



The Flyer

Volume 42, Issue 7

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 44

July 2011

SPORT AVIATION CENTER UPDATE

by Norm Isler

WE ARE NOW OPEN FOR BUSINESS!

The SAC made it's "World Premier" on June 21, 2011 when it welcomed EAA President Rod Hightower and his entourage from Oshkosh, Wisconsin. At his only New York State stop on the Grassroots Pilot Tour, 2011, we welcomed him with approximately 125 aviation enthusiasts, putting the building to the use it was intended, growing Sport Aviation.

Leading up to June 21 was a mixture of planning, scheduling, organizing, arranging, stocking, clearing, mudding, painting, plumbing, cleaning and who knows what else that might well have been wedding preparations for a nervous bride instead of a Grand Opening. While we all would have liked to see more completed, I for one was thrilled with what we showed to the world as one of our accomplishments.

And what did Rod think of our new "digs"?

"Just a beautiful facility," Hightower said of the center, which provides plenty of meeting and workspace. "Chapter 44 is a switched-on, exemplary EAA chapter that has a real can-do attitude. They know how to grow a chapter with lots of family activities, Young Eagles rallies, and events to engage both builders and aircraft owners."

I agree with that!

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UNRECOGNIZED THANK YOU'S

In looking through video of the June events I noticed some important thanks you's were not mentioned.

SAC Construction Manager **Mike Clayton** has been the quiet giant of our project, always having a clear sense of the plan, and a way of communicating that plan to his neophyte construction crew. Mike's ability to work closely with President Norm Isler during this build process was also critical for our success. **Thank you Mike.**

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CONGRATULATIONS TO US!!!!

by Tom Bowdler

The events of June 21 and 25 were among the biggest thrills of my life! I got to meet the County Executive, welcome our national President to our Sport Aviation Center and was interviewed for a story on television! Hard to top if I do say so but those things paled compared to watching you, our members, fly in with you planes, park cars, stand in front of a hot, smoky grill flipping dogs and burgers, serve a variety of home made goodies to guests from all over, show your friends and neighbors the part you had in building the SAC and too many other things to mention. My mind is significantly boggled!

VP Norm did a great job as MC, Bob Northrup and Gail Isaac appeared on TV promoting sport aviation and our new building. I even sounded halfway intelligent and was able to get across the points that I wanted to that we did it ourselves, we paid for it ourselves (with

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VOTE FOR EAA 44 TO WIN THE \$10,000 LIGHTSPEED AVIATION FOUNDATION GRANT

Go to <eaa44.org> and click on the link to the Lightspeed voting page. Only one vote per e-mail address is allowed. It is extra important to ask ALL your friends and family to help us win this campaign. Proceeds go to the Sport Aviation Center.

Voting is open until September 10. Spread the word and ROCK THE VOTE for EAA 44!

SAC Update con't

What now? After almost two years of seemingly constant involvement and work, Norm and Mike agreed it was time for a one month "Stand Down" at the SAC. After the cleanup was finished following the Grand Opening event on Saturday, June 25, work was "encouraged" to cease for a month so everyone, ESPECIALLY Mike and Norm (and our better halves Anne Marie and Elise) could get caught up on a few details at home. We are getting rested and looking at what comes next.

Hopefully, August will see concrete poured for Phil's Porch and the front sidewalk. Also, some more plumbing and fixture installation will occur to complete the restrooms, and paint will go up on the Great Room and Grand Promenade walls. Bob Northrup has some ideas he wants to demonstrate in the Pilot Lounge / Board Room areas, and perhaps some work to improve the acoustics in the main meeting room. Congratulations, and thanks, to all that worked so hard to make this place a reality. And now, It's "Miller Time!" See you at the SAC!

Thank You's con't

Thank you also to Norm Isler for being our "Little Engine That Could," always encouraging the chapter that we can and WILL accomplish our goal. And we have. Often taking on the load of others, Norm plugged away daily at tasks both large and small, moving the project forward.

Thank you to the spouses, partners, and families of the members for your sacrifice over the past two years. We took many hours from you and our families, and we appreciate that you were understanding of us and our passion, especially if you don't share it with us.

