



The Maple Lake Flyer

A newsletter of EAA Chapter 878, Experimental Aircraft Association

EAA Chapter 878: a part of the aviation communities of Maple Lake, Buffalo, and surrounding areas of Minnesota.

34 Years.....1986 – 2020

July, 2020

- **EAA CHAPTER 878 EVENT INFO**

Date: Tuesday, July 14

Location: Maple Lake Airport, in the Thomes / Zabel hangar
(East end of front row of hangars parallel to the runway)

Note: This will be our first face-to-face meeting since COVID-19 protocols were instituted. We'll have plenty of space (hope it isn't a rainy day!). The courtesy of distancing, a facemask, and hand sanitizing is contingent and appropriate upon your personal comfort level.

As with any of our other activities, a personal "Risk Assessment" should guide you. If you have been exposed to COVID-19, or think you may have, please stay home and join us another time.

Meeting Time: picnic dinner at 6:30, provided by the chapter
meeting to follow, approximately 7 PM.



- **FLIGHT TO SUCCESS**
by Greg Thomes, Chapter President

A recent study at Carnegie Mellon University sought to see if social networking improves decision-making processes by giving people actionable information. It kind of reminds me of a bunch of pilots doing their "hangar chat."

The study concluded that, when faced with common perils, people in social networks delay making decisions that would save lives and protect others from harm. Interesting!

Well, I doubt the study included any pilots in its survey. It's always great being around EAA members from Chapter 878. There never seems to be a lack of high achievers...procrastination doesn't exist in our vocabulary!

This is just another survey ready for the paper shredder. Thanks to all of you for that!

May your skies be bright and breezes light!

Greg



Remember to regularly check our chapter's website:

<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea878>



- **HELP SUPPORT EAA CHAPTER 878 AS YOU SHOP**
If you're an Amazon shopper, consider using AmazonSmile

The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice – please designate EAA Chapter 878!

- **CHAPTER 878 AVIATION EVENTS – 2020**

July	11	Young Eagle flights, Buffalo Airport
	14	EAA Chapter 878 meeting, at Maple Lake airport, with burgers or brats on the grill!
	28	IMC / EAA878 meeting, location and format to be advised

Note: this list generally will not include the many pancake breakfasts and other fly-ins or local aviation events because they are well publicized on other sites dedicated to that purpose. For other event information, see our EAA Chapter 878 website www.878.eaachapter.org/, and websites such as <https://www.eaa.org/ea>, <https://www.aopa.org/community/events>, www.socialflight.com, and <http://www.flyins.com>. Also see various Calendars of Events in magazines, and airport bulletin boards.

- **CHAPTER 878 MEMBER CONDUCTING SUMMER AVIATION CLASSES FOR YOUTH IN BUFFALO**

by Jon Niska

(Ed. Note: Jon is a relatively new Chapter 878 member who is taking a strong lead on reaching out to the next generations in support of aviation as a career field through these community education programs. The classes will already have started or be completed by the time you get this newsletter, but it's good to know what our members are doing.)

The classes offered are basic introduction to aviation. I will cover topics such as aerodynamics, navigation, weather, and air traffic control. I have 2 separate classes scheduled, split up depending on age. In the class with the older age group I will include a section about careers in the field. Classes will be held July 6 – 9.

My background is: I have a Bachelor's degree in aeronautics with a major in commercial aviation and a minor in meteorology. I have my ATP and CFI-I. I've spent 2 years flight instructing and have been flying for the airlines for the past 4.5 years.

The following are the course descriptions from the Buffalo Summer Catalog:

Intro to Aviation I (Ages 8-12)

Come gain an inside look at the world of aviation! Students will receive a basic introduction to how airplanes fly, how they navigate, and how weather affects them. You will also learn about local aviation opportunities, including how to receive a free airplane ride! The final day of class will be held at the Buffalo airport where you will have the opportunity to inspect an airplane as well as tour the airport.

Intro to Aviation II (Ages 13-17)

Come get an insider's look at the world of aviation! We will learn about aerodynamics, navigation, weather, and air traffic control, as well as, talk about various career opportunities in the field of aviation - even local opportunities. Learn how to receive a free airplane ride and a free flight lesson! The final day of class will be held at the Buffalo airport where you will be able to inspect an airplane and tour the airport.

For more info on these and other offerings, see:

https://www.bhmschools.org/sites/default/files/downloads/Buffalo_SummerCatalog_2020.pdf

(Note: See page 14 of the Buffalo Summer Catalog)

- **WANTED – PHOTOS OF YOU AND YOUR AIRPLANE**

by Elaine Morrow, Chapter Webmaster

Help me make our website a place of chapter recognition and interest.

