

# TAILWINDS



**EAA CHAPTER  
974  
NEWSLETTER  
JUNE 2025**



## **IN THIS EDITION**

- **MAY 2025 CHAPTER GATHERING**
- **NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS**
- **CHAPTER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**
- **PROGRAM, ED SCHNEIDER SR-71 TEST PILOT**
- **BUTLER TECH REPORT**
- **HOLY MICRO PRODUCT REPORT**
- **CHAPTER CONTACTS**

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- **JUNE 7 KLUK AIR RALLY**
- **JUNE 8 CHAPTER GATHERING**
- **JUNE 14 YOUNG EAGLE RALLY AND GCRCC FLYING CIRCUS**
- **JUNE 15 GCRCC FLYING CIRCUS**





## MAY 18 CHAPTER GATHERING

Our May Gathering was another near perfect day in the mid 70's and a great crowd of 50+ on hand for what proved to be one of our best programs ever. Thank you new VP Mark Reising for conducting the meeting in the absence of the president. Thanks to Joe Seibert, we were treated to retired Navy and NASA test pilot Ed Schneider. There are full details later in this edition. As a warm up, Chef Joey treated us to Pancit Bihon and red velvet cake cookies. Pancit bihon is a traditional Filipino dish. Wonderful! Thank you Joey!!



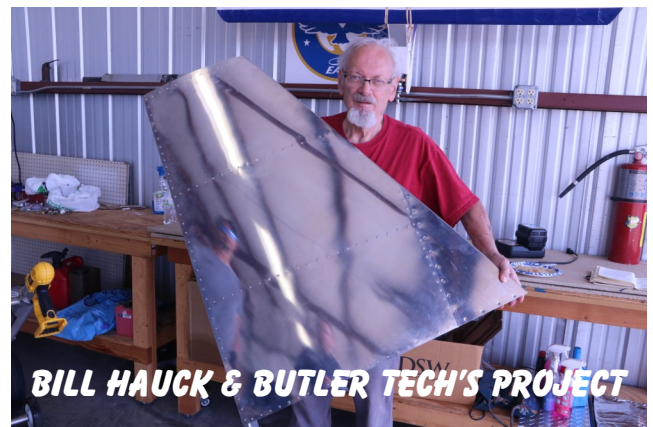
### Young Eagles Report

Young Eagles Coordinator Scott Balmos reported on how our first two rally's were cancelled due to weather. Our next will be at Middletown with Butler Tech students on Friday May 30.



### Projects:

Bill Hauck, one of Butler Tech's mentors brought a sample of the student's work, a completed one side of an RV12 horizontal stabilizer. He said the students are very motivated and are really learning a lot. Even as current seniors graduate, he expects 80 students in the aviation program next year. Great job Bill and thanks for what you are doing!



Mark Taylor continues working on an Legal Eagle Ultralight. He plans to power it with a Kawasaki 440 2 stroke engine. He asked for help from anyone in the chapter who is familiar with two stroke engines.

Robin Kidder her Piper clipper is now flying! She is very happy to report that all the previous oil leaks and oil pressure problems have been solved. Having been unable to fly it for so long, she feels the need for some additional dual instruction. Robin, for an experienced pilot such as yourself, we know this will come back to you quickly. In the meantime, the chapter salutes your care and caution toward restoring your tailwheel skills!

## NEW MEMBERS AND VISITORS



Seen left is new member Alex Hedrick. Alex has his private pilot certificate and tail wheel endorsement. He is working toward instrument and commercial ratings at Sporty's. He is also working toward an associate degree at UC Clermont.

WELCOME ALEX!

Visiting today are Greg and Sarah Truelove seen on right. They are not pilots (yet!) but they have children who are very interested in flying. They hope to have them flying as Young Eagles.

WELCOME GREG AND SARAH!



Seen left is Chris Nelson. Chris is a new chapter member and an active pilot. Chris has a private pilot certificate with instrument rating and has about 600 hours flight time. He is a partner owner in a Piper Warrior which is kept on the field in Hangar T3A

WELCOME CHRIS!

David Rucker is a new member pictured right. David is working toward his Sport Pilot Certificate. He has an Airborne XT-912 Trike which is currently in Illinois but will be brought here to be based at Oxford.

WELCOME DAVID!





