

TAILWINDS



**EAA CHAPTER
974
NEWSLETTER
MAY 2021**



Butler County Regional Airport
Hamilton, Ohio



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MAY 2021 CHAPTER GATHERING/PICNIC

I don't think you need to look too hard at these pictures to know that our May 2021 Gathering/Picnic was a huge success! I was sitting across from Shawn Wheeler who did an early headcount at 68. There were quite a few more that arrived afterwards. A big thanks go to Joey, Brandi, and Stephen for their hard work setting up, cooking and supervising the clean-up. It was good to see so many wives and family members. We are truly a gifted chapter, not just for our members build and fly activities, but for our ability to generate so much good fellowship! Give yourself a big pat on the back Chapter 974! Photos: ed.





FUNDAY SUNDAY 2021

EAA Chapter 48 at Moraine Airpark, I73, leads off the local fly-in season with their early May Funday Sunday. It seems like the season gets off on a bad foot without it. Last year was a prime example due to concerns over Covid. I think we more than made up for it this year. The day was nearly picture perfect with great visibility, little cloud cover and a lighter than expected southwest breeze. You can always tell when attendance exceeds expectations when there is overflow aircraft parking east of the main parking area.



FUNDAY SUNDAY 2021

Chapter 974, you did your usual fine job of representing us at the gathering, some of whom are pictured in these photos. What a great day! A big thanks goes to Chapter 48 for hosting this fine event and for their hard work. Another big thanks goes to the Moraine Airpark for being so welcome to us all!



Flying beyond the border...

Hi everyone,

[Continued from April's Prez Says] – To save you from having to pull up the last two months of Chapter Newsletters, a quick recap... Barb and I are still on this long cross-country trip in the Cessna 182, and we've arrived at KPBI in West Palm Beach, Florida. Now the FUN begins... Time to head out from KPBI headed to Eleuthera, Bahamas!

I'll talk more about this at the upcoming June Gathering, but flying to the Bahamas is a super fun trip that can be easily accomplished with some good advance planning. Additionally, the Bahamas was the first neighboring country to the U.S. to accept BasicMed as a medical qualification for U.S. pilots flying in its airspace.

The closest island to the U.S. is Bimini, a mere 52 miles east of Miami. But on this flight we are headed to Eleuthera, a narrow 70 mile stretch of land east of Nassau.

After a great breakfast at the hotel, we Ubered over to the airport. There is some "paper work" that you have to file electronically before departing U.S. airspace using the Electronic Advance Passenger Information System (EAPIS), but it is very simple to do (and keeps the F14 fighter jets from intercepting you as you pass across the ADIZ when returning to the U.S.). Filing the EAPIS manifest can be done well in advance of your trip, but must be completed no later than 1 hour before departure.

We fired up engine, I got my clearance, and as we rolled down the runway, I knew the next time the wheels touched earth, we'd be in a place where I'd never been before, and to my knowledge neither had the plane.



THE PREZ SEZ, CONTINUED

Tower handed us over to the departure frequency, Miami Center, and as we headed East the coast slowly slipped behind us. Over open water all you see is the blue ocean all around. It is about this time that many pilots experience "Instant Engine Rough", meaning their head starts to believe there is something wrong with heart of our flying machines that keep them aloft. Personally it is not something I've experienced, and I actually feel more comfortable over daytime water than I do the Appalachian Mountains at night.

Miami Center handed us over to Nassau Radio, and they stayed with us for the balance of the total two hour flight. As we got closer to Eleuthera, we dropped down to about 2,500 ft, and WOW what amazing views! So many colors of water that my eyes had never seen before. The tires chirped as we touched down on the hot pavement in Governors Harbor, MYEM.

You may recall, I started this series as "Oh, the places we'll go!", and I can tell you for certain, this trip is everything that the Freedom of Flight means to me... The ability to travel on your schedule, to share views from the cockpit that very few get to see, and to travel to remote areas where commercial flights just won't land. We have something VERY special in General Aviation. So go scratch that travel itch and go fly a long cross-country this year!



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28 April 2021 Board Meeting Minutes

6:04 p.m. - Meeting called to order by Tom Martin

Attendees: Thomas Martin, Roger McClure, Joey Shreve, Brandi Brewer, Scott Balmos, Robert Dombek, Ray Parker, Scott Hersha

Secretaries Report -

March minutes reviewed.

Treasurer's Report -

Income \$666.00 (\$120.00 from Rent)

Expenses \$27.69

Balance \$5,404.71

Young Eagles -

YE Rally officially scheduled for June 12, 2021, per Scott Balmos. Chapter 974 will receive double rewards at this time from EAA for YE events. Anyone wishing to volunteer should visit <https://youngeaglesday.org/?yedetail&event=7kC98ZOJF> to review details and volunteer opportunities. The targeted age group are those between the ages of 8 to 28.

Old Business -

Chapter By-Laws being revised. Will be sent via email for review/comment and then voted upon. Scott Hersha recommended we consider offering to other Chapters Prop Balancing for \$100 - Consider a spring workshop out to other chapters as fundraiser. Will need to investigate parameters around EAA Insurance as an event. THIS IS ON HOLD DUE TO COVID.

