



# *The Maple Lake Flyer*

A newsletter of EAA Chapter 878, Experimental Aircraft Association

*EAA Chapter 878: a part of the aviation communities of Maple Lake, Buffalo, and surrounding areas of Minnesota.*

34 Years.....1986 – 2020

August, 2020

## • EAA CHAPTER 878 MEETING

**Date:** Tuesday, August 11

**Location:** Buffalo Airport, in the hangar of John Hagen  
(John's hangar is directly west of the West Metro hangars – driveway onto the ramp separates them)

**Meeting Time:** Meal provided – at 6:30 PM (KFC chicken – compliments of John Hagen)  
Chips & beverage provided by the chapter  
Meeting to follow, approximately 7 PM

**Notes:**

- John Hagen is a “car guy” as well as an “airplane guy” – come prepared to drool over his cars as well as his RV-4!
- The courtesy of distancing, a facemask, and hand sanitizing is appropriate upon your personal comfort level and respect for others
- As with any other activity, a personal “Risk Assessment” should guide you. If you don't feel well, have been exposed to COVID-19, or think you may have, please stay home and join us another time



## • FLIGHT TO SUCCESS by Greg Thomes, Chapter President

One of country western's ultimate self pity songs was produced in the late '40's by Bob Wills called *Bubbles in my Beer*. The lyrics include the line...“And I'm seeing the past that I've wasted.” Equating this to aviation may be a stretch. However, relating wasted time to EAA Chapter 878 is like comparing beer and whiskey.

Bubbles today usually refer to quarantine areas for pro sports athletes. One of the cool things about being involved in general aviation is that a “bubble” has never existed during the 2020 pandemic.

Time is not being wasted with our chapter! All functions of EAA Chapter 878 have activities that are keeping GA alive. Come to our next meeting and discover how we're avoiding any self pity!

May your skies be bright and breezes light!

Greg



**Remember to regularly check our chapter's website and Facebook page:**

<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea878> (Note: the QR code here will take you to our website)  
<https://www.facebook.com/ea878>



- **RAY JOHNSON TO BE INDUCTED INTO MINNESOTA AVIATION HALL OF FAME**

**"Class of 2022"**

**by Wayne Flury**

Ray Johnson, one of Chapter 878's most ardent supporters, and also now one of our newest members, will receive one of the highest awards available in Minnesota aviation.

I got a call last Sunday morning from Ray, telling me he had received a letter from the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame...his nomination was approved! He will be inducted as a member of the 2022 class. For info about other members of this class, see: <https://www.facebook.com/MNAHOF>.

Many of you were partners in his successful nomination by virtue of writing your personal letter of recommendation. I did that also, as well as to provide some assistance and guidance to his daughter Judy and his grandson Andy. Judy and Andy did the heavy lifting of writing, editing, rewriting, re-editing, doing more interviews with Ray, and then doing more writing, etc., etc. They put together an impressive nomination package that detailed Ray's life, his passion, and his commitment to aviation.

To say that Ray is excited is an understatement! Please extend your congratulations to Ray and make plans to attend his award ceremony in 2022. The Hall of Fame website, <http://www.mnaviationhalloffame.org/>, will have info on that event later.

**CONGRATULATIONS RAY!!**

The Hall of Fame induction banquet at which Bill Mavencamp, Sr. will be honored has been rescheduled for April 17, 2021.



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- **CHAPTER 878 AVIATION EVENTS – 2020**

- |     |         |  |
|-----|---------|--|
| Aug | 11      | EAA Chapter 878 meeting, at Buffalo airport, hosted by John Hagen                                    |
|     | 25      | IMC / EAA878 meeting, location and format to be advised  |
| Sep | 8       | EAA Chapter 878 meeting, at Maple Lake airport hosted by Joe Simmon                                  |
|     | 22      | IMC / EAA878 meeting, location and format to be advised  |
| Oct | 13      | EAA Chapter 878 meeting, at Buffalo airport, in the Arrival / Departure Bldg                         |
|     | 17 & 18 | Swap Meet and Air Show at Buffalo. Swap meet and air show by West Metro; food service by Chapter 878 |
|     | 27      | IMC / EAA878 meeting, location and format to be advised  |

Note: this list generally will not include the many pancake breakfasts and other fly-ins or local aviation events because they are well publicized on other sites dedicated to that purpose. For other event information, see our EAA Chapter 878 website [www.878.eaachapter.org/](http://www.878.eaachapter.org/), and websites such as <https://www.eaa.org/ea>, <https://www.aopa.org/community/events>, [www.socialflight.com](http://www.socialflight.com), and <http://www.flyins.com>. Also see various Calendars of Events in magazines, and airport bulletin boards.

