



Freeman Flash

NEWSLETTER of the FREEMAN FIELD FLYING ASSOCIATION

Volume XVII, Number IV, April, 2015

Larry Bothe, Editor

Website: www.freemanfield.org

FFFA Website Solved

Our website had not been updated for going on two years because we had no volunteer to do the work. Repeated calls for a volunteer to step forward didn't yield any usable results. The hosting company sent us an invoice for \$120 for another year of service for a site that wasn't really helping anyone. Since we were wasting association money something needed to be done. The choices came down to:

- Take down the website and cancel the hosting service. Save the \$120 per year.
- Pay a qualified person to maintain the site. Larry knew of a person who would do that for about \$150 per year (more if major page changes were required). The \$120 for hosting would continue.
- Do nothing and hope to find a qualified volunteer later.

So I talked to Karen about it. We decided that we would like to keep the site up because, if done properly, it would provide useful information to our members, and to others interested in Freeman Field. We would bring the pay-for-it option to the members at the next meeting.

Then I received an e-mail from a person asking when Airport Awareness Day would be this year. The sender noted that the date on our website was a year or two old. I replied, and apologized for the website

being out of date, explaining that we have no volunteer to keep it up. He immediately replied, saying he does website work for the Seymour Community Schools, and he could help. It turns out that he is an avid aviation aficionado. His kids like it too; I'll be taking them for an airplane ride soon

Wow! Just like that! Problem solved. Please welcome **Shawn Mahoney** to the Freeman Field Flying Association. He attended our April meeting and heard our full tale of woe about the website. He said he would fix it for us, and then teach us how to do revisions ourselves. In order to do that he proposed building a new website on a site called Weebly (www.weebly.com). Initially the cost isFREE, but later it will cost us \$4 per month, or \$48 per year. That's way better than \$120 per year, we can live with that.

We quickly accepted Shawn's kind offer to save our (electronic) butts, and he went to work. In one day he had a new basic site up and running. I went through the old site information and sent a list of revisions to Shawn. He put them up. Then I went through it again and came up with a second list. Shawn hasn't had a chance to do the entire second list yet, but he's working on it. You can view the progress so far at <http://freemanfieldflying.weebly.com>. After the new site is complete and we start paying the \$4 per month we will be able to use our original domain name, freemanfield.org.

April FFA Meeting

Our April meeting was pretty well given over to the discussion about our website. After we settled the website member Steve Morse commented that the movie we showed at the March meeting (Bob Hoover documentary) was very nice, and suggested we do more of that. Steve has some movie ideas in mind.

We also discussed Airport Awareness Day. Now that we have a date we need to decide on a vendor or organization to do the food. We're spread too thin to do it ourselves. We need to get the rest of the committees working as well. Larry will do the airplane rides again. We need to identify who will do what in the other areas (advertising, outside displays/vendors, safety/parking). Karen said she will serve as overall chairperson again.

Airport News

A check with Don Furlow revealed that there is nothing going on at the airport that affects our members. The FAA says it is "unlikely" that reconstruction of taxiway A (out to runway 23) will be funded this year. It's not in that bad a shape so the delay is no big deal. The airport authority approved us having Airport Awareness Day on September 26th.

2015 Fly-In List

An updated version of the Fly-In list was sent to everyone on 4/8/15. Since that time a few more additions/corrections have been received. Another update will likely be sent out at the end of this month or in early May. That will hopefully be the last one.

Museum Archives

David Gray, the leader of the Freeman Field Recovery Team, the group that has been digging for WW-II artifacts for the past 5 years, was here in April to close out their contract with the airport authority. They didn't find anything especially valuable; no whole (or major sub-assemblies of) planes,

and no complete engines. Mostly they found more loose parts, like what a previous group had unearthed in 1997.

Part of the FFRT deal with the authority was that the authority would receive half of whatever the FFRT found. Since, in the big picture, not a lot of things were found, the authority decided to give their half to the museum. That then left the museum to deal with the FFRT to sort out and divide up the dig items. Larry Bothe, with Dan Kiel and Marty Schwab, met with David Gray and Scott Cooper. The division was accomplished over a 2-day period 3/31 and 4/1. Since the museum has a great working relationship with the FFRT this was very easy to accomplish. Parts were sorted at each of 4 storage locations. Vacated locations were cleaned before moving on. The Seymour Dept. of Public Works hauled away what turned out to be trash. The FFRT took their parts in a rented truck. The museum consolidated their dig items in a storage room set aside for that purpose. Everyone was satisfied with the outcome.

Note that closing out the Freeman Field Recovery Team contract with the airport authority by no means signals the end of the relationship between the museum and David Gray. David will continue to provide parts identification services to the museum. He has given the museum several signed and numbered prints of each of 5 of his WW-II aviation paintings for use in money-raising efforts. He is working on a painting depicting the open house held at Freeman Field in 1945, shortly after the end of the war. The museum will have the original of that painting on long-term loan after it is completed.

In other museum activity, we received the cleaned and painted Franklin aircraft engine back from Crane Hill Machine. The addition of new spark plugs and wires makes the engine look like it was just overhauled. It is a wonderful exhibit for the museum.



