

**25 PAPA**

THE SOUNDS AND
SMELLS OF FLIGHTS
IN 25 PAPA ARE
ETCHED IN MY MIND

**RV ROW**

A REVIEW OF WHAT IS
GOING ON IN THE
BACK OF THE HANGAR

**FROM THE LEFT SEAT**

DO BUNNIES WEAR
FUZZY PEOPLE
SLIPPERS?

**HISTORY FOUND**

SEE WHAT CLOW
LOOKED LIKE IN
1982-1983



From the Left Seat



Greetings Chapter 461, and welcome to the first issue of our newsletter for 2022!

I hope this finds you warm and well as we continue to slog through bone-chilling temperatures and frozen precipitation.

Speaking of weather, the fact that I usually open my monthly messages with a weather reference made me wonder. I have been told many times that talking about the weather is considered cliché.

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



cli-ché /klē'SHā/ *noun* a phrase or opinion that is overused and betrays a lack of original thought.

Given its range of impact on flight operations, is it still considered cliché to talk about the weather when you are a pilot? (Bonus question: Do bunnies wear fuzzy people slippers?) I think the cold weather is weighing heavy upon me.

Weather frivolity aside, we continue to make solid progress in our hangar projects. Lounge-461 now has a nearly finished floor and walls that are not too far from needing paint, and we will begin installing sheetrock on the ceiling in a couple of weeks.



We even have paint in the wings! The crew has done a great job cleaning up and reorganizing the space, and we plan to begin building out SimLab-461 by the end of February.

A reminder: If you are interested in getting involved in Lounge-461, SimLab-461, or our Pietenpol build, or please join us at “Hangar Night” on Thursdays at 7:00 pm, or at “Chow @ Clow” at 5:00 pm on Sundays. You may also check the events section of our website (<https://www.eaa461.org/events/>) for the most up-to-date view of chapter events, or you can request more information via email: contacus@eaa461.org

Chapter Waypoints:

On January 6, the chapter voted to increase the board of directors from seven seats to nine, and subsequently sat three new members to the board:

Aviation For All Ages and Interests

<https://www.eaa461.org>



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, 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.

Amy B. Reeb

Rich Tichy

Jeff Krasowski

On Dec 16, 2021, EAA HQ informed us that EAA Chapter 461 and Clow Airport have been approved to host an EAA Ford Trimotor aircraft June 2 - 5, 2022 in conjunction with our annual Cavalcade of Planes! Volunteers will be needed to support the aircraft and flying operations; more details will be provided in the near future. <https://cavalcadeofplanes.com>

I would like to close this month by sharing with you a message I received from Bartek Szelazek on behalf of the Our Children Foundation (OCF). EAA Chapter 461 members hosted a group event in support of OCF parents and children in September 2021.

The original message is available at the following link:

<https://ourchildrenfoundation.com/2021/09/18/samoloty-samoloty-samoloty-kolorowe/>

The approximate Polish to English translation is as follows:

"Each season has its own beauty. It was September 18, 2021: sunny and no wind. The weather was favorable to take off thanks to the EAA Aviation Club Chapter 461 in Bolingbrook.

Children and youth of the "Our Children Foundation" had an unforgettable adventure flying with Mr. Chad Carlson, who is the President of this club. After all the emotions, there was no shortage of coffee, refreshments and snacks for lunch from the club cafe.

We are grateful to our volunteers, Mrs. Anna and Mrs. Bartek, and in particular to the youngest volunteer, Maciek, who was the "driving force" of this trip."

My name was mentioned twice on the page, but make no mistake - the event was a success because our members showed up, gave their best, and brought out the best in all of us. In other words, it was a success because of you.

Thank you for making our chapter and airport family a warm and welcoming place for families of all ages and abilities.

VFRs!

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.

25 Papa

Robbie Culver

Most people involved in aviation can tell you about that special airplane or flight that truly is unforgettable. I'd like to share one with all of you. January is a bittersweet month for me to share this.

The story is about a Piper Tri-Pacer, N3925P, that my brother Mike owned when I was young. January is the month we lost him



to cancer, some years ago. My sister Barb was also with us for this flight, and unfortunately she has also recently passed away due to complications from Parkinson's disease. The memories are mixed.

Mike was my oldest brother, and to say I looked up to him would be an understatement. He was a pilot when I was a boy wanting to be a pilot, and he owned an airplane when I was a boy dreaming of owning an airplane. You get the picture. (Though as I often say in the hopes of being accurate, I now know that it is the airplane, or airplanes, that own me, not the other way round)

While I cannot be sure, I am fairly certain the flight was also in January, as I know we cleaned snow off the wings before departing Morey's Field (C29) in Middleton, WI. The destination? The EAA Museum, then located in Hales Corners, WI. Since Hales Corners closed around August 1977, this had to be earlier than that.

