

EAA Chapter 145 MEETING: **Saturday, August 11, 2012 – 10:00 am**  
**At The Waco Aircraft Factory in Battle Creek**



**GRAND RAPIDS**  
**CHAPTER 145**

Web Page (<http://www.EAA145.org>)

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Let me know if you prefer to receive the newsletter by e-mail in place of postal mail and check the chapter webpage for information or send Ken Baas items to put on the web.

## AUGUST PROGRAM

Chapter 145 will be traveling this month to visit the WACO Aircraft Corporation, in Battle Creek. (See attach history of Waco). All local EAA chapters are welcome to come along and enjoy the tour. Get your own car pool or contact Dick Foster (616-538-8849) for a shared ride. We will leave Riverview at 8:30 to get to the Waco facility by 10:00.

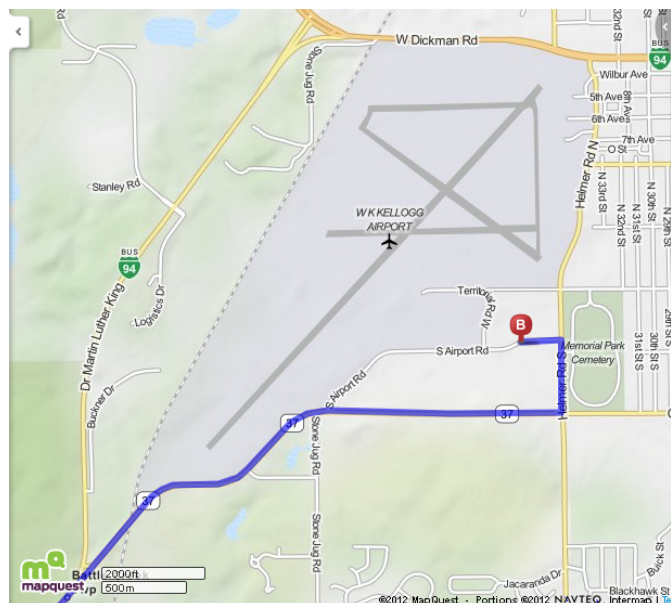
Here are the details:

WACO Aircraft Corporation  
15955 South Airport Road  
Battle Creek, MI 49015

To view Waco map, click on the link below or copy and paste it to your browser:

<http://mapq.st/Mx7G4K>

<http://goo.gl/maps/ZOpu>



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The 50th anniversary open house of Chapter 145 was a great success. About 75 people attended, with 4 of the original members, members from Chapters 211, 221 and 704, volunteers from EAA145, friends of Riverview and the staff and students from West Michigan Flight Academy. On display for everyone to view were a collection of historical photos and a power point presentation of the five decades of Chapter 145. The display showed the large number of projects, aircraft, and activities that the Chapter participated in. Parked on the ramp was a static display of 20 A/C. There was a diverse selection to view; cubs, Cessna's, Pipers, experimental, SE-5, PT-17 and DC-3. The friends attending the "celebration" had good food to eat and place to talk with friends, reminiscing about the good old days.

I'm so grateful that a few people 50 years ago wanted to get involved with building an experimental airplane. The history of this group of aviation enthusiasts has touched many lives and started several EAA chapters. What will the next 50 years bring? All it takes is a few enthusiastic people to keep the excitement in motion.

Thanks to All, Dick



## YOUNG EAGLES

The next YE event is August 25th Care Affaire at West MI Regional airport, Holland (BIV)

Volunteer pilots and ground crew are need for this event. Contact Dick Foster if you would like to help introduce young people to aviation.  
(See attached flyer)

### WANTED

The EAA145 chapter hanger is available for anyone who needs temporary space to work on projects. Contact Dick Foster for details.

#### **Treasurer's report (as of July 28, 2012):**

Cash: \$183.56	Checking: \$63.35
Savings: \$1,777.41	Total: \$2,024.32

### Future tentative programs

TBD: Hummel Aviation

TBD: Video story of the P-47 thunderbolt

TBD: Aircraft carriers on Lake Michigan?

TBD: A summer "all Pilots" picnic/fly in at Riverview Airport

TBD: A Second Annual Movie Day

TBD: Aircraft Ownership & Operation: An Aviation Attorney's perspective

(This list is shrinking--Do you have any more ideas? Bring them to the next meeting.)

#### 2012 Meeting Dates (subj. to change)

9/8    10/13    11/10    12/8

#### **The 2012 Officers for EAA145:**

- President, Dick Foster  
(538-8849 [c172foster@gmail.com](mailto:c172foster@gmail.com))
- Vice President, Bruce Whitman  
(897-9846 [bwhitmanpe@att.net](mailto:bwhitmanpe@att.net))
- Secretary/Treasurer, Bob Swietek  
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- Website Editor, Ken Baas  
(260-0227 [kbaas@celebrationcinema.com](mailto:kbaas@celebrationcinema.com))

*It's our Chapter. Its only as good as each one of us wants to make it.*

## WACO HISTORY

WACO Aircraft, a family-owned, American company, is the only FAA approved manufacturer of 1930's sport biplanes worldwide. Originally founded in 1983 as Classic Aircraft Corporation, WACO started off with a simple dream: To revive the Golden Era's open cockpit flying experience.

Between 1919 and 1947, in the midst of the Golden Age of Aviation, the WACO Aircraft Company of Troy, Ohio was the first family of aircraft manufacturing. Between World War I and World War II, WACO built almost twice as many aircraft as any other manufacturer, with more WACO's registered than the aircraft of any other company. The jewel of WACO's efforts, and their last open-cockpit model for the barnstorming pilots of the 1930's, was the WACO YMF. This gorgeous yet rugged biplane offered absolutely delightful flight handling qualities.

In 1983, the founders of Classic Aircraft Corporation in Battle Creek, Michigan were determined to reincarnate the WACO YMF. In the history of aviation, no company had ever taken a 50-year-old design and manufactured it as a new FAA certified aircraft.

To accomplish this mission, Classic hired experienced engineering talent from Piper, Taylorcraft and Ford. While maintaining the sanctity of WACO's original masterful design, this team of proven professionals modernized the aircraft with more than 300 engineering changes, redesigning over 1400 drawings and building new tooling for production.

In March 1986, the first WACO YMF Classic rolled off the assembly line and received FAA certification under the original WACO type certificate. With more than 5000 labor hours of fine craftsmanship hand-built into each aircraft, it's no wonder the WACO YMF was hailed as an aeronautic thoroughbred. This unique biplane was not a rebuild or a kit plane, but a brand new FAA certified production aircraft, with such improvements as the use of sturdy 4130 steel for the fuselage frame, modern hydraulic toe brakes and advanced avionics.

In 1991, the company introduced its first WACO YMF-5C Super. This superior modern day barnstormer boasted even more improvements, such as greater internal width, more legroom, increased useful load, a balanced rudder and large front entry door.

Most recently, the company's newest model, the WACO YMF-5D Super, has taken the aviation community by storm. Even with this exalted pedigree, the latest WACO model represents a new pinnacle in aeronautics. Sharpened, refined and rethought in every minute detail, this elite aircraft offers thrilling levels of performance combined with the luxurious accommodation for up to three people.

Today, owners Peter Bowers and Jon Bowers, along with a talented team of craftsmen, carry on the WACO tradition. The company is constantly re-engineering, modernizing and updating their designs to provide the safest, most reliable, highest quality biplanes available. For countless years to come, this one-of-a-kind aircraft manufacturer will continue to provide the world's finest, most exhilarating biplane.