

EAA Chapter 18 Minutes from April 22nd, 2025 Meeting

The April meeting was called to order by President Thad Pinkoski at 7:30pm at Crites Field in Waukesha.

Building Reports: Andy Mischock found extensive corrosion on the wings of the Cessna C-140 that he started restoring. It was so extensive that he went and bought a spare wing from a aircraft salvage yard. Andy's project will be on hold as he and his spouse are expecting their second child. Ryan Koeneke has been fabricating a boot cowl and horizontal stabilizer fairings for his Bear Hawk. He is planning on sending the seats out for covering. John Nate moved his Defiant project to a hangar at Crites Field. Jeff Wisneski was installing an alternator in his Zeinth Super Duty. The alternator required cooling air to be supplied by a 1 inch tube. Jeff is designing the parts to make that happen. Mark Matelski had to build another set of wing ribs for the center section of the upper wing on his Hatz Classic biplane. When he went to assemble the center section there was a mistake on the plans that left a one quarter inch gap. Mark wished he had built the regular Hatz biplane and not the Hatz Classic biplane because of all the mistakes on the Classic's plans. Mark noted that the Hatz biplane was hand drawn and that the Hatz Classic biplane was drawn using CAD. Sometimes modern methods are not always the better. Bob Bittner is working on a Sea Ray flying boat that he recently purchased from another party. Fred Keip has too many airplanes and not enough hangar space, so he is selling his completed Sport Air Cuby. This was the original WagAero aircraft that Fred restored.

Guests: Ray Hummel and his son stopped by. Ray has 60 hours of flight time but currently doesn't have a Private Pilots certificate. He is currently flying Powered Parachutes. Our second guests was Dr. Charles Allen M.D. A retired Air Force Major who is running a non profit called New Beginnings Aerospace Ministry. The program started in 2007 as a youth aviation ministry for at risk teenage girls and boys. 32 of their students have passed the FAA written exam and 12 have obtained their private pilot licenses. The group is located at Waukesha Crites Field.

Program: Mr. CP Jois presented a program on Artificial Intelligence in Aviation. CP gave an in-depth look on how AI was developed and how it is being integrated in aircraft flight control systems. The goal of AI is not to replace the pilot but act as a copilot. The most common comment by pilots flying commercial jets that have some form of AI like auto throttle is "what is it doing?" AI is also used to schedule aircraft, staff flight crews, maintenance crews and predict maintenance issues.

Young Eagles: Cindy Robinson reported on the YE event at Milwaukee's 128th Air Refueling Wing on Sunday April 13th. A total of 58 Scouts not only got rides in GA airplanes but they also earned an Aviation Merit Badge from the scout organization. The next YE event will be at Capitol Drive Airport on June 28th. Events will run from 9am to 12pm. Cindy is still looking for pilots and ground volunteers. Cindy also reported that the EAA is using a new software program

to schedule pilots, volunteers and youth. So if you log on to YE web site, it will look different than last year.

Announcements: Chapter 18 Picnic will be held at Burlington Airport on Saturday May 31st. Arrive at 11am, food will be served at 12 noon. Chapter 18 will provide the food and beverages. Bring a dish to pass and your lawn chairs.

Ray Scholarship: Jonah Fayen has exhausted his allotment of funds for flight training. He is still working on his private pilot's certificate. Thad also announced that the next Ray Scholarship pilot has been selected and they will be introduced at the next meeting. The age requirement to receive a scholarship is 15 to 19 years of age. 15 if you're going for a Glider certificate and 16 if you're going for Private Pilot certificate.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15pm.
Respectfully submitted by Ken Ceranski