

Trick or Treats
money or eats.



Spirit of Flight

Experimental Aircraft Association

Chapter 14: San Diego, CA

October 2022



"Doc," one of two flying B-29s in the world visits the SDM transient ramp. Doc arrived at SDM on September 19, offered rides from September 20 and 21, and was on static display at the Miramar Airshow from September 22-25. Photo by Steve Furtak.. More of Steve's photos of Doc on page 8.

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Upcoming Events

October 15th—Rob Reddig on ATC Pilot Outreach

October 22nd—Chapter Open House,

Chapter Briefing

EAA Chapter 14
Members



Chapter Activities: Information provided by Chapter members.

Week ending Sept 3: Really hot weather. Ryan took an Eagle for a flight who came to the Chapter specifically to see what flying was about. He was 6'4" but he folded up nicely into Ryan's Diamond. The flight convinced him he wanted to go ahead and get a PPL. Joe Russo was a hero and agreed to make lunch in the heat (high 90's). He provided a filling meal of chili mac, salad, bread and ice cream – and a number of members stopped by to enjoy the food, including Mark Albert, Gary List, Trevor Pearson, Larry Rothrock, and Richard West.



Larry Rothrock braves the 90-degree heat to enjoy lunch at the Chapter on the First Saturday. 9/3

Week ending Sept 10: Lots of travel this week. Ron Shipley is off to visit relatives in Kentucky for a few weeks – Gary List kindly volunteered to do the Treasurer's duties during that time. Gert Lundgren took an even longer trip and visited Sweden for a few weeks. Nigel Worrall is off to



Stu Strebig tends the grill on Meeting Day while our regular grillmaster Kevin Roche attends the Reno air races. 9/17

Arizona again for the second build session on his Lightning. See the update article elsewhere in the newsletter. Alan Osborn, Bob Osborn's son, was visiting San Diego. He always makes sure to stop by and visit the Chapter. Because of the heat, we took a break from Young Eagles activities for a month – but will be back in business for a special program in October.

Week ending Sept 17: Nigel Worrall returned from his second grueling build session. A week's worth of 12 hour days, but definite progress is being made. Since Pancake Hero Kevin Roche was off to the Reno Air Races, Larry Rothrock and Stu Strebig were in charge of breakfast. Stu turned out to be quite the grill master. They were ably assisted by Nigel Worrall and Jimmy Kennedy.

Week ending Sept 24: Gert Lundgren got back from Sweden safely – first thing he did when he got to the Chapter was take a flight in his RV – naturally! Ron Shipley flew back from Kentucky for a few days to take in the Miramar Air



Joe Russo fixes lunch on a hot First Saturday. 9/3



President Trinidad Lopez opens the General Meeting on the Third Saturday. 9/17

Show. Probably a number of our members will be attending. CFI Steve Furtak saw "Doc", a B-29, on the transient ramp and took some great pictures. See page 8. Also some photos of the Blue Angels from Jim MacKinnon scattered through the newsletter and on page 9. Billy Lopez was busy starting work on the gas tanks of the Serendipity Club Piper.

General Meeting: President Trinidad Lopez opened the meeting and welcomed Chapter members and guests. Director and Life Member Kerry Powell then presented a Life Membership to Joe Russo. See article elsewhere in the newsletter. Kerry then introduced our speaker for the month, Gary Wigstaff, who spoke on Loss of Control.

New Members

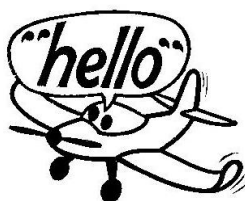
Donna Ryan

Welcome to our new members. The information below comes from their membership application. Some people just include the essentials; others expand a bit on their experience and we always appreciate that.

Look for them at the next meeting, introduce yourself and get to know them better. We very much appreciate their support.

Scott Campbell is a private pilot with a repairman's certificate. He is working on a Vans RV8 and also owns a Mooney M20E. He can help out with aircraft fabrication, computer aided design, and analysis. Always glad to have another RV fan to our group!

Troy Thaxton is a private SEL pilot with a Grumman Tiger AA5B. He attended our September general meeting. Thanks, Marty for joining!



