



THE FLYER



www.EAA304.com

December 2009

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Located at the Jackson County Airport, Reynold's Field - KJXN

Sport Aviation Center - 3600 Wildwood Ave. - Jackson, MI 49202



Edited by Jim Buist

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The editor thanks Fay Bolender, Dan Stanton, Steve Wellman, Lynn Matteson, and George Race for their contributions of information to this month's newsletter.

Chapter Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at the Sport Aviation Center unless otherwise published. Everyone is welcome. Bring a friend and we'll do our best to welcome them.

Our next regular, chapter meeting will be our annual Christmas Party on Wednesday, December 16, 2009. See pages 2 & 3 for more details. The January meeting will be back to the 1st Wednesday, January 6, 2010. The Board of Directors typically meet one hour earlier.

Officers:

President:	Earl Scott	(517) 783-3988
Vice Pres:	John Eiler	(517) 474-4878
Treasurer:	Chuck Furgason	(517) 783-1066
Secretary:	George Race	home: (517) 531-4758 cell: (517) 812-7590

Board of Directors:

Steven Wellman	(517) 782-7261
Daniel Stanton	(517) 764-3489
Charles Moore	(517) 787-3364

Appointees:

Tech Counselor: Jay Cavender	(517) 581-0995
Tech Counselor: Joe Phelan	(517) 783-5040
Website & Newsletter Editor: Jim Buist	(517) 930-2265

Got a news item to share? Please call Jim Buist with the information. Or, better yet, send an email to Jim at jimbuist@yahoo.com

Editor's Notes – Jim Buist

This edition of *The Flyer* is being published a bit early since there was no regular or board of director's meetings this month and to be able to send out a quick reminder of the upcoming, annual Christmas Party Potluck (more information below). With the lack of a meeting, and the slightly earlier publication date, there was also a bit less information available for this newsletter.

Along the line of "less information", please share any and all news you have about yourself or others, which your fellow members may be interested in reading. One of the things many members mentioned in last Spring's survey was that they would like to hear/read more about what other members are doing. Obviously, we can't publish such news without getting that communicated to the newsletter editor. Your fellow members really DO want to know what you've been up to, so please, toot your own horn!

Further, with my current location, I have been unable to make regular visits to the chapter and, therefore, need extra help in getting up to date news to share in the newsletter and on the chapter website (www.EAA304.com). ANY stories you can share will greatly help.

For those of you who have contributed to the newsletter and/or website during this past year, thank you very much. Your contributions are appreciated and very worthwhile. In particular, I thank the following people for their contributions this year (in no particular order): Fay Bolender, Dan Stanton, Ken Shuman, George Race, Earl Scott, Steve Matthews, Gary Hess, Chuck Furgason, Tom McInerny, Ray Johnson, Nihl Storey, Randy Coller, Steve Wellman, John Eiler, Lynn Matteson, Matt Williams, and some anonymous nut who wrote the "Stealth Story" (February 2009 issue). If I missed anyone, please accept my apology and appreciation.

I have enjoyed keeping up with the goings on around the chapter via my contacts for the newsletter and the website each month. Originally from Kalamazoo, and living in Kansas City for five years prior to moving to Jackson, I quickly realized how much Jackson had become my home after I joined EAA304 and I met many new friends through the chapter. When I had to move away to NJ, due to my wife's work, it was a difficult move. One more move later, to the Indianapolis area, I am now closer but still just far enough away that I haven't been able to get back to the chapter on a regular basis. On top of that, my daughter just turned 1 year old (December 6) and, as such, she isn't exactly the best traveler quite yet! Thus, it may still be a little while before I can make more regular treks back to Jackson.

Until I see you in person, here is to hoping that everyone has a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Annual Christmas Party

The annual Christmas Party Potluck is just days away, Wednesday, December 16, 2009. Drinks, snacks, and fellowship will start at 6:00 PM with dinner starting around 7:00 PM. Ham and drinks will be provided by the chapter.

For any new members who joined the chapter this year, or those who haven't attended one of the chapter Christmas parties in the past, please join us and take the opportunity

to meet and mingle with your fellow members. It is always a great time!

Fay Bolender informed the editor that as of Tuesday, December 8, she had spoken with several people about what they plan to bring to the Potluck. Five or six people indicated they would be bringing shrimp, thus that food group is well covered and she suggests that other people bring other things. Some suggestions are:

- Salads
- Vegetables
- Casseroles
- Potatoes (Fay suggested no mashed as there will be no gravy, unless you bring it - then again, if they are the super fancy, artery clogging type made with sour cream and cheese, then maybe the gravy would be overkill!)
- Desserts

Pacer Project Progress

George Race tells us that as of December 9, the electrical work from the instrument panel rearward is complete. That work includes the belly strobe, wing strobe pack, ELT wiring, rudder light, antenna, and the wiring up to the wing root for the wing tip lights. An LED light was also added to the baggage compartment and, in George's words, "it's really neat!"

Along with the wiring, the battery box is now finished, installed, and includes the battery. The master switch contactor is also installed and operating. Gary Hess approved a new panel design and that is now being worked on by George. Gary has ordered all radios, instruments, and antennae which will be needed as the project continues.

Along the mechanical line, all cabling for the rudder, wing controls, and elevator have been rigged and tested. Lastly, as of December 9, all of the tail surfaces were removed to prepare to pull the sleeve over the fuselage, which will happen soon after the Christmas Party.

Those working on this project have been making good progress in recent months. Anyone interested in volunteering to work on the Pacer are welcome to join them. No experience is necessary and you'll have plenty of opportunity for "on the job" training! Contact John Eiler or Earl Scott for details on the work schedule.

