



# 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

March, 2020

- **EAA CHAPTER 878 EVENT INFO**

**Date:** Saturday, March 14

**Location:** Buffalo Airport, Arrival/Departure Building

**Time:** 9:15 AM



What is this?  
See Page 3

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

It's easy to puff-out the chest and hold one's head-high when people recognize us for a job well done. Recently, we've had this happen for EAA Chapter #878. It all comes down to our membership doing extraordinary things.

Please allow me to recount 3 times this has happened:

- ✓ First, we received an email from Sam Burns at EAA-Oshkosh seeking increased visibility for #878 due to being cited as one of this country's "most engaged and active chapters". We were happy to oblige. Look for future stories regarding our STEM affiliations.
- ✓ Secondly, local newspaper reporter Miriam Orr has repeatedly given us "love" in the Wright County Journal Press and Drummer. Her latest scripted the February Chili Feed.
- ✓ And just this week, a "Rusty Pilot" was in my office (he didn't know that I was affiliated with #878). He wanted to get back-into the cockpit and do some flying. I mentioned to him about our programs that help people get acquainted again with aviation. He said..."Yes I've heard there is an extremely active pilots' club in Maple Lake!"



These types of accolades sure make me "burst my buttons." I'm proud of all of your efforts!

May your skies be bright and breezes light!

Greg

**Remember to regularly check our chapter's website:**

<https://www.878.eaachapter.org/>



● **CHAPTER 878 AVIATION EVENTS – 2020**

- Mar 14 EAA Chapter 878 meeting. 9:15 AM, at Buffalo Airport Arrival/Departure Building
- 24 IMC / EAA878 meeting at Thunderbird Aviation (KFCM), 6:30 pm
- Apr 11 EAA Chapter 878 meeting. Members pancake breakfast at Maple Lake Airport
- 24 – 25 Minnesota Pilots Association, Great Minnesota Aviation Gathering (GMAG) at Buffalo Airport
- 28 IMC / EAA878 meeting at Thunderbird Aviation (KFCM), 6:30 pm
- May 12 EAA Chapter 878 meeting. Time and location to be advised.
- 26 IMC / EAA878 meeting at Thunderbird Aviation (KFCM), 6:30 pm

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/](http://www.878.eaachapter.org/), and websites such as <https://www.eaa.org/ea>, <https://www.aopa.org/community/events>, [www.socialflight.com](http://www.socialflight.com), and <http://www.flyins.com>. Also see various Calendars of Events in magazines, and airport bulletin boards.

● **CHAPTER 878 MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR 2020 ARE NOW DUE!**  
**To continue receiving this newsletter and assure that you are fully supporting EAA Chapter 878, please be sure you have paid your dues.**

by Wayne Flury, Secretary/Newsletter Editor

Your dues to EAA Chapter 878 for 2020 have become due and all members are requested to be current by the end of this month. Your ongoing membership in the chapter is dependent upon maintaining a current “dues-paid” status. And, your chapter depends upon the continued support of all its members by prompt payment of dues.

As established in our chapter bylaws, “Payment of dues shall be made to the Chapter Treasurer and shall be payable January 1 of each year for the period of January 1 through December 31.”

Note: if you joined the chapter during this past year, please check with our Chapter Treasurer Henry Williams regarding your status. Persons joining late in the year and paying the yearly dues have generally been considered to be “Paid” for the following year.

- Annual dues for EAA Chapter 878 are:
- \$10 for members up to 35 years of age
  - \$25 for members age 35 and over
  - \$35 for a family membership
  - Ask about a “Lifetime” membership!

Payments may be made by:

- Check, payable to EAA Chapter 878
- Cash (please put it in an envelope with your name, or attach your name to the cash)

Give your dues directly to Treasurer Henry Williams at a meeting, or mail your dues to:

EAA Chapter 878 Treasurer		EAA Chapter 878
Henry Williams	or	PO Box 169
1129 Dague Ave NE		Maple Lake, MN 55358-0169
Buffalo, MN 55313		

Notes:

1. Chapter 878 dues are separate from and not the same as your national EAA dues
2. EAA Oshkosh requires IMC Club members to be members of an EAA chapter
3. Chapter 878 dues are in addition to any IMC dues (any IMC dues are payable separately)  
IMC members should check with Dave Wendt about any IMC dues

- **CHAPTER 878 RECOGNITION AWARD**  
by Wayne Flury, Chapter Secretary

The logo to the right, and included on Page 1 of the newsletter, is an award of recognition recently achieved by EAA Chapter 878. The Chapter Recognition Program was put into place by EAA early last year. Chapter leadership members were advised of the program and encouraged to upgrade and promote their chapter through response and participation according to various judging criteria. Chapter 878 President Greg Thomes took the lead in submitting most of the information for our chapter, and we were recognized at the “Bronze” level.



