

## The year that was, 2007

### Notice, Notice, Notice!

This months meeting will be held at, [Tiny Tots, 2459 Yankee St. Niles MI](#), two blocks west of the M-60 Bypass, on Monday, Jan. 14, 7:30PM. Jerry and Jerrid Berdue have set up their Bordon Fighter workshop there. Guest speaker will be, Aaron J. Bradford Algonquian District Executive Boy Scouts of America, LaSalle Council, to talk about the Air Explorer program. Jerry and Jerrid will show us their progress on the projects.

**Last Month**, there was no business meeting because of the Christmas Party. It looked as if everyone had a good meal and time, especially Barney O'Hare, our own B-24 pilot.

We have, I think, made a giant leap in the past year. Our treasury has grown substantially, thanks to two successful fly-in breakfasts, hangar rent and some donations. We have added new members, including some young people and have hopes of adding more. Thanks to our President, we have new aircraft projects started by him and several members. We've had more meetings with food and refreshments than any year before. We had a very interesting speaker at the Nov. meeting and plan to have more next year. We have on the drawing board, a new and improved layout for the hangar. Including a larger meeting room and enclosed heated workshop. And we elected officers that want to continue these successes.

### The Prez Sez

By  
Bob Baird



Surprise! Surprise! Winter is here. It comes every year usually just once a year. You can almost set your watch by its arrival. But every year winter, as predictable as it is, it seems to have an element of surprise. For example repair shops are packed with cars that weren't prepared for winter by their owners. Evidently winter took the car owners by surprise. The ditches along the side of the bypass are littered with cars whose drivers were surprised by slippery roads. Probably most of those drivers had learned to slow down last year but forgot. Now, this year, they are surprised that ice is slippery. For local body shops the first snow storm is like Christmas come early. When I owned a body shop in Niles the first big snow storm was like the Big Bang Theory coming true. While writing up damage estimates I'd hear, "Well, I just stepped on the brakes"

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Barney and Bob at the Chapter Christmas Party.**

**Happy New Year to all of our newsletter readers! May 2008 bring blue skies, light winds and the joy of flight to all.**



### Contents

- 1 Meetings, 2007, Prez Sez
- 2 Prez Sez cont.
- 3 Aviation Wisdom, V-1 Rocket
- 4 Calendar, Disclaimer and Contact Info.

**Dues Are Due, \$20 per member or family!  
Bring to the meeting or mail to:**

**Dale Neddeau, 69744 Sherman St., Edwardsburg MI  
49112**

*(Continued from page 1)*

and like wow! The tires locked up, it seemed like the car speeded up and like man I was all over the place! Then a tree and two mail boxes jumped out in front of me. Dude!” And so, many fine citizens of our community are reeducated with the concept that winter is cold, 75 MPH on black ice isn’t a good idea, winter driving is to be done with extra caution, leave early, drive slow, that blowing snow reduces visibility and slippery black ice forms on bridges first. Winter still and always will have its tricks and treachery mugs.

One bad thing about winter, one terrible repeating treachery, is that it seems to freeze out our creative activity. Our projects seem paralyzed by winter cold. That’s not a good way to start the year mugs. So winter is bad for airplane builders. Winter is a time when craftsmen turn into tube turnips and couch potatoes. Well, men and ladies of the 865, let’s not let winter weather ruin any of our plans. Instead mugs, lets plan and use the adverse weather to our advantage. So what’s the plan? Thank you for asking.

Here’s rule one concerning winter weather and productivity. There’s no such thing as cold weather. There’s just inappropriate clothing. That’s why I bought a pair of -80 below zero boots for the hangar. Your feet can turn into cement blocks in that hangar in minutes. Yikes! You can’t and won’t work with frozen feet.

Rule two. Don’t give into laziness. We have plenty to do. Just because we can’t fix the roof on the hangar in January or February doesn’t mean we can’t do anything. Just because we are slowed down and a bit uncomfortable doesn’t mean

we have to stop work altogether. We have plenty of airplane construction and related things to do at home. Study flying and improve techniques or ratings by reading or watching videos. My plan is to be a CFI/CFII by end of March involves a lot of nice hot coffee and enjoyable reading. If you got a project going make small parts in the kitchen or basement of your home. Work in a place that you already heat. Study your airplane plans, set some goals, dream and go to our 865 meetings. If the weather gets on the moderate side we need to install a new hangar entrance door and a small gable over the door to keep moisture off it. We need a new lock set installed on the door that will give all members access to the hangar for site seeing trips. We need to design a new high quality work space within our hangar so that next year we will have a great place to work. Although we can’t glue pieces together now in the cold air we can lay out the new jigs we need for the Boredom Fighters and for the MiniMax. We can work on the time consuming metal fittings. We can prepare pieces for assembly. All kinds of stuff can be done in cold weather with the right clothing and the right attitude.