General Chapter News

For the latest news, please check the chapter website and contribute in any way you can, by adding information to our Latest News page.

- **Membership Renewal:** It is that time of year for chapter membership renewal. Chapter membership and dues run for the calendar year, so dues are due January 1, 2010. For those of you reading this on-line, please print off the last page of the

newsletter and fill out the annual Membership Application/Renewal Form. This year, you will notice a few new questions to answer. Please fill it out as completely as you can. After completing the form, please mail it to, or drop it off at, the chapter hangar along with your dues payment.

- Fay Bolender recently cleaned up the Museum, categorizing the library so that the books are back in their appropriate places. Check it out and take advantage of this fine resource.

Member News

Dan Stanton is making more progress on his current project, a Zenith CH701. Dan said, "The cowl is finally done and I am fitting the cooling ducts for heat and oil cooler, as well as ducting for cylinder head cooling."

Airport News - Steve Wellman

There has been some progress with the airport project, although not visible. The airport has been approved and funded to move forward with property acquisition on both the east and west ends of the airport. That includes properties on Maynard, Argyle/Airport Rd and the Woodville properties. That will be a big step in making way for the construction. In reality, we probably won't see any construction until 2011 at the earliest. As can be expected, funding for projects has slowed at both the state and federal level. The good news is that we are still considered a viable project for completion.

The overall operations continue to be a struggle financially. The crew at the airport does an excellent job maintaining the facilities with a limited budget. From the airport board's position, we hope that snowfall in December is minimal to non-existent. That will help tremendously in the overtime budget.

General Announcements

Dan Stanton and Lynn Matteson passed around an email recently titled "The Whys and Hows of Preheating". Written by Mike Busch and originally appearing in the January 1999 issue of *Cessna Pilots Association Magazine*, the article covers the topic of engine preheating, including the whys, whens, and hows, and also addresses some common misconceptions.

Dan and Lynn both thought it was a worthwhile article for our membership to read, but due to its length and copyright issues, it seemed best to only mention it here and give you an internet link to the article. To read the entire article, go to

<http://www.reiffpreheat.com/Article-Busch.htm>

Safety Item – Jim Buist

Oh the weather outside is frightful.....So goes the song, but when it comes to flying, it sometimes couldn't be more true. Winter is a great time to fly (is there any season when it is bad?), but the cold doesn't change our obligations or requirements for proper preparation, especially regarding your Preflight Inspection. When it is cold, it is very tempting to rush through, be less thorough, and get the engine (and heater) started sooner. But doing so may well cost you more than just a little time.

When preparing to head out to the airport, how about doing an inspection of yourself before you leave home. Are you dressed properly? Can you stay warm enough during your preflight so as not to rush? How about your head, hands, and feet? Are they well covered? Even if the streets, taxiways, and runways are clear of snow, do you have a hat, gloves, and boots on, or at least with you that you can put on, should you end up making an off airport landing? And what about a winter survival kit? Do you have what you would need to stay alive in the airplane while search and rescue is looking for you?

Staying warm and comfortable in cold weather is essential for both an adequate preflight and for surviving the unexpected. Give yourself a gift this season and make sure you dress properly so as to take enough time to ensure the safety of your flight.

Take care and be safe.

Upcoming Events

Do you know of any aviation events that you would recommend to our members? Please pass on any information, including flyers or website addresses (if you have them), to Jim Buist or any officer so we can add these to our on-line calendar and the newsletter.

- Saturday, December 12, 2009, 9:00 AM: FAA Safety Seminar - "How to get good Weather information"; At Jackson Community College, Potter Center, Federer Rooms B/C; For more info, go to http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=28839
- Wednesday, December 16, 2009, 6:00 PM: Annual Christmas Party Potluck
- Wednesday, January 6, 2010, 7:30 PM: Monthly EAA Chapter 304 Meeting

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION/RENEWAL

Jackson Chapter 304, EAA Sport Aviation Center 3600 Wildwood Ave. - Jackson, MI 49202-1811	Secretary/Treasurer use: Member Paid? Yes / No Amount Paid: \$ _____ Paid Date: _____ Recorded Date: _____
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- Mail or bring your completed application to the above address along with the annual dues of \$20. Make checks payable to Jackson Chapter 304, EAA.
- Please print or type all information as clearly as possible. Use the back if necessary.

Date: _____ **Select one:** New Member Renewal Change of Information

Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home phone: (____) _____ - _____ **Cell phone:** (____) _____ - _____

Work phone: (____) _____ - _____

E-mail Address: _____

Birth Date: _____

EAA (National) Member Number: _____ **Expiration Date:** ____/____/____

Newsletter: To reduce resources, members are asked to read the monthly newsletter on our website. If you need to receive the newsletter by US Mail, please check the appropriate box:

Will read on-line Send via US Mail

Roster Directory: May we include your name in the Chapter's directory, which will be made available to our membership at large and on our chapter website? Directory information may include any information you have included on this form.

Yes, include my information. No, I don't want anyone to know who I am.

If you are a pilot, do you currently fly? (circle one) Yes / No

What certificates & ratings do you hold (i.e. Private, SEL, Instrument)? _____

What do you fly now or have you flown in the past? _____

Do you own an aircraft? If yes, what type? _____

N#: _____ | _____

Do you rent aircraft? If yes, what and where? _____

Would you recommend this rental arrangement to others? (circle one) Yes / No

Are you an FAA Certificated Mechanic (A&P)? (circle one) Yes / No

Are you building/rebuilding, or have you built/rebuilt, an aircraft? (circle one) Yes / No

If yes, what type? _____

How far along are you? _____

What else would you like us to know about you? _____

What kinds of activities, projects, or events would you like to see our chapter do? If we did them, would you participate? _____