

TAILWINDS



**EAA CHAPTER
974
NEWSLETTER
JAN-FEB 2026**



Butler County Regional Airport
Hamilton, Ohio



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EDITION!

- **EAA HOMEBUILDERS WEEK JAN 26-30**
- **THE PREZ SEZ**
- **DECEMBER BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**
- **CHAPTER CONTACTS**

**THE GREAT CHAPTER 974 2025
AFTER-CHRISTMAS, CHRISTMAS
GATHERING!**

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **FEBRUARY 8 CHAPTER GATHERING**
- **MARCH 8 CHAPTER GATHERING**
- **APRIL 12 CHAPTER GATHERING**
- **MAY 17 CHAPTER GATHERING**



Homebuilders Week—Online Event Starts January 26

Free Week long Online series on building your own aircraft

By Charlie Becker EAA Homebuilt Community Manager

EAA Homebuilders Week 2026 offers Free virtual presentations for anyone interested in building an aircraft. Registration is required and space is limited.

The event runs Monday, January 26 through Friday January 30 2026. Each day features six live back to back webinars starting at 11:30 AM Central time and continuing every 90 minutes until the final session at 7:00 PM. All sessions are live and include time for Q&A. To sign up, visit www.EAA.org/Homebuilders/Week

Whether you are just beginning to explore the idea of building, are deep into a project, or preparing for test flying, you'll find sessions addressing your needs. We are also excited to have EAA President Jack Pelton joining us on January 26 to discuss EAA's advocacy efforts on behalf of our homebuilt community.

EAA Homebuilders Week celebrates the anniversary of the Experimental Aircraft Association's building on January 26 1953. It's a great opportunity to carry on our mission by expanding your homebuilding knowledge with the five straight days of learning about building and flying homebuilt aircraft.

EAA's Homebuilders Week is made possible thanks to the generous support of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co, Dynon, Scheme Designers and Van's Aircraft.

Visit www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek to register.

 Homebuilders Week Schedule January 26 - 30, 2026 Homebuilders Week Schedule of Events					
To sign up: EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek					
Time CST	Monday 1/26/2026	Tuesday 1/27/2026	Wednesday 1/28/2026	Thursday 1/29/2026	Friday 1/30/2026
11:30-12:45	Building an Aircraft: What You Need to Know - Charlie Becker	Wiring Basics - Dick Koehler	Flight Testing 101 - Paul Dye	Amateur-Built Aircraft Certification Process - Joe Norris	Staying Alive: Analysis of Homebuilt Fatal Accidents - Dan Berry
1:00-2:15	Composite Construction Basics - Scott VanderVeen	Fabric Covering Basics - Austin Jones	TIG Welding - Charlie Becker & Shaun Walker	Insuring Your Homebuilt - Jim Stewart	Fly the Wing: AOA Demystified - Mike Vaccaro
2:30-3:45	EAA Advocacy Update - Jack J. Pelton, Sean Elliott & Rob Hackman	Sheet Metal Basics - Mike Dooley	Hardware for Homebuilts - Dick Koehler	Sonex Aircraft Update - Mark Schaible	Zenith Aircraft Kits & Plans - Sebastien Heintz
4:00-5:15	Getting Your Project Finished and Flying - Vic Syracuse	Dynon Avionics - Michael Schofield	Advanced Flight Systems - Rob Hickman	Garmin Experimental Avionics Solutions - Brad Breising	Weight & Balance - Joe Norris
5:30-6:45	Panel Planning and Wiring - Marc Ausman	Painting Your Plane: DIY or Use an Expert? - Craig Barnett & Ken Reese	Condition Inspections: Who & How - Brian Carpenter	Buying a Used Homebuilt - Vic Syracuse	Can Homebuilt Accident Rates Be Fairly Compared? - Ron Wanttaja
7:00-8:15	Van's Aircraft RV-15 Update - Marc Cook & Rian Johnson	Propeller Selection for Homebuilts - Steve Boser	Lessons From 200,000 Borescope Images - Mike Busch	Lycoming Engine Installation - Judson Rupert	Common Builder & Maintenance Errors - Vic Syracuse

Sponsored by





Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to everyone! As we reflect on a successful 2025, I am incredibly energized for everything 2026 has in store for EAA Chapter 974.

