



The Leader In Recreational Aviation



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# LEADING EDGE

Vol. 2, No. 10, December, 2006



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## **Mission**

## **Statement**

**Promote,  
educate,  
encourage  
and facilitate  
an environment  
that fosters  
safety and  
high standards  
in the design,  
construction,  
restoration and  
operation of all  
types of recreational  
aircraft  
as well as nurture  
camaraderie  
and friendship  
amongst all  
members!**

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**



*Steve Langdon*

### **Winter Fun**

Just because you have cut back on your flying a little for the winter doesn't mean we can't have some fun during the cold months. The chapter is planning some fun for all to enjoy.

In December remember we will be having a holiday pot luck dinner instead of the regular meeting. Frank Herdzina has agreed to host the Holiday Dinner at his north hangar. The dinner will be held on the normal meeting Tuesday, the second of the month, at the regular time, 7:00 pm.

In January, the 20<sup>th</sup> to be specific, we can all look forward to the USO dance in Ken Kresmery's hangars. This is going to be a lot of fun. We are going to have big band music, dinner will be served, (c-rations and s.o.s.). There will be door prizes and a look-a-like contest. There will be adult beverages at 1941 prices. If you have a uniform of any kind wear it and you will receive two free door prize tickets. If you haven't purchased your tickets see or call any chapter officer. We all would be glad to sell you as many as you need.

We are hoping to have a ski plane fly-in sometime this winter. Lee Hilbert is making plans such that, given good snow conditions we can spread the word on fairly short notice and have a gathering of as many snow birds as possible. If you are ski capable let Lee know so he can get you on the list.

The winter is also a time of planning and setting the calendar for the coming flying season. One of our big events for the coming season will be a fly-in for World War Two Liaison aircraft. We are holding regular meetings planning this event. If you are interested in volunteering to help with the fly-in let me know. We need help both now and during the event itself.

The L-bird fly-in will have it's own web site "**L-Birdroost.com**". Currently it doesn't have any information on it but will shortly. We will have the fly in June 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, and 10<sup>th</sup>. The current plan is to have early arrivals start to arrive on the eighth, with activities on the ninth and a public welcome event on the tenth with WWII vehicles in addition to the L-Birds.

Last but not least — Look forward to the monthly meetings as a place to hangar talk and listen to interesting talks by interesting people. I would like to thank Randy Ferris for his time and effort at our last meeting. Randy gave a very interesting talk on his trip to the Solomon Islands to look for WWII vintage aircraft to salvage. We can look forward to Randy's talk on the recovery of a P-47. I listened to this at Chapter 790. It is well worth attending. Coming soon to a meeting near you. January's meeting will be a presentation by Dave Mitok of the PGA engine shop. Dave will be talking to us about aircraft engines from a pilots perspective. All those things we should know but don't.

**Fly Safe! Keep the greasy side down and the power on.**

NOTE: EAA Chapter 1414 does not project or accept any responsibility for the participation by any newsletter reader or Chapter member at any fly-ins, functions, forums or events that may be publicized in this newsletter. All material herein of a technical nature is for reference only and is not necessarily recommended or approved by the editor of this publication or any official of Chapter 1414. This publication is produced only as a medium of communication amongst members and friends of Chapter 1414.



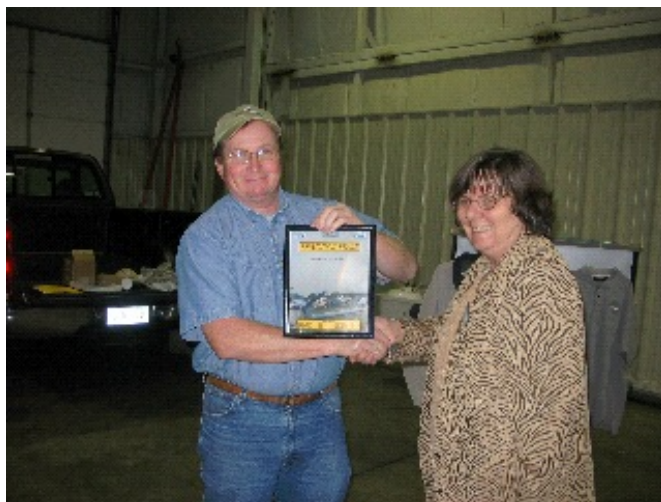
# November Meeting



Steve Langdon and Tom Murray announced plans for an L-Bird fly-in to take place in June. EAA Chapter 1414 will help promote this. For more information contact Steve or Lee Hilbert.



Our featured speaker for November was Randy Ferris. His presentation was a big hit with the members. **Story and photos on page four.**



Scott Ross received the first Photo of The Month presentation from the newsletter editor. His photo was featured in the August issue. It was taken while Scott was attending AirVenture at Oshkosh. Send your photos to be the next photo of the month.

