



EAA CHAPTER 327

TRI-STATE CHAPTER: DUBUQUE, IOWA

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October 2008

Larry Mueller starts another project



My next project aircraft - Larry Mueller

As most of you know, Gene Soucy is an air show pilot—and, his faithful aircraft is a highly modified Ag Cat. I've always liked the looks of his Show Cat, which is what sparked my current project. I've been watching for one of these projects for about four years. The timing and finances (wife willing of course) finally came together August of this year, and I picked one up.



As Soucy's, mine will be drastically changed as well and converted to experimental. I have a 300hp Jacobs engine that will swing a 96" prop. I'll use aluminum as well as some composite construction, oh—and—smoke, gotta have smoke, so I'll have to add

a smoke tank as well as a header tank, since the wing center section tank is only 36 gal.—but anyway; as you look at these pictures, the story begins in Lee's Summit MO where we are getting ready to load up the parts. The next picture is everything loaded and then a shot of the engine covered ready for the trip home. Two pictures following are of it in my garage, (progress so far) and then the last picture is that of the Show Cat of Gene Soucy's.

They are huge (relatively speaking) well built aircraft with EW of 2300 lbs, and a Gross weight of 3750lbs.; I don't think that I'll have a problem with being over gross :-). The business office is large and very comfortable with good visibility. The 36' wing span is 12 feet shorter than the Starduster with the W670 220hp Continental that I just sold, so I expect slower speeds all around. In addition, since I removed the hopper, I will add seating for two (side by side), with controls in the front cockpit.

My goal is to have it in the air by next spring (2009)—but with a Decathlon and a Maule project to sell, my time will have to be dispersed between the three. Time will tell—as it always does.

Larry Mueller
President: EAA Tri-state Chapter 327

November Meeting 7:00 p.m. Thursday November 20 – UD Center

Minutes from Membership Meeting

UD Flight Center, Sept. 18, 2008

Meeting called to order by president Larry Mueller at 7:00 pm with 13 members present.

REPORTS:

Sec. Mike Gaffney read the minutes from August meeting they were approved

with one exception. Bill Fitch offered the fact the Elaine Fitch was authorized to make the decision on the Christmas party location and she has it all set.

Treasurer: Dennis Schares reported a balance of \$8,913, but noted some large bills are starting to come in from the breakfast and one for \$1390 had not been paid yet.

Advertising/Promotion: Harry Styer-nothing to report.

Membership/Retention: Lyle Hefel-nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Larry Mueller spoke of the thank you note he had sent out to NATA helpers and reminded the members of an airport picnic on the 25th with RSVP to Gordy by the 19th of September. Larry also presented his plan of having the boy scouts do the parking for the NATA days in the future. After a discussion centering around the fact that some key members have a conflict with the dates because of Osh, no change from past years was decided.
- BREAKFAST report: Larry Mueller announced that 10 pilots had flown in as part of the Poker Run. Larry reported on the many favorable comments received as to the quality of the food this year. John Einck spoke of the shortage of member workers for the event and noted that we received some welcomed help from the UD and the boy scouts. John recommended we must be sure to return the favor to UD for their breakfast. Larry reported that it had been decided at the O&D meeting to donate \$200 to the CAP as in the past. Bill Fitch motioned and Nick Hirsch 2nd to give \$200 to the UD Flight team for the 2008-09 school year—passed.
- Stacey Murdock reported on the plans for the upcoming Young Eagle event to be held Sept. 20. Times will be from 9:00 to 1:00 depending on the weather. He has contacted parents of youngsters who were not able to make the flights last February because of the heavy turnout. Along with the overflow from the last event and new candidates, the number projected this time is expected to be 57 with 5 or 6 pilots flying. Stacy remarked at how grateful parents were that we had not forgotten them after being disappointed the last time. He said that he also plans on having Boy Scout merit badge training that day and would like some help. He noted that no publicity would be needed this time around and he is looking forward to successful day.
- Larry Mueller passed around a sign-up sheet for skydiving parking volunteers. The dates to be Oct. 3-4-5. Harry Styer and Nick Hirsh will managing the parking operation.

- Bill Fitch did report for Elaine that the Bittersweet restaurant will be the site of the Christmas party this year.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Larry spoke of his plan to send a card to the survivor of the recent UD tragedy and further suggested we make a donation to the planned memorial stone bench fund already planned by the airport for the deceased student from UD. The location of the bench is going to be the 327 observation area. Nancy Mueller motioned and Bill Fitch 2nd to donate \$100 to the memorial—passed.
- Mike Gaffney reported on an idea he has to attract new members. He is currently investigating the possibility of an aircraft or project to be displayed at the Kennedy Mall in January. Other members have offered to bring in some projects and even a complete aircraft with folding wings. Harry Styer noted that the model airplane club had to stop displaying out there when the mall starting charging them. Mike will report his findings at the next meeting.
- Larry Mueller announced that 2009 will be the 40th anniversary of the chapter and is looking for suggestions as to how to celebrate the occasion. Stacy Murdock, as the only surviving charter member, has planned on writing up the story of the chapter's early beginnings for the newsletter.
- Nick Hirsch reported on the passing of Don Palmer's daughter. Nick said that the Sunday night supper group had planned on making a donation to hospice in her name. It was decided that the chapter will make the donation and that hospice will inform Don of our gift to them.
- Members sang a "a happy birthday" for Nancy Mueller.
- John Einck motioned and Nick Hirsch 2nd to adjourn. Meeting ended at 8:14 pm.

Mike Gaffney, Sec.

WINTER CHECKLIST: IS YOUR AIRCRAFT READY?

As cold weather filters in, start [winterizing your aircraft](#). The experts in AOPA's Pilot Information Center recommend packing a winter survival kit with a winter jacket, gloves, and boots to keep in your airplane. Also, remember to use your cowling plugs, and in really cold areas, bring out your cowling blankets. Keep the fuel tanks topped off, switch to a multi-grade or lower viscosity oil (keep a few extra quarts in the baggage compartment), and put new batteries in your flashlights. Remember that cold weather is tough on your battery, so use it sparingly before starting the engine. And, on those cold mornings,



make sure the engine has ample time to warm up before flying. For more information, see the AOPA Air Safety Foundation's [Safety Hot Spot: Winter Preflight](#).

November Meeting – Nov. 20 7:00 p.m. UD Bldg.