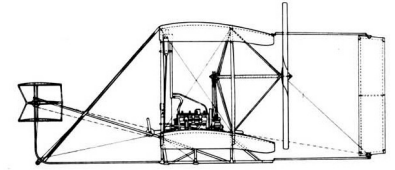




# The Flyer



Volume 55, Issue 10

October 2023

## Gaines Valley Aviation to Honor Earl Luce

It has come to this editor's attention that the folks at Gaines Valley Aviation intend to honor Earl Luce by renaming Gaines Valley Aviation Airport (NY06) after him in a small and private ceremony later this month. Raymond Johnson, President of Gaines Valley Aviation, said that he will provide some material for an article about this event for next month's edition. Thank you, GVA, for this tribute to a stalwart of homebuilt aircraft.

## Passing of Evelyn Amsler

Evelyn Alice Amsler, long time Chapter 44 member, passed away September 27, 2023 at the Buffalo, NY VA hospital.

She was born on a farm in Malone NY, 93 years ago on September 14, 1930. After high school, Evelyn entered the Air Force, worked her way into officer candidate school, and earned the rank of Lieutenant. She had 12 years active duty in Korea and the early days of Vietnam. She then spent 12 more years in the Air Force Reserves, earning the rank of Captain.

After a few years sailing the Caribbean in an old 32 ft. gaff rigged yawl, she started work as a clerk for the Dept. of Agriculture in Tampa, FL. Ten years later she was a management analyst in Washington DC. During the Ford administration, Evelyn was singled out as one of 50 in the entire US government doing the most to eliminate excess paperwork and duplication of efforts.

In 1979, Evelyn married David Amsler, and they lived in the Chicago, IL area until after David retired. They then moved to western New York State.

In 1983, Evelyn obtained her pilot license. She flew a Luscombe 8A, Cessna 150 and Grumman Cheetah airplanes. In 2013, Evelyn joined the Ninety-Nines becoming a Lifetime member. She also served as a Director on the NY-NJ Section BOD.

David, with some help of Evelyn, built their Sonex, and they flew all over together. Here's a picture of Evelyn and David arriving in their Sonex for the Ford Tri-Motor event in 2016.



Board Meeting minutes are at: <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea44/newsletters/meeting-minutes>

**Mission:** EAA Chapter 44 is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization of aircraft builders and aviation enthusiasts in the Western New York region dedicated to promoting aviation and encouraging participation in aviation-related activities. These include designing, building and restoring aircraft, education, advocacy, and youth outreach programs. We promote flying with high standards of safety in an environment that supports freedom, family, and personal fulfillment.

## BART Update

Last night (9/27/2023) at BART we achieved several milestones.

First, we had the second appearance of two young men, Hunter and Oliver, two best friends referred to us by Norm. They are both interested in aviation careers and have joined the Chapter. I think they are 14 years old-ish.

Second, we got our wheels and tires and landing gear sorted out and test-mounted for the first time so that we could...

Third, TEST-MOUNT OUR ENGINE! It looks so nice.

From this point on we will be assembling the cockpit forward to determine fitment and control cable lengths from the engine to the panel, install instruments in the panel, install and plumb the fuel tank, and install and plumb the brake lines. Then we will disassemble it once again and send the fuselage to Jeff for priming and painting. Here are some pics.

Stop by any night. (Wed., 6:00 to 9:00 pm)

Bob Nelligan-Barrett



Above left: New wheel, tire, and brakes.

Above right: Engine on the Baby Ace!

At right: From L to R: Hunters' Mom Chrissy trying to get out of the shot, Hunter, Oliver, Daniel Nicot, and Calvin Maynard.

Photos courtesy of Bob Nelligan-Barrett.





More BART Pictures - courtesy of Gail Isaac





## Former BART Member gets his Private Pilot License (Certificate)

Dhruva Singh Rana VI, a former BART member, recently passed his check ride for his Private Pilot License (or Certificate). Below is what he wrote to EAA 44 member Frances Englund.

Good Afternoon, Frances,

Since you had asked about the PPL check ride, here are the details:

It was held on 9/28/23, the actual flight was around 0750. There weren't many clouds until the end and the weather was good and smooth.

Location was Arlington Municipal Airport [KGKY] with the Golf Aero flight School in Texas around the Dallas-Fort Worth Area. My Nav Logs were planned for Waco Regional Airport [KACT] and [can't remember the third destination]

My DPE, Dustin, didn't really make me do an oral. I just showed up with all the calculated weight and balance as well as filled out Nav Logs. The only things we ever talked about were looking up the additional requirements for endorsements in Part 61 and FSS frequencies and how to find them on sectional charts.

Dustin had been a flight instructor for ~40 years and started as a balloon pilot at a young age. He perfectly understood that I was a Glider pilot for five years and hence he kind of just flew through all the oral stuff and didn't really force me to recite anything while I was in the airplane. The only thing he said before we got on the plane was "Don't scare the examiner and keep flying the plane."

