



EAA Chapter 478
COCKPIT CHATTER
Lexington Park, MD February 2023
A Bronze EAA Chapter



EAA Chapter 478 Monthly Gathering
February 21, 2023
The Aircraft Purchasing Experience
Social Time 6:00 PM, Discussion starts at 6:30 PM
2W6 Terminal Conference Room

In this edition of Cockpit Chatter

From The Top –Young Eagle Risk Management Training,

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes – 7 February 23

Treasurer Report – Current Status

Young Eagles Corner - 30 Year Pin and a new year

The Homebuilder's Corner - Challenger Build Update

The Flying/Maintenance Corner – VMC Meeting PIREP, RV-6 slow engine cranking troubleshooting

For Sale –

FROM THE TOP

Tom Weiss, President EAA Chapter 478

As with all new years, Chapter Dues are due, they are still \$20. Two ways to pay, either pay the Chapter Treasurer, Don Byrne or go to the Chapter's website and pay via PayPal.

The VMC meeting yesterday was great and well attended. We really need a second person to help with VMC events, please consider helping Rich with this great program.

Note the letter below from EAA HQ about a new Risk Management Training Course that is required for Young Eagle Coordinators, but will also be available to all EAA members. I completed the course during the Christmas holiday, it is a Power Pointv that is narrated and a short quiz at the end. There is some good information in the training, I encourage everyone to take it, you will learn something. Once you take it, it is good for 3 years.

EAA's Virtual Ultralight Days are 21-23 February. The scheduled of the webinars in on EAA's website. I couldn't find a concise schedule that wasn't interactive to publish here.

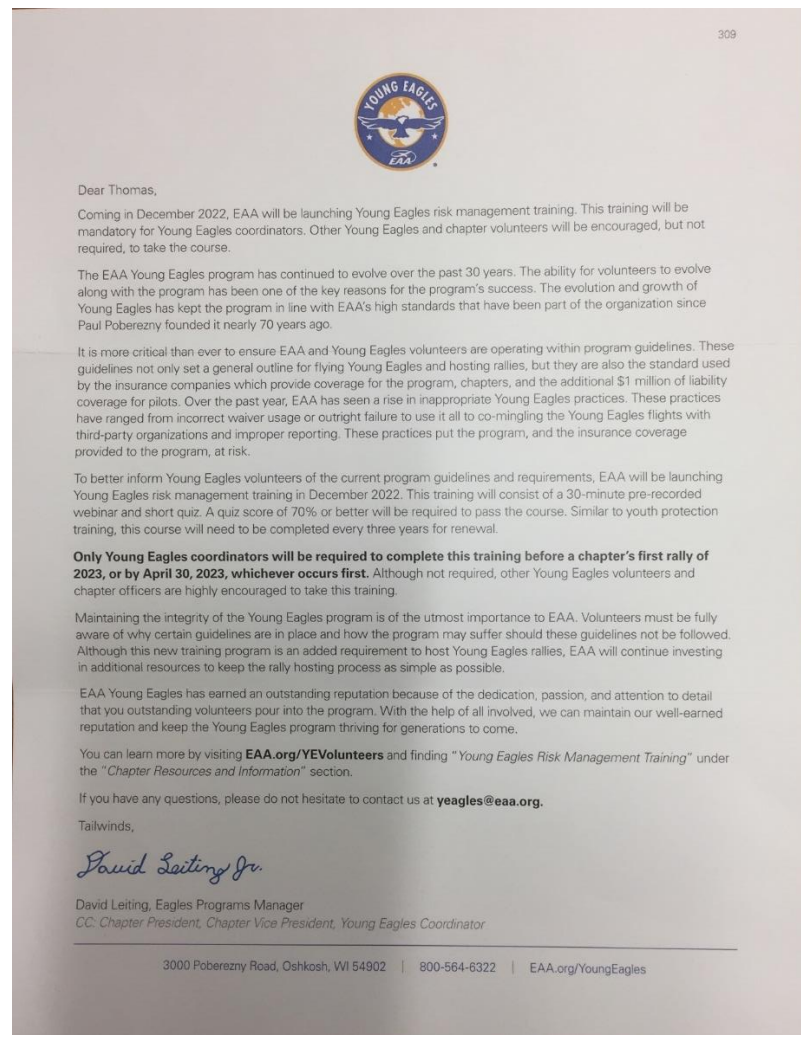
I have been given permission to display some information in the new pilots lounge in the Terminal Building advertising the Chapter and Young Eagles. Several members are working on determining what this display will be. The new pilots lounge is the room that was occupied by the flight school in the past and will be open to the ramp at all times.

