



# Experimental Aircraft Association

## Chapter 27 News



Next meeting Sunday, September 21, 10 a.m., Meriden-Markham Airport, Meriden, CT

September 2008

## HELP SAVE THE 51% RULE



Scenes like this could become endangered if the new rule goes into effect

The FAA has released its proposed changes to the Amateur-Built or 51% rule and not all the changes are good.

"If adopted, the FAA's proposal would have a dampening effect on participation in amateur-building activities. That, in turn, would adversely affect kit manufacturers and suppliers of engines, parts, equipment, and accessories. A considerable segment of general aviation could experience a downturn," said Earl Lawrence, EAA vice president of industry and regulatory affairs.

We urge all EAA members to voice their concerns to the FAA. EAA is providing guidance for members who'd like to write-in before the Sept. 30 comment-period expiration. A more in-depth analysis of the FAA's proposals and EAA's responses is also available on the EAA website.

The FAA's statements of concern have focused on some commercial practices related to kit design and commercial builder assistance that leave too few con-

struction tasks to the amateur builder. A cornerstone of the FAA's proposed remedy would entail requiring amateur builders to ensure, *and prove*, that they performed at least 20% of the total construction tasks doing "fabrication" work, another 20% of total construction tasks doing "assembly" work, and another 11% of total construction tasks doing any combination of these kinds of work, adding up to a minimum 51 percent of total construction performed by the amateur builder.

"This would greatly complicate an amateur builder's compliance with the regulation, which simply states that the amateur or group of amateurs must perform a majority of the total tasks involved in constructing the aircraft," Lawrence said. "This proposed change would place a significant burden on our members who are building aircraft within the letter and spirit of the regulations while doing little to address the limited cases of excessive commercial assistance," he said.

EAA maintains that instead of creating additional burdens that could hinder growth in the homebuilt community, FAA should instead enforce the existing amateur-built aircraft rules and abandon proposals that would impose new and complicated requirements for documenting and reporting an amateur aircraft builder's work.

How can you get involved? Comment on the proposal before Sept. 30, by writing your own comments or using the sample letter on the EAA web site. **Hurry. Comments are due by September 30!**

Send comments to:

e-mail: [miguel.vasconcelos@faa.gov](mailto:miguel.vasconcelos@faa.gov)

U.S. Mail: **Miguel L. Vasconcelos**  
Production and Airworthiness Division  
AIR-200, Room 815  
800 Independence Ave., SW  
Washington, D.C. 20591

fax: 202-267-8850

For more info: [http://www.eaa.org/news/2008/2008-09-11\\_comments.asp](http://www.eaa.org/news/2008/2008-09-11_comments.asp)

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

EAA headquarters is strongly recommending that all members (yes, that means you) submit your opinion of the FAA's 51% Regulations being proposed. It is up to each of us to write in support of the current rules prior to September 30, 2008. Joe Gauthier, EAA Homebuilt Council Member, is asking for you to please consider sending your letter now. Yes, I have already mailed my letter. Have you submitted yours?

I'm sorry to report that the hangar construction project at MMK has continued to encounter roadblocks and will not be completed this year. It is not dead, but it is certainly being delayed indefinitely.

The paving project of the north end of the tarmac at MMK is not going to be completed on target and they are now forecasting a completion date of October 10th. This new date still works for our planned annual picnic on Sunday, October 19th. Once again we are planning on holding the event in the north hangar at MMK. Mike Zemsta plans to attend our September meeting and he will be seeking member support for the picnic. Please offer to assist in this event. Our picnic has always been a member favorite and is a great time to share the camaraderie of our membership.

Our Fall Young Eagles Rally will be held on Saturday, October 4th. We are asking that each member try to locate and solicit a Young Eagle to fly with us. We have the support of our pilots. We need your support to find the kids.