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- **HELP SUPPORT EAA CHAPTER 878 AS YOU SHOP**  
**If you're an Amazon shopper, consider using AmazonSmile**

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice – please designate EAA Chapter 878!

- **SUMMER COMMUNITY AVIATION CLASSES FOR YOUTH IN BUFFALO**

by Jon Niska

(Ed. Note: Jon taught an "Intro to Aviation" Community Education class July 6 – 9, for students aged 8 – 12 and 13 – 17. Here's his report on the event.

It was a small class, but I think it was almost better that way for the first one. I completely forgot to get a class picture on the last day!

Kyle is still working on their young eagles flights though, so maybe he can get some pictures. The kids seemed to enjoy it, especially the last day at the airport. I was pleasantly surprised that all of the parents (and a younger sibling or two) showed up on the last day for the tour of the airport.

Kyle showed us around his airplane and some of the other planes in the hangar. The old Stearman was out that day too so we got to go take a look at that. Overall it was definitely a good experience and I'd like to continue doing classes.

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- **A VOLUNTEER TO BE CHAPTER 878 DATABASE MANAGER STEPS FORWARD**

by Wayne Flury

In my last "AvBits" email I asked for a volunteer to take on the responsibility of organizing, maintaining and upgrading our Chapter 878 Member Roster.

Ray Svobodny stepped forward and will take the position as Chapter 878 Database Manager. Thank you, Ray, for accepting this challenge and contributing to the future of the chapter. Ray has an extensive background in developing similar programs. He and I have already been corresponding on "what do we need, how will it be used, what additional information about members do we need or do we want, etc.?" Current chapter email lists, and postal mailing lists can be included in the database. Access will be password limited, but accessible to chapter leaders, likely through some version of "Cloud storage."

Ray noted in his response to my acceptance of his offer, "Could we begin use of the title *Chapter 878 Database Manager*? IMO, Database Management is a key business practice, and my vision is that this title signifies the importance of the position and would survive me in the future."

A roster is an ever-changing document as members join, depart, move, change email addresses, etc. Please help Ray by providing him with any changes to your information (see the attached current roster), or filling in any blanks in our current info. Ray will be soliciting input as he develops the roster and incorporates it into a database.

Contact Ray at: [raysvobodny@gmail.com](mailto:raysvobodny@gmail.com) or 612-327-4232.

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- **WANTED – PHOTOS OF YOU AND YOUR AIRPLANE**

by Elaine Morrow, Chapter Webmaster

Help me make our website a place of chapter recognition and interest.

Please send me a photo of your airplane (and you) which I will include on our Chapter 878 website. This includes aircraft projects too! Send to: [pilotelaine@aol.com](mailto:pilotelaine@aol.com) or call me at 952-913-2356 with any questions.

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- **VOLUNTEER NEEDED...GRAPHICS ARTS WORK ON CHAPTER 878 LOGO**

by Wayne Flury

Looking for someone with graphic arts skills to take our chapter logo (see top of Page 1 of this newsletter) and create an updated file for use on all chapter communications. Current logo is a composite assembly. Add color (similar to our chapter nametags) and minor tweaks to appearance. Outstanding pay and benefits!

- YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHT REPORT OF JULY 10 AND 11**  
 by Kyle Weatherly, Chapter 878 Young Eagles Co-Coordinator

Chapter 878 members flew 20 Young Eagles on July 10 and 11. On Friday evening, Greg Thomes and I flew 3 boys from Jon Niska's Community Ed aviation class that he taught July 6 – 9. The classroom portion of the class was followed by a visit to the Buffalo Airport and the Young Eagle flights. Two other participants will get their flight as soon as they can be arranged.

On Saturday, July 11, 6 volunteer pilots flew 17 Young Eagles. The pilots were: Kyle, Greg Thomes, Dick Borrell, Mike Reid, Dick Bihler, and Doug Portmann. Ground crew members were Amy Weatherly – registration, Boyd Emmel – youth and family arrival check-in, and Wayne Flury – flight line safety observer. I received feedback that everything went well, and everyone had a good time.

Boyd Emmel and I hope to have another event in August. Volunteer participation in that event would be appreciated...it's always a good day to introduce kids (and their parents) to aviation.



A photo of a family photo being taken prior to the kids receiving a Young Eagle ride with Doug Portmann.



