



## CHAPTER 613

Franklin County State Airport (KFSO)

Swanton, Vermont

# November 2024

### Message from the Chapter President by John Fitzgerald

Greetings All,

first of all I would like to thank everyone who made it to last month's annual potluck. The food was delicious! Actually I thought we would run out of food, but we made it! We had a wonderful selection of food, including desserts. Nothing like good old home cooking. It was great to see so many of you.



I look forward to our first pancake breakfast on Sunday, November 24th. Normally we have our pancake breakfast the third Sunday of the month but this month many of us will be out of town, so we have moved the date to the 24th. I look forward to a great turn out, so bring your family and friends and have a great time.

See you all soon

John FitzGerald , Chapter President

### Pancake Breakfast—Sunday, November 24th!

Please join us for our Chapter 613 March Pancake Breakfast.

Where: EAA Chapter 613 Aviation Center, Franklin County State Airport (KFSO)

When: Sunday, November 24th, 9:00—11:00 AM

Who: Chapter 613 members and guests are warmly invited to join us

What: Pancakes (with or without blueberries), sausage, bacon, maple syrup, scrambled eggs, coffee, orange juice.

Prices: Breakfast: \$8.00,

Breakfast with Three 50/50 Raffle Tickets: \$10.00.

Raffle Tickets only: \$1.00 each or Six for \$5.00.



***We look forward to seeing you there!!!***

*Help! I need three volunteers to help cook for the pancake breakfast. Please email Marge Butterfield at [airbear9fj@gmail.com](mailto:airbear9fj@gmail.com) or call me at my home phone 802-878-6337.*

*Thank you so much!*

## Remembering Bette Jayne Whitcomb—1930—1924

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of longtime EAA Chapter 613 member, and former Chapter President, Bette Whitcomb.

We have many fond memories of Bette from years of pancake breakfasts, Cabin Fever Frolics, as well as trips to Oshkosh and Sun-n-Fun. Bette and her blue Cherokee 180 were common fixtures at Shelburne and Franklin County Airports. Bette

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family. Here is Bette's obituary, outlining her full and active life:

### **OBITUARY:**

Bette Jayne Whitcomb died peacefully at the McClure Miller Respite House in Colchester, Vt., after a brief stay.

She was born on July 7, 1930, in Newburgh, N.Y., to Florence and Arthur Farr. She grew up in Newburgh and Ware, Mass., where she swam competitively throughout her high school years. She graduated salutatorian of her high school class in 1948 and went on to get a BS in zoology at UMass Amherst. She met her first husband, Ed Bacon (d.2004), while they were both attending college there and got married in 1953.

Bette Jayne worked at Cornell University and then the University of Connecticut. In 1960 they had a son, Stephen. Two years later they moved to Jericho, Vt., and she raised Stephen while Ed worked at the University of Vermont. Tragically, Stephen died in 1967 due to melanoma of the brain. Seth was born in 1968 and Susan in 1970. She and Ed later divorced.

She went on to work at UVM in the gastroenterology department for more than 20 years before retiring in 1995.

In 1978 she married Eugene Chastenay (d.1989). He was an avid pilot and encouraged her to take flying lessons and get her private pilot's license a couple years later. They had several planes over the years, and she loved sharing her passion. She was a member of the local Experimental Aircraft Association. She also volunteered to fly patients to hospitals as part of Air Lifeline.

She married John (Jack) Whitcomb in 1994 (d. 2017), and together they enjoyed time with their families and grandchildren and dogs. They loved to travel and went to many amazing destinations all over the world.

She lived a full and amazing life. She had a lifelong love of swimming and reading. She also liked to knit and sew and loved to refinish old furniture. She was also involved in the local Mary C. Burdick Order of the Eastern Star, was a member of Jericho and Westford Congregational churches, and served on the Jericho Cemetery Board.

She is survived by her son Seth; daughter, Susan, and her husband, Darren; grandchildren, Steven, Aiyana, Trevor and Colleen; nieces, Cheryl Shaskan, Heather Benedict and Holly Ross; and cousin, Linda Mitchell.





