

Fitchburg Pilots Association EAA Chapter 1454 Newsletter



May 2018

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Tuesday May 8th at 7:00PM (6:00PM food)

Key Organization Links

www.fitchburgpilots.org
www.meetup.com/fitchburgpilots
www.facebook.com/fitchburgpilots/
www.fitchburgairport.com
www.eaa.org
www.aopa.org
www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/aircraft_certification/aircraft_registry/reregistration/
www.massdot.state.ma.us/Aeronautics

Key Weather Links

www.windytv.com
www.aviationweather.gov
www.usairnet.com

Key Reference Links

www.fltplan.com
www.airnav.com
www.flightaware.com
www.pilotgeek.com
www.skyvector.com
www.aopa.org/aopalive/

President's Corner

Let's go fly and have some fun!



Mark Estabrook - N79818
President, Fitchburg Pilots Association EAA Chapter 1454
President FPA /EAA 1454 mestabr@gmail.com

President's Corner

Another touch of this month history...



No we are not going to build the model from Revell! At this month's meeting FPA member Steve Brousseau will give a presentation on the Bell 47 helicopter made popular in the TV hit M*A*S*H 4077th. He likes this helicopter so much he owns two

of them! Steve has RESCUED countless Young Eagles from the fate of being grounded at EAA1454 Young Eagles rallies when the weather has turned south. You won't want to miss this meeting and what promises to be a dynamic presentation.

Congratulations and thank you to all the folks who helped out at the recent V8 Ford Motor Club event at KFIT. Your dedication and service are beyond compare! We grossed \$8,600, and netted about \$3,000



supported by 19 volunteers helping out with set up and cooking. I understand that lines were kept short and the food was delicious. This is our biggest fund raiser of the year and necessary to fund the hangar and all we do. I love this



picture with all heads down over the grill. Who's that guy 2nd from left? THANK YOU ALL!

I had the pleasure of attending Aero Friedrichshafen this past month. This is THE general aviation show in Europe. There were 630 exhibitors from 38 countries with about 35k attendees at a beautiful venue right at the airport. The Zeppelin factory is also at the airport. There are great many aircraft on display. What was interesting was to see the high level of offerings and interest in light sport aircraft, rotorcraft and gyrocopters. For whatever reason these aircraft are very popular in the EU. Perhaps because they can be much lower cost to purchase and operate. There were also a fair number of electric and even some hybrid aircraft. Clearly GA is alive and well in the EU. Perhaps it's not as large as the US but it seems quite healthy and active.

The "bird" pictured above was actually a UAV that flew by flapping its wings ... like a bird. Pretty cool. It was 'mostly' controllable. Below is a picture of P51 replica light sport. There were lots more really interesting light sport planes, gyrocopters and helicopters... too many to show. A few electric and at least one hybrid electric as well.

Until next month, fly safe, have fun...

Mark , President FPA /EAA 1454



FPA / EAA 1454 Officers, Committee Members, and Key Contributors

Officers	Names	Committee Chair and Members	Names
President	Mark Estabrook	Aviation Center Manager	Dave Dion
Vice President	Glen Reinhardt		
Treasurer	Gary Daugherty	Fund Raising	Chris Lund
Secretary	Dave Babineau		
		Fly Out	Brian Gaudet
		Food	Glen Reinhardt Dave Dion Bob Scales Gary Daugherty Dick Maki Dick Gersh
		Scholarship	Jim Bisson Dick Maki Mark Estabrook Ed Murphy
		Safety	Dave Dion Gary Daugherty Dick Maki
Key Contributors	Names		
Program/Wings Coordinator	Jim Bisson		
Young Eagles Coordinator	Steve Bortle		
Membership Coordinator	Glen Reinhardt		
Newsletter Editor	Jeff Scorse		
Merchandise Representative	Steve & Patty Bortle		
Hanger Manager	Dave Dion		
Aero Fair Coordinator	Dave Dion		
Santa Visit Coordinator	Patrick Daykin		
Past President, Organizer	Steve Bortle		

Please note: Any member can be emailed through the Members Section of our FPA Meetup Site

New Members!

