



# The Flying Wire



**February 2026**

**Volume 65 Issue 2**

## **Chapter 124 Experimental Aircraft Association**

**Next Chapter Meeting: Wednesday, February 4**

**Dinner – 6:15 pm \$10**

**General Meeting – 7:00 pm**

### **Contents**

Program: February 4 Meeting .....	2
News and Updates .....	3
Article: Treasure Island .....	7
EAA Chapter 124 Board Meeting Minutes.....	13
EAA Chapter 124 General Meeting Minutes .....	14
Chapter 124 Contact Information.....	15
How to Submit an Article to the Newsletter .....	16

*\*\*control & click on each line to go directly to the page!*

## Program: February 4 Meeting

### Speaker: Paul Hollingworth on Cross-Country Flying in the Magni Gyro and Updates from the Rotary Flight Deck

EAA 124 Board and Chapter Member Paul Hollingworth is our resident gyrocopter authority. He's an avid pilot who's been flying a gyro now for over 10 years and recently received his gyro Flight Instructor license! You may have seen him in the local skies on one of his many Young Eagle flights or adventures. What you may not know is that he also does quite a few long cross-country flights in this magnificent machine.

The gyro's a totally unique platform to enjoy a cross-country adventure. It's an unparalleled way to see the spectacular scenery the US has to offer. With photos and short videos, Paul will discuss a recent adventure he did to Salt Lake City, taking in Zion Canyon, Bryce Canyon and Monument Valley along the way. It's sure to be a good show!



*Flying the Magni Gyro Over Bryce Canyon*

**Dinner Menu:** Slow-Cooked Pulled Pork Sandwiches and Coleslaw. For dessert - Homemade Artisanal Cheesecake! **\$10**

*Special thanks to **Garton Tractor** for donating the Sonoma County Fair's prize-winning pork for our dining delights and to **Marsha Benelli** for contributing her amazing handmade cheesecake. It's gonna be a good one!*

## News and Updates



### Facilities Spring Clean Up!

The Winter Solstice is finally well behind us here at EAA 124 and the days are growing longer. The rains have abated. The trees, leafless and dormant for so many months, are now pushing out their buds and well on the way to their anticipation of spring. Everything is waking up, things are stirring, and so are we!

The better weather is coming and we are planning our next Chapter clean-up activities.

After so many years of the facilities neglect, deferred maintenance and debris accumulation, the road to renewal here at 124 has been long - and arduous. We're slowly making headway. We hope this year to do some significant clean up, spruce up, trash and junk removal, and overall improvements. There will be Chapter workdays, dump runs, painting, hangar clean ups, leak repairs and more! We'd love to have your help and expertise if you're interested!

Please be advised that much of the unused items that have been sitting around the Chapter for years collecting dust will be going bye-bye during this clean-up process. There are a variety of valuable 'treasures' laying around... including - but not limited to - 70's era school lockers, old trailers, random cabinets and old aircraft parts, dollies, stands, old concrete, broken pallet jacks, radial arm saws, old paints, sealants, and roofing materials, bolt organizing rotating caddies, and much, much more! If there's something you'd like to have, we'd love for you to have it! Come claim it before it goes to the landfill.

If you have ANYTHING stored on the Facility grounds or in the main hangar or shade hangars that are yours, or if there are items onsite that are not yours, but that you may be interested in taking home, please get a hold of Chapter President Dominic Cerniglio at (310) 628 9008 ASAP to identify these items. If you do not have access to the facilities, but would like to peruse the available items, please call to arrange. We'd love to have your help during this next phase of clean up and improvements!

### Beginning Machinist Class

*EAA 124 is proud to present our first ever Beginning Machinist Class!*

As you may know, the Chapter has been diligently at work transforming EAA's old Café Hangar. The goal has been to provide an education-oriented facility aimed at providing opportunities for Chapter members and the community at large to learn and practice hands-on building skills and mechanical proficiency. To this end, the hangar has undergone many repairs and a TON of clean-up. Chapter members have loaned their tools and equipment to the project, and a host of new tooling has been installed and placed inside.