Thank you to our donors and sponsors who, through their financial and material donations, have allowed us TO OWE NOBODY NOTHING in the construction of this building.

And lastly, **thank you to ourselves, the hard-working and proud members of EAA44** for the sweat equity in OUR Sport Aviation Center.

Congratulations con't

some help) and that the building was not just for ourselves but for community outreach and programs. And then came Saturday. Bob Nelligan-Barrett's program, a unique variety of talks, demonstrations, tours and more showed the public what we're about and where we're headed.

You may know that I joined Chapter 44 while the former Chapter House was being constructed. The shell was completed but lots of interior finishing remained and The Taylor Chummy, which hangs in the Rochester airport terminal, was started during my last stint as your President. Those accomplishments and more are reasons to be proud of Chapter 44, our history and things we've made happen. And now we have our SAC. Yes, there is still much to do to complete the building and many of us dream of the day that our attached hangar will be ready for occupancy but lets rest a while and savor our success. But not too long for the future is calling.

We did it together, my friends, and together we will vault into the future. Look at what the last two years have brought, where will the next two take us? The sky is literally the limit but only if we continue to pull together as a team. Congratulations to US!

The Grass Is Always Greener.... At The SAC by Norm Isler

And it is longer too. We need a volunteer, or a few volunteers, to help with the grass at the SAC. After being beautifully groomed for the Grassroots tour and grand opening, it is starting to get tall again.

The chapter owns a fine tractor capable of cutting the grass. All we need is an operator. It would be excellent if we could find a few people to volunteer for "Grass Detail" duty. (Sounds like something I remember from High School!) If cut every other week, maybe even every third week, the place would look fantastic.

Please consider volunteering for one afternoon this summer to help out. We will be looking to sign folks up at the July meeting.

Thanks!

Sport Aviation Center of Western New York Dedication & Ribbon Cutting - June 21, 2011



Norm & Tom welcoming local political VIP's.



Visitors & VIPS at the ribbon-cutting.



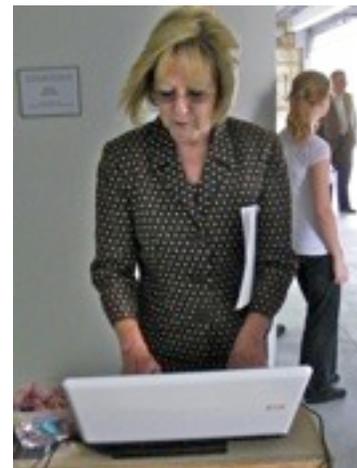
VP Norm Isler, Emcee for the Day, welcomes our guests to the Sport Aviation Center.



Dave Hurd proudly shows his souvenir to Jeff Punton and Carl Ayers.



Mike Stoddard gets a motivational ride in Craig Ritson's Sonex.



County Executive Maggie Brooks votes for EAA 44 in the Lightspeed competition. Thank you!

EAA President Rod Hightower Grassroots Pilot Tour - June 21, 2011



Norm and Tom greet President Hightower.



How could Rod refuse Elise's invitation to vote!



The Old Goat talks with some young kids. Get it?



It was standing room only at our first big event.



Pres. Hightower enjoying a home-cooked meal.



Norm & Tom receive a plaque from Pres. Hightower.
(J. Cavanaugh photo)

**SAC Grand Opening
June 25, 2011**



Mike Clayton demonstrates Kitfox construction techniques to Carl Bouwens.



In another world...



All kinds of interesting planes showed up.



Chautauqua Aircraft Sales brought a Cessna Skycatcher for display and demo rides. Thank you!



Our one Young Eagle of the week.



Big yellow biplanes always draw a crowd.

