

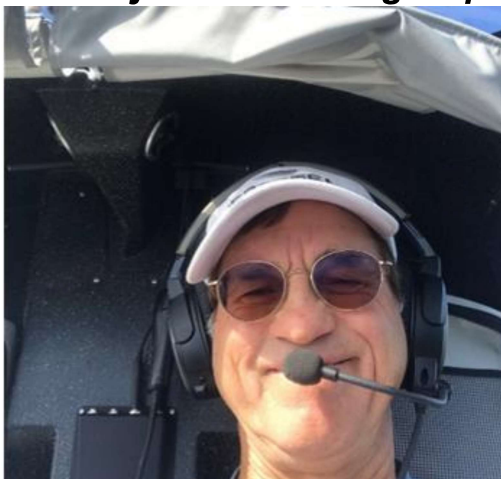
EAA Smilin Jack Chapter 866



***January 2024
Newsletter***

Ben Charvet and Tom Charlton out for a spin in Ben's Piet one fine December morning

January 2024 Meeting Report from EAA 866 President: Ott Thiele



Just finished the 104 Hr. inspection on my Gyroplane. Going to test fly it between Christmas and New Years. I hope I can still get off the ground after all those Christmas Lunch & Dinners. When you have a lot of friends, you don't want to offend by eating too little!

While working on my Gyro until 11 PM, I noticed some powered parachutes flying at Dusk with No Lights on their aircraft. From previous discussions with the Ultra-Light Folks, I found the following:

1. They typically fly at dawn and dusk when the wind dies down, and on calm days when the wind is less than 5 mph.
2. Ultra-Light Trikes and Powered Parachutes typically appear to fly low and slow near the airport.
3. Typical flight speed is 0-30 MPH.

If you're flying into Arthur Dunn (X21) at dawn or dusk, Please Please be extra vigilant since these guys are hard to see since they may have NO LIGHTS.

We are getting more daytime now- winter solstice occurred on December 21st at 10:27 PM. Enjoy your longer flying days!

Now more about what's going on with the Chapter 866:

Brent, (One of our new Members) is building a Sub Sonex Jet down at TICO. Things have been kind of slow with the short days.

At the last Pancake Breakfast, a Pilot Student wanted to see some planes. We showed her a "Little Bit"



Figure 1: Haleigh Ruggles anticipating flying.

Les Boatright was flying around with Emily in Larry Gilbert's Cessna 172.

I plan to follow up with the Titusville Airport Authority to work on X21 (Arthur Dunn) 20- year master plan of improvements. Suggested improvements are:

1. Upgraded weather station.
2. Self-Serve fuel farm with associated restrooms and possibly an FBO Building/ Pilots Lounge.
3. More Hangars.

I'm in process of compiling a general report on aircraft that utilize Arthur Dunn and do not have an electrical system and/or ADSB out aircraft and Mode C transponders. The Titusville-Cocoa Airport Authority uses flight aware to determine the number of takeoffs and landings. I'm going to test short takeoffs and landings at X21 to see if Flight Aware logs it.

If you know anyone who has an aircraft without an electrical system that is hangered at or flies into and out of X21, please have them contact me with the number of operations/ yr. for these non-electrical system aircraft. My contact information is:

Ott Thiele

Cell: 614 404-7588

Email: odthiele@ieee.org

If anyone has additional projects they would like reported on, please contact me with the information.

Please attend the Wednesday January 3rd Chapter meeting to enjoy some pie, discuss flying & building issues with other EAA members. I'm still trying to come up with a topic for the meeting- if anyone has suggestions, please contact me.

Also come to our January 6th 8-10AM Pancake Breakfast. Your friends and neighbors are welcome to come too.

We will be having a 15 min Wings Credit topic after the Chapter meeting and Saturday Breakfast. The Topic is:

January 2024: Introduction to Human Factors. This short program will introduce the subject of human factors & safety culture.

Many thanks to Joe Schmaiz (Orlando FSDO FAA Safety Team Wings Credit) for these presentations.

In closing, I would like to thank all of you for your help.

Ott

Minutes of the DEC 6 2023 Meeting of EAA Chapter 866 Inc.

The December EAA Chapter 866 meeting of 2023 was held on the sixth at 7:00 PM at the regular meeting location, 480 N Williams Ave, in Titusville, Florida.

