

# **EAA Chapter 509 Meeting Minutes**

Thursday,

Aug 13, 2009

Location: Lyle Adleman Sport Aviation Facility

Meeting called to order by President Jim Gundry. 23 people present

## **Introductions and projects updates:**

Members gave a brief report on Oshkosh and their aviation activities.

## **Secretaries Report:**

**Treasurer's report:** \$2833

## **Old Business:**

We will be hosting a Chili feed on September 20, 9:00 till 1:00. Young Eagles will be flown, weather permitting.

## **New business:**

We discussed locking out the hangar electric meter. We always pay at least the minimum, but sometimes much more. By using power from the clubhouse, we could save over \$150 per year. A motion was made to do this, seconded and approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Nancy Kelsey, wife of former member Harold Kelsey has offered us Harold's Delta table saw for chapter use. Harold is now in a memory unit at a facility in Colfax. We need to supply the manpower to move it, and write a letter of thanks, having it signed by as many members as possible. An airplane ride for Harold sometime, weather permitting would also be great.

Perry Kuznar, former chapter president spoke to us on a program to increase membership. He said we can solicit new members, re-invite former members, invite friends to the meetings, but we also need to make our meetings more interesting. We can do this with programs and speakers. We need to schedule our speakers in advance and get the word out on the website. He also suggested we reinstate the "mini topic" program where members give information or a demonstration of how to do something aviation related. Members will be contacted, asking what they would be willing to do.

**Announcements and Events:** We will be hosting a Chili feed on September 20, 9:00 till 1:00. Young Eagles will be flown, weather permitting.

## **Program:**

Owen Ayres spoke on his flying experiences in WWII. He first became interested in flying in 1942 as a senior in high school, when a friend invited him to "skip school" and go see an airplane. They went to St Paul (with his parents and the school principal's permission). While his friend conducted his business, Owen was given a tour

of a B-24. He was impressed and when asked, enlisted in a program where upon graduation, he would be called up. When he turned 18, he got his letter, even though he still had not graduated from high school. He went to Chicago, deciding not to say anything about not yet having completed high school. He graduated basic training still 18 years of age, the youngest to do so at that facility, then went on to advanced training in B-24 bombers. He was sent to England where he met his group commander from Madison. He flew 25 missions successfully.

Owen related many of his experiences during these missions and later missions flying weather patrol. He returned stateside and served as a flight instructor till he was discharged.