

HANGAR ECHOES

DECEMBER 2025



The F4 Raider Takes Flight

By Michael Stephan

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION ☆ CHAPTER 168 ☆ DALLAS

On October 3rd at Grand Prairie Municipal Airport, Ted Harrison launched his F4 Raider into the sky for its first flight. It was a nice October morning and conditions were perfect. After a short flight confirming the airplanes control stability and engine performance, ted came back and made a smooth landing.

Congratulations Ted!

This is a project I was close to. Not only was it just a few rows south of me at GPM. The kit sat on a shelf in my shop for nearly twenty years.

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Important Chapter Stuff

By Michael Stephan

It has been a busy month in the Chapter. Early in the month we visit Migis' and the Rearwin Speedster project they are now furthering. A little rainy to start, but then a beautiful day.

later in the month we found out that the Outback Steakhouse we planned on having our Christmas Party in was one on the list of closures for the Outback franchises. So Brad Roberts was able to find a new location for us on short notice, and with BOD approval we are now partying at Aboca's Italian Grill in Richardson.

Then there is thanksgiving, and I hope everyone had a day with good food and family.

Now on to some news.

In this issue, we are celebrating this first flight of Ted Harrison's F4 Raider project which flew in October. He has been working since to improve the airplane with one tweak at a time. Testing continues, but it is nearing that phase of not working on problems and just enjoying the flying that it can do.

Good job Ted.

We also have going into next year a new slate of Officers for the Chapter. Pete Miller will take over the helm after being Secretary for many years, then Vice President for a few years. Greg Kochersperger steps up to the Vice President position after work diligently putting our social events together last year. He has been one of the directors for several years.

Sam Cooper and Jim Canniff will continue as Treasurer and Secretary, both jobs that they have done for many years now.

Should be the makings for a fantastic 2026. Looking forward to it.

Also new this month. Addison Pilot Shop is back as an advertiser. They have supported this Chapter for decades and we reconnected them and now you will see their information every month.

Brenda is a terrific supporter and runs a excellent shop. It is located just north of the Addison Airport and great place if you need piloting supplies. She is terrific to work with. Go there.



**Addison
Pilot Shop**

Brenda Shults
manager

4653 Westgrove Dr. • Addison, TX 75001
(972) 735-8710 • addisonpilotshop.com

This time of year leads toward a bit of reflection. As I reflect on what I am thankful for, two names come to mind, Klaus Truemper and Lewis Shaw. Both very cherished members of this Chapter that we lost this year.

Lewis was a member for many years, but mostly in the background. He financially supported many of the activities that we now are doing. One of those being the Scholarship Fund for future pilots. Lew was a very interesting and fun person to be around, and staunch supporter of EAA and the homebuilt movement.

Klaus was one that was more noticed. He wrote many of the contributions for our Newsletter. He inspired readers to travel to the many destinations that he loved so much. His articles on the maintenance of his Zeniar were informative. But his smile at the Chapter picnic and the Christmas Party that he attended every year were very heart warming. I'm going to miss that this year.

So think a good thought for two members that will be missed.

Membership Update for December

By Sam Cooper

We had one new Chapter membership in November. John Bonowitz has rejoined the Chapter. We also had Alessandro join as a new Student Member of the Chapter. Alessandro is exploring his strong aviation interests. Welcome aboard John and Alessandro. Let us know how we can help you on your aviation journey and adventures.



Mel Asberry
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Builder Web Sites

- Paul Asselta's [RV12iS](#)
- Eric Cadorette's [Sling 4 TSi](#)
- Aaron Garinger's [Sling TSi](#)
- Greg Kochersperger's [RV-10](#)
- Pete Miller's RV-7 smilinpete.com/wp/
- Jim Novak's RV-8 www.mykitlog.com/izzybear
- Greg Schroeder's Sportsman www.mykitlog.com/schroeder1

Christmas Party

The December Chapter meeting will be on **Tues, December 2nd at Aboca's Italian Grill**, located at **100 S Central Expy, Richardson, TX 75080**.

Doors open at 5:30 for some social time. Dinner served at 6:30. Fun and Games to follow.

Dinner is \$26 per person. Payable at the door.

More details on page 5.



Merry
Christmas

December 8th Board Meeting

The December BOD meeting will be an online meeting on Monday December 8th at 6 pm. Any member is able to sit in on the board meeting. If you wish to do that, email smilinpete@gmail.com and he will send you a ZOOM invite. A summary of the minutes from the Nov BOD meeting recorded by Jim Canniff are as follows:

Meeting called to order by Brad Roberts at 18:01. Minutes from the previous meeting approved as emailed.