Note: for more detail about the program and evaluation criteria, please see the February newsletter or the EAA website.

- **3rd ANNUAL CHILI FEED FLY-IN RAISES MONEY FOR CHAPTER 878 SCHOLARSHIPS**  
by Wayne Flury, Chapter Secretary

Because we had this February 15<sup>th</sup> fly-in, we did not have a regular chapter meeting that month. This report substitutes for any “meeting minutes.”

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual chili feed fly-in this year was greeted with moderate winter temperatures which helped to bring both fly-in and drive-in traffic to the Buffalo Airport and the West Metro Aviation hangar. Thanks to Mike



A table full of chili and cornbread ready for eating!

Wiskus for providing the use of this space again! Also, thanks to the “Friends of the Buffalo Airport” (FOBA) and Steve Blyseth for our use of their tables and chairs.

Several chapter members made and donated their preferred style of chili (mild, hot, or “get me a glass of ice water!”) as well as corn bread. Thanks to all who made this commitment, as well as those who provided the use of power generators (I don’t think we popped a single circuit breaker at this event!). Other members helped with set up, tear down, serving, cleaning, etc. Thanks to all who helped.

We had a good turnout. Chapter Treasurer Henry Williams reported that we served over 120 people. The aircraft parking crew estimated that we had 17 – 20 aircraft attending.

Some visitors had never been to the Buffalo Airport before, while others requested information about EAA Chapter 878 and our youth programs.

A financial report should be available at the March 14 meeting. Proceeds from this fly-in were earmarked for the Chapter 878 scholarship fund.



Happy eaters and talkers!

Photos by Wayne Flury

- **MINNESOTA AVIATION HALL OF FAME INDUCTION BANQUET APRIL 18**  
**Bill Mavencamp (Sr.) to be inducted**

The 31<sup>st</sup> annual MN Aviation Hall of Fame (MAHOF) induction banquet and awards ceremony is being held this year on April 18, in the Intercontinental Hotel at the MSP Airport.

Among other inductees this year is Bill Mavencamp (Sr.), a legendary aviator in the Maple Lake and greater area. EAA Chapter 878 supported the nomination of Bill and wrote letters of recommendation.

Bill is no longer with us, but if you knew Bill, took instruction from him, or had him as your flight test check pilot (he gave over 13,500 check rides!), you may wish to attend in his and his family's honor. It would be great to see a large group of chapter members at the banquet.

For ticket ordering information, see: <http://www.mnaviationhalloffame.org/awards-banquet.html>.

---

- **TAKE A KID TO AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH 2020 – FOR FREE**

Did you know that Boeing has entered into a two-year agreement to provide financial support to EAA to allow youth 18 and under FREE admission to AirVenture Oshkosh?

So, make plans now to take your sons, daughters, grandsons, granddaughters, friend's kids, etc. to Oshkosh for the experience of a lifetime, and they get FREE admission to the event!

**CAUTION:** the offer DOES NOT cover the cost of the food they'll eat, so plan your wallet accordingly!

For information, see the following link. Then go to ticket ordering link at the bottom of the page.  
<https://eaa.org/eaa/news-and-publications/eaa-news-and-aviation-news/news/12-05-2019-EAA-Offers-Young-People-Free-AirVenture-Admission-With-Boeing-Support>.

---

- **DO YOU WANT TO HAVE A MAPLE LAKE FLY-IN IN 2020?**  
**A volunteer fly-in leader is needed soon to prevent another cancellation**

By consensus vote of the chapter we did not have a 2019 fly-in at Maple Lake, breaking a string of 32 consecutive years of Maple Lake fly-ins. But the hope was to reorganize, plan, and hold an event in 2020.

If we want to have a 2020 fly-In, we need someone to step forward very soon as our volunteer leader. An event such as this will need the input of planning and organizational skills from the entire chapter as we reset our priorities, but we need someone to be the "point-person."

Please examine what draws you to a fly-in, and how we can channel that attraction into our own event. You can be the leader to bring a fly-in back to Maple Lake.

The first Maple Lake fly-in was held on September 13, 1987 (one year after EAA Chapter 878 was formed). It featured a pork chop dinner (something unusual at fly-ins at the time) prepared by the Wright County Pork Producers. It was sponsored by EAA Chapter 878, the Maple Lake Commercial Club, the Maple Lake Flyers, and the Maple Lake Jaycees.