Thanks to Crane Hill Machine, and owner (and FFA member) Marshall Royalty, for refurbishing the engine.

The museum is hosting an Open House on Saturday, April 25th. See notice on the next page for more details.

Treasurer's Report

For the period: March, 2015

Opening bal, all funds		11,040.57
Opening bal, chkg acct		4,026.52
Income		
Dues	60.00	
Other		
Total Income		60.00
Expenses		
Electric bill	157.06	
Sewer bill	9.14	
Water bill	14.87	
Christmas dinner		
Other		
Total Expenses		181.07
Transfer from MMF		
Transfer to MMF		
Closing bal, chkg acct		3,905.45
Mny Mrkt Fnd, opng bal		7,014.05
Checks written		
X-fer in from chckng		
Interest earned		
End bal, MMF		7,014.05
Net change, all accounts		-121.07
Grand total, all funds		10,919.50

2015 Dues Collection

The snowbirds are back and have been contacted about dues payment. A few have paid, but there is still about a half a dozen of you out there who still owe for 2015. It would be really nice if you would drop the money (\$10) off at Cherry Hill Avn, or send it to me at 1082 Governors Ln, Seymour, IN 47274. Thanks.

Interesting Aviation Links

Planes of Red Flag (war games); nice pics & explanations. From Mike Breuckmann, 3/22/2015. <http://foxtrotalpha.jalopnik.com/these-are-the-amazing-planes-of-this-years-red-flag-aer-1692329388>

How WW-I planes fired through the propeller (without shooting it off the plane!). From Mike Breuckmann, 3/21/2015. <http://www.chonday.com/Videos/propelerfi2>

China Clipper History, from Floyd Hollandbeck, 3/25/2015. This is a video, 20 minutes, different from the China Clipper pictures featured here a couple of years ago. <https://vimeo.com/26086480>

Ford Tri-Motor pictures and write-up for sale, from 2009. I looked on the Internet but couldn't find out what it actually went for at the auction. From Paul Rawnsley, 3/25/2015. <http://www.ipass.net/ginkgo/N9612home.html>

Building a J3 Cub, filmed at the old Piper factory in Lock Haven, PA in 1943. 27 minutes, B&W. Note the old methods, like hand gas welding of the fuselage frame. Note that your editor was through the Lock Haven factory twice back in the 70's when it was in operation, and once since part of it has become a museum. I was also through the current Piper factory in Vero Beach, FL this past February. There is a wee bit of difference. From Rob Stoinoff, 3/25/2015. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q6q1VKsTeKQ>

EAA's B-17, Aluminum Overcast. The best overall detail photos of the B-17. What a fantastic war machine it was for its time!

Just think! We could've purchased our very own B-17 for \$750 just after the war, if we had \$750. Take a look at the captions for information. From Dirk Vallo, 4/19/15. http://home.comcast.net/~szee1a/Al_overcast/Al_overcast.html

The Freeman Army Air
Field Museum
invites you to an
Open House and
Rededication Ceremony
on
Saturday, April 25, 2015,
10:00 AM until 3:00 PM

Speakers and Dedication at 11:00
featuring
Seymour Mayor Craig Luedeman

1035 A Avenue, Seymour,
Indiana
812.522.0613

Tour the Main Building and
Annex
Refreshments Served

Member Accomplishments

In addition to website guru Shawn Mahoney, the FFFA welcomes new member **Lou Savino**. Lou, who hails from Greenwood, IN, mailed in a membership application and dues payment. It will be interesting to learn of Lou's interest in our group since his application indicates that he is not a pilot or aircraft owner. Regardless, if he is

interested in aviation, we are happy to have him as a member.

Larry Bothe's authority to act as an FAA Designated Pilot Examiner has been extended for three more years.

Local Event Calendar at a Glance

Apr 25, Museum Open house, 10-3
Jun 13, BAK Airport Day
Jul 20-26, AirVenture (Oshkosh) 2015
Aug 1-2, ¼-scale R/C model airplane meet
Aug 15; Taildragger Rendezvous, Post Air
Sep 19 Wood, Fabric & Tailwheels, Lee Bottom
Sep 20 Madison free Air Show

Sep 26, Seymour Airport Awareness Day

Airport Authority meets the 3rd Monday of each month at 7:15 PM, terminal building conference room.
Museum Board meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 6 PM, main museum building library room.

FFFA Officers - Contacts

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Join FFFA: Dues are \$10 per year. Send a check, payable to FFFA, to Larry Bothe, 1082 Governors Ln, Seymour, IN 47274-1135. Include e-mail address and phone number.

Freeman Flash issues going back to mid-2006 are now available online. Go to:
<http://www.freemanfield.org/images/data/newsletter.htm> For issues mid-2006 back to 1999, contact the editor.

Sell – Buy

Have something you want to sell or buy? FFFA members get a free ad. Contact the Editor, Larry Bothe, 812-521-7400, or e-mail LBothe@comcast.net to place an ad.

Cliff Robinson Aerobatics

Open cockpit bi-plane rides in 500HP Stearman
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Red Star Pizza Company

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Call 519-2068 to place an order. \$2 delivery fee..
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