



Volume 25-12 EAA Chapter 846 Newsletter - Wadsworth, Ohio December 2024

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Chapter Location

Hangar M-1

Wadsworth Skypark Airport
(15G)

3071 Greenwich Road
Wadsworth, OH 44281

Meetings are held on the 2nd
Thursday of every month

@ 7:00 PM

www.chapters.eaa.org/ea846

Please join us for our upcoming EAA Chapter 846 Annual Meeting:

Date- Thursday, December 12, 2024

Location- Skypark Airport, Chapter hangar, M-1

Social time starts at 6:30 pm,

Regular gathering will start at 7 p.m.

December Gathering Agenda:

- **Project Updates & Upcoming Events**
- **Air Academy Scholarship**
- **Ray Scholarship**
- **Safety Topic— ELT Requirements & Proper Usage, Brad Wurst**
- **Program— CH-47 Chinook, Ryan Walters**

I don't find airplane jokes funny...



New Members & Guests

The chapter membership increased by three new members at the November Gathering. **Gary Bohley and his wife, Lucille**, live in Medina. **Josh Burke** is a United First Officer based in Cleveland. He and his **wife, Amy**, live in North Olmsted. **Charlie Gibbons** lives in Wadsworth and is a flight instructor and a corporate pilot.

Welcome to the chapter, Gary, Josh and Charlie!

Many guests joined us during the November Gathering: Denny Albright, Tom Kieffaber, Mike and his son, Lucas, Seedhouse. Thank you for joining us.

Holiday Party & January Gathering!

SAVE THE DATE!

When: January 11, 2025
Where: Knights of Columbus Hall, Wadsworth, OH
Time: 5 to 9 PM



VMC Club

By Gary Baker

The next meeting of the chapter's VMC Club will be held next year, Tuesday, January 28, 7 p.m., in the meeting room at Skypark Airport.

We will be discussing certified aircraft maintenance that the FAA-allows owners to perform, as well as maintenance on experimental aircraft. All aviation enthusiasts are invited to join us. FAA Wings credit will be available for this meeting.

More information about VMC Clubs can be found at <https://www.eaa.org/eaapilots/eaapilot-proficiency/proficiency-and-education-programs/vmc-club>.

We hope to see you there.



Planned Giving

The chapter is creating an aviation training scholarship in the name of Chapter Founder **Fred Coblentz**. The goal of the Coblentz Aviation Scholarship will be to allow an individual to obtain certification in the aviation industry. Funding of this scholarship will be through donations and other specified income sources.

Even though details of the scholarship still have to be finalized, donations are being accepted. Chapter 846 is recognized by the IRS as a non-profit organization, also known as a 501(c)3. Because of this status, donations can be made to the chapter. Check with your tax advisor to see if this donation could be tax-deductible. Our EIN number is 46-5617309.

Checks, made payable to EAA Chapter 846, can be sent to the Chapter treasurer, Gary Baker, 770 Victoria Circle, Medina, OH 44256. The chapter website contains a link to PayPal where a donation can be made thru that app. <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea846/membership/join---renew---donate>

Thank you for your consideration and generosity!

Fred Coblentz Aviation Memorial Scholarship

The chapter scholarship committee, consisting of **Greg Cantrell, Steve Greer, Rose Lass, and Gary Baker**, has finalized the framework of the **Fred Coblentz Aviation Memorial Scholarship**. An overview of the scholarship will be given during the December Gathering. Additional volunteers are welcome to serve on the scholarship committee, so let one of the committee members of your interest.

The parameters of the candidate requirements need to be finalized and will be written by the committee, with approval given by the board. An application form will need to be written up and then the availability of the scholarship will be advertised.

The scholarship is available to high school seniors and older individuals.

Please consider volunteering to assist in establishing this scholarship.



Ray Scholar

Update:

Our current Ray Scholar, Doug Tytko, has completed all of his training requirements and is ready to take his Private Pilot check ride. His first checkride attempt got postponed this past weekend due to high winds. Doug will try again a few days after Christmas. Wish him luck and keep your fingers crossed for the weather to cooperate later this month! Doug will now have a few extra weeks to study and prepare for his big day!



