



## April 2020 Newsletter

*Have you paid your 2020 dues? Please send a \$20.00 check made out to EAA 334 via US Postal Service to Dave Sellins, 20 Old Colony Rd, N. Stonington, CT 06359*

In this issue: thanks to Storm Ciara, a British Airways flight made it from New York to London in just 4 hours and 56 minutes. We found where Bill Stout built his AeroMobile, and a plane designed to stay aloft for a year.,

We now hold our meetings at Groton Airport at the Mystic Jet Center in the pilot's lounge on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM. Next meeting is on March 14, 2020. Jason Otrin will be speaking on "Drone Technology Today, the 30,000 Foot View" - a family-friendly presentation We are planning to have great speakers at our meetings and have already scheduled the next few months (see specifics later in this Newsletter)..

Our "name that airport" contest continues: Last month's tease's hint was: "not close by, but well known: it was LaGuardia. No winners again. Watsamatta? \$20.00 for the first correct answer for this month's, below. Same hint. Send answers "to [tedjgordon@gmail.com](mailto:tedjgordon@gmail.com).



## The Good Old Days Were Really Good

When commercial airless had stewardesses not flight attendants, they were registered nurses, and they wore white gloves. And our knees didn't hit the seat in front and it seems there were fewer crying babies aboard. But smoking was permitted if you sat in designated rows. Go figure.



From:

[file:///Users/tedgordon/Downloads/LEAD\\_M AGNET-JULY 2019.pdf](file:///Users/tedgordon/Downloads/LEAD_M%20AGNET-JULY%202019.pdf)

# *President's Message*



In the left photo, President Dave Sellins (right) presents EAA334 "Aviator of the Year" award to Bernie Stumpf (left) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Young Eagles program last year. Bernie flew 11 Young Eagles flights in 2019, carrying 32 youngsters in his Comanche at airports in CT and RI. The award is a beautiful trophy that Bernie can keep on his fireplace mantle for a year.

Dave Says:

Having completed our very successful and well attended February meeting at the Mystic Jet Center, I look forward to the chapter's officers attending the March 7<sup>th</sup> "Leadership Training" class at Brainard Airport. It is being sponsored by EAA Chapter 166, which is a very busy Chapter that is going to build a kit plane with a number of young flyers of the future. Check out their Web Site.

Our March meeting will be most interesting and an absolute must if you fly Drones. Jason Otrin will give a presentation on Drones, how they fly, the FAA regulations that control the operation and flight of them and flight safety.

As we approach the end of March, we will be attending Sun & Fun in Florida, It will run from March the 29<sup>th</sup> until April 5<sup>th</sup>. we have moved the April meeting to the third Saturday, the 18<sup>th</sup> to give some of us time to return from Sun & Fun and unpack the week end after. Sam Watrous will need to unpack his trailer with Werner engines and his Kit P-36. The P-36 may be flying for demonstrations during Sun & Fun. Best wishes for Sam and his team at "ScaleBirds".

Dave  
EAA1053112

*From Wired, February 12, 2020*



## *A 747 Set a New Record for Crossing the Atlantic*

Here's a good piece of trivia for you: What's the fastest commercial airliner in operation? As of Sunday, the answer might be "the Boeing 747"—not bad for an airliner that first entered service 50 years ago. On Saturday evening at 6:47 pm ET, British Airways 747-400, tail number G-CIVP, took off from John F. Kennedy (JFK) airport in New York. It landed at London's Heathrow Airport (LHR) at 4:43 am local time—a crossing time of just 4 hours and 56 minutes, and a new record for subsonic aircraft.

Of course, the venerable jumbo had some help. Storm Ciara gave the plane a helping hand with 200+ mph tailwinds. G-CIVP set a peak ground speed of 825 mph, although its peak airspeed remained subsonic at around Mach 0.85.

Virgin Atlantic actually had two of its planes reach Heathrow in under five hours from JFK on Saturday night, each an Airbus A350-1000. However, these planes achieved flight times of 4 hours and 57 minutes and 4 hours and 59 minutes, which at least allowed Virgin Atlantic to tease on Twitter that it accomplished the feat on much less fuel. The previous best subsonic Atlantic crossing, set by a Norwegian airliner that took 5 hours and 13 minutes.

