



# The Hagerstown Homebuilder

[chapters.eaa.org/EAA36](http://chapters.eaa.org/EAA36) Hagerstown, MD

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**Happy  
New Year!**



# EAA CHAPTER 36

**January 2024**

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<b>2023-24 OFFICERS AND SUPPORT STAFF</b>	
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<b>Secretary:</b> <b>Dean Popio</b>	<b>Treasurer:</b> <b>Dean Popio</b>
<b>Young Eagles Coordinator:</b> <b>Curtis Berry</b>	<b>Tech Counselor - Flight Advisor:</b> <b>Gary Hartle</b>
<b>Webmaster:</b> <b>Carl Thornwall</b>	<b>Newsletter Editors:</b> <b>The Thornwall Family</b>
<b>Board of Directors:</b>	<b>Joe Boyle</b>
<b>Jim Marsden</b>	<b>Austin Colby</b>
<b>Elizabeth Thornwall</b>	<b>Dave Anderson</b>

→→→ **Our next general membership meeting will be held in February 2024** →→→



## The President's Corner



Welcome to 2024! It's time to finalize those New Year's resolutions and begin taking the first steps to see them through to fruition. This is the time when you balance having SMART goals that are both realistic and attainable, but also setting the bar so high that if you fall short, the results still amount to "leaps and bounds."

Once again, a special "Thank You!" to Curtis and Kate Berry for opening their home to host the Chapter's annual Christmas party. I arrived just in time to sample some of the food (ham and shrimp) for quality control purposes before it was made available for public consumption. The food was exquisite, the decorations were second-to-none, the reindeer games were enjoyed, and the fellowship was good for the chapter's soul. "Thank you!" to everyone who brought a dish for the delightful meal—anyone who left that evening hungry did themselves a disservice. Congratulations to Jim Marsden on having the best guess for the number of gummy bears in the jar; and congratulations to Jeff Hutchison for blowing away the competition on the Christmas movie trivia! For those who couldn't make it this year, you were missed.

The next big chapter meal will be our upcoming annual awards banquet. The chapter has an unofficial scout team doing recon on area venues—apparently the idea of having a buffet full of McRib's wasn't very appealing to some. Stay tuned for updates on the "where," "when," "how much," and other necessary details. Tentatively plan for a mid-March banquet date which is customary.

Please, please, please go complete the survey for 2023 Chapter Awards. The annual banquet is used to

recognize members for their efforts over the course of the previous year; and the Hale Andrews (Chapter MVP) and Chapter 36 (Very Honorable Mention) awards are chosen by the members. As I compose these comments, approximately 10% of the membership has voted. If you've already voted, but feel strongly about who you would like to see win an award, badger your peers to vote while campaigning for certain members. The survey can be completed anonymously if you desire, making it less awkward to vote for yourself ☺.

The Chapter Awards survey is the important one. It's time-sensitive and the opportunity to help us recognize the special efforts of our members. Of course, while you're in the groove, go ahead and also complete the Membership Survey that gives you an opportunity to provide feedback on so much about what the chapter is doing, not doing, doing well or doing poorly. Brutally honest feedback is appreciated. One question includes whether you are willing to serve as the next Chapter President effective January 2025. Since I anticipated most-to-all saying "No," I also added the fun follow-up question asking who you think would make an ideal Chapter President.

It's true. 2024 will be my final year at the controls of EAA Chapter 36. I don't plan to put the chapter on autopilot. My goals are to continue to find ways to add value to the organization to help hold onto our current members while also enticing more of the public to join. This month I will discuss several new ideas I have with our Board, and share those ideas with the membership in February. I have a vision for an ambitious, action-packed, calendar-filled 2024. Admittedly, my time, focus, and energies are increasingly needed elsewhere (hence the relinquishing controls) so I will need help to fulfill these goals—and despite what it seems from my emails and newsletter comments, asking for help is not a strong suit of mine.

Oh yea, if you haven't already done so ... pay your dues! ☺

"EAA Chapter 36, Runway '24, Cleared for Takeoff!"

Safe skies!