[CLICK HERE FOR APPLICATION FORM!](#)

Applications for the Chapter 846 Explore Aviation Camp Scholarships will be accepted beginning on December 1, 2024. The form is included in this newsletter as well as being available on the chapter website <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea846/scholarships/air-academy-scholarship>. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2024. Questions can be directed to Gary Baker, ggbaker@zoominternet.net.

Explore Aviation Camp Scholarship Application Process

Chapter 846 is offering two full scholarships to attend the EAA Explore Aviation Camp in Oshkosh, WI, in July, 2025, to deserving area youth who have an interest in aviation. The EAA Explore Aviation Camp is a fun-filled nine-day aviation camp experience for youth ages 16-18.



The Scholarships will cover the entire cost of the camp as charged by EAA, which includes room and board. The recipients of the scholarship will need to provide their own transportation to and from Oshkosh. More information about the Explore Aviation Camp can be found at <https://eaa.org/airacademy>. The session 3 camp runs from July 15 thru 23, 2025 and the session 4 camp runs from July 25 thru August 2, 2025. One scholarship is available for each camp session. Applicants may apply to both camps, but only one scholarship will be awarded for each session.

EAA Ohio Regional
Newsletter (ORCN),
[December](#)



Join us on January 27-31, 2025, during the fourth-annual EAA Homebuilders Week online event. Experts from every corner of the homebuilt aircraft community will bring their knowledge and information to builders everywhere through free and interactive webinars.

Homebuilders Week is a tremendous learning opportunity that celebrates the legacy of EAA founder Paul Poberezny. As he often said, using hand and mind to create aircraft that allow us to enjoy the personal freedom of flight!

Homebuilders Week
Schedule of Events

[Click HERE for Schedule](#)

It's that Time Again!

Please help keep us in Gold Status

by taking the 2024 Chapter Member Survey Below:



2024 EAA Chapter Member Survey For All Chapter Members

Dear Christopher,

PLEASE FORWARD this email to your chapter members and encourage them to take a survey about their chapter.

Help share your ideas regarding your EAA chapter! The annual chapter member survey is now open. EAA would like to have **all chapter members** complete this 5-minute survey by **Tuesday, December 31**.

[CLICK HERE FOR SURVEY](#)

After the surveys are finalized, chapter officers will receive their chapter's results to better understand the thoughts from chapter members who elected to participate in the survey. You can use the survey feedback to improve the chapter experience for your local members. Additionally, this annual survey provides EAA with a snapshot of the type of events and programs chapter members want.

Please complete the survey and share your thoughts!

Blue Skies and Tailwinds,
EAA Chapters Office

Finally back in the air... Fall 2024 flying

By David Gerdeman

As many know, my plane was down for maintenance for a few months after Oshkosh due to the valve issues. Once completed and test flown in the pattern, I was ready to burn some fuel!

The first flight was for Young Eagles day #1 on 9/28. I did 4 flights with kids and had great day all around. The second flight was Young Eagles day #2 on 10/05. Another 4 flights and another great day. I'm seeing a pattern here... Flying = a great day!

I took Friday 10/11 off to fly to Cheat River (56WV) in West Virginia. Took off around 1300, got on flight following with Akron and 1:46 later was at Cheat. ATC warned me of traffic opposite direction about 15mi North of Cheat and a Blackhawk flew below me! That was a fun call back to ATC "7019T has that traffic in sight. The Blackhawk flying under me is no factor." **Eric McWilliams** had beaten most everyone there and was the first camper set up.



I arrived in early afternoon and reserved a spot next to me as I knew **Paul Lutz** would be joining us. As Paul wrote in his story, more than 50 planes had set up by Friday night. I made a steamer dinner for Eric, Paul, Bridgitte and myself. It is always great to hang out with friends, eat some food and enjoy being surrounded by planes.



Saturday dawned cool with fog capping the valley. This was the same as last year but new this year was Randy circling overhead waiting for it to clear! He made it in about the time I was finishing getting the pancakes done. Rain was scheduled for Cleveland Saturday night and Sunday so we departed separately after lunch for the flight home. We skirted some light showers between Akron and Skypark but all landed safely. Here is a shot from my tail cam on takeoff.