There is a planning meeting scheduled with the Airport Manager at Cambridge Airport on Tuesday, 21 Feb at 1030 to discuss a Young Eagles event there, we are tentatively planning for late April for this event. All members are welcome to attend if you can and want to. John Attebury and Darryl Crawford are planning to attend.

Young Eagles Risk Management Training

This Letter was sent to Chapter Leaders explaining the Risk Management Training

To take the training, go to EAA.org, sign in to your account. Once in select My Account and check the training information section. You should see the Young Eagles Risk Management training there.

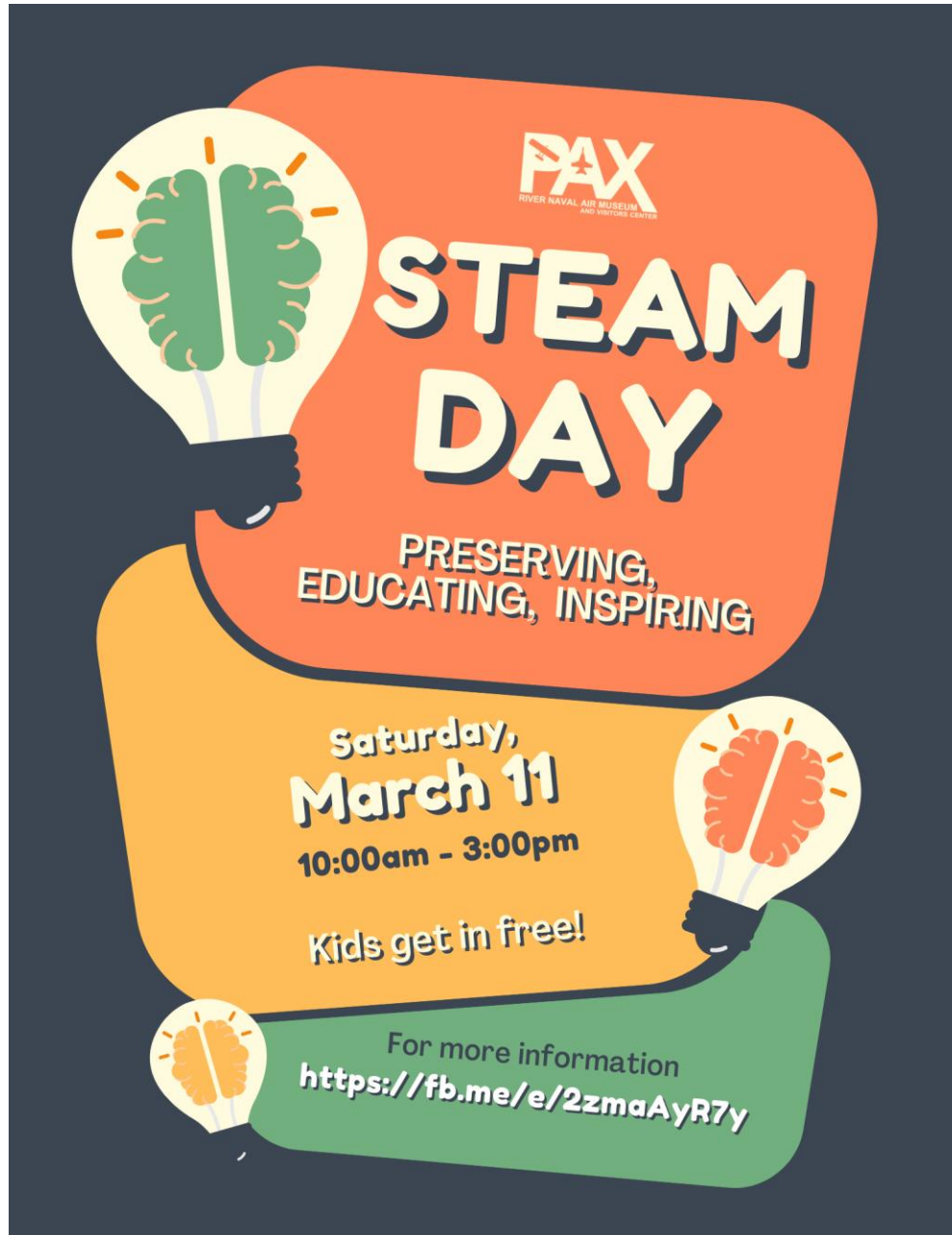


UPCOMING EVENTS

February Gathering – 21 Feb 23

March VMC – 18 March

March Gathering – 21 March



Pax River T&E Museum STEAM day is March 11. The Chapter will have a display, we are looking for members to help during this event. Contact Bernie Wunder for information on how you can help.

EAA CHAPTER 478 MEETING MINUTES

EAA Chapter 478 Board Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2023

Attendees: John Attebury, Don Byrne, Darryl Crawford, Bill Englehart, Paul Gambacorta, John Reinhart, Greg Stevens, Tom Weiss, Sid Wood, and Bernie Wunder

- 1) February program will be either the purchase experience of buying an Aerostar by Darryl Crawford or a C-150 by Keith King.
- 2) STEAM event will be held at the Museum on March 11. The Chapter will advertise the Young Eagles Program and will have an interactive event. Bernie Wunder will coordinate.
- 3) Young Eagle Calendar for the year was discussed.
 - a) Cambridge on 22 April
 - b) MD50 event on 7 Oct
 - c) 2W6 events on 10 Jun and 1 Sep
 - d) VMC events in May, July, Aug and Nov
- 4) Darryl to check with HQ on status of YE rides given per pilot during the 30th Anniversary year. (AirVenture 22 – AirVenture 23). Pilots that give 30 rides get special recognition from HQ. Do we need to focus on particular pilots so they can achieve this goal?
- 5) All agree a YE preflight video/slide show is a good idea, need someone who has the talent to do it.
- 6) Updated the Chapter Email Distribution list to remove people that have not been active for years.
