

TAILWINDS



**EAA CHAPTER
974
NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2020**



Butler County Regional Airport
Hamilton, Ohio



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FEBRUARY 2020 MEETING WRAP UP

The weather gods smiled on us with a 50 something degree day with sun and strong SW winds which allowed us to use the chapter hangar for the February chapter meeting. There were 35 of us there, and we cleaned out Chef and VP Joey Shreve's incredible cheese stuffed meatballs, salted bourbon caramel cheesecake and David's Tea. Someone brought German chocolate cake and coconut cream pie. I finally captured the elected officers for 2020 in one place. Pictured on lower right, from left to right: Tom Martin, President; Roger McClure, Treasurer; George Theobald, co-secretary; Tim Morris, co-secretary; Joey Shreve, Vice President. George and Tim are a secretarial team. Photos: ed.



NEW MEMBERS AND PROJECT REPORTS

We welcomed two new members to the chapter at the February meeting

Top left is John Wietlisbach.

John is from Batesville, Indiana. John is working on a Dragonfly project that was started by another builder. His project is currently in Columbus, Indiana.



Middle left is John Labarre. Until very recently, John was based at Middletown. He recently acquired Ron Dossenback's hangar in row T-0. Going into that hangar is a Jungman and a WACO. Good thing you have a nice big hangar, John!

Welcome to Chapter 974 John and John! Good to have you with us!

Photos: ed.



Scott Balmos reports that he has a paint slot reservation for his RV9A on May 31 Painting is to be done by Evoke Aviation, Gadsden, Al.

Valentine Boehm has a possible purchase of another partially completed Pulsar with a Rotax 912

Brian Charlton is helping Josh Combs cover his Aeronca Champ restoration project. Pictures in "Around the Field" section .

Ted Tracy is making progress on his Hatz project. Pictures in "Around the Field" section.

Dick King reports installing an electric cowl flap control system in his Glastar

Bob Dombek reports that his panel is installed in his Tiger Moth and that radio and transponder are working. See Pictures in "Around the Field" section.

The Prez Says – February 22, 2020
Cincinnati, OH

Obtaining Gold... On the Shoulders of Giants

Hello everyone,



Starting in 2019, the EAA rolled out the [Chapter Recognition Program](#). This recognition is based off ten criteria that have shown to correlate with active and engaged chapters. There are 3 levels of recognition – Bronze, Silver, and Gold.

I am super excited to announce that Chapter 974 has received a Gold status! To provide some perspective on how special this achievement is; across the almost 900 chapters, the average recognition score is a 4.3. We are one of the only 62 chapters to receive gold recognition in 2019, and only 5 of those were based in Ohio!

This achievement didn't happen overnight... Throughout our chapter history, members have stepped up to guide and shape what has become the amazing home we have today. Whether it was establishing our chapter hanger, providing technical and flight mentorship, the on-going care and support of our Young Eagles flights, maintaining our VMC program; the list goes on and on... It came based on many years of leadership. These "giants" paved the way in planning, deciding and executing. I'm honored to be just a part of our journey and hope that all will continue to jump in to reimagine the possible and provide a welcoming place for all who share in our passion of flight.

One of those leaders who has stepped up is **Billy Bie** as our new **VMC coordinator**. Billy will be presenting his first session just after the upcoming March gathering. Please be sure to pass along your appreciation of him leading this effort by attending the session.

This year, as part of our efforts to continue to build on our mission of sharing the Spirit of Aviation, our chapter will be hosting the [Ford Tri-Motor](#) Memorial Day weekend **May 21-24th**. Plans are to combine the visit with a chapter Fly-In and food event. More details to follow, but we'll need many volunteers to support the effort.

2020 is off to an amazing start with 3 new members having joined the in January/February alone. Please take the time to reach out a welcoming hand, learn what excites them about aviation, and make them feel part of this great family we call Chapter 974. Consider bringing a guest to the next gathering.... You could be the spark that helps ignite their passion in Aviation!

Safe Landings,

Tom Martin EAA #1061241
President, Chapter 974
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CHAPTER GATHERING MINUTES FEB 2 2020

Meeting Minutes, EAA Chapter 974

The meeting was called to order by President Tom Martin at 2:07 pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed by the membership.

There were two visitors present.

A report on the Young Eagles program was presented.

A mentor for the VMC club is still needed.

Chapter 974 scored a 10 on the EAA national chapter ratings.

The possibility of a chapter fly in was discussed.

A propeller balancer has been purchased and is in the tool crib.

A report on the February board of directors meeting was presented.

Several project reports were presented.