- **REPORT FROM ICEPORT 2020**  
by John Schnettler

It was a foggy morning at Mille Lacs on Saturday, February 29. The first plane didn't fly in until 12:15. It was a Titan Tornado flown from Cloquet. But, by 1 o'clock, planes were spawning everywhere and it was very fun to watch! I would say 20 percent of the planes were on skis. The runway was reported as very smooth. A nice buffet was served by Macs Twin Bay. I'm looking forward to next year already!



(Ed. Note: IcePort is a yearly Fly-in Breakfast/Lunch event held at Mac's Twin Bay Resort on Lake Mille Lacs. A plowed ice runway welcomes skis and wheels. Thanks to EAA Chapter 878 member John Schnettler for a nice report about his visit.)

Photos by John Schnettler

- **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



Meeting location –

Class Room at Thunderbird Aviation at Flying Cloud Airport (immediately West of the Elliott Aviation Building and our previous meeting place at Inflight Aviation)

ATTENTION: All interested pilots (IFR & VFR), are you interested in joining IMC/EAA 878 Club? Cost is \$37.00 total 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 and program content each month, please contact Dave at [DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com](mailto:DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com), or 612-272-4600.

● **A VISIT TO TUSKEGEE AND BEYOND**

by Wayne Flury

Joyce and I recently took a couple of weeks to get away from Minnesota winter, traveling by car for just over 2700 miles through the southeast US. (Note to self: next time, schedule more “down days” between “travel days.”)

We hung out in Nashville for a few days, toured the city, ate great BBQ (and here’s a shameless advertisement for the restaurant chain our daughter and son-in-law are associated with: Martin’s Bar-B-Que Joint, see: <https://www.martinsbbqjoint.com/>), went to the Grand Ole Opry, then to Auburn, Alabama to see our oldest granddaughter (she goes to a school there with a fairly decent football team, but who LOST to the Golden Gophers in a bowl game this year!), ate more good food, and then proceeded west.



View of Hangars 1 and 2 from a hill at the main entrance, with a memorial walk and information. These were the hangars and classrooms for the airmen. I’ve too often thought of the Tuskegee Airmen as “just pilots,” but they were also mechanics and other support services as well...a black force within the Army Air Force.

Tuskegee, Alabama is just a short drive southwest of Auburn. I felt I couldn’t be this far into the south without visiting one of our National Parks, the Tuskegee Airmen National Historical Site, the airport home of the Tuskegee Airmen. I’ve had the honor of meeting a few of the Tuskegee Airmen, including former Col. Charles McGee, recently promoted to Brigadier General. This visit felt like a chance to pay homage to them all.



A “field level” view of Hangar No. 2 with a Control Tower at the back left hand corner. This site was originally named Moton Field and today is an active Alabama municipal airport.

Wandering through this museum, seeing the sites of our country’s history, and reading the stories of these men was both humbling and sorrowful while still conveying the achievements of the Airmen. Though not so long ago in time (1941 – 1945), I wonder how I would have reacted to the conditions of those days?



The Airmen actually flew many aircraft, but are best known for their “Red Tail” P-51’s (shown here is a replica) in which they achieved so much success. Hangar No. 2 has the majority of displays and a great film theater. Hangar No. 1 has a PT-17 and a Cub to represent Basic and Primary training.

Photos by Wayne Flury

Upon leaving Tuskegee we continued to Montgomery and Selma. I remember powerful scenes from these places as they happened, though the distance and relative isolation from my home in South Dakota made it difficult to absorb or acknowledge. The museums of Tuskegee, Montgomery and Selma (and others) brings these events into focus, even if it can still be hard to view, absorb and acknowledge.

I enjoyed our “winter break” (and managed to gain some weight!). Maybe our snowbird friends are on to something!!

● **CHAPTER STEM VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**  
by Kyle Weatherly, STEM Coordinator

Here are a few pictures from a recent Rockford STEM program presentation. 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher Corina Sarsland is the Rockford STEM Coordinator.

Chapter 878 has made a presentation at three separate times this school year, with 1/3 of the Rockford 7<sup>th</sup> grade class in each of the sessions. We covered their questions, reviewed principals of flight, and made and flew paper airplanes.

Our presentation starts with “STEAM not STEM” - Science - Technology - Engineering - Aviation and Math. That is how we start the conversation because all of the elements of STEM are actually part of aviation.

