# THE PYLON



THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 252 OSHKOSH WISCONSIN

### **President's Report— Carrie Forster**



Please join me in congratulating our newsletter editor, Jim Cunningham, who will be receiving an award for the newsletter at the chapter leaders breakfast at AirVenture! We appreciate the excellent job that Jim does with the Pylon every month, and how this valuable tool keeps all of our members informed. Bravo, Jim!

We held our first Young Eagle Rally since pre-pandemic on June 12 for International Young Eagles Day. We had a dozen aircraft and 40 youth signed up. Visibility was not great that day, but we managed to fly 19 participants before we had to cancel the remainder of the event due to deteriorating conditions. Many participants who didn't get to fly at least got to talk with a pilot and

sit in an aircraft before they left for the day. Volunteers and pilots were disappointed by the early end, but it was great to see everyone and remind ourselves how to hold a YE event. We have scheduled another event for July 10 and invited all those participants who didn't get to fly to that new event.

AirVenture is less than three weeks away! Many of you have been very involved in the preparations as staff and volunteers, and many others are looking forward to celebrating aviation's best week of the year.

This week our chapter gathering is a field trip over to Basler Turbo Conversions. Since our tour is at 7:00, we'll start serving dinner earlier than usual. Food will be ready at 6:00 so we have time to eat, visit, and clean up before we head over to Basler.

We will take our **ANNUAL CHAPTER MEMBER PHOTO** at 6:40, before we head over to Basler. Wear a chapter 252 shirt if you have one, or any EAA shirt.

I'd also like to extend a special welcome to our out of state members, some of whom will be able to attend our July gathering because they'll be in town for AirVenture. We have quite a few members from out of state who are only able to attend our gatherings once a year in July.

Applications are still open for our 2021 Ray Scholar for chapter 252. If you know of a candidate, have them contact me at <a href="mailto:eaa252@gmail.com">eaa252@gmail.com</a>. Applicants must be between the ages of 16-19 years old. This scholarship provides \$10,000, which amounts to the full cost of private pilot flight training. It also provides support and mentorship - key components to completing the flight training process. We are looking for a young person who is self-motivated and passionate about aviation.

I look forward to seeing you on Thursday, and hopefully on the grounds at AirVenture as well.

Blue Skies,

Carrie

July8 IN PERSON Chapter Gathering

6:00 PM-8:30 PM

### NOTE EARLY START TIME!

Dinner at chapter hangar followed by tour at Basler

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### **July Chapter Gathering: IN PERSON!**

Chapter 252 will host dinner at our chapter hangar and take our annual chapter photo. This will be followed by a "field trip" tour of Basler Turbo Conversions, a company with a unique product: Updating DC-3s into modern turboprop BT-76s!

Please note the early 6PM start time for this month.

Thursday, July 8, 2021 Food Served 6:00 PM Program 7:00 - 8:00 PM

Chapter gathering will be held at the EAA 252 Chapter Hangar. See back page for address.



### **June Chapter Gathering Report**

The weather made for a perfect evening! After dinner (thanks to Dennis Moehn for grilling) members enjoyed presentations from chapter members on unique flying experiences.

Jakob Brouillette talked about bringing a Piper Arrow back to life to make it airworthy enough to ferry back to Wisconsin after it had not flown in 23 years! Jakob casually mentioned that the airplane had not flown since he was five...

John Forster talked about his very memorable flight in a T-6 Texan WWII trainer in Manitowoc. We often hear that it's possible to stall an airplane going straight down... John conducted his own research on this during the flight and learned that this is in fact correct..

Jim Cunningham talked about flying a reproduction of the Wright 1902 Glider on the (hot) sands at Kitty Hawk just a few miles from where the Wright Brothers flew the original.





### Save the Date! Upcoming Chapter Events

Carrie Forster **Chapter President** 

#### Saturday, July 10 - Young Eagle Rally

We will hold a YE rally at the new terminal building. Participants must pre-register for this event at youngea-<u>glesday.org</u>. Direct link to the event HERE.

#### Tuesday, August 24 - Flying Hamburger Social

We will once again host a Wisconsin Flying Hamburger Social. (For more information about Wisconsin Flying Hamburger Socials, check the link HERE.) Food will be served from 5 - 7 pm. We'll need volunteers to set up starting around 3 pm, volunteers to cook and serve food, and volunteers for clean up. Watch the Pylon and your email for information about signing up.

