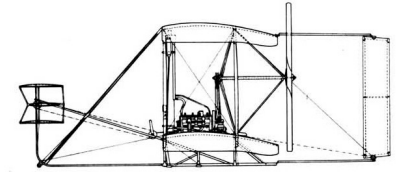




# The Flyer



## From the newly elected Board of Directors:

The newly-elected EAA 44 Board of Directors conducted our first meeting on 10 December. The first order of business was to elect officers for 2025. We now have: President, Mark Scheda; Vice-President, Rick Tandy; Secretary, Steve North; and Treasurer, Trina Kenney. The entire board expressed its gratitude for the contributions of our “recently-retired” members Tom Henion and Frances Englund, both of whom have devoted a great deal of energy and personal time and resources to the chapter and all our members. Tom and Frances are staying involved in ways that will continue to benefit all of us! I’d also especially like to acknowledge our newest board members Jim Carpenter, Harsh Gupta, and Sharon Reithel, who all answered the call to contribute to their chapter. After our first meeting, I am truly excited about the prospects for our chapter under the leadership of this new group. I think we are going to have a great 2025.

A high priority for the board is to set our calendar for 2025. Before committing to particular events or programs, the board decided to discuss EAA44’s big-picture priorities for the coming year. Think of it as an expression of our mission, or perhaps the reasons for what we do as a chapter. We made a list of our potential priorities, and each director tagged their top five so that we could know the collective wisdom of the board. There is a myriad of things we CAN do, but of course resources are always limited so we need to fill our calendar with the few things that contribute most to the overall mission (apologies if that’s just plain obvious...).

The results from our tally are interesting. The clear winner is anything to do with youth: especially flying and hands-on experiences. The next was a little surprising to me: Instruction, both Ground and Flight. I think this one will require some more thought and discussion by the board, since at present I don’t think we have a lot cooking in this area. Perhaps I should not be surprised, since many of our members’ experiences suggest that good instruction is truly hard to find. The rest of the list is not quite as clear, and my intent with the board is to work the list a little more so that we have a very clear picture of our overall mission.

For those of you who are interested, the full list we evaluated is on the next page. I’d love to hear additional perspectives from ALL of you – you’ve elected your BOD to do this work, but it’s even better if we hear from you. Please feel free to contact me or any of the board members (their contact info is presented later in this newsletter) with your thoughts.

(Editor: Board of Directors names and contact information has been updated on the back page.)

**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.

Priority	Total	Dir 1	Dir 2	Dir 3	Dir 4	Dir 5	Dir 6	Dir 7	Dir 8	Dir 9
Flying opportunities for youth	8	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hands-on experiences for youth	7	X	X	X		X	X		X	X
Youth Education	4			X	X	X				X
Flight Instruction	4		X			X			X	X
Ground School Instruction	4					X		X	X	X
Flying continuation for senior pilots	3			X	X		X			
Pulling in non-aviating spouses/significant others	3				X		X	X		
Educational opportunities for members	2		X					X		
Continued learning for aviator members	2	X	X							
Pulling in families	2	X			X					
Outreach to other Local Aviation orgs	2		X	X						
Promote GA and E-AB to general public	1								X	
Social opportunities for members	1							X		
Support for E-AB Builders	1						X			
Leadership Development	1	X								
Promote fellowship among members	0									
Promoting Homebuilding	0									

After we finish our work on big-picture priorities, the BOD will address the question of which initiatives (or programs or events) contribute most to those priorities. Of course that is not to say that we foresee big changes. Lots of EAA44 people are already doing many wonderful things which contribute to our mission; it's just good to have those things set in the context of our larger purpose, and to give us a basis for deciding on future initiatives. If all goes well, we'll finish it all and set 2025 calendar dates at our January BOD meeting.

On a separate subject, I'd like to put in a plug for EAA44's IMC/VMC club, which meets at SAC the second Thursday of every month at 7 PM (Jan 9 is our next). It's open to anyone (not just EAA44 members), and is a great low-effort way of learning from one another and having some hangar-flying fun. EAA national provides two professional-quality videos every month, each of which gives a flying scenario and poses the question "what would you do in that scenario?". We watch the video(s), then discuss. We might look at a sectional chart or review a POH or look up a chart supplement or approach plate or... There are no right or wrong answers, and the ensuing discussion among fellow pilots produces some really cool outcomes: first, we always learn from one another, which makes us better and safer pilots. What's truly hard for me can be (and often is) obvious to someone else, and I really appreciate being able to learn from them. Second, we practice accessing information which is useful or even essential to us as Pilot-in-Command. Third, we sometimes make new friends, especially since the meeting is open to everyone. Lastly, it's an opportunity to just hang with other airplane nuts, which is always fun! Please come and bring a friend – I think you'll be happy you did.

