



EAA Chapter 478  
**COCKPIT CHATTER**  
Lexington Park, MD June 2021  
A Bronze EAA Chapter



**EAA Chapter 478 Monthly Gathering**  
**June 15, 5:00 PM**  
**Social Time: 5:00-5:30 PM**  
**Topic: Open Hangar Visits at 2W6**

**In this edition of Cockpit Chatter**

- From The Top** –Young Eagle Flights are Back!
- Board of Directors Meeting Minutes** – June 1, 2021
- Treasurer Report** – Current Status
- Social Committee Report** – Open Hangar Event Plan
- Young Eagles Corner** -
- The Homebuilder’s Corner** - RV8 Build Update
- The Flying/Maintenance Corner**
- For Sale** –
- Chapter Calendar** –

**Update on 2W6 Construction Schedule**  
Submitted by 2W6 Airport Manager

Terminal construction: Begins end of June and runs through December. This will close portions of the Terminal, details of the closures are unknown at this time.  
Runway 11 threshold is scheduled to be displaced between September and early November. More information to follow as the dates get closer. Please remember to check NOTAMs as we go through Phase II (primarily earthwork) of the Runway extension. Phase III – paving of the extension will be completed in 2022.

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- Who:** EAA Members & 2W6 tenants and their guests

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We'll meet at Hangar M4 (see annotated photograph) at 17:00. There will be food and drinks. To give those opening their hangars a chance to visit other displays, we have prepared a schedule with core times for each participant to be at their own hangar. If you follow the numerical sequence, you will be able to catch each participant at their displays.

**See you there!**



# **FROM THE TOP**

Tom Weiss, President EAA Chapter 478

First of all, it was great to see many of you at the Gathering in May. We had a good discussion on Prop balancing. I am looking forward to the Open Hangar event on Tuesday, note the earlier start time.

The Young Eagle's Rally was moved from Saturday to Sunday due to all the rain on Friday and low ceilings on Saturday. This is the first time we have done a rally in 20 months and we are using more of the features of the Young Eagles Website than we have in the past, a fully report of the Rally will be in the next Newsletter.

Sid Wood has volunteered to coordinate the purchase of name tags for Members. If you have never had a name tag, the chapter will pay for one, if you need a replacement then you are expected to pay for the new one. Email Sid at [Smwood@md.metrocast.net](mailto:Smwood@md.metrocast.net) and let him know what you need.

The Chapter was saddened to hear of the passing of Bernard Wilder. Bernie was active in the chapter for decades, built a Pulsar and held many Chapter Officer positions including a term as President. Our thoughts and prayers go to Bernie's family. See a remembrance of Bernie later in this Newsletter.

Be thinking about what you want to do activity wise for the remainder of the year and let us know on Tuesday. Looking forward to seeing everyone Tuesday.

Tom Weiss

## 2W6 50<sup>th</sup> (51<sup>st</sup>) Anniverary Celibration

I don't have an update on this at this point - TAW

There has been some discussion about moving some of the events that were planned for 2020 to 2021 for the 2W6 50th anniversary. This is all dependant on the COVID status in the spring, but the hope is that many of the events that were planned for late spring and summer can be run in 2021. The County website is still active and is <https://www.stmarysmd.com/dpw/airport-operations/anniversary/>



# UPCOMING EVENTS

VMC Club Meeting – 19 June @ 2W6  
Poker Run in July

## EAA CHAPTER 478 MEETING MINUTES

EAA Chapter 478 Board Meeting Minutes  
June 1st, 2021

1939 – First flight of the German Focke-Wulf Fw 190 fighter aircraft.

Attendees: John Attebury, Don Byrne, Darryl Crawford, Bill Englehart, Egon Frech, Paul Gambacorta, Gabriel Murray, Tom Weiss, and Sid Wood.

