



# VORTEX

## MICHIANA CHAPTER 132

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APRIL 2015

VOLUME 51 NUMBER 4

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### 2015 CALENDAR

April	30, 2015	Honoree Banquet - Four Lakes Country Club	6:00 PM
May	14, 2015	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00 PM
May	16 & 17, 2015	Salute to Veterans Reenactment – Elkhart Airport	
May	28, 2015	Chapter Meeting	6:30 PM
June	06, 2015	Young Eagles	
June	11, 2015	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00 PM
June	25, 2015	Chapter Meeting 6:30 PM – Potluck Supper – Speaker David Parker “Indiana Aviation History”	
July	09, 2015	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00 PM
July	20 – 26, 2015	Air Venture, Oshkosh Wisconsin	
August	13, 2015	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00 PM
August	16, 2015	EAA/Duck’s Picnic, Ducks Field, Adamsville, MI	
September	10, 2015	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00 PM
September	24, 2015	Chapter Meeting	6:30 PM
October	08, 2015	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00 PM
October	29, 2015	Chapter Meeting	6:30 PM
November	12, 2015	Chapter Board Meeting	7:00 PM
December	05, 2015	EAA Christmas Party	
January	01, 2016	Nappanee Hanger Over Party	

## *Saturday Morning*

*Did you know that you can have breakfast at the Chapter House on Saturday Morning? Did you know that there is a lot of "Hanger Talk" at the Chapter House on Saturday Morning? Come and find out from 8:00 to 9:00 every Saturday Morning*

**SATURDAYS, TUESDAYS, AND THURSDAYS** - After Breakfast on Saturday and on Tuesday, and Thursday Eve. We are down to the hanger working on Airplanes and doing "a lot" of Hanger Talk. Everyone is welcome to come down and join the group.

### *Notes of Interest:*

REMEMBER:

**HONOREE BANQUET  
APRIL 30, 2015 Thursday (Notice the day)  
At FOUR LAKES COUNTRY CLUB  
Social Hour 6:00 PM / Dinner 7:00 PM**

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**MAY 16 & 17, 2015  
SALUTE TO VETERANS  
WWII REENACTMENT**

**The airport will be sponsoring a reenactment at the airport on that week end. There will be tanks, aircraft, vehicles, and all sorts of military involvement. Our chapter is doing breakfast and lunch for the people involved in putting this on. We will serve Breakfast from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM and then Lunch from 12:00 Noon to 2:00 PM. Please notice we will need volunteer help from our chapter to be able to serve these meals. Please put this on your calendar.**

There will also be an USO Dance on Saturday, May 16, evening, in the Hanger.

Our Young Eagles Day is June 6, 2015 at the Elkhart Airport, by the Chapter House. We will fly from 9:00 to Noon. Lots of help from Pilots to fly Kids to Ground Help. Let Doug Busch know if you can help in June, he can use all kinds of help. Also any one from age 8 to 17 can go for an airplane ride.

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### **Saturday AM Breakfast:**

Do you enjoy Breakfast on Saturday Morning? Would you be willing to help fix breakfast and clean up after? The same people are getting tired of doing it every Saturday, also it is summer and they want some time to enjoy week ends also. We are putting out a schedule and would you please sign up for a couple of week ends. We would like 2-3 people each week end. Please help or we will have to close the "Saturday Morning Breakfast Diner".

**"What is wrong with our Chapter Meetings"?** Any suggestions for meetings? What would you like for meetings? We have tried the suppers before meetings but we are fixing food and then only have a few people show up. Phil would like to know what kind of programs you are interested in, Please give Phil some suggestions so we can get more interested in the meetings. Or if you have someone who would like to do a program.

March Meeting 3/26/15

17 Members in attendance

6:30 Vic provided the evenings meal. Pulled Pork, macaroni salad, coleslaw, baked beans and choc chip cookies. All very good.

7:00 and the meeting was called to order by Phil. February meeting and March board meeting minuets were read.