# Chapter 36

## News and Events

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<b>Current Fuel Prices</b> as of December 28, 2023		
<b>Airport</b>	<b>SS</b>	<b>FS</b>
Hagerstown	\$6.65	\$7.50
Frederick	\$6.85	\$7.60
Martinsburg	\$6.59	\$6.99
Winchester	<b>\$5.79</b>	<b>\$6.19</b>
Cumberland		\$6.70
Carroll County	\$6.43	\$6.83

[www.airnav.com](http://www.airnav.com)

**EAA Young Eagles Bounces Back Strong From COVID Pandemic:**  
<https://www.avweb.com/aviation-news/ea-young-eagles-bounces-back-strong-from-covid-pandemic/>

Thanks to Mark Hissey for sharing this article.



Weekly Build Nights at the Chapter 36 Hangar,  
Monday nights at 7 p.m.

### Chapter Survey Links

#### Chapter 36 Survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1eV4VYwE5DUeEngjSIZwrc36UCGTLDaptmLe7W1FTKIo>

#### Awards Survey:

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xLvcWEht7E\\_zvwFIUIMzD90bnAVJaH5OYh1AYiBNes8](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xLvcWEht7E_zvwFIUIMzD90bnAVJaH5OYh1AYiBNes8)

#### National EAA Survey:

<https://go.eaa.org/OTEwLVNFVS0wNzMAAAGPTxBRCe-MjyMI58xAVCPz0MgaMXHRLxkFf4tyolOtNM2jjFCJ1eiv3orZ-Uzc4Sjbsq2ui7s>

**There will be no monthly chapter meeting in January due to the proximity to the holidays.**

## \$ Chapter Membership Dues \$

### Current:

Individual - \$30	Family - \$40
Individual (3) - \$75*	Family (3) - \$105*
Lifetime (I) - \$350	Lifetime (F) - \$500

Honorary - Free

\*(3) = *three-year membership*

### What does local chapter membership support?

- PIA scholarship fund
  - Youth flight training scholarship
  - Youth RC project
  - Young Eagles events
  - Pancake breakfasts
  - EAA national chapter dues & insurance
  - Young Eagles Workshops
  - Movie Nights
  - Technical Counselor access for member build projects
  - Flight Advisor access for member build projects
  - Flyouts and other social events
  - Online seminars
  - Speaker presentations
  - Volunteer opportunities
  - Member accomplishment celebrations
  - Host inaugural/annual Poker Run
  - Marketing / Promotional activities
  - Pedal Plane projects
  - EAA youth camp sponsorships
  - Banquet Awards
  - VMC/IMC Club events
  - Build project aircraft and supplies
  - Hangar rent and utilities to support activities
  - Tools and Accessories
  - Machinery
- List may include activities that are proposed but not presently active

# Homebuilders Week – Online Event Starts January 22

*An online opportunity to learn about building your own aircraft*

By Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager

Homebuilders Week is an online opportunity to carry on the founding mission of EAA by sharing as much knowledge and information about building your own aircraft as possible in five days. We start on Monday, January 22nd, 2024, and end on Friday, January 26th, 2024. Each day, we offer six live webinars back-to-back, starting at 11:30 am central time and running every hour and a half until the last session at 7pm central. The sessions are live and allow time for questions. To sign up for the sessions, visit

[www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek)

The topics cover a wide variety of areas of interest to anyone curious about building their own aircraft. We try to make sure there is something for everyone, whether you are just considering the idea of building an aircraft, are knee deep in a project or getting ready for test flying. We even have EAA president Jack Pelton lined up on our anniversary date, January 26<sup>th</sup>, to talk about EAA’s Advocacy efforts on behalf of the homebuilt members.

EAA Homebuilders Week coincides with the anniversary of the founding of the Experimental Aircraft Association in 1953. We have come so far since that first EAA meeting. Back then, information on homebuilding was sparse and hard to come by. I know that if our founder, Paul Poberezny, was still with us, he would give us a big thumbs up for this effort to support the homebuilder.

EAA Homebuilders Week is made possible through the generous sponsorships of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co., Dynon, and Scheme Designers, Inc



## Homebuilders Week Schedule

January 22 - 26, 2024

To sign up: [EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek)

