



## **NEXT MEETING**

**Sunday, September 9, 2:00 PM**

**BBQ @ 12 Noon**

**Chapter Hangar**

### **President's Message**

Esprit: a French word meaning: a spirit sprightliness of spirit or wit; lively intelligence.

Our Chapter of EAA 725 enriches our flying acumen and capabilities through the frequent display of this attribute. Some examples follow. Names are withheld to protect the shy.

One of our pilots recently flew his self-built aircraft some six miles south of the Grants Pass Airport at 3,500 feet above MSL, when his engine quit. He altered heading toward the distant airport's runway 31 at best glide speed. The distance did not look good, but he busily dedicated his efforts to restarting his engine and succeeded! For a few minutes. His engine quit again and he could not restart it. He almost made the pavement of runway 31, but only managed the approach overrun to a rough landing that damaged his landing gear. Our pilot walked away unscathed! Esprit!

Workers from Pacific Aviation quickly arrived with the right equipment to remove his damaged aircraft from the runway 31 overrun clearing the approach and landing area. They promptly returned his aircraft to his hangar area. Neighborly Esprit! (Contagious?)

Days later, when our pilot undertook repairs to his damaged aircraft, a voluntary work party of EAA members appeared, seemingly unsolicited, to provide the manpower for removing the damaged aircraft's wings for inspection access to the aircraft's structural areas. Most of these workers had built aircraft themselves and understood our pilot's need for assistance. Esprit!

In a different circumstance, one of our pilots provides for the Grants Pass Airport the introductory ground training and aerial observation experience for Air Cadets, a group of interested middle-school kids that find the hands-on experience of molding the ground and aerial realms of flight fascinating! Air Cadets may become our future pilots through our pilot's voluntary donation of his time, experience, and aircraft. Esprit!

Our chapter has a member who constantly discerningly absorbs an array of happenings at the Grants Pass Airport and expeditiously connects the disparate data to provide understanding among the users from the Airport Manager to our fellow members. Examples include the invitation by the hangar owner, Andreas and his wife, who provided an afternoon luncheon at his open house to our members. In another example, he studied the National Guard and other fire-fighting agencies with their helicopter equipment and arranged lunch at our hangar for the Oregon National Guard aircrews, who reciprocated by opening their capacious Chinook Helicopter to a tour by our members. In addition, this EAA member hung signs and banners on Airport Day, reviews and updates our hangar's inside bulletin boards with new photos of member pilots and their aircraft, constructs or repairs aircraft models unstintingly for the FBO, EAA members, and other aerially interested parties. These mark but a few of his endeavors. Esprit!

Our member numbers are lean, but the essence of ESPRIT is very much alive within us!

Post Script: Certainly among our membership, someone feels the call to write as our EAA Chapter 725 Secretary to fill our vacant position. I know Brent is a tough act to follow. Nevertheless, speak up!

Clear Skies,  
Nate

## **August Meeting Minutes**

Call to order at 2:10 p.m by President Nate Riffle.

Pledge of allegiance to the United States Flag.

Guest and new member introductions.

Mr. Milton Bloombaum of EAA Chapter 250 visited us.

Ms. Mary Hamilton and two teenagers, Mary and Justin. Oregon residents now, but previously member of Santa Rosa EAA Chapter 124. Accompanied by AnnaLee Firestone who had assisted at the SOAA summer camps.

50/50 and Second Chance Drawings. Phil Cloutier conducted these ticket sales and drawings. The 50/50 winner was unrecorded. Second chance drawing was won by Marty Robb. \$19 were added to Chapter 725 funds.

Airport Advisory Board. President did not request report. This will be given at our next meeting by Stan Loer.

Treasurer's Report was not given due to travel by our Treasurer, David Applegate, outside our country. Nate Riffle and Dennis Crawford agreed that the balance of Chapter 725 funds was approximately \$4000. A more accurate report will be provided when our Treasurer returns.

New Business. President requested Christmas party dates be available for next meeting. Dennis Crawford agreed to contact golf country club south of Grants Pass off Hwy 238 for possible party dates in early December. We will consider these at our next Chapter 725 meeting early in September (probably 2 Sep or 9 Sep).

Fly-outs and other activities.

Dick Smith and Stan Loer flew to Cottage Grove last weekend for a proposed gathering of Waco and Travelair planes. Fire smoke obscuring the atmosphere probably inhibited attendance by many others.

Stan noted that our proposed next meeting on 2 Sep 2018 is within the Labor Day Weekend which may curtail attendance. The board will solicit recommendations on members' desires for possible postponement of meeting until 2:00 p.m., 9 Sep 2018. Stan will promulgate

meeting date in next newsletter. Non-email members will be notified by phone.

## Presentation

Vice-President, Joe Williams, provided a pre-meeting lunch with able assistance from several Chapter 725 members, to a dozen or more National Guard Chinook helicopter crewmen firefighters. They reciprocated by providing a tour for EAA 725 members of their Chinook helicopter at their base near the north end of the taxiway adjacent to Runway 31. These crewmen are fighting the Taylor Creek fire whose smoke is prominently visible west of the Grants Pass Airport.

