



EAA Chapter 478
COCKPIT CHATTER
Lexington Park, MD September 2014



EAA Chapter 478 Monthly Meeting

Date & Time: September 16, 2014 – 6:30pm

**Location: Pax River Naval T&E Museum (22156 Three Notch Road,
Lexington Park, MD)**

Program: Builders Reports, Picnic Report, Chaptergram

In this edition of the Cockpit Chatter:

- From The Top** – Picnic review and September plans
- Board of Directors Meeting Minutes** – September 2, 2014
- Treasurer Report** – Results of Picnic Auction
- Young Eagles Corner** – 2200 and counting
- Member’s Corner** -
- The Pax Museum/Curtiss A-1 Corner** – Completion Spring 2015
- The Chapter Homebuilder’s Corner** –
- The Flying Corner** –
- Chapter Calendar** –Calendar of flying activities

➤ **From The Top – John Nelson President EAA Chapter 478**

What an awesome Chapter Picnic & Raffle Saturday! Sylvia Soto and our volunteers put on another amazingly successful picnic and raffle the second year in a row. I want to say it was expected, but you never know how these things will turn out – especially with the weather moving in and the event getting rained out (in?). We moved the entire event into John Attebury’s spacious hangar and had a great time. Stan Sweikar couldn’t fly in due to the weather but he showed up and offered his awesome raffle prize in the form of a rain check – a ride in his historic 1929 Fleet biplane. Dan Hammer’s brats & burgers made vegetarians question themselves. The food, prizes, and company made for a great evening, and we raised a record \$1,502(!!) for our Curtiss A-1 exhibit at the Patuxent River Naval Air Museum. By the time we move into the new building we will have a world class display that will really draw in the crowds and represent the Pax River naval test center well. To Sylvia and all the volunteers that made this a successful event, a heartfelt Thank You!!!

Just a couple of other things I wanted to mention before I go on a 3-week long trip... one is that I will be going on a 3-week long trip. I hate to miss the September meeting, especially since it looks to be a truly great one. VP Pos will keep everyone up to date on the event, and again, you're encouraged to attend the preceding board meeting and voice your thoughts.

We have a couple of new Chapter Officers. As you know, Bernie Wunder has been a true Jack-of-All-Trades and master of all. In the absence of volunteers, he stepped up and functioned as Webmaster, Newsletter Editor, Refreshments Coordinator, audiovisual coordinator, and seemingly a million other functions. That's in addition to his full-time job as MD50 Airport Manager and college professor. We got used to him doing it all, and that's not right. After putting out a great August issue (check your email), the time has come for us to be fair to Bernie and be the volunteer organization we were meant to be, and pick up the slack and do our part.

- Tom Weiss volunteered to be our Newsletter Editor for the remainder of 2014. Please support Tom by submitting newsletter inputs. We have a good number of news worthy members' projects, flyouts, and ideas to share, so don't hold back. If you don't have time for a long writeup, send a short one. Either way we want to hear from you!

- Chris Moody stepped up to serve as Webmaster for the rest of 2014, succeeding Bernie Wunder and Rajeev Pandit before him. If you have any thoughts about how to improve the webpage, please send them to Chris.

Remember to tell Tom and Chris (and Bernie!) thanks, and please consider volunteering yourself. If there is some way you would like to contribute, bring it up at a monthly or board meeting, or send me an email. You are what makes this chapter function.

Last thing, a couple of events to mark on the calendar,

- Saturday, September 13: Young Eagles Rally for First Responders at St. Mary's Co. Airport

- Saturday, September 20: Wings & Wheels Fly-In at Essex Skypark

- Saturday, October 11: Young Eagles Rally at Chesapeake Ranch Airport

I'm bummed about leaving on my trip and missing out on flying and the September meeting, but I look forward to coming home and catching up.

See you in September!

John

➤ **EAA Chapter 478 Director's Meeting March 11 2014**

No Report Submitted

➤ **Treasurer's Report** submitted by Don Byrne

The highlight for the month of August was our picnic and fund raiser for the A-1 display fund. The A-1 fund raiser produced \$1502.00 bring the total A-1 display fun to \$3000.00 which was our goal. The expenses for the picnic that have been turned in to me and have been paid are \$260.00 to Bernie Wunder for food supplies.