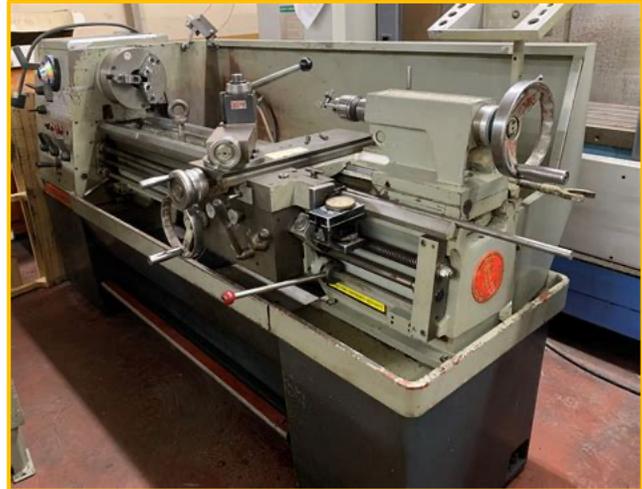
We are proud to announce our first class: "Basic Machine Tool Usage." This class will focus on the Vertical Milling Machine and the Engine Lathe. We will be covering tool care, maintenance, and 'hands on' introduction to using these two incredible machines.



*Bridgeport Mill*

The mill and the lathe are the two core pieces of equipment which allow people to build and fabricate parts from scratch. These two tools are used to make just about everything else! The Chapter is grateful to Board Member **Dave Franco** for his generosity in placing his personal mill and lathe on extended loan in the hangar for the Chapter to be able to provide this class.

*Lathe*



Longtime Chapter member and previous board member **Mike Fenn** will be the instructor. Mike is a master machinist with a lifetime of experience machining prototypes and production for some of Sonoma County's top technical companies. His goal for this class is to focus on the basics of safe usage and operation, the capabilities of the equipment, and tool upkeep and maintenance. Mike's an experienced teacher with a wealth of knowledge and information to impart. He has wanted to teach this class for many years.

EAA Chapter 124 is proud to offer this class. It's an incredible opportunity to learn rare skills and open up new horizons. Members will be given priority and space is limited! Anyone with any questions or interested in attending the class should call Chapter President **Dominic Cerniglio** at 310 628 9008 to make arrangements.

## **Request for Static Display – 2026 Truckee Airshow, 20 June**

Owners/pilots are invited to provide an aircraft or several aircraft for static display as part of the 2026 Truckee Tahoe Airshow and Festival in Truckee, CA on Saturday 20 June, 2026. This is their first airshow since 2024, and they are expecting the return of this event to Truckee to be a great community gathering as well as a celebration of America's 250th!

For overnight stays, the airport is secure with limited access and cameras on the field. The airshow would provide any hotel rooms and rental vehicles for the aircrews if needed. Some site meals will also be provided.

Interested aircraft owners/operators can sign up at:

<https://schultzairstows.com/aircraft-registration-form/>



## Chapter Donations via Venmo and Paypal

### EAA 124 gets VENMO!

EAA 124 is slowly moving into the 21st Century! And when I say slowly, I mean slowly! Kicking and screaming... 🤨 Thanks to efforts from our longstanding Chapter Treasurer **John Whitehouse**, EAA Chapter 124 can now accept donations and payments via Venmo!

We realize that fewer and fewer people are carrying cash these days and many of you use electronic payments for your day-to-day transactional activities. We've heard from many people that they'd like to donate, but don't have cash or a check on hand. We are asked often if we can take an electronic payment. Voila! You ask... and we heard you! EAA 124 can now accept electronic payments and donations to the Chapter via Venmo!

We're trying to make it easier for members and guests to pay dues and make donations to Chapter 124 overall. Many people don't know that we are a non-profit organization. It's the generosity of your donations and Chapter dues that allow us to keep the lights on and do all the great things we do at this Chapter. While we always appreciate prompt payment of membership dues and payments, please consider donating money to the Chapter as well and recommending us to your friends who might be looking to support a local organization. We're very frugal with your funds and 100% of what you donate goes directly to improvements, maintenance and hard costs that the Chapter incurs in keeping the doors open and the lights on! If you're feeling generous, we're a great place to donate money!

