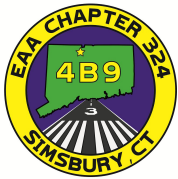


# EAA 324 Simsbury, CT



## March 2022



Mar 15	VMC Club Simsbury Airport Clubhouse 7pm
Apr 6	EAA 324 Gathering 7 pm Food, drink, project updates, topics of interest, videos and general storytelling
May 8	Tentative date for next Simsbury Airport Fun Day
May 21	Int'l Young Eagles Day
June 11	Int'l Learn to Fly Day
Sep 24-25	Simsbury Fly-In events

### Chapter Happenings:

Thank you, Charlie, for filling in for Mark and leading the gathering this month – great job.

We talked about making a **signpost** for our chapter's campsite at Airventure (see photo above!).

We also talked about doing a build project together to put the infamous **Weed Hopper** together that remains in the hangar. We all agreed that it would be a fun building project to do together.

VMC Club is ready to start up again, with Charlie Luke and Laura Doherty leading. They have set the date for **March 15** and I'm sure will have an interesting and informative topic for us to discuss.

We discussed a date for the next **Simsbury Airport Fun Day** for late April or early May (a Sunday would mean that the Barnstormers Food Truck could be there!). More info to come on this!

We again talked about having both a **Young Eagles** event, in conjunction with International Young Eagles Day, on May 21, as well as a **Flying Start** event in conjunction with International Learn to Fly Day on June 11. More details to follow.

Read more about this month's happenings on the following pages!

## More News from our Gathering:

- Charlie asked if there was interest in having a tool crib and, if so, what tools would be of interest? He noted that there is a lot of tool sharing already taking place between members, but that it might be helpful to add to that cache. One tool of interest is a Tig Welder.
- We talked about having some sort of contest to build a signpost to display at Airventure each year that shows the mileage and direction from Oshkosh to Simsbury Airport. The signpost would be displayed in front of the Blue Barn on the Airventure grounds in Oshkosh..
- We also talked about completing the Weed Hopper that is in one of the hangars and was donated to our chapter. Ours doesn't have an engine but also is not a complex project. Charlie and Eric will research the scope of this project and provide information at our next gathering.

### Weed Hopper:



- Laura reported on the approval of our chapter to be able to give \$10,000 in a Ray Aviation Scholarship to a youth 16-19 yrs old that has a current medical certificate and has ideally already started flight training. The youth is selected by our chapter and must give us an update on his or her training every month as well as complete the private pilot certificate within a year of the award. In return, we mentor the student and they volunteer two hours each month related to our chapter.

### Attendees:

Charlie Luke, Vince Carucci, Laura Doherty, Jill Nulsen, Dan McKeeman, Phil Vonrichthofen, Doug Melville, Eric Nulsen, Thomas Russo, Bob Upson, Dave Buyak, Walter Adams and Jay Ely

### Project Updates:

- Dave Buyak discussed rust treatment on parts from his 1941 J5 utilizing sandblasting either in a cabinet or outside (pressurized) to get all of the rust off these very old parts. He found a product at Tractor Supply Company called "Black Magic" that is both affordable and very effective in getting the rust pits cleaned completely. Dave showed the "before" and "after" of parts sandblasted and noted that the media (the Black Magic) can be recovered and re-used in the cabinet setting.

## ***Project Updates, continued***

- Vince Carucci said that he is waiting on warmer weather to get his fabric and priming work accomplished. In the meantime, he's working on his private pilot certificate, currently working on prepping for the written test. With regards to his build project, Vince has a target date for completion in time for the Simsbury Fly-In on September 25<sup>th</sup> this year.
- Eric Nulsen is priming and working on the aileron and flap hinges of his RV-7 project.
- Doug Melville is getting some work done on his radios in Maine.
- Charlie Luke is working through his annual condition inspection of his RV-7A.

## **Treasurer's Report:**

Our Treasurer, Vince Carucci, has the most recent statement on file. Vince stated that our balance is \$4,759.60 with the recent payment of dues. Vince is working on having a payment site like Paypal on our website for donations or payments. He also suggested that we look into selling t-shirts as a fundraiser, noting that there is an organization that carries the cost and gives us a percentage of the income from each shirt. Vince will be filing our Connecticut state tax return shortly.

## **News from EAA:**

Two video segments were shared from the EAA vault (cut and paste the following links to access these videos):

- Learn what it's like to fly a F4U Corsair in the following video:  
<https://www.eaa.org/Videos/From-the-EAA-Vault/69557938001>
- One of the warbird highlights at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2018 was Special Kay, the only flying Douglas B-26K/A-26A Invader in the world. This twin-engine medium bomber/attack aircraft has been recently restored to its mid-'60s. The following video shows off this beauty:  
<https://www.eaa.org/Videos/From-the-EAA-Vault/5999332911001>



***Did you know?***

Connecticut Aero Tech School for Aviation Maintenance has discounts for students that are veterans or over age 62. They are located at Brainard Airport and their website is: <https://ctaero.cttech.org> .

***Also...***

EAA has a very useful tool in the Online Builder's Log. Find it and enroll in their program here:

<https://eaabuilderslog.org/>