Recent aircraft insurance rate increases were discussed.

The chapter needs a membership coordinator.

Funday Sunday at Moraine Airport is on May 3.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

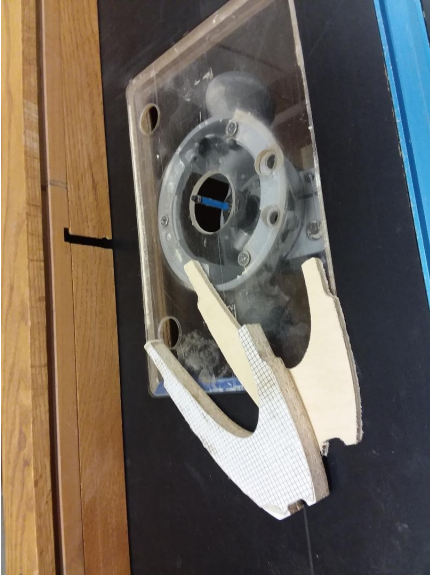
Tim Morris and George Theobald, Recording Secretaries.



AROUND THE FIELD, PLANES IN PROGRESS

Ted Tracy's Hatz.

Ted Tracy sent me these great shots of his Hatz project. I tried not to drool on the computer screen as I copied these onto the page. My Tiger Moth project has given me a real appreciation for what these pictures are saying. I hope the chapter is getting the same message. Working in wood is very labor intensive but the end result is beautiful to see. Ted, your workmanship is exquisite! Thank you for sharing with the chapter. All photos Ted Tracy.



AROUND THE FIELD, MORE PLANES IN PROGRESS

Josh Comb's Aeronca Champ. Josh started his Champ restoration several years ago. I published pictures in 4-2013 when he and Bill Duffy were restoring a pair of Champs together. Bill's is now flying, but Josh is like your editor, slow and steady. I sure get that! Brian Charlton has now taken up the torch to help Josh bring his Champ restoration to completion. Carry on Josh and Brian. It's looking good!

Photos: ed.



Below, Kevin Gassert's next coupe. Taken on 1/7/2020, I ran out of space in the January newsletter, so here it is. Kevin is pressure washing for initial cleanup. Photos: Al Kenkel



This is your “grandfather’s” instrument panel in my 80% scale Tiger Moth replica. I know it’s all steam gauges , well maybe except for the Trig transceiver and transponder control heads, but who ever heard of a glass panel in a vintage replica? It’s no where near as complex as digital, but was still a bit of a headache getting it all to come alive. With a few more things to reach and finish in the cockpits, it’ll be time for the wings to go on.



CHAPTER CONTACTS

How to Contact 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

<http://wiki.eaa974.org> — chapter wiki page

APOLLO 11 EXHIBIT "DESTINATION MOON"

I could not publish the newsletter without including some pictures from the Apollo 11 exhibit at the museum center. I was there during one of it's last days and would have kicked myself for missing it. A surprise bonus was the spectacular gallery of photos taken by the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbital Camera or LROC. The polar region photo shows the deep shadows at the poles, possible sites for settlements due to constant temps, less radiation.



APOLLO 11 COMMAND MODULE



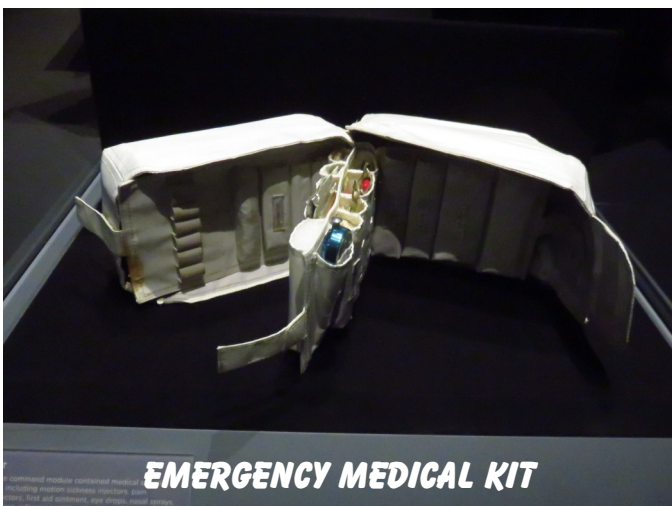
BUZZ ALDRIN'S LUNAR EVA HELMET, GLOVES



1 OF 2 LUNAR SAMPLE BOXES



SURVIVAL KIT



EMERGENCY MEDICAL KIT



LUNAR POLAR REGION TAKEN BY LROC