

RAY AVIATION UPDATE

THIS EXPERIENCE IS GREAT PREPARATION FOR MY FUTURE!



AFFORDABLE AVIATION

WELL-CARED-FOR VINTAGE AIRCRAFT... ARE AFFORDABLE



FROM THE LEFT SEAT

FIFTY-FIVE SHOPPING DAYS UNTIL CHRISTMAS!



PAY IT FORWARD

HOW AN OLD PROPELLER HELPED ME PAY IT FORWARD.





From the Left Seat

hapter 461 - Before I type another word, I want to wish you a heartfelt, Happy (belated) Thanksgiving.

This year brought forth personal challenges I could never have imagined possible, and, as we head into winter, those challenges have evolved and developed entirely new dimensions that have caused me to be distracted with regard to matters at home.

I am both grateful and thankful for your patience and support.

Hangar Happenings:

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



- Lounge-461: In early November, we purchased paint, primer, and materials, and now we are back in full-swing toward getting the lounge put back together. At the risk of repeating myself, I want to yet again thank Craig Kurek for his help with logistics, tools, and construction expertise.
- Our hangar security system is now actively attempting to deter those who lack the Spirit of Aviation. (Thanks again, Craig!)
- In mid-November, I donated and installed an Ecobee 4 Smart Thermostat in the chapter hangar. This smart device enables multi-tenant control and remote management of hangar heating. As we move through the winter, we will monitor weather, temperature, and humidity data collected by the device to help maximize efficient heating of the hangar.
- Also in mid-November, Tony Sabos, Dean Karafa, and Robbie Culver coordinated a hangar cleanup exercise. A dumpster was rented, debris was disposed of, and the hangar has taken on an entirely revitalized sense of positive energy. Thanks to Tony, Dean, Robbie, and others who helped eliminate the excess!
- If you are interested in getting involved in Lounge-461, please join us at "Hangar Night" on Thursdays at 7:00 pm. 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: contactus@eaa461.org

Chapter Waypoints:

- The EAA Ford Tri-motor Tour Team informed us that we were the highest-grossing host of the Ford Tri-motor aircraft during the 2022 season, and the Ford Team has indicated that we can expect to host a Ford Tri-motor once again at Cavalcade 2023. Thanks to Rick, Rand, Joe, Dean, and all of the Chapter 461 volunteers who worked tirelessly to make 2022 super successful!! Very well done Chapter 461 and friends!!
- The KLOT Class Delta airspace is expected to come online in the very near future. Please be mindful of the impending airspace change!
- If you plan to use Amazon to do holiday shopping this year, please consider using Amazon Smile with EAA Chapter 461 as your designated charity. There is no price difference for products purchased through Amazon Smile versus regular Amazon, and a portion of each purchase made using Amazon

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.

Smile is given to a charitable organization of your choice.

You may use the following link to simultaneously shop and support Chapter 461: https://smile.amazon.com/ch/27-2633906

Or, for those into using QR codes:



Is it springtime yet? How about now? No? In that case, where's my pumpkin spice?

Until next month...

VFRs!

Ray Aviation Scholar Update

Emily Vineyard

Thanksgiving! Now this update is not as grand as I was hoping for but I am almost all done with my flying portion! I have been doing quite a few solo flight's and let me tell you it feels better and better, and my landings well of course those are great (well at least I hope you think that when you see them). I should be taking the written very soon so wish me luck!

Flying is truly a gift and I thank you all so much for letting me have this scholarship to pursue and very soon accomplish my goal. Just a fun little thing about me is I have been training in a Cessna 152 and you might laugh but I think it's my favorite airplane, now I might be a little biased but I love that thing!

I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and time with your family!

Thank you again for all the support!

Emily Vineyard

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.

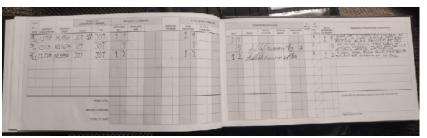
Individual membership to the EAA is \$40 per year. Family memberships are available for an additional \$10 per year. Both include a twelve-month subscription to Sport Aviation magazine.



