

March 2016



EAA CHAPTER 145

SINCE 1962



**Chapter Meeting: Saturday, March 12, 2015 – 10:00 am
Riverview Airport (08C) in the meeting room**

CHAPTER MEETING

Chris Young, the developer of STRATUX, will be teaching us how to make a DIY solution for ADS-B 'IN'. This allows the pilot to see real-time weather and surrounding airplanes. See flyer at end of newsletter for more information.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The other day, someone asked me why I volunteer each year as president of EAA Chapter 145. I said "Because I can." Think about the advantages of being a volunteer: no income tax, no time clock, no evaluations, just doing what you enjoy.

The volunteers in Chapter 145 seem to enjoy a lot of activities and the members support one another. To list a few activities: the ADS-B presentation by L3, the Stratux workshop this month, Herb's trip to the Bahamas in March, the annual trip to Weeks hangar in April, the Boy Scout merit badge day in May, and Young Eagle rallies this summer.

So, if you have some aviation activity you would like to volunteer for, let me know. Maybe we could arrange to let you start enjoying what you're good at.
Take Care, Dick

YOUNG EAGLES

Plans for 2016 are developing. So far we are working on Boy Scout Merit Badge on May 14, West Michigan Flight Academy on June 4, and the Wings of Mercy in August.

We will be sending out information to Young Eagle pilots and ground crews about the Youth Protection "certificate" required for volunteers to help with the Young Eagle activities.

EAA145 HANGAR

- Herb Harney has mounted the engine on his RV-8 and is working on all the connections.
- Rick Saliers finished cutting his RV-9 canopy and has moved the project into his hangar.
- Bob Kawaka is working on reskinning the tail for Nick's RV-10.
- The Chapter now has a form for members to fill out if they want to put a project in the hangar.
- Hangar space is available for anyone working on a project. Contact Dick Foster for details.

WEEKS HANGAR TRIP

So far eight people have signed up for the EAA145 annual weekend work party at the Kermit Weeks Hangar in Oshkosh. The dates this year are Friday April 15 to Sunday April 17. There is room for a couple more guys. So if you are interested, contact Dick Foster for more information.

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AIRPORT SUPER DOG

By Heidi Fenton | hfenton@mlive.com

TRAVERSE CITY, MI -- Cherry Capital Airport staff know the dangers birds can pose to aircraft. Just last May, a loon struck an incoming plane 10 miles out and crashed through into the cockpit .

The pilot, flying at about 3,500 feet, managed to land safely at Traverse City airport, but the plane was left severely damaged, said Dan Sal, the airport's operations director. Birds of all sorts congregate around the runway at Cherry Capital, as they do at other airports. In the winter, the issue is with snowy owls. The summer brings gulls, loons, ducks and geese.

Airport staff use sirens, pyrotechnics and more to keep the birds away and prevent trouble for planes flying in and out.

But late last year, they added a secret weapon named Piper. The 6-year-old border collie may be their best chance at keeping their runways bird-free. While pyrotechnics keep birds away for a short time, eventually they come back. Piper works differently, Sal said. Piper will continue chasing the snowy owls, which fly low to the ground, until he is limited by a gate or the owls are off the airfield. And the owls seem to remember.

By late winter, Brian Edwards, Piper's owner, would only have to drive out onto the airfield in the red SUV used to handle Piper, with Piper peering out an open window. The owls sometimes wouldn't stick around long enough for the dog to even jump out. "The birds would see the SUV before they got out onto the field," Sal said. "We're told to use different techniques to scare the birds, so that's what we're doing."



Piper is one of a small number of dogs specially trained to clear runways across the U.S. Sal believes Cherry Capital is the only airport in Michigan with a canine designated for wildlife control.

Piper seems to truly enjoy his work, said Edwards, who came on staff at the airport in 2008. Edwards attended air traffic control school in 2011, going on hiatus from his work at Cherry Capital. When he returned, he came back to his job as airport operations supervisor but wanted something more, a new challenge to look forward to each day.

He began reading about dogs used for wildlife control and saw potential in Piper, the border collie he had at home. So Edwards began reading – a



lot -- looking into the techniques he needed to teach his dog to make the canine into an effective partner.

"I figured, 'Well, why don't we give this a shot?'" Edwards said.

He began training with Piper on about 100 acres of land in his backyard, teaching him to work off-leash and come back when asked. Edwards brought Piper to the airport last August just to get acclimated with the setting and the people.

"I figured, 'Well, why don't we give this a shot?'" - Brian Edwards, Piper's owner



Eventually, the two would sit in a vehicle on the taxiway so Piper could get used to the loud noise of airplanes without being frightened. Then the windows were rolled down so the noise was louder. They eventually stood outside together next to the red SUV, which had become Piper's "safety zone," Edwards said. Over time, the dog's fear of noise lessened. The two started on perimeter checks outside to get Piper used to the area he had to manage. "He'll look at the airplanes and he knows it's a bad thing, but it doesn't scare him anymore," Edwards said of the aircraft noise.