In case you haven't noticed, we are rapidly approaching Election Day. Our Chapter will be conducting our election at our November meeting and we are always looking for new officers to help guide our Chapter. Please contact me if you have any interest in joining our leadership group.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on Sunday, September 21st.

—Jim Simmons

## AEROSCHOLAR SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Make math and science exciting for your child through EAA's online aviation courses AND give them a head start on their college credits!

Through the generous support of our donors, over \$42,000 in AeroScholars scholarships will be available this year to high school students, ages 14-18.

AeroScholars is a series of two online aviation science courses, *Fundamentals of Aviation* and *Advanced Aviation*, that can earn a student up to 6 college credits (recognized nationally), and prepare them to take the FAA Private Pilot written examination. The courses also explore aviation careers. Each scholarship includes the course materials, live help and technical support, college credit upon successful completion, and one year EAA student membership.

Both fall and spring semester scholarships are available. But hurry, fall semester applications must be received by September 26, 2008. Spring semester applications must be received by January 8, 2009.

Specific information about the AeroScholars program and application forms are at <http://www.young eagles.org/programs/aeroscholars/>

## No October Newsletter

Due to Rick Beebe going on an extended vacation, there will be NO newsletter in October and so no reminder about the October meeting which is our picnic held on Sunday, October 19. Put it on your calendar now! Don't forget Young Eagles on October 4!

## EAA SportAir Workshops

The EAA SportAir Workshop programs are 1, 2 and 3 day programs presented around the country that give you the needed skills to build your own aircraft. An *RV Aircraft Assembly* workshop will be presented at Lawrence Municipal Airport in North Andover, Massachusetts on November 8-9.



If you are thinking about building a Van's RV aircraft, or have taken the steps to order a kit, this workshop will prepare you with the skills you need to successfully complete your project. The weekend workshop consists of "hands-on" practice, giving you experience in the techniques necessary to assemble the airplane. In addition, other topics will be discussed including regulations about amateur-built aircraft, tools required, workshop requirements, engine and propeller selection, and more. Discounted EAA member price is \$319

Other workshops "in our area" are held in Nashua, New Hampshire and Frederick, Maryland. View the complete SportAir Schedule at <http://www.sportair.com/schedule.html>

Take the first step toward fulfilling your dream of homebuilt flight. Learn more about the classes featured here or register for a class today! Call Toll Free: 1-800-967-5746. Information and online registration available 24/7 at the EAA SportAir website here: <http://www.sportair.com>

## MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2007

**Call to order:** The meeting for EAA Chapter 27 was called to order by President Jim Simmons at 10:00. All officers were present. There were 34 members in attendance. There were no visitors.

**Treasurer – Bill Jagoda:** Bill reported a balance of \$903.48. Thank you, Bill!

**Technical Counselor – Dave Pepe (absent):** Mike explained that the first flight of his RV-10, was quite uneventful. Joe Gauthier, who piloted Mike's plane, said that it flew nicely as he tested all the aspects for about an hour and a half. Mike will now perform more checks on the airplane as he begins to fly off the test hours.

**Young Eagles – Fran Uliano:** Fran introduced Laura Hargreaves, who presented her experiences at the EAA Air Academy, which she attended this summer. Laura (and her parents) expressed her thanks to Chapter 27 for supporting her and explained all of her pictures (mounted on posterboard and on her laptop). Laura also brought along some of her projects which included a wood rib and balsa glider among others. Laura said that some of the coolest activities were flying in the simulator, learning how fly in ground school, listening to EAA President Tom Poberezny describe the possible career paths in aviation, team-building activities which included low and high element challenges such as rock wall climbing and, of course, actually flying in a light sport aircraft!

Fran announced that our next Young Eagles Rally will be held October 4th and that final details will be ironed out at the September 21st meeting.

Fran explained that he will look into getting Young Eagle pilots a discount on fuel.

Jim proposed an idea of giving Young Eagles free admission to AirVenture which was followed by some brief discussion.

