

# EAA 324 Simsbury, CT



## May 2021

*Name the CT airport above and win a \$10 DD card—respond by email!*



### Calendar

- |                  |  |
|------------------|--|
| May 15           | International Learn to Fly Day   |
| Jun 2            | EAA 324 Gathering<br>6 pm<br>Food, drink, project updates, topics of interest, videos and general storytelling<br><i>Dr. Robert Dodenhoff, speaker</i> |
| Jul 26-<br>Aug 1 | AirVenture<br>Oshkosh, WI  |
| Sept 26          | Simsbury Fly-In  |

### Chapter Happenings:

Another excellent gathering for the beginning of May last week...new faces, old faces, good food and an excellent presentation by Bill Thomas (see inside this newsletter for more on that plus some photos). The weather wasn't great for flying, but we look forward to flights in June.

Welcome back to John Doran and welcome to Alexandra Lee and Xhulia Lumi – our chapter is really growing these days! John has an RV-4, Alex is a student pilot who is very close to her check ride and Xhulia is a prospective student pilot.

Dr. Robert Dodenhoff of ctAME LLC will be our guest speaker at our June 2<sup>nd</sup> gathering. Many of us get our medicals through Dr. Dodenhoff and, in an effort for our speaker to be well prepared for your questions, please submit them in advance to Mark.

VMC Club is looking for a co-leader to work with Charlie, as his work commitments conflict with the club meeting occasionally. For more information about VMC Club or if you're interested in lending a hand, contact Charlie Luke at [lukec258@gmail.com](mailto:lukec258@gmail.com).

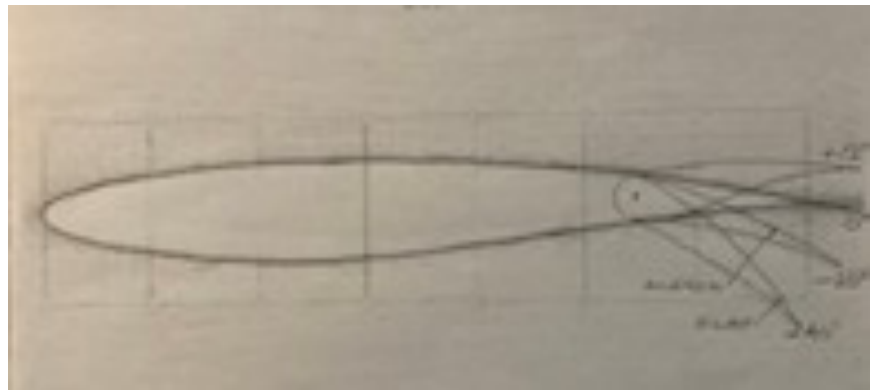
*First member to email Jill at [jilln658@ymail.com](mailto:jilln658@ymail.com) with the correct name of the destination in the photo above gets a \$10 Dunkin Donuts card at the next gathering!*

## PROJECT UPDATES and ACTIVITIES

Bill designed and then started this project in 1985 based on his prior experience with radio control airplane designs.

**Stats:** 2000 hours construction time, 160 mph top speed, 35 mph stall.

Bill was able to connect with NASA engineer Dan Somer who designed the airfoil later used on Lancair and Cirrus aircraft, but this aircraft was the first to use the design. Quoting Bill, "Key to performance is [the] wing trailing edge that reflexes (i.e., moves up as well as down)." Project construction was with fiberglass and wood to keep it as light as possible. A VW-based engine of 95 HP was modified and installed. The project was completed 1990. The Bumblebee flew 10 years and 400+ flight hours. Thank you, Bill, for your in-depth sharing of the technology, resources and your drawings and photos.



## Upcoming Events

**AirVenture 2021:** There are still campsites available at our Chapter Camping site at this year's AirVenture (Oshkosh). Presently those planning on going to Wisconsin are Brad Griswold, Vincent and Theresa Carucci, Bryan Ranstead, Mark Ranstead and Dylan & Jennifer Wreggelsworth (Bryan's friend in the Coast Guard). Charlie Luke will be sleeping at the Experimental Aircraft parking/camping but will be a resident of our Camp. If anyone one is interested in attending AirVenture and camping with us please contact Mark Ranstead.

**2021 Simsbury Fly-In, Car Show and Food Truck Festival** will be Sunday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. There will be a Food Truck event only on September 25<sup>th</sup>. As in past years our Chapter will be tasked with the ground handling and parking of visiting aircraft. There are a few new twists to the field layout and Mark will include a briefing at our next EAA gathering. There are a lot of volunteer opportunities with this event and we welcome new volunteers who want to get involved, whether they are part of our chapter or not.



## More Project Updates:

Mark's engine has been reinstalled for the second time after first installing the freshly overhauled engine only to be informed by John Drenckhahn of Pine Mountain Aviation that Lycoming recalled the new cylinders after mis-matching the piston and rings to the cylinders. John replaced the new cylinder with new cylinders at Lycoming's expense.

The pictures on the following page are of Laura helping to remove the Supercub engine to transport to Pine Mountain Aviation and of Laura buffing the Supercub fabric.



## Treasurer's Report:

Our current balance is \$4,615.76 as we continue to add members. Vince Carucci has the most recent statement on file.

## News from EAA:

May 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 May file from that site)

***Be sure to check out all of the resources on the [eaa.org](https://eaa.org) website – videos, webinars, training, events, ideas for future events, homebuilding resources, history—they've got it all!***

