

CATFISH SQUADRON

EAA CHAPTER 797



Live Oak, Florida



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February 2014

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Chapter 797 Meeting

CHANGE

Saturday February 22nd, 2014

The monthly meeting (on the last Saturday) will be held at the Suwannee County Airport at our EAA Chapter Building at approx. **10:30AM.**

Pot Luck Brunch will be at **10:00AM.** All of our members are asked to bring a dish to share with everyone.



EAA 797 Morning Fly-In

The LAST Saturday of the month

February 22nd

Free coffee and doughnuts

8:00-10:00 AM

President's Message

Chasing Perfection

By Allen Rice

Seems like just a few short years ago I was dragging my mother's Sears Roebuck lawnmower behind my bike hoping to get rich. I pulled that thing not only around my neighborhood but everywhere within a 5 mile radius pounding on doors of houses with overgrown yards offering to cut their grass for \$2.00. There seemed to be no shortage of knee-high lawns, if you could call them lawns, in my neighborhood.

On Saturday afternoons I would pedal down to the hobby shop with a hard-earned \$4.00 in my pocket to buy another plastic model airplane kit. I agonized over every kit on the shelf trying to decide which plane to add to the ever-growing collection in my bedroom. Oh, the wondrous artwork on those boxes depicting P-51's, P-40's, P-38's, and even B-17's as they streaked through the heavens chasing Zero's, Messerschmidt's, and bombing the enemy. What beautiful but menacing birds they were with their nose art, invasion stripes, polished aluminum skin, shark's teeth and camouflage. I so wanted those exact planes hanging over my bed.

Of course once I got my new model home and tore the box open, the real work began - work that was way harder than cutting my neighbor's weeds.

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January Meeting

- *22 members present, 4 guests
- *Treasurer's Report balance \$10,100.86
- *Sun N Fun report by Bob Jaeger – already have 3 volunteers. Meeting in Lakeland on Feb. 1. Hopefully have 3 tractors this year. We'll need lots of volunteers.
- *Membership applications are available.
- *Allen Rice distributed a member survey, asking all to respond.
- ***Moved our meeting to the last Saturday of the month at 10:00 AM, with a pot luck brunch.**
- *Auction of items from Leroy Boe will be on Feb. 22.
- *Any suggestions of items needed for our Tool Cabinet?
- *Planning Committee will meet Sat., Jan. 25. Committee is the Executive Board and any other interested members.
- *Tech Counselors are Morris Brown and Bob Jaeger.

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

Members present – Allen Rice, Morris Brown, Jean and Dennis Wolcott, Bob Jaeger, Ray Anderson, Gerry Chancey, Linden Heston, Gary Hoffman, Dale Perry.

1. Survey results tabulated.
2. Calendar set for the year. Meetings will be last Saturday @10AM except for July (no meeting) and Nov. and Dec.
3. Discussed possibility of bringing WIFI to the clubhouse. Cost will be explored.
4. Goal is to have something scheduled on every Saturday. Have a Seminar on the 2nd Saturday, have fly-outs, have a Project Day where members visit someone's hangar to view their plane.
5. Do Fly-Outs – team up with other EAA chapters, fly to airparks and/or private air strips.
6. Other ideas discussed – have a Poker Run, do Eagle Flights, have a Chili Cook-off, hold a Big Bend Aviation Day (on May 17?).

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My goal was always to make the model look exactly like its beautiful cousin on the box. Anything less would be unacceptable. After all, if the airplane box artist could do it, I knew I could do it. (An attitude that hasn't always worked out for me.)

After building eight aircraft that looked like they had been shot down before they ever took off, and after enduring the ridicule from my two brothers, I finally realized that this model building hobby was not as easy as I had first thought.

The cold reality was that if I was going to duplicate the picture on the box, I would need to hone my building skills and cut a few more lawns. Turns out, paint, primer, filler, airbrushes and air compressors don't come with the kit. I guess it was around model #25, a P-38 Lightning that I finally had collected all the tools, materials and some skills that I finally finished an airplane that looked close to something that Lockheed would have rolled out of the factory.

That P-38 was still not as nice as the one on the box and wasn't perfect but it did turn out to be the first airplane that I allowed to hang over my bed and my brothers didn't laugh.

Fly safe. Allen

Places to Go – Feb/March

EAA 797 Morning Fly-In

February 22nd
Free coffee and doughnuts 8:00 – 10:00

EAA 797 Meeting

SATURDAY February 22nd at EAA Chapter Building Suwannee County Airport at approx. **10:30 AM.** Brunch at **10:00 AM.** Members are asked to bring a dish to share.