Chapter President Ottmar Thiele presided over the meeting. Herman Nagel, Chapter Treasurer, and Richard Van Treuren, Chapter Secretary, were in attendance.

Deborah Van Treuren, member-at-large of the Chapter Board of Directors was also present, as was much of the regular membership of Chapter 866, numbering around 20, thereby establishing a voting quorum.

The meeting began at 7pm with the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Progress reports were made by members.

Rich Van Treuren gave a presentation covering recent events in aeronautics.

Elections were held for the roster of 2024 officers. Don White made a motion that the 2023 officers be re-elected for the new year. Debbie Van Treuren seconded and the vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned about 8:40 for coffee and deserts.

Learned Something New!

AOPA Pilot magazine Jan. 24 edition has an article titled “Reasons for the runup”. In this article the author states that when you do your before takeoff checklist you check carb heat and the rpm drop exceeds 300 rpm, that indicates an exhaust leak. Did you know that? I did not, so during the runup I have always just looked for a rpm drop and that is all. Now, I’m just guessing but, I think it must be because there would be more heat in the shroud of the muffler if there was an exhaust leak inside of it. I don’t think I ever saw a 300 rpm drop though.

We don’t like exhaust leaks!

We will probably kick that subject around in one of our hangar meetings this month!

Larry Gilbert

Nsltr Ed. C866

Sheep Dogs

Loretta and I had to make a trip up to High Point, NC a week ago so, we booked a 6:25 am flight out of MCO (Orlando International) for those who do not know airport identifiers. So, at 3:00 am we got a ride with Bob Rychel to the airport. We arrived at about 0345 and since we had already printed our boarding passes, we hustled right down to where the herd was waiting in the TSA line.

I had what I think was a funny thought while we were being herded to the examination areas. I watch a lot of sheep dog videos on the computer and I’m amazed at how the dogs work. Generally, the dog and the boss start out with a ride out to the fields on an ATV and then the boss points out a sheep mob way off in a pasture and tells the little black and white Border Collie to bring the mob up to a gate and put them in another field. The dog jumps off the ATV and streaks out across the field to where the sheep are and then puts them in a marching order and brings them up to the gate and into the other field just like the boss asked.

My thought: Maybe they could use sheep dogs, maybe German Shepherds, for the TSA passenger roundups!

We were in line for an hour and being entertained by the rest of the herd! One woman was traveling with two little dogs, one was on a leash and the other in a carry-on thing. I almost asked her if the one in the carry on would be riding in the overhead bins with the rest of the carry ons.

The trip was on a fully loaded Airbus A321. My knees were against the seat in front of me. I had to part my legs in order to put the tray down. It was only a two-hour ride though, so it was OK! A lot better than a cattle car transport, (Marines will understand this) The second leg was a smaller plane CRJ 900 from Charlotte (CLT) to Greensboro (GSO). About an hour flight. So, we left here at 0300 and got to their house 1300 that’s 10 hrs. We drove their motorhome from their house to Cocoa in 10 hrs!

If we must do it again next year, we might rent a car to get up to NC, it is faster and maybe cheaper too!

Larry Gilbert Nsltr Ed.

Sheepdog video address below, if you care to watch

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aDCvjL1vYnE>

Homebuilders Week – Online Event Starts January 22

An online opportunity to learn about building your own aircraft

By Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager


Homebuilders Week is an online opportunity to carry on the founding mission of EAA by sharing as much knowledge and information about building your own aircraft as possible in five days. We start on Monday, January 22nd, 2024, and end on Friday, January 26th, 2024. Each day, we offer six live webinars back-to-back, starting at 11:30 am central time and running every hour and a half until the last session at 7pm central. The sessions are live and allow time for questions. To sign up for the sessions, visit www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek

The topics cover a wide variety of areas of interest to anyone curious about building their own aircraft. We try to make sure there is something for everyone, whether you are just considering the idea of building an aircraft, are knee deep in a project or getting ready for test flying. We even have EAA president Jack Pelton lined up on our anniversary date, January 26th, to talk about EAA’s Advocacy efforts on behalf of the homebuilt members.

EAA Homebuilders Week coincides with the anniversary of the founding of the Experimental Aircraft Association in 1953. We have come so far since that first EAA meeting. Back then, information on homebuilding was sparse and hard to come by. I know that if our founder, Paul Poberezny, was still with us, he would give us a big thumbs up for this effort to support the homebuilder.

