



The *Maple Lake Flyer*

A newsletter of EAA Chapter 878, Experimental Aircraft Association

EAA Chapter 878: a part of the aviation community in Maple Lake, Buffalo and surrounding areas of Minnesota since 1986.

March, 2014

• EAA CHAPTER 878 MEETING NOTICE

Saturday, March 8, 9:00 a.m. at Tim Bond's Hangar on the Maple Lake Airport

Agenda for March Meeting:

- Program: Pancakes and Videos! I call this our "Frozen Flapjack Festival," (or, pancake breakfast) for chapter members, families, friends and guests of the chapter. Bring your family and friends and invite a potential member to hang out with us for the morning! Food and drinks provided by the chapter.
- Secretary and Treasurer Reports
- Report from 2014 Fly-In Planning Committee
- Discuss chapter participation in Buffalo Fly-In and Air Show
- Follow-up on chapter shirts from February meeting



Directions to Tim Bond's hangar: Maple Lake Airport, front row of hangars that parallel the runway, east end, tan/brown building, center hangar of three.

• FROM THE PRESIDENT

Chapter President: Tom Rammel

I received an E-mail from Trevor Janz, Manager of Chapters for EAA. He talked about a picture in our newsletter and noticed Wyatt Erickson our youngest member. Trevor would like to see more young people in our chapters. This is something I would like to see also. It seems that the membership age of most chapters is getting older. What can we do to attract some of the younger membership? I sent a newsletter to Wyatt's teacher who is in charge of the robotics project at his school in Monticello. There are some bright students working on the robot.

Wyatt did the programming of the robot in Java language. Many of his classmates came up with design ideas to make the robot throw a 2ft. dia. ball into a goal 7ft. off the floor. It also can pick up the ball, pass the ball, and catch the ball. At the beginning of the competition the robot must work in autonomous mode to move and make a goal. It will then be controlled by the students with two other robots from other schools working in an alliance competing against three other robots in an alliance. The most points are scored if the ball is passed to the other two robots in your own alliance before a goal is made. Additional points can be scored if the ball is thrown over a truss that is 6ft above the floor at the center of the court, and even more points if a robot catches the ball that is thrown over the truss. Wyatt asked me to help and I am a mentor for his team. We had just 6 weeks to build the robot and the students worked together as a team to build and program the robot. On February 18th the robot was bagged and tagged with no more work allowed to be done on it until the competition at the end of March. Here are two links to short videos on YouTube of the robot, 4632.

<http://youtu.be/x78ynyIDVJY>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iGsGnH3TXtU&feature=share&list=UUAe2prSStBgEa8JTEZdEc7w>

The students can be proud of what they have accomplished in just 6 weeks.

(Ed. Note: FIRST® Robotics Competition (FRC) 2014. "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology" = FIRST. See: <http://www.usfirst.org/> and <http://www.usfirst.org/roboticsprograms/frc>).

So now you're thinking, what does this have to do with experimental aircraft? I would reply, if students can build a robot in 6 weeks, how long do you think it would take them to build an airplane? How long did it take you to build your airplane?

● **MINUTES OF MEETING – February 8, 2014**

Chapter Secretary: Wayne Flury

General Discussion: Tom Rammel opened the meeting and greeted the members. There were 17 members, 1 guest and 3 West Metro Aviation attendants present. Wayne Flury took the floor to address some items. He briefed the members on the North Central Sonex Fly-In which he is organizing, open to all Sonex builders and pilots and those interested in learning more about Sonex aircraft, to be held at Buffalo on June 7. Wayne noted that some chapter members still have nametags to pick up. Wayne noted that he and Dick Burns are working on chapter meeting programs and suggested that our March meeting consist of our annual pancake breakfast for chapter members, family and friends. Tim Bond offered to host that meeting in his hangar. Kent Peterson offered to bring videos to watch. Our April meeting may be a chance to "catch up" on the EAA videos. Wayne read a copy of a "thank-you" note received by Elaine Morrow in recognition of the Tree of Hope gifts, and noted that responses like this were truly a validation of the value of the program. Wayne concluded by presenting a Ford "EAA cowboy hat" to Tom in recognition of his leadership efforts for the chapter.