## L-Bird Fly-In

The L-Birds are coming to roost 8 thru 10 June 2007 at the Poplar Grove [Vintage Wings and Wheels Museum](#). The Museum is located on the North side of the [Poplar Grove Airport](#).

We will have everything from tanks to jeeps, re-enactors as well as the L-Birds of World War 2, the Korean and Viet Nam conflicts.

A three day gathering of liaison aircraft and military hardware with historically significant guest speakers as well as fly-outs and a flying contest are planned. Visit [www.L-birdroost.com](http://www.L-birdroost.com) to check it out.

## Events Calendar - 2006

- December 12** Chapter 1414 Board of Director's Meeting, Frank Herdxina's Hangar, 5:45PM  
All Member are welcome.
- December 12** Chapter 1414 Monthly Meeting Time will be our **Annual Christmas Party** at Frank Herdzina's Hangar, 7PM, Bring a dish to pass.
- January 20** USO Holiday Dance, Ken Kresmery's Hangar, 7PM
- January 9** Chapter 1414 Board of Director's Meeting, Poplar Grove AP Maintenance Hangar, 5:45PM  
All Members are welcome.
- January 9** Chapter 1414 Monthly Meeting, Poplar Grove AP Maintenance Hangar, 7-9PM
- June 8-10** L-Bird (Liaison WWII Aircraft) Fly-in. For information contact Steve Langdon or Lee Hilbert.

## November Speaker

In the late 1990's Randy Ferris decided to go to the Solomon Islands. Randy has an interest in WWII aircraft and wanted to see for himself all those abandoned in that remote South Pacific destination. At the November meeting, Randy shared his adventures with the members of Chapter 1414.

Randy was joined by a friend from Australia who helped him with travel arrangements. It seems that you can't get there from here. Their tickets to the Solomon Islands had to be purchased in New Zealand.

Randy told us adventurous tales of exploring jungles and living on a diet consisting mostly of coconuts and cola.



In this photo he shows us one kind of local "restaurant", where he had his first meal after reaching the islands. Here some women were cooking chicken on an open fire by the roadside.

Randy and his friend found the remains of aircraft and other WWII equipment all around the countryside. They traveled to

neighboring islands in small boats and explored back roads in old taxis.



This is a photo of a Japanese bomber that had been abandoned in the jungle.

Every one in attendance thought that the presentation was very exciting and enjoyed Randy's stories a great deal. Randy will be returning in the future to do presentations about his other projects.



Randy was presented with a Chapter 1414 piston clock in recognition for our appreciation for sharing his adventure.

## Next Month: Christmas Party

Chapter 1414 also thanks Linda and Lynn Fifer for the furnishing delicious refreshments.



## EAA Chapter 1414 Merchandise

At our November meeting the 1414 official logo was displayed. It is available on jackets and other attire for your purchase. Shown here is our President Steve Langdon looking smart in the jacket, priced at \$60, and baseball cap, selling for \$15.



Also available is the wind shirt, shown at the left. It is priced at \$35. Below is the ever popular polo shirt. This

can be yours for only \$25.

Members attending the last meeting were very impressed and began placing orders right away. You may get information on how to order your own from any officer or at the next meeting. Order yours right away!



Thank you to Frank Herdzina, Alex Von Bosse and Dean May for furnishing the photos for this issue. **Don't forget to send your photos to be the next the cover photo.**

## Outgoing Officers Honored

The new officers and membership of Chapter 1414 would like to salute two members for their dedication, service and hard work. These people have been invaluable as we have been growing as a new chapter.



At our September meeting, Carol Von Bosse was presented with a Chapter 1414 lamp in gratitude for her work as our secretary by new secretary, Frank Herdzina.



At our November meeting new president, Steve Langdon, presented former president, Tom Barnes, with his own lamp.

# Buy, Sell, Trade, Give Away, or Participate!

Classified ads may be submitted by any member free of charge.

If you have an item to throw away, don't! List it here.

Remember one man's trash is another's treasure.

If anyone needs some help, list it here.

Adds will run for three months unless cancelled or renewed.

## For Sale

**Garmin 96C Color GPS**, with yoke mount owners manual, carry case and USB PC interface cable. Like new, \$450. Call Craig Day at 547-3789 (home) or 218-6962 (cell)

## For Sale

**Four Sitka Spruce Panels.** Available for wing or tail spars, parts making, etc. Panels are 3/4" long X 10" wide X 18" long. Bargain priced at half off the retail. Call Lon Danek at (847) 381-4286.

Now available!

Official Chapter 1414 Attire

With Logo.

Order yours right away!

