



NEWSLETTER

December 2021

<https://chapters.eaa.org/iac88>

President's Column

I hope everyone who attended the Christmas gathering had a good time and enjoyed the location and food at Picano's Italian Grille in Troy. I am sorry I was unable to join the festivity as I was laid up due to a surge of my Parkinson's tremors. I would like to thank the chapter officers and members of Chapter 88 who supported the chapter activities throughout the year.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to everyone.

Sandy

Looking back at this year's events

Gone West

Sadly, the year started out with the loss of two long time chapter members. Doug Dodge, a former competitor and great supporter of Chapter 88, passed away in March (see tribute in April 2021 NL). Dave McKenzie, one of the founding fathers of Chapter 88 passed away in April (see tribute in May 2021 NL). Dave was a competitor, served as Secretary, President, Contest Director and as a Judge at different times during decades of active involvement in Chapter 88.

National Aerobatics Day

Chapter 88 celebrated the very first National Aerobatics Day at Romeo State Airport. Due to extreme weather conditions on June 26, the official day, the chapter was forced to move the celebration to July 3. We had a great turn-out of members and public alike.



During the year the chapter made use of its Aerobatic Practice Area (APA) at Romeo State A/P. Having a waived aerobatic box right over the airport provides an opportunity a) for pilots to practice their program sequences or get credit for one of the smooth patches and b) for judges and judge aspirants to practice their judging skills. We hope that many of our competitors and judges continue to make use of this APA in 2022.

IAC Mid-America Region hosted 5 contests: Michigan Ch88, Illinois Ch61, Minnesota Ch78, Michigan Ch134 and Ohio Ch34.

Michigan Chapter 88 – Bay City: In July Chapter 88 was host to the Michigan Aerobatic Open contest at Bay City's James Clements Airport. We had a good turn-out with 16 competitors attending. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for making this a successful and safe competition year. A special thank you to all the volunteers, the Bay City Valley Aero Club and the James Clements Airport management for their time and efforts to put on this annual event. Hadn't it been for the Valley Aero Club co-hosting this year's Michigan Open competition by putting up the required \$1 million to satisfy Bay City's \$3 million liability insurance requirement, the contest would not have taken place.



Illinois Chapter 61 – Salem: Dan and Mary Unger and Hugo Ritzenthaler attended, Dan and Mary as volunteers, Hugo competing in Unlimited. Poor weather limited the flying to one flight for each category.



Minnesota Chapter 78 – Spencer, IA: Unfortunately, none of the Chapter 88 members made it that far west this year. Hugo made it once to Spencer in 2009. After flying 670 miles in beautiful sunshine, the weather turned sour for the next two days, grounding everyone until Sunday 4 pm. By that time it was too late to start my trip home. My return flight on Monday morning was just as beautiful as the one getting there. 78ers still worry about me showing up at a contest as they believe I am a bad omen for contest weather. They should not be concerned, because out of 100+ contests I have attended, at only 3 we did not fly at all because of bad weather.

Michigan Chapter 134 – Marquette: It was the Yooper Looper's first ever contest. Roger Bentlage, former member of Chapter 88, and his team had done a superb job managing this contest at Sawyer International. Chapter 88 supported the contest in full force: Sandy Langworthy, Laura and Wayne Buescher, Kim and Jeff Fanelli, Roch Morin, Ed Decker and Hugo Ritzenhaller. Everyone volunteered and Hugo competed in Unlimited. Weather was marginal on Saturday so competition flights did not start until Sunday morning. Hugo was first up (wind dummy) starting his first figure at west boundary and finishing it at the east boundary of the box. With a stiff westerly wind it was a challenge to stay in the box throughout the sequence. Yet every one of the competitors braved it and got one flight in.



Ohio Chapter 34 - Bellefontaine: It was good to see Chapter 34 hosting a competition again, there hadn't been one in Ohio since 2017. Bennett Petersen (CD), Seth Bertram (Assist. CD) and the new group of Chapter 34 members with the assistance of some longtime volunteers did a fantastic job organizing and running the contest. Chapter 88 was represented by Sandy Langworthy, Laura and Wayne Buescher, Mary and Dan Unger, Jason Ledbetter and Hugo Ritzenhaller in support of Chapter 34. Roger Bentlage from Michigan Chapter 134 flew in with his RV to volunteer. Wayne (Intermediate), Dan and Jason (Sportsman) and Hugo (Unlimited) competed at the contest. We enjoyed good weather all through the contest. Strong gusty winds added a little extra challenge for the pilots.



