



Chapter 172

Augusta, Georgia

December 2018



Chapter Officers

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec 8: EAA 172 meeting. 12:30PM at the Pea Patch. Come celebrate the Holiday Season!

Dec 15: EAA 690 Young Eagle Rally, 8:30AM, Gwinnett County Airport (KLZU)

Jan 12: EAA 172 meeting, 12:30PM at the Pea Patch. The famous Pea Patch chili cook-off!!!

South Carolina Breakfast Club

Dec 9: Darlington, SC (KUDG)

Jan 6: Aiken, SC (KAIK)

Vice President's Desk

Whenever some asks me "are you crazy" I say "I like to sit in a tin can and pretend to be a bird" and after a few excruciatingly awkward moments I add, "I am a pilot."

But that's the truth which defines us. What makes our EAA Chapter cool is our collective spirit of aviation and willingness to dedicate our heart and souls to it. We are a group like-minded people who chase a novel concept of being part of an aviation community.

I want to say that I take great pride in being a part of this community. The last couple of years have been good for us in terms of growth, and as most of you are aware that the a lot of our new members have stepped up and taken more active roles in chapter leadership as well.

This year we saw a very talented set of speakers at our meetings; we are happy to inform everyone that 2019 is also going to have a very exciting lineup of presenters, so brace for impact.....!

Nandi

December Meeting:

The December meeting will be Saturday, December 8th at Pea Patch. This will be our last meeting for 2018, and will be our Christmas & Holiday Party get together. Lunch will be turkey/chicken, so please bring a side or dessert to complement the main dish. We will have a gift exchange for Chapter members who wish to participate, as well as a toy donation/collection. No speaker this month, just great fellowship! Hope to see everyone there!



November Meeting Minutes:

The November meeting returned members to Pea Patch after being away since August. We had 23 people present, with 3 guests, including Nandi's mother Subhagya who was visiting from India. Minute items discussed were the toy collection and delivery during the December meeting, as well as the formal approval of all members present to reelect the current Chapter Officers for 2019. In addition, 6 Chapter members were recognized and thanked for their Veteran status since Veteran's Day the following day.

Before we got down to the business of lunch and the presentation, there was a small ceremony to commemorate the inauguration of Nandi & Samta's flight school, **Aero Science International**, based at Augusta Regional Airport. There was a cake cutting and photographs.



Rihn DR-109 based in Ohio

Our guest speaker was Chapter President Allen Nodorft discussing his build of a rare Rihn DR-109. Al purchased the partially built kit several years ago and has been working on this project without the benefit of any plans or drawings. As Al says, the wisdom passed-on to him was "it's an

airplane – just build it!" What makes this kit so unusual (other than the obvious guesswork) is that the build utilizes several different materials; a steel tube frame, wood wings, fiberglass and aluminum panels, and metal control surfaces. Al detailed his struggles with panels and other pieces which, although all came as a kit, never seemed to fit together properly. The most notable portion of the presentation was the arduous task of reshaping his 1-piece acrylic bubble canopy, and how he had to create an oven and an adjustable form/jig which he could slowly alter the curvature of the canopy to



The canopy wrapped in protective plastic

where it would fit onto the frame. What made the process even more problematic was that if it didn't work, there would be little to no chance of finding a replacement! But in the end the reshaping was successful, and Al brought the piece for all to see. Another complication he discussed was the molded fiberglass panels which formed the fairing around the base of the canopy. Since Al had reshaped the curvature of the acrylic, the molded fiberglass pieces no longer fit properly, so it was necessary to cut and reshape. All told, Al is unsure how many hours have gone into the build thus far, but he says the experience has taught/given him new skills! It's also put him in contact with other builders who provide valuable guidance and advice; and as Al says, that's what being a part of EAA is all about!

EDITOR'S NOTE

The Rihn DR-109 is a modified tandem 2-seat version of the original single-place Rihn DR-107 "One Design" created by Dan Rihn. His intent was to provide a low-cost, kit-built option for basic and advanced aerobatics training as well as a competition aircraft. Currently, only 11 DR-109 aircraft are registered in the US!



Pieces of the DR-109. An aluminum fuselage panel, and one of the reworked fiberglass canopy fairings.



