



Chapter 968  
**Green Mountain Flyers**  
**Air Mail**  
August 2017

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### Meeting Report – 8/1/17

*Attendees:* Jim Shires, Charlie North, Carolyn Haley, Gary Joseph, Mike Petralia, Tracy Adams, Mark Hamilton, Dave Bahnson

- This month's meeting was informal and mainly social, and we decided to reschedule Dave Bahnson's presentation for later in the season when we have fewer competing activities and better turnout. This month numerous members weren't back from Oshkosh yet or otherwise unavailable due to vacations; something we didn't think about before scheduling Dave's talk.

**\*\*Chapter meeting day—SURVEY\*\***

Turnout for meetings is a perpetual topic of discussion, for it seems that no single day or time works for everyone. Many combinations have already been tried without appreciably changing attendance, but we also haven't done an update for a while. So here are the key questions:

- (1) What day of the week works best for you for a chapter meeting?
- (2) What time of day do you prefer?

Please send your comments and opinions to [EAA968@vermontel.net](mailto:EAA968@vermontel.net).

- Our most recent **Young Eagles** rally was held on August 3, as part of the STARBASE camp week. Twenty-seven campers took flight with either of our two pilots, Jim Shires and John Baldasaro, on a gorgeous summer morning. Jen Jacob and Tracy Adams handled organization and administration, and Carolyn Haley recorded the event with photos. (See next page.)

Jen Jacob, our YE coordinator, reports:

First I want to remind everyone that we have our final Young Eagles rally for 2017 coming up in Rutland on September 9 from 9:00 a.m. until noon. Then from noon until approx. 2:00 p.m., we will be hosting the RAF-G (Rutland Autistic Family Group), who will be bringing 35 kids to see (and maybe fly) the planes. Since this will be a longer rally, lunch will be served to the pilots and volunteers. Please see the link (<https://goo.gl/forms/leUu3SgbLAP7rPPu2>) or e-mail Jennifer directly ([taildraggergirl@gmail.com](mailto:taildraggergirl@gmail.com)) if you are interested in helping. We are expecting a good turnout, as kids will be just returning to school.

Young Eagles rallies have been one of the exciting things the chapter has been doing in Rutland as well as Springfield. I will admit that I *am* biased in that regard, but it has been exciting to see a couple of “our” Young Eagles starting to take flight lessons in Springfield.

Finally, we as a chapter, have accumulated \$445 worth of “credits” for the Young Eagles we flew in 2016. We can use these credits toward either sending kids to the EAA Air Academy or for reimbursement of Young Eagles rally expenses. We have until December 17 of this year to use last year’s credits.

See you September 9th!

### Starbase YE Rally moments captured at KRUT, August 3

(Full set of photos from this event and all our rallies are at [www.YoungEagles-EAA968.smugmug.com](http://www.YoungEagles-EAA968.smugmug.com).)



*John Baldasaro explains the basics*



*So does Jim Shires*

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*The Chapter 968 team (L-R): John B., Jen Jacob, Tracy Adams, Ryan Jacob, Jim S.*



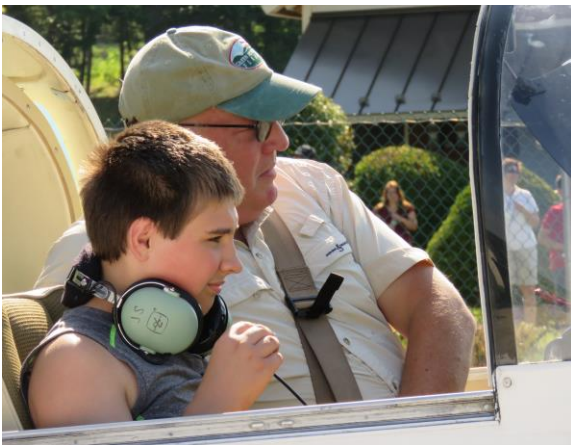
*Rebecca Steward, STARBASE coordinator*



*Happy campers back from a flight in Jim's Tiger*



*More happy faces*



*Buckling up for a flight in the Tiger*



*Getting ready for takeoff in the Mooney*

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Just back and getting a post flight discription



More happy campers after a flight in the Mooney

**CALL FOR PILOTS:** Looking for more opportunities to fly and have fun? Join us at a Young Eagles rally! Must be an EAA National member and have participated in their Youth Protection Program. For more information, contact Jennifer Jacob at [taildraggergirl@gmail.com](mailto:taildraggergirl@gmail.com) or 802-322-3767.

Overview of the program at [EAA's website](#).

