



FEBRUARY 2025

CHAPTER OFFICERS AND STAFF

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FOR THE FEBRUARY MEETING

- **NOTICE!** The February chapter meeting will be at the California Aeronautical University (CAU) Hangar. Mike Cycon will issue the meeting location information with the Newsletter.
- **It's membership renewal time.** A real bargain, your Chapter dues are now only \$30 per year. See Dave Bankhead to renew your commitment now to Chapter 228 ASAP.
- For the February meeting we will have Dr. Shreder tell us about Basic Med in general, and the differences between Basic Med and a Class 3 Medical.
- Andy will again have a very informative safety briefing.

CALENDAR

DATE	EVENT
Tues. 2/25/2025 @ 7:00 pm	In Person Meeting
Tues. 3/11/2025 @ 6:30	Board Meeting In Person
Tuesday 3/25/2024	In Person Meeting
Thursday Coffee @ 7:30 am	In the Falcon Field Terminal Lobby

CHAPTER SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Chapter dinners at Vito's restaurant in Mesa on the second Saturday of the month are being reconsidered to restart. If you would like to see them restart please contact Gary Hertzler (480) 897-8167

ARIZONA AIRPORT PASSPORT PROGRAM

Have you joined the Arizona Airport Passport Program yet ? To participate all you have to do is get the free AZAPP App. for your "smart phone" on the internet so you can scan the QR code on the passport placard at a participating location. Thus proving you have been there. The Arizona Airport Passport Program (AZAPP) program continues to grow as more and more participating airports, and businesses establish placard locations. Visit the Arizona Pilots Association website often to get the latest placard locations and photos of participating airports and businesses. If you have questions about the program go to the APA website AZpilots.org or contact Trent Heidtke.

PILOT DEVIATIONS

Aviation Safety was not good this past month in that there were 32 deviations, and there were 8 Brashers issued. It appears that there are still many that still don't seem to understand what type of airspace they are flying in. Always remember, when you fly in controlled airspace, don't be creative, and do something without first talking to ATC. Always follow ATC instructions, and fly with care. Don't be a part of the problem by committing a deviation. See the Arizona Pilot's Association Newsletter for the details.

FLIGHT TEST MANUAL

If you have completed your airplane project and are preparing to make the first flight, and subsequent test flights, you really need to get the new EAA Flight Test Manual. The latest Revision of the Manual has just been released, and EAA is accepting orders; the member price is \$22.50 and \$25.00 for nonmembers. The revised EAA Flight Test Manual is a comprehensive program for test flying your new experimental airplane. Unique to the EAA's system are test cards that take you

through each test flight point-by-point and allow for easy data collection. Use of the EAA Flight Test Manual will result in a thoroughly tested aircraft, a full understanding of their craft's performance, characteristics, and limitations, and have enough data to easily build an operating handbook for the airplane.

CHAPTER 228 WEBSITE

Check out the chapter website <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea228> and please give us your thoughts.

THINGS TO DO - PLACES TO FLY FOR BREAKFAST

The fly in breakfast at Coolidge Municipal Airport on the first Saturday of the month.

On the second Saturday of the month, consider going to Ritchies restaurant on Ryan Field (RYN). They serve breakfast after 6 am every day of the week.

Grapevine is open full time, and generally the third Saturday weekend camping and cookouts have restarted. Check the newsletter for a possible weekend change. The camp host will prepare the main course for dinner, and campers, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. ***Grapevine, which lies within a National Forest, is heavily used by the Forest Service for fighting wildfires, and the Military for Special Training.***

There is a pancake breakfast on the last Saturday of the month at the Casa Grande Municipal Airport (CGZ). The breakfast is being put on by the **Runway 5 Cafe**. They are open for business from Tuesday thru Saturday 7:00 am to 2:00 pm, and the breakfast is being served in the air-conditioned terminal.

CHAPTER WANT ADS

Listing in the monthly news letter; If you want a picture included in your adv., send it as a JPEG attachment to your request. Also, when you have an adv. placed, please advise when you want it modified or removed. Otherwise, it will run for 3 months as submitted then it will be removed.

FOLLOWING ITEMS FOR SALE

- 4 Tubes of AeroShell #5 \$50
- 14 Gallons of Phillips Cross Country Oil \$30/gal.
- Some 25-60 Oil \$30/gal.
- 1 Aircraft wing skin riveting/dimpling tool. \$150
- One small aluminum band saw \$50
- One mobile 5 ton hydraulic hoist. \$250
- Assorted trays of aircraft fasteners. \$15 - \$50
- 100% wool carpet floor mat material.
- Non Toxic if burned.

