

EAA 324 Simsbury, CT



September-October 2021

The Simsbury Fly-In is a success!



Nov 3 EAA 324 Gathering
7 pm
Simsbury Airport
Clubhouse
Food, drink, project
updates, topics of interest,
videos and general
storytelling

*Note: Meetings will move into the
clubhouse until the weather warms
up again.*

Chapter Happenings:

Surprisingly, nobody guessed the Massachusetts airport depicted in the August newsletter, which was Worcester, MA (ORH).

Our chapter had a very strong showing as volunteers to help organize, coordinate and generally make the Simsbury Fly-In, Car Show and Food Truck Festival take place on September 26th. The event was successful in raising the money needed to keep the Simsbury Airport funded for another year, the car show brought 400 cars (closed down because the parking was max'd out) and general parking had to briefly close down midday because there were literally no more parking spaces, even with two additional areas allotted for parking this year. Kudos to the Simsbury Airport Board members who do double duty also with EAA 324....Brad Griswold, Mark Ranstead, Charlie Luke and Doug Melville. Many, many other EAA members gave the day of the event and even days before and after the event to bring it all together.

We met for our monthly gathering on October 6th at Mark's hangar and had a wonderful evening. Scott and Chance Selker were back, plus we had 3 new people join us. Thank you to Charlie for the rides given in his RV-7A in September and October. Vince gave a demo of oxy-acetyline welding as well. Read more about it inside this newsletter!

Project Update:

As promised early this past summer, Vince had the fuselage frame of his Legal Eagle on display at the Simsbury Fly-In. See photo on the left. At the October gathering, Vince demonstrated oxy-acetyline (gas) welding and even gave some of the members the opportunity to try their hand at it. Thank you, Vince, for sharing this valuable builder's skill with all of us. Vince also shared his equipment sourcing and set up of the equipment; always valuable information.



For reference, here's a photo of a completed Legal Eagle aircraft:



Spotlight: Pilots Sharing the Joy of Flight

Four of our members have consistently made their aircraft available for rides at both the EAA gatherings and as opportunity presents itself to share the joy of flight with prospective as well as seasoned aviators.

Our President, Mark Ranstead, had regularly shared his SuperCub, giving many Young Eagle flights and members a ride, too, and we miss those days since his aircraft has been down for service for a while.

Our Vice President, Charlie Luke, as well as members Phil Vonrichthofen and Doug Melville continue to offer rides in their aircraft. The first in this series is Phil Vonrichthofen.

Phil Vonrichthofen, Piper Archer (PA-28-181)

Phil has been flying recreationally for 39 years and has a commercial instrument rating in single engine aircraft and a private pilot helicopter rating. A former CFI turned family man, Phil has enjoyed his Archer for “5 fun years so far”.



Phil arriving at Appleton, WI enroute to Oshkosh

Former professional pilot and his grandkids after a flight with Phil in the Archer out to Block Island

Be sure to check out all of the resources on the eaa.org website – videos, webinars, training, events, ideas for future events, homebuilding resources, history—they’ve got it all!

October 6th Roll Call:

Walter Adams, Vince Carucci, Ellen Coloccia, Laura Doherty, Brad Griswold, Rob Joyce, Charlie Luke, Xhulia Lumi, Dan McKeeman, Doug Melville, Eric Nulsen, Jill Nulsen, Mark Ranstead, Chance Selker, Scott Selker, Phil Vonrichthofen

Guests: Jay Ely, Jon LaValley and Bryan McFarland

Treasurer’s Report:

Vince Carucci has the most recent statement on file.

Charlie shared this unique photo of his RV-7A captured at Simsbury Airport



News from EAA:

September Chapter Video Magazine

- Charlie Becker from headquarters gives an update of happenings with EAA nationally and opportunities at the local level. You can find that segment here:
<https://eaa.org/eaa/eaa-chapters/eaa-chapter-resources/resources-from-hq/eaa-chapter-video-magazine>
(Download the September and/or October file from that site)