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

Visit www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek to sign up.

 Homebuilders Week Schedule January 22 - 26, 2024					
To sign up: EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek					
Time CST	Monday 1/22/24	Tuesday 1/23/24	Wednesday 1/24/24	Thursday 1/25/24	Friday 1/26/24
11:30-12:45	Building an Aircraft: What You Need to Know Charlie Becker	Composite Construction Basics Mark Foss	Amateur-Built Certification Process Joe Norris	Lies, Damned Lies, and Homebuilt Accident Statistics Ron Wanttaja	EAA Advocacy Update: Top Homebuilding Issues and the Impact of MOSAIC Jack J. Pelton, Sean Elliott & Rob Hackman
1:00-2:15	Wiring Basics Dick Koehler	The Nuts and Bolts of Nuts and Bolts Kerry Fores	Building on the Cheap Ron Wanttaja	Lycoming Engine Installation Dave Prizio	Working With Wood 101 John Egan
2:30-3:45	Welding Basics: Gas & TIG Charlie Becker & Tracy Buttles	Fabric Covering Basics Kate Hammond	Buying a Used RV Aircraft Vic Syracuse	Sonex Aircraft and AeroConversions Products Mark Schaible	Zenith Aircraft Kits & Plans Sebastian Heintz & Roger Dubbert
4:00-5:15	Sheet Metal Basics Jim Scott	Factory-Built to Homebuilt: What's the Difference? Tom Charpentier	Advanced Flight Systems Rob Hickman	Garmin Experimental Avionics Solutions Brad Brensing	Scratchbuilding From Plans: 90% Done and 90% to Go! Marty Feehan
5:30-6:45	Panel Planning and Wiring Marc Ausman	Dynon Avionics Michael Schofield	Flight Testing 101 Paul Dye	Propeller Selection for Homebuilts Steve Boser	Latex Paint: A Low-Cost Alternative Malcolm Morrison
7:00-8:15	Rotax 9 Series Installation & Operation Phil Lockwood	Painting Your Plane: DIY or Use an Expert? Craig Barnett & Ken Reese	Engine Break-In Mike Busch	Van's RV Aircraft Kits Greg Hughes	Common Builder & Maintenance Errors Vic Syracuse

Sponsored by



Chapter Officers

President – Ott Thiele 614 404 7588 odthiels@ieee.com

Vice President – Chris Fauver cfauver@gmail.com

Treasurer – Herman Nagel 407 568 8980 bhnagel@earthlink.net

Secretary – Richard Van Treuren 386 689 9914 rgvant@juno.com

Newsletter Editor – Larry Gilbert 321 747 8576 larryglbrt@gmail.com

How about a flying story from YOU??

Some times I rack my brain for something to try and make the monthly nsltr more interesting!

So, I'm asking YOU amazing EAA chapter 866 pilots, to submit a story about something that happened to you while out buzzing a farmer's milk cows or getting caught in weather and scud running your way home dodging the radio towers enrout. Have you ever been lost? It used to happen quite often before we got all the whiz bang navigation tools. If you have a couple of hundred or a couple thousand hours flying surely something has happened that is interesting and worth telling a story about how you managed. You people do stuff! So, there must be a story in there somewhere!

E-mail or call me with your story

larryglbrt@gmail.com

321 747 8576 (leave msg)

**Smilin' Jack sez:
Put your Dancin' Shoes on
and set your heading for the
Chapter 866 Annual Winter Party!**



**January 20th, 2024
Indian River Preserve
and Golf Club
Mims, Florida
6:00 pm til 10:00 pm**

Party starts at 6 pm with appetizers and cash bar.

Dancing and Music

Awards, Door Prizes and 50/50 Raffle throughout the evening.

Tickets are \$25 and include your 2024 Chapter Dues. Tickets will be available starting at the December Meeting and Breakfast

Questions?

Deborah Van Treuren, 386-689-2709 or

email: deborah_v@cfl.rr.com

**Chapter Meeting
Weds. Jan. 3rd 7:00 pm
Chapter Meeting Room
Building 10 Dunn Airpark**

Chapter Breakfast

Sat. Jan 6, 0800

Building 10 Dunn Airpark

*Happy New
Year*

Resolution #1 Eat fewer cookies

#1 Fly twice a week

#3 Laugh more