



Chapter 334

Groton, CT

#56; August 2021

Chapter 334 was formed fifty-two years ago



Photo of P-36 Hawk LSA kit prototype being produced by ScaleBirds of Groton, CT. CEO Sam Watrus, EAA 334 member and past club President described the progress of his company at the June Zoom meeting. Check it out at Oshkosh.

Check out the EAA334 website at
<https://chapters.eaa.org/EAA334>.

No meeting in July- club is taking a summer break.
The next meeting will be on August 14, 2021, Zoom
on-line, at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82731590005?pwd=UVFqY3ZXM0JOaURPdEg0anN3Tlplkdz09>.

Inside you'll find articles describing in-air refueling from a drone, a 100-year-old pilot sets a solo record, a new, sleek, business jet about to fly, Japan's entry into the SST business, and a good (safe) joke in the approach to landing at Sydney, Australia.

The banner photo this month is from the ScaleBird's web site; your photo can run here too; please submit photos for use in future newsletter header banners; submission will be taken as permission to use the material. Editor will make the choice each month. We prefer photos showing people and planes or territory around southeast Connecticut. Your reward will be sharing the photo with readers of this newsletter. Also remember you can advertise here.

President's Message.

Hi to all members and guests. July is fast approaching and this is our sacred month of "Air Venture" of the Experimental Aircraft Association in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Many of our members will be attending. One of our members, and Past President, Sam Watrous, will be travelling with his trailer loaded to maximum with Verner radial engines and the "ScaleBirds" P-36 prototype aircraft kit plane. It is nearly ready for first flight testing. Our best wishes go out to him and his crew with great pride from the rest of us at EAA Chapter 334.

Because of Air Venture, Chapter 334 does not hold chapter meetings during July. For this reason, members look forward to other experiences like attending Old Rhinebeck Aerodrome, New England Air Museum, and of course the Air Venture. Tomorrow, my wife and I are taking our youngest grandson to the New England Air Museum at Bradley International airport. He is eleven years old and I know he will be impressed with the great examples of aircraft that are assembled inside and outside the facility. They even have a Boeing B-29 on display in its own room. I am very proud of the Air Museum that represents New England. Our state was home to much of the development in aviation. Sikorsky Helicopters, Pratt Whitney Engines, Vought F4-U Fighter produced from 1940 until the end of 1953. During World War I, a Connecticut resident, and Officer of the CT. Air National Guard, that organized, developed, and standardized the flight training of our fledgling U.S. Air Service. His name was Hiram Bingham III. His residence is preserved today in Salem, Ct. He became the first Commanding Officer of and overseas Airbase for the U.S. Air Services. Oh, yes, he is the same Hiram Bingham III that found Machu Picchu on July 24, 1911.

Connecticut is also a very beautiful state in which to for its scenery and great airport services. Enjoy your summer flying events and stay safe.



Dave Sellins
EAA 1053112
President EAA 334



Hiram Bingham III

In an aviation first, Boeing drone refuels another aircraft in mid-air

By [Ben Coxworth](#) June 07, 2021 from New Atlas, June 8,



A MQ-25 T1 refueling a F/A-18 Super Hornet photo: Kevin Flynn

For the first time ever, an un-crewed aircraft has successfully refueled another aircraft while both planes were in flight. In the test, Boeing's MQ-25 T1 aerial tanker drone transferred jet fuel to a US Navy F/A-18 Super Hornet. Codenamed the Stingray by the Navy, the MQ-25 T1 was developed and built at Boeing's facilities in St. Louis, Missouri, after the aerospace company won a US\$805 million US Navy contract. The prototype drone made its first autonomous flight at the MidAmerica St. Louis Airport in 2019, although no refueling was performed at that time.

Such was not the case on June 4th of this year, however, when the autonomously flying MQ-25 refueled a piloted F/A-18 Super Hornet in mid-air. The fighter pilot started by flying in close formation below and behind the drone, at which point the MQ-25 released and extended its fuel-delivery drogue. The pilot then moved in so that the drogue was able to couple with the F/A-18's nose-mounted fuel probe, at which point jet fuel was transferred from the MQ-25 to the Super Hornet. According to Boeing, both aircraft were flying at "operationally relevant speeds and altitudes."

