



**EAA 461**

# Newsletter

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## *Chapter Leadership*

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Jim Therrien Fly Over Photos

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Young Eagles photos

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View from the Right Seat

## From the left seat



Greetings Chapter 461, and welcome to the September 2021 issue of your newsletter! I don't know about all of you, but I was hoping the arrival of Fall meant we were in for some cooler weather. Alas, my recent electricity bill short-circuited my hopes.

Yep, I opened this month's message with a groaner. Are you shocked? Okay, okay, I'll transform my energy into something a little less conductive and a bit more constructive. (I know, I know...)

Our Young Eagles Rally on September 19 was another in a series of stellar events coordinated by Al Bally and executed by our team of truly amazing volunteers.

The feedback I have heard from our participating families is nothing short of spectacular, and I thank you all for making it happen. It is an honor to volunteer with such an amazing, caring, and talented group of people.

**THANK YOU!!!**

We will hold a membership vote for an updated set of chapter by-laws at our regular meeting on October 7, 2021. The draft we will vote on is available for review, here:

<https://www.eaa461.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/EAA-Chapter-461-By-laws-DRAFT-20210923.pdf>

While we are not accepting further revisions for this draft; however, recommendations for improvement are always welcome and may be incorporated into future revisions via the amendment process. As of this writing, there is at least one proposed amendment pending.

The Bolingbrook's Clow Haunted Hangar event will be held at the airport on October 23 and 24, 2021. Further details will be shared via email as and when they become available.

I want to remind our active flyers that the name of the game when we are aloft is "cooperate, see, and avoid." No amount of training, capability, or sophistication (or lack thereof) in our skills or our flying machines obviates us of our responsibilities to our passengers, to our fellow aviators, or to the multitude of people (a.k.a. the non-flying public) we are flying above.

FAR 91.3 (a) The pilot in command of an aircraft is directly responsible for, and is the final authority as to, the operation of that aircraft. When acting as PIC, the little bit of authority we have over our aircraft comes with a great deal of responsibility, and we must remember to check our ego at the cabin door before we decide to manipulate the flight controls.

And finally... the news I have been waiting eagerly to share with all of you: Chapter member Jay Nielsen recently completed construction of his Vans RV-7 and took it for its first flight on September 28!



Congratulations on your amazing and outstanding accomplishment, Jay!

VFRs!

## Pietenpol Build Project

Join us every Thursday evening (except when a chapter meeting is scheduled) at 7 pm in the EAA hangar for our Pietenpol build! Anyone is welcome, and no experience is required. We especially encourage young people to come join us!



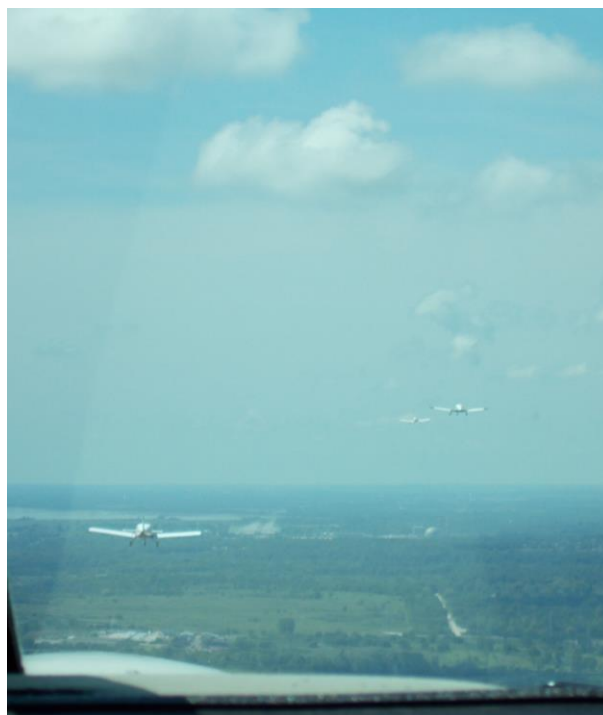


## Jim Therrien Fly Over Photos

*Dennis Miendersma*

On Thursday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, EAA 461 and EAA 15 coordinated a flyover of the Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery to honor member and friend Jim Therrien. Thank you, Dennis Miendersma, for the photos!

