

Volume 21... Issue 2039 Date...April 2020 5465 E. Airport Road Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858

#### A Tax Exempt 501 (c)3 Non-Profit Organization

Visit our Facebook Page at "EAA Chapter 907" for the latest updates on Chapter activities.

Visit our Web Page at "www:907.eaachapter.org" to view more pictures of Chapter activities, photos, and newsletter archive.

# **View from the Cockpit**



#### Word from the President

Hello Everyone

Hope everyone is well and staying safe. In light of everything that's going on and the governor's stay at home order, our meetings and activities will be put on hold. Hopefully things will be back to normal by June and we can still fly Young Eagles. We will have to wait and see.

In the meantime, everyone try to stay well Thanks,

Randy

# Another sad note to report:

Joan Ledbetter passed away. Celebration of life will be scheduled at a later date.

# **Meeting Minutes**

March 5, 2020

Meeting called to order 12 in attendance

No old business.

Discussed Flying Star to be held on May 16. It was suggested to partner with Clare and Alma at Mt. Pleasant. Vote was taken and approved with a \$200 budget. Ways to promote the event were also discussed.

Chapter was awarded a Silver Flag.

Oshkosh has a new website that is more user friendly and will be up

April 1.

Also discussed renting hangar for a graduation party. Discussion for Young Eagles to be held on June 13.

# Treasures Report

Checking Balance \$3595.69

Savings/Scholarship

If God had meant man to fly, he would have given him more money!

# **Birthdays In April**



Butch Ballauer John Manley Bill Cain Ginny Cain Joan Ledbetter

## **Miscellaneous News**

# Association offers \$10,000 in scholarships

MARCH 18, 2020 BY GENERAL AVIATION NEWS STAFF LEAVE A COMMENT

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — The Westchester Aviation Association (WAA), a non-profit organization representing general aviation at Westchester County Airport (KHPN), will award three scholarships totaling \$10,000 for pilot training and professional development.

Two scholarships in the amounts \$6,000 and \$2,500 are in collaboration with Academy of Aviation, a flight school at the airport, and will be given as credit to be used only at Academy of Aviation. These scholarships will be awarded to those who wish to begin pilot training, or for existing pilots who need additional training to advance in their pilot careers.

In addition, WAA will offer a Professional Development Scholarship of \$1,500 to be used for continuing education for those who wish to pursue a career in business aviation, outside of the cockpit.

Deadline for applications is April 15, 2020.

The winners will be announced at a WAA sponsored event that will take place at the Westchester County Airport June 9, 2020. Scholarship winners will be required to attend the event to accept their awards.

The WAA Bill Weaver Aviation Scholarships are named after William R. Weaver, who passed away in April 2019. Bill was one of the founders of West Air, which later became Million Air, White Plains. His career in aviation spanned more than 40 years. He was a long-time member of the Westchester Aviation Association's Board of Directors.

# The impact of coronavirus on pilot testing, currency, and more

MARCH 19, 2020 BY GENERAL AVIATION NEWS STAFF 1 COMMENT

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) sent a letter urging the FAA to use a "maximum amount of flexibility" to help keep pilots and aircraft up and running during the coronavirus pandemic, following concerns by members facing obstacles for remaining in regulatory compliance.

In the March 17 letter to FAA Administrator Steve Dickson, AOPA President and CEO Mark Baker described the impact on GA pilots and urged a flexible approach that allows extensions and relief from regulatory time restrictions for the duration of the COVID-19 crisis.

With life on hold, the clock continues to tick down toward the dates when pilots' practical test and knowledge-test eligibility ends, currency or instrument proficiency runs out, and flight instructor certificates expire.

Many pilots confront seemingly intractable dilemmas in the face of closures, curtailment of travel, and the recommendations of health officials to practice social distancing, he notes in the letter.

"For example, federal requirements require pilots to renew their medical certificate in person, to complete their pilot certification examinations within a certain amount of time, and to complete knowledge tests at off-site testing facilities," he wrote. "The current restrictions to the U.S. population create an impossible barrier for these individuals to meet the necessary airman and aircraft requirements."

AOPA is receiving numerous member inquiries about how to deal with currency requirements during the pandemic.

"Our government affairs team is working with the FAA to create solutions," said Christopher Cooper, AOPA director of regulatory affairs.

### Issues that have cropped up:

- One challenging situation confronts instructors whose certificates expire every 24 months and must be renewed by one of several methods within the 90 days before the expiration date (doing so afterward requires starting over with a practical test). Many CFIs renew via online flight instructor refresher courses, but others attend in-person FIRCs, many of which have now been canceled because of the coronavirus. "Without an extension or relief, some individuals' instructor certificates will expire in the next month or two," Cooper said.
- Some existing problems will be exacerbated during the coronavirus crisis: Dealing with limited availability of designated pilot examiners to conduct practical tests has been a work in progress for two years and now faces new obstacles. The FAA is considering waiving some DPE management policies, but some DPEs have canceled appointments with practical test applicants because of the outbreak. "As a result, applicants may run into the issue of not being able to complete their practical within the required time limits," Cooper said.
- A related concern for applicants is that airman knowledge tests are valid as a practical test prerequisite for two years from the date they are taken. But if a knowledge test were to expire with testing facilities still closed, applicants would have no way to retake their knowledge tests, leaving them ineligible for the practical test indefinitely without some kind of FAA relief.
- Reduced access to aircraft and CFIs could trigger a wave of expirations of instrument proficiency checks, flight reviews, and recency-of-experience intervals unless the FAA can make exceptions, Cooper added.
- Medical certificate expiration dates are also looming. AOPA's medical certification team is monitoring the situation and working with the FAA on contingencies, he said.
- Aircraft maintenance and continuing airworthiness requirements must also be addressed.

The European Aviation Safety Agency is addressing the needs of the aviation community in EASA-member countries under the exemption notification provisions of its rules, which permit extensions of validity periods of "ratings, certificates, and attestations" for up to eight months, AOPA officials noted.

# **Chapter 907 Youth Workshop**

The workshops have been suspended until further notice due to the government restrictions.

## Calendar of Events

4/28/20 7 PM CDT Fly the Easy Way

5/27/20 7 PM CDT
Amateur-Built Condition Inspections

# A Little Humor

Airspeed, Altitude and Brains—Two are always needed to successfully complete a flight.

Always try to keep the number of landings you make equal to the number of ftake offs you've made.

Learn from the mistakes of others. You won't live long enough to make all of them yourself.

Those who hoot with the owls by night, should not fly with the eagles by day.

### **COOKBOOKS ARE AVAILABLE**

We have the Chapter's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cook Books. The suggested price is \$10 but we are selling them for introductory price of \$8. We will have them at our next meeting for your viewing and purchase. This book contains 200 of your favorite recipes that we have all enjoyed over the years at our different events. They would make a great present for birthday or any other special day.

### CHAPTER CLOTHING WITH EMBROIDERED LOGO

Chapter Logo shirts, hats, etc. are available directly from In-Stitches or you can order them from Maggie at our meetings

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