



EAA Chapter 83 Terre Haute, IN



A Social Organization operated for the Advancement of
Aviation Education, Homebuilt Aircraft, and Private Aviation
Dedicated in the memory of Garland Wadsworth and John Blouch

Our web address: www.EAA83.org
President: Rick Ramsey, 317-900-2815, crbunt@yahoo.com
Vice President / NLE Keith Welsh, 812-230-2355, klw494@gmail.com
Secretary: Charity Clark, 217-251-2601, cfclark82@gmail.com
Treasurer: Cathi Sweatt, 812-208-0817, cathisweatt@yahoo.com

May 2024



From your
Vice President-
Keith Welsh

Our April meeting had 16 members signing the attendance sheet. Rick again did a great job covering all the bases. This summer is shaping up to be a very busy one for your EAA Chapter with YE's, the Airshow, and AirVenture.

Meeting minutes submitted 4/13/24 by Charity Clark, Secretary

Meeting begins at 10:03 AM

1. Welcome by President
2. Pledge of allegiance
3. YE announcement
 - a. April 20th - 40 youth signed up with 8 on waitlist.
 - i. More ground crew needed.
 - ii. 9 pilots available
 - iii. Briefing at 8:30 AM for pilots and ground crew
 - iv. Designated time slots: 9:30 AM, 10:30 AM, and 12 PM
 - b. May 18 th – private event for Tiefal family
 - i. Location may be Sky King Airport instead of HUF
 - c. June 8 th – YE Day, open event
 - d. Pagers are programmed and ready for use
 - e. Pilots participating in YE events should request city ride when contacting the tower.
4. Next Chapter meeting is a fly out – originally scheduled for Pam's but rain may deter due to grass strip.
5. Keith Welsh presented 2023 Chapter Service awards
 - a. Keith Welsh – as President
 - b. Alice Ramsey – as Secretary
 - c. Rick Ramsey – as Vice President
 - d. Alan Harder – as YE Coordinator

e. Brandon Halleck – as YE Coordinator
Many thanks to all who volunteer to serve your EAA Chapter.

6. Presentation on ForeFlight by Laurence Cross began at 10:16am.



Laurence must be very familiar with ForeFlight because he could easily lose us with all that he knows about the platform. It's amazing to see how far we've come from the map in the lap days.

Meeting adjourns at 12:15 PM

All those in attendance:

Rick Ramsey, President, Keith Welsh, Vice President
Charity Clark, Secretary, Alan Harder, YE Coordinator
Laurence Cross, Alice Ramsey, Blake Litchfield, Jerry Badger, Tom Milligan, John Milligan, Jeremy Rousch
Dale Long, Susan Long, George Bakken, Kevin Davidson

Young Eagles Report: Alan Harder

Kudos to everyone who made the April 20th YE Rally a success even with a few challenges!

The challenges:

- Wind gusts into the upper 20s!
 - 2 planes had to cancel, 1 had to leave ahead of the final time slot, and 1 more had some issues during the rally; and
 - Wind chill that made it awfully brisk for the ramp crew.
- In the end, though, 37 kids enjoyed great flights!
The rally ended a little after 1 PM, which is what we'd scheduled, and no one needed a little blue bag in spite of the rough air!
Blake, Charity and the Ramseys provided snacks and drinks for the kids! (And all of us!) We gave the new pagers their

first try—to good results! In true YE spirit, lots of folks pitched in to make this work. We're grateful to:

- Hoosier Aviation for hosting us with space, tables, and chairs.
 - HUF ATC for working us in and out of the pattern smoothly.
 - ISU Flight Academy for sending 3 CFIs (Kaden Morin, John Forsythe, and Thomas Schuler) and a DA-40 for an "Introduction to Airplanes";
 - Vigo County School Corporation who announced the Rally through their STEM teachers; and
- The 20 Chapter 83 members pitched in and made it all work.

