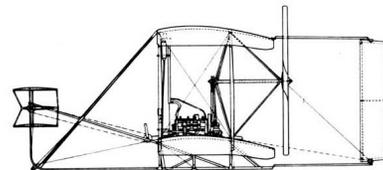




The Flyer



Volume 56, Issue 3

March 2024

This year has not been kind to our Chapter membership. If you haven't heard, member Becky Hurd passed on February 21st. Below is the obituary that was written by her husband (and longtime Chapter 44 member) Dave Hurd and their daughter Elizabeth:

Rebecca (Becky) Hurd, age 76, of Avon, NY passed away in Winter Haven, FL on February 21st, 2024.

She was born on December 9th, 1947 as the only child of Richard Dennis and Emma (Hodel) Dennis in Binghamton, NY. She graduated from Binghamton North High School. Her family later moved, while she was in college, to New Hartford, NY. She received her associate degree from Sullivan County Community College. After college she worked in the office of various animal hospitals. When not working Becky enjoyed drag racing her father's Yellow Ford Mustang Mach 1 at the Utica/Rome speedway.



In the Fall of 1970, she met the love of her life, her husband David. They met by chance while she was volunteering in a fashion show at a home for elderly ladies. David was at the show assisting his mother who was on the board of directors for the event. The two went on a few dates before David left for basic training. During his time away they wrote letters to each other. Once he was home, they officially started dating in the Spring of '71, and by Christmas they were engaged. They married April 29th, 1972, at St. John the Evangelist Church in New Hartford, NY. Their first two nights they honeymooned at the Hulbert House in Boonville, NY. Subsequently they purchased their first home in Whitesboro, NY. Before children, the couple would travel to a friend's camp in the Adirondacks to water ski, as well as vacationing in Antigua, Grand Bahama, and Grand Cayman. In 1983, after David had completed his commercial pilots license, they flew down and island hopped the Bahamas in a single engine airplane. In December of 1983 they welcomed their pride and joy, daughter Elizabeth. The couple purchased their second home in Central Square, NY, where Becky worked for the concessions and catering office of the Carrier Dome at Syracuse University, eventually moving to their permanent home in Avon, NY.

(continued on next page)

Board Meeting minutes are at: <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea44/newsletters/meeting-minutes> ??? Investigating...

Mission: EAA Chapter 44 is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization of aircraft builders and aviation enthusiasts in the Western New York region dedicated to promoting aviation and encouraging participation in aviation-related activities. These include designing, building and restoring aircraft, education, advocacy, and youth outreach programs. We promote flying with high standards of safety in an environment that supports freedom, family, and personal fulfillment.

(Becky Hurd, continued)

Becky had a variety of hobbies throughout her life. While dating David she received her certification for open water scuba diving. She enjoyed planting a variety of flora around her home. She also enjoyed traveling for lunches in her husband's plane. Her true talent was quilting. Becky was a skilled quilter, creating beautiful pieces of art. Through this activity she met wonderful friends. Becky also had a love for animals. There was a constant parade of cats, dogs, hamsters, turtles, and birds that she would somehow acquire, occasionally to the consternation of her husband. Becky attended mass at St. Agnes Catholic Church in Avon, as well as taught religious education to children. She was a member of the Utica Curling Club for several years before moving to Central Square. She was a founding member of the Avon Lioness Club and actively participated with them for many years. After a full career in customer service, she retired from Lands' End. Becky was a two-time breast cancer survivor.

Becky was truly a light that spread warmth and joy. She was kind, patient, and always willing to chat. An example of her remarkable thoughtfulness is her iPad calendar that has the birthdays of all her family, friends, their kids, their kids' friends, and other people her husband is still trying to figure out. She was always willing to help anyone in need. She will be missed.

She is survived by her husband David, her daughter Elizabeth (Matthew) Gracey, as well as her sister-in-law Barbie (Michael) Barry and their son Jackson. She was predeceased by her parents and her infant son Brian.

Private services will be held this summer in Utica, NY.



Becky Hurd in the copilot seat of the Ford Tri-Motor



Dave Hurd spent 20+ years building this beautiful airplane, their Glasair II, with Becky at his side. When everything was go, Becky was the first passenger (Dave is a wise man).



SPORT AVIATION CENTER OPEN HOUSE FLY-IN Saturday June 8 10 AM - 4 PM



© EAA

Baby Ace Restoration Near Completion!

Free and open to the Aviation Community & General Public

**Aircraft & activities will show the fun of building, restoring,
& flying airplanes for their recreational and educational value.**

**Homebuilt, Restored, & Production Aircraft
on Static Display or Fly-by's,
Classic Car Cruise-In Parking, Grill Food (\$), FAMILY FRIENDLY**

**Sport Aviation Center of Western New York
44 Eisenhower Dr., Brockport NY 14420
Brockport Airport/Ledgedale Airpark (7G0)
15 minutes west of Rochester**



Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 44

IMC/VMC Club (Instrument/Visual Meteorological Conditions) by Tom Henion

The IMC/VMC Club is back at Chapter 44. With COVID, the IMC/VMC Club was put on hold. Randy Spurr did a great job with the Club, but attendance dropped substantially due to the pandemic. Mark Scheda, and myself, picked up the Club where Randy left off. The first order of business was to get designated as IMC/VMC Coordinators. We both went through training with John Egan, EAA Chapters Department Manager. With the training complete, we've started up the club again.