None of these times are close to those achieved by Concorde, a supersonic commercial airliner operated by BA and Air France from 1976 until 2003. In 1996, a BA Concorde flew the same JFK-LHR route in just 2 hours and 52 minutes, cruising at Mach 2. And even that's not the fastest transatlantic crossing by an air-breathing aircraft that we know of. In 1974, an SR-71 flew between the two cities in a mere 1 hour and 54 minutes, although pedants might disqualify it, as it did not take off from JFK nor land at Heathrow.

*This story originally appeared on Ars Technica.*

*Across From Our Hotel in  
Santa Monica, CA, there was a  
Building with this Poster Etched in  
Stainless Steel; We Investigated*



The stainless-steel poster commemorated the 1937 flight of the AeroMobile, a roadable plane, from Santa Monica to the National Air Races in Cleveland. Bill Stout, built the Aerocar in that building 82 years ago. Here is the way that Modern Mechanix (J.A. Greenberg, November 1943) described Stout and the Aerocar, one of his later designs:

The Aerocar is an automobile with detachable wings which can be “parked” ; in the garage or at the airport when the Aerocar is being used on the road. Many technical noses will be lifted at Stout’s design but in the end, you can

bet, we will all be riding in some contraption very similar to it. For all of Bill Stout's inventions follow the same routine: 1. Derision by the "experts," and, 2. Final adoption for general use a few years later....

(Stout is) a character and a legend in the automotive and airplane industries, he has been conducting a crusade against adherence to tradition and the formulae of the past since he graduated from the University of Minnesota thirty-five years ago. From all of which it may be gathered that Bill Stout has no overweening fondness for professorial conclusions. "Never resort to mathematics," he once said, "until you have exhausted the possibilities of two toothpicks and a piece of string." The key to his technique is disclosed by a motto prominently displayed on the wall of his drafting room: "SIMPLICITE AND ADD MORE LIGHTNESS."

This sketch is an artists' rendering of a later design (from William B. Stout and his Wonderful "SKYCAR" (Nov, 1943)





# *Solar aircraft designed to stay aloft for a year makes maiden flight*

By [David Szondy](#)  
February 17, 2020



A super-endurance unmanned solar-electric aircraft built for year-long flights has completed its maiden run. Built by BAE Systems subsidiary Prismatic, the Persistent High Altitude Solar Aircraft (PHASA-35) took to the air over the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Woomera Test Range in South Australia for its first fully-integrated flight test. The PHASA-35 is a High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) vehicle designed to fill the gap between aircraft and satellites. According to BAE Systems, it went from design to first flight in 20 months with two full-size prototypes completed in 2019.

Cheaper than satellites to build and operate, the PHASA-35 is a persistent, stable aerial platform with military and civilian applications, including surveillance, communications, security, remote sensing, environmental science, forest fire detection, and maritime surveillance.

With a wingspan of 35 m (115 ft) and proprietary carbon-composite monocoque structure weighing 150 kg (331 lb), the PHASA-35 can spend up to a year in the air thanks to its gallium arsenide solar array and lithium-ion batteries running two brushless, direct-drive electric motors. This allows it to run against prevailing winds as it operates at altitudes of up to 70,000 ft and speeds of 50 to 78 knots. More flight tests are slated for 2020, with initial operations to begin within 12 months. (From New Atlas, February 18, 2020)

*The AOPA has established a new blog to facilitate conversations and answer questions among aircraft owners and pilots*



Categories of conversations on this blog already include questions about flight training, aircraft and equipment, medicine and health, legal and insurance, ratings, drones, airspace, air safety, flying clubs, and other topics. You can find it at

[https://pic.aopa.org/home?utm\\_source=announcement&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=cta](https://pic.aopa.org/home?utm_source=announcement&utm_medium=email&utm_content=cta)

## *New EAA Chapter on Long Island*

Mike Gaines tells us that he has formed a new EAA Chapter 1647 at East Hampton LI at KHTO. More information next month. We are looking forward to cooperative fly-ins and other activities.