Call: Dave McNeill 480-286-2859

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CHAPTER ITEMS FOR SALE

(MAKE OFFER)

The following items have been donated to the
chapter, and if you want either, one or all of the
items please contact Mike Cycon 480-213-8874.

1. A R.O.C. (Rate Of Clime) Indicator
2. A voice actuated intercom for two people
3. Unidirectional fiberglass cloth specified by Rutan
4. Lightweight instrumentation wiring

5. Two set of wheel chocks
6. Red silicon premium baffle seal material
7. Unused fuel tester kit.

WING STROBES

Whelen Wingtip Strobe And Nav. Lights

The Whelen Strobe, and Grimes Nav. Lights were
removed from a Light Sport Airplane, and were
seldom used.

The wingtip strobe alternately provides 4 flashes on
a wingtip at a time when turned on. Strobe, and
lights operate on 12VDC.

Included are the 3 Nav. Light bulbs (Wings & Tail),
Strobe control box, all shielded wires, and
connectors, 2 Light socket bases, 2 strobe and
Nav. lite back shells, 2 Nav. lite only back shells,
and some hardware, and a strobe instruction/
installation hand book.

See Photo: COST: Make An Offer

Jim Timm: 602-616-9291 or 480-839-9187



EAA Chapter 228 Falcons
Membership Meeting Minutes Summary
January 28, 2025

The January meeting of the Falcons was an in person meeting at the CAU hangar. Since the president and vice president were unavailable, Director Andy Elliott brought the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. There were 34 members/guests present.

Andy had a few announcements. AirVenture 2025 is 236 days from now. Check the NOTAM if you plan to fly into the Buckeye Airfare on February 14-16. The airport will be closed sunset to sunrise and at the start of the evening airshow on February 15th (4:30 PM). There is a Chapter Leadership seminar at Stellar on February 15th. The next YE rally will be on March 1st and the Cactus Fly-in at Casa Grande will be on March 8th.

Andy reviewed the past year activities. We flew 60 kids (would like to do more in 2025). Gary C. brought the flight sim to several events. It is always a big attraction. We had good turn out at the annual Holiday party.

The November meeting minutes were approved as published in the January Newsletter.

Andy asked for visitors to introduce themselves.

Tom A.- is checking us out for the first time. He got his PPL a long time ago at Scottsdale airport before it was a commercial field. He is very interested in all aspects of aviation and wants to learn as much as he can.

Adam B.- is a CFII at CAE. He wants to buy/build a plane and get involved with YE flights.

William S.- is a CFII and is available for hire. He has been doing CAD modeling and follows the work of Barney Wainfan. He hopes to build an original design.

Olivia T.- is a student and Aviation Explorer. She also is a member of EAA 1445 and wants to learn more about aviation.

Steve H.-has been working on getting a Sport Pilot license. He and his business partner are developing a new gas turbine engine and a hybrid propulsion system. He would like to build/buy a Merlin 2 (it would be the first in the USA) and equip it with a hybrid propulsion system. Steve brought

his wife Linda who has a PPL but not currently active.

Brian- is a friend of chapter member Aaron H. He is a CFII, A&P and IA. He is also a helicopter pilot and flies a Tripacer.

Howard S.- is a snow bird. He owns a C-172XP.

Bill B.- came with chapter member Ray T. He is also from Alberta Canada and has built a Zenair.

The pizza arrived a little late tonight so we took a short break here.

Next Andy introduced Jessica Alonzo from the Falcon Admin to tell us about airport events.

Jessica said the airport is still having issues with non aviation items filling the trash dumpsters. If you live in Mesa, contact Jessica and she has info on special trash pick ups to handle those items (mostly furniture).

In the spring there will be some nighttime closures of 4R/22L due to construction. The airport has produced a video on noise abatement procedures. Look for it on the airport web site. The driver training video is nearly completed. All tenants will have to view the video and take a test on the driving rules. A score of 70% or higher is needed to pass. You will be notified by email when the training video is ready.

The next cockpit close up is this Saturday, February 1st at 8-10 AM. A new QR code will be made available to report any airport maintenance issues. Free coffee and donuts for Valentines Day will be in the admin lobby on February 13th from 8 to 9:30 AM.

The Mesa marathon on February 8th will cause some road closures. Best to avoid those areas from 4 AM to 2 PM. Cunningham Aviation will host a meet and greet with astronaut Mike Mullane on February 22nd from 4 to 7 PM. Tickets are \$60 (\$25 for a student). Proceeds go to the Arizona Aviation Historical group. The next Ask the Airport zoom meeting is on February 19th at 10:30 AM.

Thank you Jessica.

Andy asked for builder updates. Eric (RV-10) reports he has finished the flaps and ailerons.