Sponsored by

Time CST	Monday 1/22/24	Tuesday 1/23/24	Wednesday 1/24/24	Thursday 1/25/24	Friday 1/26/24
11:30-12:45	Building an Aircraft: What You Need to Know Charlie Becker	Composite Construction Basics Mark Forss	Amateur-Built Certification Process Joe Norris	Lies, Darned Lies, and Homebuilt Accident Statistics Ron Wanttaja	EAA Advocacy Update: Top Homebuilding Issues and the Impact of MOSAIC Jack J. Pelton, Sean Elliott & Rob Hackman
1:00-2:15	Wiring Basics Dick Koehler	The Nuts and Bolts of Nuts and Bolts Kerry Fores	Building on the Cheap Ron Wanttaja	Lycoming Engine Installation Dave Prizio	Working With Wood 101 John Egan
2:30-3:45	Welding Basics: Gas & TIG Charlie Becker & Tracy Buttles	Fabric Covering Basics Nate Hammond	Buying a Used RV Aircraft Vic Syracuse	Sonex Aircraft and AeroConversions Products Mark Schaible	Zenith Aircraft Kits & Plans Sebastien Heintz & Roger Dubbert
4:00-5:15	Sheet Metal Basics Jim Scott	Factory-Built to Homebuilt: What's the Difference? Tom Charpentier	Advanced Flight Systems Rob Hickman	Garmin Experimental Avionics Solutions Brad Brensing	Scratchbuilding From Plans: 90% Done and 90% to Go! Marty Feehan
5:30-6:45	Panel Planning and Wiring Marc Ausman	Dynon Avionics Michael Schofield	Flight Testing 101 Paul Dye	Propeller Selection for Homebuilts Steve Boser	Latex Paint: A Low-Cost Alternative Malcolm Morrison
7:00-8:15	Rotax 9 Series Installation & Operation Phil Lockwood	Painting Your Plane: DIY or Use an Expert? Craig Barnett & Ken Reese	Engine Break-In Mike Busch	Van's RV Aircraft Kits Greg Hughes	Common Builder & Maintenance Errors Vic Syracuse



## Upcoming EAA Webinars

Full list: <https://www.eaa.org/ea/news-and-publications/ea-webinars>

### [Time & Materials Maintenance](#) | **Qualifies for FAA WINGS and AMT Credit**

**Wednesday, January 3, 7 p.m. CST with Mike Busch**

*In this webinar, GA maintenance advocate Mike Busch A&P/IA discusses this issue, and suggests some better ways to deal with aircraft maintenance pricing.*

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### [The Van's RV](#) | **Museum Webinars Series**

**Tuesday, January 9, 7 p.m. CST with Chris Henry & Dick VanGrunsven**

*The Van's RV series is one of the designs that changed the landscape of homebuilt aircraft. Tonight we will talk about the examples in the EAA Aviation Museum collection, as well as the history of the type.*

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### [Chilly Checklist: Tips to Preheat Aircraft Engines](#) | **Qualifies for FAA WINGS Credit**

**Wednesday, January 10, 7 p.m. CST with Prof. H. Paul Shuch**

*This FAA Safety Team WINGS and AMT Award webinar is being presented in the dark and chill of Northern Hemisphere winter, when aircraft engines are especially difficult to start. Prof. H. Paul Shuch discusses why, wherefore, and how to preheat your engine, review products on the market that will help you to do so, and even learn how to build your own budget preheater. Don't let low temperature starts ground or damage your aircraft!*

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### [Young Eagles Coordinator Onboarding](#)

**Wednesday, January 31, 7 p.m. CST with David Leiting**

*Learn the ins and outs of the Young Eagles coordinator position during this live webinar with Q&A. EAA Eagles Program Manager David Leiting will cover a wide range of topics including rally planning, online registration, and basic coordinator duties.*



## **Ray Aviation Scholarship Update: Landry Kaufmann**

Merry Christmas to all! This last month has been much less eventful and yet has proved rewarding! Although my next big checkpoint is probably my checkride, I am very excited to be working towards my first solo cross country! Between Alex Miller and Curtis Berry (CFIs of Bravo Flight School) I have executed approximately 3 cross country flights thus far!

A few things I am currently needing to become more proficient at are setting up for traffic patterns and traffic pattern work at other airports. Also efficient cockpit organization is something I am constantly striving to perfect. Thanksgiving and Christmas have caused me to miss a few weekends of flight training but I'm hoping to come back strong and knock out my next few checkpoints.



