

# Fitchburg Pilots Association EAA Chapter 1454 Newsletter



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**Tuesday Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, 7:00PM/6:00PM food**

## Key Organization Links

[www.fitchburgpilots.org](http://www.fitchburgpilots.org)  
[www.meetup.com/fitchburgpilots](http://www.meetup.com/fitchburgpilots)  
[www.facebook.com/fitchburgpilots/](http://www.facebook.com/fitchburgpilots/)  
[www.fitchburgairport.com](http://www.fitchburgairport.com)  
[www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org)  
[www.aopa.org](http://www.aopa.org)  
[www.massdot.state.ma.us/Aeronautics](http://www.massdot.state.ma.us/Aeronautics)

## Key Weather Links

[www.windy.com](http://www.windy.com)  
[www.aviationweather.gov](http://www.aviationweather.gov)  
[www.usairnet.com](http://www.usairnet.com)

## Key Reference Links

[www.fltplan.com](http://www.fltplan.com)  
[www.airnav.com](http://www.airnav.com)  
[www.flightaware.com](http://www.flightaware.com)  
[www.pilotgeek.com](http://www.pilotgeek.com)  
[www.skyvector.com](http://www.skyvector.com)  
[www.aopa.org/aopalive/](http://www.aopa.org/aopalive/)

## President's Corner

December 2019



*Let's go fly and have some fun!*

Glen Reinhardt - President, Fitchburg Pilots Association EAA Chapter 1454

Fly Safe – Fly Often

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

### President's Corner - December 2019

I trust everyone has gotten their snow shovels, plows, blowers in working order after the early snowfall. In my local area we got 30". I saw pictures the next day and the airport was plowed, and our hangar was open for business. Nice work on behalf of the Fitchburg Airport team as well as our own FPA members. Another year is about to close, and I am thankful for the many members who continue to help this organization remain an exciting place to be.

We continue to have the hangar rented out to four planes. That rent helps us pay our land lease, taxes, and utilities plus helping on our hangar mortgage. Your membership dues and some fund raising gets us the rest of the way through the year. This is probably a good time to remind everyone that 2020 dues can now be paid. My wife and I paid ours. You can pay yours via check or online with PayPal at [www.Fitchburgpilots.org](http://www.Fitchburgpilots.org).

Besides our monthly meetings, we also have an active IMC club and a VMC Club. If you want to improve your knowledge, share stories, offer opinions please join us. The IMC Club meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 6 PM and the VMC Club meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of every month at 9:30 AM.

We also have this wonderful simulator in our hangar and we have some people willing to help you learn, practice, explore flying via a simulator. We are looking for any interest in this area. We could even run some

contests – like best carrier landing or best CAT III approach. You think it up and we will try to do it. If you have an interest or suggestions, email me at [gbrflies@gmail.com](mailto:gbrflies@gmail.com)

**Just in case you haven't heard via Meetup blast, our December meeting has been cancelled. The next monthly meeting will be January 14.**

Fly safe, Fly often,  
Glen Reinhardt – President Fitchburg Pilot's Association, EAA 1454.

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## **!! New Members !!**

Joining Meetup this month:

New Members:

**Alan Osmolowski – Alan is a student pilot looking to learn more about aviation and engage with the aviation community**

Good news! If you are looking to join the Fitchburg Pilot's Association this time of year, your \$50 dues counts toward the remaining part of this year as well as 2020.

You can mail a check made out to "FPA" or "Fitchburg Pilot's Association" to 563 Crawford St Fitchburg, MA 01420. You can also visit [Fitchburgpilots.org](http://Fitchburgpilots.org) and click on "Dues and Donations" and pay by credit card or PayPal.

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](http://Fitchburgpilots.org) and pay by Paypal. Checks can be mailed to:

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

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## **FPA Scholarship News**

Over \$16,000 has been raised by the FPA to support scholarship assistance in aviation-related fields over the past dozen years. Our website will soon feature the 2020 FPA Scholarship announcement and application materials. If members know of a high achieving student with a strong interest in aviation, please direct them to our web announcement.