## Memories from our October 20th Potluck Lunch

We had a nice turnout for our Chapter Potluck and it was so good to see everyone. We had a great selection of food and desserts to choose from. One culinary delight, German -pork schnitzel with two different sauces, was a first time treat for most of us. This was prepared by Gabi Moye, Steve Couzelis' daughter. Gabi also prepared a delicious German pudding which she had in individual jelly jars. It was nice to have international food in addition to all the delicious food prepared by all who came. Our chapter potluck is an annual event we all look forward to.





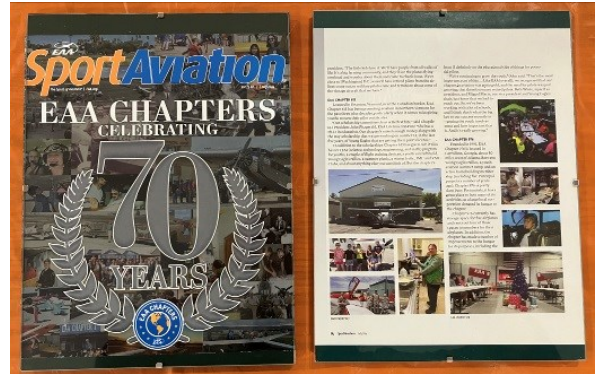
## Chapter 613 Featured in EAA's Sport Aviation Magazine By Marge Butterfield

The July 2024, 70th Anniversary edition, of Sport Aviation recognized certain chapters for spreading the Spirit of Aviation.

EAA was founded in 1953 by Paul H. Poberezny. Chapter 613 was one of the chapters that was featured in this article.

Beth White so kindly framed the cover of Sport Aviation and the article on our chapter, so we can hang it in the Taylor Aviation Center.

*Thank you Beth!!*



### In case you haven't seen it, here is the Sport Aviation Article featuring Chapter 613

SEVENTY YEARS AGO, just months after Paul and Audrey Poberezny founded EAA, the organization made a monumental decision. The original bylaws included a rule that forbade the formation of any regional or local EAA chapters. Out in California, aircraft designer Ray Stits, EAA 136, convinced Paul to change that. It proved to be one of the most important course reversals in EAA history. By January 1954, Ray had founded EAA Chapter 1 in Riverside, California — the first of what became many EAA chapters around the country and globe. As we celebrate the 70th anniversary of the EAA chapter network this year, let's take a look around the country at some of the chapters that do an exceptional job of spreading The Spirit of Aviation

**EAA CHAPTER 613** Located in Swanton, Vermont, near the Canadian border, EAA Chapter 613 has been promoting aviation in northern Vermont for the past three-plus decades, particularly when it comes to inspiring youths to earn their pilot certificates. "Our scholarship committee chair is Beth White," said Chapter 613 President John Fitzgerald, EAA Lifetime 1064989. "She has a Ph.D. in education. Our chapter's raised enough money along with the Ray scholarship that we are working on number 14, in the last five years, of Young Eagles that are getting their pilot's license." In addition to the scholarships Chapter 613 has given out, it also has a STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) program for youths, a couple of flight training devices, a youth aircraft build, Young Eagles rallies, a summer picnic, a winter frolic, IMC and VMC Clubs, and about anything else you can think of. But the chapter's focus is definitely on the educational side of things for potential pilots. "We're continuing to grow the youth," John said. "That's the most important part of this. ... Like EAA [overall], we recognized that our chapter in aviation was getting old, and the need for pilots was just growing; that there's so many retired pilots. Beth White, myself as president, and Miguel Marin, our vice president and Young Eagles EAA Chapter 976 chair, just knew that we had to reach out. So, we've been working with a lot of schools, and I think that's what the big key to our success recently is — getting the youth involvement and how important that is. And it's really growing."



## Instructor's Corner—Ed Scott

### “Failure is Never a Destination—*But!*...”

The legendary Duke University basketball coach, Mike Krzyzewski, said, “Failure is never a destination,” but, “If you are knocked back, figure out why, and then change.”