## *2020 EVENT SCHEDULE*

***REMINDER: EAA334 meetings are scheduled on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM at Mystic Jet Center at the Groton/New London Airport (KGON) NEXT MEETING IS March 14, 2020 10:00AM Jason Ortin will be talking about Drone Technology Today, drone uses in different industries, how they fly and flight rules. Coffee and donuts for all. The April meeting, however will break tradition and be held on the third Saturday, April 18, to allow time for people who attended Sun n Fun some time to recuperate after returning home.***

*You might enjoy this trailer for a new Top Gun movie scheduled for release this summer.*



That's Tom Cruise in the cockpit once again!

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nz9lnIDdkMo&mkt\\_tok=eyJpIjoiWIRBeFpETXhOVGN3TmpKaSIzInQiOiJsUmRRWW9aY3VcL3RFNTZtOERPdFZmSVppXC9PRzM1SnZrVXdZM3oybFITZHVidEtZMVVHXC9rU0YxTEE3VU4wNFNpc0gzUStBNFI2WmtBY3VDRHI3OU1JR0k1eXlJdnJzbHNVcDRqUUM0VUx5K3ZMZG9CU3h5eHdUc1JVRIBFQUNUKyJ9](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nz9lnIDdkMo&mkt_tok=eyJpIjoiWIRBeFpETXhOVGN3TmpKaSIzInQiOiJsUmRRWW9aY3VcL3RFNTZtOERPdFZmSVppXC9PRzM1SnZrVXdZM3oybFITZHVidEtZMVVHXC9rU0YxTEE3VU4wNFNpc0gzUStBNFI2WmtBY3VDRHI3OU1JR0k1eXlJdnJzbHNVcDRqUUM0VUx5K3ZMZG9CU3h5eHdUc1JVRIBFQUNUKyJ9)

### ***And the EAA 334 Meetings:***

**March 14**

Groton, CT - Drone Technology Today, The 30,000 Foot View - a family-friendly presentation. Learn about drone uses in different industries, how they fly and flight rules. 10:00 am in Mystic Jet Center at Groton-New London Airport (KGON). Contact Dave Sellins 860 535-2256 or [dsellins@comcast.net](mailto:dsellins@comcast.net). Coffee and donuts for all!

**April 18**

Groton, CT - Q & A with Groton Tower Manager, Chet Moore. 10:00 am in Mystic Jet Center at Groton New London Airport (KGON). Presented by EAA Chapter 334. Contact Dave Sellins 860 535-2256 or [dsellins@comcast.net](mailto:dsellins@comcast.net). Join us for coffee and conversation!

**May 9**

Groton, CT - EAA Chapter 334 is celebrating our 50th Anniversary! Historians and aircraft home builders Sam Watrous and Derek Ferris will present chapter milestones since the start in 1969. 10:00 am in the Mystic Jet Center Pilot Lounge, Groton New London Airport (KGON). Contact Dave Sellins at 860 535-2256 or [dsellins@comcast.net](mailto:dsellins@comcast.net). Anniversary celebration refreshments for all.

### **Other Upcoming Events**

The New England Air Museum at Bradley Airport, Windsor Locks, CT is conducting a series of trips to local points of interest. Contact the Museum at 860-623-3305 for more information:



### **Lowell National Historic Park: Saturday June 27, 2020**

Uncover the history of mill technology and its connections to aerospace, stroll along scenic canals, and enjoy a guided trolley tour of this urban National Historic Park. Lunch will be on your own in the historic district, and all admission, tour fees, transportation fees and gratuities will be included.

### **A Weekend in the Finger Lakes: Glenn Curtiss Museum, Bully Hill Vineyards, and the Corning Museum of Glass: Friday August 21-Sunday August 23, 2020**

Enjoy a behind-the-scenes tour of the Glenn Curtiss Museum and its aircraft restoration facility; a winery tour and tasting at historic Bully Hill Vineyards; and a guided tour of the Corning Museum of Glass. This trip will include two nights in three-star hotel accommodations; two hot breakfasts, one lunch, and one dinner; transportation, admission, and all fees and gratuities.