To make a payment or to donate on Venmo, the Chapter's Venmo is **@XPEAA124**. Or you can just scan the QR code below:



Scan this code to pay

**ALSO - PAYPAL** - - We are also able to accept monies via Paypal! To donate or pay through Paypal, we are [eaachapter124@gmail.com](mailto:eaachapter124@gmail.com).

Please keep in mind that these electronic services charge their own additional fees on transactions, thereby reducing the monies we actually receive. If you are paying Chapter Dues or other items, please add a few dollars to the total to cover these expenses. We're running a pretty tight budget and transactional fees build up. We appreciate it!

## Aircraft Building Workshops Coming to Fremont, CA

Go Hands-On with EAA's Two-Day Signature SportAir Workshops



If you're ready to build or restore an aircraft, or just thinking about it, grab your fellow Chapter members and join us in Fremont, CA on March 7-8, 2026, at the Aviation Institute of Maintenance. SportAir Workshops courses include sheet metal basics, fabric covering, electrical systems and avionics, and fiberglass techniques.

Workshops are taught by experienced subject-matter experts who pair classroom instruction with hands-on projects, providing attendees with knowledge and know-how of proper techniques that save every aircraft builder time, money, and frustration. Class sizes are capped at 16 students to ensure personal attention, opportunities for feedback and evaluation, and time for Q&A.

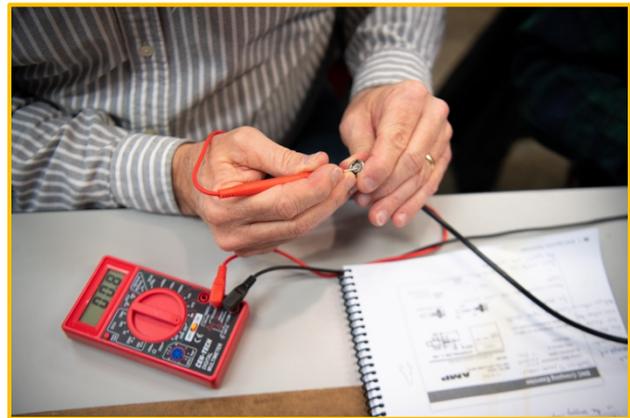
A recent workshop attendee shared, "I really appreciate how you could look at my work and give feedback specifically to the changes I need to make to improve my results, even the tiny adjustments to go from okay to good, to great... You answered all of my questions with a willingness... You're awesome. Thank you."

Workshop fees include all materials, safety equipment, and projects — you only pay for lunch! Attendees receive a workbook for reference, a certificate of completion, and an exclusive discount order form from Aircraft Spruce and Specialty on materials, supplies, tools, and accessories.

**Don't miss the Fremont, CA two-day EAA SportAir® Workshops. Seats fill up fast.**

Register and learn more at [SportAir.com/Schedule](https://SportAir.com/Schedule)

*EAA SportAir Workshops are generously supported by Aircraft Spruce and Specialty and Poly-Fiber.*



## Article: Treasure Island

*By Andy Werback*

Treasure Island, next to Yerba Buena Island, San Francisco Bay, didn't exist until it was created by dredging and filling a shallow area just north of Yerba Buena Island for the 1939 Golden Gate International Exposition.

Some say Treasure Island is named after the bits of gold that washed down from the Sierra Gold Country back in the early California gold rush days. Officially, though, it was named by Clyde Vandenburg, publicist for the Exposition, after the "Treasure" in the book of the same name by Robert Luis Stevenson, published in 1883.

The Exposition was mostly a temporary thing. A grand exhibit to celebrate the completion of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge (1936) and the Golden Gate Bridge (1937). The Exposition opened in February 1939 after a year of frantic construction, and closed in September 1940, right in the middle of the Battle of Britain. Things were heating up.

Chesley Bonestelle, a noted Bay Area illustrator and artist, drew the following:



The basic plan was for a number of temporary buildings and an artistic tower, plus a permanent Administration building (circular, lower left corner), and two permanent hangars (right). One of the hangars was the "Hall of Transportation" and the other was the "Palace of Fine and Decorative Arts," where a Diego Rivera mural was displayed. The illustration shows "Clipper Cove", where the Pan American Clippers were staged for their trips to Hawaii and the South Pacific.

