NEWSLETTER

Hendricks County Aviation Association

Website: www.hcaaonline.com

Web Page Editor: Ted Bock

Hendricks County Aviation Association exists as a non profit organization to promote all aspects of aviation.

December 2016, January 2017 issue

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

Another year is ending and a new one beginning. Let's all work together to make it the best one yet!

2016 was an eventful year. We had cookouts, Lunch at the Airport, pizza in the airport office and Ladies Day Out. We signed up several new members including Paul Cowger, Greg and Kathy Hill, Lee and Doris Shafer and Andy and Chris Woodward.

We searched for additional officers and board members and added Jim Graham to the board. For 2017, Phyllis Harding will be serving as Secretary of our organization and John Rothrock will serve as an additional board member. Thanks to these members for steppng up to assist in the operation of HCAA. Although we were unable to fill the complete slate of officers, those currently involved in the planning and organization of events have agreed to continue in 2017 with the hope that additional members will become involved.

Regarding our schedule of events, there will be no events in January or February. The Board will meet on March 7 to plan for the year. All members are invited to attend the board meetings and express their ideas for the year's schedule.

The first cookout will be in April with the hope it is warm enough to be outside under the canopy. If not, we will meet in the airport office. Details will be announced in the March newsletter.

AS YOU MAY REMEMBER, DUES ARE DUE THE FIRST OF EACH YEAR. IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID 2017 DUES (A FEW PEOPLE HAVE), PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECK FOR $15.00 PAYABLE TO HCAA TO THE FOLLOWING ADDRESS:

Wilma Winings, 2685 S County Road 300 E, Danville, IN 46122

Clarence (Clay) Heathco

December 16, 1924 - December 9, 2016

(contributed by Jim Snyder)

Charter member of HCAA, Clarence Heathco, passed away on Friday, December 9, 2016. He was one week short of being 92 years old. Clarence was a private pilot and licensed A&P and had a long aviation related career.

Having polio as a child, Clarence wasn't drafted into WW II. Instead, he worked for Roscoe Turner (kids, google the name or read a book) during the War Training Effort, where they refurbished and maintained civilian aircraft for pilot training. After the war he continued with Roscoe for a period of time.

At some point, Clarence worked with the Civil Aeronautics Authority testing Sperry navigation systems. The CAA offered him a permanent position but a friend told him that Allison Engines was looking for good people. "The rest is history" as they say. Clarence quickly became the "go to" guy. He spent most of the 1950's at Edwards Air Force Base during the "Right Stuff" days working with Allison's flight testing program. During his time with Allison he met Chuck Yeager, Bob Hoover, Scott Grossfield, Pancho Barnes and several other characters. Clarence ended his career with Allison Gas Turbine as an engine assembly supervisor on the 250 helicopter engine program.

As a side hobby, Clarence helped build and crew Indy 500 cars during the 1940's roadster days. When he went to California, Clarence took an Indy car chassis that he had built with him. While there, he split the chassis, widened it to accommodate two seats, and built his own sports car he called the Rattler. It was one of the most outrageous hot rods in Southern California. He had lost track of it but just a year ago a wealthy man from St. Louis (who had purchased it) contacted Clarence to get info and specs on it to restore to original condition. That car is now up for auction for mega bucks!

Clarence was also a long time member of EAA. He purchased, rebuilt and flew numerous aircraft, including a Fleet (his first plane as a young man, and which he hated), two Ercoupes (the latest now owned by Frank "Tripp" Guthrie), two Cherokees, a Mooney, A Piper Tri-Pacer, a Culver and probably a couple more.

Clarence also lent his talents to many, many others -- providing guidance, expert knowledge, a helping hand, or even making parts. With his small but effective shop, he could make anything you needed, be it wood or metal. Whether you needed a simple pin or prop spinner or wing recovered, he could take care of you.

Clarence will be missed by many.

PIZZA PARTY

November 15, 2016.

If you missed the get together for pizza, you really missed out. The pizza was abundant and really good. Although there wasn't a hugh turnout for this, those who attended had a great time. In addition to those in the pictures, Jim and Wilma were also there.

