



The Flypaper

Promoting Sport Aviation in Central Illinois for More Than 58 Years

President's
Corner

Charlie
Bates

Missing Oshkosh

This arctic cold and snow cover brings to mind my last trip to Oshkosh in January of 2020 for the EAA Chapter Leadership Academy. We were housed at The Lodge for two days where we were fed three excellent meals each day from their large restaurant style kitchen.

Classes were held in the auditorium at EAA headquarters, across Pioneer Field runway, and adjacent to the museum. Our evening events included a tour of the Sonex factory and an evening to roam at the EAA Aviation Museum. If you haven't made it to the EAA Museum, I highly recommend it. But I found the real value of attending

the Academy is the quality of the information presented and an opportunity to meet and get to know our Chapter Leadership team at HQ.

Secondly, I greatly enjoyed meeting other



The Lodge at EAA HQ

chapter leaders from across the country and discussing their chapters' events and challenges. And share best practices.

My takeaway from the three academies I have attended is *don't try to run a chapter without it.* (see President's Corner P3)

Congratulations Bruce Jackson!

from Bruce ~

It's been close to 15 months since Sarah and I left Central Illinois for the warmer climate of South Carolina and to be nearer to our daughter Karen. Though we are over 700 miles away, I still try to keep up with what's going on in my old hometown! Having said that, I wanted to share some good news that came my way on December 21st of last year!

I received a call from a number in Topeka, Kansas that I didn't recognize of course, and almost didn't pick up. I did answer the



call, thinking that it probably had something to do with my auto warranty expiring (wink), when the voice on the other end was saying something about winning an airplane - of course, I said "Pardon me, who is this?", and I soon found out that my name had been chosen in a raffle for a 1973 Piper PA-28-180 Challenger that was being given away by the American Flight Museum in Topeka.

(see Bruce, Page 2)

You Have Information February

February 18 Membership Meeting

Our February meeting will feature soups again. We have enjoyed a variety of members' soup recipes and it seems appropriate to continue the theme until the weather improves and we can break the grill out. Please bring your favorite winter soup or a dish to pass. We will eat at 6 PM.

At 7 we will join a live EAA Leadership Webinar from HQ titled "Chapter Programs and Activities." These are really well done presentations by our leaders at HQ.



2021 Chapter 129 Dues

Thanks to all the members who sent in their annual chapter 129 dues! If you haven't already done so, please send in your \$30 membership fee for 2021 to help us with those early year expenses. Please mail your checks to:

EAA Chapter 129
2825 E Empire St
Bloomington, IL 61704



(Bruce cont)

I had forgotten all about buying the raffle ticket back in August and could hardly believe my ears! A search on Facebook for the museum will bring up the drawing and subsequent call to me if you're really bored...

The American Flight Museum is a non-profit located at KFOE that has a flying Douglas AC-47 airplane named "Spooky" and has held 6-7 raffles previously, raising money to keep their plane flying. They also own several other older aircraft and

promote many aviation events at the airport.

I plan to fly out and retrieve my "new" Piper sometime in the next couple of months (after a new "included" paint job) and then look into doing some avionics upgrades! The plane has under 4000 hours total time and a mid-time engine - should be a great plane to explore the southeast in and no doubt a visit back to KBMI via air will be in the works as well!

~Bruce Jackson

The Young Eagle Workshop Kits are in!

In 2019 we accumulated some Young Eagle dollars that had to be used by the end of 2020. We purchased four Young Eagle Workshop Kits with some of those funds for use with our planned STEM activities. The kits will support projects for 40 students and provide us with a structured means to introduce youth to aviation. The kits are complete with a Program Guide for a number of projects, and instructions for planning workshop events. The workshop programs are structured for kids from 11 to 18 and range from basic aircraft aerodynamics principles to building projects with hand tools.

We are in discussions with local High School STEM programs to develop an aviation themed curriculum for their students interested in aviation.

Stay tuned for opportunities to volunteer at these workshops.



A Fresh Set of Cables

Thanks to Ben Schneider for providing the supplies needed to replace the frayed cables on our OH door. Ben, John Rettick, Paul Krueger and Charlie Bates stayed after a Saturday breakfast to install the new cables. We are ready for Spring events.



President's Corner (Cont)

The information presented is a collection of best practices from many years of managing chapters by our leaders with a broad range of experiences.

Presentations included:

- Habits of Highly Successful Chapters
- Chapter Programs and Activities
- Chapter Online Presence
- Tax Exempt Basics and Fundraising
- Insurance and Risk Management
- Resources Available To Chapters

This year, the Leadership materials are being presented via a series of webinars. You can log in at: <https://www.eaa.org/ea/eaa-chapters/chapter-leadership-training>

I would encourage all EAA members to take some time to watch these to get a sense of what chapters can accomplish and the tools that are available to support our chapter activities.

~Charlie



EAA Aviation Museum

WANTED!

Your travel stories, builders' updates, news items.

Email to cmbates50@gmail.com