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## This Fall's Events

- We've got three great **special programs** coming up:

**1) September 5**—Doug Stewart to present "Weather: Beyond the Standard Briefing" at our chapter meeting. Food, social, and brief chapter meeting starts at 5:30; presentation starts at 6:00. This is a WINGS Program, and other folks will be coming in, so we plan to hold it at the Civil Air Patrol building next to the terminal building where we usually meet.

RSVP is *required* for this event, and food will be \$7 per person instead of the usual \$5. Let us know you're coming no later than Thursday, August 31. Reply to [EAA968@vermontel.net](mailto:EAA968@vermontel.net).

To get WINGS credit for attending, sign up [here](#).

Here's the program description:

*While most pilots know how to get a Standard Briefing, there are many less frequently utilized tools and places to find information that the pilot can use to help make a viable "go/no go" decision, including the new Graphical Forecast for Aviation (GFA), Where to find this information and knowing how to use it adds to the toolbox of the safety-minded pilot. Regardless of whether you are a VFR or IFR pilot, Doug will take us beyond the standard briefing and introduce tools that could be considered critical, not only for any long cross country flight, but even when flying short hops to your favorite airport diner as well.*

*Doug Stewart is the 2004 National Instructor of the Year, an active CFI, and a 9X Master Instructor with over 11,700 hours of dual given. He is the Executive Director Emeritus of SAFE and a busy DPE. He has given presentations to literally thousands of pilots from coast to coast and border to border.*

**2) October 3**—At this chapter meeting we'll hear from Brian Lindner. He is the Corporate Historian for National Life Group and his hobby is investigating aviation accidents in Vermont. As he puts it: "I began researching Vermont plane crashes when I first saw the wreckage of the B-24 Liberator on Camels Hump when I was 12. I have spent decades researching that crash and in the process have learned about hundreds of other less famous wrecks in Vermont. This presentation is to provide a short overview of the history of crashes in Vermont."

This event will also be in the CAP building and require an RSVP. Details to come.

**3) November 4** (Saturday)—John Wood of the FAA will present "Winter Operations" (also a WINGS Program), 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Details forthcoming.

- The Vermont Agency of Transportation—Aviation is running their **Distinguished Aviator program**, "Around the Hills in 80 Days," for pilots who fly to all ten of the state's airports. At each airport's FBO, they can get a "passport" stamped and be eligible for prizes if they make all ten stops before September 23. Fuel discount for participants at each airport. There will be a celebration at the end, at a location and date to be announced. A great reason to hop in your plane and explore our beautiful state!

**Next meeting is Tuesday, September 5, at 5:30 p.m.**

Civil Air Patrol building  
Rutland-Southern Vermont Regional Airport (KRUT)

Featuring Doug Stewart with "Weather: Beyond the Standard Briefing"  
a WINGS Program (see full story above)

RSVP required by August 31  
Dinner \$7/person. We look forward to seeing you!

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## Oshkosh 2017

Most of us know that the annual EAA air show, AirVenture, is a Big Deal. These numbers give an idea of just how big:

- Approx. 590,000 attendees, including 2,527 international visitors from 80 nations
- More than 10,000 visiting aircraft, averaging 123 takeoffs/landings/hour over 10 days
- 2,991 show planes, comprising 1,107 homebuilts, 1,162 vintage, 351 warbirds, 168 ultralights and light-sport aircraft, 79 seaplanes, 54 rotorcraft, 60 aerobatic aircraft, and 10 hot air balloons

