

## I.A.C. Chapter 88 Southeastern Michigan

# NEWSLETTER

November 2009

[www.IAC88.org](http://www.IAC88.org)

### President's Column

We had a marvelous turnout for our Nov 2 play date at Marine City. (We don't want the admin requirements, so we don't call them "practice day" any more.) Wayne, Hugo, Bernard, and Rob were joined by our newest member, Brian Roodvoets, in his shiny Pitts S-1T. They took turns trying out next year's sequences. Brian was happy to get advice & guidance from the others as he prepares for the next season contests. He does most figures very well for just getting used to his airplane; but he does need to work on hammerheads. The weather cooperated nicely; cool with high broken clouds and light winds. Hugo & Wayne got to work on their actual Known sequences as FAI has published next year's Knowns for Unlimited & Advanced. Bernard & Brian weren't so lucky, since IAC is extending the comment period for the known choices for Sportsman & Intermediate. They intend to select the official sequences at their December meeting. The IAC website has a link for submitting your comments.

Plan on coming out to the Box Marker party at Howell airport on November 15. The meeting will be in the blue hanger north of the terminal building where we will construct our new markers & plan for the Christmas Dinner with EAA 384.

See you there,

*Sandy*

### Chapter Meeting Notes, October 18, Howell

IAC MEETING MINUTES  
October 19, 2009

The meeting was called to order by President Sandy Langworthy in the Howell Terminal at 1:15 p.m.

Members present: Wayne Buescher, Mary Gowans, Jon Harris, Shannon Harris, Bernard Kramer, Sandy Langworthy, Guenther Niederbacher and Hugo Ritzenthaler. Guest Brian Roodvolts attended.

The agenda was handed out with no additions or corrections.

**Secretary:** No report, minutes published in the October newsletter.

**Treasurer:** Robb absent.

**Holiday Dinner:** This year, IAC Chapter 88 will join EAA Chapter 384 for a potluck holiday celebration dinner. We will meet on Saturday, December 5 at 5 p.m., dinner starts at 6 p.m. at 2285 Ore Creek at Brighton Airport.

Directions: Take a left on Hacker, right on Hyne, right on Eastpoint (Ravines), right on Ore Creek Lane. Hanger is on the corner of Ore Creek Lane and Airport Lane

**Old Business:**

Sandy found 10' of electrical conduit quite cheaply.

Remember: the November meeting is to make the box markers, Sunday, November 15, at the Harris hanger (former Lynn O'Shaughnessy's Free Spirit). Bring tools.

Chapter URL: Robb not present.

Memorial plaques: Sandy passed around a photo of the plaque. Shannon Harris made a motion to spend \$130 for the two plaques for Dick MacDonald. Motion passed. The plaques will be presented at the Christmas party.

**New Business:**

Next year's events calendar is on hold.

So far, no information on the contest dates. Sandy will check on dates. Possible dates are July 9, 10, and 11, 2010.

FAA Safety Seminar on hold until November meeting. Sandy not present.

Aerobatic plane list: Sandy is planning on doing that.

Wayne Buescher made a motion to adjourn, Bernard seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Gowans, Secretary

## New Members



### **Brian Roodvoets**

I first soloed in July of 1973, but did not earn my private license until February of 1996. College and family took precedence until then. Soon after I started working on my tail-wheel endorsement in a Citabria. That summer I attended the Can-Am challenge in Bay City and got my first up close look at one of my favorite airplanes, shiny red Pitts Specials. Since flying does not agree with my wife's equilibrium, I figured a single hole Pitts would be the ideal plane for me. In 2003 my interests changed and I began road racing a modified Nissan 350Z at road courses throughout the region. That lasted for five years and again I am back flying.

In the summer of 2008 I started Pitts training with Ed Decker followed by a few days out in Scottsdale with Budd Davisson and spin training with Sonny Weller in his S-2C. A year ago I purchased an Aerotech Pitts S-1T from a fellow in Rochester, New York. The Pitts had not flown in a few years and was disassembled for transport. After carefully packing it into a 20 foot enclosed trailer, I brought it home where it was reassembled and test flown by Doug Dodge. The weather turned cold to soon last fall, so it stayed in Bay City for the winter.

