



EAA Chapter 166

Hartford, Connecticut

December 2023



NEXT MEETING

January 27,
2024, 10:00am

EAA 166 Meeting Room

CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
Steve Socolosky
(860)995-2886
soco7a@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT
John Baleshiski
(860)965-4005
john@sheridan
technologygroup.com

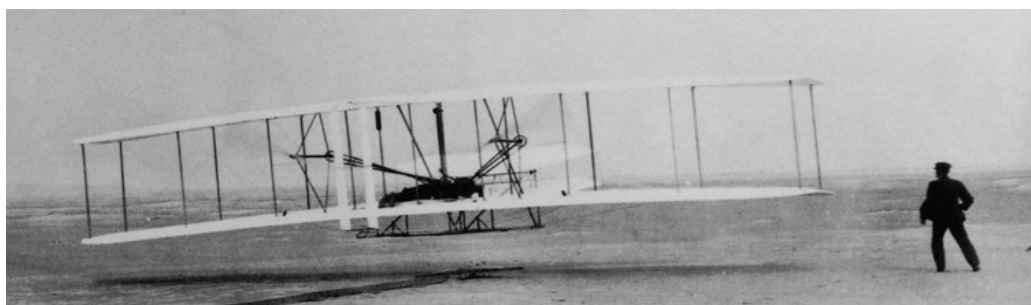
SECRETARY
Dave Thompson
(860)655-6385
davesthomp@comcast.net

TREASURER
Brenda Rossignol
(860)227-4113
nbrossignol@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR
Ashley Anglisano
aranglisano@gmail.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Steve Socolosky



Happy Holidays to all our EAA Members and Student Members!

Here we are at our annual First Flight edition, when 120 years ago on December 17, Wilbur and Orville Wright took to the skies over Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina, with their flying machine, which changed all humanity forever!

As we come to the end of another year as a Chapter, we can reflect on how much we all appreciate aviation as our Membership continues to grow by flying Young Eagles, helping our Ray Scholar recipients achieve their dream of becoming pilots, building our RV-12, participating in events at the New England Air Museum and Girl Scouts Aviation Day, and by having great support from Hartford Jet Center at our home base of historic Hartford-Brainard Airport! Let's keep it going in 2024!

Our first meeting next year, will be held on SATURDAY, JANUARY 27th at 10:00 AM, up in our EAA 166 CHAPTER MEETING ROOM IN H1 and we'll be having a special guest speaker pilot!

...continued on page 2



EAA Chapter 166



EAA 166



@EAA166

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

...continued from page 1

Taking a quick look back (take a look at a few pictures below), our Annual Awards Dinner on Saturday, November 4th was a fun time with great food and Bob Pulford's recounting of his flight to Alaska! We had over 30 Members and Student Members attend at the Hartford State Armory Officers Club! On Saturday, November 18th, we made an off-road excursion to the restoration area and back-woods storage area of the New England Air Museum where we gained a new appreciation of the valuable treasure we have right in our own backyard as the largest aviation collection in New England! By the way, our February Chapter meeting on February 24th will be at the New England Air Museum!

EAA 166's FOURTH Ray Scholar, Logan Vidal, passed his Private Pilot check ride on November 24th! Congratulations Logan! Logan flew his first solo on August 26 and three months later he was a Pilot! To say Logan put in a maximum effort would be an understatement! How bad did he want to fly?

Our RV-12 is progressing nicely! Please read RV-12 Build Team Leader, Rick Montero's update, later in the newsletter.

Finally, [DUES ARE DUE](#), please! \$20

See you all next year on Saturday, January 27th!
Thank you and BLUE SKIES!
Steve



Our Annual Awards Dinner!

Congratulations, Logan!

On November 24, Logan Vidal became a Private Pilot, and EAA 166's fourth Ray Scholar to successfully earn their Private Pilot Certificate!



Logan flying N515AC back to Westfield-Barnes Airport (BAF)



Logan and his parents and sister waiting at Westfield to congratulate him.



Logan with Steve Socolosky, Doug Stewart (Designated Pilot Examiner), Logan's Instructor, Ken, and Aaron Torres, EAA 166 Student Member.

NEW ENGLAND AIR MUSEUM CORNER

View the New England Air Museum events calendar [HERE](#).

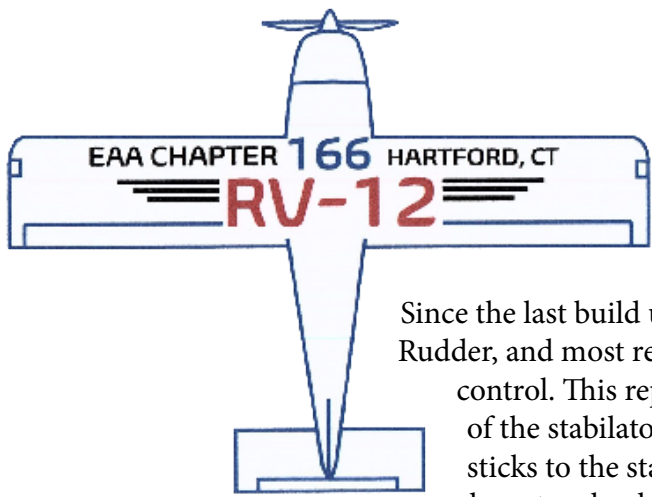
Behind the Scenes of the New England Air Museum



It's the skilled volunteers who deserve a tip of the hat for their work in filling the New England Air Museum hangars with such nicely preserved and restored flying machines and engines. But museum goers only get half the story of these machines—which is the finished product.