Furthermore winter offers the special opportunity to start the year right. And things are starting right mugs. Within a 5 or 6 weeks we should be well into the assembly of the first Boredom Fighter wings. That’s exciting! We will be beginning to build the first Boredom Fighter fuselages in February. The wood is ordered for the vertical stabilizer and rudder. To my way of thinking this is a nice project to help decorate my dining

room table. Its not doing much anyway. We have a snack bar at home. A little nice clean cardboard and that table can be a work bench for a few weeks aye. I’m going to be working with my wife on the stabilizer. Connie and I are going to have some fun with that. The wood for it should be here any day now.

Meanwhile, Jerrid and Jerry are building ribs for Boredom Fighter #5! They’ve got the construction table ready in a heated workshop. Boredom Fighter wing ribs for #1,2,3 & 4 are all done! To begin the process we will be milling the spars this month. This month we are going to run an interesting strength of spar materials test. Show you all about it at the next meeting. You wouldn’t want to miss that!

So if it sounds to you like something in the 865 is happening, cha ching, you’re right. That’s not all. We will be having a representative of the Air Scouts at the next meeting. These young guys may become closely associated with us and use our building for a meeting place. From them we may get a little extra help with our projects and some new volunteers for our pancake breakfasts. I also hope for the 865 to have a shopping mall show in February or early March. I haven’t talked to the mall executives yet but we will have some stuff to show off. Why not have a little fun with it. A demonstration at the mall may recruit some new members. Lets stir the pot?

Be sure to come to the next meeting and get connected to the 865 mugs! Don’t waste the great winter weather. Let’s start the year in gear! Aye?

**Bob**

## WISDOM - FROM THE MILITARY MANUAL

"It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed."

U.S. Air Force Manual

"Tracers work both ways."

U.S. Army Ordnance

"Five second fuses only last three seconds."

Infantry Journal

"If you see a bomb technician running, follow him."

USAF Ammo Troop

"Though I Fly Through the Valley of Death, I Shall Fear No Evil. For I am at 80,000 Feet and Climbing."

At the entrance to the old SR-71 operating base Kadena, Japan

"You've never been lost until you've been lost at Mach 3."

Paul F. Crickmore (test pilot)

"The only time you have too much fuel is when you're on fire."

"If the wings are traveling faster than the fuselage, it's probably a helicopter -- and therefore, unsafe."

"When one engine fails on a twin-engine airplane you always have enough power left to get you to the scene of the crash."

"Without ammunition, the USAF would be just another expensive flying club."

"What is the similarity between air traffic controllers and pilots? If a pilot screws up, the pilot dies; If ATC screws up, ... The pilot dies."

"Never trade luck for skill."

The three most common expressions (or famous last words) in aviation are: "Why is it doing that?", "Where are we?" And "Oh S...!"

"Airspeed, altitude and brains. Two are always needed to successfully complete the flight"

"Mankind has a perfect record in aviation; we never left one up

there!"

"Flying the airplane is more important than radioing your plight to a person on the ground incapable of understanding or doing anything about it."

"The Piper Cub is the safest airplane in the world; it can just barely kill you."

Attributed to Max Stanley (Northrop test pilot)

"There is no reason to fly through a thunderstorm in peacetime."

Sign over squadron ops desk at Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, 1970

"If something hasn't broken on your helicopter, it's about to."

"You know that your landing gear is up and locked when it takes full power to taxi to the terminal."

As the test pilot climbs out of the experimental aircraft, having torn off the wings and tail in the crash

landing, the crash truck arrives, the rescuer sees a bloodied pilot and asks "What happened?". The pilot's reply: "I don't know, I just got here myself!"

Attributed to Ray Crandell

## V - 1 r o c k e t By Wayne Stiles

As some of you know for my work I travel all over Indiana doing legal research in the county courthouses. I visit each one on a quarterly basis. Many of the older courthouses are still on the old courthouse squares and most of them have various veterans and war memorials as well. Several of them have planes of various sorts; most seem to be Korean era Sabrejets. I guess I've gotten sort of used to them and don't pay a lot of attention. However one town has a very, very

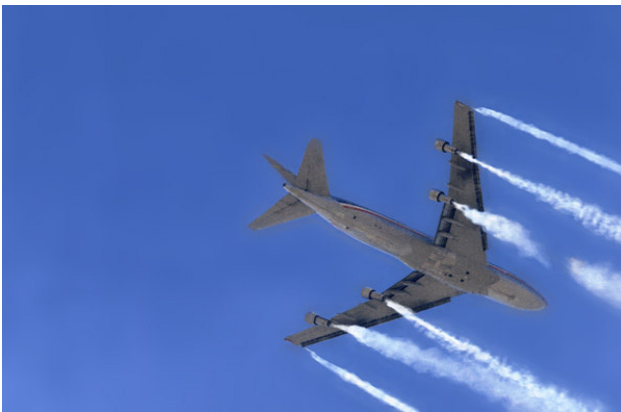
r a a r e b i r d .

