



GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER 145

Web Page (<http://www.EAA145.org>)

July's meeting will be on Saturday, July 11, 2009 at the Riverview Airport Main Hangar.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Let Bob S. know if you prefer to receive the newsletter by e-mail in place of postal mail and check the chapter web page for information or send Bill W. items to put on the web.

JULY PROGRAM

EAA 145 will host about 18 young people from the West Michigan Flight Academy (WMFA) from 12 noon to 3 pm, immediately following the chapter's business meeting. WMFA creates experiences for students that helps build character and develops skills in communication, social, technical, professional discipline and accountability.

The July meeting will commence with the Chapter's business meeting at 10 am followed by a presentation at 11 am by Patrick Johnson, founder of WMFA, titled "Transforming young lives through Flight". Mr. Johnson states; "Our purpose at WMFA is to give economically disadvantaged urban youth the opportunity to pursue a highly advanced technical career related to the Aviation and Aerospace industries".

At 12 pm, Lunch will be provided volunteers for the ground & flight crews. Tours of Riverview Airport to introduce WMFA members to A/C construction and experiential A/C will be conducted by EAA 145 volunteers at 1pm with simultaneous flight ops also commencing. Flight ops should secure at approximately 4pm.

EAA 145 members who would like to volunteer to help with the Young Eagles flights as ground handling crew or flight ops pilots should contact Dick Foster by July 8th.

JUNE MEETING REPORT BUSINESS MEETING

There was no business meeting in June due to the EAA Tri-motor visit.

EAA TRI-MOTOR VISIT

The June meeting was held in the Rapid Air hanger at the Kent County Airport on Jun 11th through June 14th in support of Ford Tri-motor operations. A sincere thank you goes out to Amway Corporation for the donation of their hangar space and security in storing the Tri-motor in the evenings and the 18 members, Dale Buttermore, Kel DeFries, Russ Duffin, Hugh Eisen, Dick Foster, Dick Foster Jr., Randy Houtman, Paul Kowroski, Peter Melema, Rick O'Beshaw, Fern O'Beshaw, James Oliver, "Bud" Potts, Carl Spidell, Bruce Whitman, Bill Willyard Alex Woolman, James Zeman, who volunteered their time in support of this fund raising. Your help was greatly appreciated.

The tri-motor visit began on Thursday, June 11th with Cody Welsh, one of two pilots who volunteered their time and flight expertise, being interviewed by WXMI for the early morning shows at 5am, 6 am and 7 am. At approximately 11 am the tri-motor was taxied from the Amway hangar to Rapid Air for the day's flight ops. While only three flights were conducted this day between 12 pm and 5 pm, there was definite enthusiasm and enjoyment on the passenger's faces. An added treat was the arrival of another "vintage" mode of transportation.



Can you guess the make and model of the vehicle? Be sure to attend the July meeting to find out the identity.



The next three days saw the completion of 24 additional flights. This was below our expectations and hopes but for those who did enjoy the flights, there were nothing but smiles. It made no difference what your age, flying was cause for smiles as demonstrated here.



The low turnout may have been the result of several factors: the ford was here last year, poor economy, and lack of media coverage.

Regardless of the level of success of this visit, we would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the great help and joy in working with the five EAA volunteers who travel with the Tri-motor. A special thanks to Jackie Welsh for keeping the books straight (standing here) and the docents, who in addition to manning retail trailer, were also a help and source of awe and amazement with their vast store of aviation knowledge.



The sights and sounds of the 80-year-old Ford Tri-motor were worth the effort to get it here. **Thanks again to all who volunteered!**



CHAPTER POSITION AVAILABLE

Due to job conflicts for the next several months, the position of chapter website editor is currently available for any interested party. The position involves monthly updates to the website with the current newsletter and photos of special events (e.g. Weeks Visit, Tri-motor tour, etc). There is minimal effort required and training, ongoing support will be provided.

Contact James Zeman if interested and willing to help.

FOR SALE CORNER

New! Carl Spidell notes that anyone using auto gas can contact a VIC MATHEWS for information on his contact for pure 87 octane (no alcohol added). Contact Carl for appropriate phone numbers.

FOR SALE. Air speed indicator by Falcon Gage. Model ASI 160-3, 0-160 knot, 3 1/8" diameter. Call Russell Duffin at 616-365-1796 (5/09)

QUIZ ME

Q1: How do you reserve a specific N number?

Q2: Current A/C have an "N" preceding a set of numbers and letters. The recently visited Tri-motor had an "NC". What does the NC designate and when was it become discontinued?

Future tentative programs for 2009 we are working on: **(Do you have any more ideas?)**

RC Fly-in: Ron Fritz

Newsletter questions and suggestions contact Bob Swietek.

Remaining 2009 Meeting Dates (subj. to change)

8/9 9/12 10/10 11/14 12/12

The 2009 officers for EAA145:

- President, James Zeman
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