



# EAA Chapter 166

## Hartford, Connecticut

January 2022



### NEXT MEETING

February 26,  
2022, 10:00am

in Hangar 2 (H2)

Look for the "Home of the  
RV-12!" sign

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Steve Socolosky

Hello to all our EAA 166 Members!

Wow! Two meetings in one month! Thank you to everyone who attended our last meeting on February 5th! We will be meeting in Hangar 2 (H2) at 10:00 AM on Saturday, February 26, 2022! H2 is less than ¼ mile past Hartford Jet Center's lobby on the left. H2 is set back from Lindbergh Dr., and has a 4' X 8' sign which reads: "HOME OF THE RV-12"! Please enter at the door on the right (south) end of H2. We'll be working on our RV-12 again after our meeting!

DUES!!!! Please pay your 2022 dues if you haven't already! Thank you!

We will be discussing Oshkosh and whether or not we will be reserving a Chapter campsite during July 25 - 31. If you're planning on attending Oshkosh, please let me know and come to our meeting to offer your input. This could be a great place for us all to gather at the world's greatest aviation event!

As we wait to hear if we will be receiving our third Ray Scholarship, our second Ray Scholar recipient, Cheyenne Fuoco, is in the home stretch to earning her Private Pilot Certificate! She is working on her cross-country flights now! You got this Cheyenne!

Speaking of helping young folks get immersed in aviation, we are now accepting applications for our EAA Advanced Air Academy Scholarship! This is a one-week camp at Oshkosh, July 29 – Aug. 6, during the final days of AirVenture! It's a fantastic experience! Please check out our web site!

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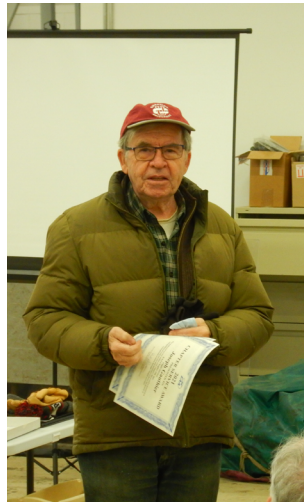
@EAA166

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Finally, our guest speaker will be our own EAA 166 Member, Bill Barry (former Chief Historian at NASA), who will enlighten us on the important role of the African American female mathematicians of NASA. Bill always has some great insights to history and I'm sure he has some about these great women!

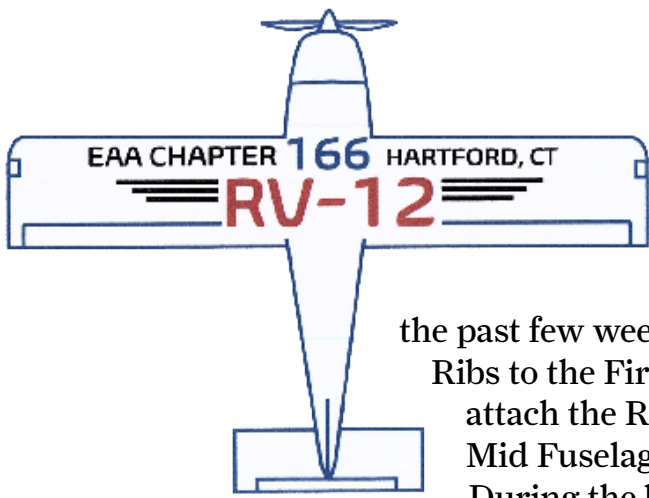
I hope to see you all soon!  
BLUE SKIES!  
Steve



Steve Socolosky, Brenda Rossignol, Manu Ramesh, Rick Montero, Joseph Gauthier, Larry Anglisano and Ashley Anglisano were recognized at last month's meeting for their service to the chapter.

Miss the last meeting? Read the full meeting minutes [here](#).

Submit photos or a 100-word or less story to [aranglisano@gmail.com](mailto:aranglisano@gmail.com) for your activity or flight to be featured in our monthly newsletter column, Member Activity!



# EAA I66 RV-12 BUILD UPDATE

The RV-12 build team meets every Thursday. During the past few weeks, the team has been working to attach the Tunnel Ribs to the Firewall and Firewall Bottom, prep the Firewall Shelf, attach the Roll Bar Attachment Plates and the Mid Frame Brace to Mid Fuselage Assembly.

During the build session, the team had a concern about a hole they needed to drill through the Firewall that cut through a Tunnel Rib Flange. Cutting through the Tunnel Flange did not seem like a good idea. We had concerns the Tunnel Rib Flange might interfere with proper installation of the fuel line to the Gascolator. However, a quick call to the Vans Aircraft's Help Line informed us that, indeed, the hole is supposed to cut through the rib flange. It was a good thing Mark had the Help Line number in his speed dial phone book. Thanks Mark!

Next week we will continue work on the Firewall and Mid-Fuselage Assemblies. If you wish to help, please contact Rick Montero ([rick.montero@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rick.montero@sbcglobal.net)) or Steve Socolosky ([soco7a@aol.com](mailto:soco7a@aol.com)). We meet at Hangar #2 every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.



