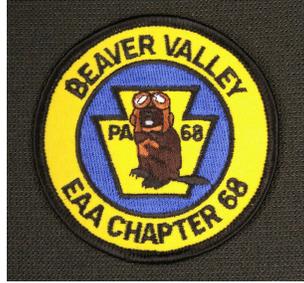


Newsletter



Beaver Valley EAA Chapter 68 founded 1958

September 23, 2019

Vol.3 Issue 29

The September Chapter meeting was held at C.C.B.C. on Tuesday September 3rd. There were 10 members in attendance.

New business that you should know is the next meeting, although it will be more of a field trip, will include nominations for the offices of President, currently held by Tony Pavilonis, and Secretary/ Newsletter Editor currently held by Stan Kocuba. You do not need to be in attendance at the meeting to nominate. You may make a phone call, or email your nomination to an elected official and your nomination will be presented at the meeting. Please take a few minutes to consider who you would like to lead the chapter for the next two years.

After the meeting Tony Pavilonis gave a presentation about radio antenna theory. It was interesting.

Getting back to the next meeting, on October 1st. That is a Tuesday. Next Tuesday. Our meeting will be a field trip to the N.O.A.A weather service site in Moon, Pa. The meeting will commence at 6:00 P.M. and will allow us to witness the release of a weather balloon, as well as learn about the Weather Service procedures.

9/23/2019 STK

The location of the Weather Service Center is on Shafer Road. I was going to include a map but it's easy to get there. Shafer Road is on Broadhead Road. From Flaugherty Run continue on Broadhead towards Moon, approximately .9 of a mile, Shafer is the first traffic signaled intersection, turn left on Shafer and go approximately .6 mile, turn right onto the site. (the NOAA sign is small, but the radar dome is not.)

If you're coming from Moon on Broadhead, go to the second signaled intersection, (the first one is at Walmart), turn right and go .6 mile.

The address for NOAA is 192 Shafer Road Coraopolis, Pa. 15108

There will be a caravan leaving the Beaver County Airport at 5:15. Meet at the parking lot near the Tower.

As most of you know I have been building a Sonex, which is a two place (me and a cat) EAB.

I was happy to report, at an earlier meeting, that Sonex 248SK acquired its temporary Airworthiness Certificate on July 31st this year.

I am even happier to report that the first flight was completed on September 10 under the excellent control of (Luscombe) Dan Lepkowski.

My thanks to Dan for successfully completing the first flight of Phase 1 testing. From my vantage point it was exciting to see it fly. I'm looking forward, with guarded enthusiasm, in continuing to validate its properties, tendencies, and quirks as I move forward with the Phase 1 testing program.



ed.

The Prez sez....

Tony Pavilonis

Our October meeting we have planned a very special event. We will visit the National Weather Service NOAA facility in Moon Township, Pa. Weather data and collection for Pittsburgh all takes place there. In addition, as an added bonus we will witness the launch of a weather balloon. The fun begins at 6:00 P.M. Those interested in carpooling from the Beaver County Airport should plan to meet at the terminal parking lot at 5:00 P.M. to assure our arrival at the facility by 6:00. Remember to circle Tuesday, October 1 on your calendar for this special occasion.

Our October Board meeting will take place on Monday September 30 at 6:30 P.M. at Rinaldi's Restaurant at the Beaver Valley Mall. All are welcome to attend on that date as we plan the events and nominate officers for the coming year.

Congratulations to our very own Stan Kocuba on the first flight of his Sonex Aircraft project! Nothing like seeing all that work take to the sky for the very first time.

The other day I achieved a milestone as I successfully completed the installation and proving flight for ADSB in my RV-7. I have learned to beware when any installation in an aircraft is described as "plug and play". Hoping that the installation would take a couple of hours, I started to worry when it dragged on for a few weeks. There is a point of no return when the old perfectly working equipment is removed from the aircraft and the unproven new box is waiting for installation. Once the wires have been cut, there is no other way to go but forward. The opening in the panel that readily accepted flush mounting of my King KT-76A transponder was too small by $\frac{3}{32}$ of an inch for the Stratus ESG. The range of emotion and panic one experiences when considering a complete rebuild of the instrument panel or an amateurish hack job to make things fit takes you to a place you would rather not go.

My best advice: Wind your watch. Take a deep breath. Go for a walk.

I realized that I could mount the new radio in the existing hole and the Stratus that was too big would protrude by $\frac{3}{8}$ of an inch. Not my first choice, but much better than going back to square one. Better than a big hammer and duct tape. The infamous five hundred dollar ADSB rebate that caused every installer to raise their price by five hundred bucks was waiting to be claimed if only I could find a way to make this work. The other issue that became obvious during this installation is planning. When I designed the original almost twenty years ago, I never planned to install anything else. Next time I will plan to have better accessibility. Little did I know that the FAA would legislate an unfunded mandate to re-equip your airplane

just so you could continue to use your airplane without restriction. Now a perfectly good fitting radio that would probably give another twenty years of service will sit on the shelf gathering dust. Sigh. Such is progress.

At least I know that come January 1, 2020, I will meet the requirements and fly until the next unfunded mandate comes along. Let's see, what will it be...performance enhancements? Cha-ching! Data link? Cha-ching! Auto-Land? Infra-red? 3-D? HUD? Virtual reality? Spin, wash and dry?

I have to say a special thanks to Gary Hutchinson who helped me get through this while suffering a family emergency. He went above and beyond while he juggled all the needs of us needy people demanding the job done on Tuesday. Thanks again. We hope all the best for you and your family.

Remember Tuesday October 1, our meeting at the National Weather Service, 193 Shafer Road, Moon Township. Pa. 15108, phone 412-262-2170. 6:00P.M. (Carpool from the KBVI terminal Building parking lot at 5:00 P.M.)

Hope to see you there!

Reminders:

The September regular meeting will be on Tuesday, October 1, at 6:00 P.M. at National Weather Service, Moon Twp.

The "Breakfast Club" is still going strong, each Saturday at 9:00 A.M. , We will meet at the Brighton Hot Dog Shop in Chippewa.

President: Tony Pavilonis, Vice-President: Dave Brunberg, Treasurer: Dewey Clawson: Secretary: Stan Kocuba

Board Members in addition to officers, Ed Campbell and Kenny Gray

Newsletter Editor: Stan Kocuba