

Fitchburg Pilots Association EAA Chapter 1454 Newsletter



President's Corner

May 2019

Let's go fly and have some fun!

Glen Reinhardt - President, Fitchburg Pilots Association EAA Chapter 1454

Flying – something I wish to do but find little time to do! May is usually a great time to spread the wings and get back into the groove in the air. This year is different for two reasons: Rain and Farm. There has been a



lot of rain this spring, which means fewer excellent weather days for this VFR pilot to remind himself why he submits to BFRs and medicals. But today, Saturday May 11, is an extraordinary day: clear skies, reasonable temps, and light winds. That brings us to Farm. My daughter and son-in-law purchased a produce farm in April. The work load is tremendous. So instead of flying, I help on the farm. Today I fixed an irrigation filtering system, worked on a zero turn stand up mower, and then mowed the apple orchard. Did you know that you can't wave to someone while driving a zero turn stand up mower? Take your hand off one lever to wave and that wheel stops. You begin an uncontrolled rapid rotation toward the still attached hand which throws you toward said hand. The controlling hand is now gripping the control lever even harder which increases the velocity of the rotation even more. It was like a mower version of a flat spin. I was not thrown from the mower but I do believe that that circular section of grass won't need mowing the rest of the season. I should have gone flying.

Inside This Issue

- FPA / EAA 1454 Officers, Committee Members, and Key Contributors
- New Members
- FPA IMC & VMC Clubs
- Hangar Happenings
- Flight Simulator Corner
- Next FPA Meeting is:
Tuesday May 14th at 7:00PM/6:00PM
food

Key Organization Links

www.fitchburgpilots.org
www.meetup.com/fitchburgpilots
www.facebook.com/fitchburgpilots/
www.fitchburgairport.com
www.eaa.org
www.aopa.org
www.massdot.state.ma.us/Aeronautics

Key Weather Links

www.windy.com
www.aviationweather.gov
www.usairnet.com

Key Reference Links

www.fltplan.com
www.airnav.com
www.flightaware.com
www.pilotgeek.com
www.skyvector.com
www.aopa.org/aopalive/

Let me also discuss our biggest fund raiser, the Early Ford V-8 Car Show and Parts Swap. We cook for this event, and it begins early - 4:30 AM early. So many of you FPA members supported us with set-up, cooking, cashiering, food handling, and teardown. Although the weather wasn't the best, we did quite well. Our goal is \$3,000 after expenses. It looks like we came in somewhere between \$2,800 and \$2,900. Very good for a cold, cloudy day. I am amazed at the commitment many of you provide to support this event. It is important to the FPA and helps keep dues at the \$50 level. Thank you so much to all of you who helped.

Finally, STEM. STEM is an event put on by Massport to encourage high school kids to enter into the Sciences, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. We have an opportunity to influence a life. So, although it is really cool to fly into Logan with the big iron, it is also our chance to maybe change someone's path. There are many jobs in aviation and not all involve flying. We need to be ready to discuss the many opportunities that aviation can provide.

Fly Safe – Fly Often,

Glen Reinhardt, President Fitchburg Pilot's Association, EAA 1454

Glen

New Members!

Please welcome new member Dave Armando. Dave is a Private Pilot, Single Engine – Rotor kinda guy. He currently flies an R44 and is based in KHFD

A note from Glen:

The dues of \$50 is used to pay our land rent, our city real estate taxes, our utilities and our mortgage on the hangar. Our aircraft hangar rent goes toward the same expenses. Even so, we still need to fund raise a bit more to cover all of our expenses. That is why we ask, if you can, to donate an additional \$40 along with your dues. Our biggest fund raising activity, providing food for the Early Ford V8 car show, pretty much completes the fundraising effort and gets us to a break even for the year. If you have already paid your dues – THANK YOU! If not, please take the time to write a check or go to Fitchburgpilots.org and pay by Paypal. Checks can be mailed to:

Fitchburg Pilot's Association
563 Crawford St
Fitchburg, MA 01420

!! FOR SALE !!

Craftsman 13HP Airplane Tug
Converted from lawnmower; no cutting deck
Hitch point at front and rear
Best Offer!
Dave Babineau - 508-331-1552



FPA / EAA 1454 Officers, Committee Members, and Key Contributors

Officers	Names	Committee Chair and Members	Names
President	Glen Reinhardt	Fund Raising	Chris Lund
Vice President	Dave Babineau		
Treasurer	Gary Daugherty	Food	Glen Reinhardt
Secretary	Chris Lund		Dave Dion
			Dave Babineau
			Chris Lund
			Gary Daugherty
			Dick Maki
		Scholarship	Jim Bisson
			Dick Maki
			Mark Estabrook
			Ed Murphy
		Safety	Dave Dion
			Gary Daugherty
			Dick Maki
		Airport Commission Rep	Richard Gersh

Please note: Any member can be emailed through the Members Section of our FPA Meetup Site

AMAZON SMILES AT FPA!



