



# Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 27 News



May 2012



## The Original: Vans RV-1 Visits Connecticut

In 1963, Richard VanGrunsven modified a Stits Playboy and created the first RV. Thus began the most prolific line of homebuilt airplanes in history—RV-3, RV-4, RV-6/6A, RV-7/7A, RV-8/8A, RV-9/9A, RV-10 and RV-12—with over 7,600 completed and flying aircraft!

The original RV-1 has been restored to flying condition and is touring the U.S. and Canada on its way to permanent display in the EAA AirVenture Museum in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Van flew his refurbished prototype in March near the 2012 Sun-n-Fun Fly-In at Lakeland, Fla. Crowds gathered to see the historic reconnection of pilot, builder and plane.

On clear, sunny Saturday, May 12, the RV-1 went on display at the CT Aero Tech School at Brainard Airport in Hartford. The local EAA Chapters gathered representative samples of later generations of RVs for a historic photoshoot.

For more and to follow the RV-1 go to <http://rv-1.org>



Clockwise from left: Dave Pepe. The cockpit is cramped! The RV-1. Original data plate; Max Lopez. All photos by Rick Beebe

© 2012 Chapter 27, Experimental Aircraft Association, all rights reserved

**President**  
Bob Spaulding  
203-378-5688

**Vice President**  
Mark Scott  
203-393-3187

**Treasurer**  
Bill Jagoda  
860-349-9901

**Secretary**  
Charlie Enz  
860-379-1700

**Membership**  
Mike Okrent  
203-393-2662

**Newsletter Editor**  
Rick Beebe  
203-230-8459

**Young Eagles**  
Fran Uliano  
860-347-0412  
Rich Merrill  
203-426-6224

**Tech Counselors**  
Chuck Drake 860-659-2880  
Dave Pepe 203-634-4457  
Mark Scott 203-393-3187  
Mike Zemsta 860-832-8661

## Meeting minutes

April 15, 2012

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Spaulding. Officers present Bob, Mark Scott, Bill Jagoda, and Charlie Enz.

**Membership—Mike Okrent:** Mike has available the latest updated list of members whose dues are up to date.

**Treasurers Report—Bill Jagoda:** Bill reported that the current balance is \$2307.44

**Technical Counselors Report—The Fab Four, Dave Pepe, Mark Scott, Mike Zemsta, and Chuck Drake:** Mike reported on gas turbine engines available for experimental aircraft and on the Delta diesel piston engine. Mark inspected a Fokker triplane at Mt. Tobe airport in Waterbury.

**Website, Newsletter and HQ Update—Director Rick Beebe:** Eagles flights are to start at Oshkosh this summer. Rick is always looking for articles and/or pictures for the newsletter, so if you have something please pass it on to Rick.

**Young Eagles Report—Fran Uliano, Rich Merrill:** Fran reported we have flown 2 Young Eagles this year and a total of 1956 for all years. Fran is going to Durham on the 16th of April to visit the Boy Scouts and recruit some more Young Eagles. There is a memo of understanding between the Boy Scouts and the EAA that is currently not available. In the past local Boy Scout councils have raised objections regarding liability and other issues that have prohibited cooperation. We have 78 credits per the EAA for the past year vs our records of 87. Fran is attempting to resolve this discrepancy

**Facebook and Chapter bulletin Board—Lauren Dubois:** Lauren was not present.

**Airport Improvement Projects:** Painting of the room adjacent to the meeting room will occur after the contractor has finished his work.

### 2012 Events

- International Learn to Fly Day—Saturday May 19
- Spring Young Eagles Rally—Saturday, June 9 rain date June 10
- Fall Young Eagles Rally—2nd week in October
- Annual Picnic and open House—2nd weekend in September
- Simsbury Fly in—Sunday, September 23
- Holiday Dinner—Saturday, December 8, 4:30 to 9:30 PM, Villa Capri Wallingford

Other things in the works...

- Adult orientation (eagle) flights
- Boy Scout and/or Girl Scout Aviation Merit Badge training
- Meriden “Beat the Street” Career Explorers
- Make a Wish Foundation and/or Starlight Children’s Foundation
- Fly Out (perhaps in conjunction with another chapter)
- Facility tour—ideas are sought from chapter members

### Old Business

Self service pump to be installed at the airport. The pump has been purchased and should be in service by May. The installation has been started and may be completed by the next meeting.

