

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 252 OSHKOSH WISCONSIN
STEVE WITTMAN CHAPTER

President's Report— Carrie Forster



Many thanks to all of our wonderful volunteers who make our Pancake Breakfast successful. We couldn't do it without all of you! Thanks especially to our Breakfast co-chairs, Joe Sonnleitner and Brian Langkau.

We hope you can join us for our May chapter gathering. We will have an update on the airport master plan by Director Jim Schell and Deputy Director Cameron Hallock. In addition, we will present chapter awards from both 2020 and 2021 and our 2021 Spirit of ELO Award. It will also be our first cook out of the season.

We are looking for chapter members to bring a side dish to pass and/or a dessert. Brats and burgers will be provided. (Donations accepted to offset the cost of food.)

We have another Flying Start Event coming Saturday, May 14. If you know someone who may be interested, have them sign up on the link [HERE](#). If you are a pilot interested in providing an Eagle Flight, we have room for a couple more pilots. If you're a CFI and can answer questions about flight instruction, even if you aren't currently accepting new primary students, we could really use several more of you to do that. Any and all chapter members who want to stop by and answer questions about aviation or your own experiences are welcome to attend. Questions? Email ea252@gmail.com.

Have a wonderful week and we hope to see you Thursday.

Blue Skies,

Carrie Forster

May 12 Chapter Gathering

Topic: Airport Update and Chapter Appreciation Event

**Dinner: 6:30PM
Meeting: 7:00 PM**

PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT!

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May Chapter Gathering

Wittman Regional Airport Director Jim Schell and Deputy Director Cameron Hallock will give us an update on the airport master plan. We will also celebrate our accomplishments of the past year and recognize our volunteers. And of course present the annual Spirit of Elo Award!

Join us at the chapter hangar! Dinner at 6:30 and meeting at 7:00 PM.

Please bring a side dish or dessert!



April Chapter Gathering Report

Members enjoyed hearing EAA's David Leiting, who just happens to be our Vice President, present on the RV-12 aircraft. David has a considerable amount of flight time in the EAA 2018 One Week Wonder which he flew on the west coast on a tour for EAA. Although weather kept us from having the airplane on display, chapter members and a good number of guests interested in our planned RV-12 youth build project

enjoyed learning about the aircraft's design, construction, and capabilities.



Upcoming Chapter Events

Flying Start - Saturday, May 14

Have you ever thought about learning to fly? Join us for our free Flying Start event on Saturday, May 14 from 8:30 - 11:00 am at the EAA Chapter 252 Hangar located at 817 W. 20th Ave., Oshkosh, WI. Doors open at 8:00 am, registration at 8:30 am. You will learn what is involved in obtaining your pilot certificate - training requirements, costs, resources. You will have the opportunity to speak with pilots, student pilots, and flight instructors. You'll also be matched with a pilot for an introductory Eagle flight. (The flight may take place that day or at a later date/time, depending on pilot availability and weather.)

This event is free and open to the public. Please feel free to share this information.

Registration link [HERE](#).