When shopping at Amazon (actually, AmazonSmile), you can raise money for FPA! FPA is a registered charity with AmazonSmile, so a percentage of the purchase price of eligible products is donated to FPA when you designate FPA as your charity of choice! FPA is listed

as “Fitchburg Pilots Association, EAA Chapter 1454”, so that’s the name you should look for. When asked to search for your charity, use “Fitchburg Pilots Association” and it should find our charity.

Here’s a blurb from the website:

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Every item available for purchase on www.amazon.com is also available on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com) at the same price. You will see eligible products marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

So, if you shop at Amazon, shop at smile.amazon.com and help support FPA!

Fitchburg IMC & IMC Clubs

By Dave Dion



What we do: watch EAA provided video scenarios and participate in group discussion to create “Hangar Talk” - that’s valuable, practical knowledge gained from the group’s discussion of the flying scenario issues and problems encountered



- Videos: actual in-flight scenarios (problems, equipment failures, weather, etc) - **what would you do ??**
- IMC Club includes IMC / IFR situations
- VMC Club is under visual flight rules
- Pilot Workshops materials: for additional / supporting “refresher” training reinforcement

Your Takeaway: you and the attending pilots are able to share knowledge and experiences, network, promote safety, and build proficiency in instrument flying (IMC Club) or under visual flight rules (VMC Club)

When: **IMC Club** (3rd Thursday @ 6pm) and **VMC Club** (3rd Saturday @ 9:30am); both scheduled via FPA Meetups

Hangar Happenings

Breaking News

Who done it ??????? Flamingo Forever Flattened !!!

Hit and run on an FPA flamingo at the Fitchburg Airport :-)

Flabbergasted Florida flamingos flew to Fitchburg to attend the FPA flamingo's fricken funeral. Farewell FPA flamingo - friend forever !!!



But not to worry - the flamingo factory prepares to furnish a fledgling future FPA flamingo (below - the fledgling flamingo in a feeding frenzy with his freaking huge father before flying to Fitchburg).



Flight Simulator Corner



How has your flying been lately? If it's like mine – it's

non-existent. April has had something like 26 days of rain! And when it's not raining, there are low clouds all but preventing any VFR flying at least. What's a pilot to do? One option is to spend a little time on a flight simulator and keep your skills sharp and your aviation blood flowing!

Your Sim Committee:

Chair: Mark E.(mestabr@gmail.com)

Members: Antonio Aleman, Dave Bellew, Dave Dion, Ed Littlejohn, Bill Gruber, Andy Goldstein.

Thanks to some tremendous contributions from a few members, the EAA Chapter 1454/FPA has a phenomenal new tool – a high end PC based flight simulator program

- Full yoke & rudder pedals
- Nearly complete and functional aircraft front panel for most GA single and dual engine aircraft including dual nav-radios
- Multiple aircraft including C172, Mooney Ovation, SR20, & Piper Archer
- Immersive 3 screen set up
- X-Plane based simulator with NE US high resolution graphics (pilotage is now a real option for navigation)
 - Set the aircraft, location, weather, wind, gusts and failures



We are ready to start opening up the simulator to FPA members for their use. We ask that all users get an orientation on set up and use of the simulator from one of the committee members or the Saturday morning CDL2 hosts before jumping on. This is because there are some idiosyncrasies in turning on the PC and using the sim that you need to be aware of to make the experience enjoyable and prevent you from inadvertently mucking up system settings – which will then take one of us too long to undue! ☺ It's not complicated, but we want to be there to walk you through it and answer any set up questions for you.

If you recall from our previous discussions at FPA meetings the purpose of the flight simulator is:

- To introduce flying to non-pilots with fun experiences on the simulator. We plan to have one of our members host the simulator during Y/E events and Aero Fair for example.
- To provide certificated pilots with an opportunity to hone their skills. This is done by opening up specific scenarios that we have pre-written for you.

The scenario flights are just a list of flights you can take where the aircraft, location, weather, etc. have all been pre-set. This allows you to save time on the simulator and focus on the skill you are building. For example, we have a gusty x-wind landing at KFIT set up where you are essentially pointed at the runway when the simulation starts. You just line up and land... with appropriate wind corrections of course! You don't need to start the aircraft, take off, etc. Once you land you can continue on with take offs and more landings of course.



We are busy adding a number of scenarios to choose from. Feel free to offer your suggestions. Next month I'll start highlighting some of the available scenarios. It all starts with an orientation. Come in on any Saturday morning during the CDL2 coffee hour. If you can't fly in the air for any reason, you can still fly on the ground and feed the aviation beast! If you have any questions or comments, feel free to reach out to me directly.

Keep calm and fly on...

Mark

Sponsor Page



FPA Store

Buy your FPA Merchandise here!



FAA Safety Wings Programs

This Wings site that has had an overhaul. Looks and flies easy. Try it!



GA Serves America

Go here to learn more about AOPA's GA Serves America.



FCA Flight Center

Flight Training 7days a week.
BFR's, IFR, Wings, Online Scheduling



Our parent organization.



BABINEAU Insurance Agency

An experienced team who can analyze the various options open to you



Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Company
Everything for Planes and Pilots