Officers/Directors in Attendance: Officers/Directors in Attendance: Brad Roberts, Pete Miller, Jim Canniff, Sam Cooper, Ann Asberry, Christopher Jolly, Joe Migis. and Greg Kochersperger, Also present: Zen Walters, Michael Stephan and Mel Asberry.

CHAPTER MEETINGS

Dec 1 Christmas Party.

Jan 6: Nathan Huegen of the Commemorative Air Force

Feb. 3: CarolAnn Garratt

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETINGS

Dec 8

TREASURER REPORT

Sam discussed the Treasurer's Report. We had 5 new member three regular members and two student members. We also had 4 renewals yielding a membership of 87. Currently there are 6 student members.

YOUNG EAGLES / EAGLE FLIGHTS

YE event scheduled for Sat., Nov. 15. at Sherman Municipal Apt. Six youth are scheduled to fly.

Weather may be an issue, will be closely monitored.

Zen Walters - Student Ambassador - List of area flight schools added to Young Eagles document. Schools differentiated by Part 141 or Part 61 curriculum.

CHAPTER SOCIAL ACTIVITIES:

No events scheduled

BUILD AND FLY

Christopher Jolly has scheduled an event for Feb., 2026.

SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

Claire - Cross country flight training. EAA funds used up – Mosley family to cover remaining costs. Check ride scheduled for Dec 6.

FIRST FLIGHTS

David Nakonieczny – Glstar

Ted Harrison – F4 Raider

Michael S reports he should have plaques ready by the Christmas Party.

NEW BUSINESS

Christmas Party:

Board briefed on sudden closure of Plano Outback. Brad Roberts proposed change of venue to Aboca's Italian Grill in Richardson. Menu and room accommodations discussed by board. Proposal accepted.

Ann Asberry proposed chapter absorb higher cost. Accepted by board. Jim Canniff will attempt to recover reservation fee from Outback corp. or parent company.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:25

Newsletter Archives Online

www.eaa168.org/wp/recent-newsletters/



The F4 Raider's First Landing

It all started in the terminal's lunchroom. Ted was contemplating building another project. In the 90's he built, flew and eventually sold an RV-4.

I had an early RV-4 kit that I bought from its second owner. After a few months of old school building, I saw my first RV-8 quickbuild, and I changed streams. That RV-4 kit when up on the shelf, until Ted started talking about a future project. With not much negotiation, Ted was the kit's fourth owner.

The kit was an old kit and had plenty of undesirable options ie short gear legs, gel coat cowl and other fiberglass parts, and the canopy had a big hole smashed in it. But a rocket conversion would replace all those parts with better ones and result in a more valuable plane. Not wanting the nose heaviness of the F1 and Harmon Rockets, Ted opted for the new 4 cylinder version of the F1 Rocket called the F4 Raider.

The only issue is the F4 did not come with a set of plans, just some parts. With a set of Harmon plans and RV-4 plans, Ted ventured to put this hybrid together. He needed to solve quite a few problems along the way since the plans did not match the parts he had. The plans were just suggestions.

This is really a "one off" airplane. It has a Showplanes tip-over canopy instead of the Rocket's slider. Popular on the RV-8, this is the first time to have this canopy on a Rocket. Ted made it work. Instead of the regular Rocket tanks, this Raider has Harmon's large tanks with a capacity of 54 gallons.



The Continental O-370 engine's first run

The F4 is powered by a Continental O-370 (the ECI Titan engine that is now owned by Continental) and it turns a three blade Hartzel prop. On the inside it is all Garmin. G3X is the EFIS with an autopilot. The radio is the GTR 205 and GNX 375 is the Navigator/Transponder. A very simple but very capable IFR panel. To back things up is a Garmin G5 EFIS.



The early panel layout of the F4

The cowl was replaced with an F1 rocket cowl, and the gear is the long F1 titanium option.

I was really interested in the performance of a lower horsepower Rocket, and test numbers look pretty good. A little worried that he might be faster than my Fastback. Ted's reports that testing has a nice light control feel. and airplane flies very straight and tracks straight on landing. Still more testing to do as the F4 has about 8 hours on it. There is just a bit more finish work to do before it heads to the paint shop. But it is a fantastic build.

Again, Congratulations Ted!

Chapter Christmas Party @ Aboca's

The Christmas Party is just a few days away. If you have not made a reservation, there is still time to contact Sam Cooper at treasurer@eaa168.org and get a seat at the tables. Dinner is \$26 per person.

The date is **TUESDAY, Dec 2nd, 2025.**

This is one of the most enjoyable chapter events. No business to conduct, only good food, fun and some holiday socializing. We welcome members and their spouses. We always have a nice group and a private room.

