



eea9@yahoogroups.com
Volume 46, Issue 10

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

CENTRAL OHIO - CHAPTER 9

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NEWSLETTER

October 7, 2004

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A look at an RV-9A...

What It's Like to Build a Scratch Plan

By Curt Jenkins



"I'm still amazed that an airplane actually flies! I'm further amazed that the government lets me drive one around! But I'm really flabbergasted when I see someone building a flying machine from scratch," says Rick Schwandt. Chapter 9 visited Schwandt's home last weekend to see his RV-9A project. It was a perfect, early Autumn Saturday morning; the sun was shining in a brilliant blue sky, the air was crisp and Rick's garage was full of airplane parts. It was mesmer-

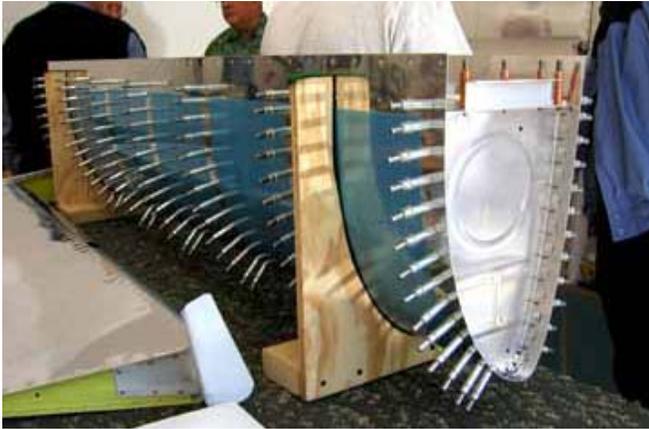
izing. "I've never seen such a clean, organized work space except maybe in a surgical unit. Like Alan Harding said, "Meticulous comes to mind." Rick told me that although several thousand empennages had been sold only a few hundred wing kits and fuselages followed those orders. Each piece of Rick's plane has been primed to prevent corrosion which is something even Cessna doesn't do in their planes. I checked the rivets; they were perfect; the partially completed wings were nestled in a carpet padded wooden jig on wheels which made them easy to move around. I'm certain that Rick doesn't do anything that isn't well considered and executed. The empennage is completed and the two wings are in differing stages of completion, a few electrical wires are in place, one can see where the fuel tank caps and drain plugs will be installed, but the workmanship was



Rick Schwandt tells EAA9 members about his RV-9A.

the real focus of everyone there. The RV-9A is a two place plane that with the Lycoming O-320 engine should get Rick to just about anywhere on the East coast in a real hurry! He says that it won't do aerobatics but that isn't his kind of flying anyway. He considers himself a weekend cruiser and his RV-9A will "cruise" him just about anywhere he chooses. When Rick is finished he estimates that the total cost will be approximately \$60 thousand dollars. "If I went out and bought a plane today, that same \$60 thousand would get me a 30 to 40 year old plane with questionable avionics. Instead I can have a brand new plane that cruises around

150knots on a lot less gas and I can fix it myself.” Rick is a heating and cooling engineer and is right at home with schematics and other hieroglyphics, and to him the pre-punched kits are so simple that he considers himself more of an assembler than a builder; that’s like



calling Michelangelo a house painter! Rick’s work is art, but instead of hanging it on his living room wall, he’ll get to climb in and fly! But he won’t be the first, he says he will hire a professional test pilot to make the first trip. Not a bad call! Good luck Rick.

Crabtree Attends Vinton Co. Fete



We were all pleased to see Norm Crabtree at the annual Vinton County Airshow Sept 19.

Our Next Meeting...



Next Meeting – Oct. 9, Young Eagles and Hog Roast! Members are asked to not only help with the Young Eagles event that

begins early at 9 a.m., but are invited to the Chapter’s *Hog Roast-Pot Luck* which will begin about 4 p.m. Please bring a dish to share with your aviation enthusiasts!

Young Eagles to Soar!

Dear Aviators, Aspiring Aviators, Enthusiasts and Friends – The successes of Young Eagles just keep on happening, solely because of the giving hearts of so many of you! As EAA Chapter 9, the USA, and the world celebrates TODAY’s achievement of the first “HOMEBUILT” space-ship to reach space twice in less than 2 weeks, we also celebrate the freedom to fly that we Americans are blessed to enjoy. To keep this privilege strong in our future, we must contribute today to its exercise, by sharing it with others as profusely as we can. This is the purpose of Young Eagles, to raise a new generation who will keep aviation strong. Young Eagles at OSU airport on Saturday needs to start a little earlier than usual, as we may have a conflict with Buckeye Homegame incoming traffic later in the day (probably starting around 11:30 or 12:00). **PILOTS NOTICE:** please try to come between 9:00 and 9:30 so we can start flying as soon as passengers arrive. Also, volunteers who can come, please let me know so I can decide how anxious I need to be! We need help with flying, registrations, certificates, ramp safety, aircraft loading, etc., etc. Please don’t think that we don’t need you. We do! And YOU are appreciated. Don’t forget the EAA Chapter 9 pot-luck hog roast at 4:00! If you’ve thought about joining EAA and want to meet some new friends, come and see what it’s about.



Hope to see you there!

