



# EAA Chapter 166 Newsletter

[166.eaachapter.org](http://166.eaachapter.org)

Hartford, Connecticut

MARCH 2020

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

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**SAT., 28 MAR 2020 MEETING IS CANCELLED!**

**\*\*\*NEXT MEETING DATE: SAT., 25 APRIL 2020 at 10:00 AM\*\*\***

**PLEASE REMEMBER YOUR 2020 DUES - \$20.00 – CASH OR CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO: EAA 166, Inc. YOU CAN MAIL IT TO TOM AT: EAA Chapter 166, c/o Tom Spitler, P.O. Box 682, Hebron, CT 06248**

### President's Message:

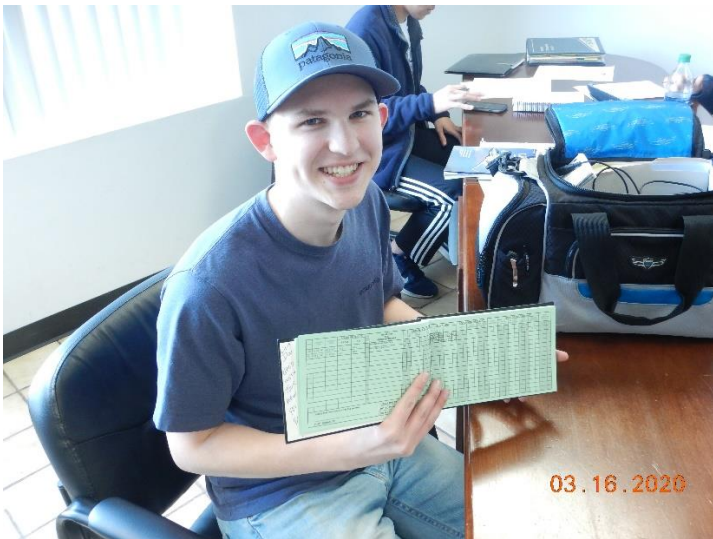
Dear EAA Chapter 166 Members,

Unfortunately, with the health circumstances in our world right now, we are experiencing life changes which are affecting us all and on a minor scale, we must cancel our meeting next week, with the hopes that things will be better soon. On a much brighter note,

I have 6 uplifting stories to pass along and recognize, that once again demonstrate our Chapter's Spirit of Aviation!!!!

#1 - Our Ray Scholar recipient, Daniel Royer soloed this past Monday afternoon, March 16! CONGRATULATIONS DANIEL!!!! Daniel continues becoming that high-level, professional pilot he will eventually always continue to be! LightSpeed has offered EAA a free Zulu 3 headset to all Ray Scholars when they solo! It's on its way, Daniel!!!!!! Keep it going! This was also Ryan Pannier's (Daniel's instructor at Premier Flight Training) first student he soloed!





#2 - One of our Student Members, Joe Cassineri, who is also within a month or two of soloing, redrew our longtime EAA Chapter 166 logo into a high-resolution image, which we can now use to put on anything, shirts, hats, pins, pens, glass, etc.! In this day of 'retro,' I often get comments, especially in my emails to EAA Headquarters, the CAA and other official business, of people complimenting us on our cool, retro logo. Then, I explain that it is our ORIGINAL logo! Joe Gauthier, our Chapter historian, will give us more history on who originally designed our logo. Feel free to use the .jpg file here and if you have ideas or know a business which make us 'things' with our logo, to help promote our Chapter, please let us know! Thank you Joe Cassineri!





**#3 - Jim Stevenson, our very own long-time Member in Sport Aviation, March 2020? Jim appeared in Lauran Paine's column, "Plane Talk," because of Jim's involvement with the D-Day Squadron adventure across the pond to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D-Day last year. Nice story Jim, even if there were a few errors . . . like leaving off the "ON" of your last name! Jim also gave me my very first flight in a general aviation airplane in 1991! I began my flight training in 1992! Thanks, Jim!**



**LAURAN PAINE JR.**  
COMMENTARY / PLANE TALK




Jim Stevenson

## Reader Stories

Different perspectives on the wide world of aviation.  
BY LAURAN PAINE JR.

**FROM TIME TO TIME**, readers send me their aviation stories. I like that. While one story generally doesn't make a column, several of them combined do. That is this column — a smorgasbord of aviation stories from across this great land. It's fun to make aviation connections with like minds but each with such varied experiences. You readers are a friendly, interesting, varied, and fun group!

**READER STORIES / JIM STEVENSON**

Jim Stevenson, EAA 328897, volunteers for his EAA chapter a lot. So, when a C-47 *Virginia Ann* came to town, Jim stepped in to help. He was offered a ride for his hard work — a one-way ride. "You can ride along on our next journey, but ya gotta get home on your own. That's how it works." That was no problem at all for Jim. A ride in a C-47 was worth whatever he had to do afterward.

While the flight was great, finding a way home from Oshkosh ended up being a little more complicated than expected. He wasn't able to find any rental cars in Oshkosh or nearby Appleton. So, he booked a flight to Chicago, only to have the flight canceled. When he finally got a car, he made the 1,185-mile trek back to New York as quickly as possible, even sleeping in his car along the way.

"What a three-day adventure," Jim said. "At 72, aviation is still fun. I'm not sure about sleeping in the car, though."

People who are not aviation-mut EAA members probably don't understand why Jim did what he did. But you and I understand the passion perfectly.