Please send me a photo of your airplane (and you) which I will include on our Chapter 878 website. This includes aircraft projects too! Send to: pilotelaine@aol.com or call me at 952-913-2356 with any questions.

- **SUMMER / FALL FUNDRAISING EVENT**

As discussed during our June meeting, and as noted in the minutes of that meeting, the chapter is looking for input from all members regarding opportunities, options, event offering, location, etc. This may be an event held this late summer or fall, such as our traditional pork chop dinner, but also may be a completely different experience.

We have previously used the pork chop dinner at Maple Lake (and the pancake breakfast and the chili feed at Buffalo) to raise public and pilot awareness of EAA Chapter 878 and to build our chapter treasury. We now have projects before the chapter that will require substantial financial resources (the RV-4 aircraft project and a chapter hangar upgrade or replacement). There may also be future opportunities for the chapter that would require favorable financial freedom.

What are your thoughts? What are you willing to do?

Please be prepared to discuss this and offer input.

- **GOFUNDME – EAA CHAPTER 878**

by Henry Williams, Chapter Treasurer

I'm working to set up a GoFundMe account for our chapter. The purpose is to raise money to support our hangar build project. More information will be available as I get the account finalized.

- **IMC CLUB**

by Dave Wendt, Coordinator – IMC/EAA 878

IMC/EAA 878 Club meetings: Fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 PM
This month – June 23



Special Meeting Location Information Until Social Gatherings Are Allowed
– meetings will be a “virtual” event, utilizing the “Zoom” meeting app.

Download this app if you do not yet have it. Expect more info later
regarding a meeting sign-in code.

ATTENTION: All interested pilots (IFR & VFR), are you interested in joining IMC/EAA 878 Club?
Cost is \$25.00 (EAA Chapter 878 dues) per year. All meetings are free and open to all IFR and VFR pilots. Our Mission and Purpose is to become BOTH current and proficient pilots!

For more information about IMC club and program content each month, please contact Dave at DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com, or 612-272-4600.

- **BITS AND PIECES**

by Wayne Flury

1. EAA Webinars for July and August. There's always something of interest! Check them out at: <https://www.eaa.org/ea/news-and-publications/ea-webinars>. EAA webinars are free to all aviation enthusiasts. Pre-registration is recommended since space is limited to the first 1,000 registrants
2. Mark your calendars...AirVenture Oshkosh 2021 is scheduled for July 26 – August 1
3. EAA's 2020 Great Airplane Raffle has been suspended. For more information, and how you can purchase a ticket for the 2021 raffle, see: <https://ea.org/ea/news-and-publications/ea-news-and-aviation-news/news/07-02-2020-great-aircraft-raffle-moved-to-2021-new-ticket-sales-begin-august-10>
4. EAA's "Spirit of Aviation Week" will be July 21 – 25. As noted on the EAA website, the five-day event will include streamed and on-demand content, encompassing nearly every subset of aviation, with a focus on educational, informational, and entertaining content. EAA's special interest groups will also be heavily involved, bringing highlights that include homebuilts, warbirds, vintage, aerobatics, ultralights, and much more. For more details, see: <https://www.warbirds-eaa.org/ea-brings-aviation-community-together-for-eaa-spirit-of-aviation-week-on-july-21-25/>.

- **CHAPTER 878 HANGAR UPDATE**

by Wayne Flury and Greg Thomes

On June 3 a proposal was presented at the meeting of the Maple Lake Airport Advisory Committee for Chapter 878 to tear down the current hangar (Hangar C-5) owned by the chapter and replace it with new construction in the currently open grassy area behind the old Wright Aero hangar. After discussion it was approved and was forwarded to the Maple Lake City Council for approval or possible amendments.

Our proposal is currently tabled until the City of Maple Lake receives and approves the result of report from an engineering firm (TKDA) which is working on a project for the Airport regarding potential Layout Plans and a Master Plan for the airport.

- **EAA CHAPTER 878 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED**

by Kyle Weatherly, Scholarship Committee Coordinator

A total of four applications were received for the EAA Chapter 878 Scholarship program from students graduating from Wright County schools. These scholarships are \$1000 each. All applications were reviewed and the following students were selected:

- Leah Pinoniemi - Delano
- Jocelyn Prince - Buffalo
- Ryan Park - Buffalo

Tentative plans are to have them meet with the chapter at our July meeting at Maple Lake where we hope to celebrate with a light dinner (burgers or brats on the grill) and present the students their award.

Look for more info to follow.

