They were still going strong when we got there.

It's a nice airfield and a good breakfast was had for \$4.00. They priced their meal two ways. Everything was priced individually at about \$.50 (coffee, pancakes only, biscuits and gravy, etc.) and \$4.00 for all you could eat. They had signs up giving credit to companies that donated materials to the breakfast. McDonalds donated sausage, Kentucky Fried Chicken donated biscuits, and Prairie Farms did the milk and juice. That makes for a lot of profit.

They had a very large turn out as you can see from the collection of tails I captured down there. An interesting mixture of airplanes to say the least. We stopped on the way back at Logan County to fill the planes' tanks and empty ours. It was a severe clear smooth day and we put nearly four hours in the log books.



## The Tails Tell The Tale



## Van's Aircraft Does It Again



The RV10, a four place version of the RV series has been test flown. What a record this plane has. 3,261 RV's have been built and flown. They have to make a few decisions on assembly methods and then the kit will be available later this year.



## Calendar of Events 2003

### June

- 1 Pancake Breakfast, DeKalb, IL
- 1 Pancake Breakfast, Olney, IL
- 1 Pancake Breakfast, Lansing, IL
- 7 Museum Open House, Poplar Grove
- 7 [Chapter 563 Breakfast](#)
- 6-8 Blue Angels, Davenport, Iowa
- 8 Pancake Breakfast, Rock Falls (Whiteside County)
- 8 Breakfast, Algona, Ia
- 12 [Chapter 563 Meeting](#)
- 14 Fly-in/Drive-in, Jack Holland Farm (see editor for details)
- 15 Airshow/Breakfast, Spencer, IA
- 15 Breakfast, Marshall County, IL
- 16 Safety Meeting, Marshall Co.,IL

### July

- 4 Fly-in Breakfast, Mt. Morris, Ill
- 4-6 Prairie Air Show, Thunderbirds, Peoria, IL
- 5 [Chapter 563 Breakfast](#)
- 10 [Chapter 563 Meeting](#)
- 15-17 Aluminum Overcast, Peoria, IL
- 29-8/4 EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, Wis

### August

- 1-4 Oshkosh

### September

- 6 Breakfast, Decatur, IL

### October

- 11 Chilli Day, Decatur, IL

## Good People Make Good Things Happen

I received a very nice letter from two very nice people a couple of weeks ago. The letter contained a check for \$50.00 made out to Chapter 563.

Jerry and Audrey Trumbold have been Chapter members for a long time. They support both the Bloomington Chapter and the Peoria Chapter. They flew a C-140 for many years before they had to give it up.

In the letter, Audrey apologizes for not being able to volunteer like they used to, and would like the money to be used "as we see fit." She would like to see others add to the fund and make some improvements in the kitchen area of the hanger.

I am going to propose, at the next meeting, that we start a fund and name it the Chapter 563 Foundation, unless you members have a better idea. It's purpose will be to accumulate donations that will be used as the members see fit to promote, improve, and expand Chapter activities.

I encourage you, the members of Chapter 563, to match the Trumbolds' generous donation.

As you know, the Chapter just about breaks even through the year. The income from the monthly breakfast almost makes up the loss on hanger rent and we depend on events like the B-17 every three or four years to reinforce the treasury. That leaves nothing extra to use for improvements.

This generous, unexpected move by Jerry and Audrey may just be the spark to allow the Chapter to move off dead center and make some very needed improvements.

## 2003 Chapter 563 Officers

President: Jerry Pilon, 110 WindRidge Dr., Washington, IL. 61571, Ph. 745-1139 pilongt@hotmail.com

Vice President: Steve Bonfoey, 4620 W. Heatherwood Dr. Peoria, IL. 61615, Ph. 692-6272 esteban@bwsys.net

Treasurer: Jim Hooker, 217 N. Cloverfield Dr. Chillicothe, IL. 61523, Ph. 274-3940 hookeja@mchsi.com

Secretary: Bill Engel, 7114 N. Willow Bend Pt., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 691-6466 engelwk@mtco.com

Program Chairman: Joe Fox, 19 Northmoor Ct., Morton, IL. 61550, Ph. 265-5195

Newsletter Editor: Morrie Caudill, 5320 N. Sherbrook Ln., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 691-3613 flyvfr@insightbb.com

Technical Advisor: Al Lurie, 605 E. Armstrong Avenue, Peoria, IL. 61603, Ph. 682-1674

Young Eagles: Morrie Caudill, 5320 N. Sherbrook Ln., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 691-3613 flyvfr@horizon222.net

Flight Advisor: Jim Hannemann, 1404 Miller St., Washington, IL. 61571, Ph. 444-4062 hanneman1@mindspring.com

Flight Advisor: Sam Sisk, 7214 W. Legion Hall Rd., Dunlap, IL. 61525, Ph. 243-5729 sesisk@mtco.com

Flight Advisor: Ron Wright, 616 Kerfoot, East Peoria, IL. 61611, Ph. 694-1527 e-mail wright.ronald1@mcleodusa.net