Ray Aviation Scholar Update

Jake Marchese

hroughout the past three months, I have been preparing for checkride but school has been my top priority. The demands of schoolwork have increased right when I hoped to be spending more time on checkride prep. It is quite frustrating to finally turn seventeen and find myself fighting to find adequate time to study. Right now, the most important thing for me is to maintain the best grades I can to ensure that I am most qualified to be accepted into a college professional flight program. I cannot



Board of Directors

Chairman - Dean Karafa

Al Bally Angela Greer Gia Kapp Jeff Krasowski Amy Reeb

Rich Tichy

YOU CAN FIND US ON FACEBOOK!



HANGAR NIGHT

Every Thursday evening from 7 pm to 9 pm we host a "hangar night" where we learn, we build aircraft, 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!

stress enough how challenging it is to manage my junior year school work coupled with my studies as a student pilot. On the positive side, this experience is great preparation for my future.

I have found a range of dates during which I may be able to schedule a checkride over Christmas Break. I have spoken with a DPE with availability to schedule me once I have approval from my instructor. By then, I will have a good understanding of what to expect when the time comes.

Paying it Forward

Robbie Culver

In June 2018, I had an engine issue in my Sonex that resulted in a precautionary landing at an old farm runway in Leaf River, Illinois. When I landed, I had no idea where Leaf River was, and the guy living across the street from the runway I landed on said no one had landed there in over 20 years...It was a day I will never forget, but that is a story for a different issue.

We ended up having to disassemble the Sonex to get it out of there, and planned to do so on a hot July day. Since we were short on help, my wife Brenda posted on Facebook asking for help - and a friend of hers said her husband and another friend could meet us there to help.

The two guys that showed up were students at Rock River Valley college, attending the aviation program. I had never met them before, but they showed up in literally the middle of nowhere, helped us disassemble and load the airplane on to a flatbed trailer, move the wings into an enclosed trailer, and left. I never saw them



Chapter Leadership

President & Web Editor: Chad E. Carlson Vice President: Al Bally Treasurer: Josh Krecek Secretary: Alexander Falco Sonnenberg:

Young Eagles Coordinator: Dina Romanova Membership Coordinator: Angela Greer Facilities Coordinator and Newsletter Editor: Robbie Culver



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again, but I sure never forgot them or their kindness. I have a lot of these stories about the great people I have met over the years in aviation, but this one in particular stayed with me. I always wanted to pay it forward for what they did.

Recently, a family friend, Elroy Hilbert, posted on Facebook that Rock River Valley college needed a propeller for a Cessna 150 in their aviation program. The Cessna was not airworthy - in fact it was only half there. But they needed a propeller.

We had removed a propeller from a 1966 Cessna 150F years ago, and I kept it - in fact, it was in the EAA 461 hangar, up in a loft bay. So I contacted Elroy, and offered to donate it. It was my way of paying back the kindness of strangers a few years ago.

Elroy sent me a couple of photos, and it was very satisfying to know that our donation will help their students for years to come. Aviation is a small world - be nice, help those around you, and pay it forward every chance you get!

Affordable Aviation

Robbie Culver

In the November 2022 issue of *Sport Aviation*, the EAA magazine, Jack Pelton wrote his monthly column about a subject near and dear to my heart.

In Vintage (page 1), Jack wrote about "those who maybe haven't discovered the joys of wonderful old airplanes." If you haven't

Resources

Some resources used in studying for the FAA knowledge exam include the Airplane Flying Handbook, the Aeronautical Information Manual (AIM), the Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge, the FAA Aeronautical Chart Users' Guide, and the Practical Test Standards (PTS).

All of these are available for free online - a quick search found these documents in PDF format.

Much of this is the source material for your knowledge and oral exams, and none of it has to be purchased.

Click here to locate these documents

read the article, please do so - it's a wonderfully written piece. He goes on to mention that "well-cared-for Vintage aircraft...are fun and affordable."

