

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

NO MEETING FOR AUGUST

August 11/12: No meeting scheduled this month. Oshkosh, vacations and hot weather are enough. Chapter officers are working on the next month's meetings.

September 8: Tentative program scheduled on light sport aircraft.

Contact Hugh Eisen (616-446-2441) if you have questions or information on LSA.

October 14: Tentative Chili-RV fly in planned. Contact Bill Willyard (616-460-6397) if you have questions, information or would like to help.

If any one has questions, comments or information about future EAA145 meeting, please contact Dick Foster (616-538-8849)

Largest kit builder working on LSA

With Cessna, one of the world's largest general aviation aircraft manufacturers, expected to enter into the S-LSA market, it only seems reasonable that the largest manufacturer of kit airplanes would enter it, too.

Van's Aircraft Inc., of Aurora, Oregon, is showing components of a proof-of-concept version of their RV-12 here at AirVenture. The RV-

12 is Van's first effort to build a kit conforming to the LSA standard.

Projected features for the kit include removable wings, full-span flaperons, and an all-moving stabilator.

Power for the RV-12 will come from Rotax 912S 100-horsepower engine, the same engine expected to power the Cessna offering, and the engine of choice for many of the available S-LSA models.The airplane likely will be offered first as a standard Van's kit, then progress to a fast-build kit option. An S-LSA kit option, where the builder is not required to complete at least 51% of the construction, also is under consideration the company says. According to Van's, factory built, flyaway versions of the airplane will not be available.

Pricing for the kit will be similar to prices for other Van's kits.

A prototype airplane is expected to fly in September or October of this year. Kits likely won't be available until late 2007.