# CHAPTER BOARD BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

6:09 PM –Meeting called to order by Tom Martin

Attendees: Grace Hogan, Roger McClure, Scott Balmos, Mark Reising, Tom Martin, Ray Parker Bob Dombek

Secretaries Report: Motion made and accepted to wave reading minutes which are posted in chapter newsletter

Treasurers report-

Income                      \$613.75  
Expenses                    \$96.88  
Balances:      Checking \$4,232.97 CD's 16,376.38 Savings \$1,004.23 Total \$21,613.58

Young Eagles:

- Next Dates Spring 2025
- May 17, June 14, July 12, August 16, September 20, October 18
- New System for the website
- Possible Young Eagles Rally for Butler Tech new students on May 30 with 16 kids, 6 pilots (maybe)
- May 17 25 kids r
- registered, 8 pilots

Old Business:

- Ray Scholarship\_ applied and approved for 2025– 2 applicants working on their applications
- Tool Crib—committee being formed
- Young Eagles partnership with Warbird and GCRCC
- Activities for kids while they wait for their flights
- EAA HQ reports we are ranked as Bronze Chapter for 2024 activities. Tom is negotiating with HQ as he feels they have missed two points which should put us at Gold. Tom to follow up with EAA HQ

New Business

- Navy/NASA test pilot Ed Schneider to speak at May Gathering
- Purchase of laptop for treasurer

Upcoming Meetings for 2025

May 18

June 8

July 13

August 10

September 14

October 12 —Hangar Crawl

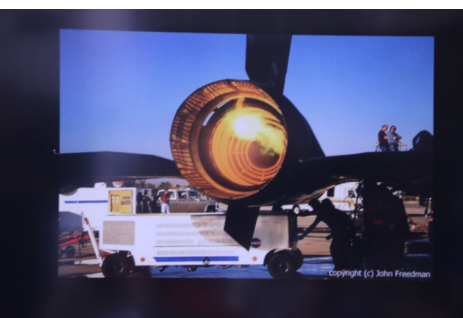
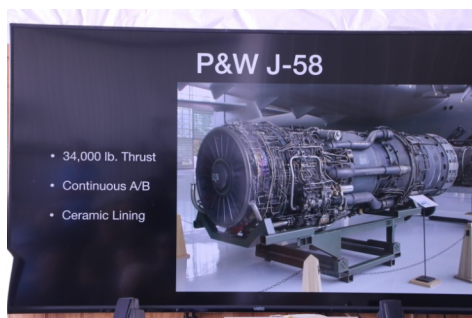
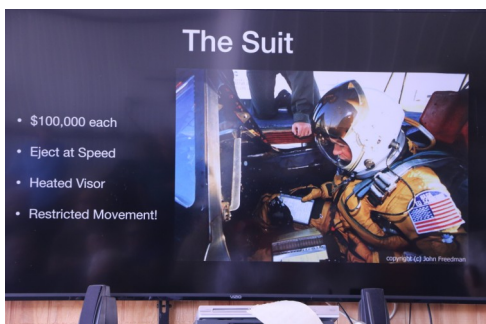
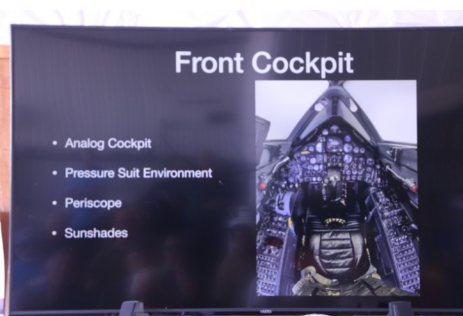
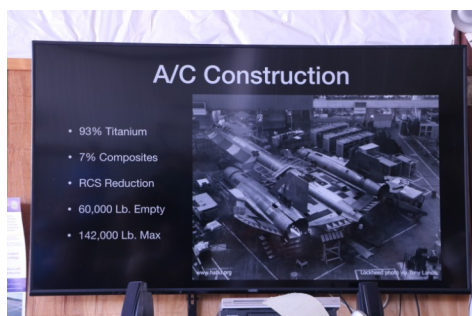
November 9—Elections

December 14—Chili Cookoff

6:47 PM Meeting adjourned by Tom Martin

# PROGRAM—SR-71 TEST PILOT ED SCHNEIDER

At our May Gathering we were treated to something rare and special. A few weeks ago chapter member Joe Seibert, apparently by chance, met former Navy and NASA test pilot Ed Schneider. If that wasn't enough, Ed was a primary test pilot for the SR-71. Joe was able to recruit him to come and speak to us. Ed had a beautiful series of prepared slides to accompany his talk. It didn't hurt that Ed was an excellent and accomplished speaker. I captured most of Ed's slides, a little more than half of which are pictured here. They will tell the story better than I can. I will add that Ed flew 45 test missions in the SR-71 for a total of 130 hours. He said that mission lengths varied from 1 1/2 to 4 hours. Thank you Ed Schneider for your excellent presentation and thank you Joe Seibert for bringing him to us!



Continued on next page



# PROGRAM— SR-71 TEST PILOT ED SCHNEIDER

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## SR-71 Test Pilot Ed Schneider continued


### Takeoff

- NWLO 180 knots
- Takeoff 210 knots
- Gear Up by 300 knots
- 20 deg Nose Up Climb
- Shock Diamonds!




### Aerial Refueling

- KC-135 Tankers
- Blackbirds Only!
- Special Comm. Equipment
- Special Procedures
- 55,000 lb. Onload
- 12-15 Minutes



### Climb and Cruise

- Altitudes and Mach
- 450 KEAS Climb
- Mach 3.2 Design Speed
- Limits: 3.3M / 85K Alt.
- Astro Nav.