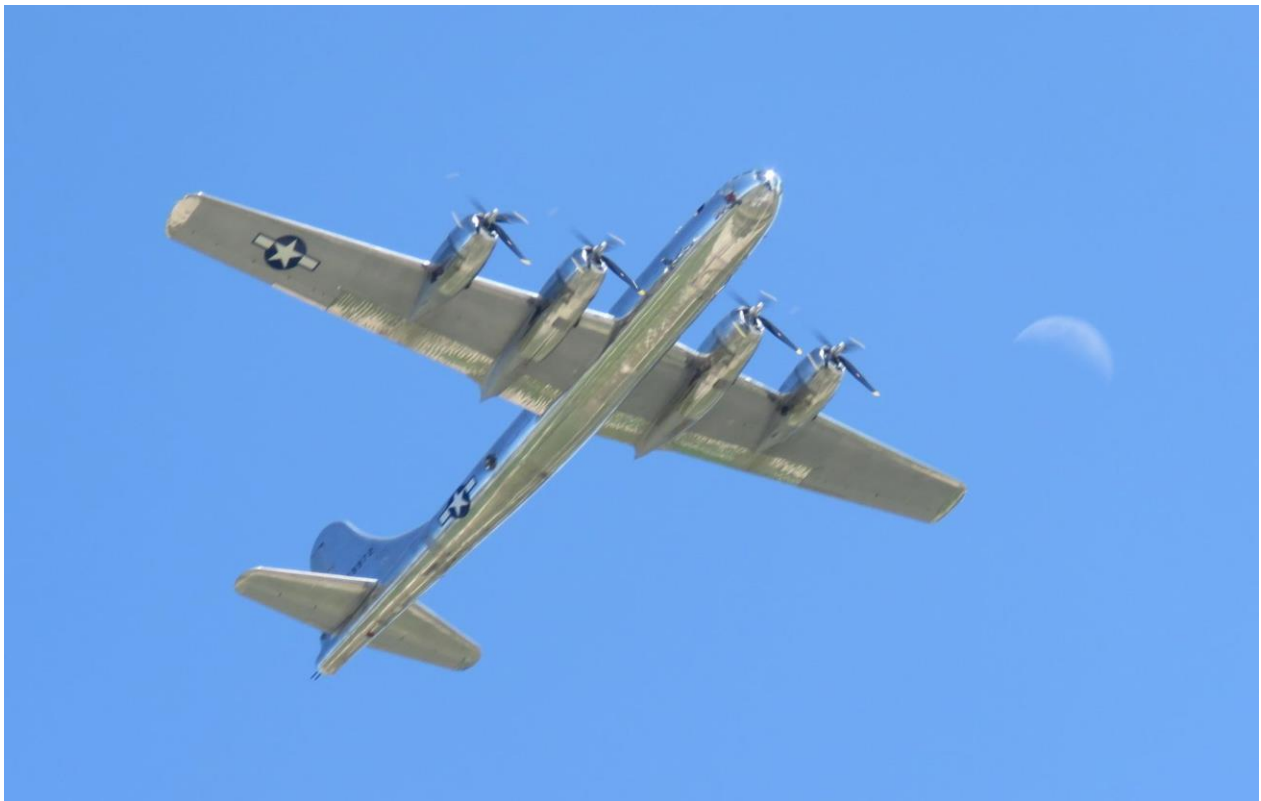
- More than 11,600 campsites accommodating an estimated 40,000 visitors throughout the week
- 881 commercial exhibitors
- 1,050 workshop and forum sessions, attended by more than 75,000 people

If you weren't able to go, there are tons of photos and videos on EAA's website ([photos and videos](#)).

If you did go, please share your pictures and stories with us! Send to [EAA968@vermontel.net](mailto:EAA968@vermontel.net) and we'll run them in subsequent newsletters.

On the next three pages is a sampling from Charlie North:

*One of my favorite shots from the 2,157 I took that week,  
Doc and the moon.*



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*Just imagine if we had a fighter escort like this back when B-29s like Doc roamed the skies!*



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*This year's Lindy Award went out to a very deserving replication of a 1935 Bücker Bü 131 "Jungmann."*





## Build projects

For those of you with a build in progress or even a stalled project, let's present it here in a monthly section.

This project is presented by Charlie North.

Have you ever thought about what a pre-war classic might be like had production continued after the war? In this case we are looking at what a 1939 Piper J4A might have been 80 years later.

The J4 was a side-by-side seater that was a little more upscale with more room inside than many of the other early light planes. So what I am building is a clean sheet of paper look-alike of this rare classic airplane.

I am early in the build with some components having been started last fall such as the control sticks. Pictured here are the new 3.8-pound controls which are all mounted on ball bearings, compared to the original 10-pound part.