Keith Edwards
EAA Chapter 9

For newcomers: In order to be a Young Eagles pilot, you need be a member of EAA, NAFI, or another “partner organization” (very few: sorry, AOPA is not one...) You must have at least a private pilot certificate with current medical certificate, meeting flight review and currency requirements for DAY VFR flight. You need to have an airworthy aircraft with liability insurance coverage of at least \$100,000 per seat limits. The EAA’s insurance will also provide additional coverage. We insist on at least 3,000 ft. ceiling and 5 miles of visibility. Safety is always #1! The Young Eagles program is a 501(c)3 charitable program. For more info, see www.eaa.org www.young eagles.org or www.eaa9.org.

Rubik’s Sport Pilot

by Curt Jenkins

The new Sport Pilot rule from the FAA is like a Rubik’s Cube of confusion. At least to me it is. It is one rule that can be twisted and turned to fit almost any consideration or concern for pilots. Mr. Mark Forss of the EAA Aviation Services division did a great job of presenting

the lengthy rule (almost three hundred pages from the FAA) which he condensed down to nineteen pages and from there a slide presentation of ninety minutes. The presentation certainly didn't cover the entire rule and this article can only cover a small part of that seminar so if you are interested in becoming a Sport Pilot you can request a copy of the rule from EAA. The one good thing is that the new Sport Pilot category lowers the barriers to flying:

- There is less medical expense because medicals are not required (with a few caveats) your current drivers license will suffice;
- less time (therefore less money) is needed to obtain the new certificate;
- The new aircraft will be much cheaper and will supplement the existing aging fleet of existing aircraft. European and American manufacturers have already started production on a few of the models;
- The new rule retains and in some areas improves the safety of aviation.

The requirements for Sport Pilot are:

- 17 years of age;
- Read, write, speak and understand English;
- Pass a practical exam;
- Pass a knowledge test;
- 20 hours minimum dual instruction for single engine land.

There are not practical standards yet but they should be available in a month or so.

If you are a private pilot you can become a Sport Pilot with no trouble and if you now have a medical certificate but for one reason or another are afraid it will not be renewed, Mark says just to let it expire and you can retain the Sport pilot certification with no problem. However, if your medical has been revoked or suspended for any reason you must have it reinstated before you can exercise the rights of the Sport Pilot.

[Part 2 of Curt's report on the Sport Pilot will be in next month's newsletter]

EAA9 To Look at Airplane Plastics

Becky Rogers, of Airplane Plastics, has confirmed our chapter's visit to their shop on Nov. 13th. We should be at their Tipp City shop at 10AM for a two hour visit. Becky will have coffee and donuts for us, according to EAA Director Clare Lutton. This will be EAA Chapter 9's membership meeting for November.

Airplane Plastics manufactures canopies for RV's, Cozy, Rutan, and many other homebuilt designs. Jeff Rogers, owner, will demonstrate how canopies are blown, and explain how to trim and drill them. Their photos of past projects are very impressive, as well as



Check Our Website

Be sure to check our Website at www.eaa9.org. We would like to hear your comments which you can send to President Harding at al@osubarnstormer.com. Thanks to Craig Schneider for his work on this site.

their neat and well equipped facility.

Airplane Plastics is located at : 9785 Julie Court, Tipp City, OH 45371. To get there, take I-70 west to Rt. 202, Huber Heights area. North on Rt. 202, 1.5 miles to Gibson. Left on Gibson, 1/2 mile to Julie Ct.

Members wishing to carpool should meet at the Barnstormer for an 8:30 am departure. Members planning to make the trip should contact Clare by Nov. 10, so he can give Becky Rogers a number to expect. Clare's e-mail address is: wlutton@yahoo.com, phone 316-5406. Also let Clare know if you plan to drive by yourself, want a ride, or can be a driver.

Youth Aviation Adventure a Hit!



We are pleased to report the Youth Aviation Adventure had 89 people go through the program at Don Scott Sept. 25. Seventy one of them were Boy Scouts and the rest were troop leaders and other interested parents. All the discussion leaders wore the sharp new red golf shirts with the YAA logo sewn on that Steve Wathen provided. Stew Hirsch arranged for Channel 4 to come out and shoot some video. Nathan Anderson brought a cutaway jet engine that he and Nathan Olson recently created. That engine helped significantly in teaching the Scouts how a jet works. Thanks to Columbus State for loaning the engine. Between now and the spring program, YAA plans to make presentations to some Girl Scout and Boy Scout troop leader meetings. YAA is especially interested in having more Girl Scouts attend our programs.



Ramp Check

Young Eagle Flight Rally schedule. We fly the second Saturday every other month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at OSU Airport (weather permitting, of course). As of Oct. 5, 2004, 1,087,548 YE's have been flown. The next date for 2004 is October 9.

Oct. 9 – Young Eagles and EAA9 Hog Roast-Pot Luck. YE's fly from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Hog Roast to follow after 2 p.m. *Bring a dish to pass!*

Nov. 13 – Membership Meeting - Airplane Plastics, Tipp City, OH. Tour begins 10 a.m. Car pool leaves Barnstormer at 8:30 a.m.

Nov. 18 – Chapter 9 Elections – Barnstormer Restaurant, 7:30 p.m.

Alan Harding
EAA Chapter 9
2160 West Case Road, Ste. 14
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Membership Meeting...
Young Eagles (9 am – 2 p.m.)
and Hog Roast - Pot Luck (around 4 p.m.)
October 9, 2004
Don Scott Airport



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EAA ... The Leader in Recreational Aviation

