



EAA Chapter 478 Cockpit Chatter



February 24, 2010

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Chapter Calendar

Note: There may be events that are scheduled or anticipated but that I am either not aware of, or for which the date(s) has not been finalized. Therefore, the calendar may not reflect all events.

March 2010				
	Board Meeting	Thursday, March 4 th	1900	Lenny's Restaurant
	Chapter Meeting	Tuesday, March 16 th	1900	Patuxent River Navel Air Museum
April 2010				
	Board Meeting	Thursday, April 1 st	1900	Lenny's Restaurant
	Chapter Meeting	Tuesday, April 20 th	1900	Patuxent River Navel Air Museum
May 2010				

Board Meeting	Thursday, May 6 th	1900	Lenny's Restaurant
Chapter Meeting	Tuesday, May 18 th	1900	Patuxent River Navel Air Museum

[Directions](#) to Lenny's Restaurant; [Directions](#) to Patuxent River Navel Air Museum

Chapter meetings are generally held the third Tuesday of each month. Board meetings are generally held the first Thursday of each month and are open to all Chapter 478 members.

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Newsletter Update (by Jerry Szelc)



Jerry Szelc drilling the trailing edge of the elevator on his RV9a.

Let me start by saying “Thanks” to Dan Hammer for all of his efforts to support an informative and enjoyable chapter newsletter. Dan recently allowed me to take over as the Editor and I’m looking forward to my new role. Dan is a great asset to the chapter and I’m sure he will remain involved in several of the chapter’s activities and events. Including helping to provide me with newsletter content every now and then! Thanks Dan!

And who am I you ask? My name is Jerry Szelc¹, I’m new to the Chapter but I have already met many of the members. My wife and I purchased a house on MD50 from Ed Harvey about a year ago, but I have flown in and out of CRE for a number of years and have had the opportunity to meet many of the airport residents. I am also building a Vans RV9a. I’m working on the wings (ailerons to be exact) and the fuselage kit is on order. Right now I’m building at our home in Northern VA but plan to move the project to the hanger at CRE when I outgrow my garage.

I decided to join 478 in order to meet more pilots in the Southern MD area. In my experience, getting involved in an organization with like minded folks is the best way to get to know people. So I asked Dan if he would allow me to take on the role of newsletter Editor, and he graciously agreed. I think this will be another way for me to get to know the 478 members and to use the newsletter to help people stay connected and involved in the Chapter.

In the coming months I'll be reaching out to you for content and new ideas. I want to create an environment where members look forward to receiving and reading the newsletter each month and feel that it is a valuable link to the chapter and its members. The newsletter should not only be informative, it should also serve as a tool to encourage members to remain actively involved in the chapter.

I'm looking forward to getting to know all of the members and would encourage you to contact me with suggestions, ideas, and most importantly content for the newsletter. Do you have some pictures that you think everyone would enjoy? Send them to me along with a short write-up. Also, please drop me a line and let me know how you like the new format. It will likely take a little time to get the newsletter format to where we want it. My email address is jszelc@gmail.com.

I: My last name is pronounced "Sheltz."

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Chapter Meeting Minutes (by: Bill Englehart)

EAA Chapter #478 Monthly Meeting
Tuesday 16 February 2010
Location: Naval Air Museum

The meeting was called to order at 1900 by Jeff Test.

- Briefed upcoming trip to Udvar-Hazy aviation museum. As of the meeting, only 15 people have signed up from Chapter. Need more people. Can take 45...break even is 28.
- Caution when sending 'all-member' emails. Some 'fire-and-forget' emails may best be targeted to specific members.
- Still thinking of organizing a fly out to Luray Caverns in March if anyone interested. Some expressed doubts that the weather would be good enough. Put on back burner for now.
- Board meetings are 1st Thursday of the month, 1900, at Lenny's restaurant. Everyone is invited. Last meeting discussion centered on what was in the latest EAA magazine. Many articles pertinent to us. Article on a chapter that hadn't had a home in 50 years. One

chapter built an LSA. The LSA route may be a good approach to getting a sport pilots license if you can't afford the roughly 10K for a private pilot license. Also discussions on 'Learn to Fly' article/program in EAA magazine.

- Bernie Wunder is posting a lot of things on the web site.

Builder Reports



- There were no Builder Reports this meeting. Jeff went over his Long EZ nose gear construction and demo.

Tom Weiss A-1

- Tom covered the efforts underway and is always looking for help.

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Guest Presenter – Rob Winston (by Bill Englehart)



- There was an outstanding presentation by Rob Winston on designing and building your own aircraft. The title of Rob's presentation was "You don't have to be smarter than a 5th grader."
- Rob grew up where the Confederate Air Force began. He got into Experimental Aviation as a kid.
- Rob talked about an LSA design he built in 93. It was designed and built in less than a year! Rob claims it is easy to design your own LSA aircraft. You just have to take it step-by-step. There are plenty of books to help with the design.

- Some of the Light Sport aircraft pilot requirements:
 - 20hrs time
 - Drivers License serves as your medical
 - 150 hours to become an LSA instructor
- Light Sport Aircraft requirements:
 - 1320lbs gross weight
 - 45 kts max stall speed
 - 120 kts max speed
- Rob stated the first step in the design process is to define the mission. What do you want the aircraft to do? (i.e. seats, range, gross wt., etc)
- Rob went over an interesting discussion on water-tank testing vs. wind tunnel testing.
- There are lots of tools now that you can run on your computer. These simulate water-tank and wind tunnel testing on your computer with amazingly accurate results.
- There were lots of questions on formula derivation, flutter testing, etc. Also, how close was the performance of the actual airplane to the original calculations?
- The presentation was very interesting and thorough. Great job, Rob, and thanks for your time and talent.
- Rob Winston holds his water tunnel model for testing his Light Sport Aircraft Design and Jeff Test demonstrates his Long E-Z nose gear

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Udvar-Havey Trip (Pictures: Bernie Wunder & Jerry Szclc)

National Air & Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center Field Trip



A couple photos from the trip to the National Air & Space Museum Udvar-Hazy Center on Saturday February 20th. It was an opportunity for me to meet a few of the chapter members. A group of us joined up with a knowledgeable museum Docent who provided many interesting insights into several of the aircraft.

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Web Links to Articles, Videos, etc.

Informative Hand Propping Video (Sent in by John Attebury):

<http://aviationsafetyvideos.com/handprop.html>

A Little Humor



Hey guys, let me get a picture of you in the cockpit. What wonderful smiles!

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