



# Above it All

July 2020

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 327 - DUBUQUE IA USA  
[www.327eaachapter.org](http://www.327eaachapter.org) [www.facebook.com/EAA327/](http://www.facebook.com/EAA327/)

## From The Desk of the President



Hooray!

We are planning an EAA Chapter meeting for July 21, the usual 3rd Tuesday of the month. Unusual, because we generally skip our local meeting during the month of AirVenture.

The meeting will be hosted by members Don Hedeman and Mark Wallace between their hangers starting at 6pm for social time with a light dinner including soft drinks and water. BYOB for any adult beverages and chairs. Spouses, guests and interested youth are welcome. There will be a free-will offering for the food. A short business meeting will be at 7pm. Bring masks and practice social distancing. If you don't feel well or have been recently exposed to a contagious disease, please stay home. It is always a pleasure to visit with one another.

The program will be Mark Wallace and Don Hedeman showing their Zenith and Tailwind projects. It seems to me there is quite a lot of sitting around socializing around those hangers, but they insist they are building airplanes. It must be true as Don refused a fly-out seat for brunch recently to continue building. Enter the back gate at the end of the road past the UD Flight Center, turn right and park in the grass beyond the two hangers on your right. The gathering will be between the first and second row of hangers to your right after coming through the gate. If the gate is closed, call me at 563-663-3646 or any of the attending members to let you in.

We have been making slow progress on the RV-12is youth build project largely due to COVID-19 concerns, but we were also slowed by back-ordered parts and my plantar fasciitis, limiting how much time I can stand. The motor mount came and we have the engine mounted and tail cone fairing fitted. Next comes fitting the cowl. Putting the airframe together will happen after moving project to Hanger 88 on the airfield in mid August, then mounting spinner and propeller, engine controls, and doing cooling, heating and exhaust systems along with avionics installation will be needed. So likely there will be another year of work before flight. The AOPA made the RV-12 their cover photo and lead article in the August AOPA magazine. I encourage you to read it.

The NATA(friends of VP Steve Bradley and member Dan Kruse) plans to come to Dubuque for formation-flying training this summer have been cancelled due to COVID-19 concerns. I was pleased that so many of the youth build members and adults signed up to volunteer for this event. I hope we'll be able to host them next year.

Our Ray Scholar recipient, Joe Chapman, soloed last week! Let's celebrate this milestone in his training and do the traditional T-shirt ceremony at this next meeting. He has scheduled an exam time for his FAA knowledge test for next week, so please come to offer encouragement and answer any questions he may have. Joe has been writing a column on his training experience, so look for that in this issue.

Several of us have been out to see the EAA Observation and Cell-Phone waiting area this last week. Paving of the access road and parking area were done by local pilot Jeff Spahn's Tri-State Paving Company and pay-

*(Continued on top of page 2)*

ment arranged by our airport manager Todd Dalsing, for which we are grateful. I managed a photo of Wally Brown with Jeff at the paving site. Wally, Todd and former manager Bob Grierson spent a great deal of time making this possible when UD build the new Flight Center on the former site. We hope a grant comes through to pay for binoculars at the site to make viewing more of an adventure for the individuals and families that visit. (Please see photos on Page 5).

We thank EAA member Bob Wagner for building the repeater that transmits tower and ground aircraft communications to auto radios. Thanks also to all of the members and donors who made this site and building possible. We are planning to repaint the building to keep it looking sharp this summer or fall.

Please put the date of the Pancake Breakfast in your calendars for the Sunday after Labor Day, September 13. Our plan is to host it in the new Chapter hanger. Hopefully, everyone will be able to do the usual duties. If not, let me know so we can look to assign them to other members. I hope with Past-President Wally Brown's work last year at organizing, this year will go smoothly. It takes everyone pitching in to pull this off. We plan to offer signups for Young Eagles a few weeks later and see if there is interest in the Flying Start program for those interested in learning to fly. This is our Chapter's only fund-raiser for the year, and I know we will have expenses in putting the new Chapter hanger into service, so lets pitch in to make it as successful as we can. And pray for good weather.



**Name that plane!**  
*(Answer later in this newsletter)*

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## First ever “Third Thursday” trip for 2 local EAA members...

EAA 327 members Dusty Bodine and Bob Woodward flew the Key City Fliers' recently-overhauled Cherokee-140 over to the “Third Thursday BBQ” in Mason City on July 16, 2020. With EAA AirVenture canceled this year, it was like a “micro-Oshkosh” evening! Food was available on-site but BYO was also popular.

There were well over 100 people in attendance and probably over 50 planes of every shape, size and vintage. It was a perfect day to fly and great way to help break in the newly-overhauled engine. Worth the trip, the next one in Thursday, Aug. 20, 2020 and starts at 6:00 pm. If you haven't ever been there (or it's been a while), put it on your calendar!



1957 Dehavilland Beaver DHC-2



1944 North American AT-6F

# Tuesday, July 21st, 2020 Chapter Meeting

**6:00 PM - Social with food and beverages**  
**7:00 PM - Program**

Don Hedeman and Mark Wallace have invited the Chapter to meet in the space between their hangers (see the red "M" in the photo below) for a "show and tell" of their projects. Don's wife Francis will head up the meal part of the meeting with social time starting at 6pm.

**Bring a chair**, and/or I'll try to get the EAA tables and chairs out of storage. Francis plans on sloppy joes, soft drinks and chips.

There will be a **free-will offering** for dinner.

