

The Upwind Flyer

Your *Scentinel* for Chapter Happenings

June 2020



In this Issue

Gone West:
Don Kleinschmidt
pg. 3

President's Log
pg. 4

Calendar of
Events
pg. 5

Ray Aviation Scholar Selected

By Rob Peterson

As the Scholarship Coordinator for EAA chapter 333, I am pleased to announce that Mehmed Uludag has been selected for our chapter's Ray Aviation Scholarship. We had three outstanding applicants, but the selection committee - myself, Chris Gordon, and Mark Powell - chose Mehmed because we felt his character and situation stood out from other applicants. Next, EAA national will review his application and is expected to approve Mehmed's scholarship on June 10.

The scholarship committee conducted an extensive video interview and found Mehmed to be bright, articulate, polite, and fascinated with all things aviation related. Mehmed related a story to us of his



The failed Sanford dam near Midland.

Photo by Marc Murawski

first time flying a Cessna in 2014 and how it changed the course of his life. During our interview, he impressed each of us with his use of free time during the corona virus quarantine to learn, on his own initiative, about the ongoing development of supersonic aircraft. His goal after graduating high school is to pursue aeronautical engineering in college.

Mehmed's application came with a glowing letter of recommendation from his high school *Principles of Engineering* teacher. Ms. Marchionna described his work in an Engineering Design Course on a CAD model of the F-35 Lightning II, and described Mehmed as talented and hard-working with a passion for aerospace and flight.

As I mentioned, we had other excellent candidates for the scholarship, but chose Mehmed because of the initiative he's shown in working towards a career in aviation. He explored flight training locally two years ago, when he was just 14, but was unable to begin lessons at that time. We believe that this scholarship will enable him to convert his dream of learning to fly into a reality. In conclusion, the selection committee members are proud to forward Mehmed Uludag for the EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship. We hope that everyone will congratulate him extend a warm welcome to Chapter 333.



Mehmed Uludag

Mehmed Introduces Himself

My name is Mehmed Kerem Uludag. I am a current junior at Huron High, in the IB/CP (International Baccalaureate/Career Program) and PLTW (Project Lead The Way) programs. I have recently been awarded the Ray Aviation Scholarship. I am very excited to join and be a part of the EAA community.

My passion for Aerospace Engineering and related areas started when I first flew in a Cessna aircraft in San Diego, California in 2014. Flying in and of itself is incredible and fascinating. The feeling of soaring like a bird has shaped up my hobbies, academics and career goals. My high school preparation was all towards that purpose. Ever since, I have pushed myself to learn more in order to pursue Aerospace at college, including PLTW, IB, and AP classes. One of my favorite high school clubs is the Drone club, which enabled me to build, code, experiment and fly drones. It made me want to keep learning the technical details as well as explore and discover different use cases in the real world. Obtaining a pilot license has been my dream for the past several years. I strongly believe that a pilot license as part of the Ray Aviation Scholarship activities as well as being a member of EAA will be a perfect match with my overall professional career goals and hobbies.

I am looking forward to taking full advantage of this opportunity and contributing to the EAA Chapter.

Gone West: Don Kleinschmidt

By Chris Gordon

I am very sorry to share the news of Don Kleinschmidt's passing last month after a sudden illness.



Don with his Cessna 182 at ARB, probably taken by his son Brian around 2009

Don was a past president and long-time board member of EAA 333, a private pilot and former owner of a Cessna 182, and longtime proprietor of a local insurance agency. Don obtained his pilot license in 1969 at a Navy flying club while serving in the US Navy. He also served on the Ann Arbor Airport Advisory Committee for a number of years and published "The Great Lakes Pilots News" (an aviation newspaper covering 4 states) for 10 years.

Don spent most fall Saturdays for many years directing traffic with his mickey mouse gloves for EAA 333 Michigan football parking fundraisers, and then helped guide the chapter in using the proceeds to transform the historic State St hangar complex into what we have today. Don was a fixture behind the coffee pots at the annual Ann

Arbor Airport Pancake Breakfast, and he spent many summers as a volunteer "gas passer" and tram conductor at EAA Air Venture Oshkosh, while proudly waving his US Navy flag and heckling any Marines in the vicinity from his pop-up in Camp Scholler. I was blessed to share a neighboring campsite for many years and will always remember Don's infectious smile and heartfelt laugh coming from beneath his perfect mustache.

