



# Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 27 News



Next meeting Sunday, August 19, 10 a.m., Meriden-Markham Airport, Meriden, CT

August, 2007

## EAA Grassroots Action Required Now! Say No to User Fees!

On August 7, 2007, EAA sent a mass e-mail to all EAA members (with e-mail addresses on file) enlisting their immediate help in urging U.S. Senators and Representatives to reject user fees for general aviation.

The user fee debates are approaching their climax. When Congressional leaders return from their summer break on September 7, final debate will begin in earnest. Versions of H.R. 2118 and S. 1300 will be addressed by them shortly after September 7, then forwarded to a joint committee to work out differences between the two bills. After the joint committee approves a joint bill, the proposed legislation will go to the White House for the President's signature. This could occur within a two- to four-week period.

EAA is asking you, your friends, your neighbors, and airport partners to WRITE NOW.



Inform your elected congressional leaders you support House Bill 2881 (no user fees) and are strongly opposed to the user fee sections of Senate Bill 1300.

Sample letters: [http://www.eaa.org/govt/sample\\_letters.html](http://www.eaa.org/govt/sample_letters.html)

Web link to August 7, 2007 mass e-mail: [http://www.eaa.org/govt/070807\\_userfees.html](http://www.eaa.org/govt/070807_userfees.html)

Web link to user fee page: [www.eaa.org/userfees/](http://www.eaa.org/userfees/)

To stay abreast of the user fee issues, we urge all EAA members to sign up for the EAA weekly electronic newsletter: e-Hotline. Sign up today: <https://secure.eaa.org/ehotline/subscribe.html>

Questions? [govt@eaa.org](mailto:govt@eaa.org)

### A Special Invitation

## AN EVENING WITH TUSKEGEE AIRMAN, CONNIE NAPIER

The EAA Hartford Chapter 166 is proud to have as a speaker Tuskegee Airman Flight Officer Connie Nappier, Jr.

Flight Officer Nappier, originally from Hartford, was in Washington on March 29, 2007 to receive the CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL for his service during World War II as a Tuskegee Airman. Mr. Nappier now lives in New Britain and is father of Connecticut State Treasurer Denise Nappier.

The Tuskegee Airmen refers to all those who were involved in the "Tuskegee Experiment," the Air Corps program to train African Americans to fly and maintain combat aircraft during World War II. The Tuskegee Airmen included pilots, navigators, bombardiers, maintenance and support staff, instructors, and the personnel who kept the planes in the air during World War II.

Flight Officer Nappier will share with us his experience as a pilot with the 332nd Fighter Group in the European Theater.

**Sunday, August 26, 2007 7:30 pm**

Pratt & Whitney Customer Training Center  
Pratt & Whitney Road (Silver Lane Traffic Light)  
East Hartford, CT 06108

For more info call Ken Benson, Chapter 166 President at 860-642-6185

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President	Vice President	Treasurer	Secretary	Membership	Newsletter Editor	Young Eagles	Tech Counselor
Jim Simmons 203-272-9346	Bob Spaulding 203-378-5688	Bill Jagoda 860-349-9901	Steve Socolosky 860-569-6385	Mike Okrent 203-393-2662	Rick Beebe 203-230-8459	Fran Uliano 860-347-0412	Dave Pepe 203-634-4457

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It's mid August and as always the summer seems to be flying by. Betty and I made our annual trip to Mecca (AirVenture at Oshkosh) and this year we were treated to fine weather for flying and tailwinds going 'to' and returning 'from' Oshkosh (very rare). Once again many EAA Chapter 27 members were visitors at AirVenture. It's always nice to see fellow Chapter members enjoying the event.

A major emphasis at this year's AirVenture was the signing of the petition against the proposed user fees for GA. "NO" buttons were everywhere! Elsewhere in our newsletter you'll find Tom Poberezny's request for your assistance in fighting the User Fee proposal. Please take the time to review his request and provide your support to this opposition to the proposal. Remember, the fight isn't over, until it's over.

There is a rumor at MMK that we are near 'breaking ground' for the proposed tee hangars. We can only hope that this is true and that we'll soon see them being built. As previously reported, the FAA has also approved the funding for the repaving of the north ramp at MMK. Our host airport is making slow, but steady improvements, and we continue to look forward to each phase as they are completed.