Chad Carlson, “RV” Bob Kopeika, Jerry Ossowski, Jimmy Duffy and Dale Klinefelter flew 5 aircraft in tribute.



## September 2021 Young Eagles Photos

Brenda, Joshua and Robbie Culver



## 2021 Calendar

### Young Eagles

Young Eagles coordinator Al Bally has set the dates for our 2021 Young Eagles rallies!

Saturday October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2021 (Special Event)

Saturday October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2021

### Chapter information

EAA Chapter 461 is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization based at Bolingbrook's Clow International Airport (1C5) in Bolingbrook, Illinois.

Whether you fly, build, restore or simply enjoy airplanes and aviation, you are welcome to attend our events and join our chapter. We are a group of aviation enthusiasts, aircraft builders, restorers, and pilots who get together with like-minded people to share ideas, exchange information, encourage safety, serve the local aviation community, and have a lot of fun doing so.

Please come to our next meeting or event as our guest!

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Chapter meets on the first Thursday of the month at Clow International Airport, typically at the Illinois Aviation Museum starting at 7:00 pm. Family members, extended family and guests are always welcome.

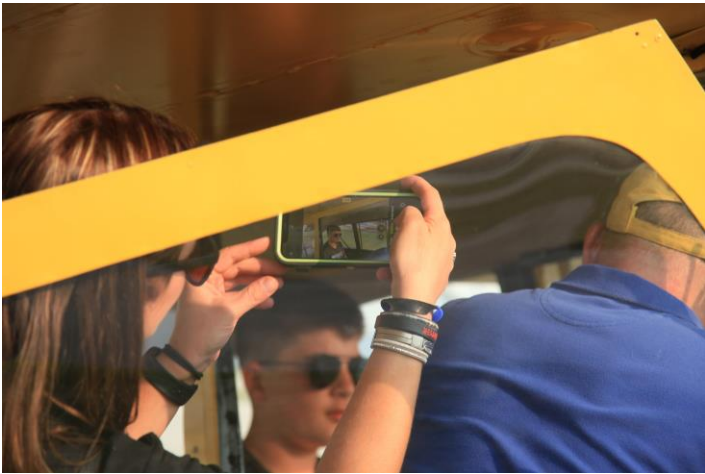
### MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership dues for EAA Chapter 461 are \$25 per year and are due on the first of January each calendar year. Chapter 461 members are to be current members of the EAA, Oshkosh, WI.

Individual membership to the EAA is \$40 per year. Family memberships are available for an additional \$10 per year. Both include a twelve-month subscription to Sport Aviation magazine.











## The view from the Right Seat

Robbie Culver

As we move from Summer to Autumn and the flying season begins to wane down, I wanted to offer my view of the past year serving as EAA 461 Vice-President. I will be stepping away from the position at the end of October. (I will continue as newsletter editor, facilities manager, and chief camera geek until relieved of these duties by more qualified personnel, of which I am certain there are many)

We have a unique chapter – so many diverse talents and viewpoints. I do not know of another Chicago-area Chapter with more aircraft projects underway.

Seating the Board of Directors was a crucial step in establishing the foundation for future success. The board's role is to guide the chapter, establish the vision and structure for growth, and maintain focus for the chapter leadership. A BOD is a key aspect to managing long term success. It is the chapter leadership that is tasked with executing this vision, not the other way around.

As EAA 461 approaches its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, we need to both honor the past that brought us to this point, but also look to the future to ensure the chapter is around another 50 plus years. This is one important reason the bylaws were updated – both to redefine the chapter structure as well as establish the memberships ability to influence the direction of the chapter and the chapter leadership.

Personally, I still think building a permanent home at Clow is in the chapter's (and the airport's) best interests.