New Flight School Spreads It's Wings

For those who are looking for a place to learn to fly, you now have more training options! Chapter Vice-President Nandi Shetty and his wife Samta have started a flight school here in the CSRA. **Aero**



Science International is based out of Augusta Regional Airport/Bush Field (AGS), and will provide training for students interested in obtaining their basic ticket, right up through to their commercial rating. The school currently has two aircraft; a 1968 Cessna 150H, and a 1966 Cessna 172H. The Skyhawk may be familiar to many, as this had belonged to

former Chapter President Dennis Allen, which he had kept hangered at Pea Patch. (Nandi was able to convince Dennis to sell it to him!)

At present, the school has one CFII on hand but Nandi hopes to have two more instructors in the near future. That's good, because in the first month of operation, the school has already logged over 100 flight training hours!

Best of luck to Nandi & Samta!



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Aero Science International
1510 Aviation Way
Augusta, GA 30906

(706) 526-1911

CFII – Bradlyn Wadel

Cake-cutting ceremony for Aero Science International. Pictured (L-R) Dennis Allen, Bradlyn Wadel (CFII), Nandi Shetty, Jay Shetty, Subhagya Shetty, Samta Shetty, Dev Shetty.

EAA Flying Tips:

Winter Flying for Airplanes and Pilots

Yes, this is Georgia, and winter doesn't get bad around here, right? Well, think again! Here are some good tips from the EAA Website how to prepare yourself and your aircraft for cold weather operations. <http://inspire.eaa.org/2018/11/15/winter-flying-for-airplanes-and-pilots/>

Meeting Schedule

| Month | Day | Time | Event | Location | Food |
|----------|-----|----------|-----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| December | 8 | 12:30 pm | Christmas Party | Pea Patch | Turkey |
| January | 12 | 12:30 pm | Chapter History - Charlie Connell | Pea Patch | Chili Cook-Off |
| February | 9 | TBD | Tour of Standard Aero | Bush Field | T's Seafood Restaurant |
| March | 9 | 12:30 pm | Flying in Antarctica - Dave Rossi | Daniel Field | Coffee & Pastries |

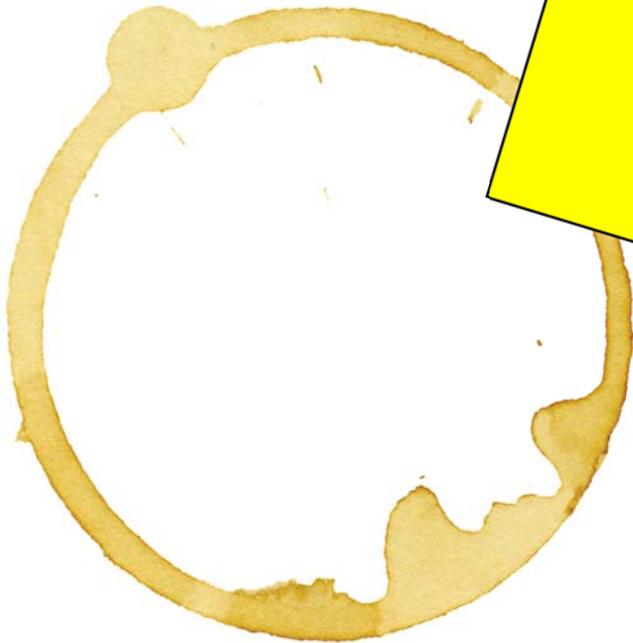
Sticky Notes from the President's Desk

National EAA has asked us about a couple of things we can participate in. The first is an extension with Young Eagles. The idea is that after the Young Eagles flight we would engage the kids in building an RC airplane to get them involved in building planes too. EAA National would provide the plane kit and radio needed to fly. Jim Maher is going to explore this more. If you would like to help with this, please talk to Jim.

- AL

National sent us an update on the Ford Tri-motor wing replacement and a request for financial support to get this done. I have sent their email out to all in case anyone wants to contribute individually.

- AL





NAME THAT AIRPLANE?

This kit-built LSA can take-off in as little as 200 feet and climb at 1500 ft. per minute and cruise for up to 7 hours on 30 gallons!
Answer next month.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



From EAA 172



2019 Chapter Dues! \$30
before the end of the year,
\$40 starting Jan. 1st!