Opening Balance		\$2973.51
Income: Dues	\$	235.00
Total	\$	235.00
Expenses:	\$	0.00
Total	\$	0.00
Total Change:	\$	235.00
Ending Balance		\$3208.51

Secretary Report, Treasurer Report, Dues: Tom noted that the Secretary Report and Treasurer Report were in the newsletter, and reminded all that membership dues were due at this time.

Agenda Item Discussions:

- ✓ **Speaking at local schools to promote aviation:** Kent Peterson will check further into this.
- ✓ **99s presentation about girls in aviation:** Patti Sandusky (99s and Chapter 878 member), Greg Thomes and Kent Peterson will form a committee to follow up.
- ✓ **Chapter purchase a hangar / chapter build an airplane:** limited discussion. Input from Glen Morrow that we check with EAA HQ about whether this is allowed or even recommended. Dick Burns noted that Chapter 25 has a sub-committee that builds/owns a project airplane.
- ✓ **Wyatt Erickson, aviation camp presentation:** Wyatt will be on the schedule for our May meeting.
- ✓ **Chapter 878 handle the pancake breakfast at Buffalo Fly-In on June 8:** Mike Wiskus arrived at the meeting and presented this opportunity for the chapter. Discussion; agreed that we are interested if the Buffalo Swim Club doesn't do it. Mike Wiskus to advise if it is open.
- ✓ **Swap Meet:** Mike Wiskus wants to develop a Swap Meet to be held in conjunction with the Buffalo Fly-In. Is the chapter interested in working with this? Discussion; agreed that it depends upon whether we will do the breakfast.

Fly-In Committee Report: Kurt Pennuto led a report and discussion, summarizing a recent committee meeting (our first). The committee discussed moving the fly-in date from September to August 16 so as to coincide with the Maple Lake "Gear-Head Get Together" (see more info in the report in the February newsletter, and also an update in this newsletter. Also see: <http://www.gear-headgettogether.com/>). Also under review is the possibility of augmenting the meal, perhaps doing a "breakfast, then lunch" menu or even substituting something such as pizza for the pork chops. The fly-in committee will be meeting further

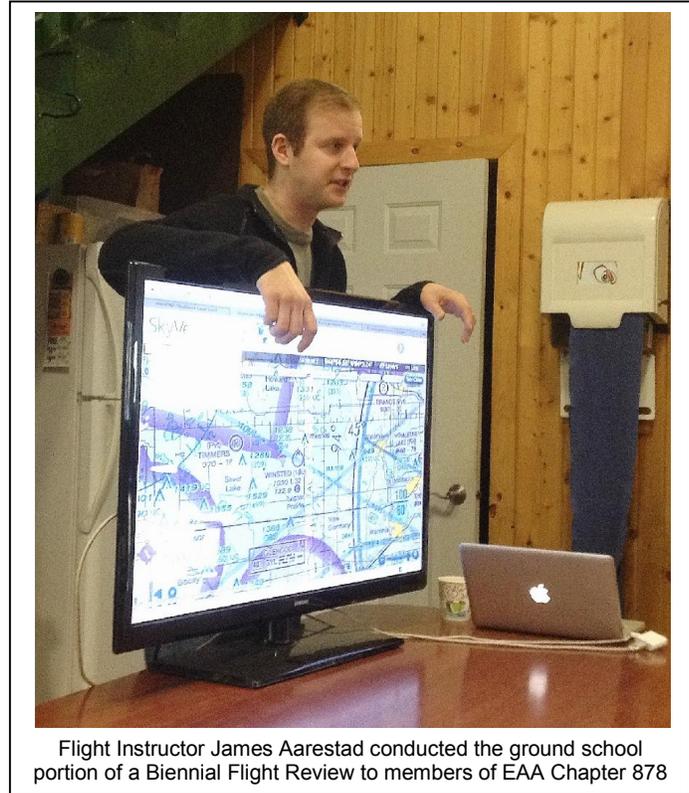
with the Gear-Head committee to see if there is interest and will report back to the chapter membership. Tom noted that he had a concern about liability for any shuttle service between the airport and downtown.