If you have any questions, please email ea252@gmail.com

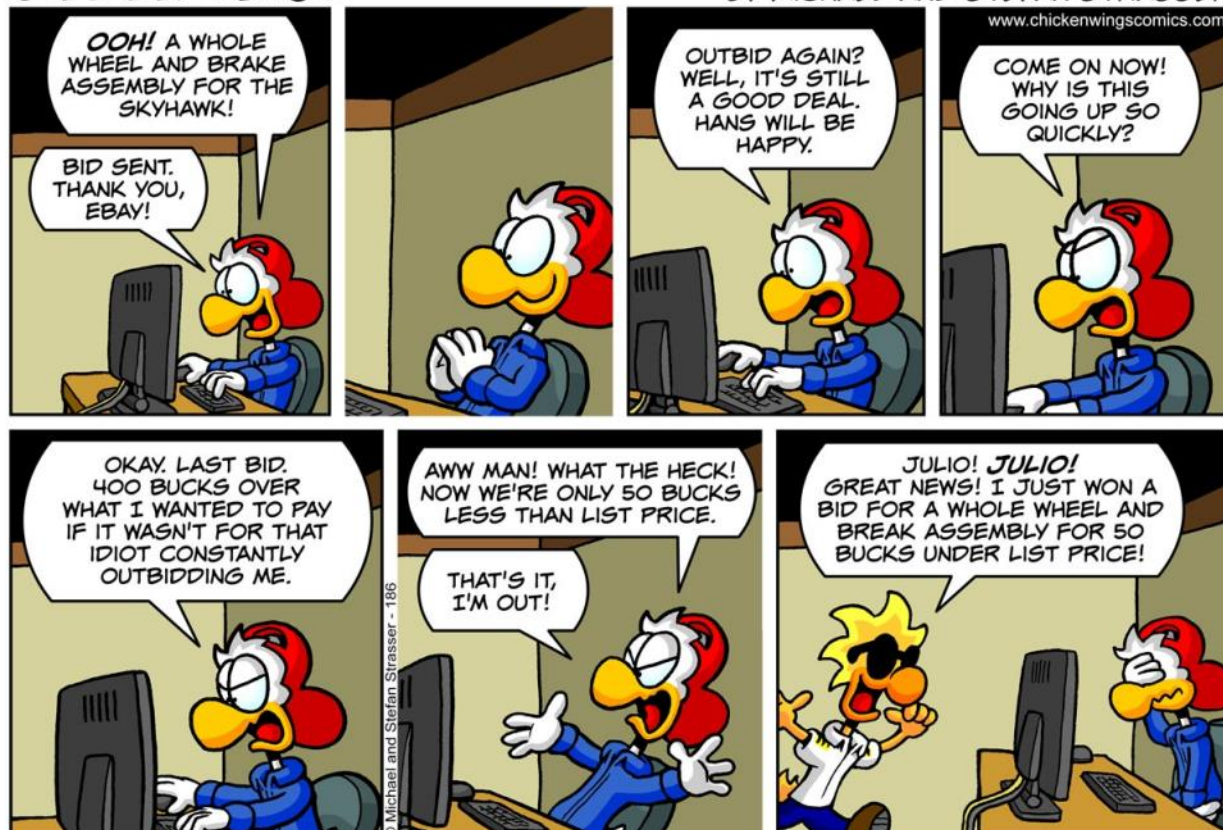
If you are a CFI/CFII and would like to join us for this event, please contact Carrie Forster at ea252@gmail.com. We would love to have you!

International Young Eagle Day, Saturday, June 11

EAA Chapter 252 will be celebrating International Young Eagle Day with a rally at the Wittman Airport terminal building. Advance registration is required for this event.

CHICKEN WINGS®

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



Courtesy of Mike and Stephan at <https://www.chickenwingscomics.com/>

Chapter Pancake Breakfast a Success

Despite the lack of cooperation from the weather, the chapter spring pancake breakfast on April 23 was a success. High winds kept the number of aircraft flying in to a minimum, but plenty of people drove in for breakfast, including 40 EAA chapter leaders visiting headquarters for a workshop. Grill operators declared an emergency initially when half the burners wouldn't light. For a few moments there was some anxiety about what would happen if the remaining burners also failed. It is rumored that one volunteer proclaimed "We've never lost pancakes at a chapter fly-in break-

fast; we're sure not going to lose any on my watch. Failure is not an option." The first batch or two of pancakes took longer to cook on half power but the problem was eventually solved and full power restored.

Winds kept us from flying Young Eagles, but a half dozen or so aircraft did fly in for breakfast. The unofficial record for longest distance traveled went to an EAA member attending the chapter leadership workshop who came all the way from Nigeria! That will be a tough record to beat...

Proceeds after expenses for the chap-

ter were in the \$1,400 range, which is about average in comparison to spring breakfasts from previous years. This figure includes a significant contribution of donations... many people simply said, "keep the change!"

Thanks to Perkins for being flexible with our food needs, EAA for bringing chapter leaders over for breakfast, Wittman Regional Airport for use of the terminal, Women in Aviation, Fox Valley Tech, event chairs Joe Sonnleitner and Brian Langkau, all the chapter members who volunteered, and to everyone who joined us for breakfast.





Photos courtesy of Chapter 252 member Kirby Scott.