Agenda:

1. Young Eagles 12<sup>th</sup> June Planning status
  - a. 17 people registered, 8-9 pilots.
  - b. Ground support, working to get that together.
  - c. Setup on Friday night, June 11<sup>th</sup>.
  - d. Sid will do the pre-brief for young eagles, need to find a static aircraft.
  - e. 0900 flying start. Brief at 0830 at the latest.
  - f. Registration ahead of time vs. show up day of?
    - i. Preregistration will have priority.
2. Terminal Construction
  - a. Hasn't started inside yet, currently working on the roof.
  - b. If you see any news on the construction, let us know.
  - c. Back up plan is to setup outside for Young Eagles.
3. Open Hangar event on 15<sup>th</sup> June, early start 5:30?
  - a. Limited response so far, 35 requests sent out.
  - b. Sending out to Ken Reed, so he can send out to the airport email list.
  - c. Bernie has indicated he can cook
  - d. Start time: Eat @ 1700, walk at 1730.
4. Additional YE events this summer?
  - a. Monthly events
    - i. Use turnout for June event as a guide.
    - ii. Scaled down events, 5-10 kids? (July & August).
5. Boy Scout Eagle project at 2W6 – Picnic tables?
  - a. Boy scout not quite been given a green light. Not sure what our Chapter involvement might be at this point.
  - b. Price of wood is a concern. Quality is an issue too.
  - c. Boy Scout is looking for some funding from the county.

6. Chapter Picnic
  - a. When: September (most likely)/Autumn
  - b. Where: 2W6?/MD50 (most likely)?
7. Gathering topics – Project visits—Need them for July & August
  - a. Make poker run a gathering?
  - b. Open poker run to general public.
  - c. August at the ends of the Earth, Callaway.
8. Tool Crib next phase
  - a. Ask for a list of tools members would be willing to loan. Chapter is not stockpiling tools.
9. Poker Run
  - a. Modify routes to accommodate TFRs. Fly west.
  - b. July, week before Oshkosh. Mid-month.
10. Aviation Fly (Flea)-Market
  - a. Ken Reed was asking, nothing setup. Saturday this summer.
  - b. Looking for volunteers.
  - c. Looking for potential dates.
  - d. Food service/Food truck?
11. Lancair 320, nobody has asked about the fuselage.
12. Stream Gatherings
  - a. Renew Zoom?
  - b. Does VMC need Zoom?
  - c. Figure out next month.
13. **If you need a chapter nametag, let Sid know.**
  - a. **First nametag is free.**

## **TREASURE’S REPORT**

Submitted by Don Byrne

<u>EAA Chapter 478 Financial Report</u>	
Through 28 February 2021	
<b>Fund</b>	<b>Amount</b>
<b>Petty Cash</b>	\$78.01
<b>Savings</b>	\$439.00
<b>Checking</b>	\$22,038.80
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$22,555.81</b>

## SOCIAL COMMITTEE CORNER

### A Remembrance of Bernie Wilder



Bernie and Shirley Wilder – Feb 2021

Bernie Wilder was a long time EAA Chapter 478 member. He was a past chapter president, avid airplane builder, and enthusiastic Young Eagle pilot. He passed away on June 8<sup>th</sup> at St Mary's hospital at the young age of 89.

I visited with Bernie and his wife, Shirley, at their new winter home near Ocala Florida this past February. In the picture above they are standing outside their winter home located in a campground/retirement village near a beautiful lake. To the right is a car port where Bernie had a wooden sailboat under construction. This was their first year at this home after spending previous years at many campgrounds around Florida staying in his motorhome being a snowbird from Maryland. Bernie said that renting a place at a campground was becoming so expensive, that he decided this year to buy a permanent residence and establish some roots. The story of how he found this place and fixed it up was fascinating.