Thankfully I have a great job so also took the next Friday 10/18 off to fly to Roger's International (62KT) in KY. I departed at 1000, crossed the OH river just before 1200... and landed at I50 around 2:30 to turn on my cameras. :-) Rogers is just a short hop south of I50 and they have a great video on YouTube walking you in by landmarks from there. I had pre-flown the path on Google Earth and entered points in Foreflight for good measure. I was high on my first attempt so did a go-around.

But the next time around I had the site picture I wanted and settled in between the trees.



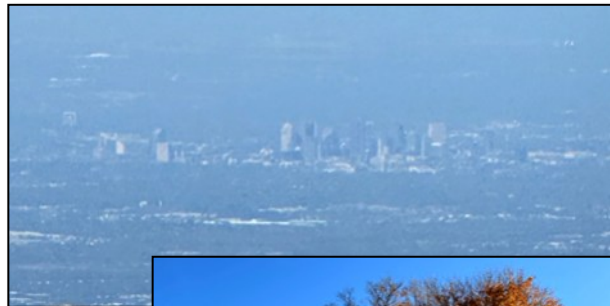
Two friends from Detroit flew down in an RV6 so I set up camp next to them. The camping area is called "The Library" as it is supposed to be quieter, marginally... The hangar end of the field is called "The Disco" as it is party central to 2AM.



It is the first time I've camped and didn't have to cook! Although I did make coffee and restart the fires each morning as the first one up. They did have a shower trailer which was partially functional as the heat circuit kept popping. They made enough in funds this year that the owner said he will be able to put in a permanent shower house. They earned a lot of those funds with an auction Saturday night for donated goods. Bring your checkbook as all the goods were above my paycheck. \$400+ for a special bottle of bourbon was too much for me but it was fun to watch.

The flight home was wonderfully uneventful. The takeoff consists of taxiing up the overrun, turning around at the top, and slowly come back down the hill before adding full power to lift off and exit to the right out the valley.

Here is a bad cell video screen capture of me beginning my T/O run. A bit over the OH river I got on with Indy Center for flight following home. They passed me off and all kept me covered passing Columbus as I saw a couple heavies cross my path. I was home by 1330.



After that trip there were several 846 flyouts and a couple solo runs: **10/26** - A quick breakfast trip to Swank.

10/27 – I was one of several planes that flew out to Marysville (KMRT) for BBQ. Dave Manning joined me so I finally wasn't flying alone!

11/2 – Flew to Swank for breakfast, then Put-In-Bay for their FBO opening and lunch. The morning mists were beautiful and it was my first time flying out to 3W2.



11/9 – Dave joined me again and we did a group flyout to Swank for breakfast. Paul and Paulie Hanchek and Dave and I then flew down to Zanesville (KZZV) for Vintage Chapter 22's Ham and Bean soup lunch. We had a private tour of their facility which is filled with amazing motorcycles, a car and oh yeah, many planes!

11/17 – Dave and I joined around 8 other members for the Chapter Fly out to Carroll County for breakfast. I have to say it's a lot more

fun with Dave in the right seat!
LOL

So that's 23.2hrs since 9/28, a pretty good run at making up for lost time. Next year I want to hit North Fox Island and fly the Hudson Corridor in addition to other campouts.

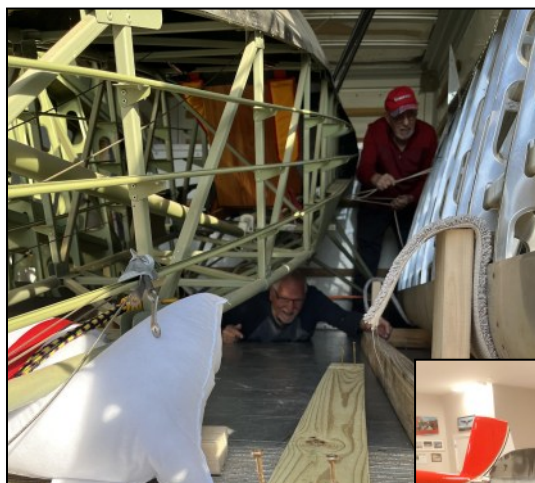


Come join the fun!

The Murphy Renegade

Dave Manning's kit Murphy Renegade has found a new home in North Carolina. This past week, **Dave, Randy Brooks, and Karl Aber** assisted (did most of the work actually) chapter member **Jay Waddell** in disassembly and loading completed parts into a U-haul for the trip south.