Longtime Chapter 252 Member, EAA Volunteer, and WWII Veteran Lon Nanke Passes



Lon was the subject of the Volunteer Spotlight in the June, 2020 issue of Sport Aviation...

If you've visited the EAA Aviation Museum in the past seven or eight years, there's a good chance you've met docent Lon Nanke, EAA 187526. Lon has been volunteering with EAA in different capacities since about 1980, including as the transportation coordinator at the Seaplane Base during EAA AirVenture Oshkosh and at Pioneer Airport when it's open in the summer months.

For most of the year, Lon is a regular at the museum, welcoming visitors with a friendly smile and directing them where to go.

"When people come in, you greet them and see if they've been here before," Lon said. "Then, you take a map and tell them about the things and everything in here, get them started on a tour. I don't do tours, but get them on the right way to go, tell them what's in here, and so forth. Then, of course, when the summer's here, you tell them about the Pioneer Airport and going over there, with the youngsters getting Young Eagles rides and so forth."

Lon doesn't remember exactly what got him interested in volunteering with EAA, but he's had a passion for aviation since 1945 when he first started flying. He can remember the first EAA fly-in convention at Curtiss-Wright Field in Milwaukee back in 1953. Since he's retired, Lon has made volunteering for EAA a daily routine and can be found in the museum constantly, even when he's not scheduled.

"I've always tried to help wherever I could," he said. "That's why I come in. I'm not always scheduled, but I come in. If they're short, then I work. I enjoy it. I get a little tired sometimes, but I enjoy it. I enjoy the people. They're all great."

From Lon's obituary...

Lon O. Nanke parted this world to begin a new life with Jesus on April 24th, 2022 at the age of 95. Beloved husband of the late Elaine G., Lon is survived by his sister-in-law Mary Weirts, children Erich L. (Lori) Nanke, Elfrieda G. (Daniel) Albers, and Lorelei E. (Russell) Kidd. Cherished grandfather of Nicole (Joshua Parker) Nanke, Charise (John) Worthington, Heather Nanke, Jeremy Albers, Cody (Jamie) Kidd, Shane (Leanne) Albers, Steven Nanke, and Cassandra (Daniel Frey) Kidd. Great-grandfather of 18, great-great grandfather of one. Survived also by many nieces and nephews, his EAA Museum and Seaplane Base family, the weekly breakfast crew, and many other loved ones, relatives and friends.

Lon was a truly delightful man with one of the warmest hearts you could ever hope to encounter. He had a smile and a piece of Dubble Bubble chewing gum for you anytime you saw him, and he was always in the mood to tell a story (usually taking place off the coast of the Aleutian Islands or in Petropavlovsk). Lon was a veteran of the United States Navy, serving in both World War II and the Korean Conflict. He had a passion for aviation that ran deep in his bones from his years as a pilot, flight instructor, and

air traffic controller, receiving The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award from the FAA in December of 2010. He spent many years devoting his time to volunteer work for the Experimental Aircraft Association, in fact, he could point out his car in the parking lot of the aerial photo of the first Fly-In convention in 1953. He was awarded the Henry Kimberly Award for his volunteer efforts with the EAA in 2017. He was a staple at the EAA museum, offering his kindness and knowledge as a docent, a Transportation Coordinator at the Seaplane Base during AirVenture, and of course, the life of the party at the annual September Swing. Though he was hard of hearing, nothing could slow him down from dancing the night away. To call him a social butterfly does not quite do him justice, as he was always on the move with friends old and new. His positive personality shone like a beacon to all and his zest for life was infectious. To know Lon was to love him and be loved in return. He truly was one of a kind and will be dearly missed.

Member Profile: Jim Casper



Jim Cunningham
Newsletter Editor

If it seems difficult to remember a Chapter 252 event that Jim Casper hasn't been part of, that's probably because most of us haven't been chapter members since 1975 like he has.

Jim was born and raised in Oshkosh, so he was probably destined to become involved with EAA. His first flight was here at Oshkosh in 1956. When EAA moved the fly-in convention to Oshkosh in 1970, Jim attended and knew he had found something he had to be a part of. He began using what little vacation time he had from his job to attend convention and began volunteering in 1975 in Oshkosh Flight Operations. If you're wondering how he persuaded his family to let him use his limited vacation time to do this, the answer is that he recruited them as volunteers as well! Jim and Pauline were married in late July of 1969, the year before convention moved here, so their anniversary now always falls during AirVenture.