Here's our current status:

Petty Cash 1816.25

Checking 3148.18

Savings 439.00

Total 5403.43 (3000.00 designated for the A-1 museum display.)



➤ **YOUNG EAGLES CORNER**

Young Eagles Coordinator – Joe Spelz

We asked EAA HQ to tell us how many Young Eagles EAA Chapter 478 has flown during the Young Eagles Program. The table below shows the results of that request. The Chapter is coming up on 2200 when you count what we have flown this year and what we are scheduled to fly in October.

1994	44	2006	97
1995	79	2007	122
1996	89	2008	51
1997	90	2009	113
1998	47	2010	156
1999	23	2011	187
2000	113	2012	242
2001	94	2013	79
2002	90	2014	93
2003	101	TOTAL	2174

➤ **MEMBER'S FORUM**

Note the impact of the below changes at Pax River to MD50 Operations - ed

Pax airfield runway lights go automated By Donna Cipolloni - Tester staff writer

In the darkness of morning's earliest hours, an aircraft approaches the runway at NAS Patuxent River. It's after normal operating hours and the air traffic control tower is not staffed. What happens next depends entirely on the pilot once the new automated airfield lighting procedure comes online Sept. 18.

"In order to land, that pilot will need to complete a number of motions to automatically activate the runway lights," explained Air Traffic Controller 1st Class Jason Wood, Pax River tower chief. "The lights will then stay on for a predetermined amount of time."

Normal airfield operating hours are 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. weekdays and 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends; however, Wood noted there are about 25 to 35 closed-field operations — operations performed outside those hours — conducted at Pax in any one month.

Currently, although no air traffic control is provided during off hours, the tower operates under Closed Field Watch and is staffed by qualified individuals who offer some assistance to aircraft by coordinating general information for both inbound and outbound flights.

With the new procedure, however, the tower will stand empty.

"We are in the middle of conducting a 60-day trial period," Wood said. "There are still people [in the tower] and we have about another month to go until we're completely unmanned."

Once the automated airfield lighting procedure kicks in, it also becomes the pilot's responsibility to call the Pax fire department and arrange for the required standby crash truck before each departure and arrival when conducting closed-field operations.

"With no one in the tower, the aircraft and crash trucks have to be able to communicate with each other directly," Wood said, "and we're managing that by giving the 'crash house' their own radio to monitor the selective frequency at night."

Any maintenance or other vehicles operating after hours on the airfield will also need to obtain a radio and monitor the same frequency.

"Before an aircraft can move from hangar to runway, they'll make a blanket broadcast over a selective frequency saying what they intend to do, so anyone else on the airfield monitoring the frequency can communicate their whereabouts also," Wood said.

Under the new closed field automated lighting procedure, aircraft are now authorized to do low approaches, which had not been allowed previously during closed field hours.

“It’s a way to scare off any wildlife in the area,” Wood said. “Or, they can send their own personnel out to drive down the runway for FOD and wildlife checks first.”

AVIATRIX JUNQUE – submitted by Sylvia Soto

On the 14th of June, the Women of the Airport, under the guidance of MaryBeth Gates and Dee Wunder held the **1st Yard Sale at MD-50**. Sure enough just right next to the runway. We had 7 crazy people setting up their goods for the 7am show. A variety of things were sold to many curious souls. *There were even some aviation parts.* The day was beautiful and very successful. *\$100. was donated to MD-50.* At the end of the day, Ed Harvey and MaryBeth Gates made a road trip to SPOT in St Leonard with more donations!

Another Yard Sale is in the works. Anyone can join us. We’re just a shout away. Come make yourself some \$\$\$. It’s time to get rid of those stuffy things.

Looks like we’ll see you in the fall.