We'd like to welcome all new members who have signed up on Meetup in the last month.

New Members for May:



Antonio Aleman: Antonio joined last meeting and was introduced at the meeting. Antonio is a student pilot who just completed his solo two weeks ago. Antonio also came to his first Coffee & Donuts on Saturday morning right after his solo and set the bar high arriving with cheese sticks and breakfast sandwiches.

Abram Dancy: Abram joined last meeting. He is an instrument pilot with a multi-engine rating. He owns and flies a Cessna 340 based here at KFIT

Tara Sweeney: Tara joined at last Saturday's pancake breakfast. She is taking lessons at FCA for her Private Pilot. Tara is retired from the Airforce and lives in Henderson, NV. She has an interesting background. Tara has flown in the "Vomit Comet" which she will elaborate on at our May meeting.

Lucas Baran: Lucas Joined our Meetup site this week. He is from the Boston area and indicated he wants to be a pilot.

Dues are WAY “over” Due!

2018 Dues are the same as last year:

\$50 required (non-tax deductible) and \$40 requested (tax deductible)

As a reminder, the reason for the split is that we agreed not to rent to a 5th aircraft giving us great dedicated club space for all our activities. I think the space has worked out really well for us. Even with the extra gliders in there right now. The lost rent is equal to \$3,900. So we raised dues, but decided to split the raise so that some of the increase would be tax deductible. When you pay your dues please consider giving the additional \$40. You can pay it all at once and we'll split it out on the books.

You can pay by as follows:

Check: Bring the meeting, drop off at the airport in our mail box, or mail to: *Fitchburg Pilots Association*

*563 Crawford Road
Fitchburg, MA 01420*

On Line:

www.fitchburgpilots.org. Go to the “Donation/Payment” tab (upper right corner)

Select Either...

- Dues (PayPal) -or-
- Hangar Donation (PayPal or Debit/Credit Card)

For some reason the Debit/Credit option is not under “dues”. But if the amount is \$50 or \$90 we'll know it's for dues.

Aviation Safety Corner

By Dave Dion, FPA Safety Committee Chair

May Topic – Runway Markings

11 Things You Must Do With Your Pilot's License

by John Zimmerman

You worked hard, paid a lot of money and earned your pilot's license. Congratulations! Now what do you do? It's a question that comes up more often than most pilots care to admit. Sure, you'll want to take friends and family up for a ride, but once you've done that a few times, you may find yourself looking for new missions.

The good news is that your flying adventures are limited only by your imagination (and to a certain extent, your budget). When you think about it, this is probably one of the main reasons you learned to fly—the unbelievable freedom and possibilities that come with the title “pilot in command.”

Everyone's dream list will vary, but let me suggest 11 things that every pilot should do before they die. Call it a bucket list if you want, but I consider it a flight plan for a fulfilling life in the cockpit:

- **\$100 hamburger flight.** Why do greasy hamburgers taste better when you're at an airport restaurant? Because you've accomplished an actual mission and you're probably with a group of pilots. This social element to flying is often the fuel that keeps the fire burning. These flights don't have to be long, and can take you to a fine dining establishment.
- **Night flight over a city.** The word “peaceful” is probably over-used in aviation, but a pleasure flight over a city on a clear night is exactly that. The thermals are gone, the wind is often calmer, traffic is lighter, and the twinkling lights below make it impossible to think about anything else.
- **Fly a taildragger out of a grass strip.** Everything may not have been better in the “good old days,” but this is one part that probably was—at least on a warm summer day with the window open. I can clearly remember a flight in a Piper Cub out of a farmer's field that is among the most awe-inspiring 30 minutes of my life. So find an old airplane and a quiet strip and take a trip back in time.
- **Take a kid for his or her first flight.** Whether it's your own kids or a [Young Eagles](#) ride, showing a young person the wonder of flying will remind you how fortunate you are. Even if your passengers never become pilots, their perspective on flying and personal responsibility will be changed forever. Below FPA members Jeff Scorse with a Young Eagle and Steve Brousseau in his Bell Helicopter picking up a Young Eagle.



