

# EAA 324 Simsbury, CT



**March 2023**

## Chapter Happenings

Our March gathering featured two speakers; the first was author Beth Vrabel. Beth had visited our chapter a few years ago at a summer gathering to research information on, of all things, crashing a homebuilt airplane! Our membership was more than willing to weigh in with stories and opinions and helpful information for Beth. What followed was a story geared toward youth entitled When Giants Burn. Beth gave us a preview of the story and gifted a copy of the book to our chapter. The book will be published and to the public in June of this year.



Our second speaker was our own Bob Upson, builder, pilot and aircraft restorer. Bob had built an RV-6 and then in 2009, he flew it solo from Simsbury across the country and back over the course of 22 days. He was able to visit family in Texas (and give a Young Eagle ride to his niece), visit family and the Evergreen Museum in Oregon, attempt a visit to Van's (weathered out) and work in a stop at Oshkosh during AirVenture. The story was fascinating and a testimony to just getting out there and doing it. Thanks Bob for a great presentation!



Young Eagle flight in Dallas for Bob's niece

Evergreen Museum and the Spruce Goose in Oregon



## More Chapter News

Big kudos to Laura once again for her work with the Ray Aviation Scholarship! Through Laura's efforts, Chapter 324 was awarded a scholarship for \$11,000 to give to a 16-18 year old flight student this year. Requirements for the recipient of the scholarship are to hold a student pilot certificate and a FAA medical certificate, and our chapter will form a small group to review applications for the scholarship. The recipient will also be required to give back through 2 hours of volunteer work each month to our chapter.

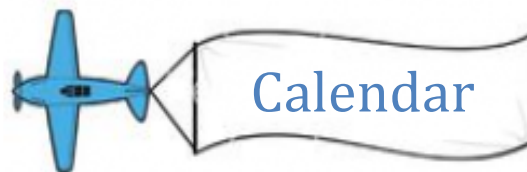
In other Ray Aviation Scholarship news, our 2022 recipient, Luke Wismar, just solo'd on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations, Luke!



Laura, as president of the local 99's chapter, has also committed her organization (alongside our chapter) to repaint the SIMSBURY 122.7 on the runway on June 3<sup>rd</sup> (June 4<sup>th</sup> is the rain date). We hope you will be able to help with this effort and enjoy a BBQ after at the airport.

## AirVenture 2023

To date, it looks like a growing group of members interested in camping out at AirVenture this year, including Mark, Charlie, Vince, the Selkers and Jon, and some of their respective family and friends. If you are seriously thinking about joining the group, please let Vince or Mark know as soon as you can.



March 15	VMC Club, 7pm at the Simsbury Airport Clubhouse, contact Bill Thomas for more info
March 25	Pancake Breakfast at Chapter 1310's home at the Skylark Airport, 830-11am
March 28- April 2	Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo, Lakeland, FL
April 5	April Chapter Gathering, 7pm at the Simsbury Airport Clubhouse
April 19	VMC Club, 7pm at the Simsbury Airport Clubhouse, contact Bill or Laura for more info
May 13-14	Westfield International Air Show, Barnes Air National Guard Base

*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.*

***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)

**Attendees this Month:**

Vince Carucci, Jeff Neumann, Dave Buyak, Jill Nulsen, Laura Doherty, Charlie Luke, Scott Selker, Chance Selker, Bob Upson, Dan McKeeman, Tom Bush, Walter Adams, Eric Nulsen, Doug Melville, and Jon LaValley  
Prospective member: Joe Nadeau  
Guest Speaker: Beth Vrabel

**Treasurer’s Report:**

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

**EAA National:**

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

[March Chapter Video Magazine](#)