I want to extend my sincere gratitude to the members who supported our events throughout the past year. A special thank you goes to our board members and volunteers, your dedication, to the essential behind-the-scenes tasks ensures our chapter continues to run smoothly.

Roger McClure and Grace Hogan will remain on the board as treasurer and Secretary, while Robin Kidder will become the Vice President. Thanks to Mark Reising for his dedication to the chapter during his time as Vice president. Thank you board members past and present.

I also want to share a heartfelt thank you to our outgoing president, Tom Martin. Tom has kept our chapter humming throughout his tenure, and I am honored to build upon his mission of growing EAA 974 into a best-in-class organization.

Looking ahead, 2026 is shaping up to be a landmark year. We have an ambitious schedule that relies on member participation, including our Young Eagles rallies and the inaugural EAA 974 Fly-In!

I look forward to working with all of you to make these events a success. Please feel free to reach out to me anytime with suggestions, ideas or concerns. I'll see you at our Sunday Gatherings!

Fly Safe!

Jason

DEC CHAPTER BOARD BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

6:08 p.m. - Meeting called to order by Tom Martin

Attendees: Grace Hogan, Roger McClure, Tom Martin, Mark Reising, Scott Hersha, Brandi Bruwer, Robin Kidder

Secretaries Report –

- Motion made to wave reading minutes- posted in chapter newsletter.

Treasurer's Report –

Income \$ 1910.75

Expenses \$ 134.81

Balance: Checking \$ 7073.21

CDs \$ 16,884.83

Savings \$ 504.53

Total \$ 24,462.57

Young Eagles –

- Total for 2025: 71 kids flown

- Next date:

 - o Spring 2026

Old Business -

- Ray Scholarship- No candidate for this year. We will reapply for next year.

- Possible purchases for hanger: speakers for back of hanger during meetings and heat pump (getting estimate)

- Fly-in on October 10, 2026 11-4. Brandi going to coordinate

- Layout 5 year plan for Chapter

- Dues for 2026: \$25

- Scheduled 2026 Chapter Gathering and Young Eagles dates

- Migrating the website to the new system

- Christmas Party: \$30 per person, Same Place

- AC/ Heater total costs: \$1710 approved

New Business -

- \$500 donation from Gump Foundation

- Proposal to move Chili Cook off to March in 2026

- Menu: Ham Sliders

DEC MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

UPCOMING 2025 MEETINGS

December 14th- Chili Cook Off
2026 January 10th- Christmas Party
February 8th
March 8th
April 12th
May 17th
June 14th
July 12th
August 9th
September 13th
October 11th- Hanger Crawl
November 8th
December 13th

2026 Young Eagles: April 11th, May 16th, June 20th, July 11th, August 15th,
September 19th, October 17th

6:35 p.m. - Meeting adjourned by Tom Martin

CHAPTER CONTACTS

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 (Jason Pratt)

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

youngeagles@eaa974.org— will reach Young Eagles Coordinator (Scott Balmos)

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

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

THE GREAT 2025 AFTER CHRISTMAS GATHERING!



THE NEWLY ELECTED CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2026. LEFT TO RIGHT, JASON PRATT, PRESIDENT, ROBIN KIDDER VICE PRESIDENT, GRACE HOGAN, SECRETARY, ROGER MCCLURE, TREASURER



OFF TO A FLYIN' START (PUN INTENDED!)