**EAA Chapter 44
Board of Directors' Meeting
14 June 2011**

Board Members Present: Hurd, Isler, Isaac, Clayton, North, Hazen, Nelligan-Barrett, Williams
Non Board Member Officers Present: Bowdler

Reports:

- President (Tom Bowdler):
 - Word of thanks for all the work around the SAC. Need to acknowledge efforts of those who volunteer and help.
 - Suburban News article coming out this weekend. Tour of new SAC and other Chapter activities. Press release for SAC open house on 25 June.
- Vice President (Norm Isler):
 - Wings 2011 - Good presence and good promotion of our campaign for the Lightspeed Foundation grant. Despite a relatively low turnout, Elise Isler was especially good at engaging people to come and vote. Need to continue efforts to promote our campaign.
 - Lightspeed Foundation Grant - Update on our progress. Norm was in contact with LSF representative regarding our standing in the voting. As of last weekend we were 400 votes out of consideration for an award. Looking for ideas to spread the word to other aviation groups, contact lists, Facebook, etc.
 - Blacktop repair - Had to slice through driveway due to settling over the winter. Contractor has kindly offered to repair for the cost of blacktop.
 - SAC network - Installation in progress, should be completed shortly. Appreciation to Todd Cameron for his assistance.
- Treasurer (Dave Hurd):
 - Federal tax return extension filed.
 - Received tax-exempt approval from Commonwealth of VA (helps with potential trip to NASM).
 - Received a donation to improve the acoustics in main meeting room by adding sound absorbing material or other techniques to help reduce the reverberations.
- Secretary (Stephen North):
 - Report read and approved

Business:

- Sport Aviation Center (SAC)
 - Building Committee – Need to reinvigorate, no follow-up to the original meeting. Committee needs to establish use policies. Tom Bowdler to look for a volunteer chairperson.
- Oshkosh Airlift (Steve North)
 - Sold 11 packages total, all set except for bus passes.
- General
 - Program / Bottle Queen – Donation of \$164 from scrap metal and bottle returns.
 - Young Eagles on 23 July. Will start at 8:30.
 - Hendershot Fly-In breakfast is on for this year! Scheduled for Sunday, 24 July.
 - Visit from Rod Hightower (21 June, Tuesday) – plans in newsletter.
 - Open House (25 June, Saturday) – Bob N-B presented plans. Workshops and presentations during the day. Advertising out, press releases. Food should be under control.
 - Norm moved that we make a fifty-dollar donation to the Brockport Presbyterian Church in recognition of their loan of chairs for the Rod Hightower visit. Rob Williams seconded, passed unanimously.



Rob Williams demonstrating how his Stearman would come up behind Rod's Stearman in a mock dogfight.

J. Cavanaugh photo

CONTACT EAA 44



The Flyer is published monthly. For an electronic copy, go to <eaa44.org> and enter your email address where requested. For a mailed hard copy (\$10), contact Treasurer Dave Hurd. For membership info, contact Treasurer Dave Hurd.

Stories and photos by the editor unless otherwise noted. Article deadline is 1st Tuesday of the month. Send submissions to Editor Bob Nelligan-Barrett.

OFFICERS

President: Tom Bowdler
16685 Hinds Rd.
Holley, NY 14470
585-638-2416
bowdler@juno.com

Vice-President: Norm Isler
585-638-8098
normisler@aol.com

Secretary: Steve North
585-723- 5794
snorth59@rochester.rr.com

Treasurer: Dave Hurd
1681 Oak Opening Rd.,
Avon NY 14414
585-226-2402 dbhurd@att.net

DIRECTORS

Mike Clayton: 585-352-1763
mclayton@rochester.rr.com

Phil Hazen: 585-227-9811
phil1948@frontiernet.net

Gail Isaac: 585-352-1205
gissac@rochester.rr.com

Bob Nelligan-Barrett:
585-754-726
trailbossbob@mac.com

Mike Stoddard:
585-586-2102
mstod1@frontiernet.net

Rob Williams: 585-737-9435
rwilli3@rochester.rr.com

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Mike Stoddard: 585-586-2102
mstod1@frontiernet.net

LIBRARIANS

Jarrel Battaglia: 315-333-5381
jarrellbattaglia@hotmail.com

Bob Nelligan-Barrett:
585-754-7263
trailbossbob@mac.com

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bob Nelligan-Barrett:
146 Worthington Rd.
Rochester, NY 14622