The flying portion felt more like a strict flying lesson than a check ride. He would always give me stern warnings to stay in the ACS and kept saying things like "Don't do  $x$ ", "Please avoid doing  $x$ ", "Make sure you do  $y$  so you can proceed with  $x$ ." Basically, I was unlearning 30% of the content and maneuvers that my single-engine instructors had taught me. It gave me so much anxiety that I thought I was failing the check ride. Around every 10-15 minutes I would ask "Did I fail??" and Dustin would reply "No! Did I say you did?"

When I landed, and secured the plane, I went back to the Terminal and Dustin congratulated me on a Temporary certificate of my Single Engine PPL and then we had a debrief. He explained to me that apparently I was flying really well and he was just holding me to a higher standard.

So as of right now, I'm taking the ground school for Instrument and Flight Engineer ratings. and I am currently looking to build hours and get additional endorsements.

Glider flying has been rather okay more or less but it's a separate discussion.

Overall I'm very excited to move forward and to see what comes next.

Very Respectfully,

Rana



## More BART Adventure!

Airplane Field Trip - by Nina D.

On September 30th, I, as well as three other BART members, were invited to fly out to the Geneseo National Warplane Museum for a tour. The goal was to have fun together as well as get some time and experience flying in the copilot seat.

I was assigned to fly with Willie (Mattock) in her Cherokee, and got to have a good amount of time controlling the plane myself; practicing things like turns, gaining/ losing altitude, learning to spot landmarks, and possible hazards like towers and hills.

We first departed from Ledgesdale and flew to Geneseo, where I got to experience my first time landing on a grass strip. At the Museum, I got to see all kinds of old war planes, as well as getting to see Whiskey 7, one of the planes there, taking off.

After the Museum, we took off again to Dansville, where we ate lunch. After lunch, we said our goodbyes as the other three BART members headed back to Ledgesdale, but I wasn't going to head back quite yet!

My pilot, Willie, was generous enough to take me flying for some extra time around a nearby gorge. I got to fly over the gorge and the river. It was a beautiful view as well as an awesome experience. After that, we went to visit a friend of hers on his farm. The idea had been to see a plane he owned, which I was told was very nice, but unfortunately we didn't get to see it. It was getting to be late at the time, so we flew out to another EAA chapter nearby for a dinner event they were having, where I got to sit and eat with some other aviation enthusiasts.

Finally, we made our way back to Ledgesdale, where I was invited to go flying again the next day. I gladly accepted the offer, and thus was able to spend two full days in a row in the copilot seat.

It was an amazing experience, and I'm very grateful that I was able to have such opportunities thanks to the EAA Chapter 44.



Nina and Willie, with Willie's Cherokee



## Curiosity Thrilled the Cat!

Member Mark Scheda submitted this article:

The other day I made a short cross-country to Finger Lakes Regional airport (0G7, yup Ledgesdale spelled backwards!). The trip was spurred mainly by the fact that the day before, I heard MANY radio calls coming from Finger Lakes and my curiosity said I should go check out why there were so many people flying there. What I discovered was a VERY nice airport. The runway and grounds are spotless, there are plenty of transient tie downs, a well-appointed pilot lounge, self-serve 100LL at a very reasonable price, a courtesy car, and a very friendly and helpful staff. There are at least a couple good places to eat within a few miles, and of course the airborne views of the Finger Lakes are fantastic. If you are looking for a nearby destination for a hamburger or better, I'd definitely recommend it.



Finger Lakes Regional Airport (0G7)

Cayuga Lake



**And from Norm Isler...**

The weather was just too nice to stay on the ground Sunday! (10/1/2023)

Fresh out of annual, 16B flew like she was brand new. I took a neighbor up for a ride around the Brockport / Hamlin area and then Elise and I did some leaf-peeping over the Genesee River Gorge.

I hope I look this good when I'm 65. Oh wait, too late for that!



Here is a painting of Evelyn Amsler, done by her mother. (year unknown to editor)



Director Joe Scanlon had to step down from the Board of Directors due to health reasons. He recently sent an update.

"Thank you for reaching out to me. I've now had two angioplasties and the prognosis is good. My physical efforts are limited but I start cardiac rehab this next week so that hopefully Mary and I can head south about Thanksgiving. Feel free to share this with the other board members. Regards , Joe"

In other news, newer member Jerry Trippe has volunteered to head the Capital/Hangar Fund campaign. Thank you, Jerry!

**Notice: Upcoming Elections!**

The November gathering is when we hold our elections for Board of Directors. At least one Director is retiring. PLEASE consider standing for election. Directors have a 2 year term. Talk to any present Director for more information. Thank you!



## EAA Chapter 44 Calendar

### Next General Gathering

Next Gathering: October 17, 2023

Dinner @ 6:30 pm, \$5 donation

Darryl Byers will be providing Italian Sausage Soup

Gathering is @ 7:30 pm.

Our presentation is TBD

SAC Work Day - Saturday before General Gathering, 10 am.