#### Saturday, September 11 - Pancake Breakfast and Young Eagle Rally

Mark your calendars and watch for information about how to volunteer. We're very excited to hold our first Pancake Breakfast in two years! We'll need volunteers to set up on Friday evening, volunteers to cook, serve food, clean up, and volunteers for the YE event: pilots, ground crew, and marshallers. Watch the Pylon and

your email for information about signing up.

#### Saturday, October 9 - Flying Start **Event**

This event will be held at our chapter hangar. We will be looking for volunteers to talk with participants and looking for volunteer pilots to fly participants. The event will be held in the morning and includes a presentation, time for participants to talk with pilots, chapter members, and instructors. Watch the Pylon and your email about ways to become involved.

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER

# KEN WINGS'

















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

### Welcome New Members

#### Doug Milius Chapter Membership

John Sullivan-John and his wife Ashley live in Oshkosh. John is a dispatcher. He's an airplane enthusiast and his mother's friend flew him to Washington DC when he was a senior in high school. He is currently seeking a sport pilot certificate. He also likes writing, photography and wood-

working. He would like to volunteer for some of our events. Welcome to Chapter 252!

Al Barclay-Al is a private pilot and actively flies his Piper Archer. Al is a former Delta Airlines employee and loves to travel. His plane is based in Oshkosh. He also enjoys rebuilding/restoring planes. Welcome to Chapter 252!

Shawn Lynch-Shawn and his wife Lisa recently moved back to Oshkosh from Oklahoma where he was stationed in the US Air Force. Shawn has his PPL SEL Instrument, AGI, and UAS ratings. He is an active pilot and is currently putting together a flight simulator mock up. He is available to help volunteer at our chapter projects. Welcome back to Wisconsin and Chapter 252!

### Chapter Member Tom Helm's Onex Makes First Flight

Sonex Aircraft has announced that chapter member Tom Helm has made the first flight in his Onex. From Sonex:

Congratulations to Tom Helm of Neenah, Wisconsin whose standard gear, AeroVee powered Onex (S/N ONX0137) flew for the first time on June 28th! "Just flew first flight in ONX0137, N551X today," writes Tom. "Build started 7 years ago with steady but infrequent build-

ing, was a hobby project. Flight went well with airplane flight straight and true, very little need for pitch trim. Phase 1 flight testing now beginning." Gold Wings are on the way to Tom!





### Member Profile: Christopher Gauger

For the C-17 crew departing Oshkosh back at AirVenture 1997, it was just another routine takeoff, albeit one with a larger audience than they were used to. Little did they know that they were about to change someone's life. Chapter member Christopher Gauger, age four, was impressed with the sound and dust the aircraft made as it blasted down Runway 18 and clawed its way into the sky. It is his earliest aviation memory, and the event that triggered a lifelong interest and now a career in aviation.

Chris was born and raised in Oshkosh, and as he grew up made many visits to the EAA Aviation Museum, watching it grow and evolve. In June of 2018, going to EAA headquarters became a daily routine when he began working for the organization that has played a major role in his life. Chris' responsibilities have grown over the

responsibilities have grown over the years, and he is now the Program Assistant for both Young Eagles and Chapter Programs. More recently, Chris has stepped up to oversee the Ray Scholarship program that allows many EAA chapters (including our own) to fund members' flight training.

Chris began pursuing his own dream of becoming a pilot in September of 2019 with the EAA Employee Flying Club, taking lessons in their Cessna 172. Alas, just about every setback imaginable (and one that seemed unimaginable at the time—a global pandemic) delayed his efforts. After a mere four lessons, harsh weather (including Halloween snow) canceled many flights, setting him back. Then the airplane had to head out of state for several months for a painting makeover. By the time it returned to Oshkosh, the pandemic was ramping up, and Chris' flight training came to a screeching halt... again.

Demonstrating patience and determi-



nation—qualities that serve one well in flying—Chris was finally able to get back in the airplane this last April and restart training. On June 22, Chris took off in the 172 again, but this time it was different—he was alone for the first time. Chris reports that in many respects the flight was like all the others: he followed checklists and procedures and the three takeoffs and landings on Runway 27 were routine... except for the fact that the right seat was empty and he was on his own. After his last landing he taxied over to the old Wittman terminal where family and friends had been watching. They were immensely proud of Chris for finally fulfilling his lifelong dream of learning to fly.

Like the rest of us, Chris is looking forward to AirVenture 2021 after last year's involuntary hiatus. While it's a safe bet to guess that he won't be doing any more solo flights at the end of the month, once Wittman Regional



gets back to normal in August, Chris will too. Congratulations, Chris... flying an airplane by yourself is a wonderful accomplishment!

