

EAA 324 Simsbury, CT



February 2023



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| February 15 | VMC Club
Simsbury Airport
Clubhouse
7 pm |
| March 1 | Chapter Gathering
Simsbury Airport
Clubhouse
7 pm |
| Spring | International Learn
to Fly Day |
| Spring | Young Eagles Day |

Chapter Happenings:

The Winter Dinner at Da Capo in Avon was a lot of fun and the food was excellent. We ended up being a group of 20. Thank you, Vince, for putting this together.

VMC Club started back up with Laura and Bill at the helm on January 18th with a presentation by Bill from his incident with wake turbulence over 4B9 from an airliner. Laura and Bill will host again on February 15th at the clubhouse.

Vince reminded us that joining a local EAA chapter also entails joining national EAA. If you have any questions on how to join, visit their website at eaa.org and click on the "membership" tab. Don't forget to let Vince, Jeff, Dave or Jill know if you join national so we can make sure our chapter records are correct. Thank you!

Laura shared that the "Women Take Flight" exhibit at the New England Air Museum will run March 4, 11 and 18th, from 10am until 3pm each of those days. The exhibit is for all ages.



Chapter Update

Vince and Jeff both attended the Chapter Leadership weekend in Oshkosh in January and gave a full report on their insights and inspirations from the weekend. There were a few take-aways for all of us to keep in mind:

- They learned a lot and if you have the time and interest to attend one of these weekends, please let us know of your interest. It's designed around chapter leadership positions, so a great starting point for members interested in getting a little more involved.
- AeroEducate is a program for students K-12th grade where aviation-related activities can be incorporated into the classroom. Our Ray Aviation Scholarship recipient, Luke Wismar, could promote this program at the schools in the Farmington Valley for his required volunteer time back to the chapter. More information to follow.
- Vince mentioned some best practices for our chapter that the chapter board will look further into, including insurance requirements for gatherings and a five year plan for the chapter.
- As part of the weekend, both guys got to get some hands-on at the warbirds museum in Oshkosh. Jeff was beaming describing sitting in a P-51 Mustang!



The chapter board will be meeting soon to set dates for Spring events including Young Eagle Day and Flying Start, as well as prospective flying/social events like a landing contest or a pancake breakfast.

Aircraft Updates and Project Updates

Eric (RV-7 build): Eric is working on the bulkheads and firewall as part of the fuselage kit. He's finding that, as he gets further into the project, the kit instructions become less and the builder is required to do more research, check with builder's sites online and do quite a bit more problem solving on his own.

Dave (J-5 refurbish): Dave is working on the wings, finishing the new spars in the first wing. He's 6 months into this part of the project and is nearly done with the first wing. He expects the second wing will go more quickly, given his experience gained with the first wing. He'll be routing aileron cables to finish up the wing. He plans to finish cover the wings at home before moving them to the airport and starting on the fuselage.

Tom (Vagabond): Tom's plane is in New York, waiting for him to build a hangar at 4B9. He hopes to get that well-started in the Spring. Tom is also looking for a local instructor.

Bill (Zenith 650): Bill just bought this beautiful example of a Light Sport build. If you'd like to take a look at the workmanship, contact Bill and he'd be happy to show it off!



Zenith CH 650 Aircraft (sample photo)

Peter (Citabria): Peter's plane is in New Jersey and is coming along steadily with the engine rebuild.

Jeff (RV-10 quick build): Jeff is finishing up home projects to clear his calendar to start on the build this summer.

Charlie (RV-7A): The prop leak is fixed and he's working on an autopilot fix, in between trying to finish his move to southern CT.

Ever wonder what all the projects are in our chapter?

Vince – Legal Eagle build	Jeff – RV-10 quick build	Dave – J-5 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
Bill – Zenith 650	John – RV-4	Mark – Supercub (under repair)

Aircraft Updates and Project Updates continued...

Vince (Legal Eagle build): Vince shared his design for a more aerodynamic wingtip for his “hershey bar” wing. (see photo below) His next steps include painting the wings at home. The process for the paint is worth your time to ask about!



Attendees this Month:

Vince Carucci, Jeff Neumann, Dave Buyak, Jill Nulsen, Laura Doherty, Charlie Luke, Scott Selker, Chance Selker, Bob Upson, Dan McKeeman, Peter Dachnowicz, Bill Thomas, Tom Bush, Walter Adams and Luke Wismar

Treasurer’s Report:

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

EAA National:

You can find the February edition of the Chapter Video Magazine here:

[February Chapter Video Magazine](#)