Go to the **rear hanger gate at the end of the road past the UD Flight Center and ATC tower to the old (current) C&B hanger. See the red "G" in the photo below. If the gate is closed, call Chuck at 563-663-3646 to open it**, or drive in and turn right past the front of the Cottingham hanger to the next row of hangers on the left.

**Please park in the grass on the right (see the red "P" in the photo below)** so as not to block aircraft



# Ray Scholar Student Pilot Solos!!!

By Joe Chapman



I've read that a student pilot's first solo is one of the most exciting and important milestones in their flying career, many see it as the first real test for a pilot. I have wanted to be a pilot since I was 6, and I would sometimes think about what my first solo might be like - occasionally worrying if I could actually do it and

wondering what it would be like to be in an airplane - in the air - alone.

Once I started training under the Ray scholarship, I knew my solo was a milestone that would be coming up fast, and once I really started flight training I thought more and more about it. But nothing was like actually accomplishing it. When my time came to solo, I didn't know it was going to happen. Mike and I had just come back from cleaning the airplane in Maquoketa, and I thought that we were going to end the lesson and head home. But when we were taxiing the plane to the hangar, Mike said he was giving me a solo endorsement and that I was going to take the plane up and do three stop-and-go's on the runway.

After my initial surprise, I realized that I knew exactly

what I was doing, that everything I was about to do was something that I had done before. Any sense of nervousness or doubt left my mind as I started to get going, and became focused on what I was doing.

Before I knew it, I was going down the runway and then - I took off. I remember looking over to my right during the initial climb out being amazed that I was the only one in the cockpit and I almost couldn't get over the fact that everything I was doing was all me. I think it's seriously the most fun I've had in my life. The feeling of being alone, as if I were soaring under my own wings was truly special. And more than a few times I found myself in total amazement that a dream I had had for over 10 years was coming true.

When time came for the first landing, it was almost automatic, and I put myself down to a landing that was not half bad (if I say so myself). After two more, it was time to land. I debated whether or not I could do another, but decided that I didn't have a good enough excuse to tell Mike once I was back on the ground for good.

It was a truly amazing experience that I know I'll never forget. The next major milestone is my FAA written test, which, I have to admit, is not nearly as fun as the last milestone, but I know is just as important. I have my test date scheduled and am working toward it.

## Chapter 327 Flight Instructors

Here is a listing of Chapter 327 members that are flight instructors and would be willing to help with primary flight instruction, your next BFR or other. *If you are a Chapter member and a flight instructor please let me know and I will include your name in the listing. Additions/Corrections are welcome!*

| CFI / CFII   | Phone        | New Students | CFII | BFR | IFP | Airports | Plane              |
|--|--------------|--------------|------|-----|-----|----------|--------------------|
| Mike Nickeson  | 563/451-6246 | Yes          | Yes  | Yes | Yes | DBQ      | Owners, Club Plane |
| Alaine Olthafer  | 608/988-6864 | Yes          | Yes  | Yes | Yes | PVB      | Owners, Club, FBO  |
| e-mail - Bob Woodward (bob.woodward312@gmail.com to add your name to the list. |              |              |      |     |     |          |                    |

**Dubuque Airport overlook, funded by EAA Chapter 327, paving completed**



## Local Calendar of Events

For many other Aviation Related events, visit the following websites. Click on the following links. Will only list events submitted to the editor and other most local events here.

- [EAA Aviation Calendar of Events](#)
- [AOPA Calendar of Events](#)
- [Iowa DOT Office of Aviation Calendar](#)
- [Wisconsin Fly-Ins and Airshow Event Calendar](#)
- [Fly-Ins.com Calendar Website](#)
- [Fun Places to Fly Website](#)
- [Social Flight Calendar](#)
- [Midwest Flyer Magazine Calendar](#)



**EAA Chapter 327 IMC Club**

*“To promote instrument flying, proficiency, and safety”*

Meets: 7pm, 2nd Thurs of month  
Location: Dubuque Airport Terminal Conference Room  
For more information contact: charlesbweber@me.com

## Upcoming EAA Webinars

Go to [www.eaa.org/webinars](http://www.eaa.org/webinars) to view the schedule and to register.

**Was Justice Served** July 1 at 7 p.m. CDT  
Presenter: Mike Busch

**Fast Track to Experimental** July 8 at 7 p.m. CDT  
Presenter: Prof. H Paul Shuch

**Shuttle, Houston - a Look Inside Space Shuttle Mission Control**  
July 14 at 7 p.m. CDT Presenter: Paul Dye

**Completing the FAA Application for Medical Certificate: Legal Traps for the Unwary** July 29 at 7 p.m. CDT  
Presenters: Greg Reigel and Patrick Phillips

Chapter Website: [www.327.eaachapter.org](http://www.327.eaachapter.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EAA327>

Send event information on those activities that would interest the membership. Will be delighted to include any information on aviation related activities, fly-in breakfasts, etc. e-Mail your information to [Bob.woodward312@gmail.com](mailto:Bob.woodward312@gmail.com).

### EAA CHAPTER 327 OFFICERS

(Effective January 2020)

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# EAA Chapter 327



## Membership Application

Please print:

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Landline (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

National member ID. \_\_\_\_\_

Single membership: \$15.00

Family membership: \$22.50

Payable To: FAA Chapter 327

Return to: **Merle Neises**  
**6829 N. High Ridge Rd.**  
**Galena Il. 61036**



Meetings the third Tuesday of the month, 7PM, Conference Rm next to restaurant, DBQ Airport Terminal

Meeting times & places may vary in the summer time contact a chapter officer for exact times and place

Visit our webpage [www.327.eaachapter.org](http://www.327.eaachapter.org)