### New Business & General Information

Inaugural Eagle flights to be conducted at AirVenture 2012. Complete details of the program still forthcoming. The medical exemption request period for the third class medical is open and members are encouraged to enter their comments which can be done through the EAA website or through [regulations.gov](http://regulations.gov).



The new self-serve fuel pump being installed at MMK. The old pump has been removed and new piping is being installed between the tank and the pump.

### Seminar Speaker—Rick Beebe

Rick gave an overview of 10-day Instrument Rating options and talked about his own experience getting his instrument rating in six intense days with instructor Bill Zaleski in Schenectady, New York.

These courses save you a boatload of time and probably some money but can be overwhelming at times. But they’re also a heck of a lot of fun.

—Charlie Enz



## Letter from the President

Things are movin' and shakin' as the local flying season really gets underway with the advent of spring weather. Northeast EAA chapters have organized a gamut of events that are guaranteed to capture a wide range of aviation interests. Check out the Calendar of Events on the EAA website to get regional listings of what's going on. For Chapter 27, we will be having our spring Young Eagles rally on June 9th and are in the process of coordinating with the Meriden "Beat The Street" Community Center for another Career Explorers program.

And there will be a new and exciting event taking place at Robertson Airport (4B8) in Plainville, CT...the first Annual Plainville Wings and Wheels Fly-In and Car Show on Sunday, July 1st. The organizers have a couple of specific goals: first, to raise funds for the Petit Family Foundation and Plainville Community Food Pantry and, second, to bring residents of the community and surrounding towns together to offer family fun and opportunities to see and experience the world of flight and classic automobiles. I'll have more say about this event at our upcoming meeting.

Last Saturday, May 12th, the RV-1, the progenitor of the whole line of designs by Dick VanGrunsven was displayed at the CT Aero Tech School at Brainard

Airport. This very special aircraft, on a national tour of the US and Canada before being enshrined in the EAA Air Museum, attracted a large number of visitors who were also present for a Young Eagles rally put on by Chapters 166 and 1310, and an open house by the school. A very successful fly-in of every other RV model from the RV-3 to the RV-12 also made for a great day. The group of aircraft along with the RV-1 as a centerpoint were the subject of a photo shoot by our own Lauren Dubois... looking forward to seeing the proofs. It is estimated that there are currently about 7,600 RVs flying today, all decedents of the RV-1. That is indeed quite a legacy from a very humble beginning.

On a different front, General Aviation (GA) safety continues to be plagued by aircraft accidents with the same causes year after year. The GA accident rate had a very small decline from the previous year but the community still suffers from repeated common causes that have defied remedial efforts. It is incumbent on all of us to keep our guard up and do our best to foster aviation safety awareness in our flying activities. Be diligent.

See you at the next meeting.

Stay safe.

—Bob

## HELP!

The printer which was attached to EAA Chapter 27's computer at Meriden Airport has recently quit working.

As a result we are soliciting whether any member happens to have a printer, in working condition, which they would like to donate for our use at MMK.

If you have a printer to offer, please contact Jim Simmons @ 203 272-9346.



## More RVs!

Some of the other RVs at the RV-1 gathering at Brainard. Clockwise from left: A patriotic RV-6. Mike Zemsta's beautiful RV-10. The light-sport RV-12. A mirror-like RV-7

Buttons . . .  
check. Dials  
. . . check.  
Switches . . .  
check. Little  
colored lights .  
. . . check.

—The Bill  
Waterson  
comic  
character  
Calvin

Flying is not  
Nintendo. You  
don't push a  
button and  
start over.

## For Sale: 1974 Piper Warrior



Rick Beebe  
(203) 623-3744  
rick@beebe.org  
For more info:  
<http://rick.beebe.org/153SM>



- PA28-151
- 5245 TT • 1048 SMOH • 375 SPOH
- Annual 2/2012 • IFR cert 5/2012
- Complete logs
- Complete refurb in 2002
- All new interior plastic
- Paint 5 • Interior 10 • Glass 9
- Always parked with cabin cover
- Garmin GNS-430W WAAS
- King KX-155 NAV/Comm
- EI UBG-16 Engine monitor with OAT and Fuel Flow
- Auto gas STC

*The deadline for submission of materials for the next newsletter is June 8, 2012.*

### 2012 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? \_\_\_\_\_



EAA Chapter 27  
c/o Richard Beebe II  
360 Mountain Rd  
Hamden, CT 06514-1415  
newsletter@eaa27.org