The Thursday coffee/donuts starts at 7:30 AM but set up usually starts about 7:00 AM. Suggest you bring your own coffee. Come join us in the admin lobby.

If you want to get on the Saturday fly out list, see Tim Yoder. For the Sunday list, see Ron Peters.

Andy reviewed the upcoming events previously mentioned (Buckeye Airfare, Cactus Fly In, etc). There is a Grapevine Getaway on March 14-16.

Jim Timm provided the following airspace and accident data:

Sky dive operators at Casa Grande have proposed a change of the drop zone from the northeast side of the airport an area on the southeast side. This could be a potential interference with aircraft doing practice instrument approaches/missed approaches.

There were only two accidents reported: an unregistered hang glider crashed near Casa Grande. The uncertified pilot's body was found $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from the crash site. The Pinal County sheriff is investigating. The second incident was a C-210 that landed short of the runway at Prescott. There were no injuries or damage reported.

Pilot deviations (6 total) was less than normal and there were no Brashers.

Andy asked Steve H. for a YE update. Steve discussed the process for doing one-off YE flights. If you are interested, Steve has the forms, certificates and log books. The next YE rally will be on March 1st. Steve needs a few more pilots and ground crew. Goal is to fly about 30 kids and no more than 3 per pilot.

Dave B., our treasurer, reports that the balance is currently \$10,723.43.

Andy's safety briefing tonight was on Unintentional Off Airport Landings. The question is: Are you prepared to spend the night waiting to be rescued?

Andy said there are three areas of focus:

Mental and flight preparation- plan a route that avoids inaccessible areas if possible. File and activate a flight plan. Use flight following. Check

weather en-route and at the destination. Advise someone of your plans and time table.

Personal and passenger preparation- don't fly tired, hungry or dehydrated. Dress appropriately for the weather and insist your passengers do this also. Brief passengers on what to do in an emergency. Check your CO detector.

Survival equipment preparation- carry or wear essential survival equipment (water proof matches, knife or multi tool, signal mirror, flashlight). Make sure you phone is fully charged. Carry a PLB or Spot. If you have to make a forced landing, manually activate your ELT if possible. Carry a hand held radio. Remember that you can go without food for 3 weeks but only 3 days without water.

Thank you Andy.

Next Andy introduced our guest speaker, Ray Toews, who is also a chapter member, to talk about mods he has made to his Grumman Cheetah.

Ray is from Alberta Canada and he owns a 1977 Grumman Cheetah. Canada has a program that lets owners of certain "out of production certified aircraft" to be owner modified which basically makes the once certified airplane an experimental aircraft. The caveat is that it is almost impossible to go back to the certified world once you do this and since the FAA does not recognize this, you can't fly it in the US.

Ray chose to use this program to modify his Cheetah to reduce weight and go faster (his goal was 130 kn cruise).

He began by removing some heavy rubber at the gear leg to fuselage intersection and replaced it with a fiberglass fairing which saved him about 8 lbs. He purchased some RV type wheel pants to replace the heavy original ones but hasn't figured a way to install them. He read that if you reflex the flaps up a bit, you can get more speed. He tried this but did not get the speed increase he sought.

He removed both magnetos and installed P-mags which he really likes and may provide a little HP increase. He installed the Anti Splat oil-air separator and ejector in the exhaust pipe to get some power gain due to the lower case pressure. He moved his oil cooler from behind the number 4

cylinder to the firewall. He tried a NACA inlet for forced air cooling air but found this did not work since the NACA does not work with a back pressure. He added a scoop around the NACA inlet. That gave him the cooling air flow but added more drag.

He installed dimple tape on the wing leading edges to keep laminar flow over the wing. He's not sure it helps that much.

Annoyed by DG drift issues, he installed a Blue Mountain EFIS. It still works but since the company folded, so he can't get it fixed if it fails.

He took the throttle and mixture controls off the instrument panel and installed a throttle quadrant with custom cables between the seats to eliminate cable bends. This should let the cables last a lot longer. He did not like running fuel and oil lines into the cockpit so he replaced the fuel and oil pressure gages with small electronic gages that have transducers in the engine compartment.

He replaced the heavy aluminum prop with a custom composite prop from Lonnie Prince. It worked pretty good but Ray changed to a 3 bladed composite prop from Sensenich.

Lastly, he installed a home made Stick Shaker that works off of the stall sensor.

Thank you Ray for a very interesting presentation.

Andy asked if there was any new business or comments. Someone reminded us that the annual Az Aviation Safety Awards is on February 1st at 6 PM. See the APA calendar for more information.

In closing, Andy reminded everyone to fly safely and keep learning via webinars and other training platforms. The next chapter meeting will be on February 25, 2025. The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted
Michael Cycon, Secretary