

# Merry Christmas

# And

# Happy New Year!

## **BIG SURPRISE ABOUT 2021 CHAPTER DUES**

It was brought up at the November 20<sup>th</sup> Chapter meeting whether it would be a good idea, because of the pandemic curtailing most of our chapter's 2020 activities, to make a change to our 2021 dues.

It was discussed and a motion presented, seconded and passed by all the members present that "All members who paid their 2020 dues would be considered to have paid their 2021 dues as well." In other words, all who have paid their 2020 dues won't have to pay any Chapter dues until 2022.

If you haven't paid your 2020 dues yet, feel free to pay your dues for 2020-2021 with a check addressed to EAA 95 and mail it to our Treasurer, Jacque Nawojski, 1603 Devonshire Ln, Shorewood, IL 60404.

A few people present still wanted to pay 2021 dues, so it was suggested to either make a donation to Doug Harford's "Are we having fun yet" fund or make a donation to the Chapter 95 Young Eagles Scholarship fund. This is NOT necessary, just a suggestion, if interested.

If you would like to donate to the "Are we having fun yet" fund, you can donate from the website [arewehavingfunyetfund.com](http://arewehavingfunyetfund.com). If you would like to donate to the Chapter 95 Young Eagles Scholarship Fund, please send a check addressed to EAA 95 to Jacque Nawojski and note what it's for.

## **CONGRATULATIONS - NEW CHAPTER 95 PRESIDENT**

**Matt Kwiatkowski**

Matt Kwiatkowski graciously volunteered to step up as our new Chapter 95 President and was unanimously elected at our November meeting! Thanks Matt, we look forward to a great new year!

Jacque Nawojski is staying on as Treasurer and the 3 new board members are Pete Decraene, Larry Nawojski, and Matt Trofimchuck.





## President's Corner...

Greetings Chapter 95 family and friends!

On this, my final President's Corner article, I'd just like to say thank you! It's been a wonderful experience being part of the leadership of this chapter over the last several years! As I step away from an official leadership role,

I do so, knowing that my work is not done. This chapter needs all of us to be involved and active in whatever ways we can. The leadership team alone cannot make this chapter great. It takes member participation and input. One of the biggest things I've learned is that the best ideas go nowhere without member participation and even bad ideas (if there is such a thing) can turn out to be awesome, if enough people get involved

and make it something special! I hope to get more involved again in the future and will still always do my best to step up and help out in any way I can! My favorite part of being a chapter member has always been the feeling of family that comes with it. Thank you for letting me be part of this family's leadership for the last several years!

My short time as president was made very interesting, to say the least, by the fact that 2020 turned out to be a very strange year worldwide! Though things aren't looking like they will be back to normal next year, they do seem to be heading in the right direction. Hopefully, that will bring with it a renewed desire in all of us to get active and involved with chapter activities and keep us heading in the right direction for the future! Merry Christmas! Happy Holidays! And after this most unusual year, I especially wish you all a Happy New Year!!

Stay safe and healthy!  
Brian

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## Chapter 95 Meeting Minutes - November 20, 2020

Meeting was called to order promptly at 7:30 pm.

Glenn explained that 23 people have already voted, people in attendance can vote in person if they have not already voted.

Ballots were cast.

Motion to pay \$50 to the "Are we Having Fun yet fund", as a thank you to Deb Harford for using the hangar for our meeting. Motion passed.

Discussion about dues. Insurance bill is \$398. Want to suspend dues for 2021, since we didn't do anything in 2020. Available funds is \$4,048. Total funds is \$5,000. Motion to roll 2020 dues in 2021. New members would pay in 2021. Motion passed. Members are encouraged to contribute to Doug's Fund. [www.arethavingfunyetfund.com](http://www.arethavingfunyetfund.com).

Discussion about holiday party. Probably cannot do. May do something informal, just to get together. Tabled until Spring 2021.

Votes are as follows:

President: Matt Kwiatkowski

Treasurer: Jacque Nawojski

3 new board members are Pete DeCraene, Larry Nawojski, and Matt Trofimchuck.



## Homebuilders Week – Online Event Starts January 26

### *An online opportunity to learn about all aspects of building your own aircraft*

By Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager

EAA is launching a new online learning event for aircraft builders: ([www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek)). It will be five straight days of educational forums covering a broad spectrum of aircraft building topics. It will launch on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, and run until Saturday, January 30, 2021. The live online presentations will be open to everyone interested in building their own aircraft. Sessions will start at 1 p.m. CST and run until 8:30 p.m. CST daily.

This event is an opportunity for a new person to jump in with both feet and learn a lot about the wonderful world of homebuilding. We will cover areas like getting started successfully and techniques when building with sheet metal, composites, steel, and wood. But it won't be just for the newbie; we are offering in-depth talks on panel planning, engine selection, FAA certification, flight testing, and selling a homebuilt aircraft. There will be something for every builder, whether you are just starting out, knee deep in a project, or just received your airworthiness certificate — it is going to be a great learning opportunity.

