



EAA Chapter 166 Greater Hartford, CT



EAA 166 Newsletter

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Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 166

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Next Meeting

Sunday June 29, 2008

at the P & W Customer Training Center

Meeting starts promptly at 7:30 PM (19:30)

Please try to be on time as we have to accommodate P & W security

This month's program is:

A chat with Don Rethke, inventor of the space shuttle toilet system. This month's topic is particularly appropriate given the recent difficulties with the ISS. Don expects and invites heckling. This should be a very fun evening. Bring everyone you know!



New directions to the CTC (map & text)

There are new traffic patterns in place on the P & W East Hartford campus. You cannot exit the way you came in if approaching the CTC from I-84 or Silver Lane.

Inbound from I-84: Follow the **Yellow** arrows to the CTC
Leaving for I-84 (East & West): Follow the **Red** arrows past Cabelas
Leaving toward the South: Follow the **Blue** arrows to Main Street.

President's Message

Greetings All!!!!... We're getting into the heart of summer and the flying season. I have rejoined the ranks of intrepid aviators after an 18 month hiatus because of knife fights with surgeons. I accepted the kind invitation of Joe Gauthier and Preston Kavanagh to get my BFR and tailwheel endorsement in the Super Cruiser. After flying three legged creatures for 40 years it is a challenge to mount a two legged Cub. I told Joe that in the Air Force we said, "You can teach a monkey to fly, with enough bananas". He keeps bringing bananas but this monkey is a challenge to teach. On a serious note, getting a BFR or better yet an annual refresher from a skilled instructor like Joe is worth every bit the expense. If you have 50 hours or 5000 hours, flew last fall or came off a six day airline trip, the skill reinvestment you get with these rides is invaluable....and like Joe says, "It's a lot of fun!!!!".

I would like to give my sincere thanks to the dozen chapter members who came out to my farm at the last meeting to help me wet sand the Sky Arrow. This was the first step in recovering from a less than stellar paint job I did on the aircraft. My next step is to re-mask the airplane and get it set up for priming. Larry Gagnon and Greg Prentiss, our very own Tech Councilors, have been extremely helpful and encouraging in continuing with the paint portion of my project. I don't know about the rest of the guys and Mary Hilditch but I had a great time. I spent most of it cooking hamburgers and bratwurst to keep the skilled workers fed and chasing down the correct wet/dry sandpaper. I enjoyed the company of good friends and enjoyed the chatter and stories that were shared.

We have a couple student events in the wings. There is an aircraft demo being planned for some aviation students at Brainard. The date being bantered about is July 25th...but Larry Gagnon will have the firm date at our meeting on Sunday. September 13th a Young Eagle Fly-in is planned at Skylark. Jack Hilditch will have more info and request for help as the time approaches

We got the following message from Steve Seigny. "On July 12th from 9-4 the CT Air National Guard Base will be hosting its annual Space and Aviation Day. This is a FREE walk-in event held at the Base. There will be aircraft from around the country on display along with fun "to-do's" from the Base Fire Department and State Police. This is a great aviation event for the whole family. I will be at the event in the Engine Shop giving tours. I also know that the Air Museum will have its doors open that day as well. Anyone interested please feel free to contact me via e-mail (Td4x4pwr@cox.net) and I would be happy to answer any questions."

Finally for those interested in an amphibian I got the following information from a pilot flying with Joe Gauthier. Goeffrey Jones from Mystic, goeffreyjpjones@yahoo.com, 860-536-9733 is selling a Seawind (pay attention Moe!!!) he purchased a couple years ago. He is asking \$150K. If you are interested give him a call or beam him a note...

That's all I see for now from the pointy end of the airplane...
Remember, forever is a long, long time....but not as long as it was yesterday.....
Ken Benson, President

(Updated) Regional 2008 Calendar

NO August 166 Meeting - OSH

EAA Chapter 1310

June
28th Sanford Maine Rag Wing
Fly-in and Classic Auto Show
29th 166 Meeting

July

9th – meeting (Wednesday
evening)
12th CT ANG Space and
Aviation Day – KBDL
12th – pancake breakfast
(Saturday)

EAA Chapter 166

25th – StarBase
Hartford Pilot Day -
KHFD

28th – 8/3 – Oshkosh
(Monday through
Sunday)

August

13th – meeting
(Wednesday evening)

16th Corn Roast
24th 166 Meeting

Local Notams

Windham - KIJD

The ramp at Windham (KIJD) has been repaved and the taxiway for 18 – 36 is being extended to the dam side so there will eventually be no need to back-taxi 18-36. Be alert for construction equipment on the field.

Brainard – KHFD

General Aviation Ramp to the north of the Tee Hangers is being repaved. This is the area the chapter recently used for our Young Eagles loading activities. Be alert for construction equipment on the field.