A note here from your editor - the <u>Vintage Aircraft Association</u> defines the categories of Vintage aircraft as:

Antique Aircraft- Constructed by the original manufacturer (or licensee) on or before August 31, 1945

Classic Aircraft- Constructed from September 1, 1945 through December 31, 1955

Contemporary Aircraft- Constructed from January 1, 1956 through December 31, 1970

Those of you that know me are not going to be surprised to hear that I agree with Jack Pelton wholeheartedly. Our well-cared-for 1945 Aeronca 7AC "Champ" (named "Charlotte" and in the Classic category) is a great example of this. She was affordable to buy - I was going to buy a used Chevy Malibu - instead, I bought Charlotte!! She is more fun than words can express, though I have tried time and time again to write them. And she is easy to fly - my wife Brenda is earning her sport pilot certificate in her.

Yes - Charlotte has limited power and performance, and the tailwheel definitely keeps us on the ground on days others can fly tricycle-gear aircraft. But an Aeronca Champ is one example of an affordable vintage aircraft that allows for fun, affordable flying. There are numerous other examples, both tailwheel and tricycle gear configurations.

Aviation can be as expensive as you allow it to be. Very technical high-performance aircraft are certainly available - for the price of



a new house. Experimental aircraft represent an affordable way to get high-performance very capable aircraft with advanced avionics options at a fraction of the cost of buying new, but do require the

Fatal Homebuilt Aircraft Accidents Remain Under Historic Average

Fatal amateur-built aircraft accidents remained under the historic average over the 12-month period ending in September 2022, but EAA notes that an uptick over the previous year's total shows that focused efforts to enhance safety even further remain essential.

For the federal fiscal year ending September 30, 2022, the FAA reported there were 56 fatal accidents in experimental category aircraft over the preceding 12 months, including 39 in amateur-built aircraft. That compares to 42 total accidents – 33 in amateur-built aircraft – during the 12-month period between October 2020 and September 2021.

"The fatal accident totals, for both amateur-builts and experimental aircraft overall, remain 30 to 35 percent below where they were just a decade ago, including when looking at the three-year rolling average on which the FAA bases its annual not-to-exceed number," said Sean Elliott, EAA's vice president of advocacy and safety.

"While that's good news, we never want to see an annual increase in the totals. That's a reminder that we all must continue to work to make safety the top priority even with the small numbers we see each year."

More information is here.

time and tenacity to build. Used homebuilts can also be a great option, provided the buyer understands the risk and reward. And some Vintage aircraft can be expensive to maintain. This is all relative, and each choice requires homework and preparation.

A chapter member recently purchased a beautiful 1950 Cessna 170A, which now graces the hangar with its presence. A great compliment to *Charlotte*, the 170 adds to the EAA 461 fleet. It is another example of affordable aviation, but offers 4 seats instead of the 2 tandem seats in the Champ. Look for an aircraft that fits your mission - not one that fulfills the one trip you may never take. If you are a local, fun flyer, Vintage aircraft offer a wide range of affordable choices for exactly that. They are certainly capable of long trips, but may have limitations that must be respected.

Regardless of your choice, buying an aircraft is a process best approached without emotion or conflicts of interest. A prepurchase inspection is a must, and should be performed by an A&P who has no experience working on that particular aircraft, but is familiar with the make and model being purchased. A title search and research of the logs and maintenance records is also part of a prudent buyer's process. All Airworthiness Directives (AD's) must be complied with. Older aircraft especially can be a paperwork nightmare, and some homework can save major hassles later if anything is amiss. It is a prudent investment to hire a professional for this entire process.

EAA 461 has numerous experience aircraft owners, several of whom have gone through this process more than once. Having someone looking over your shoulder with no emotional investment is a wise idea. And you *will* have an emotional investment if this is your first aircraft! Find someone willing to walk you through the process who is not invested or involved.