Ann will again have a few games to play, and as in the past we have a few door prizes. It is a great way to start off the Christmas season.

This year we have a new venue.

Everything is set for our Christmas party at Aboca's Italian Grill. We have the private room at 5:30.

6:00 Appetizers and drinks will be available

6:30 the buffet will open.

If a gluten-free meal is specifically requested, the restaurant can accommodate.

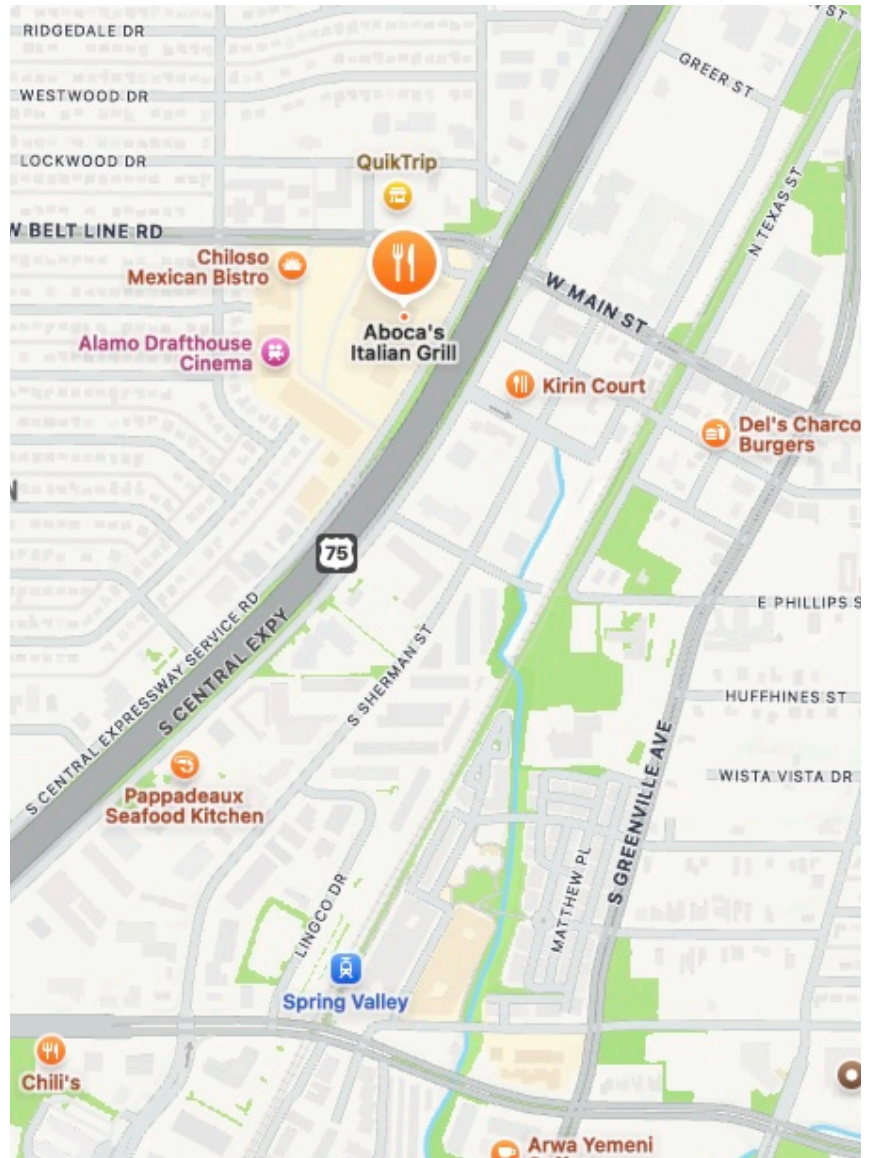
The dinner buffet includes

- Bruschetta
- House Salad
- Ciabatta Bread
- Chicken Marsala
- Beef Lasagna
- Agli Olio
- Steamed Veggies
- Italian Cream Cake or Chocoholic cake
- Tea Water Lemonade Coffee

We will also be taking donations as we have done in previous years. This year those donations will benefit the Chapter 168 Youth Scholarship Fund. Note that since we are not a charity, these donations are not deductible on your taxes.



Aboca's Italian Grill
100 S Central Expy
Richardson, TX 75080
(972) 231-7500



Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 168 is a tax exempt Social Club and we are not a public charity. All contributions, or gifts, to the Chapter, even if designated for the EAA Chapter 168 Youth Scholarship Fund, are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes by the donor.

A Visit to Joe Migis' Restoration Project.