We hope for success at whatever we do, but as we take risks, or try new things, we might fail. Young kids need to try new or difficult tasks to find out what they're good at, or not good at, and to discover their passion. But, if in trying something new, they fail, it may be for the best. Failure means that whatever they were doing was not in their best interest. They may fail in learning to fly, at school, or sports, but instead of feeling defeated, they should see it as an opportunity to explore new pathways in life's journey.

I am a good example of Coach “K.s” message. I flunked out of college. At first, I was devastated. My family had chosen my life's journey to be college followed by a career in the family business. That path never seemed right for me, and it came to an abrupt end when Middlebury College sent a note to my family stating I would not be returning.

My family desperately hunted for a college that would take me, but I knew something had to change, and I joined the Army. I left home for Fort Leonard Wood, MO, and what a relief it was to be on that train headed away from the life they'd chosen for me.

Fort Leonard Wood was hot, dusty, and staffed with angry sergeants yelling and bullying all 200 of us recruits, nonstop. You might think I was crazy, but I loved it! At our last formation, I was called front and center; I was the honor graduate of our basic training company.

A recruit in the Army is the lowest rank, but waiting ahead are opportunities for advancement just waiting to be grabbed. I first became a flight simulator operator teaching instrument flying to Army fixed wing students. Soon, the warrant officer helicopter program opened up, and I was accepted into one of the first classes. I loved flight school, and thrived in that rigorous program. Next stop was Korea, then back home for a year before being sent to Vietnam. I planned for a career in aviation when I got out, but a surprising turning point sent me in completely different direction.

The turning point was in Korea where I helped out at a local orphanage. Fifty-five kids lived in terrible conditions in a drafty building with only a small coal stove for heat, and no indoor plumbing. Their only possessions were the clothes on their backs. Their optimism and determination in the face of the harshest of conditions inspired my future, and when I came home, I went back to college and started a career as a teacher.

There have been other knock backs, as to be expected in decades of living. Looking back, failing at college freed me to find my way unencumbered by others' expectations. Opportunities for a life I'd never imagined opened up, and I found my path to a fulfilling career. If you get knocked back, do not give up. Figure out why, and change. There is an opportunity you've never imagined waiting for you.

## Minutes of the October 20th Chapter 613 Board Meeting

*We will be posting more detailed meeting minutes than we have in the past. Therefore, we will not be posting the minutes in the newsletter, but rather on the Chapter Website in the Meeting Minutes folder.*

*Minutes of this meeting are posted on the Chapter 613 website and can be accessed by clicking on the following link:*

[241120 Minutes of Chapter 613 Board Meeting.pdf](#)

***Members are encouraged to review these meeting minutes and contact any officer for more information. The decisions made by the Chapter Officers will be considered final after the next Board Meeting, unless a member requests that decisions be tabled at the meeting for further discussion by the entire membership.***



## EAA Chapter 613

### Youth Aviator Program Corner

November 2024



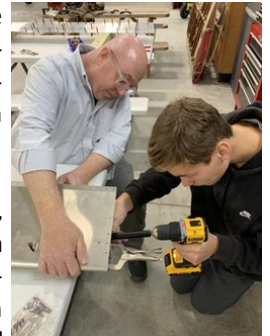
#### Beth White

Our Youth Aviation Program has seen a surge in young aviators eager to achieve their aviation dreams. In response to this growing interest, George, Disa, Ed, Zoë, and I have worked diligently over the past month to create the tools needed to manage and support our 20+ youth aviators effectively. We've revamped our spreadsheets, developed streamlined policies, and enhanced our communication process to ensure we are tracking each youth's progress and providing the guidance they need at every milestone. With our new systems in place, our comprehensive Youth Aviation Program now offers a clear, structured pathway for aspiring aviators as they work toward a Private Pilot License (PPL).

Our committee's structure will play a vital role in the program's success. We established the following volunteer positions: Youth Aviation Program Coordinator, Scholarship Wrangler, and Executive Assistant, each designed with unique responsibilities to support youth as they progress. The Scholarship Wrangler, Disa Tatro, will assist in navigating the many scholarships available on the national landscape and our Executive Assistant, thanks Ed Scott, will tracking Youth Aviator progress to ensure each student stays on target with milestones.

