



# Above it All

January 2025

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 327 - DUBUQUE IA USA  
www.327eaachapter.org www.facebook.com/EAA327/

## From The Desk of the President

Dear Chapter Members;

Well, here it is. January 3<sup>rd</sup> and I would normally be complaining about the cold, nasty and icky winter happening.



You could say I'm not a winter fan... but I just can't complain right now. There's an abundance of sunshine, lack of snow (yay!) and while it is only 18 degrees out, it's a sunny warm 84 degrees in my greenhouse (Thank you Doug!). These are all the perfect ingredients for cooking up some plans for our chapter in

2025!!

Our new board members are meeting soon for a little retreat to talk about the upcoming year, events and planning. You've all be so wonderful at pitching and providing idea's – if you have something you want to suggest, we all welcome anything you want to offer up.

A BIG THANK YOU to our 2025 Board of Directors for our EAA Chapter 327

- Vice President – Mike Nickeson
- Secretary – Rich Theobald
- Treasurer – Andy Hawkinson
- Board Member at Large – Elaine Fitch (January - June)
- Board Member at Large – Doug Bartlett (January – June)

Our two Board Members at Large will serve on short six month terms with the hopes of providing more of our membership the opportunity to serve. If you're interested in serving from July – December 2025 please reach out to one of us and let us know.

Our January Gathering will be held on Tuesday January 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 – 8pm. We will start with shredded chicken taco bowls and socializing, followed by Rich Theobald presenting some interesting EAA updates on Mosiac and more!

See you all soon!

Nancy Du Plessis  
EAA327 Chapter President  
815-281-0399 call/text



# Chapter Christmas Dinner

On Monday Night, December 16th we had our Chapter Christmas Dinner at the Asbury Eagles Club. It was really well attended (65/+members).

We all enjoyed some fantastic food and each other's company. Thank you everyone who signed up and came. Here are a few photo's to enjoy of the evening.



# A Message from Dubuque Airport Operations

**From:** Dan Klaas  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 2, 2025 2:50 PM  
**To:** Dan Klaas <[dklaas@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:dklaas@cityofdubuque.org)>  
**Subject:** ID Badges!!  
**Importance:** High

Good Afternoon,

Airport Ops has printed new DBQ AOA badges for all that have turned in their badge renewal applications filled out correctly. Old badges will be expiring on January 15th.

Open times to come in and pick up and pay for badges in Admin above the Jet Center are as follows:

Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays 10:00-11:30am and 12:30-1:30pm (\*\*Weather Dependent\*\*)

New badges all have a Nov 1, 2027 expiration date. Price for the badge has not changed (\$60)

Any questions can be emailed to [dbqairportbadging@gmail.com](mailto:dbqairportbadging@gmail.com) or give the Ops number 563-589-4236 a call.

Chad Welsh  
Airport Operations Specialist  
Dubuque Regional Airport  
10800 Airport Road  
Dubuque, IA 52003-9555

563.589.4236 (Office)

563.580.5846 (Cell)

[cwelsch@cityofdubuque.org](mailto:cwelsch@cityofdubuque.org)

Regards,



**Dan Klaas**

Assistant Airport Director, Dubuque Regional Airport

O: [563.589.4232](tel:563.589.4232) | C: [563.580.9076](tel:563.580.9076)

10800 Airport Road | Dubuque, IA 52003-9555



# Ray Scholar Update

By Addy Scardino

## From Virtual to Reality



My name is Addy Scardino, and I am currently the Ray Scholar. My journey into aviation began in an unexpected place—at home, flying a simulator. Armed with a computer monitor, rudder pedals, and a yoke, I completed 23 lessons as part of a private pilot course in my basement. Chuck Weber was the person who introduced me to this world of flight, providing me with all the resources I still use today. He mentioned the simulator as a tool that could make flight training easier, suggesting that the skills learned on the computer would directly transfer to flying an actual plane. At the time, I was skeptical. It was hard to imagine how something so virtual could help in such a real-world skill.

Despite my initial doubts, I persevered and completed all the lessons, dedicating about four months to getting a score I felt good about on each one. By October, I was ready to begin my private pilot training, though I was both excited and nervous as I pulled up to the Key Cities hanger. This was it—my first time flying a real

airplane. My instructor, Cody, guided me through the preflight process and showed me the basics on the ground, including how to fuel the plane (which proved to be a challenge at least for me).

Once we took off, I immediately started analyzing the plane's controls. To my surprise, they felt familiar. The lessons and notes I had taken during my simulator training were directly relevant to what I was seeing and feeling in the cockpit. As we started practicing maneuvers—turns, stalls, slow flight—it became clear to me that I had already encountered these exact lessons in my basement. That moment of realization was a turning point; the nerves started to fade, and a sense of calm washed over me. I wasn't entering this experience completely blind. In fact, I already had a solid foundation.