As with all organizations, we need more people to step up and help! The fantastic ideas offered up to the leadership of the chapter amaze me – but we lack the resources to accomplish them. I am no stranger to volunteer organizations and the challenges that accompany them. Simply stated, it is a problem that spans all interests and groups that rely on volunteers. We need your help.

Flying is a privilege we can never take for granted, and in my opinion, it is one we must share. For me, taking an 81-year-old man named Frank for a flight in the Champ left me humbled. That flight reminded me how lucky we are to be able to do this, and why it is important to share with others. Being nice goes a long way in someone else's life.



*Robbie and Frank after our flight – it pays to be nice to people – especially when no one else is. You never know the impact you can have on someone just by being nice.*

A true personal highlight of the past year was being able to serve as event photographer for Cavalcade of Planes. It is so unique and such a wonderful atmosphere, and capturing it is a real challenge. One I hope I succeeded in. I look forward to that opportunity again, should it present itself.

What I will remember most from this past year is the dynamic environment that is the airport. We are lucky at Clow – no fences, open hangars, and a great group of pilots and enthusiasts. We would all do well to remember how precious and rare this is, and to continue to work together to build, strengthen, and grow this into bigger and better things. All of us need to remember how important it is, and work towards a common goal.

I am honored to have served the chapter over the past year! Stop by the hangar if you want to chat – I'm easily found there! Blue skies...



*Robbie and friends on the Oshkosh flightline*





## Ray Aviation Scholar Completes Private Pilot Training!

*Alexander Falco Sonnenberg*

I had my private pilot checkride on Saturday, September 25th with Keith McGill as my DPE using Piper Cherokee N8618E. In the days leading up to it I definitely felt a sense of nervousness, however when the actual day came, I just felt confident and ready.

I had been dedicated to studying as much as I could in the month or two leading up to the checkride date, and so the oral portion went by very smoothly overall. I checked my FAR/AIM only a handful of times to aid me.

The flight portion also was pretty smooth despite the air being less than that. I completed the flight successfully despite a direct crosswind of 14 gusting to 21 knots on my final landing and earned my private pilot's certificate.



## EAA establishes AeroEducate

EAA has launched a Beta version of “AeroEducate.” (Beta means it is in the initial testing phase and not fully complete)

According to the website, “AeroEducate is a free resource filled with age-based activities and clear pathways to aviation and aerospace industry careers where K-12 students can discover and ignite their curiosity in aviation.”

I found it to be a great resource for our youth programs and look forward to seeing it grow! Check it out at:

<https://www.aeroeducate.org/beta>

## Future AirVenture Oshkosh Dates!

It's never too early to start thinking about OSHKOSH! EAA has established the following dates for future AirVenture events:

### AirVenture Dates

2022: July 25 - July 31

2023: July 24 - July 30

2024: July 22 - July 28

### Volunteer Opportunities

EAA 461 could use your help! The following projects are in need of resources and leadership:

Hangar loft/lounge – the chapter would like to finish the hangar loft/lounge and build it out into a friendly, usable space for all to enjoy.

Flight Simulator(s) – along with the lounge is our flight simulator (s). We need to set them up again following Cavalcade and ensure they are available for use by our youth and chapter members.

Haunted Hangar – Clow airport is again hosting the haunted hangar event, Saturday October 23<sup>rd</sup> and Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup>. We need volunteers to set up the event, help during both days, and break down/clean up afterwards so our hangar returns to normal use.

### Midway Class C Airspace Modification Update

On Tuesday September 28<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday September 29<sup>th</sup>, the FAA held Zoom webinars about the proposed changes to the Chicago Midway Class C airspace. It appears the change will include two additional Class C sections east and northeast of MDW. The inner one is up to 1900' to the lakefront and the outer one up to 2300' over the lake.

The proposed airspace changes still have additional reviews to complete. Once the final decision is made, the GA community will be made aware of the new airspace and all charts will be updated accordingly. This will impact traffic transiting the Chicago shoreline south of downtown. Stay tuned for additional details as they become available.

