



E A A

CHAPTER 127

President Jim Griner



As the sun sets on another flying season....

August

August was a busy month for us. The excitement from Osh was supplemented by the unveiling of Dan's Midget Mustang, *Horsepower*, the EAA B17 tour, and MERFI.

The preparation for the party began with power washing Dick Harmon's hangar. Set up was accomplished a few days before the party which included making and rigging the cover for the unveiling. Dan spent a lot of time in preparing story board that surrounded the covered craft. They were arranged in logical order. Saturday brought in some real bad weather that flooded the hangar, but we cleaned up OK. In the afternoon all hell broke loose as the canopies that we had set up and anchored to a golf cart were simply blown away. People were starting to arrive and

some helped in salvaging one canopy. After the cater arrived another storm did it's ugly thing and flooded the hangar again and then just when thing seemed like they couldn't get worse the power went out. It was very strange, but people that were there for the celebration did not let the adverse conditions hinder a good time. People just took off there shoes and rolled up their pants and had a good time. Eventually the waters subsided and the power came on. After things dried out the band began to play. So we had a hangar party New Orleans style.





The B17 tour was a lot fun and a lot of work. Everyone pitched in to make the crew feel welcome and make sure that they had everything they needed. We supplied lunch every day they were here. Members worked the concession stand, main gate, and performed tour guide duties. I know that I learned a lot from the crew as well as former WWII vets that flew the fortress. Some members got rides including 6 of us that got a ride to Buffalo, the next stop for the tour. We circled the Falls a couple of times. Bill and Dick hosted a group of Boy Scouts who toured the B17 and participated in Young Eagle flights. Based on what we saw in Buffalo I think the 127th did a great job as far as organization and hospitality. Good job.







MERFI was interesting in that Saturday's weather provided 6 airplanes in attendance. In contrast, Sunday's weather provided hundreds of planes! Jim and myself flew into Marion early Sunday morning. We looked at planes and various innovations on some of the experimentals like LED recognition lights. We volunteered to park airplanes from 11:30am until closing. Several 127th members attended. Harry flew his Junior Ace, Bill and Robin Kastenholtz along with Scott Bartko flew the Cozy, Bill Varga flew the Stinson down. The group that made the flyin happen was new to the process but managed to pull off the event with some success. I am sure that they will improve next year.

September, October and November meetings were general discussions of what we have been

doing. At the November meeting, Dick Harmon gave an excellent talk on rigging an airplane. December will be the xmas party on the 10th festivities start a 5:00pm. People are making progress on their projects. Dan is doing taxi testing and getting checked out in a tail dragger. Dick just finished rigging the Swift. Matt Emerson is making countless parts for the wing in his Bearhawk project while Jim VanFossen completed a wing on his Bearhawk project. Joe is filling and sanding the Limo EZ.