Kerry Powell, EAA-14 Program Director

Program summaries are taken from descriptions on faasafety.gov

October 15: Rob Reddeg from the SoCal Tracon, speaking on ATC pilot outreach.

Rob works for the SoCal Tracon and has been a very active ATC spokesperson all around Southern California. He has led past Operation Rain Check visits at the TRACON, and has been the featured speaker at many pilot groups in the WP09 (San Diego) and other regions. He has an engaging speaking style and his Q & A sessions at the end are extremely valuable and popular.

Join us to hear Rob help you unravel the mysteries of working with ATC and help them give you better service. Rob will also be able to update us about staffing at the TRACON during the pandemic.

They really are here to help!



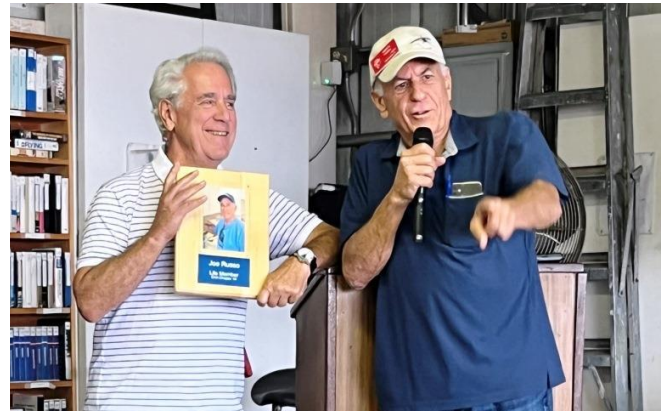
Blue Angels at the Miramar Air Show.

New Life Member – Joe Russo

The EAA Chapter 14 Life Membership Award is reserved for members who have made significant contributions to EAA 14 over a period of many years. Program Director and Life Member Kerry Powell presented Joe Russo with the EAA Chapter 14 Life Member award at the September General Meeting on September 17, 2022 in recognition of Joe's many contributions to the Chapter. Vice President and Life member Larry Rothrock summarized the many steps that had to be taken to obtain a long-term lease with the City and highlighted the role Joe took in obtaining this.

Joe joined the Chapter in the late 1990's and immediately became an active member. Here are just some of the highlights of his activities at the Chapter.

- Active in organizing the Ocotillo Wells campouts and was always a welcome chef, especially on the grill.
- Helped construct or put up a variety of the structures around the Chapter, including Hangar 4, the Eagles' Nest, the storage shed behind Hangar 2, and Hangar 8.
- Organized several Awards banquets, St. Patrick Day lunches, and Midsummer Day BBQs, frequently arranging for music by his own band
- Ran the popular fly-in/drive-in/walk-in camp outs that featured dinner, movies, and breakfast at the Chapter facilities.
- Long-time member of the Grumman group here at the Chapter, as well as a Nieuport project and his current project, the Stits Playboy.



Kerry Powell presents Joe Russo with his Life Membership plaque at the September General Meeting.

- Served as Chapter Secretary, Vice President and President over a series of 16 years.
- Attended ATAG meetings, the group involved with developing a comprehensive plan for aviation zones around the airport – this was a difficult community assignment.
- Recipient of the Hunsacker Award for leadership, as well as “Da Bomb” award for getting things moving.
- As an attorney he frequently assisted us with legal matters.
- Probably most important, he, along with Larry Rothrock, was instrumental in finally getting us a long-term lease with the City in 2006.



Joe shares a joke with Life Member and Past President Larry Rothrock. Does anyone remember their “Crash & Burn” act at the Holiday Party a few years ago