### An Update From Chapter Ray Scholar Sonja Karner

Happy summer!

I have an exciting update that I would like to share with you all! For those who don't know me, I am Sonja Karner. I was the Ray Aviation Scholar for Chapter 252 in 2019. I trained with Jamie Pittman at Discover Flight LLC in Oshkosh. On December 6, 2019, I passed my check ride and became a private pilot.

In August 2020, I moved to Grand Forks, ND to attend the University of North Dakota as an undergraduate student studying Commercial Aviation. I began flight training on the fixed-wing side of operations but,

after completing my first course, I decided to switch over to rotary-wing operations and began training in the R -44 Cadets during the spring semester. My flight training experience was amazing and I absolutely loved my CFI. On June 24, I took my FAA checkride with 51.3 rotorcraft hours and I passed! This means I am now a dual-rated private pilot!

I have already started the next flight course, Introduction to Commercial Flying, and have logged 8.6 PIC hours. I plan to continue training throughout the summer. This summer, I also have the incredible opportunity to come to EAA Airventure with UND

as a Student Ambassador! I am super excited to represent UND in my hometown! Please make sure to stop by our UND tent to say hi! I would love to visit with all of you.

Excited to see you all!

Sonja Karner



This is a photograph of me after passing my checkride.

### **EAA Flight Advisors and Technical Counselors**

One of EAA's strongest ideas since its founding in 1953 is that of "member helping member." As we branch out as pilots and builders, it can be quite intimidating to fly a different and unfamiliar type of aircraft or build one without assistance. The EAA Flight Advisor and Technical Counselor programs are designed to assist members by having other, more experienced members work with and advise them.

#### The Flight Advisor program:

What does the flight advisor do?

A flight advisor helps the pilot conduct a self evaluation, as well, as evaluate the flying characteristics of the aircraft. The pilot then uses that evaluation to decide whether he or she is capable of flying that airplane. If not capable, the flight advisor explains where and how he or she can get the proper instruction, or alternatively find someone to make the initial flights. A flight advisor also suggests best practices to follow when flight testing a homebuilt aircraft (e.g. runway selection, weather minimums, etc.)

Can the flight advisor do the flight testing for me?

No, the flight advisor does no flying. The advisor does not fly nor does he actually decide whether or not the pilot is capable of flying the airplane in question. Using his own expertise in the area, the advisor provides the pilot with the pros and cons as they relate to this specific combination of pilot and airplane. The pilot himself makes the final decision on how to proceed with the flight testing program. If a flight advisor flight tests the aircraft, either for free or for a fee, they are acting on their own behalf, and not in their capacity as an EAA flight advisor.

#### The Technical Counselor program:

EAA's Technical Counselors program, developed in 1965, is aimed at providing experienced builders to help you make the right choices during construction. With more than 1000 technical counselors available, and the majority of them associated with a chapter, there is probably a technical counselor right in your area!

What is a technical counselor?

A volunteer aviation education counselor who, when asked to do so by an amateur aircraft builder, shares his knowledge, expertise and experience in order to assist the builder with the project.

How many technical counselor visits should a builder have?

We recommend a minimum of three visits. Tap into this member benefit early in the project to save time, money, and aggravation! Get the peace of mind that can only be had from an experienced builder looking over your work.

What are the qualifications for a technical counselor?

First, one must be an EAA member. We have other qualifications, which are listed below.

- Have built an amateur-built aircraft or ultralight, or
- Have restored an antique/classic aircraft, or be an A&P (other countries equivalents of these ratings are also acceptable), with hands-on experience with any amateur-built aircraft, warbird, or vintage aircraft.

Why does EAA have a technical counselors program?

To ensure that a well-constructed, air-

worthy aircraft is presented to the FAA for final approval. and to encourage the self-help nature of our organization as well as to pass on aviation knowledge to promote safety. We also strive to maintain the excellent reputation that the amateur-built program has earned. The Technical Counselor program has been a very effective way of doing this.

EAA 252 flight advisors are available for assistance to chapter members. See the directory page at the end of the newsletter for areas of expertise and contact information.

### **International Young Eagles Day Rally**



### Carrie Forster Chapter President

We held a Young Eagle Rally for International Young Eagle Day on Saturday, June 12. We used the youngeaglesday.org website for pre registration for this event. We had 40 youth sign up and had 10 pilots flying that morning. The forecast up until the night before had questionable looking weather, but that morning we started out with good VFR flying conditions. Participants signed up for one of three time slots. In the middle of the second time slot, visibility deteriorated and we had to cancel the remainder of the event. We flew 19 participants before we had to cancel. Although everyone was disappointed, many participants stayed around to talk with our volunteer pilots and were able to sit in an aircraft and to learn more about Young Eagles and aviation. We have another event on Saturday, July 10 and all the participants who did not get to fly on June 12 were invited to the July 10 event.