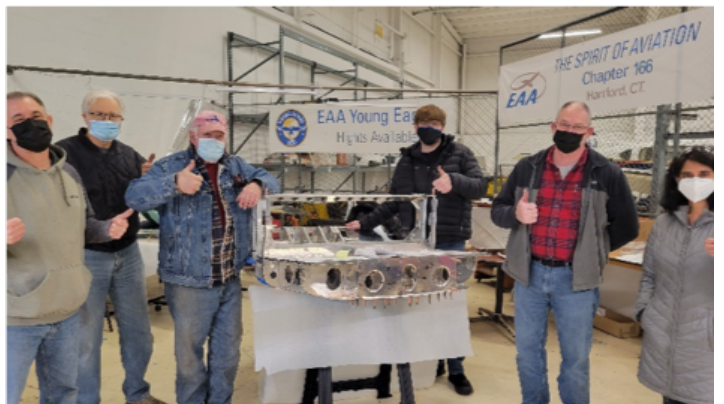
Photo showing Seth (R) riveting the Firewall Bottom Panel to the Tunnel Ribs while Ron (L) supports the assembly. Photo credit: R. Montero



Photo showing Manu (L) riveting the Firewall Bottom Panel to the Tunnel Ribs while Ron (R) supports the assembly. Photo credit: R. Montero



Photo showing Ludwig riveting nut plates to the Firewall Shelf. Photo credit: R. Montero



From Left to Right: Steve, Ron, Ed, Ludwig, Mark, and Manu standing next to the Mid-Fuselage assembly with recently attached Roll Bar Plates and Mid-Frame Brace. Photo Credit: R. Montero

# Got Parts?

by *Larry Anglisano*

## SAVVY BUILDER

If you haven't been shopping the aircraft engine, avionics and accessory market, apply everything you know about the choked consumer products supply chain—it's just as bad if not worse for aircraft parts. The kit aircraft world has been hit especially hard as the number of new projects have grown in record numbers since the start of the pandemic. The takeaway is that now could be the time to at least place orders for the expensive gear you've been holding off. "It's not a good time to be waiting around. Get in and get out of the market," one avionics exec told me. It's trickling down from the top of the market. Van's Aircraft has seen sizable slowing of its component delivery, so has Dynon, and even Garmin GPS navigators and other avionics are backordered for months—or indefinitely.



And even if you have a kit that's flying, it may not be easy to keep it that way, even sourcing common consumables that have always been on a supplier's parts shelves. A friend has been waiting over a month for an alternator that fits his small Lycoming, and another who's building an RV has been waiting for installation kits for a Garmin G3X Touch suite—with no firm delivery date. For some builders, this could mean work stoppage. And if you sub some of the work to a shop, there are delays there, too. When I visited a busy avionics shop last month, the shop's manager told me the average major project is taking almost twice as long as it used to because not only are parts and installation supplies on a slow boat from wherever, he's having a real problem hiring experienced and reliable techs to pump out the work. "I'm running out of hangar space and tiedown spots to store these aircraft while I wait for parts. Owners are screaming bloody murder and it isn't our fault," he told me. And bench techs? Forget it. Good ones who know how to effectively troubleshoot radios and other systems seem to be a dwindling commodity. That means sending components back to the manufacturer for flat-rate repairs and exchanges—both increasing substantially in price.

There are some things you can do, besides pay more, and wait patiently for your stuff to arrive. If you find a shop or parts supplier that you're happy with, stick with it—and be patient as it works through the supply and staffing dilemma. If you're an existing and valued customer your chances of getting your project delivered in a reasonable amount of time may be in your favor. Ask any shop precisely where your project fits into its schedule. Is the work a major focus on the shop floor, or is it filler work—something that will get done as time permits between larger jobs? It doesn't matter if it's an avionics wiring project (at busy shops, harness building and other projects for kit builders are often put at the bottom of the priority list), or engine work—every project has a level of urgency on a shop's schedule. And today's priority for everyone is getting parts—a chore that's getting more difficult and costly by the day.



# Women Take Flight

## Saturday March 5, 2022 9:00 to 3:00pm

Join us for the museum's annual family friendly celebration of women in aerospace featuring hands-on activities, flight simulators, open cockpit experiences in historic aircraft, and opportunities to meet local women in the aerospace industry.

### Featuring Keynote Speaker Carolyn Begnoche

Senior Engineer, Product Definitions Power and Controls  
Collins Aerospace

Carolyn Begnoche serves as a Senior Engineer, Product Definition, Power and Controls at Collins Aerospace. A graduate of CCSU's Industrial Engineering program, Carolyn has served as Chair of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Hartford Section since 2019. As one of only twelve girls in her technical high school's graduating class, Carolyn is passionate about inspiring young women to pursue careers in aerospace.



Lectures: 11:00am and 1:30pm  
Public Meet and Greet: 12:00-12:30pm & 2:30-3:00pm

### Keynote Welcome by Colleen D'Alessandro

New England Region Regional Administrator, Federal Aviation Administration

Colleen D'Alessandro serves as the senior agency official in the New England region providing cross-functional oversight and leadership for the FAA Administrator and coordination across lines of business to include Aviation Safety (AVS), Airports (ARP) and Air Traffic Organization (ATO).



### Meet women pilots, engineers, service members, and aerospace industry professionals from across our region:

- 103<sup>rd</sup> Airlift Wing Connecticut Air National Guard
- 377<sup>th</sup> Airlift Squadron & 439<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing of Westover
- Bombardier Hartford Service Center
- Collins Aerospace
- Connecticut Aviation Administration (CAA)
- Connecticut Soaring Association
- Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 166
- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- Horst Engineering
- Kaman Corporation
- New England Section of the 99's
- Pratt & Whitney Women's Council
- Society of Women Engineers Hartford Section
- TAC Air Bradley International Airport
- Women of Aeronautics and Astronautics – WPI Chapter
- Women in Aviation International – Connecticut Chapter

### Museum Admission:

**\$18.00 Adults** (ages 15-64)

**\$16.00 Seniors** (ages 65 and older)

**\$10.00 Youth** (ages 4-14)

Children 3 and under admitted free

Discounted admission available for pre-paid groups of 10 or more.

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