Exciting news for our chapter! EAA Chapter 613 was recently awarded two prestigious Ray Foundation Scholarships from EAA National, which will provide substantial support for two of our dedicated Youth Aviators, Miranda Gallagher and Mya Adams, as they work toward completing their Private Pilot Licenses. This recognition from the Ray Foundation underscores the strength of our youth aviation program and the commitment of our chapter to fostering the next generation of aviators. Both Miranda and Mya have demonstrated incredible dedication to their training, and we're thrilled to be able to provide this vital financial backing to help them achieve their aviation goals.

This month, I've had the pleasure of working with an incredible team—George Coy, Sam Longstreet, George Thomas, Ron Mitchell, and Jason Horne—on the flaperons for our Zenith Zenair project. It's been a fantastic experience, full of camaraderie and hands-on learning as we tackle the details of airplane construction. Together, we're gaining valuable insights into reading and interpreting airplane blueprints, each step adding to our understanding of the intricate process of building an aircraft. It's a great group, and we're making steady progress while having a lot of fun along the way.



Finally, we're thrilled to share that "The Air Up There" podcast episode featuring our Habitat for Aviation team aired on October 23rd! You can listen to Ashwil, Abby, Zoë, Aubrianna, and myself discuss our Rans S-21 build, the mission of Habitat for Aviation, and how we're inspiring future aviators. Tune in to learn more.

[https://www.faa.gov/podcasts/the\\_air\\_up\\_there/habitat-aviations-all-women-airplane-build](https://www.faa.gov/podcasts/the_air_up_there/habitat-aviations-all-women-airplane-build)



## EAA Chapter 613 Youth Flyers: Reflections from Flight Training

### Calla Senasac, High School Aviator, Ray Scholar, Mechanic-in-Training

I finished all of my college applications this month and I feel a lot less stressed. I missed some of our Habitat for Aviation build days, but when I did go I got to meet some new people and make some progress on the ailerons! Something else exciting that I did was take my grandma flying. I'm so lucky to have the opportunity to take her flying, and she had a great time. To my surprise she wasn't nervous at all, and she said she had so much fun.



### Abby Demar High School Aviator, Ray Scholar, Mechanic-in-Training

The past month I applied to a bunch of colleges, scattered throughout the country. I'm hoping to go for commercial aviation and I'm not sure which school I'm most interested in at the moment. My last high school sports season is over, we made it to the championship game and now I start working again. The other week I had a gorgeous solo flight early in the morning looking at all the beautiful foliage. I'm still chugging along in my studying and sim work and am excited for these winter months.

### Ishir Agarwal, Ray Scholar, Aviator, UND Student

Man, I keep saying this but what an amazing month once again! One thing I have loved about being a student at an aviation college is there is always something more that you can do. There is always another event you can go to or another student organization you can join. I have been able to get so involved on campus and it is something that has shaped my career immensely. I can confidently walk into an interview and have an overwhelming amount of stories to share when the interviewer starts a question with "Tell me about a time..." because of all of the opportunities I have at UND. It is also extremely important to have those stories ready now more than ever because, throughout the month of October, I have been preparing for my United Aviate Pilot Interview that is on November 14th in Denver, Colorado! I am beyond thrilled to have the opportunity to be a part of United Airlines and its legacy, and getting to interview for their Aviate pilot pathway program is surreal. I can definitely say that preparing for an airline pilot interview is significantly different than preparing for a traditional interview and I am up for quite the challenge. I mean who knew I would have to do another instrument checkride? Actually I guess I did!

I am also proud to say that Chapter 1342 is thriving and we are on track to gain bronze status as an EAA Chapter through the various events we are hosting! Along with finally establishing our official IMC/VMC Club, we have been working hard to run the Chapter's first Young Eagles Workshops! Throughout the month of November, we will have 20 students every Saturday join us in various aviation activities, including hands-on aviation crafts, guest speaker presentations, as well as airport facility tours. Chapter 613's goal of inspiring the next generation of youth truly inspired me and has allowed me to channel my energy in programs like workshops and much more. I will be sure to keep you updated on the rest of the fun stuff 1342 has planned but for now, See ya in the skies!