Reports

EAA Chapter 166
Treasurer's Report
June 2008

Checking Account: \$ 3,944.46
Deposits: \$ 64.00 dues
Total Deposits: \$ 64.00

Total bills: \$ 000.00
Balance in Ck \$ 4,008.46
Petty Cash: \$ 00.00

Plus decals, & etc.

Chapter Scholarship Fund ACCOUNT

Balance: \$ 1,562.89
Deposits: \$ 25.00 – Flt Str & DAR inspection
Bills: \$ 000.00 DAR expenses

Balance: \$ 1,587.89

Duly reported by Dave Armando, Treasurer

- *Our Treasurer has asked me to remind the following members that their dues remain unpaid.*

E. Allard, S. Beckett, S. Brown, W. Browne, P. Chudy, J. Cissel, T. Clark, T. Dale, D. Faile, W. Foley, N. Garvin, A. Johnson, R. Morin, J. Oliver, G. Prentiss, G. Simard, A. Simmonds, J. Stevenson, W. Sweeney, G. Sweetman, G. Thomas, L. Turcotte, J. Urban, J. Vance, J. Watkins.

- *All those who have been tardy please send your \$16.00 in to Dave Armando, 1765 New London Turnpike, Glastonbury, CT 06033. Thank you.*

EAA Chapter 166
Secretary's Report
June 2008

The May meeting was held at Ken Benson's Starshine Farm after a combination wet sanding party / cookout to help Ken get his Sky Arrow ready for repainting. There are some photos in the chapter projects section from the meeting / gathering. For those of you who missed the meeting, you have our condolences. It was an excellent (and very pleasant) day under the warm sunshine, in a beautiful Connecticut country setting, just messin' about with planes.

The meeting was informal, there was no speaker and, due to scheduling, not our normal turnout so I am passing along a few highlights.

Ken Terrio mentioned having lunch with some friends from Goodspeed recently. Bruce McGhie, our scheduled speaker for the November dinner, was at the lunch and mentioned he had been asked to address the chapter. Ken wasn't aware that discussions with Bruce had been underway so I brought everyone up to speed on what we have been planning for the annual dinner.

Larry Gagnon brought up a request by Star Base Hartford, an aviation program for city youth, to have a 'pilots day' at Brainard. Larry asked for feedback on what dates would work and who could participate. July 25th between 2 PM and 5 PM seemed like the best option, but the kids get picked up by bus at 3:45 PM so the schedule is still being adjusted.

Contributed by Jack Hilditch on behalf of Aaron Gleixner, Secretary

CONSTRUCTION CORNER – Joe Gauthier



*9 minutes time for
take-off, one fly by,
pass, and then landing.*

*Text Pilot: Joseph Gauthier
Photo: Stephen Giarratana June 2008*

A school project that got its start at Fairfield High School during the 1994-95 school year, finally took flight earlier this month literally. A 700-pound KitFox plane, built by retired math teacher John Dorland, industrial arts teacher Peter Trupp and more than 85

students over the years, finally took to the skies on Friday around 7:15 a.m. at Sikorsky

Airport in Stratford. Asked to describe the flight, which lasted about 10 minutes, Dorland responded, "Super. Terrific. As good as you could possibly want to have. "After all of his hard work and dedication in taking the plane from parts to a flying machine, Dorland wanted to take the plane on its official maiden flight. However, his hopes were dashed. "I have a pilot's license. I could have flown it," said Dorland, "but the Board of Education didn't want me to." The man who did pilot the plane was Joe Gauthier, who has built numerous airplanes and is allowed by the Federal Aviation Authority to certify home-built aircraft and issue certificates of air worthiness. Dorland admits Gauthier was probably better equipped to fly the plane since Dorland is used to flying commercially built aircraft. "The controls on home-built aircraft are much more sensitive," he said.

When Dorland and Trupp, who was an industrial arts teacher, got a \$20,000 grant from Sikorsky Aircraft back in the mid-1990s they joined forces to create an aero-science course to build the plane. During the first few years of the class, technicians periodically popped in to help the students and instructors. After three or four years, the school system reduced the class to one period a day. In addition, Dorland was needed to avoid the hiring of an additional math teacher and so he couldn't team teach with Trupp any longer. The plane subsequently went into storage for three years, according to Dorland. It made a resurrection around 2003. "There was no aerospace course after that. Most of the time it was just us," said Dorland of himself and Trupp. "Occasionally, kids did help.

The plane was finally completed last winter. "In front of a crowd on Friday that included former students who worked on the plane, Gauthier needed roughly 250 feet to get airborne. Dorland pointed out that the plane can begin its approach from the goalpost of a football field, for example, and become airborne before reaching the goalpost at the other end of the field. The two-seater plane, which has a 53-horsepower, two-stroke engine, has large tundra tires, which allow it to take off from a dirt or grass field. Gauthier did a thorough safety check before piloting the plane. When he took off he made a circuit of the airport, came back for a very low-speed pass about 10 feet off the runway and then circled back around to land again. Dorland said the students who came to watch were cheering and clapping. "All were pleased to see it happen, as were the teachers," said Dorland. "It was just so much of a relief to see it fly.