Pilots: Elliot and Melanie Abel, George Bakken, Jerry Badger, Tom Milligan, Rick Ramsey, and Jeremy Roush.

Ramp Safety: Melanie and Elliot Abel, Dale Barkley, Steve Blane, Dale Long, Jim Mayhew, John Milligan, Mark Snelling and Keith Welsh.

Side note: Parents/family members seemed to stick with the Ramp Safety Officers more diligently this time—yay for that!

Registration, Certificates, T-shirts and other duties as assigned: Laura Bakken, Charity Clark, Alan Harder, Susan Long, Blake Litchfield, Alice Ramsey. We sold 12 T-shirts. 88 are left on hand for the remaining 3 rallies this year. We'll order some larger sizes as well— "Youth size XL" was still too small for some of the older YE's.

A statistical summary: We made 40 flight slots available, divided into 3 start times, and reserved additional "wait list" slots. Registration was 90% full by April 1st!

Total registrations: 53. (Some participants cancelled before the event, opening room for others to register after them)

No-shows: 10 kids didn't cancel or attend. (This was a greater percentage of no-shows than our events last year. This might have been due to an extra eMail the night before with cautions about the possibility of bad weather.)

"How did the YEs learn about the rally?" Facebook-10; School program-8; Word of mouth, friend or family-5; flyer or poster-5; Word of mouth, EAA member-3; Internet search-2; other-5

Participation by gender: Boys 57%, Girls 43%

First flight: 93%

2 took their 2nd flight. 1 YE was on his 5th flight—and seemed on the way to becoming a pilot.

Training: Participants aged 14 or older (able to begin flight training): 8 Cities registered: Brazil, Cayuga, Clay City, Clinton, Indianapolis, Louisville KY, Paris IL, Sullivan, Terre Haute, West Terre Haute. (Indianapolis and Louisville cancelled.)

Now—on to the next two rallies, May 18th and June 8th!



Many..Many thanks to all who gave of their time and talent to make the day possible. I think I got all the planes that flew YE's however I apologize that I didn't get a photo of the ISU instructors and their DA-40. We can't underscore enough the importance of their help, after all we the EAA are in the business of planting seeds. They, ISU, are in the business of producing the crop ... that is in producing the next generation of pilots.

ATIS: Communications:

After the meeting a few of us flew to MTO for lunch. And here's who we were and how we got there except for Rick and Alice's RV-12. As you can see Elliot, Melanie, Mark, Rick, Alice and missing is a photo of Wayne and me.



March Sport Aviation:

If you remember, in last month's newsletter there was mention of a feature in the March SA which mentioned Capt. Don Bussart's participation in the 1949 Bendix Race. Long time friend and pilot Steve Larabee sent this with more details of his life.

RE: P-51C Thunderbird Record-setting Bendix Trophy winner

"The Mosquito, flown by Donald Bussart, made a relatively routine, trouble-free flight and landed at Cleveland in fourth place." Donald was a good friend of mine and those who knew his life history could believe that he would make that statement. Here is the rest of the story as he told it to me.

Don won the Mosquito in a poker game. He decided to enter the race and installed new surplus V-1650-7 engines. They required fabrication of exhaust to fit the Mosquito. Test flights were made to 470 mph. During the race the exhaust failed on one engine (bad weld). Don was concerned that it could set the airplane on fire and shut it down over Nebraska. He continued the race on one engine. Then, while in China, his ex-wife sold his airplanes. The new owner had a brake pressure cylinder explode while parked causing a three-foot diameter hole in the fuselage. It was not economical to repair, and the Mosquito was abandoned.

Donald Bussart was a true soldier of fortune. As a young pilot he left the family farm in Dudley, Illinois to join General Claire Lee Chennault's Flying Tigers. He logged 442 flights across the Himalayan Mountains in C46s and C47s. He liked the C46s over the C47s because a loaded C47 that lost an engine was going down. After the Flying Tigers was shut down, he became a Captain with the Nationalist China Civil Air. When the communist took over China he became a pilot for Air America. When Saigon was about to fall, Donald was one of the pilots who was tasked with flying Americans and other VIPs out.