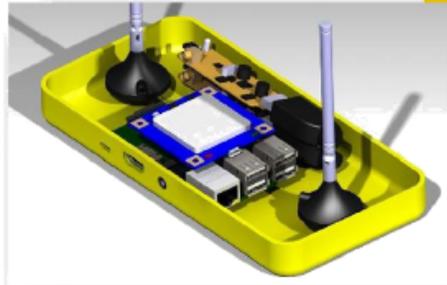
Piper comes out onto the field in the SUV only after being cleared by traffic control. At first, the canine would run out onto the field and just move in circles, Edwards said. This was quite a sight for those looking down from above. "I always used to get made fun of up in the control tower," Edwards said. But Piper eventually caught on to the bird-chasing job at hand -- one that is a natural instinct for his border collie breed. He truly enjoys the work, Edwards said. As Edwards drives onto the airfield and picks up his radio to alert the control tower that he will be releasing Piper, the canine often will whine with impatience. Piper is more than ready to go.



The new challenge has become a fun part of Edwards' work day and the challenge he has needed to keep his job interesting. He enjoys having Piper around and looks forward to working with the dog when his own tasks are complete. Edwards may have a formal title as airport operations supervisor, but he's just fine with being known as "the dog guy."



Stratux



Hosted by:

EAA Chapter 145

▶ Saturday, March 12

▶ 10 a.m. - noon

▶ O8C Riverview APT

▶ Presented by:

Christopher Young,

Developer of Stratux

WORKSHOP SESSION – BUILD YOUR OWN

ADS-B WEATHER AND TRAFFIC RECEIVER FOR LESS THAN \$110

Stratux is a homebuilt ADS-B In receiver for pilots. It's easy to assemble from inexpensive, off-the-shelf hardware, and probably already works with your electronic flight bag (EFB) of choice.

This workshop will give you a chance to work with Chris, as he explains how ADS-B works and then walks you through the simple and inexpensive build of an In Weather and Traffic receiver.

Stratux Features:

- ◆ Small and Portable
- ◆ Works with battery or A/C power
- ◆ Single or Dual Channel
- ◆ Inexpensive components
- ◆ Internal or External GPS
- ◆ Optional 3D printed cases

Come to Build...or Come to Observe

Check Chris Young's web site for details [www.stratux.me]

-> Shopping list, software, assembly, and further information <-

If you're interested in building the receiver at the workshop, order the parts from the shopping list and bring them along.



For more information contact:

Dick Foster 616-350-4715, or

Randy Passeno 616-821-1980



EAA Chapter 145 website: www.145.eaachapter.org

EAA National website: www.eaa.org

Riverview Facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Riverview-Airport/115468211816419

DUES ARE NOW BEING COLLECTED

Dues of \$35.00 are payable to "EAA CHAPTER 145" and can be mailed to Bob Swietek at the address listed at the end of the newsletter or brought to the monthly chapter meeting. If you need to make any updates on your contact information, please include the tear-off slip for member data update with your payment.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar 6-10	BAHAMAS	Riverview Pilots Trip to Bahamas
Mar 12	Riverview Airport(08C)	meeting – Chris Young - Stratux Workshop
Apr 5-10	Lakeland, FL	Sun – N – Fun
Apr 15-17	OSHKOSH	Weeks Hangar Work Trip
May 14	Riverview (08C)	Boy Scouts Young Eagle Aviation Badge
May 28	Fremont (FFX)	Breakfast Pancake FLY-IN
June	Bois Blanc Island	Fly-In Camping Trip to Bois Blanc Island
June 25-26	Ionia Airport (Y70)	S.M.A.T. Open House / Fun Fest
July 1-4	Battle Creek Airport	Battle Creek Airshow & Balloon Festival
July 19-23	Mentone, IN (C92)	Gyrocopters & Paramotors: P.R.A. Convention
July 25-31	Wittman Field (OSH)	OSHKOSH 2016
August	USAF Museum, Ohio	Riverview Pilots Trip to USAF Museum
Aug 20-21	Willow Run Airport	Thunder Over Michigan Airshow – Ypsilanti MI

If you know of events that should be on the event calendar, please e-mail them to me

If you would like to be on the e-mail list for meeting and event reminders, or if you would like to receive the newsletter electronically, which is full color and delivered days before the print version... please send your e-mail address to: randall.houtman@dematic.com

The 2015 Officers for EAA145:

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Treasurer's Report: (As of Mar 3rd)

Liabilities: \$3500.00
Cash: \$186.62 Checking: \$86.69
Savings: \$4846.53 Total: \$5119.84

Website Editor, Bill Willyard
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EAA CHAPTER 145 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM

DUES ARE \$35.00 PER YEAR – JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st

Name _____	Aircraft Owned _____
Co-Pilot / Spouse _____	_____
Address _____	Projects / % Complete _____
City _____	_____
State / Zip _____	Bring this form to the next meeting or mail to:
e-mail address _____	EAA Chapter 145 Treasurer
Home Phone _____	6962 Bridgewater Dr. SE
Work Phone _____	Grand Rapids, MI, 49546
National Membership # _____	