

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 252 OSHKOSH WISCONSIN

## President's Report— David Leiting, Jr.



June is officially the month of Young Eagle for EAA and EAA Chapter 252. Every year, the second Saturday of June is tagged as International Young Eagles Day. This day serves as a celebration for EAA members across the country to participate in the world's largest youth aviation program.

As you likely know, the Young Eagles program was launched at EAA Oshkosh 1992, with the sole purpose of introducing youth ages 8 – 17 to aviation through a free introductory flight. The goal was to fly 1 million youth by the centennial of flight celebration on December 17, 2003.

In the past thirty years, the program has flown more than 2.3 million Young Eagles and has evolved to include many follow-up activities for youth that are bitten by the aviation bug. This included a free EAA student membership and free access to the Sporty's Learn to Fly Course! EAA Chapter 252 is credited with nearly 16,000 Young Eagles Flights, thanks in large part to our members' involvement at Pioneer Airport.

On Saturday, June 10, EAA Chapter 252 will be providing Young Eagles flights at the Warbird Squadron 32 pancake breakfast fly-in. During the event, there will be Warbird aircraft on display, as well as a car show. Be sure to stop on out to support our local aviation community!

The chapter will also be providing Young Eagles flights on Saturday, June 24. This rally was added to the calendar to help support EAA's celebration of the Young Eagles 30th anniversary, which concludes at the end of July.

Although there is a plethora of pilots registered to provide flights at both events, the chapter is always seeking new ground volunteers to handle duties such as escorting families, marshalling aircraft, assisting with check-in, etc. If you are interested in learning more about the Young Eagles volunteer opportunities, please send us an email at [ea252@gmail.com](mailto:ea252@gmail.com).

Although Young Eagles is a great program for introducing youth to aviation, the chapter also hosted a Flying Start event this past May. The Flying Start programs is targeted towards adults with an interest in learning to fly. An educational presentation was given, and each of 11 participants were offered a free adult Eagle Flight.

A number of these participants have joined EAA Chapter 252, so be sure to say hi to any new faces you see at the June gathering!

Tailwinds,

David Leiting, EAA Lifetime 579157

### June 8 Chapter Gathering

**Chris Henry— The  
Real MASH  
in Korea**

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

**PLEASE BRING  
A SIDE DISH OR  
DESSERT**

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## June Chapter Gathering



EAA Museum Manager and chapter member Chris Henry will present on his recent research on real MASH units in the Korean War. Did you know that the characters as portrayed in the original novel (and from which the characters in the TV series were derived) were based on real people in a real MASH unit? Chris will cover that and more... including recent conversations he had with Alan Alda and other actors from the TV series.

## May Chapter Gathering Report

Chapter members enjoyed a taco bar on a delightful late spring evening and presentations by EAA's Charlie Becker on aircraft bolts and related hardware and Chapter 252 Vice President John Forster on aircraft electrical systems from a pilot's viewpoint.



# Pancake Breakfast and Young Eagles Rally June 10



**Warbirds Squadron 32**  
**Fly-in/Drive-in**  
**Pancake Breakfast**  
 June 10 from 7am -4pm

Wittman Regional Airport 525 W 20th Ave  
 Oshkosh, WI 54902

- Pancake Breakfast served until 11am. Adults:\$8 , kids 5-12:\$4. Under 5:Free
- Custom Dogtags available for sale all day
- Pedal planes for the kids
- Games and family fun
- Car show 8-3
- World War II Memorabilia
- Wisconsin Wing CAF SNJ Texan and T-34 Mentor on display
- Women in Aviation
- Pilotsmith
- Many other warbird aircraft on display
- Art by Brian Liddle



Facebook: Warbirds Squadron #32 Ready Room, Phone: 920-385-9334 E-mail: WarbirdsSquadron32@gmail.com

Our friends at Warbirds Squadron 32 here at Oshkosh are holding their Drive-In/Fly-In Pancake Breakfast at the Wittman Regional Airport Saturday, June 10. This is also International Young Eagles day and Chapter 252 will be flying Young Eagles at this event. Come on out for pancakes and airplanes!