- **THINKING ABOUT OSHKOSH...A “LOOK BACK”**
by Wayne Flury

Got A Favorite Memory? Share It With Your Chapter Family

No one responded to my invitation in the June newsletter to share a favorite photo of theirs about a memorable Oshkosh trip (or other fly-in event), so this article will again feature a memory of mine.

In 1977 Joyce and I were living in Combined Locks, Wisconsin (near Appleton). I was vaguely aware of EAA and decided to drive down to Oshkosh on a Saturday to check out the big fly-in being held there (in 1977 the convention ran from “Saturday to Saturday”). I don’t remember if I was there on the first or the second Saturday of the event, but I do recall that it was a very HOT day!

The convention grounds were much smaller back then, but even so it was still a “kid in a candy store” array of delectable aviation treats. I walked and looked and walked and looked and walked...even back then it was too much to see in one day! I had paid a “general admission” entrance fee to the grounds, and even though the vendor and commercial displays, forums tents and attractions were great, I discovered there was another part of this world that I couldn’t access. At that time access to the “flightline” was restricted to EAA members, and that area was separated from me by “corn crib” fencing and a security guard at the various gates. Not being able to wander among the aircraft parked on the flightline was more than I could stand, and it didn’t take me long to find a “**Join EAA**” booth!

So that’s how I became an EAA member. The next few years were hit-or-miss on attending the Oshkosh fly-in (changed jobs, moved back to Minnesota, changed jobs again, moved, etc., etc.), but my interest and desire to return to Oshkosh never left. In the mid-1980’s I started to be able to plan an annual “pilgrimage” to Oshkosh. It didn’t always happen every year...but most years. I began to get more of an idea of how broadly this event attracted visitors when, while driving I-94 east of Minneapolis/St. Paul and through Wisconsin toward Oshkosh, I would see vehicles with a sign in a window proclaiming “Oshkosh Bound!” Ahhh...there goes a brother or sister in aviation!

I returned home that evening – hot, tired, and sweaty with sore feet, but as an *EAA member*. Joyce and our kids were already at a neighbor’s house. I walked over to join them, pulled my wallet out of my back pocket, and jumped fully clothed into the neighbor’s swimming pool! It was the end of a great day and the beginning of a long aviation adventure.

As the days of July count down toward what would have been the beginning of AirVenture Oshkosh 2020, it’s easy to become lost in “withdrawal” for what would have been the 51st annual convention held in Oshkosh, and the 68th overall. But now it’s also a time to become re-engaged and enthused for the 2021 event. I can hardly wait!

Do you have a favorite photo or two from an Oshkosh trip (or from Maple Lake or Buffalo, or other) you would like to share? Send them to me and together we’ll keep the “EAA Oshkosh Spirit” alive until we can all go there again for real!!



OK, I admit that I’m a packrat! In my shed I have several storage tubs filled with convention programs, back copies of Sport Aviation magazines, plus EAA and other aviation trinkets and memorabilia.

Shown here is the cover of the 1977 convention program – the year I joined EAA (and the 25th anniversary of the organization and fly-in).

Looking through this program is like looking through a family photo album. There is so much history, so many names that I recognize, and so many faces I will never see again. I was fortunate to eventually get to meet and know many of those early leaders of EAA.

Many of those people are now gone, I miss them dearly, but rejoice in the knowledge that others have stepped forward to accept the responsibility and challenge of volunteering in this organization, and are serving to continue its mission and growth.

● EAA CHAPTER 878 and MAPLE LAKE FLYER INFO

EAA Chapter 878
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<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea878>
a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

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Send "change of address" information, email address and phone number changes to Newsletter Editor.

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Chapter meetings are normally held on the second Tuesday of each month (except for the winter months of January – April when we meet on the second Saturday morning). Meeting location and time may vary each month, depending upon the meeting program or other chapter activities. Our December meeting is a family social event held at a local event center, with date, time and place to be determined annually.

Chapter membership is open to all persons interested in aviation. To become a member, simply contact any one of the current officers and request a membership application, or click on the "Membership" link on our website. Annual dues are \$10 for members up to 35 years of age, \$25 for age 35 and over, and \$35 for a family membership.

Current Officers:

President:	Greg Thomes	763-443-7039	greg@thomesinsurance.com
Vice-President:	Peter Radintz	320-963-1980	peradintz@hotmail.com
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Maple Lake Fly-In	OPEN		
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EAA Chapter 878 Advocates: All Members

Add your name to the list above – how can you help and support your chapter?

- **THE FUNNIES**
by Wayne Flury



"By Jove, I do believe we are in the midst of a pandademic."

7/2020