Jay plans to complete the project with in 2 years keeping it simple with steam gauges but installing a Rotec-2800, 7 cylinder, 100 HP radial. **Stay tuned for progress reports!**



EAA CHAPTER 846
Monthly Gathering
Minutes of November 14, 2024

The November monthly gathering was called to order by Chapter President Chris Oehlers at 7:07pm.

Guests Present:

Mike Seedhouse
Lucas Seedhouse
Denny Albright
Tom Kieffaber
Kyle Lewis – AOPA Great Lakes Regional Manager

New EAA846 Members

We welcome the following new members to EAA Chapter 846: Gary Bohley, Josh Burke, Charles Gibbons.

Vice President Position Filled

At the November Board of Directors meeting, Abby Donofrio was voted in as the interim Vice President of EAA Chapter 846. Abby gave a little history about herself and her time in the chapter. Abby plans to design a new Chapter 846 logo to be used on official Chapter 846 merchandise as well as other things.

Old Business

Secretary Kevin Fink made a motion to accept the October 2024 Chapter Gathering and November 2024 Board of Directors meeting minutes as published in the current Wingnuts publication. The motion was seconded by Gary Baker. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

As a reminder, 2024 chapter dues are due, and can be given to treasurer Gary Baker.

Treasurer's Report

Chapter Treasurer Gary Baker gave updates on the status of the Chapter checking and CD accounts.

Neighboring Hangar Available

Chapter President Chris Oehlers gave updates about our neighboring hangar that will be going up for sale. More updates about possible acquisition to come in 2025.

"Fireside Chat" with Jack Pelton

Chapter Treasurer Gary Baker gave a few updates about a conference call that was held with Jack Pelton, EAA CEO. Discussions included the following topics:

- AirVenture night safety
- MOSAIC
- User fees at airports
- FAA administration new staff
- Youth education
- Ray Foundation Museum addition

Air Academy Scholarship

Chapter President Chris Oehlers discussed 2 new standardized applications and guidance documents for both the Air Academy Scholarship as well as the Ray Aviation Scholarship. These documents will help standardize the application process, the awarding of the scholarships, and will share expectations set forth for the scholarship recipients.

Tool Crib

Chapter Secretary Kevin Fink updated the chapter that the electrical work in the tool crib has finally been completed. Brad Wurst gave updates that the chapter is looking for additional tool acquisition suggestions for the chapter tool crib.

EAA Build and Fly Kit

Greg Cantrell and Ron Lutz gave updates that all components have been ordered and have arrived. They set up time for kids to come out to the RC field and fly RC airplanes. Unfortunately, only one of the 9 children actually showed but they still had a great time. We would like to start getting kids interested before the end of the year and plan to start building after the new year.

Ray Scholarship Updates

2024 Ray Scholarship recipient, Doug Tytko, gave some updates on his flight training. He passed his written exam last week and has started checkride preparation. His checkride is scheduled for December 8th with Chuck Sargent.

Unfortunately, there will not be a second Ray Scholarship for our chapter in 2024.

A motion was made to apply for a full Ray Scholarship in 2025 by Abby Donofrio and was seconded by Brian Burke. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

VMC Club

The next VMC club meeting will take place on December 3rd at 7pm in the Skypark airport community room. We will be continuing the discussion of cold weather flying.

Chapter 846 Christmas Party

The 2024 Chapter 846 Christmas party will take place on January 11th 2025 from 5pm – 9pm at the Wadsworth Knights of Columbus Hall. Setup will take place in the AM.

November Safety Topic

Randy Brooks gave an interesting and informative presentation on flying stabilized approaches, especially into the Cheat River fly-in. Thanks, Randy!

(continued)

November Monthly Program

Kyle Lewis, the AOPA Great Lakes Regional Manager, gave an interesting and informative presentation on ongoing and upcoming legal happenings in General Aviation. These included MOSAIC, ADSB-generated airport fees, and the potential closing of KBKL Burke Lakefront Airport. Thank you, Kyle!

“On Deck”

December Monthly Program – Flying the Chinook – Ryan Walters

December Monthly Safety Topic – ELTs – Brad Wurst

With no further business to attend to, a motion to adjourn the November Monthly gathering was made by Chris Oehlers at 9:28pm and was seconded by Abby Donofrio. The motion passed by voice vote.