Now, three months into my private pilot training, I've never been more confident about my path. The thrill and excitement of flying is unlike anything I've ever experienced. Every time I leave the ground, my passion only grows stronger. I constantly strive to improve, learn more, and achieve greater things.

Looking back, I can confidently say that the simulator played a pivotal role in building my confidence and preparing me for the real thing. I wouldn't change a single part of my training or the people who have supported me along the way.





# ZENITH 750 CRUZER



## FOR SALE EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT

For sale by owner/builder. Ready for final assembly. It's a partially completed kit that includes a Viking 130 HP engine and two Zenith embossed seats. Some Garmin avionics are available as well as builders tools. My father was the original builder. Contact for more photos, questions, or a tour of the hangar, located in Zephyrhills FL.

**Joanne LeBlanc**

✉ [joanneleblanc@yahoo.com](mailto:joanneleblanc@yahoo.com)

☎ 813-334-9626

# winter Fly-In/Drive-In CHILI FEED

PLATTEVILLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT  
SATURDAY, FEB. 15TH FROM 10:00 A.M TO 2:00 P.M.

Serving Culver's Chili & Dessert  
until 2:00 p.m. or until food runs out  
Donations are Appreciated

Location: Platteville Municipal Airport  
5157 State Rd 80, Platteville, WI 53818



**APEX**✈  
AERO CENTER

*Ski planes welcome, but land at your own risk.*

Questions? Contact Rison Pereira  
[rpereira@apexaerocenter.com](mailto:rpereira@apexaerocenter.com) for more information!

# RC Build Update

By Clayton Greaves

I've thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the Civil Air Patrol cadets. As many as 12 showed up in November. With many traveling for the holidays, we canceled planned build sessions in December. I found "other fish to fry".

Starting this coming Saturday, 18 January, we will collaborate weekly from 10:30 through 1:30. The airframe is about half assembled so far. Here's what we are shooting for:



Skilled help has been lacking at times when 10+kids showed up. Keeping many plates spinning is not my strong suit.

By April we plan to have the model assembled. Fingers crossed! The local Tri State Modelers RC club has stepped up to assist me with two flight training events planned April 5 and 12th.

One additional note: when our December sessions canceled Don Hedeman stepped up and requested coaching on his own model build. So cool! We have used the club hanger work space for the construction of a huge 102 inch wingspan motor glider called the Leprechaun XL. It behaves more like a dragonfly than an aircraft with remarkably light wing loading.

Here's a YouTube hyperlink to some breathtaking video of it in action.

<https://youtu.be/CbFUPFHDPwA?si=WeS0fxvL4T8cNBws>

I'll be sure to put the beautiful parts on display at the next meeting.

Finally, if you personally have any interest in RC modeling and you want to get your hands dirty contact me ([rcgreaves@gmail.com](mailto:rcgreaves@gmail.com) or cell:(608) 726-1554 ) and we'll do just that together.



## Chapter 327 Flight Instructors

Here is a listing of Chapter 327 members that are flight instructors and would be willing to help with primary flight instruction, your next BFR or other. *If you are a Chapter member and a flight instructor please let me know and I will include your name in the listing. Additions/Corrections are welcome!*

CFI / CFII	Phone	New Students	CFII	BFR	IFP	Airports	Plane
Mike Nickeson	563/451-6246	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	DBQ	Owners, Club Plane
Taras Slyvka	563/235-6108	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	DBQ	Owners, Club Plane

e-mail - Bob Woodward ([bob.woodward312@gmail.com](mailto:bob.woodward312@gmail.com)) to add your name to the list.

## Local Calendar of Events

For many other Aviation Related events, visit the following websites. Click on the following links. Will only list events submitted to the editor and other most local events here.

- [EAA Aviation Calendar of Events](#)
- [AOPA Calendar of Events](#)
- [Iowa DOT Office of Aviation Calendar](#)
- [Wisconsin Fly-Ins and Airshow Event Calendar](#)
- [Fly-Ins.com Calendar Website](#)
- [Fun Places to Fly Website](#)
- [Social Flight Calendar](#)
- [Midwest Flyer Magazine Calendar](#)



# Tuesday, January 21, 2025 Chapter Meeting

**Location: EAA Chapter Hangar 88 — KDBQ**

**6:30PM Dinner and 7:00 Meeting**

**Program:** Rich Theobald presenting some interesting EAA updates on Mosiac (and more)!

Food provided by Nancy Du Plessis and Andy Hawkinson (Thank you!)