MEMBER PORTRAITS



DEBBIE & PAUL O'CONNOR



MARY LOU & CHARLIE CORDER



KATHY AND BRIAN CHARLTON



MARK AND CATHY REISING



DOUG HURD



GARY AND CINDY MULLEN



JOEY, KIM AND LOGAN SHRIEVE



SCOTT AND BLAIR HERSHA

MORE MEMBER PORTRAITS



AND YET MORE MEMBER PORTRAITS



LEO AND GAIL KREBS



FRED HOGAN



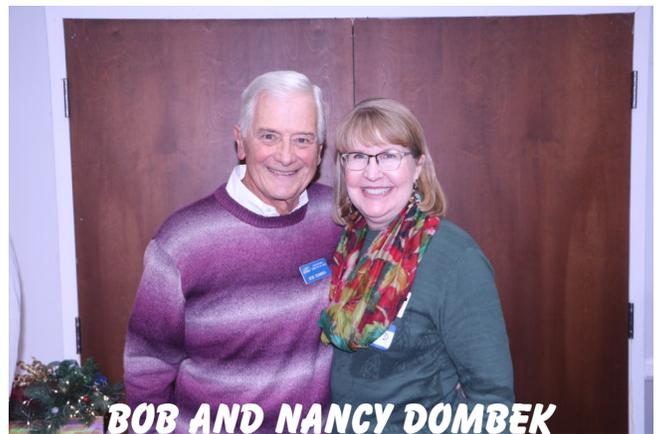
TOM AND MARCIA HOGAN



STEVE AND MANDY RUMSEY



MANU REMESH



BOB AND NANCY DOMBEK

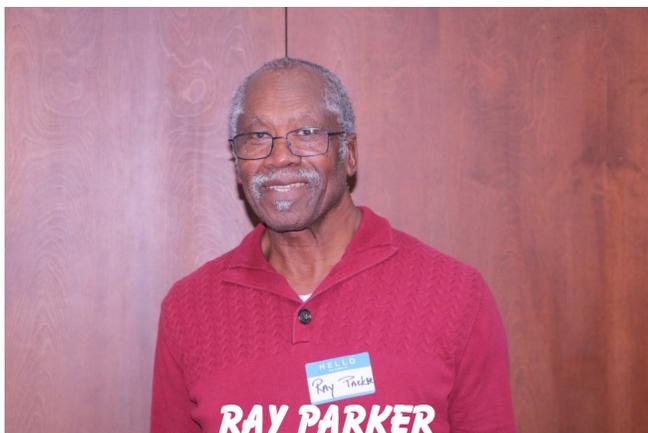


**ROSCOE & LUANN ROSCHE WITH
MICHAEL STEVE**



ERIK AND MARY NEBERGALL

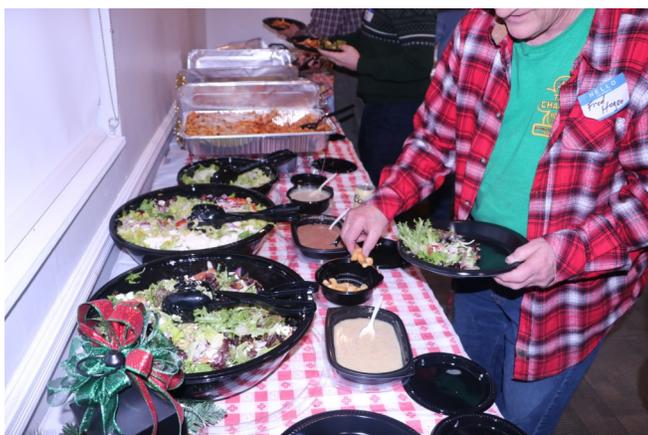
TIME TO EAT AND DRAW DOOR PRIZES



RAY PARKER



MAGGIARRINO'S ARRIVES ON TIME!



JOEY SHREVE CALLS PRIZE TICKETS



LOGAN AND KIM DRAW PRIZE TICKETS



RICK GETS WINNING TICKET FROM KIM

CHAPTER SERVICE AWARDS FOR 2025



MARK REISING, VICE PRESIDENT



GRACE HOGAN, SECRETARY



ROGER MCCLURE, TREASURER



SCOTT BALMOS, YOUNG EAGLES



JOEY SHREVE EAGLE FLIGHT ADVISOR



BOB DOMBEK, NEWSLETTER EDITOR



RAY PARKER, TECHNICAL COUNSELOR



SCOTT HERSHA, FLIGHT ADVISOR

THE GREAT STOLEN WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE! Page 12





**HAPPY NEW YEAR
EAA CHAPTER
974!**