Submitted by,

Kevin Fink, Secretary – EAA Chapter 846

EAA CHAPTER 846 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of December 4, 2024

The December Board of Directors meeting was called to order by Chapter President Chris Oehlers at 7:10pm.

Officers Present:

Chris Oehlers
Abby Donofrio
Gary Baker
Kevin Fink

Board of Directors Members Present:

Brian Burke
Karl Aber
Ron Lutz
Randy Brooks
David Gerdeman
Paul Hancheck

Chapter Personal Computer proposal

After starting the investigation into a PC for chapter members to use, Dave Gerdeman explained some of the minimum and recommended specifications to run CAD and solid modeling software such as Fusion360 or Solidworks. He gave a few examples of prices of applicable computers. The plans will be tabled for now until there is internet access at the chapter hangar.

Fred Coblentz Memorial Aviation Scholarship

Treasurer Gary Baker provided an initial draft of the scholarship policies the committee has been working on

over the last year or so. Discussion followed. Volunteers will be requested to continue the development process on the committee.

Gary proposed opening a money market account to start to save scholarship funds for long-term growth. Chris Oehlers made a motion to open a commercial money market account for said funds with a current interest earning rate of 2.0%. Brian Burke seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Because of what our account values have grown to, Gary proposed looking into a bonded insurance policy to protect the chapter from any negligent activity. Investigation to follow.

New Chapter Logo / Chapter 846 Clothing

Vice President Abby Donofrio displayed a few concepts of the possible new designs of a freshly-designed chapter logo. Abby, Amy Tytko, and Mary Baker have proposed a few different options. They will be proposed to general membership once a few have been narrowed down.

Safety Topics for 2025

President Chris Oehlers asked for suggestions for safety topics for 2025. The group will send suggestions and a list will be compiled. Presentation volunteers will be requested at the next chapter gathering.

Chris Shearer’s Donations

Chris Shearer offered to donate many different tools and supplies to the chapter. Items are in the newsletter.

Holiday Party

The Chapter 846 annual Holiday party will take place on January 11, 2025 from 5-9PM at the Wadsworth Knights of Columbus hall. This party will be like previous parties with a small meeting portion to start followed by food and friendship. It will take the place of the January monthly gathering. Setup will take place earlier in the morning.

“On Deck”

December Monthly Program – Flying the Chinook – Ryan Walters

December Monthly Safety Topic – ELTs – Brad Wurst

A motion to adjourn the December Board of Directors meeting was made by Randy Brooks at 8:52pm and was seconded by Paul Hancheck. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Submitted by,

Kevin Fink, Secretary – EAA Chapter 846

YOU CAN FLY[®] AOPA FOUNDATION

SCHOLARSHIPS



Exclusive aviation scholarship opportunities for AOPA members!

We're thrilled to announce that the AOPA Foundation offers a wide range of aviation scholarships to help you take the next step in your aviation journey.

Scholarships for Aspiring and Experienced Pilots

Our aviation scholarships are tailored to support a variety of goals—from earning your private pilot certificate to advancing your skills, qualifications, and career. Whether seeking primary certification, advanced ratings, transitioning to a new aircraft, or specialized training, these scholarships can help you achieve your aviation ambitions.

Scholarships for High School Students and Educators

Since 2019, the Ray Foundation has generously provided \$1 million annually in flight training scholarships for AOPA members who teach the AOPA Foundation High School Aviation STEM Curriculum and high school students. Educators and students can apply for up to \$10,000 to earn their private pilot certificate. AOPA also offers a [FREE High School membership](#) to students aged 13 to 20.

Ready to Apply?

To explore all available scholarship opportunities and begin your application, visit aopa.org/scholarships.

Application Deadline: February 7, 2025

Submit your application before the deadline to be considered for these exciting scholarship opportunities. It's not too early to begin the application process!

[LEARN MORE](#)

The AOPA Foundation Scholarship program is made possible thanks to donations to the

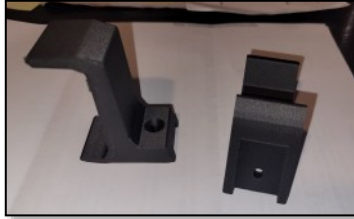
[AOPA Foundation.](#)

Items for SALE!