According to EAA, "While our annual fly-in & convention moved to Oshkosh in 1970, our headquarters remained in Hales Corners, WI, until the opening of the EAA Aviation Center, including what was then known as the EAA Air Adventure Museum, in 1983." My guess is this was January of 1977.

N3925P was not exactly a showplane. She was old and tired, she lived outdoors at a tie-down, and she had a musty smell. But my

Board of Directors

Chairman - Dean Karafa

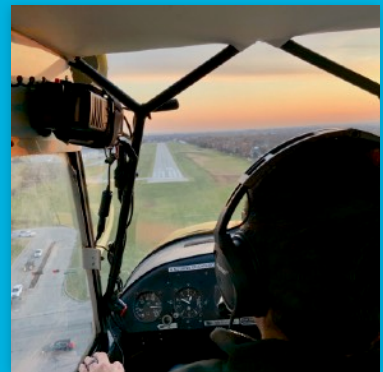
Angela Greer

Gia Kapp

Al Bally

YOU CAN FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/EAA461>



HANGAR NIGHT

Every Thursday evening from 7 pm to 9 pm we host a "hangar night" where we learn, we build, we socialize, and we work on our hangar.

No experience is required, no membership dues must be paid, and no expectations are set.

Come out, meet friends you haven't met yet, see what the buzz is all about, and join in the fun!

brother owned her and cared for her and I fell in love immediately. My first flight into the EAA Convention (fondly referred to as “Oshkosh” and now named AirVenture) was in the back of that airplane later that same year.

The sounds and smells of flights in 25 Papa are etched in my mind, though the years have mixed them all up. The sight of my brother reaching over his head to adjust the trim was enough to have me mimic the behavior in the back seat of my mother’s car every time we drove. His Ray Ban sunglasses and the smile on his face every time we flew are unforgettable. The sound of the engine, the wind on the fabric, my brother talking to me...

Years later, Mike owned a Luscombe, and that *was definitely* a showplane!

I cannot tell you much about the flight to Hales Corners, other than it was cold in the back of the Tri-Pacer. If I recall correctly, the runway was grass and I remember we parked across the street from the museum. (I confess to having cheated and looking this up to be sure - see [this website](#) for some history about the airport)

I can, however, tell you a lot about that museum visit! As a young boy who was enthralled with all things aviation, the museum was a magical place. At the time, the museum was a bit less “perfect” than what we see in Oshkosh. The buildings were full of aircraft and artifacts, but it was the person that I met there that I remember most.



Mike with his Luscombe

Chapter Leadership

President & Web Editor:

Chad E. Carlson

Vice President: Al Bally

Treasurer: Josh Krecek

Secretary: Alexander Falco

Sonnenberg :

Young Eagles Coordinator:

Al Bally

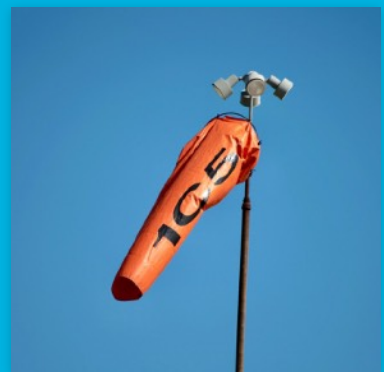
Membership Coordinator:

Angela Greer

Facilities Coordinator and

Newsletter Editor:

Robbie Culver



CONTACT INFORMATION

Mailing address:

118 S. Clow International
Parkway, Bolingbrook, IL
60490

<http://bbclowairport.com>

Email address

contactus@eaa461.org

I did not know it then, but I do now. I met EAA Founder Paul Poberezny for the first time that day (though certainly not the last). What I remember most vividly is he took the time to talk to me, ask about my interest, and had a warm smile and a spark in his eyes as we talked.

He seemed genuine and I remember him explaining something about the airplane we were looking at, although admittedly I do not remember what he said. But I definitely remember the man.

What is etched in my mind is the museum. Vividly. The aircraft seemed to have stories to tell, and each one was unique. If I recall correctly, the museum building was a pale mustard color with sunlight filtering in among the displays. My memory may be fading and the details could be wrong...but I found images at [this link](#). It matches my memories, for what it is worth.