- **Go on a flying family vacation.** As this website declares, “There is nothing as rewarding and satisfying as using an airplane to go places.” That’s especially true when you can take your family with you, and show them that all the time and money you spend on flying can pay off. It probably won’t be a flawless trip the first time, but that’s part of the fun. Plan a relaxed schedule that allows you to enjoy the flying as much as the beach.
- **Low and slow cross country in the Fall.** Even if you’re not an outdoorsman, a 500 ft. flight across the changing colors of the seasons is breathtaking from the air. Do yourself a favor and turn off the GPS and radio—you’ll want to be looking outside anyway. Pick a winding river or a country road and simply follow wherever it leads. And don’t forget to take a camera.
- **Fly an actual instrument flight.** Even if you don’t earn an instrument rating, you owe it to yourself to fly a real approach in IMC (with a pilot who has the rating). Flying through featureless gray clouds for an hour and then seeing the runway lights appear in the windshield is a high that most drugs cannot match. It’s just about magic.
- **Fly something different.** Get outside your comfort zone and take a lesson in an aircraft you’ve never been in. Many pilots would argue that seaplane flying is about the most fun you can have in the air, and I agree. But other great options are gliders, helicopters or aerobatic airplanes. No matter what you fly, you’ll get a new perspective on flying and you might even discover a new passion.
- **Go to the Bahamas or Mexico.** While this may not be a short trip (depending on where you live), watching the turquoise waters of the Caribbean or Mexico slide under your wings is well worth it. It’s not as hard as you might think, and there are dozens of outstanding destinations that specifically cater to pilots. And since an airplane is the only way to get around many of these places, you’ll see things that most ground-bound people never will.
- **Oshkosh!** Technically called [EAA AirVenture](#), the world’s largest fly-in is one of the few events in modern life that is not over-hyped. You could easily spend the entire week at the show and never see it all. It’s an eclectic mix, too, at once old fashioned and thoroughly modern. You can see antique bi-wings in the morning and modern jet fighters in the afternoon. But the most impressive part of Oshkosh is the culture of hospitality—wildly different people come together as equals at Oshkosh and become friends simply because they love aviation. It’s impossible to describe adequately, so make plans to see it yourself.



- **Your answer.** What would you add to this list? Something you’ve done already or hope to do some day?

Hangar Happenings

By Dave Dion, FPA Hangar Manager

Things are *popping* at the FPA hangar - including Springtime daffodils and tulips popping up at the hangar sign. Stop by the hangar to see for yourself.



STEM EXPO Fly-Out to LOGAN

We've arranged an excellent crew of pilots and guests for the 2018 Aviation & Maritime STEM Expo which is being held at Logan in the Delta Airplanes Hangar on Wednesday, May 30, 2018 from 9:30AM – 12:30PM. We are looking forward to joining our friends at EAA106 for a fun filled day thrilling Boston area middle and high school kids with all makes and models of our GA airplanes.

Seats are still available, though availability is extremely limited. Please contact the FPA email (fpapilots@gmail.com) for arrangements. The website is indicating a sold out event, so getting on board with one of our pilots will truly be a rare opportunity. For more info: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/logan-airport-aviation-and-maritime-stem-education-expo-tickets-44313246112>

1975 Starduster Too

N22JB



- 1140 TTAF; 895 TTE; will be flown until sold
 - KT 76A Transponder
- Garmin GTR 200 COMM with Intercom
- New Hooker Harness in Rear Cockpit
- O-320 , 150HP, Runs Great; flown regularly
- Currently in Annual, Ready May 1, 2018 +/-
 - All compressions 72+
- Sweet flyer; "Gentleman's Acro" encouraged!

Always Hangared; based @ KFIT (Fitchburg Municipal Airport), Fitchburg, MA

1/3 Partnership Available, \$8,000.00
Monthly Dues of \$175.00 cover all annual expenses

Also available for outright SALE, \$24,000

Contact Dave; 508-331-1552; davebly@myfairpoint.net

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