



IAC Chapter 15

Monthly Newsletter

MARCH 19, 2012

VOLUME 7, NUMBERS 1, 2 AND 3

Calendar of Events

*Chapter Meeting
March 19, 2012*

*Hangar 10
Charles B. Wheeler
Airport, Downtown
Kansas City, MO*



There are no meeting minutes, as I lost whatever Dave Maine might have sent me from a computer glitch, so many apologies. The December meeting was a wonderful dinner to celebrate the holiday season and to just enjoy one another's company. January was a fun get-together for dinner at Granite City in Olathe, KS. February saw the entrance of a new future pilot into the world- many congratulations to Grant and Michele Wittenborn on the birth of Luke!!

From Scotty McGinnis

Low & Loaded
Ol Cranky

One year, after arriving at my new job flying the rice, I had elected to work for a different company, one that would give me a chance to fly a different type of Ag-plane. Like almost all places, I was supposed to get acquainted with all the fellow workers, and get along well with them, even though it can be difficult at times, as was the case this particular year. It seems an old pilot, cranky as hell, was to be my assigned partner. When fertilizer is being applied one pilot and plane will be taking-on a load, before blasting down the runway, while the other pilot will be just coming up out of the field. We usually pass each other half way between the runway and the field being treated. It's imperative that both pilots are of reasonably similar ability, otherwise, one will be waiting while the poky one will be slowing him down. Old Cranky wasn't particularly thrilled with being assigned a new guy to work with, and would only grunt whenever I had a question. I had been off for the winter, so my flying skills were going to require a day to get back in the 'groove'. The plane was a different one, and would take a few loads to figure out where everything was in the cockpit, as well as reading the flow of material dropping down the glass window before me. Flying the plane didn't need any changes in my skill level, but I was having a miserable time trying to see through the broken glass of the hopper window, all the while old Cranky was pushing me as hard as he could on the very first load on the very first day. To make matters worse, the flaggers were beautiful college girls, and they seemed as cold toward me as a famer would when you tipped your helmet to his daughter.

At the end of day one, I finally had everything figured out and was looking forward to day two, when old Cranky asked me if I thought I could keep-up with him on the morrow. It was the wrong thing to say to stubborn me. He was beside himself trying desperately to keep-up with me for the next few days before I finally let him (off the hook). I did so because one of the pretty flagging girls mentioned how stuck-up and hard it was to get along with old Cranky, so I said to her, "I don't think he's that way at all, and I'll bet you I can make him roar with laughter by just telling him one little

joke”. She said, “There’s no way you can do that.” I told her I’d bet with her. If I made him laugh then she would have to dance with me, and if I could not make him laugh, I’d have to give her a “C” note. For you youngsters, a “C” note is one hundred bucks. I said you have a deal.

Four pretty girls were carefully watching my approach to old Cranky when I came up to him, putting my hand on his shoulder, speaking in a loud voice said, (since he was a Stearman pilot from the old days, thus hard of hearing) “Bob, three Stearman pilots were driving down the road in their pickup truck when the driver said ‘is today Wednesday?’ and the guy sitting in the middle says, ‘By God it IS kind of windy’, and the guy riding shotgun says, ‘Yes, I’m thirsty too, lets stop and get a beer’”. Cranky fell out of the chair doubled over with laughter, and we had a fun season flying together. Kathy was a great dancer! SM

Anyone remember this airplane? Answer as to it’s location in this picture will be in the next newsletter!



My apologies for such a long hiatus between newsletters. IAC Chapter 15 action has been understandably slow due to the winter months of traditional inactivity. If you have ANY newsworthy or un-newsworthy news, please submit to Nan Funkhouser at klartrak@earthlink.net.

Respectfully submitted,
Nan Funkhouser