NAVAIR will collaborate with the university on drone research - NAWCAD

Public Affairs

(Potential impacts to flight operations at 2W6)?? - ed

NAVAL AIR SYSTEMS COMMAND, PATUXENT RIVER, Md. - The University of Maryland (UMD) cut the ribbon on its new unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) test site at St. Mary's County Regional Airport in California, Maryland, Aug. 5.

UMD named former Naval Air Warfare Center Aircraft Division (NAWCAD) vice commander, Matt Scassero, the director of the new test site. His mission is to safely and responsibly integrate and advance UAS. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) UAS Test Site program selected the Mid-Atlantic Aviation Partnership - which includes Maryland, Virginia and New Jersey - to help integrate UAS into national airspace.

Located less than 12 miles from the command's headquarters at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, the test site offers potential for a collaborative environment to advance UAS technology.

"Our existing relationship with the University of Maryland serves as the foundation of this new test site," said Vice Adm. David Dunaway, commander of NAVAIR. "The sharing of human capital and expertise from the university, government and industry will be a conduit for technology transfer, and the overall betterment of national security."

The test site will deliver products and programs in support of workforce development and higher education while it serves as a hub focusing the capabilities of the people and infrastructure in the area. These activities will provide new opportunities for the Southern Maryland region.

"This new addition to the St. Mary's County Technology Corridor is the first step toward a larger autonomous research initiative in the region," said Maryland Delegate John Bohanan, Jr. "The test site represents the next big transformation of our Southern Maryland economy, and will offer up new job opportunities for Maryland residents."

The UAV industry is rapidly growing with a current global market estimated at \$6.4 billion yearly, according to aerospace consultancy The Teal Group. They project that number will nearly double to \$11.5 billion by 2024.

"What we hope to do is to take advantage of that considerable investment," Dunaway said. "This is a very exciting day for the U.S. Navy, and I look forward to working with everyone involved."

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➤ **THE Navy T&E Museum/A-1 BUILDER'S CORNER**

Building completion scheduled for Spring 2015. Curtiss A-1 move in May 2015. We are expecting to have the opportunity to review the Curtiss A-1 display materials that have been prepared by the Patuxent River T&E Museum Display Committee in October.

➤ **THE CHAPTER HOMEBUILDER'S CORNER**

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➤ **THE FLYING CORNER**



A Unique Fly-In Destination

Chris Moody

I saw an EAA Chaptergram a while back from Chapter 855 that said their airport was right beside a bike trail. It also said that the chapter had constructed a shed that contained a few bikes that people flying in could borrow. That got my interest. I called the Chapter President to make sure this was correct and if so how to get access to the bikes. Sure enough it was true and the bikes could be accessed any time. I had to check it out--so it was on my list.

I had the opportunity to go investigate on Aug 26 since the day promised to be severe clear in the whole Mid Atlantic and I had some time. See attached photo for the route (*route.png*). The airport is located in Slatington PA (69N) on the Lehigh River just North of Allentown. The flight is almost a straight shot at just under 150 NM. A little over an hour and many frequency changes later, I was entering the pattern.

The bike trail runs along the river and is a former railroad right of way. Its level and smooth with a crushed gravel surface. It runs about 10 miles in each direction from the airport.

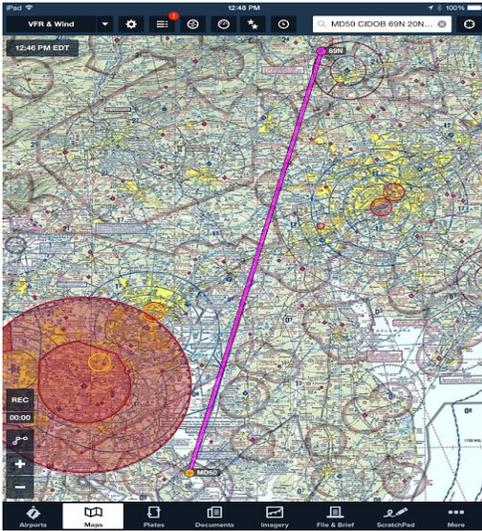
Since it was a Tuesday, there was no activity around the airport to speak of when I arrived. The attached photo (*parked69N.jpg*) is of my RV6 parked with some of the Lehigh Gap visible in the background. This is a gap in the mountain ridge where the Lehigh River passes through. The Appalachian Trail also passes through here. Now, on to the bike shed south of the hangars...