Jim watched and learned from the icons of the volunteer corps and worked his way up the ranks. In his early days, flight-line operations was pretty much a Chapter 252 operation and staffed by chapter members. By the mid-1980s Jim became a co-chairman had his own VW Beetle; he became chairman in 1993 when Will Schaik retired. He's still there serving as a consulting co-chairman to the new chair—his daughter Carol.

The rest of the year Jim is usually as busy with Chapter 252 activities as his schedule permits. He has held many different chapter positions over the years, including president. One of his more memorable experiences was serving as the lead on the Wittman Big Bonzo restoration project. Work started in October of 1982 and was to be completed by convention in 1983 just months later. Jim enjoyed working with chapter members who were master craftsman and learned a great deal about aircraft restoration. He also learned about keeping swarms of bugs away from an airplane being painted outdoors a day or two before it was supposed to go on display!

When Pioneer Airport opened across from EAA Headquarters, Jim signed on right away and began volunteering there as well, up to the point of adjusting his work schedule to have mornings off so he could be around the airplanes. As Pioneer Airport grew, EAA realized that the area needed an on-site manager. Longtime chapter member Fred Stadler,

a volunteer and pilot at Pioneer Airport, urged Jim to apply for the position and of course EAA knew of his experience and qualifications and gave him the job. He's still there today.

Jim wouldn't mention it but in 2018 he was the recipient of the Chapter Major Achievement Award from EAA, the Brown Arch Brick Award in 2010, the Chapter 252's Spirit of Elo award in 2008.

If you attend any Chapter 252 gathering or activity, you will almost certainly see Jim there, probably working in some capacity so that others can enjoy the event. Thanks to Jim for his decades of service, and for Pauline and his family for allowing him to spend so much time making our chapter and organization a better place.



Welcome New Members!

Doug Milius **Chapter Membership**

Susan Everhard-

Susan, her husband Bob and their son, Rusty live in Oshkosh. They have been members of EAA for many years and enjoy the programs and AirVenture that EAA has to offer. Bob earned his PPL 20 years ago when they lived in Florida. He is currently not flying. Rusty is interested in flying and wants to participate in the Young Eagles Program. He also plans on helping with the RV-12 project.

Susan and Bob own Anchorage Realty

and other small businesses in the Oshkosh area including an electric boat rental company. They also are both licensed boat captains with the USCG. They have taken many flying trips from Miami to the Bahamas and back in a Cessna when they lived in South Florida.

As you can tell, they both enjoy flying and sailing. Too bad our boating season here isn't as long as the season in Miami! Maybe I can get them interested in ice boating! Welcome to Chapter 252!

Sandra Krueger-

Sandra is an EAA employee and plans to move to Oshkosh in the near future. She is an active pilot and has her single engine land rating. She hopes to add an instrument rating to her license this summer. She works in the business development department for EAA. She started her flying lessons at Midway Airport in Chicago then relocated to the Lansing, IL airport. She is planning on building an RV 10 in the future. She like all types of outdoor activities and likes to travel to places near and far. Welcome to Chapter 252!

Doug Milius Upgrades His Cherokee

Doug Milius **Chapter Membership**

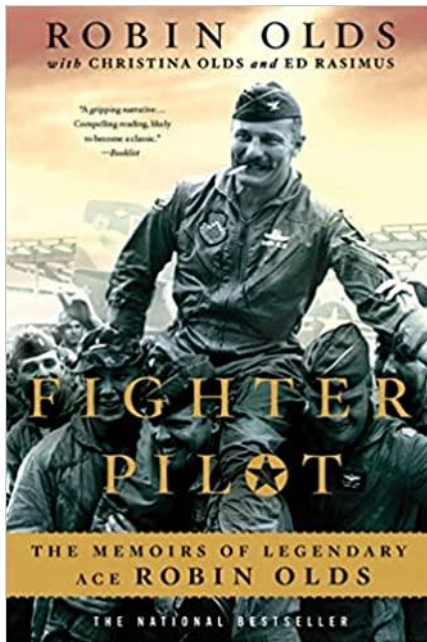
Finishing up installing the smoking section on the plane. No need to wait

for hours before you can clog your lungs up with nicotine. The views are pretty amazing too. Book your flight now. Limited flights available.