Trupp said perhaps the greatest thing about this plane building project was the fact that students of all abilities worked together. "I remember a valedictorian working next to somebody who would not go on to higher education," he said. The plane looks like a small Piper Cub, according to Dorland, except it's just a little smaller.

Dorland said others who deserve credit include David Faile, a Fairfield resident who assisted with all facets of the project and allowed use of his hangar at the airport, and Nan Jackson, who helped with the plane's fabric covering. He added that the plane's fate likely lies in disassembly or being donated to a museum.

CHAPTER PROJECTS
Sky Arrow – Ken Benson



Ken Terrio and
Jim Glista
strategizing on
how to divvy-up
the work.

Larry Gagnon and
Lamont McEvitt
working on a piece
of the cowling.



Greg Prentiss making sure the air flows smoothly off the non-pointy end of the Sky Arrow.



Ken Terrio sights down the fuselage to see any shiny spots that need more attention.

Greg Prentiss, Larry Gagnon and Lamont McEvitt figuring out what's next.



Jack Hilditch sands while Jim Glista and Ken Terrio discuss how to handle the aft section.



My wife, Mary Liebig, took the majority of photos while we worked. She mentioned that on Ken's farm, while rural and bucolic, there seemed to be an underlying aviation element present everywhere you looked. Even Ken's ducklings are enrolled in formation flying 101 (though some appear to be either protesting wingman assignments or practicing "She's Got That Loving Feeling".)



YOUNG EAGLES – Larry Gagnon

I brought up the subject of a request by StarBase Hartford, a middle school targeted outreach program sponsored by the CT Military Department, <http://www.ct.gov/mil/cwp/view.asp?a=1349&q=257268> , at the meeting. We were put in contact with them by the Brainard airport manager while planning for our May Young Eagles event. The StarBase director asked if the chapter would be able to put on a ‘pilots day’ at Brainard where the kids could see aircraft up close. At least three pilots offered to participate. This is scheduled to be a non-flying event.

The idea is to take the kids over to the hangers and look at a few experimental planes as well as a Piper Cub and give them a chance to sit and work the controls. We mentioned the Young Eagles day at Skylark in September to them as a flying event.

Friday the 25th in the afternoon would be the best time for us, between 2 and 5 PM, depending on how the kids’ transportation schedule meshes with those of the available chapter members. We are still working out the final details on how to get the kids to the hanger from Starbase and any other things they might want us to focus on. I will keep the chapter posted and we may need a few volunteers. The Skylark Young Eagle event is still slated for September 13, 2008.

Places to Fly – Things to Do

June 28th - Sanford Maine Rag Wing Fly-in and Classic Auto Show

http://www.flyincalendar.com/event_detail.cfm?e=7213

July 12th from 9-4 the **CT Air National Guard Base** will be hosting its annual **Space and Aviation Day** at the Bradley National Guard Base.

<http://www.spaceandaviationday.org/CTANG.htm> New England Air Museum is one of the venues of this annual family event. NEAM will be open to the public free of charge and will be building and flying water rockets with our visitors throughout the day. The Connecticut Chapter of Women in Aviation International will be participating.

July 13th - Westerly Airport Association is hosting a **Pancake Breakfast** to benefit the WAA Scholarship fund on Sunday, July 13th, from 7AM till Noon at Dooney Aviation, 63 Tom Harvey Road - Road B, Westerly State Airport. Adults \$6; children under 12 yrs, \$4. Tickets available at Dooney Aviation, from WAA members, or at the hangar door! See <http://www.wstaa.net> for directions. More information: amelia.noseheart@cox.net (include “pancake” in the subject line)

July 28 – August 3, 2008 – EAA Airventure – Oshkosh

<http://www.airventure.org/>

Interesting & Helpful Links

Engine Weights and Horsepower

<http://www.wanttaja.com/avlinks/engines.htm#Engines2>

SensorNetics Instruments for Light Aircraft <http://www.sensornetics.com/>

Runway Finder: <http://runwayfinder.com/>

FBO Map – Fuel Prices <http://map.aeroplanner.com/tools/fbomap.cfm>

Facilities, special offers, fuel discounts for flights to AirVenture 2008

http://www.airventure.org/2008/flying/alternate_airports.html

NO to USER FEES

Remember, the battle is not finished. There are some in Congress and the Administration who are still trying to ram this unpopular legislation through. Contact your Senators and Representatives to voice your displeasure.



To confront airline rhetoric and lobbying, every participant in general aviation must rally against user fees. For sample letters to send to Congress, visit www.EAA.org/govt/sample_letters.html.

To follow EAA's proactive advocacy on your behalf, visit www.EAA.org/userfees. Questions? E-mail govt@EAA.org Don't delay ... Act **TODAY!**