Ultimately, plans call for Stingray tanker drones to operate off of aircraft carriers, taking to the air to refuel passing F/A-18 Super Hornets, EA-18G Growlers and F-35C Lightning II aircraft. That task is currently performed by piloted F/A-18s, which have to be removed from combat duty in order to do so.

Eviation prepares to fly Alice, its stunning luxury electric plane

By **Loz Blain**

From: New Atlas [May 13, 2021](#)



The Alice runs three variable-pitch electric props, two on the wing tips and one at the tail Photo: **Jean-Marie Liot / Eviation**

Israeli/American company Eviation is preparing for the first test flights of its gorgeous Alice, an all-electric 11-seat luxury plane with an impressive 506-mile (814-km) range from a single charge of its huge 820-kWh battery pack. The company says it's just taken delivery of its first electric motor, one of three Magnix Electric Propulsion Units the Alice will use to power its three variable pitch pusher props, one on a pod at the end of each wing and a third on the tail. The latter is designed to accelerate fast-moving air around the fuselage and turn the whole body into a bonus wing surface for extra lift.

It is designed to carry two crew and nine passengers at cruise speeds up to 253 mph (407 km/h), range over 500 miles, and Eviation says the low noise output of its electric powertrain will make a solid contribution to the comfort factor in the back. For this performance, Alice needs to carry a monstrous 8,200 lb (3,720 kg) of lithium-ion battery – more than half of the aircraft's 14,700-lb (6,668-kg) maximum takeoff weight. It's built from the ground up using lightweight composite materials to compensate.

Eviation says the Alice and other early electrics like it will be the start of a price-driven snowball in the aviation business. Similar to electric cars, they'll likely be more expensive up front than a traditional fuel-burning plane due to the high cost of lithium batteries – but their vastly reduced maintenance and fuel costs will make them a ton cheaper to run. Eviation is betting that it won't take too long before fossil burners are struggling to compete – at least in this size class and for shortish flights of 500 miles (805 km) or less.

Flying Into Sydney Australia, Passengers Get to See This Rooftop Sign

from FlightAware, June 10, 2021



A “welcome to Perth” sign painted on a building rooftop is scaring fliers descending to Sydney airport into thinking they have been flown to the wrong Australian city.

The prank was spotted by a passenger coming into land at the country’s busiest airport and shared on Reddit.

The building, in the Sydney suburb of Sydenham, is directly on the flight path.

The building owner, Brad Heasman, told Australia’s *Traveller* magazine he has been quietly waiting for someone to notice it since painting it three months ago in industrial road paint, which makes it highly visible.

100-year-old veteran flying for record

BY KAYTLYN LESLIE AND DAVID MIDDLECAMP, OCTOBER 30, 2020 04:18 PM,

As he crawled out of the cockpit of the 1963 Mooney plane, 100-year-old Harry Moyer flashed a thumbs-up to the assembled crowd, a huge grin lighting up his face.



He had plenty of reason to celebrate: Moyer had just potentially broken a world record — on his birthday, no less. Moyer, a World War II pilot, took off and landed from the San Luis Obispo County Regional Airport, potentially becoming the oldest licensed individual to complete a solo flight in the world.

Moyer has been flying since 1942, when he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet while studying engineering at the University of Akron in Ohio. During World War II, Moyer flew in North Africa, Sicily and Italy, as well as in China as one of the famed American Volunteer Group, aka the “Flying Tigers,” which defended China from Japan during the war.

Even after returning to the States in 1944, Moyer couldn’t give up the flight bug. He served as a flight instructor in New Mexico until the end of the war.

Then in 1976, Moyer purchased his 1963 Mooney — and he would continue to fly it regularly for the next four decades.

What might be a big deal is the record Moyer could soon hold. At 100, he hoping for a place in the record books as the oldest licensed pilot to conduct a solo flight in the world. That title is being confirmed by the Guinness World Records.

As Moyer prepared to return to the ground about 15 minutes into his flight, the flight tower had another message for him:

“28, romeo, runway, two-niner. Clear to land,” traffic control said. “Happy Birthday Captain Moyer, we appreciate your service.”