Early this spring I got stranded in Greencastle, (half an hour or so west on Indy on old US 40 or I-70) by a blizzard. Killing time in the motel I noticed their literature rack had a picture of the war memorial " p l a n e " d o w n t o w n . I had seen it in sort of a peripheral way and assumed it was one of those old cold-war period Honest-John type rockets. Boy was I wrong. It was one of the two surviving examples of a German V-1 rocket. According to the brochure, which I have subsequently misplaced. A local Greencastle air force guy was attached to the Aberdeen military ordinance depot where they housed and tested many captured foreign weapons. While he was there they were dumping and destroying many of the older items that had been thoroughly evaluated and were no longer needed. Somehow or other he managed to latch onto the V-1 for use as a local WW II memorial before it was shipped of the meltdown yard. There is only one other known actual V-1 in the US; I assume it is either at the Dayton Museum or maybe the Smithsonian.

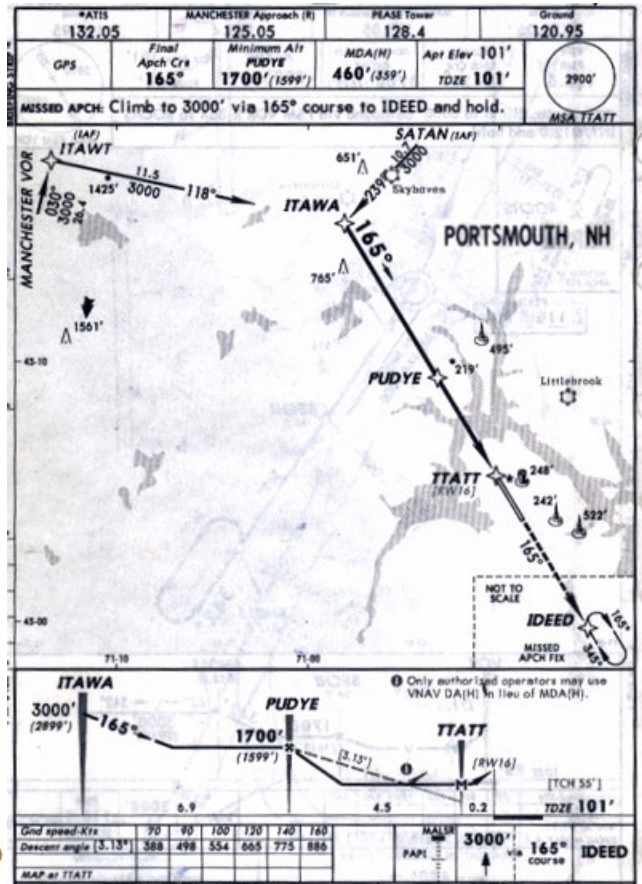
I am attaching a couple snapshots of this very unusual and rare h i s t o r i c a i r c r a f t .

If you are ever down in that area it is well worth taking a little side trip to see it.





I can't figure out why the plate at right is funny ... can you?



At Heathrow Airport today, an individual, later discovered to be a public school teacher, was arrested trying to board a flight while in possession of a compass, a protractor, and a graphical calculator. Authorities believe he is a member of the notorious Al-Gebra movement.

### Calendar of Events

Jan. 14—Chapter Meeting, 7:30, 2459 Yankee St.  
 Feb. 11—Chapter Meeting  
 FOR DETAILS ON ABOVE EVENTS CALL  
 RALPH @ 269-684-0972

### The LOOOOOOOONG Christmas Table



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**PRES.:** Bob Baird (269-684-7209)  
**VICE-PRES.:** Jerrid Burdue (269-683-7479)  
**TRES.:** Dale Neddeau ( 574-361-2699)  
**SEC./NEWSLETTER:** Ralph Ballard (below)  
 Submit Articles to: P.O. Box 444, Niles MI 49120  
 269-684-0972 - E-Mail: raphyboi02@sbcglobal.com  
 Hangar Maint.: Jim VanHulle (574-271-8533)