OSHKOSH AIRLIFT

Steve North: 585-723-5794
snorth59@rochester.rr.com

SPORT AVIATION CENTER

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

Mike Clayton: 585-352-1763
mclayton@rochester.rr.com

TECHNICAL COUNSELORS

Earl Luce: 585-637-5768
earl@luceair.com

Jim Martin: 585-368-9333,
jettester@frontiernet.net

Jeff Paris: 585-750-5333
jeffrey-j-paris@excite.com

WEBMASTER & YOUNG EAGLE COORDINATOR

Phil Hazen: 585-227-9811
phil1948@frontiernet.net

EDITORS EMERITUS

Hugh Jones: 585-663-1489
Paul Pakusch: 585-746-4514
Art Thieme: 585-663-1875

Chapter 44 is a 501(c)3 organization. Gifts of cash, securities or other property to EAA Chapter 44 in the interest of the Sport Aviation Center are welcome and fully tax deductible. Contact Dave Hurd for details.



Pres. Hightower arrived in this TBM 850. OSH to 7Go in 1:50

REGIONAL CALENDAR

ESL International Airshow

featuring US Navy Blue Angels
Celebrating 100 Years of Naval Aviation
Greater Rochester Int'l Airport (ROC) NY
July 16 & 17, <rochesterairshow.com>

EAA 44 Young Eagle Rally

Sport Aviation Center
Eisenhauer Dr., Brockport Airport
July 23

Fly-in Breakfast

Hendershot's Airfield, Hilton
July 24, 8-noon

EAA AirVenture July 25-31

EAA 44 Oshkosh Airlift July 25-30

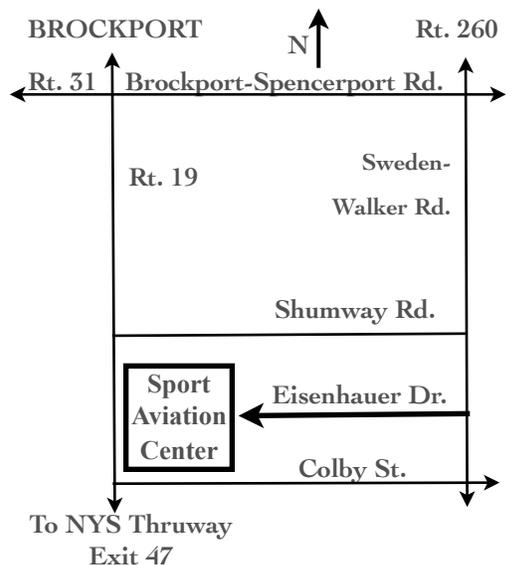
Oshkosh WI (OSH)
<airventure.org>
<eaa44.org>

NYS Festival of Balloons

Celebrating 30th Anniversary
Dansville Airport (KDSV) NY
Sept 1-5, Labor Day Weekend
<nysfob.com>

EAA 44/46 Young Eagle Day

Genesee County Airport (KGVQ), Batavia
Sept. 17



EAA 44 Calendar



NEXT GENERAL MEETING

A photo and video show of the construction, Dedication, Pres. Hightower Grassroots Pilots Tour visit, and the Grand Opening of the Sport Aviation Center. Presented by Bob Nelligan-Barrett.

**July 19
Dinner 6:30
Presentation 7:30**

July 12 Board Meeting
July 19 General Meeting
July 23 Young Eagle Day
**July 24 Hendershot Fly-in
Breakfast, Hilton**

August 6 SAC Work Crew
August 9 Board Meeting
August 16 General Meeting
August 20 SAC Work Crew

September 3 SAC Work Crew
September 13 Board Meeting
September 17 EAA 44/46 YE Day
September 20 General Meeting

Oct 1 SAC Work Crew
Oct 11 Board Meeting
Oct 15 SAC Work Crew
Oct 18 General Meeting

All activities take place at the Sport Aviation Center unless otherwise noted.

Sport Aviation Center
Eisenhauer Drive
Brockport Airport/
Ledgedale Airpark (7G0)

Board Meetings-
2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 PM

General Meetings-
3rd Tuesday of the month
Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30

SAC Saturday Work Crews-
1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10 AM -?

Bob Nelligan-Barrett
EAA 44 Newsletter Editor
146 Worthington Rd.
Rochester, NY 14622