Dick Borrell conducting a pre-flight on his Cessna 172 and discussing with his Young Eagle riders.



Greg Thomes making sure the Young Eagles in his Cessna Cardinal are secure.



Mike Reid makes sure his Young Eagle will be secure.



Kyle Weatherly pre-flying with Young Eagles.



Dick Bihler is always proud to show off his Navion to Young Eagles

- **FALL 2021 CHAPTER FUNDRAISING EVENT**

A chapter committee had been studying and proposing a fall pork chop dinner event. At our July meeting, Mike Wiskus (chapter member and owner of West Metro Aviation) described his proposal to develop and host a "Swap Meet" at the Buffalo Airport. He is proposing, and will coordinate, a Swap Meet for aviation items (clean out your hangars!) which would also include the option to bring in aircraft for display/sale. Mike envisioned one or two large tents erected on the Buffalo Airport grounds, with table space for rent by vendors.

The original committee, composed of Greg Thomes, Laura Herrmann, Henry Williams, and Boyd Emmel was joined by Wayne Flury and Mike Wiskus in a planning meeting earlier this month.

Laura has a flyer developed and publicity will begin shortly. Everything, of course, is contingent upon continuing maintenance or improvement in the COVID-19 situation.

The current plan is for the Swap Meet to be held on Saturday and Sunday, October 17 & 18 (set up on Friday afternoon) from 8 AM to 3 PM both days, with an air show by Mike at 2 PM each day (and he hopes to conscript some additional performers!).

The chapter will serve a Pork Chop Lunch on Saturday from 11 AM to 2 PM, and a Pancake Breakfast on Sunday from 8 AM to 12 noon.

Mike is very excited about the potential for a Swap Meet, both for this year and the future. The chapter will serve in the West Metro hangar, and proceeds benefit the chapter.

There are still some issues to be worked out with Mike about insurance for the air show, and Chapter 878's involvement.

This weekend event will require maximum participation by the members of Chapter 878, but the potential as a fund raiser is high. The attraction of the Swap Meet and Air Show should be a good draw, not only for pilots across Minnesota, but also the general public.

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- **GOFUNDME – EAA CHAPTER 878**  
by Henry Williams, Chapter Treasurer

I'm working to set up a GoFundMe account for our chapter. The purpose is to raise money to support our hangar build project. More information will be available as I get the account finalized.

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- **CHRIS GLAESER REQUESTING CHAPTER MEMBER AIRCRAFT AND PROJECT INFO**

Chris Glaeser (as our chapter Flight Advisor) is looking to get information from all chapter members about aircraft owned, or projects working on. His focus is to have a list so that if he gets a call from someone asking if he knows anything about RV aircraft or float planes, etc., he has a source of reference.

If you haven't yet responded to Chris, please contact him with your info (a photo may also be nice) with complete data on your airplane, including engine and prop.

His contact info is: 952-239-4081, or [chris.glaeser@gmail.com](mailto:chris.glaeser@gmail.com).



- **IMC CLUB**

by Dave Wendt, Coordinator – IMC/EAA 878

IMC/EAA 878 Club meetings: Fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM  
This month – August 25



**Special Meeting Location Information Until Social Gatherings Are Allowed**  
– meetings will be a “virtual” event, utilizing the “Zoom” meeting app.

Download this app if you do not yet have it. Expect more info later regarding a meeting sign-in code.

**ATTENTION:** All interested pilots (IFR & VFR), are you interested in joining IMC/EAA 878 Club? Cost is \$25.00 (EAA Chapter 878 dues) per year. All meetings are free and open to all IFR and VFR pilots. Our Mission and Purpose is to become BOTH current and proficient pilots!

For more information about IMC club and program content each month, please contact Dave at [DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com](mailto:DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com), or 612-272-4600.

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- **NEW “FACEBOOK LEADER’ AND FACEBOOK PAGE FOR EAA CHAPTER 878**

by Jon Niska, Chapter 878 Facebook Leader

Our new page is up and should come up in a search. At the top of the home Facebook page, there is a search function. Just type in EAA Chapter 878 and it’ll come up. It’s the one with the Stearman in the profile picture. Click the “thumbs up” to like the page and the posts will show up in your newsfeed. If you want to post to the page, you can either send it to me directly, or tag the page in your own post. To tag, just type in “@EAA Chapter 878” and select the page from the drop down menu that will appear. When it’s tagged, it will show up highlighted or in bold letters, and the post will appear on both your profile and the chapter’s page. I included the direct link to the page below. Let me know of any questions!