Chapter Shirts: Peter Radinitz reported that he had checked his sources (uniform vendor) for shirts, and they ranged from \$15 to \$30. He felt that we could individually get better prices by going to local clothing suppliers. Kent Peterson noted that the vendor he had located near Maple Lake could do all embroidery. The chapter discussed a desire to have all shirts be of a similar, uniform appearance and style. Tabled with no further action taken.

99s Section Meeting in 2016: Patti Sandusky, 99s Chapter Chair, noted that the Minnesota Chapter of the 99s will be hosting a North Central Section meeting in 2016. She is looking for EAA chapters to assist with events and activities for the men (49 1/2s) who come along. Anyone with ideas or wanting to help should contact Patti at pilotpatti@hotmail.com.

Chapter Business Cards: Dick Burns distributed a "Chapter Business Card" he designed and printed at home.

Program Presentation: James Aarestad of Buffalo presented a session that satisfies the ground school portion of a Biennial Flight Review. This is a traditional "No Cost" benefit for all current EAA Chapter 878 members, and was an excellent way to get those "cobwebs" off the basic ground school items. James made a log book entry for anyone who desired it. Actual flight time to complete the review is the responsibility of each individual.



Flight Instructor James Aarestad conducted the ground school portion of a Biennial Flight Review to members of EAA Chapter 878

- **DUES FOR 2014**

Chapter dues for 2014 are now due. Please see Chapter Treasurer Dick Burns. Dues are \$10 per year for members up to 35 years of age, \$25 per year, age 35 and over.

If you are unable to attend a meeting, you may mail a check to: Dick Burns, 16233 Cty. Rd. 15, Wayzata, MN 55391.

Note that EAA Chapter 878 dues are not the same as your national EAA dues. They are distinctly separate and the membership benefits are unique to each of us. I hope everyone will support the chapter by renewing their chapter membership for 2014. Note: if you haven't seen a past member for a while, ask them if they plan to renew their association with the chapter. If they choose not to, let the chapter leadership know the reason so that appropriate adjustments might be made to make the chapter more appealing to them.

- **CHAPTER NAME BADGES**
by Wayne Flury

If you have not yet received your chapter member name badge, please see Wayne. If you ordered one for your spouse (chapter paid), please also check with Wayne, or put in your order.

- **2014 FLY-IN PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**
Kurt Pennuto, Kent Peterson, Tim Bond and Wayne Flury

Members of the Fly-In Planning Committee were invited to an “open house” held by the Gear-Head Get Together committee at the Maple Lake “Rivers Garage” owned by John Rivers. It’s really not fair to call his place just a “garage” as it is a precision machine shop (currently used by John in his retirement only for projects that interest him) as well as a museum of all things mechanical (i.e., “gear head”). Tucked into the building are many, many mementoes of John’s life as a machinist, including making various components used in the Apollo program, mementoes of childhood adventures, tools, signs and photos. Most of us were drawn toward the beautiful Model T’s, a ’62 Corvette, ’63 Impala two-door hardtop, and ’46 Chevy fire truck! If you don’t know John, you should make it a point to meet him...just to see his toys!

The open house was primarily an opportunity for the GHGT committee to give their sponsors a “thank you” for their support. Members of the fly-in committee were able to get an understanding of the GHGT event, how it is organized, their objectives and plans. We are invited to their next meeting on March 20 at which time more detail will be discussed.

- **EVENTS – 2014**

Here’s a list of some upcoming events for 2014, compiled from various sources. It is not intended to be complete or all-inclusive, and will primarily feature EAA chapter sponsored events, plus other activities or unique events. Send your information for inclusion here.