Our annual picnic is coming up on September 8th. We plan to use this month's Chapter meeting as the final planning session and will be looking for member support. As always, our picnic is hugely popular and we expect this event to be well attended. Besides the usual camaraderie and fine food, there is the sharing of our aircraft with our members. If you're looking for a ride in a particular airplane, this is the time to ask.

I'll see you all at our August 19th meeting.

—Jim Simmons

## DELTA DREAMS!

Our congratulations go out to EAA Chapter 27 member and supporter Jim Maher upon the publication of his fine article in the August issue of *Sport Aviation*. Jim's article, entitled "Delta Dreams," appears on pages 82 and 83. The article summarizes his decision and thought processes in his quest for his homebuilt aircraft. Jim makes multiple

references to EAA Chapter 27, its members and its support of Jim's 8 year and 8,000 hour project. He also paid a nice tribute to our fine (now deceased) Technical Counselor, Ed Morris.

Nice job Jim!

Note: We also report that, as usual, Jim Maher could be found volunteering at AirVenture.

The screenshot shows the EAA Chapter 27 website. The main heading is "EAA Chapter 27 Celebrates 50 Years of Activity! 1956 - 2006". Below this, it says "If you're interested in building, flying, or just hanging around airplanes, come and join us!". There are two photos of airplanes. The text says "Chapter meetings are the third Sunday of the month at 10:00 am at Meriden Aviation Meriden-Markham Airport (MMK) in Meriden, Connecticut. 213 Eastville Avenue Meriden, CT 06451. Call (203) Check out [Look Around Meriden](#)". It also says "For more information, contact President Jim Simmons, 203-272-9346". A red banner says "Say NO to user fees! Urgent action needed!". Below that, it says "Read this important message from EAA President Tom Poberezny and then take the time to write your Congressmen today! We all need your help." There is a table of upcoming events:

Upcoming events	
August 20-21	EAA's B-17 "Aluminum Overcast" comes to Oxford. Download the poster
September 9	Chapter picnic
September 23	Session Flyin'
October 4-6	ACPA Expo, Hartford, CT
October 20	EAA Young Eagles Rally (tentative date)
December 9	Holiday Banquet, Hawthorne Inn

At the bottom, there is a "News from EAA - The Experimental Aircraft Association" section with two articles: "Jacksonville EAAs Continue Working to Change Anti-Homebuilder Ordinance" and "E-LSA Conversion Deadline Reminder - First Milestone Approaching".

The Chapter 27 web site has a whole new look and a whole bunch of new photos. Check it out and send any comments or complaints to Rick Beebe. Coming soon—upload your own photos of your plane or an event!

## YOUNG EAGLES REPORT

International Young Eagles Day was a washout on June 9th and also on the 10th. I was able to reschedule for the 16th and we flew 9 YE's. Since then we have been able to fly YE's at different days during the week and on weekends. Our total this year is only 41 towards our goal of 100. The total of YE's flown by Chapter 27 is 1313 to date. I am asking you to talk up the YE program with your friends, relatives, grandchildren, and anyone else you can think of and have them get in touch with me so that we can get the youngsters in the air.

—Fran Uliano

## FAA PROPOSES TO ELIMINATE 'REDUNDANT' APPROACHES

For the third year in a row, the FAA is proposing to eliminate hundreds of instrument approaches that it feels are underutilized or redundant. The action would not decommission actual nav aids, just eliminate the approaches. AOPA is conducting a detailed analysis to make sure the move would not eliminate all IFR or ground-based and satellite navigation access to airports, or result in higher instrument minimums. AOPA encourages members to download the list of approaches and send comments to the FAA postmarked by September 15. "Local knowledge is invaluable. If you rely on a particular approach, tell the FAA that, and how frequently you use it," said Randy Kenagy, AOPA senior director of strategic planning. Send comments to: National Flight Procedures Office, AJW-32, P.O. Box 25082, Oklahoma City, OK 73125. Please e-mail a copy of your comments to AOPA.

The affected approaches for Connecticut are the "VOR/DME RNAV or GPS RWY 17" and the "VOR/DME RNAV or GPS 35" for Chester airport.

## MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Jim Simmons. Officers present were Bob Spaulding and Bill Jagoda. Rick Beebe substituted for Steve Socolosky taking the minutes. There were 25 attendees.

**Visitors:** Rod Bradley from Chapter 334 in Groton. Jenna Crow came with Jim Maher. She's a student pilot and is studying aeronautical engineering. Welcome.

**Treasurer's Report**—Bill Jagoda: He missed the last meeting and hasn't gotten the May accounting done yet. Balance at the end of April was \$852.33. The report was approved as read.

No tech counselor's report. Dave Pepe absent.

**Young Eagles**—Fran Uliano: We flew 10 kids on June 2. International Young Eagles day, last weekend, was washed out. We flew 9 yesterday as a make up. We've flown 24 this year. A total of 1290. The Fall date was reported erroneously in the newsletter. The correct date is Saturday, October 20. I have a bunch of names of kids who were planning to come last week so I'll be arranging flights for them in the coming weeks.

We have copies of the Airventure NOTAM for those who want one. There's a Young Eagle's 15th anniversary reception at Airventure on Wednesday night. It's by reservation so if you want to go, sign up now via the [www.young eagles.org](http://www.young eagles.org) web site.

The tetrahedron has been repainted yellow. It looks good but isn't as visible as the dayglo. Jim did some research and found a company that makes a Dayglo paint that they claim will last at least a year. It will

cost \$200 and Jim has convinced the city to pay for the paint. The airport will be repainting some lines and trimming some trees. They've also gotten an FAA grant to help move along the 5 year plan which may involve some repaving. The hope is that the hanger paving can be done at the same time.

**Hangers**—the city had to get FAA approval for the hangers. The application has been submitted and the FAA has 90 days to reply. So the hanger project lingers on.

We have the fly-in scheduled for Windsock Airpark near Lake Winnepesaukee in New Hampshire on July 7. An informal headcount at the meeting showed 6 planes and 12 people going. Rob Aiksnoras announced another flyin at Owasco Airfield on August 8th—12th.

**New Business:** No meeting next month.

Jim Maher is going to the Red Bull air-race in San Diego in September. If anyone is interested in accompanying him, let him know.

Laura Sioholm reported that the Smith Supercub replica kit she ordered last September is ready to ship. She's looking forward to getting started on it.

Paul Montgomery from Bridgeport FSS gave a good presentation on what's going on with the consolidation of the Automated Flight Service Stations. Bridgeport will be closing on July 8. Most of the people will be moving to the Washington DC hub in Virginia. The radio frequencies are being trunked to Virginia so they'll still answer the phone and radio as "Bridgeport;" theoretically the user experience won't change.

The meeting adjourned at 11:45a.m.

—Rick Beebe

*I am in shape.  
Round IS a  
shape!*

*When once  
you have  
tasted flight,  
you will forever  
walk the earth  
with your  
eyes turned  
skyward, for  
there you have  
been, and  
there you will  
always long to  
return.  
—Leonardo da  
Vinci*

## AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Are you looking for that perfect picture of your airplane in flight?

Ev Cassagneres, an MMK based pilot, operates an aerial photography business and he has recently expanded his capabilities to include in-flight photography of aircraft. Ev can be reached at (203) 272-2127 for further details.

## M.A.S. NEEDS YOU!

Meriden Aviation Services has openings for part-time help and is seeking candidates who have an interest in aviation. Your responsibilities would include manning the airport office desk and the refueling of aircraft. Very flexible hours are available. Why not earn some money while spending time at the airport? Contact Office Manager Barbara McKenney to learn the details at (203) 238-4400.

*The deadline for submission of materials for the next newsletter is September 7, 2007.*

## 2007 EAA CHAPTER 27 MEMBERSHIP FORM

Please fill in the following information and mail with your dues to:

EAA Chapter 27, c/o Bill Jagoda, 43 Derby Road, Rockfall, CT 06481

(Dues are \$20.00 per year, due in January, make checks payable to: *EAA Chapter 27*)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_ Receive Newsletter via: Email  Paper

EAA Membership No: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_ Pilot rating held: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you own an aircraft?: \_\_\_\_\_ Make & Model: \_\_\_\_\_ Registration No: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you building an aircraft?: \_\_\_\_\_ Make & Model: \_\_\_\_\_ % completed? \_\_\_\_\_



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