- 7) 37 members have paid dues this year so far. Reminders will be emailed in March.
- 8) The Chapter has the ok for a display in the Chapter, need to purchase a piece of furniture to hold the materials. Suggestion was made to use this for the in-building storage of things that can't stay in the trailer such as the printer and the drinks.
- 9) EAA Young Eagles Build and Fly Program, we may have a person to lead this activity of building an RC aircraft and flying it. Chapter needs to purchase the kit from EAA. Still need a location to do the building a group of Young Eagles to participate.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by Don Byrne

<u>EAA Chapter 478 Financial Report</u> Through 31 December 2022	
Fund	Amount
Petty Cash	\$1.40
Savings	\$439.00
Checking	\$21,249.12
Total	\$21,689.52

YOUNG EAGLES CORNER

Young Eagle Coordinators – Darryl Crawford/Keith King



Young Eagles Flown in 2023

Attebury, John											0
Boas, Scott											0
Bray, Buck											0
Byrne, Don											0
Byrnes, Dan											0
Byrnes, Rich											0
Carruthers, Matt											0
D"Errico, Mike											0
Frech, Egon											0
Gambacorta, Paul											0
Gates, Don											0
Lightstone, Bob											0
Miller, Grant											0
Moody, Chris											0
Nelson, John											0
Percy, Jake											
Posnett, Bill											0
Rivera, David											0
Shipee, Ron											
Surfield, Ron											0
Wunder, Bernie											0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Year	Flights	Year	Flights
1992	6	2008	51
1993	54	2009	113
1994	44	2010	156
1995	79	2011	187
1996	89	2012	242
1997	90	2013	79
1998	47	2014	127
1999	23	2015	248
2000	113	2016	206
2001	94	2017	205
2002	90	2018	209
2003	101	2019	112
2004	66	2020	2
2005	138	2021	65
2006	97	2022	265
2007	122		
TOTAL	1253	TOTAL	2267
GRAND TOTAL		3520	

THE HOMEBUILDER'S CORNER

Challenger II Builder Report

Submitted by Sid Wood

Building a Quad City Aircraft Challenger II E-LSA 2007 Kit: The Dacron fabric cover on the aircraft wings, fuselage and control surfaces is done. Spray painting using Stewart Systems Dacron Fabric covering process for UV protection, paint primer and top coat are in progress.