**VISIT THE WEB SITE!**

**[eaa1414.org](http://eaa1414.org)**

## Can you help?

**Volunteers are needed for the USO Dance on January 20. If you are available and would like to help us, call Ken Kresmery at 847-742-0000 or tell us at the next meeting. It will be a lot of fun!**

**Have you bought your tickets yet?  
Chapter 1414 USO Dance**

## The Life and Times of Albert The Alligator

Now living in the ponds of Poplar Grove Air Park. Look but do not feed!

### Albert at AirVenture 2006 - Part III

#### The Hula Dancers

By *Ken Kresmery*

When we last saw Albert in November, he was at AirVenture enjoying the show presented by the ladies of Chapter 1414. The Greek Belly Dancers had just completed a spectacular exhibition.



Next came the Hawaiian Hula Dancers led by **Glenda May**. She did her dance to music from the Flight of the Bumblebee. Two men, **Rob Strickland** and **Tom Solar**, said that they spent three years of their Army and Navy pay looking for a girl like this one but never found one. Wife **Billie**,

said, "It's too late now, **Tom**." **Rob's** wife said about the same thing but in stronger language.

Next came **Eva Sindberg**, who did a routine that needed more work to keep up with 1414 standards. She just never got all things going at the same time. **Ole** said she will be ready next year. He has some moves from Norway that she will master.

The next Hawaiian dancer was **Dorothy Hilbert**. She got her hips moving so fast it was a blur. We all noticed the smile on **Buck's** face — Memories!

Next came **Marge Rentmeester**. Her dance was great, but, when the coconut slipped, it looked like the Super Bowl half-time show. Thanks to a quick-acting **Dave Byl** who grabbed one of the large spoons and put everything back in the shell. **Ken Rentmeester** hung his head and said, "After all this years, she now goes public.

Last came **Polly Kresmery** who did one of the most cheered productions of the night. She got some of the other ladies upset. She did the slowest bumps and grinds. It sent all but the most devoted husband's minds wandering. Jimmy Carter was right. **Ken** said, "Sick or not, tonight's the night!" Some of the men led by **Tom Barnes** wanted more, but the ladies had enough.

Albert enjoyed the air show, too. He sat in a lawn chair with sunglasses, silk scarf and baseball cap, but after six days he was ready to go back home to Poplar Grove Ponds, as we all were.

**Next Month: Albert falls in love with a lovely she-gator named Alberta.**

# **U. S.O.**

**Coming to Poplar Grove Airport  
Sponsored by EAA Chapter 1414**

## **Holiday Dance**

**January 20th 2007 at 7:00 PM**

**Kresmery's Hangars MG5 & MG4  
Everyone Welcome**

**All uniforms Air Lines, Army, Navy  
Coast Guard, Nurse, Marines, Air Force  
Anyone in any kind of uniform gets two free door prize tickets**

## **Big Band Music**

**Tommy Dorsey\*\* Glen Miller\*\* Harry James**

**Can you still Jitterbug \*\* Dance to a Ballad  
Star Dust ++ Moon Glow++ Blue Moon++ Peg Of My Heart ++ I'll never smile again**

**No need to bring food we will have "C" Rations**

**Door Prizes & Look-a- like prizes**

**Betty Grable \* Doris Day \* Veronica Lake \* Clark Gable \* James Cagney \* Jimmy Stewart**

**Refreshments at 1941 prices**

**Admission \$10.00 per person \* \$15.00 at door**

**See EAA 1414 Officers for tickets**

**Frank Herdzins 815 544 6727 \* Steve Langdon 815 874 5432 \* Ken Kresmery 847 742 8000  
Glenda May 815 337 5845 \* Lee Hilbert 815 271 5166 \* Bernie McLean 815 547 4224 \* Jennale Hill 815 943 7285**

**Ticket sales start November 1, 2006**

**Limited Number of Tickets**

## Premeeting Checklist

- \_\_\_\_ • Bring suggestion for activities, etc.
- \_\_\_\_ • Your member profile for the Newsletter
- \_\_\_\_ • Any aviation article of interest that you would like to share  
With the other members

EAA Chapter 1414 meets on the second Tuesday of the month in the Maintenance Hangar at the Poplar Grove Airport, unless notified otherwise in the newsletter.  
The meeting starts at 7:00 PM.

The Newsletter is always looking for interesting articles and pictures by our chapter members. Please submit anything you have written or would like to write something or have pictures that you believe would be of interest to the chapter membership. The preferred method for the editor to receive articles is by e-mail to: [gmay6@owc.net](mailto:gmay6@owc.net) Alternately, a ZIP disk or CD with articles written with any major word processor with a printed copy may be submitted to any board member at the meetings.

P.O. Box 399  
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# 1414

# EAA CHAPTER



The  
Life  
and  
Times