

DELMARVA EAA Chapter 1683

Meeting Minutes, Wednesday May 15, 2024

Next Meeting: June 20th, 2024 7PM, DAMF Hangar

OPENING: As the members and guests mingled prior to the meeting, a video was playing on the large TV screen of the Washington DC Fly over on May 11th. A number of planes from our area took part in the flight, including B-25 Panchito, crewed by a number of the EAA Chapter 1683 members.

The meeting was called to order promptly at 7:00 PM by President Drew Mugno.

Once again, the chapter thanks Larry Kelley and the DAMF for the use of their hangar. Larry checked in and reminded us that we should not park in a specific area, and gave us three license plat #'s for cars that needed to be relocated (or towed). Three people sheepishly got up and walked out, delaying our meeting for a few minutes.

Attending: Drew Mugno, Lloyd Austin, Ralph Capen, Gaylord Lentz, John Chirtea, Michael Oconnor, Kent Larson, Grant Salisbury, Bob Cooper, Lee Turner, Barry Gabler, Mike Davidson, Greg Chalmers, Heather Chirtea, Joe Green, Ron Smith, Tom Ritter, Gary Horan, Steve Sharff, and Brian White.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Minutes from the April 18th meeting, were summarized and accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

- \$698.08 balance, w/all outstanding debts or bills paid.
- 2024 *Chapter* 1683 dues of \$30 are still being collected.
- Contact Dennis Lilik for payment options:
 - Email: dlilik@verizon.net
- Remember, your EAA membership is with the *national* organization which is separate from our local chapter 1683 dues.

Visitors/New Folks:

- Michael O'Connor, was a first-time guest and possible future member for EAA1683. Mike is not a pilot yet, but working on it with 40 hours to date. He is not a member of EAA, but Drew reminded him of a ½ price trial membership fee. Mike was introduced and invited to the meeting by Brian White. **Let's all work on getting guests to future meetings.**

NEW BUSINESS:

Delaware Aviation Hall of Fame:

- For those of you planning ahead, nominations for the 2025 Delaware Hall of Fame are now open: <https://www.dahf.org/Nominations.html>

Van's Aircraft Update:

- An excellent video was shown bringing us up to date on the progress being made on Vans working its way out of bankruptcy.
- Members Drew Mugno and Lee Turner reported on their success in securing new parts for their aircrafts from Vans. Drew reported that with the help of Ralph Capen, they installed his new motor mount.

Chapter Website Update: Kent Larson with the help of Tom Ritter, continues to build out our chapter website

- A chapter calendar is being created and will be available soon.
- A news letter would be a good idea. **Need a leader for this.**
- As well as a place to post photos, chapter documents, such as meeting minutes, and member's project pages. Tom pointed out that you can now put pictures of you planes and projects directly to the website. Grant Saulsbury has already posted 20 pictures of progress on his plane.
- To get to the website, google EAA.org, and than, enter EAA1683.org.

Fully Restored Ercoupe 415-C:

The EAA Aviation Foundation is offering a sweepstakes for chances to win a 1946 ERCOUPE 415. Details are here: <https://www.tapkat.org/eaav-aviation-foundation/R9KBlk/>. We need another Ercoupe in the area, so get a ticket!

Fully Restored Cessna 150M:

Being offered by the CESSNA 150-120 Club. Details available at Cessna150-120club.org.

Dover AFB First State Airshow May 18th & 19th:

- Free
- The DAMF and Chorman are supporting this event with displays of the L-19 Navion, L-16 Aeronca, Panchito, T-28 etc.
- <https://amcmuseum.org/events/first-state-air-show-2024-dover-air-force-base/>

Wings and Wheels:

Put October 5 on your calendar for this years Wings and Wheels show at KGED. Great event, so let's get as many of our planes out there as possible.

Dover Air Mobility Trip:

- Barry Gabler (only with us for his second meeting) reported that he has been working with folks he knows at the Dover Air Museum for a future trip for our chapter. Since spring is almost gone, and summer gets too hot, it looks like a fall trip will be best. Barry will keep us updated as for plans to be discussed at our next meetings. Barry also mentioned a great website he recently found, *Little Known & Abandoned Airfields*. Thanks Barry.

EAA IMC Club:

- Steve Sharff, (with us for only his second Chapter 1683 meeting) asked if we have a EAA IMC Club in our chapter. We do not, and after some discussion all thought this might be a good idea. And guess what?? Steve volunteered to investigate this possibility for 1683. If you can help, Steve's # is 302-344-3139, and email is stsharff@gmail.com. Way to go Steve!!

MEMBER DEMOS:

The main topic of the evening was a presentation by Vice President John Chirtea and daughter Heather on their progress in flight training and bringing a BLACKFLY aircraft to Milton, DE. They became interested in this all-electric vehicle and have been following it since its introduction to the media in 2018. Visits were made to Oshkosh in 2018-2023 where they met

with owners and staff of the company, and were both invited to join as members of a small group of an Early Access Program (EAP) to become pilots and owners of a BlackFly vehicle. They travelled to Palo Alto, CA on April 29th 2024, where they began their flight training, starting with time on a simulator. Heather, being younger, brighter, and better looking than John, proceeded to Byron Airport CA to complete her flight training on May 10 and became one of the first female pilots in the country to fly a BlackFly. Meanwhile, John, being an old fart, needs some additional time on the simulator and will return to CA on May 20th to hopefully complete his training. If all goes well, we should have a BlackFly in Milton sometime in June. Stay tuned!

OLD BUSINESS:

Chapter Ideas: Coordinators are needed! Please volunteer for something as our Chapter continues to make great progress.

Young Eagles Updates:

- Neither Ron Corvis or Greg Tallman were present, but Brian White reported that YE flights were held at KGED on April 27th with 10 students taken for a ride (that's not a pun). Pilots were Charles Quandt, Brian White, and Greg Tallman. Doug Vogel and John Chirtea were part of the ground crew and assisted in the paper work.

Young Eagles Program Guidelines

- Ages 8-17
- Short ground brief before flight
- Discovery flight, of course!
- Log book if the YE's are interested
- Certificate and of course, our thanks for participating

Reference Desk:

MASTER COORDINATOR: Bob Cooper, snoopercpr@comcast.net, is our volunteer to *coordinate* stories and demonstrations. Make his burden lighter by letting him know in advance of the next meeting if you have a tool or technique to demo or a story to share.

BASIC MED: Frank Martin, mart16@comcast.net, can assist in answering BasicMed questions.

Useful Links:

- NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System [ASRS]
<https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/report/electronic.html>
- NASA Form for pilots making a report:
<https://asrs.arc.nasa.gov/report/caveat.html?formType=general>
- Aircraft Spruce (which we all love) recently purchased our favorite, Wag-Aero!

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM by President Drew Mugno

Minutes Respectfully submitted by substitute Secretary, John Chirtea