At Saturday breakfast an offer of \$800 was made on the donated Minimax. There were enough board members present to form a quorum so Phil held an ad-hoc meeting to discuss. A vote was taken and the offer was accepted.

The OSH work party was next discussed. \$50 will be collected upfront from all to cover gas and any other group expenses. Any excess will be refunded. EAA will be providing lodging and three meals (two dinners and one lunch). We will be meeting at Wild Bills for a departure time of 0900.

The Honoree Banquet will be April 30 at the 4-Lakes country club. The price will be \$25 per person and so far 35 have signed up.

The Salute to Veterans event to be held May 16 & 17 was reviewed. We will be using the old Premier hanger for the meals. Andy has submitted the hanger lease for Sam's hanger. The board will be reviewing and suggesting any changes.

The June meeting will be a potluck to be held at Sam's hanger. The Nappanee Chapter will be invited and we will use our flashing sign to help direct to the hanger.

The August and September EAA videos were show.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07.

Post Script: After the meeting Andy stopped by to inform us of the 2016 Air Show dates. It will be August 20 & 21 2016. This weekend is the same weekend as the annual Duck Picnic.

Post Post Script: We have been unofficially told the airshow has been moved back one week to August 13 & 14.

Secretary,  
Jim Butler

Board Meeting 4/9/15

Jerry, Vic, Michelle, Don, Karen, Jim, Cindy, Ted, Phil

Ted brought the meeting to semi-order at 7:00 with Phil taking over at 7:10 upon his arrival.

Previous minuets were read with Cindy making a motion to correct. The motion was not seconded so the minuets will stand as read.

Andy has approached Phil regarding the Salute to Veterans event with the suggestion of having a fly in Saturday morning of the event. Although Andy had no problem with providing breakfast at no charge to pilots the board felt it would be better to charge. Details still need to be addressed. Times have been finalized with breakfast from 7 to 9 and lunch from 12 to 2.

Vic has been taking care of the Saturday Chapter breakfast for several years now and it is time to give him a rest. Michelle will develop a sign-up sheet along with instructions. If the Saturday morning breakfast is to continue we will need our members to volunteer to take on this responsibility. Our breakfast has proven to be very popular and attendance has been steadily increasing. If everyone can do one breakfast every couple of months we will be able to continue on as is.

The banquet signup deadline is April 20. As of today Karen has 37 signed up so we are anticipating a good group this year to honor Chuck.

The clothing order has been turned in. We still need to get a good logo image to them which Phil, Karen and Jim are working on.

The Chapter signs on the South side of the building are in sad shape. Phil made a motion, seconded by Jerry, to fix or replace.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 to Culver's where Michelle treated us all to onion rings.

Secretary,  
Jim Butler

Don't forget June Meeting is a Potluck down at the Hanger! We have David Parker speaking on "Indiana Aviation History". It is June 25<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 PM.

Spring Work Party 3/27-29/2015

This year's cast of characters: Jim Butler, Charlie Whitney, Ted Woodill, Ernie Culp, Steve Leshner, Doug Busch, Phil Knox, Vic Pixey, Don Duck, Wild Bill Weaver, Leon Busch, Malik Busch, Dan Ramsey, Mitch (I need a haircut) Ramsey, Robert Ching and Phillip Ching. 16 in all and our largest group ever.

We missed our 9:00 am launch time by ten minutes. That's not too bad considering getting 13 dudes all together is like herding cats. Four of us in Vic's mini-limo, three to fly up and nine in Wild Bill's house on wheels. Traveling at the breakneck speed of 55 MPH our first pit stop was McDonalds to do what old dudes inevitably must do along with a quick bite to eat. Just down the road was the Russell Military Museum. We soon discovered that the museum was not open yet for the season (one week later) but as luck would have it, the owner was there and allowed those who wished (at \$10 per) to visit anyway. Most of the museum is located outdoors and although it was windy and cold, those who went enjoyed it. The luxury mobile made a quick stop at Cabela's (they were all out of .22 ammo) and by 5:15 had arrived at the Binder House, our home away from home for the weekend. Shortly thereafter Wild Bill showed with the others. EAA was providing dinner at the Academy Lodge so back in our respective vehicles for the short jaunt over. Panic ensued when the hungry group found the main door locked. A call from Phil and soon a side door was found opened. Nothing worse than a group of hungry old dudes. But EAA came through with an outstanding meal. Pork roast, dinner roll, veggies, rice, gravy, pie and ice cream. Nothing better than a group of stuffed old dudes.