Mid-America Regional Championship Series Results

To place in any Region, a competitor must fly in at least 3 IAC sanctioned contests during the year in that region (U.S. Nationals may be used as a “wild card” as one of the three contests flown). Following are the leaders of the MidAmerica Region, who qualified for a placement:

- Primary: 1st place Julia Harrington
- Sportsman: 1st place Michael Hoy, 2nd place Brian Hayden
- Intermediate: 1st place Jerry Esquenazi, 2nd place Justin Hickson
- Advanced: 1st place Shaun Brautigan
- Unlimited: 1st place Hugo Ritzenthaler

Holiday Gathering

We closed the year with the traditional Holiday get-together. Attending (left to right) Gunter Niederbacher, Roch Morin, Laura and Wayne Buescher, Kathy and Hugo Ritzenthaler, Mary and Dan Unger. Considering the time of the year, many of our members were unable to join for different reasons. Everyone had a good time and enjoyed the food at Picano’s Italian Grille in Troy. The chapter is welcoming back Gunter Niederbacher, who for the past 2 years was on a special job assignment in Belgium.



Chapter Business

Mid-America IAC update

Craig Gifford elected new Mid-America Region Board representative, see below Craig Gifford’s Communique to the Mid-America Chapters:

“At the Fall IAC Board meeting I was elected by the Board to serve in one of the Class IV director seats for the next 2 years. Subsequently I was appointed as the Mid-America region Board representative. Mid-America comprises ND, SD, MN, IA, WI, IL, IN, MI, OH and KY. Presently that includes chapters 1, 78, 88, 34 and 134. I am happy to be your representative on the Board and look forward to serving you in that role.

By way of background, I have been an IAC member since 2007 when I began flying aerobatics, and a pilot since I was 17. I have over 5,000 hours of GA time, and am commercially rated. I've competed in every IAC category except Primary and currently compete in Unlimited. Over the years I've flown regional contests hosted by most of your chapters and have very much enjoyed meeting people in your regions. I represent the US and IAC as a member of the U.S. Unlimited Aerobatic Team and was on the Advanced team for 6 years prior to the Unlimited team. I compete in an Extra 300 and fly airshows in a Staudacher 300. Before those planes I flew Panzl 330 and a Christen Eagle before that (miss my biplane!)

I want to thank Justin Hickson for his representation of our region on the board the last several years. He has been active in engaging with chapter members and leaders, and bringing feedback to the Board. His love of the sport and our organization is so very apparent and appreciated”.

New IAC Members

During 2021, ten new members from Michigan were added to the national IAC membership roster. Chapter 88 is in the process to reaching out to each and every one to welcome them in our organization and hope they will join and become active in one of the Michigan chapters, be it the S.E. Michigan chapter 88 or the Yooper Looper Chapter 134.

Contest Insurance

IAC notified its chapters that EAA Risk Management Office made changes to liability insurance program for 2022. For future years, chapters can choose between three different insurance amounts: \$1,000,000 / \$2,000,000 or \$3,000,000 depending on the chapter's needs to meet contest insurance coverage of the host city airport.

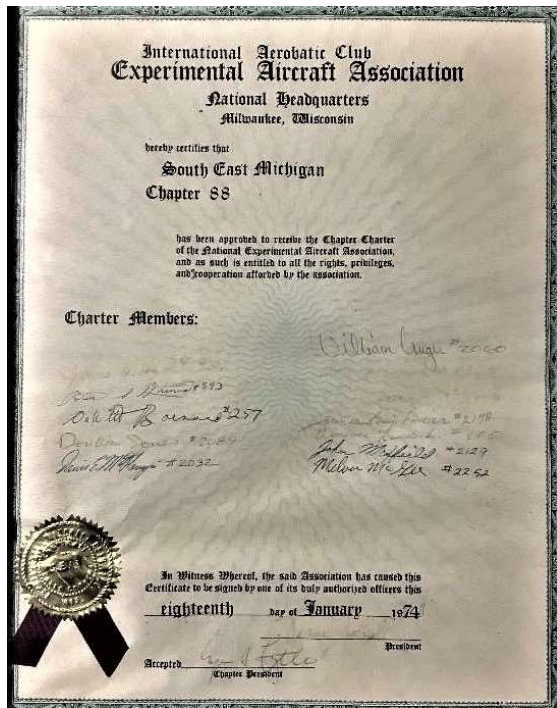
In the past, all sanctioned contests were insured for \$2 million at no additional cost to the chapters. Coverage of \$3 million was not available.

In our case, to satisfy the insurance requirement of the City of Bay City, it will add \$805 (on top of what we paid in previous years), to buy the \$3 million liability coverage.