Bernie was probably the first and only one who built a Pulsar in the chapter. It was a composite aircraft with a Rotax engine. Bernie hosted a couple of chapter meetings at his home to

show off his progress building the airplane. When it came time to do his flying, he moved it to St Mary's airport and rented a hangar with Sid Wood. They were hangar mates for several years and I am sure we all could put together some stories of Bernie & his Pulsar. Here is one story he passed on to many of us as relayed by Richard VanNatta:

*“Among Bernie's flying stories comes an occasion where he described flying in a less than stellar day, clouds surrounding him, he decided to fly up through a hole in the clouds and in the process became disoriented. His hands on the stick, gripping with more pressure than usual, found him in a rapid decent where, with much effort, he managed to pull out of the dive, surviving a very uncomfortable distance from the ground! The Pulsar held with some damage to bring him safely to a recovered landing, quickly to change his shorts and get on with his life the wiser! From, this personal experience, which he so graphically explained, came a better understanding of the often not thought of danger of chasing holes in the clouds, a practice that, while seemingly innocent of a solution to break free, often catches pilots off guard resulting in a situation who's conclusion is perhaps more than often results in a sad ending especially for those of us who, unlike a trained fighter pilot, lack the experience and know how, have the wrong airplane configuration, and unwisely take a chance that cost them their lives! “*

I flew in the Pulsar once with Bernie to see the fall foliage in the Shenandoah Valley. The airplane was fast, and we zipped around the mountains and trees in star war fashion. It was one flight I will always remember! Bernie loved to fly kids during our Young Eagle Rallies. While resting during one of his flights, he said “I am amazed that parents will let their kids go flying with a 70-year-old pilot in a homebuilt airplane built by the pilot!” Maybe we can compile more stories & pictures about our great friend and fellow EAA member for our next newsletter. We will surely miss BW1.

Submitted by BW2

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EAA Chapter 478 Hangar Visits June 15 2021					
	Name	Aircraft	Hangar #		Core Time
1	Sid Wood	Challenger	M4		17:30-18:00
2	University of Maryland	UAVs	UofM		17:45 - 18:15
3	Don Byrne	RV 9	Apron		18:00 - 18:45
3	Chris Moody	RV-6	Apron		18:00 - 18:45
3	John Attebury	Citabria	Apron		18:00 - 18:45
3	Darryl Crawford	Beechcraft Bonanza	Apron		18:00 - 18:45
4	Jeremy	Piper Arrow, C-120	R1		18:30 - 19:00
5	Andy Mechling	Zenith CH750 w Corvair	T1		18:45 - 19:15
6	Mike Meyers	1956 Cessna 172	P15		19:00 - 19:30
7	Jacque LaValle	Cessna Cardinal II	K4		19:15 - 19:45
8	Robert Miller	Thorp T-18	I2		19:30 - 20:00
9	Tom Zuckl	Ercoupe, RV4, Velocity	F2		19:45 - 20:15
10	Paul Gambacorta	98 Piper Saratoga	F4		20:00 - 20:30
11	Bill & Sandy Lange	Glasair II-S RG	E3		20:15 - 20:45
12	Scott Williams	Air Creations Tanarg	B1		20:30 - 21:00
13	Bernie Wunder	Piper Cherokee	A6		20:45 - 21:15
For more information, call Egon Frech, 240-538-7139					

