

Sept. 9 & 10th. Sturgis...(no, not that one...MICHIGAN)

On my way East, I decided to stop over in the Sturgis, Michigan area to visit with Randy Brueck from the [Classic Mfg. Co.](#), who helped design my airplane trailer. Randy lives in nearby Constantine, and has his own 950 foot long grass strip which he uses for his "flying parachute". I had a delightful two days flying in and out of his well manacured grass runway, located amongst soybean fields. It was interesting having to taxi across the road in front of his house from where my motor home, trailer and airplane were parked. It was also a change having completely flat and relatively low (under 1,000 feet elevation) terrain to fly over. This is pretty country with numerous family farms, meandering rivers, and small communities located throughout. Weather was wonderful for flying as a frontal system had passed through the evening before and after the 3 inches of rain that had fallen the 24 hours previously winds were light and visibilities were limitless.

We used this opportunity for some recording of a short video that my "webmaster", Steve Demarest wants to put onto You-Tube. After our filming epsode, I decided to take the Highlander out for a spin around the local area. Of interest was the nearby community of Shipshewana, Indiana. I had been there in the past whenever my testing business took me over to a modular home manufacturing plant that I do electrical inspections for. I found this small town a delightful stop-over since it is primarily an Amish and Mennonite community, and there are bicycles, horses and buggies all over the place. There is also an interesting cultural center, [Menno-Hof](#), which gives in depth insight into this interesting religious sect, ranging back from its origin in Europe over 200 years ago. There is also a very good Armish restaurant in town. On Wednesday I drove the Vespa over for another chance at lunch at the [Blue Gate Inn](#). After loading the plane back into my Classic trailer, it was time for me to resume my trip Eastward. My next stopover will be in the Jamestown, NY area where I will then begin to resume some of my Fall projects, thus bringing this trip to a temporary hiatus.



This is Randy's 1000 foot strip at his Mich. farm



My plane at the end of Randy's strip at roadway



Flat terrain...located beside the St. Joseph River



Randy Brueck and me, in front of my Classic Aviator trailer



Downtown Shipshewana, IN. An Amish town.