

EAA 324 Simsbury, CT



November 2021



12/1	EAA 324 Gathering 7 pm Simsbury Airport Clubhouse Food, drink, project updates, topics of interest, videos and general storytelling
12/4	Airport Fun Day (tentative) Landing contest, BBQ, games 10am-3pm
January 2022	Annual Dinner Details tbd.

Chapter Happenings:

We met for our monthly gathering on November 3rd at the Simsbury Airport Clubhouse. As our chapter continues to grow, we enjoyed plenty of good food (thank you to Mark for bringing chili!) and lively conversation.

Welcome to Frank Crociata, visiting the chapter this month and to Beth Vrabel, who is a children's author from Canton, CT and was doing research on her next book that features a hang glider built by two boys and the adventure that ensues as a result of a flight. Many thanks to Vince for answering Beth's questions, helping her get an accurate picture of the aircraft and its capabilities.

Mark also brought an Alaska NTSB video of an incident that occurred just after takeoff from a small, private airfield.

Laura Doherty has offered to help Charlie with the VMC meetings, which will resume in January on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm in the clubhouse.

Chapter leaders were recognized with a 2020 service pin, including Mark Ranstead (Pres), Charlie Luke (VP), Vince Carucci (Treas.), Jill Nulsen (Sec'y and Newsletter), Bob Upson (Tech Adv.) and Peter Dachnowicz (Flight Adv.). Additionally, Mark recognized Laura Doherty as our MVP for the year for her many, many contributions to the chapter over the course of the year.

Project Update:

Vince brought in the landing gear struts from his project that he built to share with the group.

Karl Boehm is looking for hangar space at Simsbury to move his aircraft down from Massachusetts. If you know of someone that has space for his Piper J-4 Cub, please contact Karl.

Photos from the November Gathering:



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. This month's spotlight is on Doug Melville.

Doug Melville, RV-6A and C-172

Doug has been flying for 30 years, has logged over 2,500 hours flight time and has his SEL commercial and instrument ratings as well as a commercial rating in gliders. His spouse, Katherine, likes to fly and his son, Ian, got his private license in 2008 at the age of 17!



October 6th Roll Call:

Walter Adams, Karl Boehm, Dave Buyak, Vince Carucci, Peter Dachnowicz, Laura Doherty, Jay Ely, Rob Joyce, Charlie Luke, Xhulia Lumi, Dan McKeeman, Doug Melville, Eric Nulsen, Jill Nulsen, Mark Ranstead, Sue Ranstead, Thomas Russo and Bob Upson

Guests: Frank Crociata, Beth Vrabel

Treasurer's Report:

Vince Carucci has the most recent statement on file.

News from EAA:

November 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 November file from that site)

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!

