

April 2021



# EAA CHAPTER 145

SINCE 1962



**Chapter Meeting: Saturday, Apr 10, 2020 – 10:00am**  
**Riverview Airport (08C)–at the E.A.A. hangar (see map on last page)**

## CHAPTER PROGRAM

Naval Aviator, Joe Heid, will give a presentation of what is required to land on an aircraft carrier. Joe, with 4000 flying hours, has been "trapped" 200 times...this is a fascinating story.

We'll start the meeting at 10am with a brief review of chapter activities, and then enjoy listening to Joe's presentation. This will be followed, about 11:30, with a "Pizza & Beer" lunch.

Members, family, and friends are welcome.

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The increase in local chapter activities reminds me of a bear coming out of hibernation and hungry. The chapters are starting to wake up and are "hungry" for fellowship. I'll mention a few activities I have observed and give you some background about Joe Heid, Naval Aviator.

EAA211, Grand Haven, has sponsored a meeting about "AQP for GA – Trying to bend the Fatal Accident Rate in the USA." This involves chapter members in making sport aviation safer. EAA704, Sparta, is organizing an "EAA Learn to Fly Day" in May. This will involve a number of chapter volunteers and benefit sport aviation by introducing people to flying. EAA145 chapter meeting provides a look at what it takes to land on a carrier. Here is the bio for our presenter, Joe Heid: Electrical Engineering degree - Lehigh University. Naval Aviator - S-3A Viking (active duty flying aboard the USS Nimitz) - P-3C Orion (reserve duty at Naval Air Station Point Mugu, CA). 4,000 flight hours and 200 carrier arrested landings.

Joe worked as an aerospace engineer for various companies including Lockheed and General Electric. He developed software for various aircraft including the F-117 and F-22 stealth fighters and the 787 and 777x commercial transports.

Recently retired from General Electric Aviation in Grand Rapids. Joe lives in Grand Rapids and is considering building a kit plane.

Hope to see you soon, Dick

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

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## EAA #145 HANGAR

- Hangar space is currently available for member projects.
- Contact Dick Foster for details.



## HINTS FOR HOMEBUILDERS

# Color-Coded Drill Bits

BY CHARLIE BECKER, EAA DIRECTOR OF CHAPTERS AND COMMUNITIES & HOMEBUILT COMMUNITY MANAGER

**BACK WHEN I WAS BUILDING** my Sonex, I was constantly up-drilling using a #40 drill bit followed by a #30. On most drill bits, especially the smaller sizes, it is hard to read the size stamped onto the drill bit. If the drill has spun in the chuck, then it is impossible to read. So typically I have to grab my calipers to measure it and check it against the size chart on the wall to verify I have the correct drill bit. To speed things up, I decided to use a paint marker to coat the end of the drill bits with different color paint. This little trick has saved a lot of time and eliminates errors. Years after doing this for the first time, you can still see the paint on the end of the drill bit.

During the last six months of 2017, EAA coordinated an AirCam build program to celebrate 25 years of our Young Eagles program. Each month, a group of volunteers would show up in Oshkosh to spend a week working on the project. The volunteers had a varied background in homebuilding, everything from never having worked on a homebuilt to those who have built more than five. We used this same color-coding technique to avoid mis-drilled holes. The AirCam primarily uses #40, #30, #29, #20, #19, and #12 size drill bits, so we color-coded not only the drill bits but also the drill bit holder and had a chart on the wall. It worked great! Give it a try. I think you'll find it helpful on your project.



## CUSTOM C-CLAMPS

BY PATRICK HUBBARD, EAA 444337, KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI

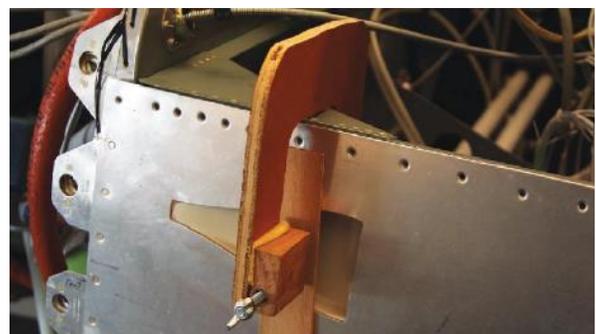
**WHO HASN'T BEEN WORKING** on their project and needed another set of hands? How often have you needed to apply light clamping pressure to an assembly and found that none of your spring clamps or C-clamps would fit?

Here is an idea for a custom C-clamp that you can make in five minutes from scrap wood and fit with hardware for less than a dollar.

Measure the job to determine the width and depth of the throat for your C-clamp. Add an inch or two to those dimensions and mark them up on a scrap of 1/4-inch plywood. Tack or staple a 1-by-2-inch strip of solid wood to the plywood blank across what will be the open side of the clamp. I used scrap crate paneling that my Van's Aircraft kit came in since the solid wood was already attached.

With a sabre saw or band saw, cut out the C shape you have drawn. Using a long, 1/4-inch drill, bore a hole through one side of the solid wood. Just eyeballing the hole for straight is good enough. Push a 1/4-20 T-nut into the hole you drilled so the flange faces the C-clamp gap. Thread a 1/4-20 all-thread, 6-inch screw into the T-nut starting from the gap side.

At this point, you are done, functionally. You can make your clamp easier to use by threading on a hex nut and a wing nut and locking them together, but that would add a dime to the project. *EAA*



# AVOIDING OIL CHANGE MESS

BY JOE NORRIS, EAA HOMEBUILDING PROGRAM SPECIALIST

**CHANGING THE OIL** in your aircraft's engine is often a challenge due to the tight confines of the engine compartment. There always seems to be something in the way. This can lead to a mess, adding to the time and effort expended on this seemingly simple project.