Inventory and value assessment need to be completed this Spring for all Chapter inventory.

Insulation in Hanger needs to be rehung by the back door – A leak was discovered in the roof that needs to be repaired before the insulation can be rehung.

New Business –

Joey Shreve, Stephen Brewer, and Brandi Brewer will be preparing Grilled Hamburgers, Chicken, serving chips & sides for the May 2nd Gathering. Please bring your family and your appetite! Donated Kits have been posted on Barnstormers by Tom Martin. Build & Fly aspect for approximately 4-6 children in Bob Dombeck's heated hangar (for Milo and friends), to allow Young Eagles, etc. to get involved in RC building has begun. It has been discussed that the Chapter photograph needs to be updated, as we have so many new members. A Chapter Meeting will be scheduled for this event.

6:48 p.m. - Meeting adjourned by Tom Martin

Respectfully Submitted, Brandi Brewer, Chapter Secretary

There's lots to report this month so let's get started. First off is a progress report on Josh Comb's Aeronca Champ. The recovering process is nearly complete, with able assistance from Brian Charlton. Pictured below is the final wing panel which is down to rib tapes. The empennage and fuselage are covered. Flying next Tuesday, right guys? It's looking good! Photos: ed.



Below, left is a glimpse of Scott Balmos' new panel recently installed in his RV9A. Scott has been working hard on this since his bird returned from the paint shop. Scott says there are a few connections to make, but it is nearly done. Beautiful Scott!

On the right I caught a peek at Bill Morris' newly painted cowl and wheel pants. Bill claims this is a rattle can paint job, but you can't prove it by me. Bill, you know how to make that spray can talk. It looks professional, and that green color is striking! Beautiful Bill!

Photos: ed



AROUND THE FIELD AGAIN

New chapter member Jason Pratt with his recently acquired RV6. His RV lives in the hangar once owned by former chapter member Bill Conn. Jason purchased the hangar from Bill along with Bill's Flybaby.

Jason's RV6 was purchased from a builder in Memphis, Tenn. I don't know all the details of the acquisition but once the sale was finalized, Jason flew down to Memphis with Billy Bie to pick it up. They then flew back together.

Jason says he enjoys the speed, performance and overall utility of the RV. As his hangar neighbor, I see him flying the Flybaby about as much, if not more than the RV. What does that tell you about the fun of low and slow open cockpit flying? It's hard to beat having it both ways!

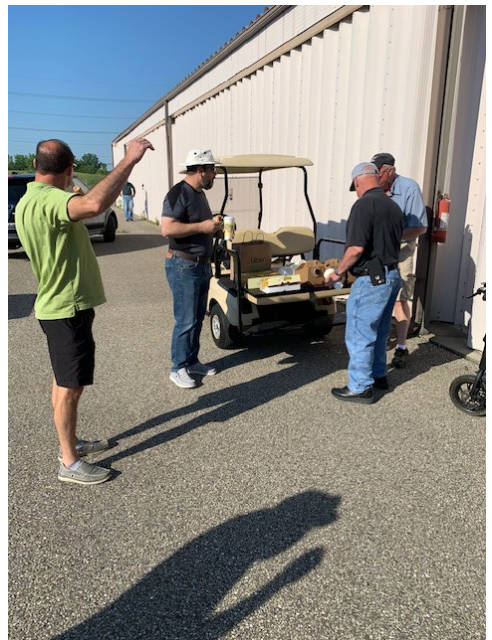
Welcome to the chapter Jason. It's good to have you with us!

Photos: ed.



ANOTHER DONATED PROJECT HEADS TO A NEW HOME Page 11

Tom and Dawna Boehmer's donated Zenith project is headed to a new home. It was purchased by Doug and Karen Binder of Ithaca, New York, pictured lower left corner. Doug has a new Kitfox but reportedly wanted something faster. A small army of chapter 974 members turned out Sunday morning May 23 to help load the project onto a rental truck. Doug and Karen planned to make it home that day. A big thanks once again to all who retrieved, stored and ultimately sold and loaded the plane. Photos: Al Kenkel, Tom Martin





Our Young Eagles trio Camden, Milo, and Myan are rightly proud of their work on the chapter's RC Build and Fly project. Wing panels are nearly complete and will be ready to join by next build session. The vertical and horizontal vertical stab was completed earlier. This was our 5th build session. My thanks go to Brad Payne for his able assistance and to dads Joe and Greg for bringing their sons faithfully each week.

Photos: ed.



CHAPTER CONTACTS—HOW TO CONTACT EAA CHAPTER 974

officers@eaa974.org — will reach president, vice president, treasurer, secretary as a group

president@eaa974.org — will reach chapter president (Tom Martin)

newsletters@eaa974.org — will reach newsletter editor (Bob Dombek)

youngeagles@eaa974.org — will reach Young Eagles Coordinator (Bob Burkhardt)

techcounselor@eaa974.org — will reach technical counselor (Ray Parker)

general@lists.eaa974.org — group e-mail to all chapter members

list.admin@eaa974.org — to be added or removed from the group email list