To see what it really takes to get the job done to such high standards, EAA166's Larry Anglisano went behind the scenes at the museum with restoration lead Bob Vozzola.





EAA I66 RV-12 BUILD UPDATE

Since the last build update, all control surface connections have been made: Flaperon, Rudder, and most recently, the Stabilator. Our RV-12 now has Roll, Yaw, and Pitch control. This represents a major accomplishment by our build team! Installation of the stabilator control cables required running the cables from the control sticks to the stabilator through the floor of the forward fuselage. These cables have turnbuckles and required tensioning, which involves an iterative process of adjusting the upper and lower cable turnbuckles and measuring cable tension

until both cables fall within the proper tension range of 35 to 45 lb. Once we had the tension correct, the team had to ensure the stabilator, when moved to extremes, hits its travel stops just prior to the control stick. This process required further adjustment of the cable turnbuckles and re-tensioning. This process took a couple weeks to finish, but it is now complete and the turnbuckle locking spring clips can be permanently installed. The team owes a large thank you to Jim Glista for loaning his Cable Tensiometer and Linc Turcotte for transporting the Tensiometer to Brainard and teaching the team how to properly use the instrument.

Over the next few weeks, we will install the cabin floor panels, seat belts, seats, and start installation of the main landing gear.

As I was writing this update, I thought back to the beginning of 2023 to reflect on the build team's construction progress. Since the start of 2023, the build team has completed the following construction activities:

- Upper forward fuselage and instrument panel shelf and face plates installed
- Installed the battery box
- Main landing gear reinforcement service bulletin (SB-00040) completed
- Purchased and installed the G3X Garmin Instruments, wiring harness, ignition, and fuse panels
- Installed the wiring harness in the wings, installed the wing closeout panels, landing light, composite wing extensions, and the navigation/strobe lights
- Wings were installed and all lights tested to verify proper operation
- Control sticks, flap handle, and control linkages were installed
- Control stick grips and push to talk button
- Flaperon control rods and linkages were installed
- Rudder and stabilator control cables were installed



(above) Kai Trenkner testing the pedal cable connections to the Rudder.
Photo Credit: Rick Montero



(above right) Jude Murphy adjusting the turnbuckles on the stabilator cables and installing the locking spring clips. This procedure is more easily accomplished by someone with small hands and excellent vision. Photo Credit: Rick Montero

Despite what seemed like numerous delays related to missing parts and frustrations related to periodic rework, I think everyone will agree the build team had a very productive year. I wish to thank all the team members for their hard work and enthusiastic participation in our build activities this past year. I look forward to another productive year next year and hopefully finishing major construction activities toward the end of 2024.

If you wish to join the build team, we every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday in Hangar 2 at 6:00 p.m. If interested, please contact me at rick.montero@sbcglobal.net. Please make sure you are an EAA Member and also an EAA 166 Member/Student Member in good standing.

Rick Montero
EAA166 RV-12 Build Team Leader

Check out the latest
build updates on our
YouTube channel!



EAA166 Hartford, Connecticut

@eaa166hartfordconnecticut8 · 355 subscribers · 21 videos

More about this channel >

Subscribe



Stabilator Cables, Turnbuckles,
& Spring Clips. The clips had not
been locked at the time the photo
was taken.

Photo Credit: Rick Montero.



Rudder and Stabilator cable
connections in the empennage.
The cable connections are held in
place by a bolt, washers, castle nut
and cotter pin.

Photo Credit: Rick Montero

Click below to catch up on meeting minute history

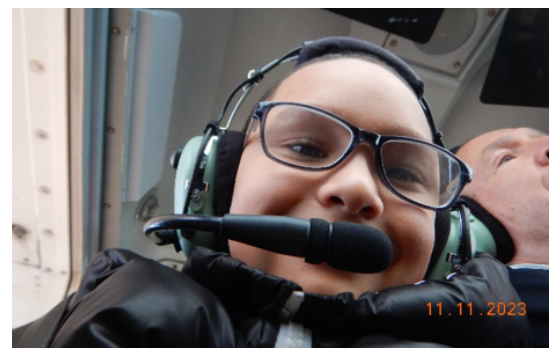
June

September

October

Latest Eagle and Young Eagle Flights

(left and below) In late November, Rick Montero, EAA 166 Eagle Flight Coordinator, took Sof Sheriff up for an Eagle Flight! He was thrilled by the experience, and they had perfect flying weather!





Ever wonder how Santa is able to fly all over the world?
Any tanker crew members out there?