There are many ways to combat the mess, such as making trays and troughs out of aluminum or cardboard and cutting plastic bottles to make various specialty funnels. However, a more versatile answer can be found at your local auto parts store, home improvement center, or your favorite online shopping source.

The Form-A-Funnel is a reusable flexible sheet that can be formed and molded into whatever shape you need to accomplish the job at hand. It has a soft metal core sandwiched between outer rubber skins. Instead of cleaning up the usual mess associated with the oil change, you can just clean off the Form-A-Funnel and it's ready for the next job. You'll end up finding a lot more uses for this handy item once you see how useful it is. You can even get several sizes to meet varying needs. Once you use a Form-A-Funnel, you'll wonder how you ever got by without one! **EAA**



**Looking for more?** View our full library of Hints for Homebuilders videos at [www.EAA.org/hintsvideo](http://www.EAA.org/hintsvideo).

## WEBSITE OF THE MONTH

[www.astc.org/passport](http://www.astc.org/passport)

**ASTC Travel Passport Program** - Enjoy free admission to museums worldwide with your EAA membership.

EAA members can enjoy more than 300 museum and science centers worldwide free of charge, thanks to a partnership with the Association of Science-Technology Centers and its ASTC Travel Passport Program.

Taking advantage of the ASTC Travel Passport Program is easy. Show your EAA membership card at the admissions area of the museum you are visiting\* to gain access to their facilities for free.\*\*

Visit [www.astc.org/passport](http://www.astc.org/passport) for a list of participating museums. Remember to present your EAA membership card to receive your free admission.



\* Facility must be located at least 90 miles or more from both the EAA AirVenture Museum in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, and your home address.

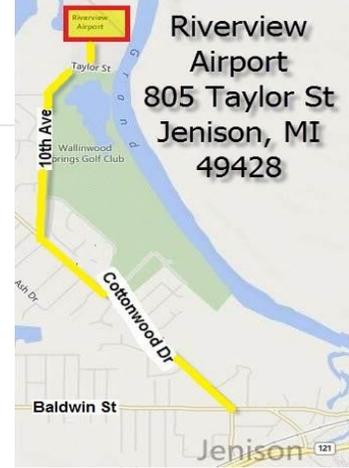
\*\* Any special display areas with an additional charge in the museum you are visiting are excluded.

## YOUNG EAGLES

Currently, all local area Young Eagle events have been put on hold for this spring. Tentative plans are underway for Young Eagle flights in August at Grand Haven (3GM) EAA website has Young Eagles activities and Workshop materials for chapters to use.



EAA Chapter 145 website: [www.145.eaachapter.org](http://www.145.eaachapter.org) EAA National website: [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org)  
 Riverview Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EAA145/>



Riverview Airport  
 805 Taylor St  
 Jenison, MI  
 49428

**DUES ARE NOW BEING COLLECTED**

Dues of \$25.00 are payable to "EAA CHAPTER 145" and can be mailed to Bob Swietek at the address listed at the end of the newsletter or brought to the monthly chapter meeting. If you need to make any updates on your contact information, please include the tear-off slip for member data and update with your payment.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- |                              |   |   |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>Apr 10</b><br>April 13-18 | <b>Riverview Airport (08C)</b><br>SUN - N - FUN | <b>Meeting - Joe Heid - Naval Aviation</b><br>Flying Adventures Group - Lakeland FL |
| <b>May 8</b>                 | <b>Riverview Airport (08C)</b>                  | <b>Meeting - Jeff Ostrander-Short Field Techniques</b>                              |
| <b>June 12</b><br>June 19    | <b>Riverview Airport (08C)</b><br>Ionia Airport | <b>Meeting - T.B.D. watch for newsletter updates</b><br>S.M.A.T. Open House         |
| July 1-5                     | Battle Creek Airport                            | Battle Creek Airshow & Balloon Festival   |
| July 4-5                     | Traverse City                                   | National Cherry Festival Air Show   |
| July 20-26                   | Wittman Field (OSH)                             | <b>OSHKOSH 2021</b>   |
| July 28-Aug 1                | Mentone, IN (C92)                               | P.R.A. Convention - Autogyros   |
| Aug 29-30                    | Willow Run Airport                              | Thunder Over Michigan Airshow - Ypsilanti MI  |

**If you know of events that should be on the event calendar, please e-mail them to me**

If you would like to be on the e-mail list for meeting and event reminders, or if you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, which is full color and delivered days before the print version... please send your e-mail address to:

[randall.houtman@dematic.com](mailto:randall.houtman@dematic.com)

**The 2021 Officers for EAA145:**

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 Newsletter Editor, Randy Houtman  
 ([randall.houtman@dematic.com](mailto:randall.houtman@dematic.com))

**Treasurer's Report:** (as of Apr 1th)

Liabilities: \$4055.00  
 Cash: \$145.85      Checking: \$7.58  
 Savings: \$7099.91      Total: \$7282.34

Website Editor, Bill Willyard  
 ([wqwillyard@att.net](mailto:wqwillyard@att.net))

**EAA CHAPTER 145 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM**  
 DUES ARE \$25.00 PER YEAR - JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st

Name _____	Aircraft Owned _____
Co-Pilot / Spouse _____	_____
Address _____	Projects / % Complete _____
City _____	_____
State / Zip _____	Bring this form to the next meeting or mail to:
e-mail address _____	EAA Chapter 145 Treasurer
Home Phone _____	6962 Bridgewater Dr. SE
Work Phone _____	Grand Rapids, MI, 49546
National Membership # _____	

Experimental Aircraft Association - Chapter 145 - Grand Rapids, Mi