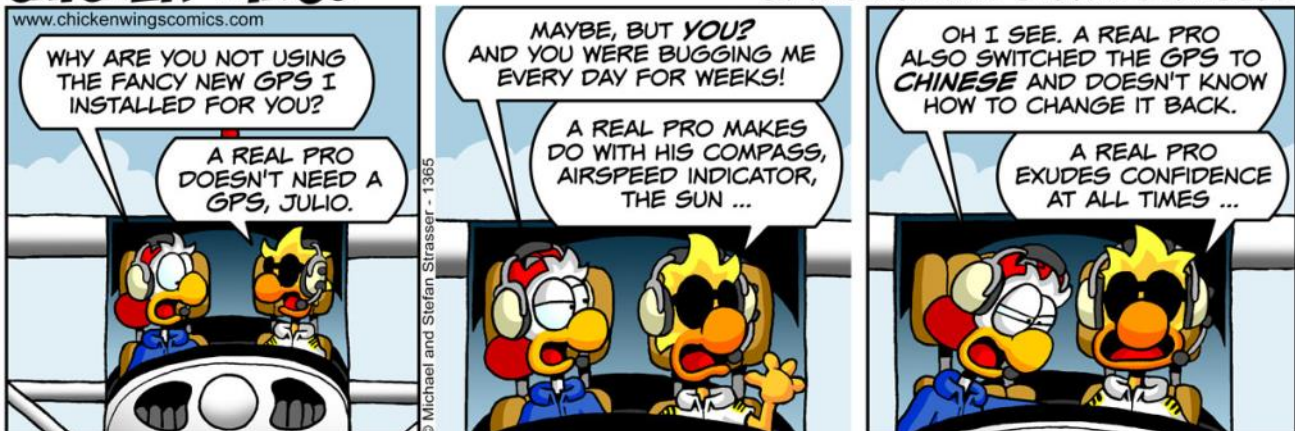
Chapter 252 will be holding another Young Eagles Rally on Saturday, June 24 at the Wittman Regional Airport terminal.

***If you are interested in volunteering at either event, please email us at eaa252@gmail.com***



## CHICKEN WINGS®

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER





## “Pioneer Airport is Active” : What This Means to You at OSH

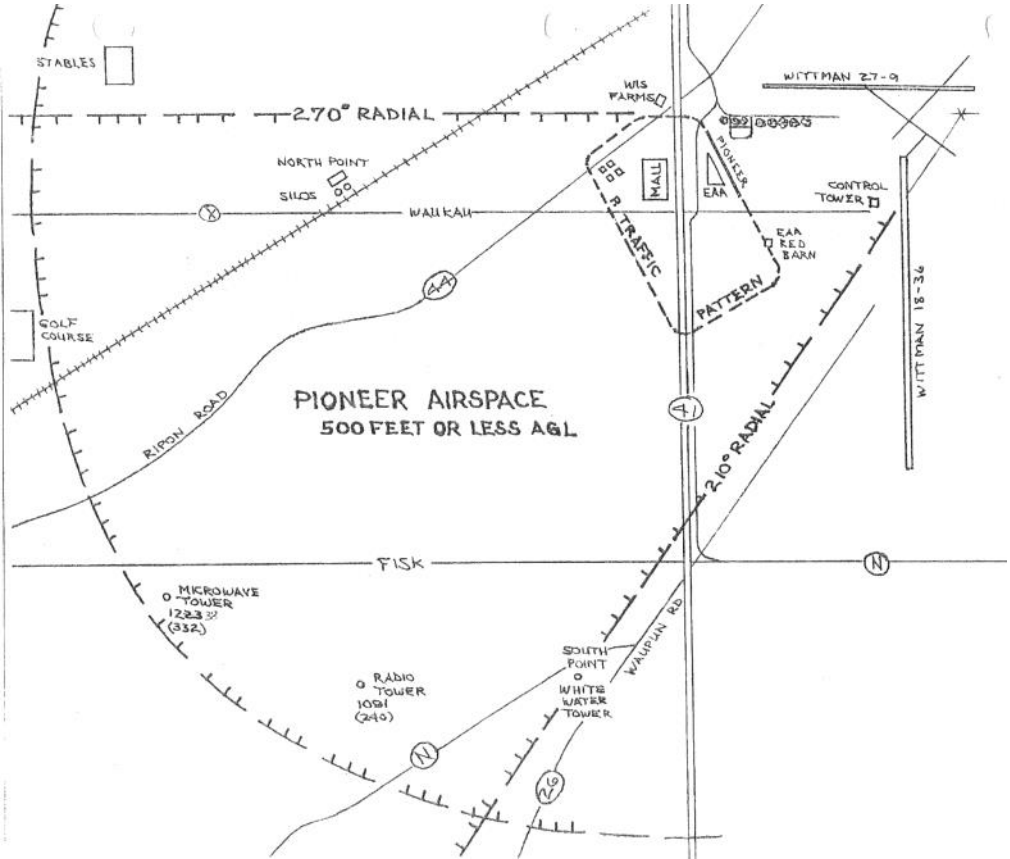
**Fred Stadler**  
**Chapter Treasurer**  
**Pioneer Airport Pilot**

