

EAA 324 Simsbury, CT



July 2023

Gone West – Bill Thomas

Bill became ill this past Spring with cancer and passed away on July 7th at home, surrounded by his family. Bill was a integral part of the Simsbury Airport and his efforts have, in large part over the years, kept the Simsbury Airport alive. Besides his work on behalf of the airport, he was an avid pilot, flying his own Zenith, and worked for part of his career in the aviation industry. He was a prince of a guy, a true class act, and we will miss him immensely. Blue skies, Bill.

Featured Speaker: Richard Rozanski, D.A.R.

Rich Rozanski joined us in July to give a presentation on what a DAR is and what they do and how that impacts both aircraft owners and builders. A “DAR” is a Designated Airworthiness Representative, basically a Quality Assurance person, who can be part of the process of an aircraft being certified.

Rich explained that aircraft owners and builders can either go to the FAA or to a DAR who has been given that designation by the FAA but doesn't work for the FAA. A DAR does an airworthiness inspection after either an initial build (before flight test) or a major alteration. He is not an engineer nor is the role of a DAR to be an engineer, but rather to assure quality of the work performed in the interest of safety.

Rich also went on to explain some of the rule changes and real life scenarios that have taken place in his experience, which also included a stint with the FAA and, prior to that, with Sikorsky.

It was a great talk and Rich also fielded questions at the end of his talk. If you are interested in contacting him for more information or for booking him for DAR services, let Vince know as he has Rich's contact information.



Think cool thoughts, only 5 more months til winter.....

Chapter News

- Congratulations to Laura on the completion of the Women’s Air Race Classic in June. Laura said she had a great time and she and the team on her aircraft came in first in two of the sections of the race. Overall, they had a top 15 finish out of 55 entries. Laura promises to regale us with the whole story plus photos at our August gathering!
- Many thanks to Luke Wismar, our Ray Aviation Scholar, who has been faithfully mowing the airport grounds in front of the building, at the side of the building and that whole area over by the picnic tables and the fuel pump on the Microsemi side – whew. It has been a huge help to the airport and we thank you!

AirVenture is here!

To date, it looks like a growing group of members interested in camping out at AirVenture this year, including Mark, Brad, Charlie, Vince, Jeff, Chance and Jon, and some of their respective family and friends. If you are still thinking about dropping in for a visit for a day or a few days, please let Mark, Brad or Vince know.

Your Official Countdown to AirVenture 2023

July 24 – July 30, 2023

Countdown is sponsored by: 



July 19	VMC Club, Simsbury Airport Clubhouse, 7pm (Contact Laura for more information)
July 24-30	EAA AirVenture, Oshkosh, Wisconsin
August	Annual Dinner and Movie Night in the Hangar, date TBD
September 24	Simsbury Airport Fly-In, Classic Car Show & Food Truck Festival

Ever wonder what all the projects are in our chapter?

Vince – Legal Eagle build Jeff – RV-10 quick build Dave – J-5A refurb (following his C-172 refurb)
Eric – RV-7 build Mark – RV-7 build Don – Pitts S1S
Jon – Zenith 750 build Brad – Zenith 650 build Jim Whelan – RV-14

Additionally, this bunch of guys enjoy flying their aircraft:

Doug – RV-6A, C-172 (with Karl) Charlie – RV-7A Peter – Bonanza V-35
John – RV-4 Mark – Supercub (under repair) Karl – J-4 Cub

Attendees this Month:

Vince Carucci, Jeff Neumann, Dave Buyak, Jill Nulsen, Thomas Russo, Bob Upson, Karl Boehm, Eric Nulsen, Joe Nadeau, Jay Ely, Walter Adams, Laura Doherty, Jon LaValley, Luke Wismar, Brad Griswold, Rob Joyce, Charlie Luke, Dan McKeeman and Drew Mazurek
Guests: Richard Rozanski (DAR) and Paul Holzer (Young Eagle dad)

Treasurer’s Report:

Our Treasurer, Dave Buyak, has the most recent statement on file.

EAA National:

If you’d like to reference any of the topics covered in the EAA Chapter Video Magazine, you can find the July edition here:

[July Chapter Video Magazine](#)