### Miranda Gallagher, High School Aviator

This month I've had the opportunity to join Habitat for Aviation in presenting to 100 Women Who Care about our women's build. They voted between three different nonprofits to donate to, and they chose us. I've only been able to fly a little bit this month but I'm hoping to have my license by the end of the year. The Women's Build has been going well – we've started getting the skin on the ailerons and we're almost done with building the flaps.



### Sam Longstreet, Grade 9, Mechanic and Pilot in Training

In the past few weeks I installed a GPS antenna on the Citabria and routed the cable for it. I also went back over to Plattsburgh to work on the AN-2. I helped install the left and right inner and outer flaps and also the canopy. Finally I helped out again with the Zenith 701 build at the EAA hanger. It has been a great past month.

**Ian Bradette, High School Aviator, Mechanic-in-Training**

Hello all, I'm happy to announce that the first semester of this school year is halfway over! This month has been really productive as I've been getting a lot of my schoolwork done and have been keeping my grades high. I have just enrolled in two dual enrollment classes at Nashua Community College for electrical engineering, and I am pursuing in-person aviation related dual-enrollment classes for next year at Vermont State University. I am very proud of my GPA, and I am looking forward to continuing my education.

Outside of school, my BD-4 build is going slowly, but I haven't lost my motivation, and attending the Saturday Antonov work days have always been a joy. I am really looking forward to flying again, and my hope is that my medical will come through soon so I can get my pilot's license this winter. Although I can't hop in a plane alone before that medical comes, I am going to be scheduling a flight with Ryan every couple of months to stay current while I wait. As always, I'm always happy to be around the airport, and I will see you all in the coming weekends.

**Mya Adams, Pilot and Mechanic-in-Training**

As a resident of Hardwick, Vermont, I make the hour-and-a-half drive, one-way, to Franklin County Airport to pursue my passion for aviation. I am proud to know that 50% of my roots come from the Native American people of Maine. Family on my mother's side originate from Bar Harbor, Maine, and the surrounding area, from as far back as 1651, at which time my ancestors were captured during the Battle of Worcester and shipped to Boston aboard the ship "Sarah and John". Currently my oldest Sinclair roots are buried all over Exeter, New Hampshire, which have been overgrown with bushes, trees, and earth. I love writing, history, aviation and spending time with my grandfather. My room is filled with books, my own photography, and models of planes, from military to commercial.

My love for aviation has always been there, though it took some time for me to recognize the passion. As a toddler my parents would take me to the observation tower at Burlington International Airport (BTV) to watch any planes land and take off. When asked what I wanted to be when I grew up, I oscillated between interest in becoming an air traffic controller to pilot. After trips to Florida or New York City with my family I eventually found more interest and joy in actually being in a plane and flying.

In June 2024, I introduced my grandfather and my family to "Flightradar24" app. When I left to study abroad in Denmark, my grandfather stayed up almost all night tracking my flight there and back – he loved learning how to use the app and that he could keep track of me even when I was on the other side of the world. Ever since, my grandfather and I shared this passion, we've bonded over aviation, and I have delighted in teaching him so many things he would have otherwise never known about. Since discovering this interest, we both have met so many people who supported us and have taught us new aspects of the industry. I love the aviation community at Franklin County Airport, because it is so welcoming and everyone is willing to share their knowledge and love.

Through Habitat for Aviation and the all-girls plane build, I had the opportunity to meet Beth White. From day one, I felt excited about Habitat for Aviation and after the first session, I told my family I wanted to go every weekend. Thanks to Beth, I took my first Young Eagles flight with Ed Scott, and the entire experience—from takeoff to landing—left me grinning ear-to-ear. I ran to my mom afterward, declaring without hesitation that I wanted to fly for my entire life.