If you fly near Oshkosh in the summer, you've heard it: the ATIS includes "Pioneer Airport is active, with vintage and experimental aircraft operating 500 feet and below, one quarter mile south of the approach end of runway nine." So, what does that mean?

Pioneer Airport has a 1,988' grass runway (13/31) located immediately behind the EAA Museum and within the Oshkosh Class D airspace. The airport uses two GlaStars for Young Eagle flights and two biplanes (a 1929 Travel Air and a 1927 Swallow) for rides by other visitors to the EAA Museum.

Trees block the OSH Tower's view of the Pioneer Airport runway, so while tower controllers need to coordinate the flights from Pioneer with other airport activity, they can't issue takeoff or landing clearances for aircraft at Pioneer. Pioneer flights operate on a unique Letter of Agreement established more than 25 years ago between EAA and the Oshkosh Tower (note that the graphic of the airspace refers to "Wisconsin Farms," at the Highway 44 location now used by Kwik Trip.)

The L.O.A. defines a block of airspace southwest from Pioneer Airport to the Class D edge and from the ground to 500' AGL. The boundaries of the airspace are defined by radials from the OSH VORTAC, even though none of the Pioneer aircraft have navigation radios. Before each day's operation at Pioneer, one of its pilots calls the tower on the telephone and requests opening of the airspace block. When the request is granted, flights from Pioneer can operate within the airspace block without radio contact with the tower. The Pioneer planes all have communications radios and a separate frequency is used to ensure separation.



When the Pioneer airspace is active, the Tower changes the Wittman traffic flow somewhat. Planes departing on OSH Runway 27 are directed to climb to 1,000' AGL before turning south, thereby keeping them above the Pioneer planes. Likely the operation most visible to pilots at OSH is the close alignment of approaches to OSH Runway 9 and Pioneer Airport Runway 13. Pilots landing on OSH Runway 9 may be surprised to see a Pioneer airplane maneuvering close to and below them on approach to the Pioneer runway. In prior years this close proximity caused the Tower's radar system to generate collision alerts. Now, at the Tower's request, the Pioneer Airport GlaStars operate their transponders on Mode A rather than Mode C, to avoid these alerts.

The Tower also avoids the use of Runway 5/23 when the Pioneer L.O.A. is active. This generally isn't a problem, since winds strong enough to cause a need for OSH Runway 5/23 are likely too strong for Pio-

neer's use of its Runway 13/31. In the spirit of cooperation, Pioneer Airport can close its airspace if needed for operations at OSH. One example of this is when pipeline patrol aircraft transit the OSH airspace at low levels. In these cases, the Pioneer airspace is temporarily closed and the Pioneer aircraft stay on the ground until the pipeline aircraft has left the area.

The normal Pioneer Airport season includes weekend operation from May to mid-October and daily operation from Memorial Day to Labor Day, weather permitting. Pioneer aircraft don't operate if the winds are above crosswind limits, if the ceiling is below 1,500' or if the visibility is less than five miles.