EAA is working with industry experts, kit manufacturers, and other subject matter experts to provide top-notch material for builders. The sessions will be live and allow plenty of time for attendee questions. Recordings will be archived and available to EAA members for review.

The launch of EAA Homebuilders Week coincides with the 68th anniversary of the founding of the Experimental Aircraft Association in 1953. Those founding members of EAA lit the fuse on the homebuilt movement that provides affordable access to aircraft ownership and today has spread worldwide.

EAA Homebuilders Week is possible through the generous sponsorships of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co., Dynon, Scheme Designers, Inc., and Van's Aircraft, Inc.

Visit [EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek) to review the schedule and sign up for a session.

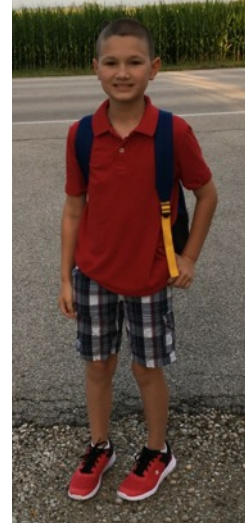


The banner features a dark blue background with a yellow border. On the left, the EAA logo is positioned above the text "Homebuilders Week" in white. Below this, the slogan "LEARN. BUILD. FLY." is written in large, bold, yellow letters. At the bottom left, the website "EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek" is displayed in white. On the right side, a large photograph shows a person wearing a green denim jacket, safety glasses, and a clear face shield, using a power tool to grind a metal part, with bright sparks flying. Below the main banner, three smaller inset images show different aspects of aircraft building: a person in an orange shirt working on a component, a person in a pink shirt using a tool on a metal part, and a person in a grey shirt working on a white aircraft fuselage.

## HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2020!

I know it's easy to focus on all the negative things about 2020, but I want to point out that there were still some good things from Chapter 95 this year! We were able to still have a few of our annual events and even had a new event.

The year started out with the Air Academy Committee selecting 4 Young Eagles to receive the Chapter 95 Memorial Air Academy Scholarship. This is the most candidates we've ever had and the most we've been able to provide scholarships. Unfortunately the kids didn't get to attend camp this year, but hopefully they will be able to go this summer. The 4 scholarship winners were Ariana Degen, Connor Sullivan, Evan Bullard, and Lukas Kwiatkowski.



The Chapter 95 events started on January 11th with our Annual Holiday Banquet. We were at a new venue, Syl's Restaurant and Lounge in Rockdale, IL. We had 63 Chapter members and guests in attendance and I think everyone had a great time!



At the end of January we were notified that our EAA Chapter 95 achieved the BRONZE Chapter Recognition Level. This was created to recognize chapters that have demonstrated outstanding commitment to general aviation. This is a great accomplishment for our chapter and puts us in the 86th percentile for chapters!

We held our normal February meeting with guest speaker Matt Kwiatkowski giving his trip report: Drones and Canards in Palau. Who would have known this would be our last "normal" chapter meeting for the year.



On June 27th we had a new chapter event! Mike and Eryn Ruffatto hosted a fly-in/drive-in at their house on Riley Field. It was a beautiful day and a great opportunity to get together and see a lot of chapter members we hadn't seen in awhile.



Matt and Jana still held their Annual Ice-Cream Social in July.



Of course, there was no way Bruce and Cindy would not host their annual Pig Roast. The 3rd Saturday in September stayed consistent with Bruce and Cindy Limbach hosting their 17th Annual Pig Roast Fly-in/Drive-in. There were a RECORD number of airplanes that flew in (at least 40+) and the weather was absolutely PERFECT! Just the day we all needed!



Besides the “normal” February meeting, we also had 2 additional meetings throughout the year - the August Meeting and November meeting. The August meeting was held at Mike and Eryn Ruffatto’s hanger at Riley Field and was a nice informal get-together. The November meeting was held at Harford’s hanger and we were still able to hold our November elections.



We also had some accomplishments throughout the year.

Mike Ruffatto learned to PPG

Tim Cook got his seaplane rating



Carl Giudici and Brian DePung became airplane owners, buying into a Kitfox partnership



Gary Lowry bought a Bellanca Scout and flew it home from Nebraska.



Michael Foss successfully had his FIRST FLIGHT of the RV-8 he built.



Formation flying throughout the year. "Charlie" flight, as they are known, had a few events this year. We did some formation practice earlier in the year and then did a birthday flight for Ariana Degen, a memorial fly-over for a friend of Eryn Ruffatto, a wedding flyover for Mark and Shelly Molle's daughter Cortney, and a wedding flyover for a friend of Pat and Kevin Brady.







**Looking forward to a wonderful 2021!**

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**NEXT MEETING: TBD**

**Location: TBD**

Look forward to seeing everyone there!!!!

Visit our website at <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea95>

Do you know someone who might be interested in joining our chapter? Please bring them to our next meeting and let them see what we are all about. Membership dues are \$25.00 per year.