Just after landing, his transport airplane at the Saigon airport was over run. They were told to get to high ground (top of a hotel), and they would try to get a helicopter to rescue them the next morning. Don heard a helicopter coming down the street at tree top level. It was so shot up that the blades were whistling from the bullet holes and out of fuel. They flew directly out to the bay and landed on the first ship they saw. The Captain of the Fleet Command Ship was not too happy to have heavily armed men with no ID landing on his ship. They were placed in the crew's quarters but moved to the captain's quarters when ID'd.

In 1978 he returned to the family farm with his new wife Kakuko. He put in a grass strip (IS13) and built two hangars for the many airplanes he purchased until his death in 2011. He had many friends who drove or flew to visit him.

I was there when about 20 AT6's stopped for a visit.

Stephen Larabee, EAA 115793
Charleston, IL

Websites on Donald Bussart and his Mosquito

http://eaa83.org/hd/Don_B.pdf

<https://www.aerialvisuals.ca/AirframeDossier.php?Serial=38887>

<https://www.cnac.org/bussart01.htm>

<https://www.stewartandcarrollfuneralhome.com/obituary/1285920>

Eclipse:

I suppose all of you locals got to witness the solar eclipse on April 8th. For those of you who were outside the area of totality here's what it looked like from our yard for about 3 minutes.



NOTAMS:

Terre Haute Airshow:



Those who would like to volunteer to help with the June 1-2nd Airshow will need to fill out a volunteer form and find other information at terrehauteairshow.com.

Those of you who have experienced past Terre Haute Airshows and attended Oshkosh know that the caliber of performers coming are among the airshow industry elite. Every performer is a familiar name at AirVenture and we are so very fortunate to have them come to Terre Haute.

CICADAS!!

On the next couple pages, you will find something a little off the subject but possibly quite relevant. In the most recent publication of our local REA magazine is a feature on the arrival of the Periodical Cicada. I found the article to be very interesting and thought some of you would too especially since we will all be participants.

While there are many thoughts and opinions about the Cicadas this piece from the U of I pretty much tells the story ... the complete story. While some of us will find them quite annoying others, such as the author, finds them quite cool. So, enjoy reading and learning about our summer visitors.

Our Next Chapter Meeting:

11 May at 10:00 IN time. We will meet next at the Sullivan Airport (KSIV). Lunch will be provided.

You may have noticed that this is a change from the previous plan. With the unpredictable weather forecast it was felt that a hard surface runway would be the better option for May.



Looking forward to seeing y'all on the 11th.
Fair sky's
Keith



COMING SOON

TO TREES NEAR YOU

A cicada event two centuries in the making

By Colten Bradford

MEASURING IN AT 1 1/2 inches long, with lacy burnt orange wings and red eyes contrasting their black bodies, periodical cicadas will soon emerge from the ground by the millions across Illinois and the Midwest.

While the idea of millions of giant bugs crawling from the ground may seem like the start of a horror movie for some, Ken Johnson looks forward to this phenomenon.

"I'm kind of an insect person to begin with," Johnson explains. "As a kid, I'd collect insects, and in college, I took an entomology (study of insects) class that rekindled that interest. That made me want to pursue [it] as a career."

He went on to an entomology internship at Walt Disney World Resort in Florida, where he maintained insect colonies and assisted with pest monitoring. Today, Johnson is a horticulture educator with the University of Illinois Extension office based in Jacksonville, where he helps people

better understand fruit and vegetable production, pest management and beneficial insects.

This year marks the first time in 221 years that two broods of periodical cicadas will emerge from the ground simultaneously in Illinois, which will cover the state. While there are cicadas that come out annually, Brood XIII, found in the northern half of the state, emerges every 17 years, and Brood XIX, in the southern half, emerges every 13.