In order to limit the adverse effect on our finances, we need to approach the Bay City Valley Aero Club to find out whether they would again co-sponsor the 2022 Michigan Open contest.

Chapter 88 Archive

Dave Germann visited Nancy McKenzie to retrieve some of the items Dave McKenzie collected over the years. One of the items was the Chapter 88 Charter Certificate from 1974 that we were searching for during the last couple of years. We would like to thank Nancy for donating this most valuable certificate that was part of Dave's collection.



Chapter 88 incorporation date is Nov. 17, 1973

November Chapter Meeting

Chapter 88 members met at Premier Jet Services at PTK for their monthly meeting. Present were: Sandy Langworthy, Dave Germann, Wayne Buescher and Hugo Ritzenthaler. Kim Fanelli was delivering Thanksgiving meal baskets to families in need in Pontiac and was unable to join as the delivery ran beyond our meeting schedule.

The following issues were addressed during the meeting:

- 2021 Michigan Open Contest: Payment of invoice for Bay City Event Coordinator on hold. Awaiting feedback from the City of Bay City.
- 2022 Michigan Open Contest:
 - need to fill all volunteer position a.s.a.p.
 - Bay City Event Permit application will be filed on-line for 2022 in January as soon as updated insurance certificates will be available from EAA Risk Management.
- Chapter bank transfer:
 - Chapter 88 hasn't made any progress so far. Key is the EIN number needed to transfer the bank account responsibility or to open a new account. Research has been done

concerning the go about to locate the document associated with the EIN number listed on the chapter's W-9 form.

- Dave Germann will contact the IRS by calling the Business & Specialty Tax Line (800-829-4933) to inquire how to acquire the document we are looking for.

- 2022 EAA Chapter Renewal

- Deadline to complete the chapter renewal is December 31, 2021.

- A general discussion about aerobatics and competition flying followed the official part of the meeting.

Main Events in 2022

Chapter Dues

Please renew your

Chapter 88 Monthly Meeting at PTK

– 3rd Saturday of month starting 10 am at **Premier Jet Services** (formerly Oakland Air) conference room (same address 6740 South Service Dr. Waterford, MI 48327)



Monthly Chapter Meetings and Practice/Patch Days at Romeo Airport D98

– 3rd Saturday of month starting 10 am (tentatively April – October)

Judges School

- Chapter 88 decided to offer a two day in-person judges school March 19-20. Details will be posted as soon as we have secured a training room within the southeast Michigan area.

National Aerobatics Day – June 25

- Celebration including practice and patch flying at Romeo State Airport (D98). Please mark your calendar.

Michigan Aerobatic Open Championship - July 8-10

- Bay City, MI

- Nominations for contest officials and volunteers are being accepted

Other Mid-America Region Competitions

Giles Henderson Memorial Contest - June 3-5

- Salem, IL

Doug Yost Challenge – August 12-14

- Spencer, IA

Yooper Looper Contest – August 26-28

- Marquette, MI

Ohio Fall Frolic – October 20-22

- Bellefontaine, OH

50th Chapter 88 Anniversary - 2023

We are looking for volunteers to join a festivity committee, a Master of Ceremony and lots of input from current and former members to reflect upon the history of the Southeast Michigan IAC Chapter 88 that will be published in an anniversary booklet. We are also planning to come up with a special contest shirts to commemorate the 50th anniversary.

Chapter 88 Contacts

President	Sandy Langworthy
Vice President	Hugo Ritzenthaler
Secretary	Laura Buescher
Treasurer	Dave Germann
Web Master	Hugo Ritzenthaler & Brian Roodvoets
Newsletter Editor	Hugo Ritzenthaler (Acting)
Judges School Instructor	Wayne Buescher
2022 Contest Director	Dan Unger
2022 Assisting CD	Hugo Ritzenthaler

Merry Christmas and health and happiness throughout the New Year

Hugo Ritzenthaler

Acting Newsletter Editor



IAC CHAPTER 88 S.E. MICHIGAN



Membership Application

Name		Spouse	
Address		Home Phone	
City		Mobile Phone	
State		Email	
EAA #		Exp. Date	
IAC #		Exp. Date	
Aircraft Status	Make/Model	Tail Number	Own/Building
A/C #1			
A/C #2			
A/C #3			

Annual Membership Dues are \$20.00 per voting member
 Membership year starts January 1st
 Make Check Payable to: **IAC Chapter 88**

Please fill out this form and mail with membership dues to
 Chapter 88 Treasurer:
 Dave Germann
 32793 Greenwood Drive
 Chesterfield, MI 48047