So what do you need to do when the OSH ATIS says Pioneer Airport is active? Stay alert for slightly modified arrival and departure instructions from the Tower and enjoy the occasional sight of an open-cockpit biplane operating nearby!

## Chapter Flying Start Event a Success

*Photos courtesy of chapter member Carrie Forster.*

**David Leiting**  
**Chapter President**

Out of the 18 folks pre-registered, 12 attended and 10 were able to take an Eagle Flight. There were a handful of family members also on hand for the event.

The group was very enthusiastic about aviation, and very appreciative for all of the chapter's efforts. John said it best, "there will be a few pilots coming out of this group." At least a handful expressed interest in coming out to future chapter activities as well.

Cindi Pokorny (educator from EAA staff) and Joe Sonnleitner talked about their student pilot experiences.

CFI Tyler from Pilotsmith talked about flight training. Chapter members Michelle Leiting, Alayna McKinnon, and Doug Osterberg also volunteered at the event.

We had eight volunteer pilots: John Forster, Jim Cunningham, Ed Jeziorny, David Leiting, Christopher Gauger, Ben Van Handel, Gary Geisler, and Tom Otte.



Each did one flight; there were a couple couples who flew together in 4-seat aircraft.

Apologies if we missed any chapter members in the above list of volunteers. Thanks again for your support.

## 2023 Chapter Ray Scholar Alayna McKinnon Solos!

Congratulations to our 2023 Ray Scholar, Alayna McKinnon, on her first solo flight on May 12 in Waupaca. Alayna's CFI is Doug Osterberg.



## **EAA Chapter 252**

### **May 2023 Board Meeting Agenda**

**May 23, 2023 at 6:00 - 7:00 PM (CDT)**

**Attending:** David Leiting, John Forster, Christopher Gauger, Fred Stadler (reporting from the Mediterranean), Carrie Forster, Jim Cunningham, Charlie Becker, Jim Casper, Wayne Daniels

#### Membership Report – Charlie

156 members at the present.

#### Treasurer's Report – Fred

\$80,000 in the bank.

#### Monthly Gatherings – David

##### June

Karen Kalishek? She has presentations on aviation history, pilot proficiency, flight training, etc.

Carrie has seen her present before and said she does a good job.

David will ask if she can present in June or July.

Food: Grill Out – Everhard Family

##### July

Basler facility tour?

Food: Grill Out – TBD, Dennis Moehn might be available again.

##### August

Weeks Hangar tour? Some cool AirVenture aircraft may still be there.

##### Future months:

Brian Liddle – Aviation artist. Has presented to a few other chapters already.

Wittman Airport tower. Could be done separate from the monthly gathering, like on a Saturday.

EAA 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary? David will ask Dick Knapinski if he can present this subject, perhaps in October.

Jim Cunningham has Steve Wittman's correspondence and letters and can do a presentation about them.

#### Flying Start Debrief – David

Thank you, volunteers!

Cindi Pokorny (educator from EAA staff) and Joe Sonnleitner talked about their student pilot experiences.

CFI Tyler from Pilotsmith talked about flight training.

8 volunteer pilots: John Forster, Jim Cunningham, Ed Jeziorny, David Leiting, Christopher Gauger, Ben Van Handel, Gary Geisler, Tom Otte

Each did 1 flight; there were a couple couples who flew together in 4-seat aircraft.

18 pre-registered | 12 attendees (including 1 minor) | 10 Eagle Flights

Very encouraging results, very welcoming environment, natural conversations, pilots present as attendees were arriving. Good ratio of attendees to volunteers to talk to. Group on the younger side; all but one under the age of 55, most in their 30s. One couple came up from Milwaukee and spent the rest of the day at the EAA Museum.

A few attendees expressed interest in trial chapter membership.

#### Young Eagles – Carrie/John

June 10 – International Young Eagles Day

Warbirds Squadron 32 fly-in/drive-in.

Young Eagles rally will have separate marshalls from the Warbirds marshalls, since the aircraft are parking on different areas of the ramp. YE will use the west side of the ramp.

42 kids pre-registered so far.