NOTE- Regarding items posted for sale:

All items for sale will run for three (3) consecutive months then be removed unless I hear from you sooner. Please notify me if you sell the item prior to the next succeeding newsletter. Thanks– Karl

-I have 2 headset hanger hooks looking for a home. Designed to attach to the post between the windshield and door. Printed in nylon with chopped carbon fiber reinforcement. The pair weights 38 grams.



Free to good home!

Brad Wurst

567-429-9579

Brewwurst@gmail.com (10/24)



-Since we don't need our wing and fuselage rotisseries anymore we would like to advertise them in the newsletter. Free to anyone who has a need for them and come pick them up.

Thanks,

Matt and Josh Tomscheck

eas170b@gmail.com (11/24)

On Deck!

- December Safety Topic– ELT, Brad Wurst
- November Program– CH-47 Chinook, Ryan Walters



EAA Chapter Tool Crib Program

I checked with EAA and the tool reimbursement program is still available. We can purchase an item, send the receipt in to EAA, and, if approved, EAA will reimburse us 10% of the purchase price, up to \$300. This can be done each calendar year, so if we purchased something prior to 12/31/24, we could purchase something else next year.

Here's the link: <https://www.eaa.org/ea/eaa-chapters/ea-chapter-resources/chapter-programs-and-activities/ea-chapter-tool-crib-program>

There is a list of suggested items and a checkout sheet at the bottom of the page.

Gary Baker



EAA Chapter 846—Upcoming Calendar of Events & Known Fly-Outs

Thursday, December 12, 2024	EAA Chapter 846 Monthly Gathering	Monthly chapter Gathering will be at the Chapter Hangar, M1	7 PM GTH
Wednesday, January 8, 2024	EAA Chapter 846 Board Meeting	Chapter Hangar	7:00 PM
Saturday, January 11, 2024	Monthly Gathering & Holiday Party	Wadsworth Knights of Columbus Hall	5-9 PM
Tuesday, January 28, 2025	EAA Chapter 846 VMC Club	Meeting will be In the Skypark FBO conference room	7:00 PM
Wednesday, February 5, 2025	EAA Chapter 846 Board Meeting	Chapter Hangar	7:00 PM
Thursday, February 13, 2025	EAA Chapter 846 Monthly Gathering	Monthly chapter Gathering will be at the Chapter Hangar, M1	7 PM GTH

****NOTE– Chapter Board Meetings are subject to change. Please check [Chapter 846 Calendar](#) for last minute changes.**

Good Homes Wanted

I am happy to donate any and all of the items below to any good home.

Please contact Chris Shearer at 937-270-7441 or chris.shearer1999@aol.com if interested. (12/24)



Senco Drywall Screw Gun, needs new battery(ies) which can be found online for around \$40



4ft florescent light fixture - -- works, no bulb



2ft florescent fixture with bulb, ground mark out stakes



Arc Welding helmet, small wire cutters, painting and paper hanging tools, gas welding wrench, hand held compass

Floor Jack



Drywall sander

Shop fan, complete with dust and dried paint, --- works



Shop Line Circular Saw - Works (could use a new blade)



Toolbox, complete with Stinson Maroon Aero thane paint overspray

Two-pronged (no separate ground) 10' extension cord



Chrysler-style alternator and voltage regulator



Bostitch staple gun staples

THE BUILDING CONTINUES...

	Builder	Aircraft	Published Builders Log
1	Mike Baker	Sonex	
2	Steve Bauman	Zenith CH 750 Cruiser	<i>Kit expected January, 2025!</i>
3	Justin Botts	Sling TSI	
4	Jeremy Cowgar	Bearhawk LSA	Builders Log
5	Bob Eiben	Zenith 701	
6	Mike Guenthner	RV-8	Builders Log
7	Paul Hanchek	Steen Skybolt	
8	Dale Holmes	RV-7	
9	Dale Housley	Volmer VJ-22	
10	Paul/Ron Lutz	Rans S-20	Builders Log
11	Dave Manning	Rans S-21	
12	Bob Parmalee	RV-12	
13	Joe Stefanini	SubSonex JSX-2	
14	Matt/Josh Tomsheck	Just Highlander	
15	Rob Trout	RV-14	
16	Jay Waddell	Pietenpol Air Camper	
17	Joe Walker	RV-7	
18	Barry Wawrin	RV-14A	Builders Log
19	Fred Wellman	Zenith CH 750 Cruiser	Builders Log
20	Brad Wurst	Wittman Buttercup	
21	Jim Yurichak	Kolb Firefly	
22	Jeff Zink	RV-7	
Members' Projects on the Chapter 846 website!			