Once that aircraft is found, purchased and retrieved, the real challenge begins - maintaining it in an airworthy condition. Done

EAA's 'Flight at the Museum' Fundraiser Coming March 11

An evening of fine food, beer sampling, live music, and more is coming to the EAA Aviation Museum on Saturday evening, March 11, with the inaugural "Flight at the Museum" fundraiser. The reception, multi-course dinner, and entertainment will run from 5:30 p.m. until 9 p.m., with proceeds benefitting EAA's museum youth education programs.

Designed as an upscale foodand-drink experience, Flight at the Museum will pair fine cuisine from TJ's Highland Steakhouse of Oshkosh with a variety of beverages from Stone Arch Brewery of Appleton. During the predinner reception, premium beers from 20 breweries will be available for sampling alongside a variety of hors d'oeuvres.

"A variety of evolving factors led us to create this unique event, which provides an experience and atmosphere unlike anything else in the region," said Chris Farrell, EAA's director of events. "The quality of food, drink, and entertainment will be outstanding for a memorable evening in support of our youth education activities."

For more information, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

properly, this is where Vintage aircraft can be easy or a challenge. If the type was common, parts availability is usually not a problem. If the type was rare or a one-off, this can become a nightmare you may not want to experience. Finding the right mix of Vintage that is a relatively common, well maintained, and not overpriced (especially in this market!) aerial steed can take time. This is not the time to hurry!

Researching insurance costs are also important - most Vintage aircraft are easy to insure, but some require more "time in type" (pilot in command experience in the same make and model) than others. If time in type is required, be sure you work closely with a CFI to make the most of the time you spend learning the intricacies of the aircraft. Many policies require 5 to 10 hours of experience and sometimes up to an additional 15 hours of PIC (Pilot-In-Command) time solo before carrying passengers. The cost of the policy depends largely on your experience and the hull value of the aircraft.

Finally, the maintenance costs must be well understood. While hangar rent is definitely not cheap, it can save unnecessary wear and tear on Vintage aircraft that may otherwise have issues when tied down outside - especially if the airframe is tube and fabric. An annual inspection is part of the joy of ownership, and regular oil changes can be expected.

In return for all of this, you will have a dependable aircraft available any time *you* want to fly. Instead of scheduling woes and challenges of rental aircraft, you will have the pride and joy of ownership. Don't be in a hurry to modify the aircraft either - as I like to tell my friends, don't look for ways to spend money on aircraft - they have a habit of doing that for you!

If you are thinking about aircraft ownership, you're in good company! EAA 461 has members who own, restore and maintain Vintage aircraft - and if your tastes run more to the experimental market, we have lots of those also! Join us for some affordable fun!

KLOT Class Delta Update

rom <u>flylot.com</u>: 11/28/2022

Control Tower opening December 29th, 2022!

There are many moving parts to the plan, but the new Tower



EAA Member Discount Programs



Did you know you EAA members can save up to 60% on hotels and 25% on car rentals, and save hundreds or thousands on products from Ford, John Deere, Office Depot, and Dell?

Click <u>here</u> for more information





Manager is now on site full time. Welcome Joseph Merrigold! Joe and his staff will be training and preparing to open on December 29th!!

As always, watch your NOTAMS.

KLOT Radio frequency assignments: Tower 134.80, Ground



New Programs Added to Young Eagles Online Registration

Young Eagles online registration has been a hit for chapter-hosted Young Eagles rallies and one-off Young Eagles flights. By allowing parents to preregister youths, coordinate volunteers, email participants, etc., the system has made it simpler to host Young Eagles activities.

EAA is excited to announce that Young Eagles online registration is now compatible with a number of other EAA youth programs!

Young Eagles Workshops

Young Eagles Build and Fly

The addition of these programs will allow chapters to pre-register youths and event volunteers, promote the event online, and submit the event to EAA HQ. Youths that register for these new events can also opt in for their EAA student membership, AMA membership, as well as EAA AeroEducate. Youths that register for AeroEducate will also receive credit toward their AeroEducate badge progress.