

# The Squadron EAA Warbird Squadron 4 News



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A newsletter for Squadron members and friends of Warbird aircraft.  
Website: [www.warbirdsquadron4.org](http://www.warbirdsquadron4.org)  
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**Squadron 4 Meeting**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**Sunday September 23rd, 2001**

The next meeting of Squadron 4 will be held Sunday, Sept. 23rd at the E.A.A. Chapter 579 hanger located at the Aurora Airport in Sugar Grove, IL. The featured aircraft will be the L-Birds, which served as liason and reconnaissance aircraft for the military. Weather permitting, we are scheduled to have some L-Birds in attendance. There will be a presentation about these warbirds and their involvement in military aviation.

The details for the outing:  
11:00 am - Doors Open  
11:30 am - 12:00 pm - Meeting  
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm - Lunch (with paid admission)  
12:30 pm - Presentations  
01:30 pm - Displays, Socializing, Hanger flying, War stories, etc.  
Cost: \$10.00 a person, \$15.00 per Family and as always Fly-in Pilots are FREE



**The C.O.'s Desk**

event. As always, call me with any questions or concerns. (630) 773-5211

BE SAFE OUT THERE! and "Keep Em Flying"  
Jim Delaney - The C.O.

Greetings all, Another AirVenture has come and gone. Hope most of you were able to take it in. With the way everyone's daily agenda goes, it can be difficult seeing one another at the event. I would like to take a moment and thank all the members of Squadron 4, pilots and ground crew alike who again this year donated much of their time keeping things running in the warbird area. The number of volunteers from our group seems to increase every year. Keep in mind there's always room for more. Many of us were camping together in the warbird area. We had a blast; just ask anyone who was there. We still have a handful of events left to finish out the year, which are described in more detail later in this newsletter. Hope to see you at the next

**Recap of Squadron 4 Meeting**



**Saturday June 16th, 2001**

The last meeting of Squadron 4 was held at Porter County Municipal Airport in Valparaiso, Indiana on Saturday June 16, 2001. This was a fly-in/drive-in pancake breakfast sponsored by local E.A.A. Chapter 104. There was an open house

featuring aircraft of varying types including Warbirds. The Warbirds display was provided by the Porter County Pilots Assoc. On display were the Corsair and P-51 Mustang that are owned by Jim Reed. Also one of our members, Frank Rosner, displayed his excellent AT-6 Texan. Will Martin flew his T-34 in and also Graig Payne arrived in his CJ-6. Our thanks to the Valparaiso Airport personnel for their hospitality and use of their facilities. A special thank you goes to Frank Rosner for making the meeting arrangements for our Squadron.

### **Recap of Annual BBQ - August 12th, 2001 Joliet Airport**

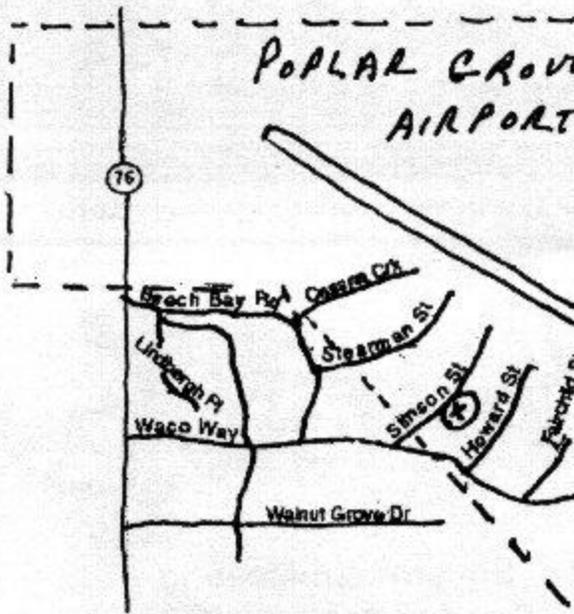
It was another fabulous day for flying for the BBQ. About 30 members and guests attended the event which included the entire Graham family. The food was good, thanks to the cooking crew, Sue Bond, Mark Laatsh, Diane and Brian Churchill and Jim Delaney. We had a good number of warbirds and civilian aircraft that flew in. They included Craig Payne's CJ-6 and two other CJ-6's, Capt. Downey's OTW, Will Martin's T-34 in which Brian Churchill enjoyed his first warbird ride, a Stearman and Tom Buck's TBM Avenger. Rick and Chris Diekman "flew in" in Rick's 1927 Pierce Arrow! Tom Buck was once again our host. Not only did he provide his hanger for our outing but a number of our members and guests were given the honor of a flight in Tom's Avenger. Matt Huffnes, Stacy Kohls and Diane Churchill won rides from the random seat drawing. Two WWII veterans were given an opportunity to fly in an aircraft in which they had combat air time. Ted Koston took up his old photo reconnaissance position in the rear gunner's turret and got some excellent air to ground photos during the flight as seen in the centerfold. Capt. Chuck Downey relinquished his old position at the controls of the TBM to Tom, sat in the rear turret and graciously gave the rear cockpit