"In Illinois, we've got both those broods coming out at the same time, which hasn't happened since 1803," Johnson explains. "They'll all just have this mass emergence. There's something cool about that."

According to Johnson, once the ground warms up to 64 degrees Fahrenheit at about 8 inches deep, that's when the cicadas will begin to emerge, particularly if it rains around that time, too. This is expected to occur in May and June.



While the two broods are predicted to come out at the same time, they won't necessarily come out in the same place. "They're not expected to overlap to any great extent," Johnson explains. "Maybe some around the Springfield area, but not any significant amount."

The number of cicadas will depend on the area. If there are fewer trees, the fewer the cicadas. "The more trees you have, you'll have more cicadas coming out," Johnson says. "And [there] could be really high quantity areas ... tens of thousands of cicadas, if not hundreds of thousands."

While you shouldn't expect to see swarms of cicadas, you should expect to hear them. "The males will sing to attract females, beginning a couple of days after they emerge," Johnson says. "Depending on the number of cicadas you have, it could get rather loud."

According to the National Institutes of Health, the "singing" could reach more than 90 decibels, which compares to the same noise level as a lawnmower, tractor or motorcycle.

Once they mate, the females will begin laying eggs in woody plants. "If you've got newly planted trees, small trees and shrubs, [cicadas]

can cause significant damage to those plants while laying eggs," Johnson explains. "Large, mature, healthy and established trees are not a concern."

To protect these plants, Johnson recommends covering them with netting. Openings in the netting shouldn't be larger than a 1/4 inch so the cicadas cannot lay their eggs. These nets can be found online and in most garden centers. Johnson says to be sure to secure the netting to the base of the tree so they cannot crawl up the trunk.

If you were planning to plant a new tree this spring, Johnson suggests that you wait. Although it isn't an ideal time, new trees are more likely to survive this year if planted at the end of June or the beginning of July, after all the cicadas are gone.

In addition, Johnson warns against using insecticides. Doing so will run the risk of affecting other insects you're not trying to control, like much-needed pollinators. "Netting is going to be the best way to protect your plants," he says.

Once the cicadas emerge, they will be around for about six weeks, and then they will begin dying off. "When they die, it's not going to be particularly pleasant-smelling," Johnson warns.

While considering the noise, potential plant damage and the ensuing odor of rotting bugs, Johnson hopes people will focus on the positives that these periodical cicadas will also bring.

"They've been in the ground for [years]. When they climb to the surface, they will open holes in the soil, making it easy for rain [to nourish plants]," Johnson says. "While emerged, they're going to be food for a lot of wildlife ... for all kinds of birds and mammals. And when they're dying, they may smell, but those bodies will break down and return nutrients to the soil ... and will promote a new flush of growth the following year."

While Johnson looks forward to the mass emergence of cicadas for the experience itself, he also looks forward to eating them for the first time. Yes, you read that correctly. On his Good Growing podcast with Chris Enroth, a fellow

U of I Extension horticulture educator who also writes columns for the GardenWise section in this magazine, the two plan to release an episode in late May featuring cicada taste testing. Go to go.illinois.edu/goodgrowingpodcast or your preferred podcast platform to access the episode.

Johnson has found cicada cookbooks featuring a variety of recipes. The insects will emerge from the ground in the evening and are best harvested while still milky white (teneral) before their exoskeletons harden. However, he says people should avoid eating cicadas if they have a shellfish allergy, if the insects emerge from an area where pesticides have been used or if heavy metals in the soil are a concern.

If you want to experience the cicada song, Johnson recommends going to areas with large, mature trees, such as parks and forest districts. While you will certainly hear them, you can also catch a glimpse of them flying around the treetops.

"Enjoy it; they're not going to be around long, and it'll be another 13 or 17 years before we see them again," Johnson says. "They're not anything you need to kill or get rid of. Just enjoy them while they last." ♡