Virginia Ann



Jim Stevenson in Virginia Ann

**#4 – Our RV-12 is slowly organizing and we have moved the tail cone and fuselage, both under construction when we moved it from the school last August, along with tools and materials, over to Hangar 2, where we are continuing to plan.**

**#5 - Women Take Flight on March 7 at the New England Air Museum! Thank you to EAA 166 Members Brenda Rossignol, Bridget Doherty, Manu Ramesh and Bridget's mom, Cindy (pictured below), for all their efforts and time for this fantastic, all-day event for young ladies to get inspired with aviation! Because of their efforts, 25 potential Young Eagles signed up for our first all-girl Young Eagles Rally, hopefully in May or June!**



#6 – Finally, also, on Saturday, March 7, we hosted our second EAA Leadership Boot Camp at Hartford Jet Center's Hangar 1! First, we must thank EAA 166 Member, Lindsey Rutka, for once again coming through to provide us with the venue to hold this event! Thank you also to Lindsey's manager, Nick Rice, who coordinated with our Vice President, Rick Montero, to make it all happen. Linc Turcotte, our Secretary, Tom Spitler, our Treasure, Bogdan Gutowski and many others, all helped to bring what makes an EAA Chapter great, to about 40 EAA Chapter Officers from as far away as New Jersey! Thank you, especially if I missed some people!



See you all next month on Sat., April 25<sup>th</sup>, hopefully!

Keep healthy and **BLUE SKIES!**

-Steve Socolosky

### **Secretary's Report by Linc Turcotte:**

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#### **EAA Chapter 166 – BRAINARD AIRPORT – H1**

##### **Meeting Minutes**

**Date: 29 February 2020**

**Meeting Called to Order Time: 10:02AM**

**NO. MEMBERS PRESENT: 19**

**NO. STUDENT MEMBERS PRESENT: 2**

**NO. of GUESTS PRESENT: 1**

- Guests & their interests: Welcome to Robbie Leone, one of Linc Turcotte's grandsons. Robbie has lent a hand in building his grandfather's RV6 and is enthusiastic about joining our RV12 build effort. President Steve very nicely engaged him explained proper iPod earphone use; welcome Robbie!
- Progress/Tech Counselor's Reports: Gil Midford working cosmetics, wheel pants & landing gear leg fairing installation in preparation for his March paint shop appointment.

- Secretary's report: Motion to approve Linc's minutes as published: Motion: Manu Ramesh Second: Rick Monter
- Treasurer's report: Prior to Tom's arrival, Steve spoke to a recent meeting he and Tom had with Dan Royer's instructors at Premier. Dan's progress towards earning his PPL (Private Pilot's License) relative to the Ray Aviation Scholarship award is understood and all believe he is on track for a successful check ride by the end of May... weather permitting of course.
- DD Card – Thank you Joe Cassineri for providing munchies for today's meeting; thank-you Greg Cook for volunteering to provide same for next months meeting.
- Young Eagles: Steve spoke to John Glennon's efforts in arranging an event at Southbridge / 3B0 for Saturday, 3 April
- Eagle Flights: Rick Montero took his Dad up. When questioned about his experience, Rick Sr. replied "I'm here" ... and we are very glad!
- International Learn to Fly Day: Scheduled for 16 May; see Rick Montero to volunteer support.
- Ray Aviation Scholar Update: Dan Royer spoke to recent flights and overall status. Emergency procedures / engine-out practice, 1<sup>st</sup> cross-country to Fitchburg via dead-reckoning are recent experiences. Now planning next cross country which will be to Poughkeepsie next week. 29 hours logged and solo expected within the next week. Three Instructors engaged; Ryan is prime with Alec Terry serving as backups. Curriculum is common and differences in style and emphasis a plus.
- Joe Cassineri: was unable to join us today so Steve provided an update. Joe expects to solo soon and earn his PPL by July. His future enrollment in Bridgewater State University Flight Center in New Bedford MA comes with perks for those licensed so he has added motivation.
- Women Take Flight: To be held Saturday March 7, 10am – 3pm at the New England Air Museum. Manu Ramesh, and Brenda Rossignol will be on-site representing our chapter and promoting Young Eagles. Additional volunteers welcome.
- EAA Chapter Leadership Boot Camp: We are hosts for this event to be held Saturday March 7, from 8am – 5pm at HJC. Bogdan Gutowski has volunteered to arrange for transport of tables from Taylor Rental in Manchester on Friday; thank-you Bogdan! Learn more and register for this event at [EAA.org/BootCamp](http://EAA.org/BootCamp), or call 920-426-5912.
- RV12 Build: Rick Montero provided an update on last Saturday's intro meeting. Although 28 attendees were present for this kick-off, some in attendance at today's monthly chapter meeting were not aware (Ken Benson, Jack Olsen). A work session will follow today's meeting.
- Awards Dinner: Scheduled for Saturday 14 November and will again be held at the *excellent* CT State Armory Officers Club. Social hour at 1700, Dinner at 1800 for a cost of \$30. per person. Mark your calendars now!
- Presenter: An *excellent* presentation by Jeff Crandall was given on the Blue Angels. Jeff was present and photographed some pretty noteworthy events during his career including the Apollo 11 moon and Shuttle launches. Thank-you Jeff for a very enjoyable presentation! For more information, Jeff can be reached at 860-559-6048, [jeff@jeffcrandallphotography.com](mailto:jeff@jeffcrandallphotography.com), or [jcrandall@ccat.us](mailto:jcrandall@ccat.us)
- Next Meeting: Saturday 28 March 2020, 10am at HJC, Hangar 1. Presenter will be David Rich who will talk to his EAA Chapter's RV12 build experience.
- Motion to adjourn – Time: 11:55 AM

Respectfully submitted by:

Linc Turcotte

Secretary

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If you would like to join EAA Chapter 166, please click on the link below.

[EAA CH 166 MEMBERSHIP FORM](#)