<https://www.facebook.com/ea878/>

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- **CHAPTER 878 HANGAR UPDATE**

The chapter hangar committee is looking into building or buying a hangar for the chapter. In a concurrent City of Maple Lake airport study, various options for opening up new hangar building sites is being looked at. Primary area is the grass covered field behind our current hangar (C-5) and the original Wright Aero hangar. Airport study is still underway.

Electrical service to Hangar C-5 has been completed, and the chapter has had discussion about getting this hangar ready for possible use this winter (rent space for airplane storage?).

A chapter work day for this purpose is still yet to be scheduled.

## ● EAA CHAPTER 878 and MAPLE LAKE FLYER INFO

EAA Chapter 878  
PO Box 169  
Maple Lake, MN 55358-0169

<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea878>  
a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

The *Maple Lake Flyer* is published monthly by Chapter 878 of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) for the use, education and enjoyment of Chapter members and others to whom it is provided. No claim is made for the accuracy of materials presented. Editorial content is the opinion of the contributor and does not necessarily reflect the position of Chapter 878 nor the EAA.

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Send "change of address" information, email address and phone number changes to Newsletter Editor.

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Chapter meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month (except for the winter months of January – April when we meet on the second Saturday morning). Meeting location and time may vary each month, depending upon the meeting program or other chapter activities. Our December meeting is a family social event held at a local event center, with date, time and place to be determined annually.

Chapter membership is open to all persons interested in aviation. To become a member, simply contact any one of the current officers and request a membership application, or click on the "Membership" link on our website. Annual dues are \$10 for members up to 35 years of age, \$25 for age 35 and over, and \$35 for a family membership.

### Current Officers:

<b>President:</b>	Greg Thomes	763-443-7039	greg@thomesinsurance.com
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Peter Radintz	320-963-1980	peradintz@hotmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Wayne Flury	763-670-6021	wflury@outlook.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Henry Williams	612-363-1803	hawms1@q.com

### Chapter Leaders and Coordinators:

<b>Beverage Coordinator:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Chapter Assets Monitor:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Chapter Librarian:</b>	Harold Greseth	763-682-5486	hjpgreseth@gmail.com
<b>Chapter Manager of Non-Profit Programs:</b>	David Wendt	612/272-4600	DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com
<b>Chapter 878 Database Manager:</b>	Ray Svobodny	612-327-4232	raysvobodny@gmail.com
<b>Chapter 878 Website:</b>	Elaine Morrow	952-913-2356	pilotelaine@aol.com
<b>Culinary Coordinator:</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>		
<b>Eagle Flights Leader:</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
<b>Facebook Leader:</b>	Jon Niska	218-290-0112	j_nisk@hotmail.com
<b>Facilities Committee Coordinator</b>	Fred Jude	320-274-2599	fjc@lakedalelink.net
<b>Flight Advisor:</b>	Chris Glaeser	952-239-4081	chris.glaeser@gmail.com
<b>Fly-In Committer Chairpersons</b>			
<b>Winter Chili Feed</b>	Laura Herrmann	952-210-8600	ljherrmann@yahoo.com
<b>Buffalo Fly-In</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Maple Lake Fly-In</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Fly-Out Coordinator:</b>	Dick Borrell	612-799-3337	dbborrell@yahoo.com
<b>IMC/EAA 878 Club Coordinator:</b>	David Wendt	612/272-4600	DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com
<b>Mobile Sign Manager:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Wayne Flury	763-670-6021	wflury@outlook.com
<b>Ray Foundation Scholarship Co-ord.</b>	Boyd Emmel	612-414-6743	bjemmel3@gmail.com
<b>RV-4 Build Project Coordinator:</b>	Tom Rammel	320-286-5283	Tom.Rammel@zeiss.com
<b>Scholarship Committee Coordinator</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
<b>STEM Coordinator:</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
<b>Technical Counselor:</b>	Dick Burns	952-473-1887	dickburns1@aol.com
<b>Young Eagles Co-Coordinators:</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
	Boyd Emmel	612-414-6743	bjemmel3@gmail.com

**EAA Chapter 878 Advocates:** All Members

Add your name to the list above – how can you help and support your chapter?

- **THE FUNNIES**  
by Wayne Flury



"Marvin has one of those high-tech integrated instrument panels where, as the avionics people say, 'All the instruments talk to each other.' My only concern is that Marvin seems to think he can hear them talking to him too!"

8/2020