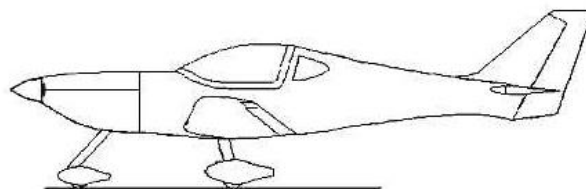


Building the Arion Lightning Classic – Phase 2

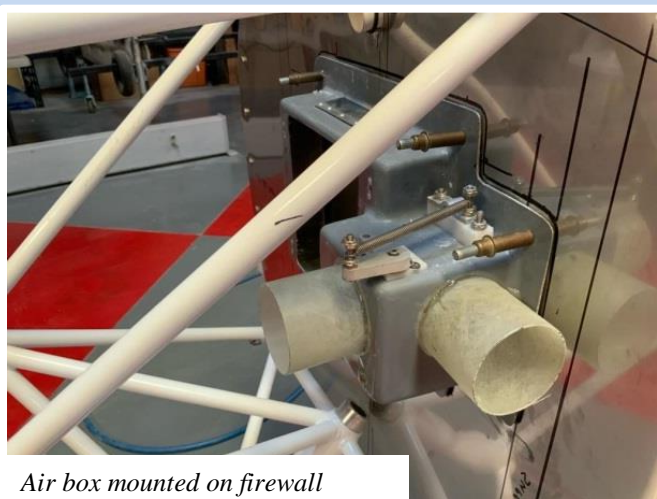
Nigel Worrall

In the first week of September, I revisited Marana, AZ once again for the second phase of my Arion Lightning Classic. While it was way less humid than in San Diego that same week, I still was very grateful for the swamp cooler at the company's build site.

Under the direction of the company staff, I made the following progress on the aircraft.



Day 1



Air box mounted on firewall

- On the first day I mounted the air box. This houses the filter and switches between outside air and heated air for carb heat. This required a slight modification to the control cable bracket (white block) and sealing of the old holes.
- Next I mounted the engine. This went very smoothly and it was on in about ten minutes. The hardest part was compressing the rubber mounts enough to start the nuts, but Greg had a solution and it went well.



Engine suspended in sling for mounting.

Engine mounted and sling removed.



Muffler test fit. Modifications later

Cowl halves trimmed and clecoed



Day 1 continued

- After that I cut, sanded and fitted the cowling halves together. This is a somewhat long process, sanding, clecoing the halves together and then repeat the process.
- Finally, I fitted the cowling to the fuselage, made a rough cut and called it an end to a long day.



Cowl fit to fuselage at the end of day 1



Cowling fit and clecoed to the fuselage



Composite view of cowling interior showing NACA ducts for the oil cooler, air box, and cabin heat

Day 2

The next day saw more activity. With the two cowl halves fitting together nicely, I was able to mount it to the fuselage, cut and trim to fit at the rear and cleco it into place. Again this is another cut, sand, fit and repeat process.

Inside the cowl are several NACA ducts for the oil cooler, air box and cabin heat supply. The holes were cut in the cowl and the ducts floxed into place.

Final task for the day: I mounted the wing tips and let them set overnight for glassing tomorrow. I elected to go for the slightly shorter wings which, without the 18" extensions, simplified the process.

The landing light pockets were also installed.

Wing tips and landing light box installed



On the following 3 days of the week there wasn't too much more visual progress on the plane, but there was a lot of "hidden" effort in the 12 hour days. I made up a flap motor installation kit and got it all in.



Flap motor kit installed

I also made up hinges and mounts for the canopy. Made up and fitted all the inspection panel covers; lots of time at the drill press, vice and band saw, and with file in hand.

Day four was a field trip. We went into town with the modified exhaust and had it welded. It now comes up closer to the fuselage for better streamlining.

Also, after settling on a paint scheme, we bought all the paint and accessories. Sorry no reveals at this point, but it is going to look awesome.

On day five, I had some odd tasks to do. I went through the rudder assembly, tightening up all the jam nuts on the push rods. I replaced some defective parts on the right wheel. Made up some bushes for the nose gear and drilled the bolt for the split pin. I installed the seat belt cables which are attached to the tail.

The plane will be painted in the next few weeks. When I go back for phase 3, it will be for final assembly and rigging and installation of the wiring, instruments and lights.

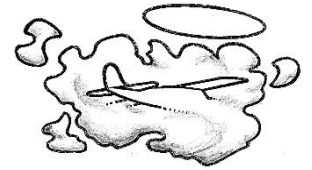
They say that 90% of the work is done in the last 10%, I think we are approaching that point.