JAPAN IN THE SUPERSONIC PASSENGER AIRCRAFT RACE

By **Geoffrey Thomas** June 17, 2021 From *Airline Rating*, June 22, 2021



Japan's major engineering companies are combining resources with Japan's space agency to design a 50-passenger supersonic jet.

According to Nikkei Asia the new public-private initiative, Japan Supersonic Research, was announced Wednesday. Members of the consortia are, IHI, Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Kawasaki Heavy Industries, Subaru and Japan Aircraft Development Corp. The Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) has worked for over a decade on the sonic boom issue and has developed a streamlined aircraft design with a long, sharply pointed nose to minimize booms.

Nikkei Asia says that JAXA had succeeded in reducing fuel consumption by 13 percent compared with the technology used in the Concorde through such steps as reducing air friction. It has also made the aircraft 21 percent lighter overall and is running trials to determine the impact on fuel requirements.

JAXA says "we aim at the accomplishment of technical targets, which play key roles in the realization of small supersonic passenger aircraft (Mach 1.6, 36–50 passengers, 70-ton class takeoff weight, cruising distance greater than 3,500 nm (about 6,300 km)) and the presentation of the airframe concept.

The next EAA 334 meeting will be on August 14, 2021. Zoom on-line, at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82731590005?pwd=UVFqY3ZXM0JOaURPdEg0anN3Tlpkdz09>, **No EAA 334 meeting in July.**



Soar into Summer Fun Programs

Join us for nine weeks of family fun starting June 21, 2021. From wings to rockets and everything in between, visitors will enjoy hands-on activities for children, social distanced flight science demonstrations, and specialized scavenger hunts every day, all summer long, and all programs are included with museum admission. For a complete program schedule go to [SOAR into Summer](#).

Select Open Cockpit Experiences

Experience sitting in the pilots seat of some of our aircraft, including the UH-1B Iroquois "Huey", Kaman SH-2F Seasprite, Grumman S2F Tracer Trainer, Sikorsky HH-52A Seaguard, Boeing 707 Simulator, and don't forget to explore the bomb bay of our B29 Superfortress!

August 21 - Space Expo 2021

Join us for SPACE EXPO 2021 featuring former NASA Astronaut Susan Kilrain (one of three women to fly the Space Shuttle) as well as intergalactic characters from the 501st Legion Connecticut Garrison, hands-on activities, and more! [Visit our website](#) for details.

Book pre-sales ending soon

The museum's very own, long-awaited coffee-table book has gone to print and will be here in July. Great stories and lots of high quality photos make this a must for any aviation enthusiast. Don't miss your chance to save 20% by making your purchase before they arrive. Go to [buy my copy](#) today to place your order online, or pay by check when you stop into the museum.



**June 25 - Aerospace Business After Hours
Featuring David Jourdan, Nauticos**

One hundred years after Amelia Earhart took her first flight in December 1920, the search to discover her final resting place continues. Research teams from Nauticos, Rockwell Collins, Dynamic Aviation, and the national landmark vessel, Nellie Crockett, came together in Virginia for an important experiment to answer to the question: What happened to Amelia and navigator Fred Noonan on July 2, 1937? David Jourdan will speak on the unique scientific process they used for this search. Stay tuned or check the museum's website for more information.



KeyBank

Through an ongoing partnership with KeyBank, the New England Air Museum will continue to waive the admission fee for all veterans and military service members throughout 2021. The museum thanks KeyBank for making this opportunity possible, and we thank all those who serve or have served in the military for their dedication and sacrifice.

July Webinars

Propeller Selection for Homebuilts

TUESDAY, JULY 6, AT 7 P.M. CDT

Presenter: Steve Boser | *Qualifies for FAA WINGS and AMT credit.*

[Register Now >](#)

The Great Beyond (TBO)

WEDNESDAY, JULY 7, AT 7 P.M. CDT

Presenter: Mike Busch | *Qualifies for FAA WINGS and AMT credit.*

[Register Now >](#)

Get Your Gas In Gear: Preventing Misfueling Accidents

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14, AT 7 P.M. CDT

Presenter: Prof. H. Paul Shuch | *Qualifies for FAA WINGS and AMT credit.*

[Register Now >](#)

ART SHOW AT THE GROTON NEW LONDON AIRPORT (KGON) IS EXTENDED



MAY 4, 2021 - NORWICH, CT

The Cultural Coalition is pleased to announce the extension of the Art At the Airport program spring exhibit Take Flight, featuring aviation- inspired, colorful mosaic tiles hand-crafted in clay by local artists, Paul and Esther Halferty of Lilywork Artisan Tile in

Stonington. The exhibit is now open and will be on view through August 31 at the Groton - New London Airport.