Many thanks to all of our volunteers, both in the air and on the ground. Apologies to any volunteer who spent the morning with us but whose name is missed in our acknowledgement below. An event like this takes many people to make it happen. The pilots were very appreciative of the ground crew helping to make everything run smoothly, and we are very thankful for our crew marshalling aircraft. The Air Traffic Controllers were a huge help, as always, in making this a fun and safe event.



#### Young Eagle Pilots

Hal Bryan

John Forster

David Leiting

Brian O'Lena

Doug Milius

Dennis Moehn

Doug Osterberg

Jim Syverud

Fred Stadler

Kyle Volz

#### **Ground Volunteers**

Jim Cunningham

Wayne Daniels

John Egan

Carrie Forster

Chris Gauger

Bill Haag

Jim Heindl

Tim Hoversten

Don Maki

Chris Marshall

Sarah Marshall







Photos by John Eagen , Jim Cunningham

## **New Terminal Opened at Wittman Regional Airport**



Chapter 252 was well-represented at the ribbon-cutting event of our new terminal on June 30. Nearly a dozen chapter members were on hand for the event, and a vintage Chapter 252 ball cap is on display in the new lobby as part of the exhibit on the airport's history.

From the official announcement: "Construction of the new facility began in July 2020. Despite the pandemic, the \$5.5M project has been completed on time and under budget. This addition to the airport will greatly modernize aviation services and reduce operating and maintenance costs. The new facility also opens in time for the return of EAA AirVenture Oshkosh which is set to be held at Wittman Regional Airport from July 26th to August 1st."



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### June/July 2021 Board Mtg Agenda Thursday, June 17 at 6:00 p.m. Virtual - GoToMeeting

Attending: Carrie Forster (President), Fred Stadler (Treasurer), Charlie Becker (Board Member), Wayne Daniels (Board Member), Jim Casper (Board Member), John Forster (Young Eagle Co-Chair), Doug Milius (Membership Chair), Sarah Marshall, Joe Scheibinger

Old Business:

Ray Aviation Scholarship - Carrie

Lucas is schedule to take his written exam and is preparing for his practical test with Eric

Carrie emailed recent participants of our YE rally who would be eligible to apply for the next Ray Scholarship (there were six) info about the scholarship and how to apply, hasn't heard back from any of them at this point

Monthly Gatherings and Upcoming Events

July - Tour of Basler

Dinner at the chapter hangar at 6:00 pm (note time change)

Annual chapter member photo

Clean up from dinner, then head over to Basler at 6:45 for 7:00 tour

August - looking for ideas

September - Corn Roast (Jim Casper checking on location)

October - Huey Exhibit at the Museum with Chris Henry

Young Eagles Updates

Debrief June 12 rally

10 aircraft, about 12 ground volunteers, marshallers

Had to cancel in the middle due to change in weather (poor visibility)

Flew 19 of 40 who were signed up (2 more flew at Pioneer later in the day)

Pilots and volunteers stayed after event was cancelled to talk to the families who didn't get to fly, many kids got to at least sit in an airplane and ask questions

Provided lunch for volunteers afterward

Schedule make up - July 10

John will create make up event

Will send out to those participants who didn't get to fly

Carrie will submit the event for insurance

September 11

John will create this event

Serena will be in charge of this rally; John and Carrie will be out of state and unable to participate

Carrie will submit the event for insurance

Flying Hamburger Social - Tuesday, August 24

Carrie will contact David Leiting about renewing our food permit

Carrie will write something for the next Pylon, looking for volunteers

Tuesday, August 24 from 5 - 7 pm

Volunteers needed probably starting at 3:00 for food prep and set up

Carrie will submit the event for insurance

September Pancake Breakfast

Carrie will write something for the Pylon, looking for volunteers

Will be at the terminal building

YE rally also

Flying Start Event - Saturday, October 9 in the chapter hangar

Carrie will write something for the Pylon, looking for volunteers

Carrie will submit event for chapter insurance

#### **More New Business:**

Joe Scheibinger approached the board with a proposal to hold the annual Zenith Banquet at the chapter hangar. The Zenith Banquet is held during AirVenture and has been held at the Oshkosh Elks Club for a number of years. The Elks Club lost its employees due to the pandemic. The space is available but they'll have to bring in outside catering. Joe thought perhaps the chapter would be interested in hosting as a fundraiser for the chapter. After much discussion, it was decided that we do not have adequate space or sanitary facilities to host a gathering of this size at this time. Joe suggested the chapter consider it for future years.