Check the bulletin boards and Calendars of Events in various magazines for more, more, much more:

- Feb. 8 EAA Chapter 878 meeting, at West Metro Aviation, Buffalo Airport. 9:00 a.m. Featuring James Aarestad and a
 - Mar. 8 EAA Chapter 878 meeting, 9:00 a.m. Location and program to be determined.
 - 21-22 Blaine, Great Minnesota Aviation Gathering, at Golden Wings Air Museum. Sponsored by MN Pilots Association.
 - Apr. 1-6 SUN ’n FUN fly-in and expo, Lakeland, FL, www.sun-n-fun.org
 - 12 EAA Chapter 878 meeting, 9:00 a.m. Location and program to be determined.
 - 12 Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame. Induction banquet and ceremony. Tickets at www.mnaviationhalloffame.org.
 - May 14 EAA Chapter 878 meeting, 7:30 p.m. Location and program to be determined.
 - June 7 North Central Sonex Fly-In, Buffalo Airport, at West Metro Aviation. Info: wflury@wh-link.net, 763-670-6021
 - 8 Buffalo Fly-In Breakfast and Air Show, Buffalo MN
 - 11 EAA Chapter 878 meeting, 7:30 p.m. Location and program to be determined.
 - July 9 EAA Chapter 878 meeting, 7:30 p.m. Location and program to be determined.
 - July 28 - Aug 3 AirVenture Oshkosh 2014, Oshkosh, WI, www.eaa.org; <http://www.airventure.org>
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- **VISIT ANOTHER EAA CHAPTER**
by Wayne Flury

If you ever have the opportunity to visit another chapter, I encourage you to do so. Our chapter currently has a couple of members with dual chapter memberships, but most of us know only how our own chapter is structured, how it is run, what the activities are, and the good and bad points.

I recently had the opportunity to visit the home of EAA Chapter 54 at the Lake Elmo airport. I and John Koser, a fellow Sonex builder and Chapter 25 member, attended the Chapter 54 meeting to make a presentation on Sonex aircraft. John has been flying his Sonex for about 10 years (I was there to provide moral support!). For the Chapter 54 newsletter and a photo of these two handsome gentlemen, see: <http://eaa54.org/Newsletters/54NewsletterFeb14.pdf>.

EAA 54 has about 120 members (there were between 30 and 35 in attendance on the cold night I visited) and they have their own chapter house on the Lake Elmo airport. Here’s a link to their website (<http://www.eaa54.org>) which features a nice photo of their building. This chapter has some very engaged members with a wealth of aviation experience and history. As with our chapter, the membership tends to have its share of gray hair, but they are an active group. They plan to offer three almost-full scholarships to

the Air Academy. And, as with us, they were throwing out ideas about how to get more people to attend their annual fly-in!

It's a good experience to see how other EAAers operate within their chapter environment (just as travel is an eye-opening and rewarding experience). Seeing how another chapter plans their yearly programs and events can give us fresh insights to things we can do, or perhaps a different approach, to increase attendance, youth participation, program and activity participation, etc. It can also cause us to focus upon celebrating our particular successes.

All groups or organizations occasionally are faced with situations or problems, but usually it's something that can be resolved with teamwork and cooperation. That's one of the reasons we gather in groups, so we can share our interests, talents and resources but also to resolve those pesky issues. It's with great relief that we learn that any aggravations we face in our chapter, or in our part of the country, are usually mirrored in most others. That's why we have the national EAA, and why they encourage members to participate in leadership councils, and why they host leadership groups at AirVenture each year. The more we know about who our neighbors are, the greater are our opportunities to potentially work together to promote aviation!

- **NORTH CENTRAL SONEX FLY-IN**
by Wayne Flury, Sonex Fly-In Organizer



This is a fly-in event for Sonex pilots and builders, plus others interested in learning more about the Sonex line of Experimental aircraft. It will be held at the Buffalo Airport, Buffalo, MN on Saturday, June 7, 2014. Initial response to my postings about hosting a fly-in dedicated to these aircraft has been outstanding!