(Okay... actually Doug had removed his wing fuel tank to have a repair made... ed.)



Book Review



Bob Sigman

Do you love to fly? Do you have any interest in aviation? Could you be interested in a “one-in-a-million” kind of person whose story is told by him and his daughter in a marvelously written page-turner? Have I got a book for you! I’ve just finished: “FIGHTER PILOT: THE MEMOIRS OF LEGENDARY ACE ROBIN OLDS”, and enthusiastically recommend it to any of you who answered “yes” to any of those questions (or anyone else who loves a good yarn, well crafted).

Mystery Plane

The latest mystery plane from the slides of the Jack Cox collection... a Flybaby with a three cylinder engine! Even Chapter 252 resident Flybaby guru Tracy couldn't identify this one! Can you? The picture was taken in 1968, June or earlier. Lettering under cockpit rail reads “Sunshine Girl 3rd.” If you have any information about this airplane,



April 2022 Board Mtg Agenda

EAA Chapter 252

Thu, May 4, 2022 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CST) *(rescheduled from April 28)*

Attending:

Old Business:

Teen Build/RV-12 project proposal

updates

Next steps

Ray Aviation Scholarship

Forrest Drews (Carrie)

Jarrett Schiedemeyer (David)

2022 applications

Scholarship committee

Pancake Breakfast and YE Rally - Saturday, April 23

debrief

Flying Start - Saturday, May 14

Monthly Gatherings and Upcoming Events

May - chapter appreciation event

Need someone to grill

Chapter awards will be presented, including Spirit of ELO

June speaker rescheduled to November (won't be in Oshkosh in June)

Need a speaker/program

IMC/VMC club - still looking for a person to lead; on hold for now

Membership Renewals

Hangar Updates (Doug)

Monthly Gatherings:

2022 Chapter Gatherings	Topic/Presenter
Thursday, May 12	Chapter Appreciation Event
Saturday, May 14	Flying Start (Chapter Hangar)
Thursday, June 9	
Saturday, June 11	International YE Day Rally (Wittman Terminal)
Thursday, July 14	
Thursday, August 11	
Tuesday, August 16	Flying Hamburger Social (Wittman Terminal)
Thursday, September 8	Corn Roast (Chapter Hangar)
Saturday, September 10	Pancake Breakfast and YE Rally (Wittman Terminal)
Thursday, October 13	
Thursday, November 10	<u>Behind My Wings: Untold Stories of Vietnam Vets</u> Author/Presenter BJ Prior
Thursday, December 8	

New Business:

Note: Chapter members are welcome to attend virtual board meetings. Email aaa252@gmail.com prior to the meeting to request the link.

Chapter 252 Hangar

817 W 20th Ave

Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54902

Find Us Online!

www.eaa252.org

www.facebook.com/EAA252

Renew your membership online from home at: <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea252/join-renew>

The Pylon is the monthly newsletter of EAA Chapter 252 and is published monthly. Digital copies are emailed to each chapter member. Hard copies are mailed upon request to those without email access. Current and past copies can be accessed from the chapter website at www.252.eaachapter.org. If you have submissions for the newsletter, please send to editor Jim Cunningham no later than the 20th of each month preceding the issue month at jlcunni6@yahoo.com. Submissions received after the 20th will be included at the editor's discretion in the next month or held for a future issue. Submissions in either Word or similar format, and photos in .jpg format are appreciated.

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Chapter Technical Counselors and Flight Advisors

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Technical Counselor: Joseph Norris, Oshkosh, 920-279-2855

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Technical Counselor: Timothy Hoversten, Oshkosh, WI, 920-426-6846

Skills: Composite, Electrical/Avionics, Fabric Covering, Firewall Forward: 4-Stroke, Firewall Forward: Auto Engine, Sheet Metal - Driven Rivets, Welding, Wood, Sheet Metal - Pulled Rivets

Technical Counsellor: George Donaldson, Fultonville, NY 12072 518-461-6636

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