### **A Mom's Perspective Of An Aviation Scholar**

In May 2021, our family moved from Kentucky to Berkeley Springs, West Virginia, where our boys discovered a thrilling passion for RC airplanes, thanks to the influence of their friends. With supplies in hand, they eagerly built their own planes using foam board, and then watched their creations take flight! As their interest in aviation soared, we explored the world of real-life flying with the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA). Landry, in particular, became captivated by the world of aviation and started attending Chapter 36 meetings every Monday evening, where he reveled in building and constructing planes alongside seasoned pilots. His dedication and enthusiasm began to pay off as he worked tirelessly to earn a scholarship, and finally passing the knowledge test with flying colors! The day he got accepted was a proud moment for our family. And now, Landry has achieved yet another milestone - soloing on November 9! We couldn't be prouder of his hard work and are thrilled to see where his wings will take him in the world of aviation!



## 25 Years Ago Today – January 6, 1999

### Thanks to Jay Kanagy

The regular monthly meeting of EAA Chapter 36, Hagerstown, MD, was held in the meeting room at Alphin Aircraft. Acting President Ken Bercaw called the meeting to order, with 23 members and guests present.

The November minutes, and the Treasurer's report were read and approved.

**Mini-Max** – Don Wilson reported it is coming along fine. The fuselage is almost complete. Tomorrow night will be working on the fuselage and landing gear.

Don Myers received a letter of support for the Young Eagles.

At last year's banquet, the members voted to hold it again in March. Please note the Date has been changed to the second Saturday in March (March 14, at 6 PM).

**Potomac Fly-In** – Dean Truax suggested holding the fly-in later in the year, possibly the third week in September. Maybe we won't have haze and thunderstorms.

March is our Awards Banquet. The ballot for the awards will be in next month's newsletter, along with a list of past winners.

**Program** – Rick Saunders presented this thoughts on "Extra Thoughts to Safety". He has worked with paints, solvents, composites, etc. Make sure your respirator fits well. If you can still smell the chemical, it is not a good fit. Keep your respirator bagged when not in use. Accidents can still happen, so keep water or eye wash handy.

Gene Kretzer suggested you check carbon monoxide in your cockpit, especially in the winter. Gene also wants you to let him know if you have any complaints with the tower. They try to be a user-friendly tower. They have to abide by the same rules and regulations as a FAA tower.

Alphin has been sold. It is now Hagerstown Aircraft Services.

Pete Humphrey is our Safety Advisor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Submitted by June Green.

### A note from Jay Kanagy:

All monthly minutes and/or chapter information from 1997 until early 2020 has been archived, along with all newsletters from August 2006 up to the present. Any member wishing to view any past history item can contact Greg or myself, and we would be happy to oblige. Hard copy newsletters, and minutes are being stored in the file cabinet at our hangar. Special recognition must go to Sandy and Mark Hissey for past minutes and information, also to Betty Wright for minutes, and Jack Raun for past newsletters. All members cooperation in this matter, has been, and is greatly appreciated. Thank You!

# Members' Pages

## Elizabeth Thornwall

Photos from University of Maryland Eastern Shore.



An RC aircraft Elizabeth helped build as part of a group assignment for her aerodynamics class.



The UMES fleet of 172s.







Photos from a UMES field trip to NASA's Wallops Island Flight Facility.



Elizabeth also got to see a DoD sounding rocket launch.



BWI Tower from another class field trip.



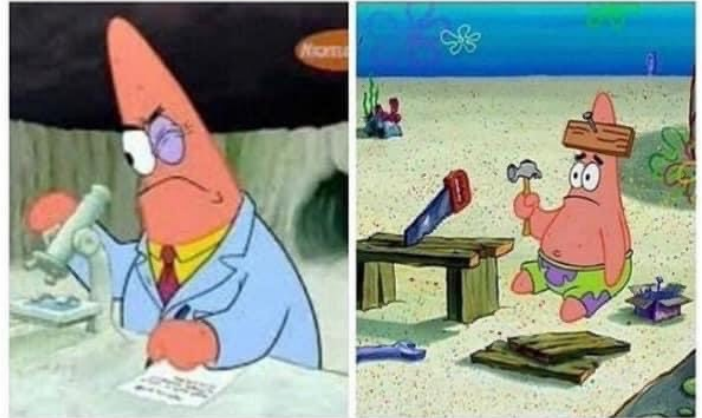


# Ray Franze

Aviation-related memes.



**EXPLAINING AVIATION  
TO FRIENDS AND FAMILY**      **EXPLAINING  
AVIATION TO YOUR DPE**



War Historians: How did the British not see you cross the Delaware?



WHEN YOU JOIN THE SPACE  
FORCE AND STILL GET DEPLOYED  
TO A F%@\$ING DESERT