Feb. 22 Hangar Sale at Leroy Boe's property

EAA 797 Seminar

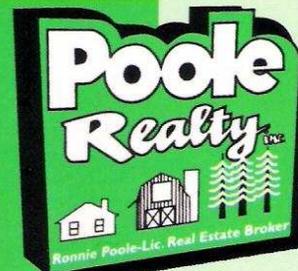
March 8, 10:00 AM

EAA 797 Fly Out

March 22 10 AM
Ancient Oaks, Steinhatchee
Free Low Country Boil lunch

6th Annual Shamrock Fly In

Saturday, March 15 – Cannon Creek Airpark, Lake City, FL.



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Membership for 2014

New membership forms will be available at the February meeting. All members need to fill out the form to renew and pay for 2014. Cost is still only \$15 per person.

The following have renewed their memberships:

Ray and Fran Anderson

Morris Brown

Dan and Jean Calabrese

Gerry Chancey

Jim Culp

Linden Heston

Richard Heston

Gary and Nancy Hoffman

Bob Jaeger

Jackie Kendig

Frank and Joann Matthews

Paul Michel

Neil Negley

Dale Perry

Allen Rice

Don and Dee Riley

Vern Roberts

Dennis and Jean Wolcott

NEW members

Terry Martin

Jere Stouffer

If you would rather renew by mail, please mail your check and any changes to your information from last year's membership form to:

Jean/Dennis Wolcott
6299 SW 52 Lane
Jasper, FL 32052.

SUN N FUN

WE NEED YOU!

Sun N Fun is April 1 – 6. Please volunteer with Flight Line Tours. Call David Brown 386-776-1163 or Bob Jaeger 386-365-7033.

EAA Website

Thanks to Allen Rice, our new President, all info from our chapter website, has been transferred to space for our chapter on the national website. The new link is: www.797.eaachapter.org. However, using the old link, www.eaa797.org will take you to the new link.

Allen has also added a new Member Aircraft page to the chapter website. You can take a look by clicking on the link <http://www.797.eaachapter.org/memberaircraft.htm>.

If you would like to be on the page, send a picture and description to Allen (Allen@AllenRice.net). The picture should be at least 300 pixels wide to look good.

Allen would also like to reinstate our member directory and post it on a password protected page on the website. If you want to participate, he needs the following information:

1. Your name, your spouse's name.
2. Address
3. Phone
4. Education
5. Occupation when you were working
6. Hobbies
7. Current projects
8. Pilot ratings
9. Aircraft that you have owned with pictures
10. Aircraft that you have built.

Program for February 22

Meeting

At this meeting, Graham White will present the "History and Development of the Rolls Royce Merlin engine".



Hangar Sale at Leroy Boe's

Immediately following our February 22, 2014 meeting at 24J, we will be caravanning over to Leroy Boe's house at O'Brien Airpark. Everything is for sale in Leroy's hangar. Leroy was a builder, so there are all kinds of tools and equipment available including cabinets full of hand tools, metal and wood working tools, aircraft parts, ultralight aircraft and more- a hangar crammed with stuff. Also for sale, is the house with adjacent lot and an RV. Help his widow, Bonnie, defray some of their medical expenses.

The sale starts at 1:00pm. O'Brien Airpark is FD71 on your sectional, just 15NM south of Suwannee County. For more information call Lee Woodruff at 386-935-1299.

Calvin Mercer

Earlier this month, we lost a dear friend and member, Calvin L. Mercer, Sr., 90. He passed away after a short illness.

Calvin Mercer proudly served in the Marine Corps during WWII in the Pacific Theater. He served as an infantryman during the invasion of Guam and later during the battle of Iwo Jima where he was seriously wounded in both legs by Japanese machine gun fire. He was honorably discharged from the Marine Corps in 1946.

Mr. Mercer was a member of the local Marine Corps League as well as the local chapter of the Experimental Aviation Association. He had worked at different professions including air conditioning mechanic, farmer and crop duster.

Calvin loved to dance and play dominoes which he did every week.

A memorial service will be held on Feb. 23, at Mt. Gilead Baptist church at 1:15 p.m. located at 18305 56th Street in Live Oak, Fla.

If you will be attending the service please notify CalJr. @ cal-mercerc@hotmail.com

757-663-3650(cell)

386-344-8785 (My Dad's cell)