position to his friend Marion, a Navy nurse and a Commander in the US Naval Reserve. Capt. Downey enjoyed our group so much that he decided to invite us to his place on Oct. 20th! The C.O. Jim Delany also was given a ride in the TBM for his outstanding service to the Squadron. It was a great party and the Squadron would like to say that Tom Buck went all out to provide all of us with a tremendous day and we cannot thank Tom enough for his generosity and dedication to Squadron 4.

### **A Special Invitation Saturday October 20th, 2001 @ 11:00am**

All Current members of Squadron 4 have been invited to an open house drive-in/fly-in and lunch by Capt. Chuck Downey in Poplar Grove, IL. His home/hanger is located on the Poplar Grove Airport in the residential area at 2822 Stinson St. and can be accessed by air or by car. The airport is located on Route 76 just north of Belvidere, IL. A map of the airport streets is displayed. Come join us for an afternoon of relaxation and enjoy the Captain's gracious hospitality. If you are planning to attend, please R.S.V.P to Jim Delaney (630) 773-5211 or Ron Molinets (708) 598-0076 before Oct. 12th, 2001.

## Poplar Grove Airport Map



## Other Warbird Events

Sat., Sept. 22nd - 10:00 to 17:00. Tail Dragger fly-in at Frasca field, Urbana IL. Rudy's annual Fly-in event with performing aircraft, live music, and lunch. There will be fuel discounts. Help Rudy celebrate his recent 70th birthday.



Sat., Oct. 20th - 11:00am Open house fly-in/drive-in at Capt. Chuck Downey's hanger at Poplar Grove Airport.

## Squadron 4 Year 2001 Calendar of Events

Sun. Sept. 23, 2001 - Quarterly meeting  
EAA Chapter 579 Hanger - Aurora Airport  
L - Bird Aircraft

Nov. 9th-11th, 2001 - Trip to Pensacola  
(Blue Angels Weekend)  
a flyer was provided in your mailer

Sun. Nov. 25th, 2001 - Quarterly meeting  
EAA Chapter 579 Hanger - Aurora Airport  
Speaker - A P-38 Flight Mechanic

## WWII Trivia



What was a "klunker"?

Answer: The nickname pilots gave to the P-400, the export model of the P-39 of which a few ended up in the Pacific theater because of aircraft shortages.

## Bulletin Board

Welcome to our new member – Frank Sellin  
A recent trip to Memphis, Tennessee by past Squadron 4 Commander Bob Molinets, perhaps the only squadron member with left seat time flying a B-17, was completed with a visit to the B-17 "Memphis Belle". This was a special moment for Bob who is very well-versed on the combat history of the B-17's and the "Mighty Eighth".

## Warbird Squadron 4 Photo Album

Photos taken by Ron Molinets