There are actually two separate clubs, the IMC Club and the VMC Club. We have combined the clubs into the IMC/VMC Club. We figured that VMC pilots would benefit from the IMC portion and the IMC pilots would benefit from the VMC portion.

Each month we go on the EAA website and download the IMC and VMC questions and videos of the month. The questions are sent out to the membership so they can research the answers if they like. The questions are fairly simple and usually lead to some discussion. The videos are a 5 or 6 minutes long scenario and are played at the meetings. They are always ended with the statement, "What would you do?" This also leads to discussion. We promote discussion so we can learn from one another.

The Coordinators also bring up other topics of their own to discuss. We promote the sharing of experiences and real-world decision-making situations. We try to answer any questions that come up. If we can't answer a question we'll find the answer. We want to learn and become safer pilots from our discussions. The IMC/VMC club is for pilots of any level and people just interested in aviation.

Come join us. The IMC/VMC Club meets at 7PM on the second Tuesday of the month at the Sport Air Center of Western New York (SAC) at Ledgesdale Air Park (7G0).

You Never Know What You Might See at 7G0 by Bob Nelligan-Barrett

Recently, I went to the SAC to varnish the stringers for Fury (BART Baby Ace). While I was waiting for the varnish epoxy to cure, I went over to a bright yellow plane parked near the Big Hangar. You recognize it, don't you? You don't know your Polish LSA's? I didn't either!

From the data plate and an N-number search, I found that this is a 2021 Aeroprakt A32 Vixxen with a Rotax ULS engine. It is made in Poland and is registered in Clyde, NY. The only US dealer is in Ohio at [Heavenbound Aviation - Ohio's Source for Light Sport Aviation \(aeropraktusa.com\)](http://HeavenboundAviation.com). See the website to learn more about this plane and the many options. This plane has a ballistic parachute, long range tanks (114 liters) and mud flaps. I hope the owner brings it to our Open House on June 8, 2024.



EAA Chapter 44 Calendar

Next General Gathering

March 19, 2024

Dinner @ 6:30 pm \$5 donation

Kevin & Barbara Arganbright will be providing Chicken French with a side of penne. Please bring a dish to pass.

Gathering is @ 7:30 pm.

Presentation will be "To Be Announced"

SAC Work Day - Saturday before General Gathering, 10 am.

Air Shows 2024

July 6-7, Greater Binghamton Air Show, Johnson City, NY

July 13-14, National Warplane Museum Airshow, Geneseo, NY

July 22-28, EAA Airventure, Oshkosh, WI

August 3-4, Rochester International Airshow,

August 31- September 1, Wings over Batavia

All activities take place at the Sport Aviation Center of Western New York, and are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

Sport Aviation Center, EAA Chapter 44
44 Eisenhower Drive, Brockport, NY 14420
Brockport Airport / Ledgesdale Airpark (7G0)
43° 10' 56" N, 77° 55' 1" W

Board Meetings
2nd Tuesday of the month

General Gatherings
3rd Tuesday of the month
\$5 Dinner 6:30 pm, Meeting 7:30 pm

BART - Every Wednesday 6pm to 9pm, everyone welcome!

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Director - Frances Englund Nov. 2024 fenglund@yahoo.com (585) 899-0487

Director - Richard Tandy Nov. 2025 rltandy23@gmail.com (585) 944-0568

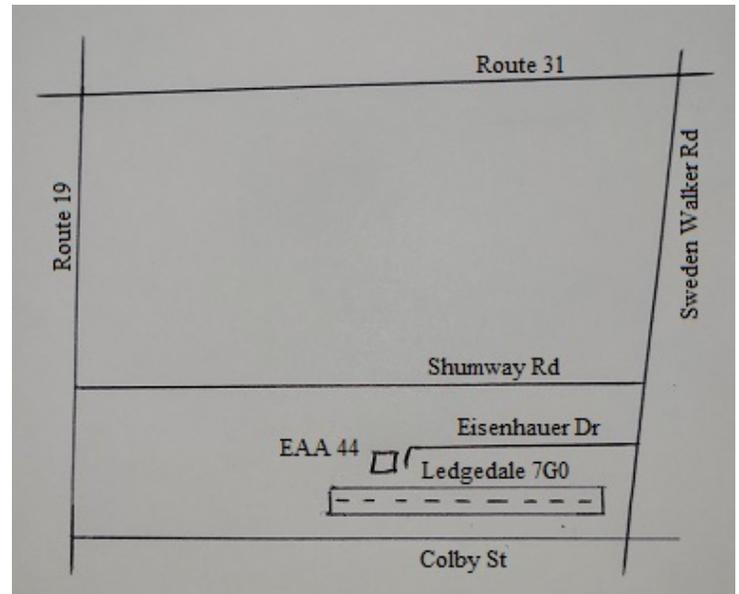
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Young Eagles Coordinator - Rick Tandy (see above)



Building/Grounds Coordinator - Kevin Arganbright (585) 284-6304

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