Chapter Website: [www.327.eaachapter.org](http://www.327.eaachapter.org)  
 Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EAA327>

Send event information on those activities that would interest the membership. Will be delighted to include any information on aviation related activities, fly-in breakfasts, etc. e-Mail your information to [Bob.Woodward312@gmail.com](mailto:Bob.Woodward312@gmail.com).

### EAA CHAPTER 327 OFFICERS

(Effective January 2025)

**President**  
**Nancy Du Plessis** 815-281-0399  
[nancydupe@gmail.com](mailto:nancydupe@gmail.com)

**Vice President**  
**Mike Nickeson** 563-451-6246  
[michaelnickeson@gmail.com](mailto:michaelnickeson@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**  
**Andy Hawkinson**  
[ahawkinson@dutrac.org](mailto:ahawkinson@dutrac.org) 563-590-5678

**Secretary**  
**Rich Theobald** 563-564-1172  
[rjtheobald@yahoo.com](mailto:rjtheobald@yahoo.com)

**Past President**  
**Chuck Weber** 563-663-3646  
[charlesbweber@mac.com](mailto:charlesbweber@mac.com)

### At-large board members

Elaine Fitch January—June 2025  
 Doug Barlett January—June 2025

### OTHER CHAIRS

**Web Site Editor**  
**Nancy Du Plessis** 815-281-0399  
[nancydupe@gmail.com](mailto:nancydupe@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor**  
**Bob Woodward** 563-543-2194  
[Bob.woodward312@gmail.com](mailto:Bob.woodward312@gmail.com)

**Facebook Editor**  
**Bridger Hawkinson** 563-581-3389  
[bridgerhawk03@mail.com](mailto:bridgerhawk03@mail.com)



**EAA Chapter 327 IMC Club**

*“To promote instrument flying, proficiency, and safety”*

Meets: 7pm, 2nd Thurs of month  
Location: Dubuque Airport Hangar 88

For more information contact: [nancydupe@gmail.com](mailto:nancydupe@gmail.com)

We would like to make you aware that as always, in past, present, and future, any communications issued by Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 327, regardless of the form, format, and/or media used, which includes, but is not limited to, "Above It All" and audio/video recordings is presented only in the light of a clearing house of ideas, opinions, and personal experience accounts. Anyone using ideas, opinions, information, etc. does so at their own discretion and risk. Therefore, no responsibility or liability is expressed, or implied, and you are without recourse to anyone. Any event announced and/or listed herein is done so as a matter of information only and does not constitute approval, sponsorship, involvement, control or direction of any event (this includes Oshkosh). Bottom line, we are responsible for nothing. Please read, listen, enjoy, and be careful out there.



# EAA Chapter 327 Member Application Form



FORM REV. 6/26/2024

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 NICKNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL EAA NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 LICENSES/RATINGS/SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 AIRCRAFT OWNED/ PROJECT/ BUILT: \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU HAVE AN AIRPORT ID BADGE?  YES  NO Badge #: \_\_\_\_\_

(FOR REFERENCE AS OUR CHAPTER GROWS AND FOR EVENTS)

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN:  VMC  IMC CLUBS

YOUNG EAGLES:  PILOT  VOLUNTEER  
 YOUTH PROTECTION BACKGROUND CHECK COMPLETED? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE COMPLETED, IF YES: \_\_\_\_\_

EAGLE FLIGHT:  PILOT  VOLUNTEER

### Membership Type

Please checkmark a membership type.

Individual \$20 per year (\$10 after July 1)

Family \$30 per year (\$15 after July 1)  
 \*\*\*PLEASE INDICATE FAMILY MEMBERS ON BACK SIDE

Student FREE (18 and under)

All checks can be dropped off at the EAA Hangar dropbox or can be mailed to EAA Treasurer Andy Hawkinson at 15931 Lore Mound Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52002. Also Debit/Credit cards are accepted via the QR Code below.

\*\*\*PLEASE NOTE: All dues, fees, rents, or other charges are to be separate checks. Do not combine amounts into one check! Thank you!

Please email a passport like photo of yourself to members@eaa327.org so we can update our member directory. Thank You!

## Letter From the President

It is my great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to each and every member of EAA Chapter 327. As President, I am truly honored to lead a community of aviation enthusiasts who share a passion for the skies. Our chapter is a vibrant and dynamic family dedicated to fostering a love for aviation, promoting safety, and creating lasting connections among like-minded individuals. Whether you're an experienced pilot or someone taking their first steps into the world of aviation, EAA Chapter 327 is here to support and inspire you on your journey. Together, let us soar to new heights and celebrate the joy of flight.

Welcome aboard!

### Nancy DuPlessis

President of EAA Chapter 327