2021 Chapter Gatherings	Topic/Presenter	
Thursday, July 8	Tour of Basler Turbo Conversions with Clare Patterson	
July 25 - August 1	AirVenture 2021	
	AirVenture Pancake Breakfast -application request made for Saturday, July 24	
Thursday, August 12	TBD	
Tuesday, August 23	Host Flying Hamburger Social-New Terminal Building	
Thursday, September 9	Corn Roast - Munsil's? Jim Casper checking with Vicki	
Saturday, September 11	Pancake Breakfast/YE Rally New Terminal Building ** Volunteers needed	
Saturday, September 25	Flying Start at the chapter hangar ** volunteers needed	
Thursday, October 14	Chris Henry, Huey, at the museum	
Thursday, November 11	TBD	
Thursday, December 9	TBD	
Saturday, January	Holiday Gathering at the Roxy?	

2020 Board Mtgs	Location	Confirm Date?
June 17 (note date change)	Virtual - GoToMeeting  Chapter members are always welcome to attend board meet-	
July 22	Virtual - GoToMeeting  Chapter members are always welcome to attend board meetings - email <a href="mailto:eaa252@gmail.com">eaa252@gmail.com</a> for link if you'd like to attend.	Week before AirVenture - cancel or keep?
August 26	Virtual - GoToMeeting  Chapter members are always welcome to attend board meetings - email <a href="mailto:eaa252@gmail.com">eaa252@gmail.com</a> for link if you'd like to attend.	
September 23	Virtual - GoToMeeting  Chapter members are always welcome to attend board meetings - email <a href="mailto:eaa252@gmail.com">eaa252@gmail.com</a> for link if you'd like to attend.	
October 28	Virtual - GoToMeeting  Chapter members are always welcome to attend board meetings - email <a href="mailto:eaa252@gmail.com">eaa252@gmail.com</a> for link if you'd like to attend.	
November 25	Virtual - GoToMeeting  Chapter members are always welcome to attend board meetings - email <a href="mailto:eaa252@gmail.com">eaa252@gmail.com</a> for link if you'd like to attend.	Thanksgiving Day - change date
December 23	Virtual - GoToMeeting  Chapter members are always welcome to attend board meetings - email <a href="mailto:eaa252@gmail.com">eaa252@gmail.com</a> for link if you'd like to attend.	

### THE PYLON

Chapter 252 Hangar

817 W 20th Ave Oshkosh, Wisconsin 54902

Find Us Online!

www.eaa252.org

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 Doug Milius or mailed to him at:

Doug Milius 1305 Maricopa Dr. Oshkosh, WI 54904

### Renew your membership online from home at: https://chapters.eaa.org/eaa252/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 <a href="www.252.eaachapter.org">www.252.eaachapter.org</a>. 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 <a href="mailto:ilcun-ni6@yahoo.com">ilcun-ni6@yahoo.com</a>. Submissions received after the 20th will be included at the editor's discretion in the next month or held for a future publication. Submissions in either Word or similar format, and photos in .jpg format are appreciated.

#### **Chapter Officers & Board of Directors**

President: Carrie Forster 920-540-6432 forster@new.rr.com

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Secretary: Serena Kamps av8rharpist@gmail.com

Treasurer: Fred Stadler 920-303-5582 stadler@att.net

Hangar Manager: Jim Kress

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Board Member: Wayne Daniels 920-410-0107 wedan444@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Historian & Board Member: Jim Casper 920-460-0858 jiminoshkosh@gmail.com

Membership: Doug Milius

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Young Eagle Coordinator: Serena Kamps av8rharpist@gmail.com

Eagle Flight Coordinator: Serena Kamps av8rharpist@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor: Jim Cunningham

### **Chapter Technical Counselors and Flight Advisors**

Technical Counselor: Lyle Forsgren, Englewood, FL, 920-589-2060

Skills: Firewall Forward: 2-Stroke, Firewall Forward: 4-Stroke, Firewall Forward: Auto Engine, Sheet Metal - Driven Rivets, Sheet Metal - Pulled Rivets

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

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

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

Skills: Firewall Forward: 4-stroke, Firewall Forward: 2-Stroke, Fireward Forward: VW engine, Fabric Covering, Woodworking, Sheet Metal - Pulled Rivets, Sheet Metal - Driven Rivets, Welding