We spent part of the morning and into the early afternoon wandering through the exhibits. Soon enough, it was time to go, and we departed in 25 Papa. A stop for lunch on the way home (Grand Geneva or Lake Lawn Lodge probably) just added to the adventure.

I'm sure I have muddled up some of the memories I am sharing, and I am equally sure the story is neither unique nor exciting. But I hope each of you that takes time to read (which is probably 5 or 6 of you) has your own memories to lock away and share one day. Aviation does that - makes memories.

For me, writing this brought back many, some good, some more

Tickets Now on Sale for EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2022

Weekly and daily admission tickets for the 69th edition of EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, EAA's annual fly-in convention, are now available online for the event at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on July 25-31, 2022. Additional special offers and advance purchase parking passes will be available in the coming weeks.

[Click here for tickets](#)

Again in 2022, all attendees ages 18 and under are admitted free, supported in part by The Boeing Company. In addition, EAA members who purchase admissions prior to June 15, 2022, are eligible to receive their admission wristbands in advance via the Express Arrival program.

While admissions are available at the gate, early online purchase gives the best discounts, options for faster entry to the grounds, and additional information and insights prior to the event.

difficult. In 2015 when I made the first flight of my Sonex, I know I had a copilot in the empty right seat. I know Mike was there with me, making sure I didn't screw up...Recently, while flying my first Young Eagle of 2022, M.E. was in the back of the Champ, bundled up and toughing it out. I thought back to those flights in 25 Papa, and what it meant to me. I was up front grinning like that little boy in the back of the Tri-Pacer. *Thanks Mike.*

Eat at Charlie's!

<http://ordercharliesrestaurant.com>

Charlie's is our on-site airport restaurant! It's a great place for breakfast or lunch, and offers food, friendship, and a great view of the ramp and runway!

Charlie's offers a wide array of fresh food – garbage skillet, biscuits and gravy, breakfast sandwich, cheese omelette. They use the freshest ingredients in preparing their food to provide the best quality and taste. Try their delicious food today!



Rick Ernst tells us he is making progress with his RV-22 Osprey project in hangar 3 (seen here in VTOL configuration). Rick does not yet have the vectored thrust figured out, but has selected some nice upholstery.

Winter Flight Fest

Winter Flight Fest will take place at the EAA Aviation Museum on Saturday, February 12, and feature both familiar and new cold-weather attractions for attendees.

From 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., kids and those young at heart can enjoy hands-on activities, interactive exhibits, flight simulators, and special events, including the Skiplane Fly-In.

Concessions are available from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. inside the museum, and the traditional free-chili lunch will be available at Pioneer Airport, across from the museum.

[Click here for details](#)

Activities include:

Airplane Model Building Contest

Skiplane Fly-In

A shuttle from the EAA Aviation Museum to Pioneer Airport is available for all guests and spectators.

Shuttle services will also be provided from Basler Flight Service to the EAA Aviation Museum for pilots flying into and landing at Wittman Regional Airport.

All events and activities inside the Museum require admission.

RV Row

Dean Karafa

The Chapter hangar has quite a variety of aircraft, both ready to fly and in various stages of construction. The north east section of the hangar has turned into a collection of 4 RV's in various stages of completion. RV is the simple abbreviation for the series of aircraft kits available from Vans Aircraft- all designated with RV and followed by a numerical sequence for the various kits available.



Here is a brief rundown of the planes on RV Row.

RV6A by Rick Ernst



Through the years Rick's project has had several homes in other areas of the country. He moved the project into the hangar a few

EAA Virtual Ultralight Days Coming February 22-24

Experts from throughout the ultralight community will share their knowledge to those engaged in the lighter side of recreational aviation on February 22-24, as the inaugural EAA Virtual Ultralight Days hosts webinars open to all at no charge.

The 15 total webinars — five on each of the three days — are based on the highly successful format used during EAA Homebuilders Week and EAA's popular webinar series. The live sessions will be hosted by well-known subject matter experts in the ultralight community, with question-and-answer periods to address specific questions.

All sessions are free of charge to everyone, with the archived presentations available to EAA members afterward. Pre-registration is encouraged, with registration links and schedule information available at this link: [UltralightDays](https://www.eaa.org/ultralightdays)



months ago.

In RV Row, Rick's project is probably closest to first flight. In the coming weeks, Rick will be installing the wings and finishing off the numerous odds and ends that go along with a build of this nature as it nears first flight. Rick jokes (I hope it's a joke) that the toughest part of build is whatever he is doing next!!

He'll be looking for hangar help when he is ready to attach the wings. Rich Tichy, our chapter technical advisor and an RV-6 builder, says you should have 4 people to attach the wings.