After an unsuccessful attempt to visit the Admin building many years ago, it was time to see if things might go better and visit the West Coast Pan Am terminal. Pan Am's terminal was originally located on Alameda Island, but was moved in early 1939 to Treasure Island as one of the tenants of the Administrative building and the adjacent hangars. The Admin building includes a small control "tower" with good views of Clipper Cove (aka Port of the Trade Winds).

During WWII, Treasure Island was operated by the U.S. Navy as a primary departure point for personnel going to the Pacific (12,000 people a day!). After the War, it was a training base and the Admin building was a Navy-Marine Museum (1975-1997). When the base closed in 1997 it was pretty much left alone for many years while they figured out how to transition the area to the City of San Francisco. I have not been able to locate original pictures of the interior of the Admin building, but today it is as it was in 1997. The present mural was painted in 1975.

How about a few pictures?



*View from the Yerba Buena highway off-ramp – Admin building, Clipper Cove*



*We arrived in the middle of a food and drink fair*



*Art Deco entrance to the Admin building*



*The Navy Marine Corps mural (1975) still on display*



*The south end of the mural and building complete with a distillery*



A fitting tribute to the Pan Am Clipper - a Martin M-130

First-Class Settings



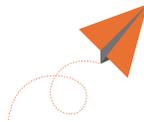
The Diego Rivera Mural "Pan American Unity" (22' x 70') that was displayed in the Palace of Fine and Decorative Arts (hangar). Currently in storage at CCSF but might be on display soon (per San Francisco Chronicle 23 January 2026)



*The Admin building as it was used in the movie "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade."  
(The tower, flags and emblem were added in post-production, as NAZI symbols were not allowed on the site).*

And in case you are wondering, yes, there are some videos from that period:

- Pan American Airways Treasure Island Clipper Cove (1941): click [here](#)
- Boeing 314 Documentary: click [here](#)
- "Overnight to Hawaii" 1940 Pan Am Clipper Promo Film: click [here](#)



# EAA Chapter 124 Board Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2026

**Members in Attendance:** Dominic Cerniglio (President), Marlon Young (Vice President), John Whitehouse (Treasurer), David Franco (Secretary), Mike Tovani (Facilities), Campbell Potter, Jeremiah James, George Marshall, Paul Hollingworth

## Agenda:

Arranging for more opportunities for socialization is a shared board goal. Another priority is for board members to be more active in recruitment of engaging speakers. It is recommended that all board members should submit speaker suggestions.

A motion was made to raise the price of meals to a suggested donation of \$15. The motion passed unanimously.

It is suggested that announcements be made at the meeting to see if people could help our present food service providers with portions of meal preparations.

## Facilities:

- The CAFE hangar has leaks that should be fixed. A motion was made to replace the screws and seam tape. The motion passed unanimously.
- In an effort to make the facility bathrooms more presentable, a motion was made to purchase four replacement garbage cans. The motion passed 9 in favor and 1 abstention.
- A shade hangar clean-up day is planned in coming weeks. A notice is to be placed in the newsletter regarding surplus tools and equipment. Donations will be accepted.
- Aircraft leases: Vacancies, 7 Tiedowns 2 enclosed Experimental indoor hangar spaces.
- Chapter priority system (Bump System) is being streamlined into an Excel spreadsheet for easier use.
- Damage to main hangar needs to be addressed to stop animal intrusion.
- Fire extinguisher re-certification is under investigation by the facilities manager.

**Tenant recruitment:** a system of receiving completed applications for review is being finalized.

**Outreach:** Paul Hollingworth and Dominic Cerniglio are going to coordinate youth outreach.

**Beginning Machinist Class:** Mike Fenn will instruct interested student machinist.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:35 pm



## **EAA Chapter 124 General Meeting Minutes**

**January 13, 2026**

Meeting Convened- 6:15pm

The President called the meeting to order and made a point to recognize the efforts of the culinary crew for putting together another fabulous meal. He then asked new attendees to describe a little about themselves and what draws them to aviation. Several people shared personal details about what drew them to our company.

The president had the honor of awarding Chapter recognition certificates to Chapter members who have made countless contributions over many years.