Young Eagles flown to date: total-1432, for 2008-82

**Website, Newsletter and Director – Rick Beebe:** Rick was absent – no report.

**Chapter Picnic:** Chapter 27's picnic was rescheduled for October 19th, due to the paving which is being done at the north end of the airport. Final plans will be made at the September 21st meeting.

**Old Business:** Jim explained that, for some unknown reason, the construction of the hangars was put off indefinitely and the earliest that anything might happen would be at least two years.

### New Business:

- The Simsbury Fly-In, September 21st, has requested Chapter support for an EAA booth at the fly-in. Since our meeting is on the same day, no one volunteered.
- FOR SALE: Hatz biplane project in Southbury, CT. Professionally welded frame. Contact: Eric Theis 203-264-2431.
- Jim mentioned that there is a great informational web site for tube and fabric constructed aircraft: [www.biplaneforum.com](http://www.biplaneforum.com)
- Steve mentioned that there will be a large event at Brainard Airport, September 26-28, honoring all veterans from WWII to the present and will include many aircraft (although an air show is not planned), WWII reinactors, tanks and other miscellaneous, military hardware will also be on display. Here's the web site: <http://www.veteranssalute.org>

**50/50 Raffle Winner:** Tova Spaulding was victorious in this month's raffle! Congratulations!

**Seminar Presentation: AIRCRAFT HOSES:** How are yours?

Bob Spaulding presented an informative and logical explanation of the various types of hoses, their sizes, materials, applications and life expectancy. Bob explained how he came up with the idea for today's seminar after his annual inspection on his Hatz left him wondering about the condition of the hoses on his own plane. Bob broke down his information by first discussing the major manufacturers of aircraft hoses and the most commonly used materials. When explaining fittings, he said that there are instances when JIC (Joint Industry Council) fittings are used instead of AN fittings. Bob warned that JIC fittings are not acceptable, because of their root thread radius size and will likely fail. AN fittings are marked and can be easily identified, whereas JIC fittings have no markings. Finally, when determining the condition of your hoses, according to the manufacturers' recommendations Bob researched, you must consider the material of your hoses, what is going through them, the temperature of the environment and the age. Ultimately, because of the numerous variables involved which affect hoses, the responsibility for their condition rests with the user. So, how are your hoses?

Meeting adjourned approximately 12:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted – Steve Socolosky*

**HAMMER:**  
Originally employed as a weapon of war, the hammer nowadays is used as a kind of diving rod to locate expensive aircraft parts not far from the object we are trying to hit.

*The air up there in the clouds is very pure and fine, bracing and delicious. And why shouldn't it be? —if it is the same the angels breathe.*  
— Mark Twain

## PROJECTS FOR SALE

### Pitts project

Airframe, noseowl, Interplane Struts, Ailerons, Pushrods, Steen Aero Preformed P/W LE's for lower wings, McWhite Wires, Pitot Tube (Raven), Upper Wing, Pexiglass Belly Panel, Panel forward tin, Lower Wing Spar Blanks, Steen Aero Lab CNC Rib Jigs, New Ribs for Lower Wings, Plans, Dynafocal Mount, FAA Paperwork (Reg. and O/L's) and other misc. parts. No engine or prop. Asking price, \$6000. Located at Chester. Please call or email with questions.

Tim Carr  
tjcarr01@comcast.net  
203.650.1142 (Days)  
860.873.2339 (Eves)

### Monerai Glider

Builder passed away in 1981. He assembled the welded portion of the fuselage, the tail boom, control push rods. I have all of those assemblies and the remaining raw materials that originally came with the kit, including wing spars.

I can provide some pictures of the completed work if anyone wants more information or they can give me a call or email.

Michael Gozzo  
mgozzo@snet.net  
860-572-1803 (Home)  
401-832-1277 (Work)

*The deadline for submission of materials for the next newsletter is November 8, 2008.*

### 2008 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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