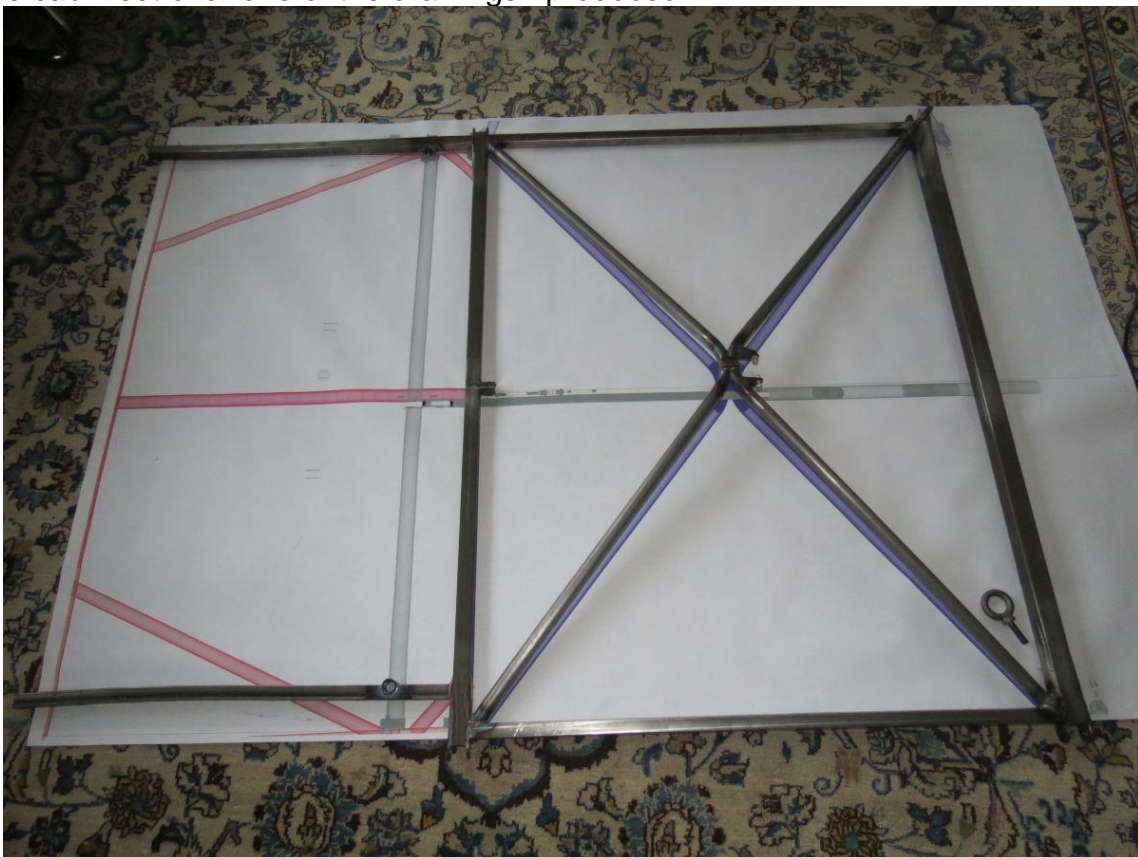


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The elevator horns made in stainless.



And more recently, work has started on the main fuselage structure starting with the top of the cabin set over one of the drawings I produced.



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In time, the lower section of the fuselage will be laid out over this full-size print, but not on the living room carpet.





## What's Coming Up Around the Region

Plenty of flying season left! Events listed are in New England and New York State, with our chapter's highlighted in red. We've also included a few major events farther afield.

Details for most events are available online. If you need help finding info, or want to fly out to any as a group, let us know at [EAA968@vermontel.net](mailto:EAA968@vermontel.net). Also, if you know of an event not listed here (or see incorrect information), send notice to the same e-address.

### Vermont EAA chapter events

- 8/19 EAA 1576 Tail Dragger BBQ Fly-In (John Boyland Airport, Island Pond—K5B1)
- 9/5 EAA 968 WINGS Program: "Weather: Beyond the Standard Briefing," presented by Doug Stewart (Rutland Regional Airport—KRUT), 5:30 p.m. **\*\*RSVP Required\*\***
- 9/9 EAA 968 YOUNG EAGLES RALLY (Rutland, VT—KRUT), 9:00-noon
- 9/15 EAA 613 Young Eagles Rally (Newport State Airport—KEFK)
- 9/23 EAA 1576 Wings & Wheels Fly-In Breakfast (Franklin County Airport, Highgate—KFSO)
- 9/30 EAA 1576 Young Eagles Rally (Caledonia Airport, Lyndonville—KCDA) [rain date 10/1], 10:00-4:00
- 10/3 EAA 968 Presentation by Brian Linder on Vermont aviation incidents (Rutland Regional Airport—KRUT), 5:30 p.m. **\*\*RSVP Required\*\***
- 10/4 EAA 613 Fly-In (Morrisville-Stowe Airport—KMYL)
- 10/7-8 Airoctoberfest (Morrisville-Stowe Airport—KMYL) [rain date 10/8], 9:00-3:00
- 10/14 EAA 968 LEAF-PEEPER FLY-IN and pancake breakfast (Rutland Regional Airport—KRUT), 8:00-noon+
- 11/4 EAA 968 WINGS Program: "Winter Operations" presented by John Wood (Rutland Regional Airport—KRUT), 9:00-11:00 **\*\*RSVP Required\*\***
- 11/5 EAA 1375 Airport Open House (William Morse Airport, Bennington—KDDH)

### Other Vermont aviation events

- 9/11-15 Soar Vermont CFI-G Encampment (Hartness Airport, Springfield—KVSF)
- 9/27 "Manufactured in Vermont" trade show, incl. Aerospace & Aviation sector, Champlain Valley Expo Center (Essex Junction), 9:00-4:00
- 10/20-22 LightHawk Fly-In (Basin Harbor, Vergennes—B06), 5:00 p.m.-10:00 a.m.