Joe provided a comprehensive view with large photos and maps pointing out and describing the details of the National Guard and other agencies fire-fighting techniques and equipment. These included helo-lifted giant water buckets, night drone aircraft hot spot assessments, fire retardant chemical drops by fixed wing aircraft, easternmost penetration of the Taylor Creek fire. They have been subject to differing levels of evacuation notices during the recent weeks. It is noteworthy that the Taylor Creek Fire's easterly advance has been largely halted now, although burning continues westward.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

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## Around the Chapter

In spite of the almost non-existent VFR due to the smoke, August was a fairly busy month. I'm building up an extensive photo file (thanks Joe), far more than I can use in each newsletter. But that's OK because it gives me a lot to choose from and I'm thinking maybe a year end "special photo edition" might be a way to display some of the ones that don't make the regular newsletters. That said, here's a collection related to this month's chapter/member activities.

### August Meeting



Chow time. A small gesture to express our appreciation to the ANG Chinook crews on hand to assist with the massive fire-fighting efforts. A thousand "thank you's" would only start to acknowledge their contributions on our behalf. We're glad they weren't on "readiness alert" status so they could join us for lunch. I suspect they felt the same way.



With a little work, this could be made into a really great RV.



Phil and Kathy get the skinny on the bucket from a crew member.



Derek goes through the pre-start checklist. Well, maybe not.



Dick Smith and great grandson Brennan give the tires a pre-flight check.



Joe put together a very impressive visual display to accompany his presentation.

## Chapter 292 (Independence) Fly-in

Chapter 725 was ably represented at the annual Independence Fly-in by a contingent of members consisting of Phil and Kathy, Dennis and Barbara, Joe and Jennie, and Dick and Beth, accompanied by Brennan and constant 4-legged companion Cody. This was my 4<sup>th</sup> year there and I can't say enough good about it. Lots of airplanes arrive for the weekend and there are forums to attend and chapter member projects on display from a hang glider under construction to a North American T-28 restoration. Their "Teen Build" program will complete a Zenair CH701 by the end of the year.

It's a bit of a hike up the freeway to a few miles west of Salem, but well worth the trip. Much easier if you can fly it. Think about attending next year. It's always the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in August.



And here we are, although we were missing Dick and Beth. Joe "hired" a young photographer so we got all of us in. A good time was had by all.



This bad boy is all set up for the STOL competition held Sunday morning. Don't know how he did as I did not stay for the awards presentation. Photo by Joe.



The "Teen Build" CH701. The project will resume on receipt of the engine. Should fly by the end of the year.



A small part of the Silent Auction layout. This raised over 13K to support the chapter's youth programs.



This collection of aluminum tubing will eventually become a Facetmobile. Long story. I recommend Wikipedia.



Bakeng Deuce, a vintage homebuilt design from the Late 60's. It's for sale for 15K.



A Baby Ace. This design was the subject of a Mechanix Illustrated construction series way back in 1957. A real shot in the arm for a fledgling organization called the Experimental Aircraft Association.



Another vintage design-John Thorpe's T-18. John was one of the principal designers of the Piper Cherokee. Wish these aircraft had prop cards so I could have gotten owner info.

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### **Future Happenings**

If you know of any aviation events coming up over the next few months, please let me know. This is where they will appear. Summer is winding down and smoke from the fires has limited flying opportunities, but there are still aviation events to enjoy before winter shuts us down for another season.

**Sept.??:** Chicken Drop, Grants Pass . Postponed until the smoke dissipates.

**Sept 1-3 (Labor Day Weekend):** OAHS Great Oregon Homebuilt Festival. Cottage Grove

**Sept 8-9:** Annual Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum Fly-in. Hood River

**Sept. 21-23:** California Capitol Airshow, Mather Airport, Sacramento. Honoring Mather's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

**Oct. 6:** OAHS fly-in breakfast. I think this is the last one of the season.

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### **Almost Finally**



Dennis Mitchell flew his Zenair CH601XL for the first time on 8/24 after an extensive repair/restoration. Congratulations! This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> CH601 based here at Grants Pass.

## **Really Finally**



Men of many talents. Phil and Dennis finish up the installation of the hangar fans. The rest of us just supervised, but it probably would have taken much longer if we had tried to help.

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### **EAA Chapter 725 Grants Pass Airport-3S8**

**Meets: 1st Sunday of the month- 2PM**

**Nate Riffle.....President**

**Joe Williams.....Vice President**

**Office Open.....Secretary**

**David Applegate.....Treasurer**

**Stan Loer.....Newsletter Editor (stazel@cpros.com)**

**Ed Lee.....Webmaster**

<p><a href="http://www.eaa725.org">www.eaa725.org</a></p>
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