

# SKYWRITINGS

EAA Chapter 439  
Central U.P. of Michigan

Sep/Oct 2024  
Home of the Yoopers



***Important Meeting at our hangar  
Wednesday, October 16th 6:30 PM***



# The Prez Sez!

Tom Sullivan

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Another Ford Airport Day is in the books. Although, other than the helicopter, we really didn't have a real "Draw or Feature" type attraction, we had a good crowd and the event was, financially, very successful. Being short on volunteers stepping up to help with the pre-planning, I ended up spending a lot of my time soliciting for sponsors to ensure we would have a well supported Ford Airport Day (FAD). We need to start planning for next year as far as a main attraction. Now that we have at least covered the lions share of the Hangar construction, we can ratchet up the ramp attractions with some of the funds we generate from our event. Locking up anything of significant attraction will require us to work on it now though. Soliciting in the late spring or early summer is simply too late.

This was our first FAD where we had full kitchen services available for the food crew. They were REALLY HAPPY with the kitchen and the layout. Although our volunteer list was looking pretty slim, we ended up with new people stepping up and helping cover some challenging areas. The CAP was a bust this year, in spite of several attempts to communicate with Rick Louys. I don't remember a year in the recent past we didn't have CAP involvement. I'm thinking that's going to be the norm going forward. Eric Sibley's gracious offer of the ramp in front of their new hangar for Young Eagles Flights allowed us to revamp the whole show area, providing us with a much safer ramp for the public. He also brought out some really cool corporate jets for the public to view and flew one of them for a little demonstration, which had all eyes on the ramp looking up. Overall, a very well received and run event this year. We replenished the checkbook some too, most likely allowing us to completely finish the hangar enough to call for a permit "close out inspection" later this year. The electrical final was completed this past week and we have a short list of work to complete before calling for the final inspection.

As far as recently completed work, the ceiling now is completely sheeted, LED lights installed in eight of the nine locations, and the ceiling fans are installed and operational. The utility room is 80% complete with drywall, just needing a bit under the steps to meet code. Scott and crew wired lights in that room now and Pete installed a temporary door for FAD, with the actual fire rated door slated to be here soon. All the remaining doors on the wall separating the hangar from the 2 story area have been installed, with a few just needing door hardware. Blagic Brothers came out this past week and installed thermostats and lit up both furnaces (we've already used a bit of heat in the early mornings while working).

I found a new steel door with a window in it for the entry to the stairs to the second floor. The business lady had paid \$2,000 for it several years ago, didn't use it, and was anxious to sell it. She offered it to us for the price we were paying for similar doors we were buying, \$300, so I grabbed it. This gives us a door with a window in it for an entry we expect to see significant traffic through, which will be nice. The upstairs lights and electrical are all operational. We plan to host our Chapter meetings and a reorganizational meeting for the DCPA (Dickinson County Pilots Club) upstairs going forward. We agreed to permit the DCPA to use of our hangar when the county wanted to take their club house for airport needs (for which we were compensated to the tune of \$30k).

With the recent loss of one of our renters (I received notification a week **after** the date they vacated) and construction wrapping up very soon, our meeting on Wednesday, October 16th at 6:30 PM will address hangar rental and developing a hangar use policy. This will be an important meeting so I'm asking as large of a membership attendance as possible.

Tom Sullivan

# Editor's Section

Hello everyone,

When I brought my son to school this morning, I saw it was thirty-three degrees outside with frost everywhere, which can only mean one thing: winter is upon us. I saw the chapter hangar the other day, and I'm impressed every time I look inside to see what kind of work is being done. All involved with the hangar project, a huge THANK YOU and a JOB WELL DONE is in order! I went to the hangar a few weeks ago to see if I could lend a hand somewhere. Unfortunately, building trades is not my specialty. I wish I knew more (that's why I fly airplanes; I know how to do that very well). I do know how to lay concert, though.

I spent all summer in high school pouring, laying forms, leveling, and so forth at a reasonably large truck dealership in town. Cough, cough-UP Truck Center. I only had an hour to spare, so I helped move tables and other things out of the way so the guys could hang the ceiling. I also helped hold the sheathing in place. Tom also helped the three of us that were hanging it. While doing so, oddly enough, he had a sudden urge for spare ribs. Memphis-style dry rub is what he had in mind. He said the ribs took his breath away (there's more to this story I'm sure he'll let you in on if you ask). If anyone has pictures or anything they would like to include in the newsletter, please email it to me, and I'll be sure to put it in; I'll put my email at the bottom of the page so it's easier for you to find. Airplane projects are also a great addition, with a few pictures, so if you have any, send it my way.

Tail Winds

Bruce St Onge

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I finally assembled the last of Valens pedal plane. He did all the painting by himself and told me what design he wanted.



Pictures of recent work completion;

A few weeks ago when I was in Dallas for recurrent training. I was walking to the simulator building early in the morning and I thought this would make a neat picture.



Men's Bathroom, with toilet Partition that arrived two days after FAD, immediately below. Lower left corner is view from south service door looking NW. Note metal ceiling panels are now completed. Ceiling lights and fans are installed. Lower right picture is view from NE hangar corner towards the south west, showing all lower floor service doors are now installed as well as the windows on the second floor. Handrails are now installed for the steps to the upstairs.

Remaining projects are insulating the attic, handles on interior doors, completing the outside stairs and deck, a slab in front of the two south entry doors, interior wall sheeting & final weather proofing the hangar door



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**Register at: Webinars** <https://eaa.org/eaa/news-and-publications/eaa-webinars>

*All webinars are 7 pm CDT unless otherwise noted*

10/30/24*	Fly the Easy Way	Larry Bothe
11/06/24**	Distrust and Verify	Mike Busch
11/13/24*	Scanning the Gauges: Surviving VFR Into IMC	Prof.H. Paul Shuch

\* Qualifies for FAA Wings credit.

\*\* Qualifies for FAA Wings and AMT credit.

Did you miss a webinar? Here's the webpage so you can watch the recording <https://www.eaa.org/Videos/Webinars>

Facebook Pages of interest:

**Website;** <https://chapters.eaa.org/eaa439>

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Key Note Speaker Mary Stolze; our Veterans Tribute talking about her time as a field nurse during Nam





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**Dues are \$15.00 a year (\$25 for mailed newsletter)! From August 1st Please send them to above address.**  
**Website:** <http://chapters.eaa.org/ea439>.