### **Young Eagles Event scheduled for:**

**October 21, 2023**

#### **Steak Roast!**

The November gathering is our Annual Steak Roast. A sign up sheet will be at this month's gathering, or RSVP to Tom Henion.

You *must* sign up for this so that we know how many steaks to buy. Cost is \$10 per steak.

**All activities take place at the Sport Aviation Center of Western New York, and are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.**

**Sport Aviation Center, EAA Chapter 44**  
44 Eisenhower Drive, Brockport, NY 14420  
Brockport Airport / Ledgesdale Airpark  
(7G0) 43° 10' 56" N, 77° 55' 1" W

#### **Board Meetings**

2nd Monday of the month

#### **General Gatherings**

3rd Tuesday of the month  
\$5 Dinner 6:30 pm, Meeting 7:30 pm

**BART** - Every Wednesday 6pm to 9pm, everyone welcome!

### **Contacts & BOD Terms**

**President** - Tom Henion Nov. 2023  
[the5onions@aol.com](mailto:the5onions@aol.com) (585) 317-8508

**Vice President** - Randy Spurr Nov. 2023  
[rspurr@rochester.rr.com](mailto:rspurr@rochester.rr.com) (585) 509-1585

**Director & Secretary** - Stephen North Nov. 2024  
[snorth59@rochester.rr.com](mailto:snorth59@rochester.rr.com) (585) 705-0462

**Director** - Darrin Kenney Nov. 2024  
[dkenney1@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dkenney1@rochester.rr.com) (585) 455-4301

**Director** - Frances Englund Nov. 2024  
[fenglund@yahoo.com](mailto:fenglund@yahoo.com) (585) 899-0487

**Director** - Richard Tandy Nov. 2023  
[rltandy23@gmail.com](mailto:rltandy23@gmail.com) (585) 944-0568

**Director** - Richard Tandy II Nov. 2023  
[tandysurplus@gmail.com](mailto:tandysurplus@gmail.com) (585) 820-1397

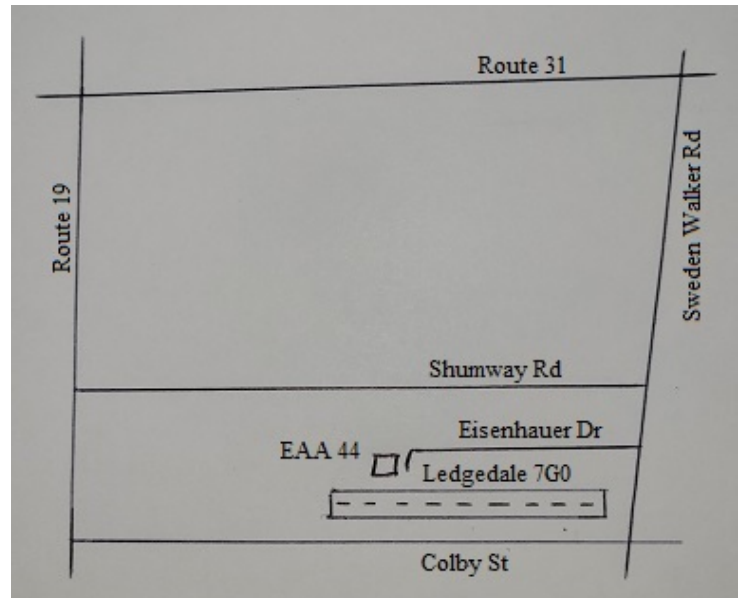
**Director** - Peter Bonneau Nov. 2023  
[peterbonneau@hotmail.com](mailto:peterbonneau@hotmail.com) (585) 298-1678

**Director** - Trina Kenney Nov. 2024  
[trina.kenney@gmail.com](mailto:trina.kenney@gmail.com) (585) 721-6559

**Treasurer** - Trina Kenney  
[trina.kenney@gmail.com](mailto:trina.kenney@gmail.com) (585) 737-9279

**Membership Coordinator** - Gail Isaac  
[gisaac@rochester.rr.com](mailto:gisaac@rochester.rr.com) (585) 737-1205

**Young Eagles Coordinator** - Rick Tandy (see above)



**Building/Grounds Coordinator** - Kevin Arganbright  
(585) 284-6304

**Baby Ace Restoration Team Leader / Historian / Librarian** - Bob Nelligan-Barrett  
(585) 754-7263

**Flight Advisor** - Jim Martin  
(585) 507-0245

**Technical Counselor** - Jim Martin  
(585) 507-0245

**Newsletter Editor** - R. Darryl Byers  
[dbyers9@rochester.rr.com](mailto:dbyers9@rochester.rr.com) (585) 233-8015  
or [newsletter@eaa44.org](mailto:newsletter@eaa44.org)

**Chapter Website** - <https://chapters.eaa.org/eaa44>

**Webmaster** - Tom Henshaw, [rotaxtom@yahoo.com](mailto:rotaxtom@yahoo.com)