### Out-of-Area fly-ins, events, and shows

- 8/26-27 Great State of Maine Air Show featuring Blue Angels (Brunswick Executive Airport, ME)
- 9/9 EAA 146 Fly-In Breakfast (Kline Kill Airport, West Ghent, NY—NY1) [rain date 9/10], 8:00-noon
- 9/9 EAA 602 Young Eagles Day (Fulton County Airport, Johnstown, NY—NY0), 9:00-1:00
- 9/15-17 EAA's *Aluminum Overcast* B-17 only Northeast tour stop, flights and static display (Hartford-Brainard Airport, CT), 10:00-5:00
- 9/17 EAA 324 Simsbury Fly-In & Car Show (Simsbury Airport, CT) [rain date 9/24]
- 9/28 WINGS Program: "Fly by Night," AOPA Air Safety Institute Free Seminar (Executive Court Banquet Facility, Manchester, NY), 7:00 p.m.
- 10/6-7 AOPA Regional Fly-In (Groton-New London Airport, CT)

Ongoing: Old Rhinebeck Aerodome (Red Hook, NY) airshows, events, and museum, May–October. Schedule at <http://oldrhinebeck.org/events/>. Fly-ins by permission only

## Aviation marketplace

### **For sale:** Rocky Mountain Wings RIDGE-RUNNER II



The Ridge-Runner II is a single-seat “Light Sport Class” high-wing taildragger. It is powered with a 50-hp Rotax engine. The Ridge-Runner is a kit-built aircraft, assembled by Ralph Burt in Panton, Vt., and first flown at Middlebury, Vt.

FAA Airworthiness certificate and registration are current.

The engine has dual carburetors, oil injection, electric start, and integral gear RPM reduction. The engine has 3.3 hours. Plane has two 5-gallon wing tanks, and includes electric fuel pump to back up the normal Rotax fuel suction. It is fully instrumented and has a radio. The empty weight is around 500 lbs.

The plane is also equipped with a full plane parachute which can be deployed by activating a small rocket that pulls the chute out of the top behind the pilot.

The wings fold back for more compact storage and ease of moving with a trailer.

The plane is currently stored in my garage in Vergennes; please come see it. Contact me for more details and location of my home. I am asking \$9,000. Ralph Burt, at 802-355-4415, or [rburt@gmavt.net](mailto:rburt@gmavt.net).

**Available for free:** Yokes and pedals for flight simulators

The STARBASE organization in Rutland is offering these accessories for a PC-based flight simulator (STARBASE used Microsoft Flight Simulator). The software to operate each set of yoke and pedals is included, but not the actual flight simulator program.

Also available are “hot air balloon launchers” that launch balloons made out of tissue paper. Photos for all are below and following page.

If interested, contact Rebecca Steward, Rutland Site Coordinator for STARBASE Vermont, at 802 786 3820 or email me at [rebecca@starbasevt.org](mailto:rebecca@starbasevt.org).







## Chapter Accessories

Available at meetings or events. Send a check to EAA Chapter 968 to Gary Joseph, Treasurer, P.O. Box 401, Ludlow, VT 05149, or cash/check in person.

GMF logo (embroidered)



Leaf-Peeper (screen print)



GMF logo (embroidered)



Leaf-Peeper (screen print)



Hats \$20 • Apron \$12 • Short-sleeve T-shirt \$15 • Long-sleeve T-shirt \$18

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### Green Mountain Flyers, EAA Chapter 968

Rutland–Southern Vermont Regional Airport (KRUT)

1002 Airport Road, North Clarendon, VT 05759

e-mail: [EAA968@vermontel.net](mailto:EAA968@vermontel.net)

website: <http://968.eaachapter.org/>

Jim Shires, President

Charlie North, Vice President

Carolyn Haley, Secretary

Gary Joseph, Treasurer

Young Eagles Coordinator, Jennifer Jacob

Newsletter Editor, Carolyn Haley/Charlie North

Website Manager, Mark Jacob/Carolyn Haley