I'm proud to be a part of EAA Chapter 613 as it is helping me fulfill my aviation ambitions. The opportunities the chapter provides dovetail nicely with the early college courses I'm taking at both the Johnson and Williston Campus through Vermont State University. As a senior in high school, I've already declared my major – Professional Pilot Technologies. The generous help of EAA 613's Ray Scholarship, will allow me to get ahead and reduce both the classes and costs I'd need to complete for my license at the university, otherwise it would be incredibly difficult for my family to afford flight lessons and classes required for me to complete my Private Pilot License.





### Niko Cueno, High School Aviator

Last time I wrote, I was feeling pretty intimidated by flying cross country solo, but Ed Scott helped me boost my confidence with some cross country planning work. It was mostly just getting some expertise and guidance on what was actually dangerous when flying and what I didn't need to worry about that helped. My lack of confidence came from my lack of certainty and that was something I improved before I embarked on the cross country. The first time doing the cross country I was pretty strained by the turbulence and any clouds that I saw, but the second time I went I was able to "break the ice" as Ed Scott put it; there is a point where I felt more confident in what I was doing. While a couple clouds worried me along with mountains, both times I went the weather was overall amazing.

Now I'm studying for my oral/stressing about college! My mom said she "had a Library card", which was just five years out of date, but upon getting that renewed I started listening to one of the podcasts Beth White sent me, "Pass Your Private Pilot Checkride 3.0". It's published by a popular instructor I knew from YouTube and it goes through a lot of the important material. I listened to it during my car-ride to Maine for a college visit. It is definitely the sort of podcast to keep relistening to so that's what I plan to do! Especially because the online library glitched and will only let me take out that one book.

## Are You Thinking About Purchasing a New Headset?

EAA Chapter 613 Youth Aviator Program is honored to be an affiliate of Lightspeed Aviation. This means, with every Delta Zulu sold through our dedicated URL or QR code, EAA Chapter 613 will receive a donation of 10% of the headset value for our youth programming. Please share this far and wide and help our youth access opportunities to fly! (<https://tinyurl.com/EAA613Lightspeed>)

## Scholarships Available

- AOPA FOUNDATION AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP High School Students: The AOPA Foundation has earmarked 80 scholarships of \$10,000 each for students ages 16-18 to earn their private pilot certificate. Additional criteria apply. <https://www.aopa.org/training-and-safety/learn-to-fly/aviation-scholarships>
- Sporty's Flight Training Scholarships: Apply for three \$2500 flight training scholarships annually (available with annual membership) <https://obap.org/outreach-programs/scholarships/>
- Capt. Sax scholarships, given in honor of Capt. John J. Sax, USMC: <https://capt.saxfoundation.org/>
- Lyons Aviation Scholarship: <https://lyonsaviation.org/application/>
- Aerial Tribute Project: <https://aerialtributeproject.org/sky-scholars/>
- Organization for Black Aerospace Professionals Fall 2024 Scholarship Application is open! <https://obap.org/outreach-programs/scholarships/>
- Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Foundation: <https://www.taisf.org/scholarship-information.html> [Tuskegee Airmen Scholarship Foundation](https://www.taisf.org/scholarship-information.html)



## Cirrus SR20 For Sale

- Year: 2001
- Tail Number: N28SC
- Serial No. 1137
- Total Time: 1686 Hours
- Original Owner
- All service and annual inspections have been performed at the BTV Authorized Cirrus Service Center
- Aircraft based in Burlington, VT (KBTV)
- 10" ARNAV Display, with spare unit included
- (2) Garmin 430 Nav Coms
- Always Hangered
- No Damage History
- Complete Aircraft Maintenance Manuals
- Price: \$200,000
- Contact: Steve Couzelis
  - Email: [Flybuddy20@yahoo.com](mailto:Flybuddy20@yahoo.com)
  - Home Phone: 802-893-0029
  - Cell Phone: 802-363-4139





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John Butterfield—Newsletter Editor

EAA CHAPTER 613

721 North Williston Rd

Williston VT 05495

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November 2024