### Landing

- Start Descent at 200 miles
- 175 kt. on Final
- 155 kt. touchdown
- 42' Braking Parachute
- Short Rollout



### NASA

- YF-12 1969-1979
- SR-71 1991-1993
- LEO Satellite Sim
- Sonic Boom Study
- USAF Requal 1995
- LASRE



NASA Dryden Flight Research Center Photo Collection  
The LASRE was flown as part of the Sonic Boom Study  
NASA Flight 1202-01292-1 Jan. 1993  
© 2000, shop #1 and SR-71 in formation flight during the sonic boom study

### Ride the Dragon



### LASRE

- Half Span Model
- Tilted on Side
- Operational Engine
- Persistent Hyd. Leaks



### LASRE 1st Flight

- 12,500 lb additional
- No Drag Chute
- Fuel System Mods
- Quick Decisions
- Program Cancelled



### Final Flight

- Oct. 9, 1999
- EDW AFB Show
- Oct. 10 flight - CNX
- 50 A/C Flown (all types)
- 20 A/C Lost or Beyond Repair



### Dragon Lady...forever?

- U-2S
- Everyday 24/7
- Hi Ops Tempo
- Demanding A/C
- Interservice Pilots




Druden Flight Research Center, 1993

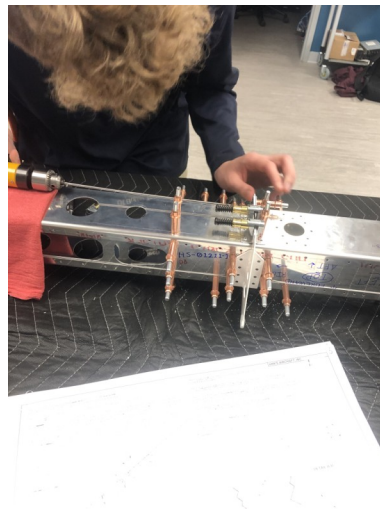
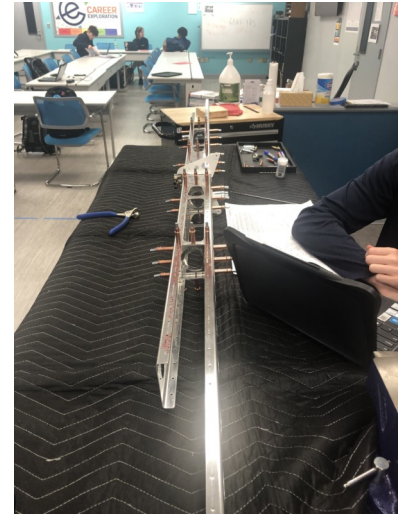




# **BUTLER TECH AVIATION TECHNOLOGY REPORT**

Page 8

This is a series of photos of activities in the Aviation Technology Program at Butler Tech. It was sent to me by chapter member Randy Adams who is a volunteer mentor for the program. Another chapter member, Bill Hauck, is also a volunteer mentor. See his photo with a finished half RV 12 horizontal stabilizer on page 2 of this edition. These photos show students learning to rivet and build a similar stabilizer part. Randy and Bill report the enthusiasm of the students is very high. Those of us that are builders can understand that. I don't know the exact details of what is taking place in these shots, but I think the pictures speak for themselves. Thank you Randy for submitting them. Thank you Randy and Bill for your efforts in mentoring these students and encouraging their enthusiasm toward a very worthy field and future career!



Chapter President Tom Martin received about a dozen of these cool LED fans from Frank Kunnumpurath, president of a company known as Holy Micro.. Holy Micro manufactures the following avionics: Skyvoice Alert LiDar AGL Altimeter, Skyvoice Glassy Guide AGL RADAR Altimeter, and Absolute AoA angle of attack device. Mr kummunpurath wanted to make us aware of his products. Along



with the LED fans he sent

brochures, and a poster. The fans will be auctioned to chapter members who are interested in more information about Holy Micro products. The fans and brochures will be available in the chapter hangar. Chapter 974 thanks Mr. Kunnumpurath for his generosity and for introducing us to his very exciting and intriguing products.

## **CHAPTER CONTACTS**

### **CHAPTER CONTACTS—HOW TO CONTACT EAA CHAPTER 974**

[officers@eaa974.org](mailto:officers@eaa974.org) — will reach president, vice president, treasurer, secretary as a group

[president@eaa974.org](mailto:president@eaa974.org) — will reach chapter president (Tom Martin)

[newsletters@eaa974.org](mailto:newsletters@eaa974.org) — will reach newsletter editor (Bob Dombek)

[youngeagles@eaa974.org](mailto:youngeagles@eaa974.org) — will reach Young Eagles Coordinator (Scott Balmos)

[techcounselor@eaa974.org](mailto:techcounselor@eaa974.org) — will reach technical counselor (Ray Parker)

[general@lists.eaa974.org](mailto:general@lists.eaa974.org) — group e-mail to all chapter members