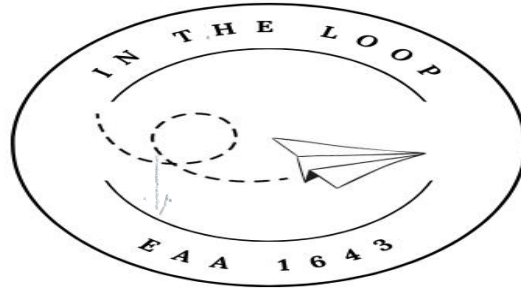


## E.A.A. Chapter 1643



### August 2024

#### Upcoming Chapter gathering Calendar

- Aug. 10 Regular Chapter Gathering, Program: Stichin' Chic fabric covering demo
- Aug. 15 VMC Club
- Sept. No regular chapter gathering, Stearman Fly-In volunteer opportunities
- Oct. 12 Regular Chapter Gathering, program TBD
- Nov. 9 Regular Chapter Gathering, Program: Jeff Allen, DPE
- Dec. 14 Holiday Gathering at Innkeepers in Galesburg

#### Next Chapter Gathering

Don't miss the next Chapter Gathering on Saturday, August 10 at 3:00 in the Stearman Community Center. We will have a demonstration on fabric covering by Jane Deckert, the "Stichin' Chick". Here is a brief bio that she provided us:

Hi I'm Jane Deckert the Stichin Chick. I started fabric work about 6 years ago when an elevator on our TBM Avenger needed recovering. I took the 3-day EAA course in Oshkosh on a cold January weekend. I am a nurse and was working at a school and doing fabric work on the side. My husband and a friend convinced me that I could make a full-time job. I quit nursing about 2 years ago and am building the Stichin Chick business. I am currently most comfortable with the Poly Fiber system. I have covered Stearman wings, T6 ailerons, multiple TBM rudders, ailerons, and elevators. I have covered a Breezy's tail feathers, Ercoupe wings, a Citabria and am working on a Stinson 108A. I did cover the wing tops of a composite Remos. I recently was challenged with covering flight surfaces for a P-40 with Ceconite. I spent many hours researching that process and the alternative way fabric attaches to those parts.

I currently have a shop set up in a barn and have taken over the whole thing with the projects. I have a paint booth that has made my painting of the parts so much faster and with better outcomes.

I enjoy the tediousness and the art that is entailed with covering surfaces. 5 people will cover 5 different ways and they are all correct, as long as you follow the STC.

I am looking forward to sharing some of the basics of fabric with you and letting you do some hands on with the products.

### **Thank You Scharfenbergs and Repps**

A big Thank You to Dave and Andrea Scharfenberg for hosting the chapter barbeque last month. I don't have an exact count, but there were over 30 people present enjoying food and fellowship. And also, to Aaron and Ellie Repp for inviting some of us over to their nearby shop to see their new Kitfox kit that had just been delivered.

### **VMC Club**

The next VMC Club meeting is Thursday, Aug. 15 at 5:30 in the Stearman community room. **August question of the month:** Are pilots allowed to modify the manufacturer-provided checklists used for operating their aircraft? **Topic and scenario:** Fuel Planning Follies.

Last month, we had 6 in attendance, including a new member, John Diipla, who found out about the VMC meeting on his ForeFlight app. We had a good discussion about what to do in the event of an engine fire on the ground. Would you know what to do?

### **AED Fundraiser Update**

Our initial fundraising efforts were so successful that we were able to purchase a second AED unit and cabinet and donate it to the National Stearman Foundation. This has now been installed just inside the Southeast door of the Stearman Hanger. Check it out when you come to the next chapter gathering. This did use up the last of the money we raised, but a very successful conclusion to our AED project.

### **Stearman Aircraft Greeting Volunteer Opportunity**

One of the volunteer opportunities for the Stearman Fly-In is Aircraft Greeting! Please consider signing up to help our local fly-in community! This is one of the opportunities that there is a preference for volunteers with some aviation knowledge, just so there's more situational awareness on the air-side of the ramp, so anyone in the Chapter would be a great fit!

Greeters will be the first line of contact with new Stearman arrivals. You will welcome the pilots and give them their arrival information and point them in the direction of registration and airfield services.

A free Stearman ride will be raffled off each day! All volunteers from that day will be entered in the raffle and the ride will take place the day you are there to volunteer (weather permitting)!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOB4BAAAF22A1FE3-49178154-stearman>

## Other Upcoming Aviation Events

**Aug. 28 - Sept. 2, Antique Aircraft Association Fly-In.** Blakesburg, IA (IA27)

**Sept. 2 - 7, National Stearman Fly-In,** Right here in Galesburg.

**Sept. 5 - 7, Midwest LSA Expo,** Mount Vernon Outland Airport (MVN). Displays of light sport aircraft and related services, demonstration flights, camping available.

## Chapter Member Reports

As mentioned above, Aaron and Ellie Repp just took delivery of their new Kitfox kit last month. Aaron reports they are still just trying to inventory the parts.



Speaking of Kitfoxes, while I was at Airventure in Oshkosh, in the Ultralight area I saw a kitfox on which the owner/builder had painted the name “Next Month”. I did not speak to the owner, but my educated guess is that during the building process, when people would ask when it would fly, his stock answer was “next month”. I must admit that I am encouraged by his perseverance and creativity. So much so that I think I will name my project “Next Year”.

Kid: “I want to be a pilot when I grow up!” Parent: “You can’t do both.”

While watching Men’s Gymnastics on the Olympics last week, I heard one excited commentator say, “Gymnastics 101, baby: Fly high and stick the landing!” I heard that slogan repeated a several times that evening. It occurred to me that it could also be good advice/wishes for aviation. So, until next time,

Fly High and Stick The Landing! (well, maybe “grease the landing” would sound better for airplanes)

Your newsletter guy,

Chris Mowrer