Board of Directors Election Next Month

By: Donna Ryan

EAA Chapter 14 holds its annual Board of Directors election next month. Watch for the ballot containing the final slate of candidates in the November newsletter. At this point, the following have agreed to run for election: Gene Hubbard, Jimmy Kennedy, Ted Krohne, Ashley Lopez, Trinidad Lopez (President), Gert Lundgren, Kerry Powell, Jonathan Robbins, Kevin Roche, Larry Rothrock (Vice President), Donna Ryan (Secretary), Ron Shipley (Treasurer), Stu Strebig, Nigel Worrall. We very much appreciate their being willing to serve as a Director and to help set the direction of the Chapter.

Brett Stephens -- Gone West



It was with sadness that we learned that long time member Brett Stephens passed away on September 3 at the age of 73. For many years he was a constant presence at the Chapter, whether it was for our general meetings, our midweek get-togethers, or just using the simulator. He frequently flew in on his C170B and he excelled at sharing his love of aviation with others. He served as a director for the Chapter and his professional expertise was very helpful in dealing with contractual matters.

Brett was an A&P with an IA authorization and an instrument rated pilot, as well as a CFI and ATP. He was instrumental in helping one member on two restoration projects and he aided many others with issues dealing with their flying skills. He was always willing to share his deep knowledge of aircraft and the FARs.

Most of all, he was just a nice person to be around – we'll miss him.



Brett Stephens with an O-300 muffler he found during a hangar clean-out a few years ago.



F-35 at the Miramar Air Show



Doc at SDM

Photos by Steve Furtak

The B-29 now known as “Doc” rolled off the assembly line in March 1945, one of 1644 production B-29s built at Boeing’s Wichita, KS assembly plant. The aircraft never saw combat but served various non-combat duties. It was named “Doc” after the dwarves in Disney’s “Snow White” while serving as a radar calibration aircraft at Griffiss AFB in 1951.



Doc was retired from the Air Force in 1956 and transferred to the Naval Air Weapons Station at China Lake in the Mojave Desert for use as a ballistic missile target.

In 1987, Tony Mazzolini “discovered” the aircraft and began making plans for restoration, finally taking possession of the aircraft in April 1998.

Restoration started in May 2000 by volunteers at the Boeing plant in Wichita, near where the plane was originally built. Taxi tests began in May 2016 with the first flight on July 17, 2016



When not attending airshows, Doc resides at the B-29 Doc Hanger, Education & Visitors Center at the Eisenhower National Airport in Wichita, KS, and is open to the public. See the website b29doc.com for further information.

Looking Back at Ocotillo Wells – and Forward???

By Donna Ryan

At the August 2022 Board of Directors meeting, Director Gene Hubbard brought up the idea of having a campout at Ocotillo Wells. The Board enthusiastically agreed and hope to make this one of our Chapter activities in the very near future. President Trinidad Lopez asked to share some photos of good times being had by Chapter members at Ocotillo Wells in the past. Some of the campouts were models of organization and pretty elaborate; others were a bit more casual – but they all were lots of fun. Hope these pictures wet your appetite for good times in the future.



Chapter World War I hangars set up and ready for action



Joe Russo – grill master for the day



Marketplace

For Sale: Falco parts and plans. Donated to EAA Chapter 14. Asking \$1,000 or make an offer. Text Ryan at 858-229-4875 for more information.



For Sale: Brand new RV-10 empennage. Purchased for \$4,500 in February 2021. All parts, tools, and paperwork available; can be registered at Vans. Donated to EAA Chapter 14. Selling for \$1,500. Text Ryan at 858-229-4875 for more information and pictures.



Blue Angels at Miramar

Photos by Jim MacKinnon



October 2022

Facebook

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/EAA-Chapter-14-San-Diego-CA/134162329986593>

Chapter Website

<http://www.eaa14.org>

EAA Chapter 14 Memberships

Applications are available at our Brown Field hangars and on our website.

General Chapter Information:

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Chapter Events

Open House at the Brown Field hangars:
every Saturday from
10:00 am to 2:00 pm.

Pancake Breakfast:
7:30-9:30 am, third
Saturday of each month

General Meeting: 10:00
am, third Saturday of each
month

Hangar Phone:
619-661-6520

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