The bike shed (*shed.jpg*) had several bikes as well as a pump, tools and maps generously provided by the Chapter. I picked a bike and started down the trail toward the town of Slatington, (less than a mile) where I found an Italian pizza and sub shop right by the trail. After lunch I headed north back by the airport and through the gap. Along most of the way you could see the river and right at the Gap there was a nature center. See attached picture of the bike I borrowed and the trail (*bike.jpg*). I covered only a small portion of the total trail miles so there is more for me to do next time. There is also a segment of the AT very close that should make a good day hike.



It may be a bit far for some, but it's a nice destination for some exercise in a nice natural setting and with decent food within walking distance of the airport. I'll be back.



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➤ **EAA Chapter 478 2014 Calendar**

Date	Event	Location	Time
19-21 Sep	B-17 Tour Stop	Caldwell NJ	
20 Sep	Essex Sky Part Wings and Wheels	Essex MD	0900-1700
21 Sep	Hagerstown Airport Wings and Wheels	Hagerstown MD	0800-1600
26-28 Sep	B-17 Tour Stop	Manassas VA	
27 Sep	Virginia Highlands Air Show & Fly-in	Abingdon VA	1000-1700
27 Sep	Fly-In Foot Long Hot Dog Day (DE17)	Greenwood DE	
27 Sep	USO Big Band Dance and Concert	Cape May NJ	1900-2200
27 Sep	EAA 501 Fly-in	Fairfield NJ	0800-1500
27 Sep	Wings, Wheels and Keels (Hummel)	Saluda VA	0800-1600
4 Oct	EAA Chapter 216 Fall Festival	Alloway NJ	1100-1500
4-5 Oct	Biplanes and Triplanes	Virginia Beach VA	
5 Oct	Pancake Breakfast Fly Drive In	Lock Haven PA	0800-1230
7 Oct	EAA 478 Board of Directors Meeting	Pax T&E Museum	1830-1930
11 Oct	EAA 240 Pancake Breakfast Fly-in &	Toughkenamon PA	0800-1200

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18 Oct	EAA 36 Fly-in Drive in Breakfast, Lunch	Hagerstown MD	0800-1330
18 Oct	MD50 Open House & YE	Chesapeake Ranch MD	0800-1500
18 Oct	Culpeper Air Fest	Brandy Station VA	
21 Oct	EAA 478 Monthly Meeting	Pax T&E Museum	1830-2030
22-23 Nov	Sportair Workshops	Pittsburg PA	
6 Dec	46 th Holly Run	Bay Bridge AP	

➤ *In the Chocks*

Build and Fly Safe.
Tom Weiss - Editor

Cockpit Chatter is published monthly by EAA Chapter 478 solely for the dissemination of information and ideas to the membership. Any opinions expressed herein are strictly those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the chapter or the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Chapter Officers

President: *John Nelson*
Vice President: *Bill Posnett*
Secretary: *Joe Spelz*
Treasurer: *Don Byrne*

Committee Chairs and Chapter Advisors

Social Chairman: *vacant*
Membership Chairman: *vacant*
Program Coordinator: *vacant*
Young Eagles: *Joe Spelz*
A-1 Construction: *Tom Weiss*
Flight Advisors: *Bill Posnett*
Technical Counselors: *Bernie Wilder, Skip Shepherd*
Newsletter Editor: *Tom Weiss*
Web Editor: *Chris Moody*

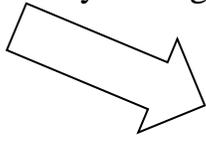
Board Members

Sid Wood
Tom Weiss
Chris Moody
Egon Frech
Jeff Test
John Attebury

Chapter Web Address

<http://www.478eaachapter.org>

HOMES WITH HANGARS FOR SALE AT CRE AIRPORT (MD50)
More info by calling 443-624-5548



MD50 Airport: It is 50' wide x 2500' long, paved, and lighted