RV14A by Dave Gustafson

Dave project is a little over 6 years and going. The RV-14 was moved into the hangar a little over a year ago. Progress has been slow and steady. The fuselage is on the gear and the engine and prop have been installed. Dave has been working with his two sons and coming along nicely. Current activity is centered around the numerous connections associated with the engine and installation and fitting up of the engine cowling.



Coming down the line will be the instrument panel. The wings are ready for installation but will wait until the interior of the plane is essentially complete before putting them on.

Dave has made several upgrades to the Vans kit including the brakes, brake lines, and pitot static system. Dave has learned, as most kit builders have, every time you deviate from the plans, almost always for an upgrade, you add cost, complexity and perhaps more than a little bit of frustration.

Dave is a bit reluctant to put a target date for first flight—probably a good idea.

'Pilot Your Own Adventure' Contest Returns in 2022

The opportunity for an EAA AirVenture Oshkosh once-in-a-lifetime camping experience is the grand prize as EAA's Pilot Your Own Adventure contest, supported by Flight Outfitters, is now open for pilots and aircraft owners.

"Those of us who fly know that every airplane has its own story and soul," said Jim Busha, EAA's vice president of publications, marketing, and membership. "Maybe it's the story of its operational history, the people that it connected, or the passengers it flew. It doesn't matter if there were thousands — or even tens of thousands — of the type built, or if it's rare or even unique, every airframe has tales to tell. And if we love the way you tell your aircraft's story, you might just win the AirVenture camping experience of a lifetime."

The entry submission must be non-fiction, based on real facts, real events, and real people, and also adhere to the contest requirements as outlined in the [official contest rules](#). Entries must be accompanied by two to eight photos with captions of up to 30 words each.

RV14A by Dean Karafa

Dean's RV14 is sitting side by side with Dave's. Almost looks like a factory production line! Dean moved into the hangar about a year ago. Since his retirement Dean has been able to devote more time to the project and so progress is a bit faster, at least so far, than many others.

The clock time so far is about 3 1/2 years. Currently Dean is working on several areas including, the wings (quick build wings to start with), instrument panel, tail feathers, and canopy. He is hoping to have the plane on the gear some time in February. Once the plane is on the gear then it is time to install the engine which has been sitting in a box in the hangar.



Dean characterizes the build as about 90% of the time its great fun and enjoyment, 10% of the time its frustration at a very high level.

A big surprise for Dean has been the cost of the many tools it takes to build the kit. Dean used to think he had a reasonably well stocked tool chest. Not even close when it comes building an all metal airplane! As with the other builders on RV row Dean is getting great help and advice (most of it good!) from other builders and EAA members.

Dean is very optimistically thinking he will be "in the sky by 4th of July. Could be if he can spend the time necessary! Still a lot to do before first flight.

RV7 by Tony Sabos

Tony is like a lady in waiting. Last month he moved the wings for his build into the hangar. Right now there isn't enough room in the hangar to bring in the rest of the build and so he continues

Top Air Show Performers Commit to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2022

Some of the world's top air show performers have made commitments to fly at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2022 as part of the afternoon and night air show lineups.

Those performers include aerobatic champions and longtime Oshkosh favorites for the 69th EAA fly-in convention, scheduled for July 25-31 at Wittman Regional Airport. The event features nine air shows over seven days, including night air shows on July 27 and July 30. The daily afternoon air shows are presented by Daher and Pratt & Whitney, while the Wednesday, July 27, night air show is presented by Covington Aircraft.

"This is already an outstanding all-star air show lineup and we're just getting started," said Rick Larsen, EAA's vice president of communities and member programs, who coordinates AirVenture features and attractions. "There are returning performers, new air show acts, and particular aircraft connected with specific events and anniversaries. week unforgettable."



working on the fuselage and tail feathers in his garage. Serious progress has been made on the instrument panel.

His next kit package is expected to be delivered in October and perhaps by then there will be room in the hangar and RV Row will continue to live!



The Things You Find When You Clean!

Recently, while some of our young members were re-organizing and cleaning up the hangar loft library, an interesting discovery was made!

The photo at left is from the 1982-1983 Illinois Aviation Directory. It is Clow airport, at that time listed as being in Plainfield.

If you look closely, you may note the airport layout was significantly different. All of those dots at the east-center area of the photo are tied down aircraft.

Some of our more, um, “long term” members no doubt can tell us all stories about these days. I would love to hear from them!

As our chapter approaches its 50th anniversary, I think it is a good idea to start thinking about ways to honor the past and look towards the future.

Let us know your thoughts