Left to right: Max Lyons, Jim Snyder, Clarence Heathco, John Rothrock, Don Hughes

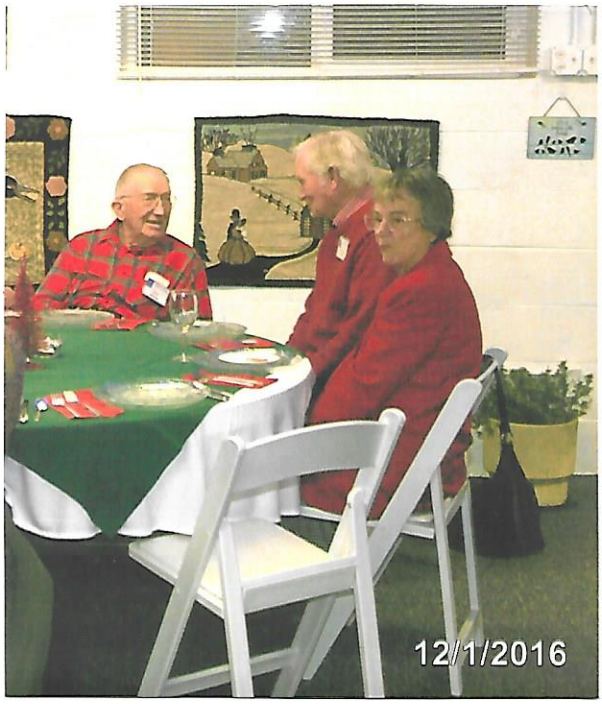
Left to right: Kenzi, Chris and Andy Woodward

CHRISTMAS DINNER AT MARTHA'S ORCHARD

(Photos by John Rothrock)

Let's have some hors d'oeuvres

Waiting for the crowd to gather



Jim Winings, Norm & Pattie Patrum

Pat & Mark Starzynski and Mike & Susan Hoover

Paul Hicks, Dick Stevens, Melissa Barrick and Julie Hicks

The Hardings, Snyders and Nicole Zellers

The Vangundys, Sullengers,
Rothrocks and Grahams

LET'S EAT. Lisa Mattingly starts at the salad bar.

Zellers family, the Hardings & Snyders

John Rothrock says: "A toast to HCAA active members"

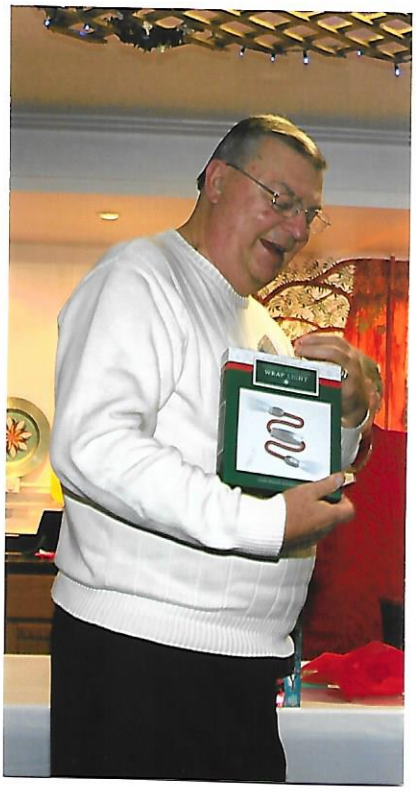
Jim & Roberta, Harold Vangundy

NEXT IS THE GIFT EXCHANGE

Lisa's number is drawn first

Shelby Jackson picks chocolates

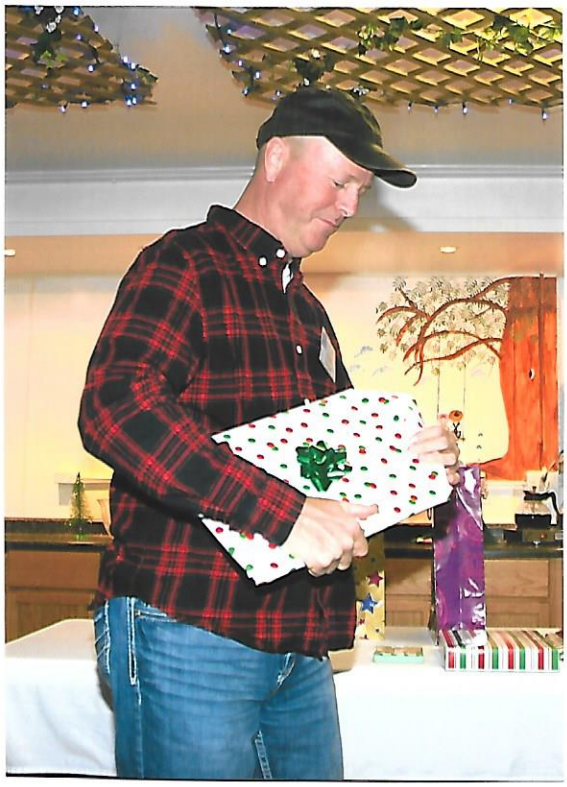
Jim Winings gets a solar powered landscape light