The president then briefed the assembly on the progress of Sam James who is the Ray Scholarship winner. The scholarship is assisting Sam to attain his private pilot's license. The expectation is that he will take his check-ride in February!

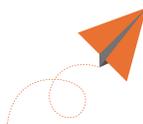
### **Presentation Topic- Conor Bolke, KSTS ATC Tower Controller**

Conor Bolke took time out of his busy schedule to share some insights with the audience about the changing nature of the increasingly busy airspace above Sonoma County. The challenge is made even more difficult because of the chronic under-staffing of the tower; for reasons relating to the cost of living in Sonoma County, controllers generally choose to train and reside in more affordable regions.

He described that controlling aircraft of varying types poses the greatest challenge, since they have vastly different performance capabilities. He described how at any moment there could be a business jet, a 172 trainer and a commercial airliner all needing appropriate spacing.

His forthright and candid description of the exhilarating highs and frustratingly long days gave the audience a glimpse into the lives of those people whose commanding calm assures our safety every time we enter and leave Sonoma County airspace.

Meeting adjourned: 8:45 pm



# Chapter Business

## Chapter 124 Contact Information

<b>President:</b>	Dominic Cerniglio (26/27)	(310) 628-9008
<b>Vice President:</b>	Marlon Young (25/26)	(707) 479-9994
<b>Secretary:</b>	Dave Franco (25/26)	(707) 494-4259
<b>Treasurer:</b>	John Whitehouse (26/27)	(707) 217-2687
<b>Board:</b>	George Marshall (25/26)	(707) 293 4583
	John Fluno (25/26)	(707) 315 5524
	Jeremiah James (25/26)	(707) 291 8445
	Paul Hollingworth (26/27)	(408) 802 9242
	Campbell Potter (26/27)	(707) 396 8042
<b>Membership:</b>	Dave Franco	(707) 494-4259
<b>Facilities Chairman:</b>	Mike Tovani	(707) 321-2740
<b>Facilities Committee:</b>	Jeremiah James	(707) 291 8445
	George Marshall	(707) 293 4583
	Dominic Cerniglio	(310) 628-9008
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Jenny Hollingworth	<a href="mailto:jennyhollingworth14@gmail.com">jennyhollingworth14@gmail.com</a>
<b>Technical Counselors:</b>	Bob Gutteridge	(707) 539-5188
	David Heal	(707) 953-5021
	Andy Werback	(408) 802-5393
	Dominic Cerniglio	(310) 628-9008
	Kevin Quirk	(707) 888-3263
	Rolf Unternaehrer	(707) 364-7935
<b>Flight Adviser:</b>	David Heal	(707) 953-5021
<b>Young Eagles:</b>	Jenny Hollingworth	(650) 483-5203
<b>Chapter Roster:</b>	Mike Tovani	(707) 321-2740

**EAA Chapter 124  
5550 Windsor Road  
Windsor, CA 95492**

Chapter meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. FOOD (\$10) AND SOCIALIZING (free) from 6:15 to 7:00 pm. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

**Directions:** The site is located on the west side of Sonoma County Airport. Take the Shiloh Road exit from Highway 101 in northern Santa Rosa. Turn left at the stop light (west) and continue to a "T" intersection. Turn left again and follow the road to the EAA sign on the left.

## **How to Submit an Article to the Newsletter**

Members are invited to submit articles of interest. You will be notified whether or not an article will appear in the current issue.

Email your article to: [jennyhollingworth14@gmail.com](mailto:jennyhollingworth14@gmail.com)

**Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month.** Articles submitted will be included in the newsletter at the discretion of the editor. All articles are copyrighted. To reproduce any article, please contact the editor.

EAA CHAPTER 124 is not responsible for any modification or maintenance items appearing in the newsletter or in any other correspondence. It is the responsibility of the reader to get approval for such items from the appropriate A&P, FAA or other government official.

[www.EAA124.org](http://www.EAA124.org)

[www.EAA.org](http://www.EAA.org)

EAA Chapter 124  
5550 Windsor Road, Windsor, CA 95492

--- Mail ---

PO Box 6192, Santa Rosa, CA 95406