14 pilots signed up, more than we need.

Ground volunteer positions available.

June 24

2 kids pre-registered so far.

9 pilots signed up.

David's mom and Carrie's sister-in-law will be available and can volunteer on the ground.

Ray Aviation Scholarship/Other Scholarships – Carrie/David

Alayna

Soloed on May 12. Having regular flight lessons.

Ike

Preparing for checkride in June.

Rusty

Chapter can provide about \$3,400 for his scholarship, based on profits from spring pancake breakfast and the chapter's matching funds.

Already has his student pilot and medical certificates. Ready for training. Thinking of taking a gap year so he can focus on training. He also attended our Flying Start event and flew with Tom Otte. Rusty is also regularly attending chapter gatherings and RV-12 build sessions.

Carrie and David will meet with Rusty and his parents to discuss moving forward with the scholarship, and to make sure he will commit to flight training.

Can we make it a 25/75 Ray Scholarship? Smaller burden on chapter (\$2,750), and also gives Rusty a \$11,000 scholarship. Will need permission from EAA to find out if Ray Foundation funds are available.

Wayne made motion to move forward with scholarship for Rusty, including meeting with Rusty and his parents for expectations. Carrie seconded. All voted in favor, none opposed.

Lightspeed Chapter Benefits Program

Opportunity for EAA chapters in the Ray Scholarship program to fundraise from helping to sell Lightspeed headsets.

Weblink/QR code to put in newsletter, website, and social media. Opportunity can also be announced during chapter gatherings. Anyone who purchases a headset through the link or QR code will help EAA 252 fundraise (chapter gets 10% of the profits).

Chris signed up EAA 252 for the program. Waiting for next steps from Lightspeed.

Teen Build/RV-12 Updates – Carrie/John

Making good progress. Build sessions will continue until the last week of June, then go on hiatus until late August.

Young Eagle flights planned on May 31 for teen builders.

Hangar Updates – David

Wi-Fi: Cellcom Plan

David got four adapters, but the dimensions were off. He's working with Cellcom and Best Buy to find the right adapters.

Service on hold so we don't have to pay for unused Wi-Fi.

Port-a-potty contributions

Chapter will begin regular monetary contributions for maintenance of port-a-potty, especially since its use is increasing due to chapter activities. Work with Tracy Noack regarding this and to find out how much the contributions will be.

Lighting

Wait until Bally Bomber is out to finish installing new lighting. Bally Bomber will be here until AirVenture.

Monthly Gatherings:

<b>2023 Chapter Gatherings</b>	<b>Topic/Presenter</b>
Thursday, June 8	Karen Kalishek (tentative)
Saturday, June 10	International Young Eagles Day
Thursday, July 13	Basler tour (tentative)
Thursday, August 10	EAA Weeks Hangar tour (tentative)
Thursday, September 14	Annual Corn Roast and Chapter Awards
Saturday, September 16	Pancake Breakfast & YE Rally
Thursday, October 12	TBD
Thursday, November 9	TBD
Thursday, December 14	TBD



## Chapter 252 Hangar

817 W 20th Ave

Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54902

## Find Us Online!

[www.eaa252.org](http://www.eaa252.org)

[www.facebook.com/EAA252](https://www.facebook.com/EAA252)

## Join the 252 Family!

Annual Membership (Calendar Year) Dues are \$20(\$10 for partial year, July - December). Student Memberships are \$10. Dues in the amount of \$20 can be given to:

Charlie Becker  
3975 Sharratt Drive  
Oshkosh, WI 54901

**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](http://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](mailto: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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**Skills:** A&P Mechanic, Fabric Covering, Firewall Forward: 4-Stroke, Firewall Forward: Auto Engine, Sheet Metal - Driven Rivets, Welding, Wood, Sheet Metal - Pulled Rivets

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

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**Flight Advisor:** Joseph Norris, Oshkosh, WI, 920-279-2855

**Skills:** Floatplane, CFI, Helicopter, Tailwheel, Amphibian

**Flight Advisor:** Kyle Voltz, Oshkosh, WI, 309-945-5188

**Skills:** Tailwheel