Jim Snyder gets a flexible cord reading light

Suzanne picks a package containing a book

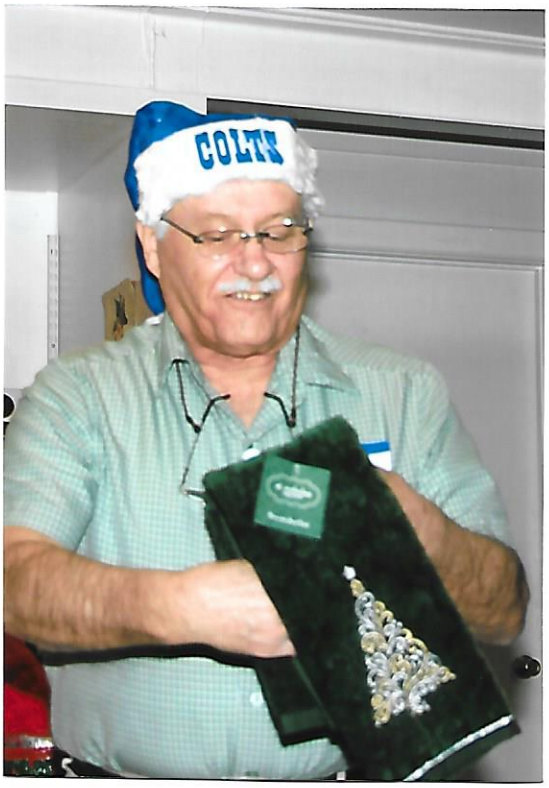
Susan's gift is a candle

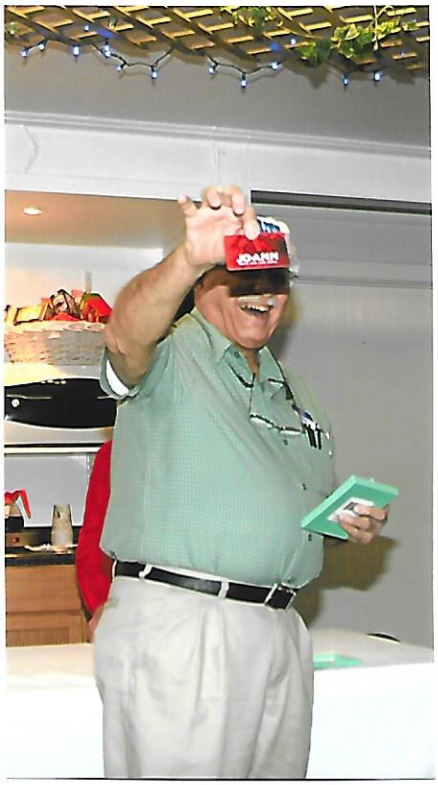


Scott Mattingly's gift was a Bluetooth speaker but someone "stole" it. Then he selected another gift which was a cutting board. It broke in half.

Sam Mattingly got a yard of candy but someone "stole" it. Right, Grant?

Julie Hicks admires her sleigh with baking dish.





Max Lyons' package contained hand towel, soap and a pin but someone else wanted it. His next selection turned out to be a gift card from JoAnn Fabrics.

Paul Hicks picked a gift but it was stolen. He got to select another one.

Wilma got a sign to display along the driveway.

Vern Sullenger looks happy with his gift

TIME FOR DOOR PRIZES

Let's get the prizes on the table.

Grant Zellers draws the winning numbers.

He then selects and delivers a prize.

Harold Vangundy received a poinsettia. He and Mary received one at last year's dinner and they have re-potted it a couple of times and it is now a big beautiful plant.