### **Hampton Roads, Virginia: Air, Sea, and Space: September 28-October 4, 2020**

Home to over a dozen military installations as well as NASA's Langley Research Center, the Hampton Roads region is a top destination for military history enthusiasts. This trip will include stops at the U.S.S. Wisconsin, the Military Aviation Museum, the Mariner's Museum, and the Virginia Air and Space Center, as well as a cruise alongside Naval Station Norfolk and a day trip to the Wright Brothers National Memorial in North Carolina's Outer Banks. Travelers will enjoy six nights in three-star accommodations located in the heart of downtown Norfolk, Virginia; six hot breakfasts, two lunches and one dinner; airfare and ground transportation, admission, and all fees and gratuities.

And the Museum is also presenting a series of lectures that may be of interest

**Sunday March 22, 2020**

**"Igor I. Sikorsky: The Renaissance Man"**

Join his sons Igor and Nicholai Sikorsky will share personal insights into their father's incredible career, from his early days in Russia to his greatest achievement, the modern helicopter.

**Sunday May 3, 2020**

**"The D-Day Squadron"**

**Presented by Eric Zipkin, Coordinator, D-Day Squadron**

In 2019, the D-Day Squadron commemorated the 75th anniversary of the D-Day invasion. Starting in Oxford, CT they flew across the Atlantic Ocean to England, joining European aircraft to fly across the English Channel and drop over 200 paratroopers in the original D-Day drop zones. The Squadron concluded their journey in Berlin, commemorating the 70th anniversary of the Berlin Airlift with the original Candy Bomber, Col. Gail Halvorsen.

**Sunday July 19, 2020**

### **“Bradley International Airport: 70 Years of Historic Highlights”**

**Presented by Robert Bell**

The second busiest airport in New England serves over 7 million travelers a year. It started as tobacco fields, developed into a military airbase, and then transitioned into a commercial airfield. Learn how Bradley International Airport evolved and see what it looked like along the way while considering its future. Rare photographs and historic data will be part of this exploration.

**Sunday October 4, 2020**

### **“The Connecticut Airport Authority”**

**Presented by Kevin Dillon, Executive Director of Connecticut Airport Authority**

Join Kevin Dillon, Executive Director of the Connecticut Airport Authority, for an informative presentation on the CAA, its recent developments and accomplishments, as well as its future plans.

The lectures will be at 1:00 p.m. the day of the event in the Museum's conference room. Museum Members Free - General public \$21.00 (includes admission to the Museum). Seating is limited so pre-registration is suggested. If there are any seats open on the day of the event, they will be available on a first-come basis. If you have any questions, please call the Museum at (860) 623-3305.

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The Rhode Island Wing of the Civil Air Patrol has started a new Squadron in Westerly RI. They meet Thursday evenings from 6 - 9 pm, at the Westerly Education Center. Col. Stranahan is the CO and Lt. Col, Robert Gubala is the second in Command. Dave Sellins, President of EAA Chapter 334, has attended some of the meetings and will furnish reports in future Newsletters. At the present time they have 8-10 new Cadets from our area. Stay tuned. Anyone wishing to volunteer and help Cadets, please attend a meeting and speak with the Colonel. They are looking for volunteer members.

***If you're looking for something to do next weekend check out [support@socialflight.com](mailto:support@socialflight.com). This site publishes interesting events on a Friday***

*describing what you might do and where in the coming weekend, too short a time horizon for this Newsletter but certainly worth reviewing if you want some suggestions for the next few days.*

**Socialflight also has a new feature:** “Burger Flight, which makes finding a terrific airport restaurant as easy as tapping on a screen. Burger Flight is included in SocialFlight’s free app, and it shows airport restaurants as burger symbols on the map. Thousands of airport restaurants are featured on the moving map.” From <https://www.flyingmag.com/burger-flight-helps-pilots-find-airport-restaurants?cmpid=ene20190411>

**New Member Benefit: EAA Videos :** After extensive development and testing, EAA has fully integrated video content within [EAA.org](http://EAA.org). Now, when you visit the site, you can click the Videos tab at the top to access thousands of titles covering everything from aviation history to Hints for Homebuilders, and all of it is available free of charge by using your existing EAA member login. Please note that the legacy site will be retired soon, so please update your bookmarks or links.