Please join me in offering condolences to Don's wife Terri, in remembering a generous and genuine friend, and in honoring his contributions to our chapter and to the Ann Arbor Airport community.

Don Kleinschmidt
Obituary at mlive.com



Don driving one of his restored Willys Jeeps in the Dexter Memorial Day Parade in 2018. The jeep following was also his. Photo courtesy Quaila Pant, Rotary Club of Dexter.

President's Log

By Eric Gettel

Time does a funny thing to memory. A year and a half ago I built the left fuel tank for my RV-9A project. Most of what I remember involved the preparation over the course of a week a number of small batches of gooey fuel-tank sealant, riveting through the muck, and generating plenty of acetone laced rags. Looking forward to a 4-day holiday weekend of COVID-isolated lockdown, I ordered a new quart of the 2-part sealant from Van's and splurged on 3-day shipping since "ground service" out of Oregon is code for burro-pack.

To make up for a shortage (long story), I even roused up some special pop rivets leftover from fellow member Jeff Cohen's RV-7 build. He even generously drove over to my house and left them on my doorstep at the crack-of-dawn before running away.

Nice plan other than the one detail that I left out: I hadn't done any of the preparation required before the tank is assembled for the final time. The weekend was actually spent fitting, trimming, and deburring. The skin and the ribs have different radii out-of-the-box and assembling them to become a unified whole is a grueling chore. It took 4 hours. I spent 7 hours in total on Friday. It was a good, productive day of building and yet far different than what I imagined.

After planting some tomatoes and spring-cleaning the house on Saturday, it finally (yes, it took that long) became clear that a finished fuel tank by Monday evening was never even a real possibility. By the time Monday came around I started the initial fitting of nutplates to the z-brackets (z-brackets are stand-offs between the rear of the fuel tank and the spar web). It was such a beautiful afternoon, I stopped after the first one and sat down on my deck to write this column. Since the z-brackets are made out of bare 6061 aluminum, I still have to clean, soak in Bonderite 5700, and prime them before riveting the nutplates on for the final time.

As I sit here near the left-downwind-to-base turn for Ann Arbor runway 6 the skies are eerily quiet, like the first few days after 9/11. I miss the usual

bustle overhead while longing for the day when I take to the skies in my own aircraft. A lone Long EZ like aircraft departed at one point.

At least I am able to long for the day. This is Memorial Day after all. Even without the usual assortment of ceremonies, parades, flyovers, and gatherings forever scarring 2020, it is a time to remember that many gave their lives so that the rest of us have the freedom to long for the day.



A z-bracket with nutplates installed.

Photo by Eric Gettel

Keep Your Head in the Game



IMC Club is hosted by Will Minette every 4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm.
One-click links to virtual meetings are sent a day or two before the event.

Milestone

Member Marc Murawski recently achieved 1,000 hours as an airman and has put together a brief [memento of the occasion](#) on youtube.



Flooded area near Midland.

Photo by Marc Murawski

Calendar of Events

For 2020, the chapter has realigned its meetings schedule to fall consistently on the second, third, and fourth Tuesday evenings of most months.

Links for all internet meetings will be delivered via email closer to the event date.

- Jun 9 Chapter gathering, 7pm via internet.
- Jun 16 Business (Board) Meeting, 7pm via internet.
- Jun 23 IMC Club Meeting, 7pm, via internet.

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- Jun 14 Pancake Breakfast CANCELLED
 - Jun 20 Young Eagles Rally #1 CANCELLED
 - Jul ___ A2GA2 Adopt-A-Road Cleanup
 - Jul 20-26 EAA AirVenture 2020
 - Aug 15 Young Eagles Rally #2
 - Aug 29-30 Thunder over Michigan?
 - Sep ___ A2GA2 Adopt-A-Road Cleanup
 - Dec 8 Holiday Party



Don driving one of his restored Willys Jeeps in the Dexter Memorial Day Parade in 2016. Riding in the jeep is Medal of Honor recipient Lieutenant Colonel Charles Kettles, US Army (Retired), and Lance Gordon. Photo credit unknown.