By Michael Stephan

Last month we travelled to Hidden Valley where Joe and Milissa Migas hosted a visit to see their aircraft project; the restoration of a 1938 Rearwin Speedster.

This is an amazing find. Not your average barn find here. This was a very meticulous restoration and reproduction project that Joe is continuing from the originator Ralph Luther.

Included in the project is a second set of plane parts. Several were duplicated from the original and one set given to Ralph. Also included were two original Menasco inline 4 cylinder engine. One of them has zero time on it. Two props were also on display. One was the original and one was new.

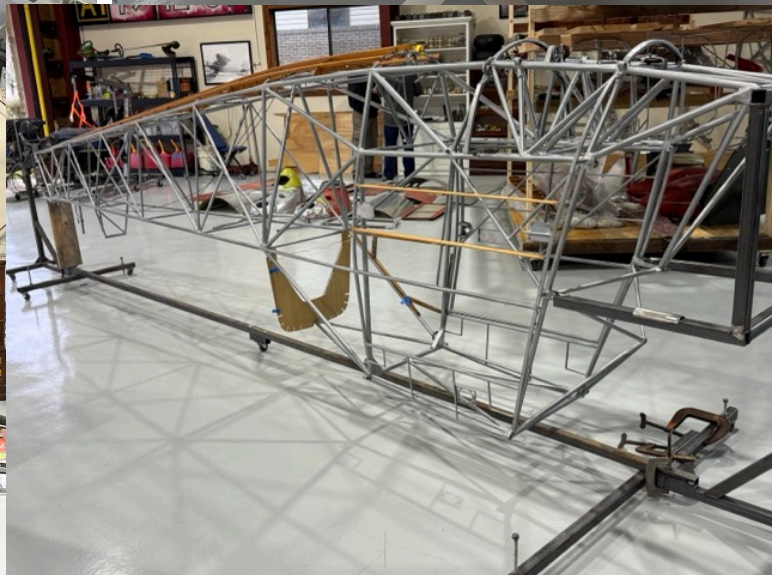
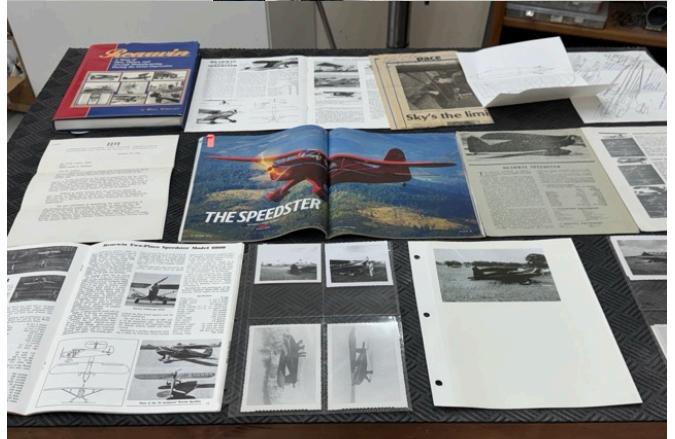
The most amazing part is Joe has all of the original documentation that Ralph collected over the many decades of working on the project including the engine logs for both engines. This airplane is better documentation than both of mine put together. Incredible.

Joe was very good at explaining the history of the restoration. Mr. Luther did a great job keeping this plane and its history together, and Joe has now picked up that mantle.

We plan to follow Joe and Melissa as they put this plane back in the air.

After a morning of 1938 nostalgia, Joe and Milissa had lunch for us. It was quite generous and delicious. A perfect ending to a fascination and enjoyable morning.

Thank you Joe and Milissa Migas!



Iconic Adventure in the Icon A5

From Christopher Jolly

Pictures from my flight demo with Iconic Flight iconicflight.com with owner Erich Roeder out of Denton KDTO, with water landings at lake Lewisville. These demo flights are very hands on, Erich is a captain at American Airlines but is also a flight instructor.

Iconic Flight demos the lifestyle offered by the incredible amphibious A5. Erich will also sell you a ICON if you're in the market, both new and preloved ICON's are available.

Seaplane training is available for those interested in a single engine seaplane rating. I had an incredible experience and confidently recommend others to consider this unique opportunity available in our own backyard. For the builders of our club, the engineering is absolutely



Iconic Flight's Icon A5 in Denton



Flying the Icon



Incredible Folding wing engineering

incredible. This aircraft was designed to be trailered to airport/lake, with wings and tail horizontal that fold.