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

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

| 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                 | Dick Maki      |
|                |                |                             | Jim Bisson     |
|                |                |                             | Mark Estabrook |
|                |                |                             | Ed Murphy      |
|                |                | Safety                      | Dave Dion      |
|                |                |                             | Gary Daugherty |
|                |                |                             | Dick Maki      |
|                |                | Airport Commission Rep      | Richard Gersh  |

## 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.

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

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# Fitchburg VMC & 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

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# Flight Log

By Jeff Scorse

It's been another good month of flying despite schedule and cold weather. With the help of Dave Babineau I was able to fly my first *real* IFR through-layer flight arriving at 5000' on top with a setting sun. The ceiling was 1700' AGL. I wasn't



expecting to breakout on top during this short flight, but we did and were treated to a stunning view. Diving back down into this stuff is quite a transformative experience. I can't wait to do it again and again once the weather warms back up.

Next, Sonya and I flew down to Skylark Airport in Conn. for an end-of-year pancake breakfast. We've never been to this airport, so it was quite a treat to see

the art deco terminal and so many old airplanes on the field.

Later in the month we had a successful (finally!) CAP appreciation day with several pilots participating. It was a gusty day, so landings were challenging, but we got the job done and there were lots of smiling faces. During my second flight, my passenger took the controls so I could get a good



shot of our current runway environment – which is expected to remain in this condition throughout the winter and early spring.

Speaking of the new runway, the city held its *official* ground-breaking ceremony last month as well. Several dignitaries in hard hats wielded shovels to pose for this photo-op.



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## Flight Simulator Corner



### Your Sim Committee:

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

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

### Open sim time every saturday morning

Don't forget, you are welcome come learn to use the simulator on Saturday mornings from 8 to 9:30 or so. There is someone there who can show you how to get things started and set up your scenario of it's not obvious. Or just hang out, drink some coffee and fly that low approach through the rain and fog with gusty x-winds with no stress! ☺ Hope to see you there.

### Why use a simulator? From Tom Turner, Pilot Workshops...

"Simulators serve four purposes that are difficult or impossible to attain in an actual airplane.

First, they provide a means to experiment with new equipment or new techniques in a safe and efficient manner. Transitioning to a glass cockpit? Learning how to fly a DME arc? You'll pick it up a lot faster in a sim before using those new skills in the airplane.

Second, you avoid the time it takes to start-up, taxi out, take off, and fly to and from a practice area or the nearest airport with the type of approach you wish to practice. Simulator time is much more efficient, allowing you to practice the skills you want or need in much less time.

A third advantage is the ability to pre-fly a trip or an arrival or departure procedure. If you're planning to fly somewhere with a tricky SID or STAR, approach or missed approach, you can practice it ahead of time in the sim so when you fly it for real it won't be your first time.

Finally, simulators provide the opportunity to practice abnormal and emergency procedures, often without warning. It's simply not possible to safely or accurately present most emergencies or abnormalities in an airplane.

To log simulator time for checkride experience requirements requires an instructor and places certain restrictions on the simulator itself. Even if you can't log it, though, you can do a lot with simulators that will keep your skills sharp and make you a better pilot."

### New Airplanes!

- We've added an Extra 300S to the stable of planes available – the same version that Michael Goulian flies. To use this model, all you need to do is plug the joy stick into the back of the USB hub (just follow all the other USB connections) or to the main PC, it doesn't matter. The speed indicator is in km/hr (what?) so I tend to ignore it and just fly by feel – it works great! You may have to push Dave Babineau out of way as he tries to get is aerobatic 'fix'. I see Jim Bisson eying the 300S with a bit of envy, so he may take the plunge as well. Just remember to turn off the parking break ("b" on the keyboard) before you throttle up. Otherwise.... ☹.
- We've also added a C182 with G1000 panel. Enjoy!



**What scenario would you like to see? Send me a note and someone on the Sim committee will make sure it gets posted.**

Keep calm and fly on...

Mark

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# Sponsor Page



**FPA Store**

Buy your FPA Merchandise here!



**GA Serves America**

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



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BFR's, IFR, Wings, Online Scheduling



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