

Sporty



Aviator

Aviation News in the Florida Keys

Middle Keys Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1241

January, 2009

A Word From the President

At the December meeting I saw many new faces and think it is only polite to introduce myself to members I have not yet met. My name is Dan Mahoney and my wife is Claudette. I have been a member and lived in the area for about 9 years. I've been flying most of my life, 35 years as a CFI and 26 years as an airline pilot. I have been on medical leave from US Airways for over 5 years and there is hope I can return in the next year or so. In the meantime, I have maintained a 3d class medical and have administered flight and proficiency reviews to several members. Additionally, I work as a Simulator Instructor for Airbus, North America in Miami. I have served on our Chapter 1241 board and as President in previous years.

It will be impossible to keep this letter short. First, I need to thank Jerry and Elsie Metcalf for the incredible job they have done during Jerry's time as President. In addition to running the chapter, they made our two annual Aviation Days such a success. Because of Jerry's perseverance we now have a home in the hanger attached to Marathon GA Center. Jerry has made, on our behalf, presentations to the County Commissioners, the Mosquito Control Board, Florida Keys Community College and was the lead in many meetings with the Director of Airports and the Marathon Airport Manager. There will be no way to equal his accomplishments. Thanks Jerry and Elsie for such an accomplished term.

We have to thank the other board members for their excellent and dedicated service. I want to thank Avery Loucks who has since moved from the area, but finished my last term as President for me and has always been a great contributor of time and energy to our chapter. Frank Derfler has been the "Web and Newsletter" guy and has done a terrific job and has carried us into the 21st century. Jim Janda has passed the baton of Membership Chairman to Paul Array and has done a great job for us and Pat Janda has been our secretary for as long as I can remember and filled in Larry Totten, our treasurer, when needed. Larry Totten is the fine gentleman who brought me to a meeting about 9 years ago and the rest is history. He has been a dedicated member serving as Treasurer all this time and we miss him at the meetings. Larry and his wife Barbara have had some health issues that set them back and we all wish them the very best. Larry, hope to see you in January. Lou Vedros has been a great board member and is taking over the Secretary job, Bob Bentley has served us with loyalty, friendship and always there contributing manual labor when needed. Earl Probal has also been there for us and has made his airplane available to us when needed at no cost. Finally, there is Ed Waldorf, one of the cofounders of our chapter. Ed is really the authority and heart of our chapter. From the coffee clutch to the very successful Young Eagles Program, Ed is at the heart of all we do. Ed is now our VP and, importantly, the hanger Czar.

I am sure we will continue our growth and prosperity. New board members Doug Gifford and Paul Array bring new energy to the chapter. Paul is our new membership chairman and has taken on the improvements we have already seen to the hanger. Our goals are to improve the hanger facilities, continue our scholarship program, acquire a simulator for member use, support home built projects, continue our Young Eagles Program, host FAA Safety Seminars, support our airport authorities, promote aviation interest in our schools and community and to help each other to be safe pilots always.

We would not be in our new hanger without Bill Ehrhorn, the operator of Marathon Jet Center and Marathon GA. Bill's heart is in GA and through his support, we now have a hanger and a home.

Thanks for your caring and participation in our chapter. — Dan Mahoney

Officers and Directors of the Middle Keys Experimental Aircraft Association Inc.

President: Dan Mahoney dm2953@aol.com Vice President: Ed Waldorf eaarcher@aol.com

Secretary: Lou Vedros

Treasurer: Larry Totten 305 743 2916

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If you receive this newsletter through the US Mail, our annual newsletter costs for you actually exceed your dues! Something has to give. Please give us an email address for the newsletter (don't forget to include your name!) or be prepared to pay the difference. Please notify me of old and new email addresses when you change. Contact me at Fderfler@gmail.com

EVENTS

- **Monthly meeting: Saturday January 3 at the NEW hangar.**
- **Sport Aviation Expo at Sebring Florida Jan 22—25**
- **Monthly meeting Saturday February 7**
- **Monthly meeting Saturday March 7**
- **Sun N' Fun April 21—26 at Lakeland**



We held our December meeting in the new hangar. Even with one airplane under construction, we had lots of room. This is a great facility. Plans are to do preventative maintenance (the hangar needs corrosion control) and to expand classroom space. It is so great to have a home for our Chapter!

The hangar will be home to a workshop, a museum, classroom space, and a simulator. As Paul Array explains in a following letter, we need volunteers and we need money. First, pay your ridiculously low annual dues! Second, kick in some more. You, the other members, and the community get a direct benefit.



See the Aviation Day 2008 Movie at WWW.EAAMARATHON.COM

Season's Greetings EAA Chapter 1241 Members

Thanksgiving has past and Christmas is near, 2008 is about to close. Here at our EAA Chapter 1241 we have a lot to be thankful for. We now have a meeting room facility for our "get together's" and a hanger where our members can work on their aircraft, as well as a great new home for our museum. We can even build a chapter airplane if so desired.

I have been voted in as Member Coordinator and with that task comes the mission of asking for dues for the coming year. The board was contemplating doubling our dues for the purpose of raising money to complete our facility. Instead, dues will stay at the customary \$25 and I would ask everyone to contribute what they can afford.

Let me explain what the chapter would like to accomplish. Our hanger facility needs a classroom/ meeting room and it will cost approximately \$3500 in material to complete the task. We already have the labor donated. In addition we would like to purchase a simulator so our members can keep current without having to waste fuel and aircraft time. That simulator will be in the \$4,000 to \$5,000 dollar range.

Since the chapter is asking you for additional money you will be pleased to know that we will be saving you money! If you are a paid member of our chapter and have the N-number of your private aircraft listed with us, you can purchase aviation fuel from the FBO in Marathon Florida at a greatly discounted rate. (.20 cents over cost!) The FBO will be given a list of our paid members each month and will ask for identification when you receive your fuel. If you are a member in good standing you will receive the discount. (example: fuel this week was \$3.96 at the Self Serve pump, your price \$2.74) I think you'll agree that is a tremendous benefit!

To summarize, we need your help. Please pay your \$25 dues as soon as possible and if you can drop in an additional donation it would be appreciated. Our funds are depleted from all the remodeling. We do not often ask for extra money, but this time we need everyone's help. This newsletter has the EAA chapter membership form. Please fill it out completely so we have your correct address, phone number, email address, N-number and appropriate information. Please drop the completed form in the mail with your dues and contribution.

Thank you, have a safe and happy holiday. Paul Array, Member Coordinator

Middle Keys Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 1241

MEMBERSHIP/ RENEWAL FORM

DUES 2009

EMAILED NEWSLETTER \$25.00_____ MAILED NEWSLETTER \$30.00_____

ADD A TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION \$_____

NAME_____

MAILING ADDRESS_____

CITY_____STATE_____

ZIP_____PHONE_____

E- MAIL_____ (must have for \$25 dues rate)

N-NUMBER OF PRIVATE AIRCRAFT FOR FUEL DISCOUNT_____

EAA NATIONAL MEMBER #_____ DATE_____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO AND SEND TO :

MKEAA 1241, BOX 3167, MARATHON SHORES, FLORIDA 33052

CONTACT: PAUL ARRAY, membership chairman: paularray@aol.com or 305 745 8958

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