The Wait...

By Steve Bauman

A few of you know that I have been patiently awaiting the development of a new aircraft kit called the "Aquila". It is a slight variation of the G1 airplane (2-place, all aluminum, high wing) that is quite prevalent in France where the factory is, and about 5 are flying in Canada, but none in the U.S. I originally ordered a G1 kit in March of 2022. But almost immediately, a house next door to where my son's family lives became available to purchase, and that summer, my wife and I moved in and restoration of the house became top priority.

Meanwhile, the fellow I ordered the kit from (he lives west of Chicago), and his partner in Canada, lost their

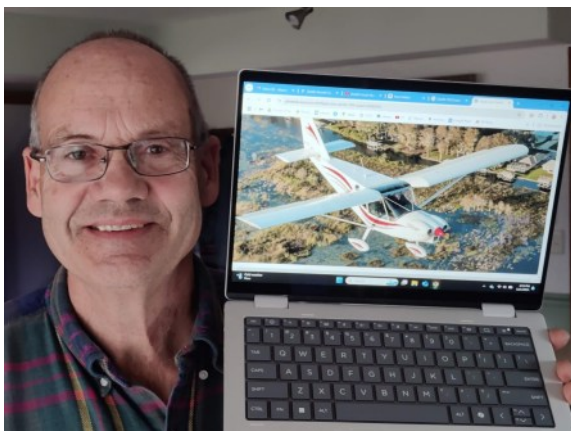
distribution rights to the G1 in December of that same year. But they also subsequently launched an effort to produce a nearly identical aircraft, the "Aquila", in the U. S. and Canada, and I accepted switching my order to it. They had also partnered with another fellow in Florida who would actually produce the U.S. kits, while the partner in Canada would make the kits for his market. After attending Oshkosh 2023, they got about 4 orders besides my own. All three of these guys have worked very hard on marketing, designing, and getting production ready, all with the best intentions, and they continue with that goal. However, it has quite predictably taken longer to produce a prototype or subsequent kits than they originally anticipated.

Work on our new house and my shop has continued. Just before Thanksgiving, a couple weeks ago, I finally got

around to calling about aircraft insurance, first with the EAA, then a couple of others. My main concern was my age; I am now 67 and I have heard that age becomes an issue once you're into your 70's. Well, I was right about that, but if I can get my plane flying before I turn age 70 (or by 75, depending on the insurance company) then I can get insurance, and likely keep it into my late 70's with a likely hard cutoff at age 80. And of course, I will also need to become current again and build up some hours before this time as well.

However, the big surprise came when I described the airplane kit that I was waiting on, the Aquilae. They told me point blank that it would likely not be possible to get insurance for a new production aircraft until there were perhaps 20 of them flying in the U.S., and likely for many years. This was a shock. When I discussed this matter with the Aquilae team, they too seemed to be uninformed. But they later stated that they knew the process of getting insurance would be more arduous and expensive, but it was possible. Given this new information, and my age, it suggests that I need to get building ASAP, and plus it would be best NOT to be a first builder of a new airplane. With the restoration to my home shop near completion, an insulated and heated 30' by 40' pole barn, I decided to depart the Aquilae flight pattern.

I made a call to Roger at Zenith aircraft and started asking questions specifically about the obvious alternative that I have always been aware of, the CH 750 Cruiser. I immediately got a good feeling about this aircraft and the company. Some guys in our chapter certainly agree with my choice, and I've started watching some of the many related YouTube's (and I have tons more to go). I will be placing an order for a kit soon, and I will likely be driving to the factory in late January to pick up my kit on a borrowed trailer, and to attend one of their near-monthly rudder building workshops. My excitement level has been restored; I am now back on track to finally start building an airplane and fulfilling a lifelong goal!



My engine for the Mustang has arrived

By Jeffrey Paden