The objective is to share building experiences, tips and advice by persons who are building or have built one of the Sonex aircraft models, share flying stories, plus to create an informal network of pilots and builders in the upper Midwest.

Note: this is not a Chapter 878 event, but I am including it in the newsletter as another means of distributing the information and schedule throughout the chapter network.

For more information about the schedule of activities and events, please contact Wayne Flury at wflury@wh-link.net, or 763-670-6021. Please distribute this info to others who may be interested in learning about the process of building and flying a Sonex. Other postings may be seen at:

- Sonex website (<http://www.sonexaircraft.com/builders/builderevents.html>)
- EAA website (<http://www.eaa.org/calendar/eventdetail.aspx?id=16851>)
- Midwest Flyer magazine (<http://www.midwestflyer.com/>)
- Minnesota Flyer magazine (<http://www.mnflyer.com/>)
- Sonex Builders and Pilots Foundation (<http://sonexfoundation.com/>)
- Social Flight (<http://socialflight.com/index.php>)

- **EAA CHAPTER 878 MEETINGS, ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS FOR 2014**
by Wayne Flury, Newsletter Editor

Interesting meeting programs are essential to the vitality of our chapter. Here are some activities already planned or ideas for 2014. But, the chapter needs your input and help to suggest, find and coordinate programs for the remaining months! Does a hangar neighbor have an interesting airplane they would talk about? Do you have a project in mind, or need some advice? Other ideas?

- 1) Apr Seaplanes and piloting, presented by chapter member Mike Schmitt. Meeting at West Metro Aviation, Buffalo.
- 2) May Wyatt Erickson, report of Oshkosh aviation camp. Location?
- 3) Jun Meeting at home shop of Wayne Flury, Sonex update
- 4) Jul Chapter picnic? Location?
- 5) Aug. Pork Chop Dinner Fly-In?
- 6) Sep. Pork Chop Dinner Fly-In?
- 7) Oct. open
- 8) Nov. open
- 9) Dec. Chapter Christmas Party

● **EAA CHAPTER 878 and MAPLE LAKE FLYER INFO**

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Submissions for publication are encouraged and should be sent to the attention of: Newsletter Editor, at the postal mail or e-mail addresses shown on the newsletter, or c/o any chapter officer.

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

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Meetings are normally held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month (except for the winter months of January – April when we meet on Saturday mornings). Meeting locations may vary each month, depending upon the meeting program.

Dues are \$10 per year for members up to 35 years of age, \$25 per year, age 35 and over.

Current Officers and Officials of EAA Chapter 878:

President:	Tom Rammel	320-286-5283	trammel@zeiss.com
Vice-President:	Glen Morrow	952-955-2802	Flyr177rg@aol.com
Secretary:	Wayne Flury	763-670-6021	wflury@wh-link.net
Treasurer:	Dick Burns	952-473-1887	dickburns1@aol.com
Newsletter Editor:	Wayne Flury	763-670-6021	wflury@wh-link.net
Young Eagles Coordinator:	Glen Morrow	952-955-2802	Flyr177rg@aol.com
Technical Counselor:	Dick Burns	952-473-1887	dickburns1@aol.com
Chapter Librarian:	Harold Greseth	763-682-5486	hgreseth@gmail.com
Chapter Roster Monitor:	Joe Simmon	320-963-6125	psimmon28@gmail.com
Chapter Potluck Coordinator	Kent Peterson	612-270-8621	kent@peterson.us
EAA Chapter Advocates:	All Members		
EAA Chapter 878 Website	Elaine Morrow	http://eaa878.org	

● **THE FUNNIES**
by Wayne Flury



The real story behind the invention of the wheel.

This month's cartoon is a repeat from January, 2005. I ran out of time to create a new one...who knew retirement would be so time-consuming?!

3/2014