We are using Bernie Wunder's hangar and one-car garage at Chesapeake Ranch Estates, MD50. Bernie also recruited Don Byrne to do the spray painting. Stewart Systems has detailed instruction manuals, hours and hours of how to videos on YouTube, and great Tech support. Excruciating details are recorded in the [EAA Builders Log Site](#)



Sid and Don in full Tyvek regalia captured by photog Bernie Wunder.



Dual compressors powered by a ten-hp generator.

I purchased the Stewart Systems paint primer and top-coat paint in January. The paint color is Insignia White with Midnight Black on nose, wing tips and wheel fairings. The undercoat paint primer is White to coordinate with the top-coat paint.

As of February 9, 2023, the tail group panels and the fuselage painting are complete. We also learned the value of full Tyvek suit covering, Nitrile gloves, goggles for eye protection, respirators, lighting, ventilation, and temperature control. Two air compressors, connected in parallel, were needed to keep up with air volume requirements for the high-volume-low-pressure spray gun.



Don Byrne is into this painted fabric.



Fuselage right-side panel with topcoat Insignia White paint is looking 'porcelain' as observed by Bernie Wunder.

THE FLYING/MAINTENANCE CORNER

VMC PIREP

Submitted by Bernie Wunder

Our EAA Chapter started having VMC Safety meetings on the 3rd Saturday of the month a few years ago and under the direction of our dedicated leader, Rich Byrnes, we have missed very few months. Today's meeting (February 18th 2023) was one of the best attended to date. The information exchange between pilots is great when it is related to situations we have encountered or hope to never encounter. The topic today was on Situational Awareness and how we can be better pilots by setting our own personal flying minimums. I took a few pictures of the standing room only audience and there was only one attendee who was bored and fell asleep. Thanks, Rich, for all the hard work and helping us be better pilots!



RV-6 Slow Starting Problem

Submitted by Chris Moody

For the last few years I have been battling with slow cranking on my RV-6. It has an O-320 bought new from Lycoming via Vans circa 1991. It sat in storage until first flight in 2012 and now has about 1400 hours.

My first steps were to go through all the wiring. Everything appeared clean and tight—and yes with a ground strap from engine case to airframe. I noticed that my bus voltage reading would drop as low as around 9.4-9.5 VDC during cranking with the standard battery. With some help, I then measured very close to the same voltage while cranking both at the starter and right at the battery. This would seem to eliminate a wiring problem. The battery is an Odyssey PC680 mounted right on the firewall per Vans (short cable run). Must be the battery. Replacing the battery helps slightly but starting is still slow with nearly the same voltage drop. This battery is rated at 170 CCA and is designed for the motor sports market where it is most likely starting engines a good bit smaller than an O-320.



On the Vans forums I saw a few complaints about the battery not cutting it for starting, but others swore by it, and it had been working ok for me for quite a while. Is it possible the new batteries are not what they used to be? Next I tried my boat battery (over 3x the CCA) by hooking it in right where the Odyssey battery connects. It cranked better thus sort of supporting the weak Odyssey theory.

I was wondering about the starter but did not want to be one of those that throws money at the problem just hoping for results. It finally dawned on me that I have a new starter for the new project airplane. Sure enough it was an easy replacement. The result seemed astonishing. Prop spinning faster than I have seen for years. So a new starter was ordered and is now installed.



I had never had a failed starter before and was not sure how long they normally last or what the typical failure symptoms are. This original starter seemed like an unusual configuration I had not seen before (see photo). In my case it seemed to fail in a way that still sort of worked but by drawing more current than normal while delivering less torque than normal. With the new starter, my voltage on the Odyssey battery drops to about 10.5V while cranking.

FOR SALE

No items for sale

CHAPTER 478 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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 2022-23*

Vice President: *Paul Gambacorta 2023-24*

Secretary: *Gabriel Murray 2022-23*

Treasurer: *Don Byrne 2023-24*

Committee Chairs and Chapter Advisors

Social Chairman: *Bernie Wunder, Sid Wood*

Membership Chairman:

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 2022-23

Darryl Crawford 2022-23

Chris Moody 2023-24

Bill Englehart 2023-24

John Attebury 2023-24

Brian Link 2022-23

Jacqueline Link 2022-23

John Reinert 2023-24

Greg Stevens 2023-24

Keith King 2023-24

Chapter Web Address

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