For thousands of years, people have looked up at the sky and imagined what it would be like to fly. On the morning of December 17, 1903, the Wright Flyer, the world's first powered plane, slid down a guiding rail, soared into the air, and forever changed the course of history. Take Flight explores the pioneering people, their breakthroughs, and the inspiration that led to the world of flight we know today.

Each mosaic depicts a specific moment in aviation history. From hot air balloon to glider, and from passenger plane to space shuttle, each unique mosaic is created individually by hand. The Halfertys use traditional techniques to craft their tile - starting with a hand-carved mold, and a block of clay.

The Art At the Airport program's purpose is to showcase the region's uniqueness, history, industry, culture and geography through visual arts in the airport's main terminal located at 155 Tower Avenue in Groton. The Art At the Airport program is a partnership of the Cultural Coalition and the Connecticut Airport Authority, which manages and operates Groton - New London Airport. A new partner, the Groton Public Library, will provide companion programs and suggested materials to complement the exhibits on view at the airport.

Groton - New London Airport's terminal is open daily from 7 am to 6 pm for public viewing of the exhibit. Parking is easily accessible and free. Mask use and social distancing protocol required as per Covid-19 guidelines.

For more information about the Art At the Airport program, visit www.CultureSECT.org (<http://culturesect.org/art-at-the-airport/>).

CLASSIFIED SECTION

Anyone can list equipment, products, materials, and what not for sale or wanted in this classified section. Please include a description, and your contact information if applicable. Listing is free. Your input will remain active for the next few newsletter issues. EAA 334 will not be involved so if you see something of interest, just initiate the contact.

Or anyone can recommend a person, product, or company here that they have found helpful or useful. You can even recommend yourself. Please include the nature of the service or product, and contact information if applicable. Listing is free. Your input will remain active for the next few newsletter issues. EAA 334 will not be involved so if you see something of interest, just initiate the contact.

A&P Mechanic with IA: Greg Prentiss; EAA Technical Councilor 15 years
Builder of the Glassair N28P, first flight June 1999; Amateur Built Experimental and Light Sport Aircraft ; Extensive experience composites, engines
If you'd like anything else, ring me up. Greg Prentiss, 20 Dockerel Road, Vernon, CT 06066, greg.prentiss@gmail.com; 860-872-2278 Home/Office, 860-205-7640 Cell

IMPORTANT: The FAA has published a list of over the counter medications that are safe to take when you are PIC. Find it here:

<https://image.mail.aopa.org/lib/fe3615707564067d701d78/m/3/449b0481-518e-472f-b15f-7168a68f09e7.pdf>



Membership Application

EAA 334- Fulfill your dream to build and fly.

Our club is dedicated to flying of all sorts. We exchange information and experiences. We provide help where needed in promoting safety, airplane construction, and operation. Meetings take place on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM at Mystic Jet Center, Groton/New London Airport. We invite you to join us.

To explore membership, join, or renew your membership, please complete this form.

Select membership type and duration:

- ☐ FREE 6 Months Full Membership trial
- ☐ One-year full Membership in EAA 334 \$20.00**
- ☐ One-year Student Membership \$12.00 (<18)** Free if you have had a Young Eagle flight
- ☐ 3 year Membership \$10.00 discount
- ☐ Family Memberships \$25 a year **

*First Name _____

*Last Name _____

*Address _____

*City _____

*State _____ ZIP _____

*Email _____

Phone _____

Aircraft _____

*Required information

** For membership in EAA Chapter 334, send the completed form and check payable to EAA 334, to *Dave Sellins, 20 Old Colony Rd, N. Stonington, CT 06359*. Membership in the EAA National organization is also required. For more information go to: <https://www.eaa.org/en/ea/renew-ear/renew-membership>