One last whimsical thing: I am seeking input on a suitable closing for writings like this. Some might say "Blue skies and a tailwind". Red Green says "keep your stick on the ice". We grass-runway tailwheel guys might say "keep the bugs off your nose" or "just keep it straight". I'd love to hear what you all would find humorous and meaningful. Until then,

Go flying!

Mark

For those who are interested, NORAD (North American Aerospace Defense Command) has a Santa Tracker so that you can follow Santa's progress! Here is the hyperlink:

<https://www.noradsanta.org/en/>

## **Twin Tri-Pacer custom side-by-side double engined Tri-Pacer      Editor**

I came across this aerial oddity in a homemade tool group I belong to on the Internet.



Also known as the Wagner Twin 2, Wagner Twin Tri-Pacer, and Wagner Pacer 125, this was a standard PA-22 fitted with two 125 hp Lycoming O-290-D engines mounted side-by-side. The conversion was produced in three weeks by Harold Wagner from Portland, Oregon. To clear the two overlapping propellers the left engine shaft was fitted with a 4.75 in (121 mm) extension. After 100 hours testing, the aircraft was converted back to its original configuration.

I'm not sure what the reasoning was behind such a creation, or its intended use, but I am awestruck that it was done in three weeks!

### **Lycoming Engine Factory Tour - Preliminary Information**

- 1) Tours are only available Monday through Friday (for groups).
- 2) Target dates are between 4/1/2025 and 5/9/2025.
- 3) 6 to 8 weeks advance notice to Lycoming is required for group tour selected date.
- 4) For security and safety concerns, some information and safety requirements are required for all group members (more details to come).
- 5) Sign up list will be available at January gathering.
- 6) Lycoming factory is in Williamsport, PA, approx. 3 hours south on Rte 390 (& Rte 15? - Editor)

Jerry Isaac - 585 737 1204

**Next General Gathering**

**January 21, 2025**

Dinner @ 6:30 pm

Dinner will be provided by Mark & Liz Scheda. Entrée to be determined.

Gathering is @ 7:30 pm.

The presentation will be by Paul Berg on his Silver Lindy Award (Reserve Grand Champion) winning RotorWay 162F helicopter build.

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

**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 Tuesday 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,

**Contacts & BOD Terms**

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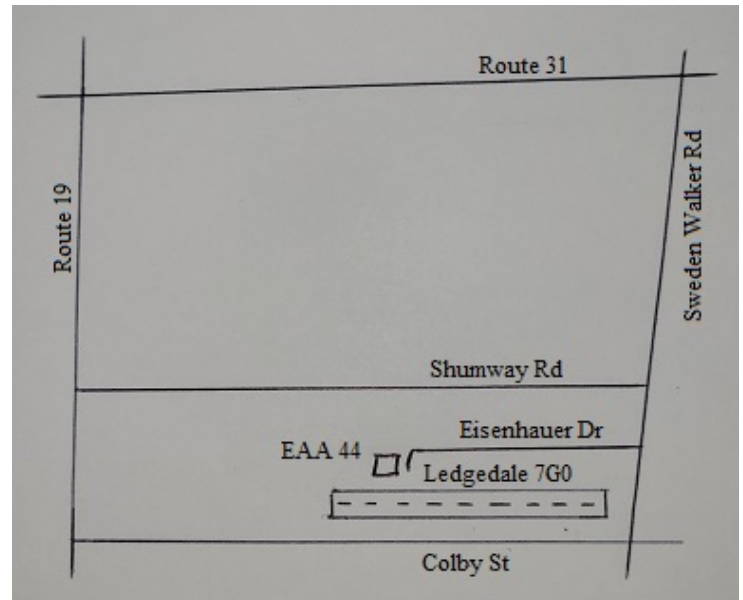
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**Young Eagles Coordinator** - Rick Tandy (see above)



**Building/Grounds Coordinator** - Kevin Arganbright  
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**Baby Ace Restoration Team Leader / Historian / Librarian** - Bob Nelligan-Barrett  
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**Flight Advisor** - Jim Martin  
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