



# EAA Chapter 166

Hartford, Connecticut

March 2022



## NEXT MEETING

March 26  
2022, 10:00am

2nd floor of Hangar 1

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*by Steve Socolosky*

Hello to all our EAA 166 Members!

Is it Spring yet? Thank you to everyone who attended our last meeting on February 26th! This month's meeting will be back in our usual meeting room on the 2nd floor of Hangar 1 (H1). Please go to the Hartford Jet Center lobby and ask for directions, then you'll be buzzed on to the ramp to proceed to H1. We'll be working on our RV-12 again after our meeting!

**DUES!!!!** Please pay your 2022 dues [HERE](#) if you haven't already! Thank you!

I will be giving an update on our efforts to overcome the few who are trying to close Brainard Airport for their own personal gain. There is much happening, including several of you who wrote to your representatives, during this legislative session and I am optimistic that Brainard will not only survive, but that it will become a great hub of aviation which benefits everyone!

We will be discussing Oshkosh and whether or not we will be reserving a Chapter campsite during July 25 - 31. Brenda and Norm Rossignol will have more information at our meeting. 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!

Just before our last meeting, Ray Aviation Scholarship Coordinator, Rick Montero was notified that we were selected to receive our THIRD Ray Scholarship! The application and details are posted on our website! If you know a young person who may be interested, please let Rick know. It's a serious commitment and we know those future pilots are out there!

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@EAA166

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

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Speaking of Ray Scholars, Cheyenne Fuoco, our second Ray Scholar, is now preparing for her check ride out in Oklahoma, where she is attending Oklahoma State University for Engineering. She said that the flatness of the region has allowed her to focus more on flying since “. . . you can land just about anywhere in an emergency because it's so flat . . .”

Our very own Bob Pulford will be sharing his excellent flying adventures over Utah and the Grand Canyon!

I hope to see you all soon!

BLUE SKIES!

Steve



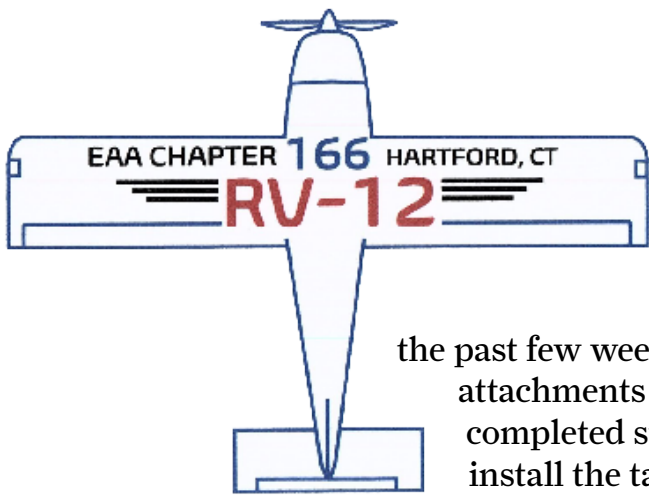
Dave Armando flew his chopper to meet with some friends in New York.



*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!*

At the February meeting, updates were given on the RV-12 build, Eagle and Young Eagle Flights, the Women Take Flight event at NEAM, talk of a visit from the Ford Trimotor this fall, and the opportunity to have a Ray Scholar.

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



# EAA I66 RV-12 BUILD UPDATE

The RV-12 build team meets every Thursday. During the past few weeks, the team has been working on the Firewall attachments for the Gascolator, reviewing and signing off all completed steps on the lower mid fuselage, and began work to install the tail cone Service Bulletin (SB-00053) repair.

Next week we will continue work on the Firewall and Service Bulletin repair. 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 Steve (C) demonstrating deburring techniques to new members Sing (L) and Lauren (R).  
Photo credit: R. Montero



Photo showing Jim (L) and Linc (R) examining prior work performed on the mid-fuselage assembly.  
Photo credit: R. Montero



Photo showing Manu (C) inside the tail cone drilling out rivets as part of the Service Bulletin repair and Steve (L) providing assistance and moral support.  
Photo credit: R. Montero



Photo showing build team. Front Row Left to Right: Rick, new members Lauren and Sing, Manu, Linc, Jim, Steve. Back Row Left to Right: Steve, Ludwig, Robbie.  
Photo credit: S. Socolosky



# Arm-chair flying with WWII aviator Jimmy Elsner

by *Larry Anglisano*

VIDEO REPORT

While his first assignment was with the U.S. Army signal corps, Connecticut native Jimmy Elsner was determined to fly. And did he ever. Assigned to the 18th Fighter Squadron in 1944, Elsner flew the Curtiss P-40 Warhawk, and later went on to fly the P-47 in what eventually became the Connecticut Air National Guard. For a candid look at how he climbed the ranks (and ended up flying a half-dozen fighter aircraft), EAA Chapter 166's Larry Anglisano, along with Paul Hoar and Steve

Socolosky, sat down with Elsner at the New England Air Museum in late 2021, where Elsner talked candidly about his most memorable adventures as a newly branded fighter pilot in the 1940s, while putting his hands and eyes on the museum's Republic P-47 Thunderbolt for the first time in many years. **Click the video player above to watch the full video.**



At the last meeting, Bill Barry shared his experience as a historical consultant on the movie, "Hidden Figures." Bill said that the movie took care to make it quite historically accurate with only minor embellishments.



EAA 166 was at the New England Air Museum Women Take Flight event. The event featured future aircraft builders (bottom, R) and the ability to get up close with the Sikorsky VS-44 (bottom, L).