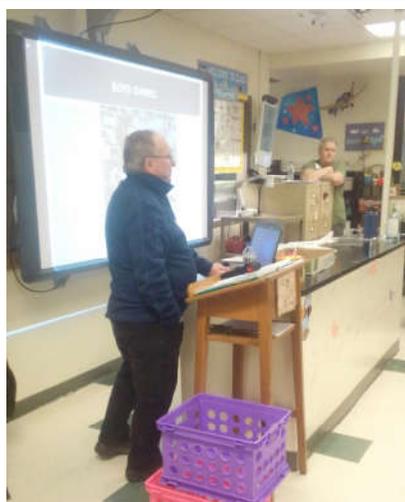
Chapter 878 members who have participated in this STEM outreach program are Laura Herrmann, Henry Williams, John Schnettler, Boyd Emmel and Kyle Weatherly.



Henry Williams describes aircraft controls and features, using some of his RC models. John Schnettler observes in the background.



Laura Herrmann provides some “one-on-one” instruction with a Rockford 7<sup>th</sup> grade student.



Boyd Emmel put back on his “teacher face” in a return to the front of the classroom.

Photos by Kyle Weatherly

● **EAA CHAPTER 878 and MAPLE LAKE FLYER INFO**

EAA Chapter 878  
 PO Box 169  
 Maple Lake, MN 55358-0169

[www.878.eaachapter.org/](http://www.878.eaachapter.org/)  
 a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization

The *Maple Lake Flyer* is published monthly by Chapter 878 of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) for the use, education and enjoyment of Chapter members and others to whom it is provided. No claim is made for the accuracy of materials presented. Editorial content is the opinion of the contributor and does not necessarily reflect the position of Chapter 878 nor the EAA.

Submissions for publication are encouraged and should be sent to the attention of: Newsletter Editor (see address below).

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

Permission is granted to other Chapters to reproduce any or all of this publication, with credits to be acknowledged, excepting “The Funnies” cartoon which is the intellectual property of Wayne Flury.

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:**

<b>President:</b>	Greg Thomes	763-443-7039	greg@thomesinsurance.com
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Peter Radintz	320-963-1980	peradintz@hotmail.com
<b>Secretary:</b>	Wayne Flury	763-670-6021	wflury@outlook.com
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Henry Williams	612-363-1803	hawms1@q.com

**Chapter Leaders and Coordinators:**

<b>Beverage Coordinator:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Chapter Assets Monitor:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Chapter Librarian:</b>	Harold Greseth	763-682-5486	hjpgreseth@gmail.com
<b>Chapter Manager of Non-Profit Programs:</b>	David Wendt	612/272-4600	DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com
<b>Chapter 878 Roster Monitor:</b>	Wayne Flury	763-670-6021	wflury@outlook.com
<b>Chapter 878 Website:</b>	Elaine Morrow	952-913-2356	pilotelaine@aol.com
<b>Culinary Coordinator:</b>	<b>Volunteers</b>		
<b>Eagle Flights Leader:</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
<b>Facebook Leader:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Facilities Committee Coordinator</b>	Fred Jude	320-274-2599	fjc@lakedalelink.net
<b>Flight Advisor:</b>	Chris Glaeser	952-239-4081	chris.glaeser@gmail.com
<b>Fly-In Committer Chairpersons</b>			
<b>Winter Chili Feed</b>	Laura Herrmann	952-210-8600	ljherrmann@yahoo.com
<b>Buffalo Fly-In</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Maple Lake Fly-In</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Fly-Out Coordinator:</b>	Dick Borrell	612-799-3337	dbborrell@yahoo.com
<b>IMC/EAA 878 Club Coordinator:</b>	David Wendt	612/272-4600	DaveWendtInsurance@gmail.com
<b>Mobile Sign Manager:</b>	<b>OPEN</b>		
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Wayne Flury	763-670-6021	wflury@outlook.com
<b>Ray Foundation Scholarship Co-ord.</b>	Boyd Emmel	612-414-6743	bjemmel3@gmail.com
<b>RV-4 Build Project Coordinator:</b>	Tom Rammel	320-286-5283	Tom.Rammel@zeiss.com
<b>Scholarship Committee Coordinator</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
<b>STEM Coordinator:</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
<b>Technical Counselor:</b>	Dick Burns	952-473-1887	dickburns1@aol.com
<b>Young Eagles Co-Coordinators:</b>	Kyle Weatherly	612-759-5227	k.weatherly@live.com
	Boyd Emmel	612-414-6743	bjemmel3@gmail.com

**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



3/2020