This spring I began taxiing the Pitts to get used to its ground handling. I also wanted to get a few more hours of dual before my first flight in the T. It was surprisingly difficult to find anyone local able to help. I finally wound up going down to Kokomo and flying with Mike Wild in his S-2B. The day after I got back, I flew the Pitts. Wow what a rush! Landings are definitely different in the single seater. When I finally got the plane down the first time I thought I had made a bad decision. Well, after Doug offered to purchase the Pitts for a ridiculously low amount and Wilbur telling me to get my butt back in there and go around again I made some much better landings. I turned down the purchase offer and have been having loads of fun flying every which way since.

I look forward to participating in some competitions, working on the IAC achievement awards and having a ball just flying a Pitts.

*Brian*

## From the Editor

You may have noticed that we have cheated with our October Newsletter. It was meant to be the September edition, but we got so late that we just renamed it 'October'. I promise I will not make a habit out of that.

So here is the November Newsletter, and after a long time we have the pleasure to introduce a new member. Even better than that, he comes with a beautiful little S1T and wants to take it to the contests. Good luck Brian and many happy flights!

Hugo has put together a little article about an obviously helpful thing. I am glad he explains in detail how it works. I cannot help but telling you when I first saw that suction cup I sure thought it would go in the other side up.

Here are some pictures Sandy took at the last practice day in Marine City:





## Do you have one of those gadgets?

Many years ago, having attended a contest in the far land of Illinois, I complained to Wayne Buescher about getting my face and neck burned while flying to and from the contest. Having fair skin, it does not take very long to look like a lobster (at least around my neck) when sitting in that cockpit with the sun beating down on you. I hate putting sun screen on my face/neck, as it feels sticky and, furthermore, has the

tendency to end up in my eyes. Of course I could have always gone inverted and solved the matter altogether (is there a world record for flying farthest inverted?).

Wayne came to my rescue, telling me about his little device he had come up with some time in the past. He said, cut a round piece of stiff white cardboard, cut a small hole in the center, go to the hardware or grocery store and buy one of those suction cups for a couple cents, and attach it to the cardboard. Then, when you are up there, stick it to the underside of the canopy to shield your head from the sun. After a the sun catches up with you, just loosen the suction cup and place it where it provides shade. What a great idea!

Mine is 10 inch in diameter, a little larger so I don't have to move it every 10 minutes. Flying cross-country, as have I have plenty of times, this little and inexpensive gadget made the trips pleasant and eliminated at the office the daylong explanations looking like a raccoon. My appreciation to Wayne Buescher for sharing his inexpensive design with me.

If you don't have one of those, it will give you something to do this winter. I can assure you, you will enjoy it when you go on those hour-long trips next year.

P.S. I have no idea what to recommend for Robb Butts open cockpit Pitts (would a tiny sun umbrella do?)

*Hugo Ritzenthaler*

## Chapter 88 CONTACTS

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## Chapter 88 Calendar

*For back issues of the newsletter, and other chapter information please go to the chapter web site.*

*Note: All chapter meetings are held on the **third Sunday** of each month at **1:00pm** at the **Howell Terminal Building** Howell MI, unless stated otherwise.*

November 15	Chapter Meeting	Howell, MI (KOZW)
Dec. 5, 2009	Holiday Dinner	Brighton Airport (See Above)
December 20	Chapter Meeting (tentative)	Howell, MI (KOZW)



**I.A.C. Chapter 88 Southeastern Michigan**  
**MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION / Renewal FORM 2009**

Annual Dues are **\$20.00**. If joining after July 1, the dues are **\$10.00** for the remainder of the year.  
Send to: Robb Butts, Treasurer 1702 Sycamore Ct., Saline, MI 48176.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ SPOUSE: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: ( ) -- \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
EAA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
I.A.C. MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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