

- **CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES**

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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**GUEST PRESENTER**

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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 hrs to become an LSA instructor
- Light Sport Aircraft requirements:
  - 1320lbs gross weight
  - 45 kts max stall spd
  - 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