




February 2020 Gathering

Attendance: Mark Ranstead, Charlie Luke, Vincent Carucci, Dave Buyak, Doug Melville, Dan McKeeman, Phil Vonrichthofen, Dave Mello, Bob Upson, Eric Nulsen and Jill Nulsen

Happy New Year!

January's gathering was a social event at the Ranstead Home with a catered dinner, drinks and a good time had by all!



Announcements and Upcoming Dates:

~Look for sign for process at Simsbury Fuel Farm as the kinks are worked out of the credit card payment system~

February 19	VMC Club, 7pm
March 4	EAA 324 Monthly Meeting
March 7	Leadership Bootcamp
Mar 31-Apr 5	Sun n' Fun (Lakeland, FL)
May 16	International Learn to Fly Day

Chapter Discussion:

EAA 324 has been recognized as a Silver Level chapter! Because of the engagement of both leadership and the membership in specific categories, we are part of the 20% of chapters that are either Bronze, Silver or Gold Level chapters. Congratulations! Thank you to the leaders in 2019 who helped us meet these requirements, including Mark, Charlie, Dan and Bob.

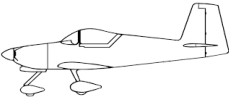
VMC attendance now qualifies for Wings credit with EAA. To get that credit, we have to provide an "instructor", which is graciously being filled by Steve Smith. VMC meets the 3rd Wednesday night of each month. Charlie polled interest in a possible tour of Bradley Tower.

The new chapter website was displayed and will continue to be edited by Vince and Jill. The website address is <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea324>

International Young Eagles Day is June 13th. We will plan to have our annual Young Eagle Day on this date as well.

We discussed Bill Thomas' issues that he had with two ferry pilots in selling his aircraft. The fuel sump wasn't checked by the first pilot which led to an emergency landing back at the airport as the engine quit on landing. Findings showed that there was considerable water not sumped. Although the aircraft had further engine issues on the second flight that are being sorted out, it's a good reminder to always check fuel sumps!

Happy February Birthday to Charlie!



Project Updates:

- Dave Buyak (1965 C-172)
Dave shared photos and brought in interior parts that he is updating- the interior is really moving forward! He showed updated materials and workmanship and answered questions regarding use of Airtex and processes for the updates. He plans to move the aircraft to the airport in April.
- Mark Ranstead (Super Cub)
New ELT is installed.
- Vince Carucci (Legal Eagle)
Vince shared his design for and the finished tail wheel, as well as mods for tires and axle springs. His updated engineered designs should help prevent issues with bending that other operators have had in the past.
- Doug Melville (Gliders and RV)
Doug brought in an old tail cone from a glider that was really beat up and then showed his machined 3-D pattern and form for making two new carbon fiber tail cones. The circumstance is unique in that the gliders are not experimental category but the tail cones are no longer manufactured for these aircraft, so permission was granted for him to create this new part for these two aircraft.
Doug also showed the newly built wingtips with new skid for the glider.
Lastly, Doug showed his finish work on the cowl around the newly installed cowl pin on the RV.
- Eric Nulsen (RV-7)
Eric brought in sample riveting and discussion was had about riveting techniques and pointers. Bill Upson followed up with a visit to Eric's shop the next day.

Monthly EAA Video Highlights *(February 2020 issue):*

- Learn to Fly Day
- EAA's Flying Start Program
- Upcoming Chapter Webinars for February and March
- New Chapter Website platform
- Chapter Recognition Program
- Featured Video: Rotax 912 iS engine
- Safety Wiring: Single Wire Method

All information regarding any of the above is available through the EAA website, eaa.org, or at this link: <http://eaa.brightcovegallery.com/chapters/detail/videos/featured/video/6128427778001/february-2020-chapter-video-magazine?autoStart=true>

Treasurer's Report:

On file.