



THE X CHAPTER

Delta Colorado KAJZ

EAA Chapter 1373 September 2025

Sept 6 meeting 10 am in SRE bldg (map @ end of newsletter)

Agenda:

- Guest introductions (not to put guests on the spot; We welcome visitors!)
 - Project & member build updates
- Chapter engine donation (email sent to list; update): Richard Cunningham
- October meeting at 99V (Crawford): Update—Bruce Thieking
- Young Eagle events & related youth updates: Bruce Thieking
- Sept 31-14 Montrose tribute to aviation—volunteers needed Sat & Sun (even if for only a couple hours)
 - Rob Duncan & Rod Smith aircraft displays
 - Note: This is not an EAA Chapter event...
- November Chapter officer elections are around the corner. Floor nominations are MUCH appreciated! Note: If you don't attend the November mtg you will get nominated <grin>
 - Please email nominations to Chuck Clemen chuck.clemen@yahoo.com
 - Current candidates:
 - Ted Waltman President (2nd 2-year term)
 - Chris Lindel Treasurer (2nd 2-year term)
 - Richard Cunningham Vice President (new)
 - Secretary (open)
- Short coffee/soda/ice cream (yes, some left over from last month) break—5 min
- FAA safety talk after mtg—" Stabilized Approaches and Go Arounds"
 - Presented by Jim Barnosky: This is a FAA Wings event where you can receive WINGS credit. Sign up [at this link](#)



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First Flight!

Well deserved congratulations to Melvin Thorson on the first flight of his Savannah aircraft! Melvin will (hopefully) give us an update on his first & subsequent flights).



Links to two short videos: ([link here](#) & another [video here](#))



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Chapter Engine & Propeller Donation

X Chapter EAA members Pre-Sale Offer: Polini engines are modern, water cooled and lightweight two stroke powerplants, designed specifically for light aircraft like ultralights and flex-wings. This engine, a 36.5 horsepower Polini 250 DS, was donated by a chapter member who purchased it new in 2017 for a project that was taxied, but never flown. Details & [many pictures here](#).

Tech Spotlight—Custom Engine Manifold

Our Chapter has quite a number of highly creative, accomplished fabricators. Richard Cunningham recently completed the design, fabrication and successful testing of a new intake manifold on his Predator 670 4-stroke engine.

Richard reports amazing performance improvements with his custom manifold ! I do believe he now, as the below quote highlights, feeling like a “fighter pilot!”

Richard says, ‘I was told by a mentor ultralight pilot that: “It takes 30 horsepower to fly an ultralight, forty to enjoy it, and fifty to convince you that you are a fighter pilot.”’

Please take a few minutes and review Richards well-written project update [at this link](#). Our Chapter extends well deserved congratulations Richard!

Annual (Condition) Inspection Advice

Many of you know that I’m a huge fan of the maintenance advice freely available on-line by Savvy Aviation (Mike Busch). [Here’s a link](#) to their latest newsletter article covering lessons learned & advice for your annual inspection.

Excerpts from the above linked article:

“...when you put your plane in the shop for its annual ordeal you should always make it explicitly clear (preferably in writing) that you are authorizing the shop to perform an annual inspection at the agreed-to flat rate and to prepare a discrepancy list with recommended repairs and cost estimates, but you are NOT authorizing the shop to perform any repairs or to purchase any repair parts. Your authorization to perform repairs and order parts will come only AFTER you have had the opportunity to review the inspection findings, repair recommendations and cost estimates.



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Many owners tell their shop to “do whatever it needs,” effectively giving the shop a blank check. Never do this! It’s an engraved invitation for the shop to over-maintain your aircraft to the detriment of both your plane and your bank account. In my experience, an owner who lets his mechanics make fix-or-defer decisions rather than making those decisions himself can double his annual maintenance cost.

Always remember that as an aircraft owner, it’s your responsibility to decide what maintenance is done, when it is to be done, and by whom. It’s your mechanic’s responsibility to ensure that the work you ask him to do is done in a satisfactory fashion, and once a year to inspect it to determine whether or not it is airworthy. Don’t abdicate your maintenance decision making responsibilities to your mechanic. If you do, you might not like the outcome.”



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FAA WINGS Safety Seminar

Tim Brill, one of two Western region FFAST Safety representatives (Salt Lake FSDO), presented a well attended WINGS seminar Tuesday August 26 on Stall Spin awareness.

Our Chapter, in cooperation with the Salt Lake FSDO, sponsors several of these safety-focused seminars throughout the year. In fact we are hosting one after this Saturday's Chapter meeting ([more info here](#), including a sign up link).



3 PDF's that summarize material Tim presented on Stall Spin Awareness:

- Why is everyone so afraid of stalls and spins? ([PDF link](#))
- What turns your airplane? ([PDF link](#))
- Slip versus a Skid ([PDF link](#))



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Other Member Builds in-progress (that we're aware of):

Bill Houze: Just Highlander

Melvin Thorson: Savannah (flight testing now)

Andrew Weaver: Zenith 601, Mini-Max ultralight and Koala project(s)

Glen Swiatek: Panther

Brian Trani: C-140 rebuild

Ernst Loosli: Zenith 750

Alan Collins: RV 8 & engine build

Ted Waltman

Marc Watterman: New engine planned

- SQ-2 slats version 2 (using resin infusion—the project that goes on & on <g>)

Dave Gallant:

- RANS S-7 kit in progress
- Multiple rudder projects to learn different fabric techniques/processes
 - Dave will perhaps do an in-depth presentation on this at a future mtg
- Carbon fiber door project

Chapter Youth Workshops

Please contact Andrew Weaver for more information @ andrew81401@yahoo.com


- Aircraft engine disassembly & assembly workshops (next workshop TBD)
- RC aircraft builds and RC flying
- Normally: 1st Saturday of each month beginning after Chapter monthly meeting



THE X CHAPTER

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Other Chapter Resources

3D Design & Prototype Service for Experimental Aviation	
 COLORADO CUB www.ColoradoCub.com dave@ColoradoCub.com	<p>Component & assembly design for aluminum, steel, plastics & composites</p> <p>Fusion 360 CAD & CAM</p> <p>3D Printing</p> <p>CNC</p> <p>Laser Etching</p> <p>TIG Welding</p>

CFI Resources

Ben Lowe 970-318-8188

- CFI-I MEI
- 800+ hours
- 200 Multi (150 Turbine Multi)
- 100 Tailwheel
- 200 Dual
- Jump Pilot
- 12,700+ Skydives

"Information about these CFI and Experimental Aircraft Build resources is provided for the benefit of our Chapter members. Our EAA Chapter and its officers do not endorse any of these resources.



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Bruce Thieking, Young Eagles Coordinator, bruce@bthieking.com



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Chapter Meeting Minutes

Past Chapter 1373 meeting minutes are located on our Chapter website:
<http://www.eaa1373.org/> Thank you Alan Collins for your time & efforts on our website.

Chapter Meeting Map