St Mary's County Airport



# YOUNG EAGLES CORNER

Young Eagle Coordinator – Darryl Crawford

## Young Eagles Rally 2021



Limited to  
50 children

## EAA Chapter 478

**Free airplane rides for kids ages 8 to 17**  
**Parent/legal guardian approval and signature required**

### When:

**June 12, 2021**

**9am – 1pm**

**weather permitting**

### Where:

**St. Mary's Airport**

**44200 Airport Rd.**

**California, MD 20619**



### Contact:

**Darryl Crawford (478 Young Eagles Coordinator)**

**Darryl27@msn.com**

**Pre-register at [YEday.org](http://YEday.org)**



Year	Flights	Year	Flights	Pilot	Young Eagles Flown 2021			Total
							MISC	
1992	6	2008	51	Attebury, John				0
1993	54	2009	113	Bray, Buck				0
1994	44	2010	156	Byrne, Don				0
1995	79	2011	187	Carruthers, Steve				0
1996	89	2012	242	Crawford, Darryl				0
1997	90	2013	79	Farry, Kristen				0
1998	47	2014	127	Frech, Egon				0
1999	23	2015	248	Gambacorta, Paul				0
2000	113	2016	206	Gates, Don				0
2001	94	2017	205	Harvey, Ed				0
2002	90	2018	209	Hollady, Mark				0
2003	101	2019	112	Kornacki, Troy				0
2004	66	2020	2	Lightstone, Bob				0
2005	138			Moody, Chris				0
2006	97			Nelson, John				0
2007	122			Piercy, Jake				0
				Surfield, Ron				0
				Wunder, Bernie				0
TOTAL	1253	TOTAL	1937	Totals	0		0	0
GRAND TOTAL		3190						

## THE HOMEBUILDER'S CORNER

### RV8 Build Update

Submitted by Charles Fox

I had planned on cutting the canopy (The RV8 Canopy has to be cut to separate the windshield from the rest of canopy before mounting) this week, however the more I research it the more reluctant I became to doing it. So I procrastinated and moved to wheel alignment and fiberglass on empennage.



Since I have a Grove landing gear I choose to use their measurement approach with some modifications. I dropped a plumb bob from the center of fire wall and one from tail wheel spring then used a laser to align both plumb bob strings. Lightly clamped a 3 ft long AL angle piece to the wheel, after that I used a 36" long, straight 1"x1" piece of oak to go from laser line to AL angle. After a couple of erroneous measurements I modified the Oak stick by drilling a number 40 hole 1" from one end and set it at a height such that the laser would shine through the hole after hitting the plumb bob

line at the firewall and then hit the plumb bob at the tail. After adjusting the Oak stick perpendicular to the AL angle it was easy to mark the distance from center line to each end of the AL angle. In addition I had placed a piece of masking tape on the Oak stick under the AL angle. After marking the fore and aft distance I measured the difference and selected the proper shim from Grove.



The below picture shows the fiberglass end pieces on empennage.



# **THE FLYING/MAINTENANCE CORNER**

No Input this Month

## **CHAPTER 478 CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>
JANUARY		
FEBRUARY		
MARCH		
APRIL		
18 MAY		
13 JUNE	YE Day 12 June	2W6
15 June	Open Hangar	2W6
JULY	Poker run – Date TBD	
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER		
OCTOBER		
NOVEMBER		

DECEMBER		

## In the Chocks

Thanks for all of the inputs this month, looking forward to seeing all of you at a Chapter event soon.

Build, Repair and Fly Safe.

Tom Weiss – Editor/President

*Cockpit Chatter* is published monthly by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 478 solely for the dissemination of information and ideas to the membership. Gatherings are held on the Third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM in the Patuxent River Test and Evaluation Museum. Membership is \$20.00 per year and requires an active membership in EAA. Any opinions expressed herein are strictly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the chapter or the Experimental Aircraft Association.

### Chapter Officers

President: *Tom Weiss 2020-21*

Vice President: Paul Gambacorta 2021-22

Secretary: Gabriel Murray 2020-21

Treasurer: *Don Byrne 2021-22*

### Committee Chairs and Chapter Advisors

Social Chairman: *Bernie Wunder*

Membership Chairman: John Cook

Program Coordinator: Paul Gambacorta

Young Eagles: Darryl Crawford/Keith King

Flight Advisors: *Bill Posnett*

Technical Counselors: Sid Wood 2018

Newsletter Editor: *Tom Weiss*

Web Editor: Chris Moody

Tool Crib Committee: Colin Cline/Alan Tolksdorf

### Board Members

*Sid Wood 2020-21*

*Darryl Crawford 2020-21*

*Chris Moody 2021-22*

*Egon Frech 2020-21*

*John Nelson 2020-21*

*Bill Posnett 2020-21*

*Bill Englehart 2021-22*

### Chapter Web Address

<https://chapters.eaa.org/EAA478>