Some of us had brought sleeping bags to lie out on the cots. Those who did not said "hum, that's a good idea". They then all hustled over to Walmart's to buy their own. Ted got the Barbie sleeping bag. He really likes it.

Mitch, Robert and Phillip made the short flight over the lake via airplane and joined us. The men's ND basketball game was on and some decided to go to a local restaurant to watch (they won). Not sure what time they returned because I was sound asleep.

6:30 am Saturday morning and we're all up and ready for breakfast (remember nothing worse than a group of hungry old dudes). Across the street to Planeview and this year they did a pretty decent job of taking care of us with pretty good food.

8:15 am finds us at the Kermit Weeks hanger. We found plenty to do on the B-25.

Here is a list of our various projects:

Remove fuel bladder, Polish acrylic for nose, Install tail trim, Remove & replace oil & fuel lines, Wing flap hinge replacement, Wing landing light cover, Wing tip replace, Remove incorrect nose framework.

This plane had been used in the movie Catch-22 and although in excellent condition had been modified for that use. EAA is reverting it back to a more original condition along with seating to be able to give rides like they do with the Tri-Motor and the B-17.

We took the obligatory break at 10:00 for coffee and donuts.

After Phil and I wrestled the fuel bladder out (I actually got my hands dirty. I know Cindy didn't believe it either.) a lunch of brats, chips, sauerkraut, coleslaw, fruit cup, dill pickles and brownies was served up at the lodge at Noon.

As the afternoon progressed the different teams completed their assigned tasks and by dinner time we, as a group, had everything accomplished. It is safe to say that Chapter 132 contributed a healthy dose of time to the B-25 project.

Dinner was once again provided and consisted of spaghetti and meatballs, salad, garlic bread and cheese cake. Ernie and Leon were both celebrating birthdays and the staff was kind enough to recognize with a special desert and a poorly sung rendition of "Happy Birthday" by the rest of us.

With some ugly weather forecast the three amigos decided to fly back after dinner. This turned out to be a wise choice as the forecast was correct.

That evening was the ND Women's basketball game. Some went to a local restaurant to watch and some to Wild Bills motel on wheels where our resident IT expert Malik explained how to make it all work. Bill was able to daisy chain his phone (Wi-Fi hot spot) to his tablet (which had the app) to his TV. We were able to watch the game while taking turns getting our showers. The ladies lost by one point but it was a fun game to watch anyway.

Sunday morning was breakfast at IHOP. Vic's luxu-Buick left at 10:20 am and had elected to bypass the museum this year, arriving back at Bills by 3:35 pm. The Holiday Inn on wheels made a stop at the museum first and then on the return trip ran into a traffic jam due to a crash. They finally made it home safe and sound by 8:00 pm.

All in all it was both a productive and enjoyable weekend. We were taken care of by EAA with a place to stay and some outstanding meals. Over the years our group has worked on many different aircraft in the Weeks hanger. From a Tri-Motor to the B-17 and everything in-between. And what a joy it was for all of us to have hands on experience this year with the iconic Mitchell B-25. How many people can say they have been able to work on and contribute to so many different historic aircraft?

Thank you EAA for providing such an opportunity and for taking such good care of us.

Wrote up by "Jim Butler"



# A SALUTE TO VETERANS

May 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>



## Elkhart Municipal Airport WWII Reenactments



BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



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**Board Meetings:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month

**Building Meetings:** Thursday s at 7:00 at the Hangar

**Regular Meetings:** Last Thursday of the month unless  
Other Plans are made  
7:00 PM at Chapter House Chapter

**GUESTS AND NEW MEMBERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME**

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