The RC test model of the Icon A5



Speaking of amazing engineering, this specific plane has a special place in my heart. My father built the remote control test model in the early days of flight test design. The wingspan was roughly 8', the RC model helped to confirm anticipated flight performance before the full scale version was built. If you look at the shirt I'm wearing, the orange prototype RC model my father built is shown. My next task, get my father to visit Dallas and get him a ride in this amazing aircraft he helped develop!

2026 Chapter Meeting Speakers

By Michael Stephan

Greg Kochersperger who is our new Vice President for 2026, has already lined up a few excellent speakers for January and February.



Greg says, "Our January Meeting will feature Nathan Huegen of the Commemorative Air Force (CAF). The CAF restores, operates and maintains some of the most beloved WWII aircraft, including local favorites "FIFI" and "Diamond Lil". Nathan is the VP of Education at CAF headquarters here in Dallas and in addition to supervising the nationwide educational efforts of the CAF, he oversees the programming and operations of the Henry B. Tippie National Aviation Education Center (NAEC) at Dallas Executive Airport (RBD). Nathan will be discussing the history of the CAF, the aircraft and artifacts they preserve, and ways to get involved with the CAF's mission to educate, honor, and inspire."

Then in February, we have Earth Rounder Carol Ann Garrat, who also attended our meeting last month.

Both will be very interesting presentations.



Carol Ann Garrat with Brad Roberts and Casey Coker

Upcoming Events

Saturday, Dec 6th - 1st Saturday Coffee/Donuts/Chapter Meeting, McKinney (KTKI)

We get together for our monthly Chapter meeting at the airport, for some great fellowship and fun. We have Free coffee and donuts for everyone at Pat Long's Hangar in the McKinney Hangar Owners Association. area at the McKinney National Airport (KTKI) in McKinney, TX. 9 AM - Noon. Non-members can be added to our notification list by emailing Treasurer@eaa1246.org. You don't have to be a pilot or a member to attend. Bring the family! See you there!

Website: <https://www.eaa1246.org/>

Saturday, Dec 6, 2025 Airplanes and Coffee, Gainesville, TX Gainesville Municipal Airport (KGLE)

Join the 501c3 Non-Profit Organization Airplanes and Coffee for a FREE day of fun. This is Social event only. Come join us at 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM .

- Many beautiful aircraft to view up close and personal
- Opportunity to learn about becoming a pilot or mechanic (as a career or hobby)
- Free short flights in small airplanes (limited availability/restrictions apply)
- Aviation safety presentations
- Games and entertainment
- Coffee and Donuts
- Food trucks and vendors
- And more!

Website: <https://airplanesandcoffee.com/>

For Sale: New unused sealed in original packaging Garmin GAP 26 unheated pitot probe Part number 010-01074-00 for sale. Asking 150.00

Eric Cadorette cadorette.eric@icloud.com



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To place an ad: Submit requests for aviation related For Sale or Want ads to mstephan@shr.net. Ads are free to Chapter 168 members. Ads from nonmembers will be run on a space available basis. Ads will be run at the newsletter Editors discretion.

Web site Address: www.eaa168.org

Social media sites: www.facebook.com/eaa168 [@eaa168](http://www.twitter.com/eaa168)

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Greater Dallas, Texas, EAA Chapter 168 Membership Application and Renewal Form

<p><input type="checkbox"/> Regular Membership <input type="checkbox"/> Student Membership <input type="checkbox"/> New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Information Change</p> <p>Regular Membership dues for EAA Chapter 168 are \$20/year. Student membership is free. Make checks payable to 'EAA Chapter 168'.</p> <p>Mail application to: EAA Chapter 168 C/O Sam Cooper 5932 Janet Ct Westlake TX 76262-9603</p> <p>National EAA offices: Experimental Aircraft Association EAA Aviation Center 3000 Poberezny Rd Oshkosh WI 54902-8939 Website: www.eaa.org</p> <p>EAA Member Services: Phone: 800-564-6322</p>	<p>* Required fields</p> <p>Name * _____</p> <p>Copilot (spouse, friend, other) _____</p> <p>Address * _____ _____</p> <p>City * _____ State * _____ Zip _____</p> <p>Phone Home _____ Mobile _____</p> <p>Email address * _____</p> <p>EAA Member # * _____ Exp. Date _____ (EAA Chapter 168 membership requires a current Experimental Aircraft Association Regular, Family, Lifetime, or Student membership.)</p> <p>Pilot/A&P Ratings _____</p> <p>I am interested in helping with: <input type="checkbox"/> Fly-Ins <input type="checkbox"/> Programs <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter <input type="checkbox"/> Young Eagles <input type="checkbox"/> Officer</p> <p>Plane, Projects (% complete) and Interests: _____ _____ _____</p>
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