March 14, 2020. Jason Otrin will be speaking on “Drone Technology Today, the 30,000 Foot View” - a family-friendly presentation EAA Chapter 334 10:00am. Mystic Jet Center at Groton New London Airport (KGON). Call Dave Sellins 860 535-2256 or email [dsellins@comcast.net](mailto:dsellins@comcast.net). Visitors invited!

March 5:, Orlando, FL 2020 Women in Aviation Conference

March 31- April 5, 2020 Sun N Fun. Lakeland, FL

July 20-July 26, 2020 EAA AirVenture; Oshkosh, Wisconsin

## **CLASSIFIED SECTION**

Anyone can list equipment, products, materials, and what not for sale or wanted in this classified section. Please include a description, and your contact information if applicable. Listing is free. Your input will remain active for the next few newsletter issues. EAA 334 will not be involved so if you see something of interest, just initiate the contact.

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GOOD BOOK: **Unusual Attitudes** by **Martha Lunken**. The author writes a column of the same title for Flying magazine. She is a crusty ex FAA examiner, a DC3 Pilot, and tells a hell of a good hangar story of friends and foibles, crashes and wonders of flying. I bought my copy through Amazon and I am thoroughly enjoying it.

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*Jeremy Lauer is a student pilot looking into building a plane, which would probably be an RV-12. He wants to help someone who is currently building a kit plane in the area to learn building techniques. Please let him know if you could use an assistant or know of another building project looking for a little help in return for some training. He can be reached at 860 884 5823, text or leave a message.*

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**A *FREE preflight de-icing sprayer*** is available.

Just call or email Ted Gordon 860 434 8608 or [tedjgordon@gmail.com](mailto:tedjgordon@gmail.com)

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***Anyone can recommend a person, product, or company here that they have found helpful or useful.*** You can even recommend yourself. Please include the nature of the service or product, and contact information if applicable. Listing is free. Your input will remain active for the next few newsletter issues. EAA 334 will not be involved so if you see something of interest, just initiate the contact.

**IMPORTANT: The FAA has published a list of over the counter medications that are safe to take when you are PIC. Find it here:**

<https://image.mail.aopa.org/lib/fe3615707564067d701d78/m/3/449b0481-518e-472f-b15f-7168a68f09e7.pdf>

**A&P Mechanic with IA: Greg Prentiss**

EAA Technical Councilor 15 years

Builder of the Glassair N28P, first flight June 1999

Amateur Built Experimental and Light Sport Aircraft

Extensive experience composites, engines

If you'd like anything else, ring me up.

Greg Prentiss, 20 Dockerel Road, Vernon, CT 06066, [greg.prentiss@gmail.com](mailto:greg.prentiss@gmail.com)

860-872-2278 Home/Office, 860-205-7640 Cell

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**SimplexAero**, owned by Jeff Erickson of Old Saybrook, teaches tail wheel and provides sport pilot training. He also offers scratch plans for the Cloud Duster and the Zing.

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## Membership Application

### EAA 334- Fulfill your dream to build and fly.

Our club is dedicated to flying of all sorts. We exchange information and experiences. We provide help where needed in promoting safety, airplane construction, and operation. Meetings take place on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM at Mystic Jet Center, Groton/New London Airport. We invite you to join us.

To explore membership, join, or renew your membership, please complete this form.

Select membership type and duration:

- ☐ FREE 6 Months Full Membership trial
- ☐ One-year full Membership in EAA 334 \$20.00\*\*
- ☐ One-year Student Membership \$12.00 (<18)\*\* Free if you have had a Young Eagle flight
- ☐ 3 year Membership \$10.00 discount
- ☐ Family Memberships \$25 a year \*\*

\*First Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

\*Address \_\_\_\_\_

\*City \_\_\_\_\_

\*State \_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_

\*Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft \_\_\_\_\_

\*Required information

\*\* For membership in EAA Chapter 334, send the completed form and check payable to EAA 334, to *Dave Sellins, 20 Old Colony Rd, N. Stonington, CT 06359*. Membership in the EAA National organization is also required. For more information go to: <https://www.eaa.org/en/ea/renew-ear/renew-membership>