

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 252 OSHKOSH WISCONSIN

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



Happy New Year!

It is my pleasure to be writing my first president's report for The Pylon, your chapter's monthly newsletter. At the conclusion of 2022, Carrie Forster ended her four-year stint as chapter president. During that time, it was a pleasure to serve as vice president along her side. Thanks to Carrie's dedication, the chapter was able to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, while also growing many chapter youth programs including the RV-12 Teen Build, the Ray Aviation Scholarship, and additional Young Eagles activities. Luckily for the chapter, Carrie will continue to lead many of these same programs.

As for me, I have had the pleasure to meet many, but not all, of the members, volunteers, and friends of EAA Chapter 252. For those I haven't met, I'd like to share a little bit of my aviation story.

ry.

December marked my seven-year anniversary as a staff member at EAA HQ, where I am the current Young Eagles/Eagle Flights Program Manager. I am originally from Kenosha, WI, and my job at EAA is what brought me to the Fox Valley. However, my connection to EAA started in 1994, when at the young age of six-months, my family brought me to "Oshkosh" for the first time. Since that time, I have never missed a convention. To this day, the week of AirVenture is a highlight of my year.

Prior to moving to the area, I attended the University of North Dakota where I received my B.B.A. in Airport Management. While living in Grand Forks, I was an active member of EAA Chapter 1342. I acted as Young Eagles Coordinator for one-year, and then served as chapter president for two-years. My time with chapter 1342 directly led to my job at EAA.

Outside of the chapter, I am also the Vice President of the EAA Employee Flying Club, and regularly fly several of the club aircraft. This includes an RV-6A and RV-12iS (the 2018 One Week Wonder).

My wife Michelle (who I met through EAA) and I now live in Fox Crossing, WI just under the left base leg for runway 30 at KATW. We have a three-year old mutt named Miller who we enjoy most of our free time with. In addition, we are massive fans of the Green Bay Packers and attend a hand full of IndyCar races each year including the Indianapolis 500.

I am very much looking forward to making new aviation friends and helping each of you get the most out of your passion for aviation. Thanks to a rich history of volunteers and supporters, Chapter 252 has already established itself as a strong force in the local aviation community. The commitment from the chapter board is to continue growing the chapter's position as the go-to outlet for aviation enthusiasts in the Fox Valley. Whether your interest is homebuilding, learning to fly, becoming a more proficient pilot, or simply enjoying all things aviation, our goal is to serve you. As always, we are happy to hear feedback. You are welcome to email me directly at davidleiting47@hotmail.com or eaa252@gmail.org.

I look forward to seeing you at an upcoming chapter gathering!

Tailwinds,

David Leiting, EAA Lifetime 579157

**January 12**  
**Chapter Gathering**

**Robert Hackman**  
**EAA Vice President,**  
**Government Affairs**

**Topic: MOSAIC, 100LL**  
**Dinner: 6:30PM**  
**Meeting: 7:00 PM**

**PLEASE BRING A SIDE**  
**DISH OR DESSERT!**

**Inside this issue:**

<b>January Chapter Gathering</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>December Chapter Gathering Report</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>IMC Club</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Chicken Wings Comic</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>RV-12 Teen Build Update</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Homebuilders Week Online</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Member Profile</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Board Minutes</b>	<b>7</b>

### **Save the date!**

*The Chapter 252 Banquet and Awards are scheduled for the evening of February 4. Location has not been finalized when this issue went to press. Watch for more detailed information soon.*

## January Chapter Gathering

### Robert Hackman

#### Vice President, Government Affairs

#### Government Issues: MOSAIC and 100LL

Hackman spent 20 years in regulatory affairs and aviation services at the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, including five years as vice president of regulatory affairs. In that role, he provided oversight and vision for regulatory initiatives across a number of federal agencies. Hackman also led advocacy across a range of aviation issues involving airman and aircraft certification, medical policy, environmental issues, aircraft maintenance, and more. As part of his previous AOPA work, Hackman participated in countless rulemaking and advisory groups, including the General Aviation Joint Steering Committee, Aviation Rulemaking and Advisory Committee, Unleaded Avgas Transition Aviation Rulemaking Committee, and Part 23 Reorganization Aviation Rulemaking Committee. He also holds commercial and airline transport pilot certificates and flight instructor ratings for single and multiengine aircraft, including instrument training.



***Dinner will be Pizza, served at 6:30, with the presentation to follow at 7:00 PM. Please bring a dessert or side dish!***

## December Chapter Gathering Report



Members enjoyed hearing from EAA's Chris Henry about EAA museum aircraft that have left EAA's collection over the years, including one of two surviving Ju-87B Stukas, which is now on display at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.





# IMC Club



We are currently looking for a coordinator for the IMC Club. Responsibilities include booking the location for events, emailing event information, coordinating food, and coordinating with a chapter CFI to facilitate the meeting. Contact any chapter officer if interested.

About a dozen pilots braved the -25 wind chill weather and attended the chapter's second reestablished IMC Club December meeting at the EAA Pilot Proficiency Center. Longtime chapter member and CFI Fred Stadler led the group through a scenario involving a pitot static system malfunction. Attendees discussed considerations, options, and decision-making over pizza.

### Next Chapter 252 IMC Club Meeting

Tuesday, January 17, 6:00 PM at the Wittman Regional Airport terminal conference room (note location change from previous meetings).

525 W 20th Ave  
Oshkosh, WI 54902



## CHICKEN WINGS®

www.chickenwingscomics.com



BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER

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



## RV-12 Teen Build Progress

Our chapter RV-12 Teen Build project is going very well! Members have been attending regularly and as can be seen here are making good progress. The fuselage and related components are coming together nicely.



# Homebuilders Week – Online Event Starts January 23

**Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager**

EAA will be hosting our third annual Homebuilders Week online learning event for aircraft builders:

([www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek)). It will be five straight days of educational forums covering a broad spectrum of aircraft building topics. It will start on Monday, January 23, 2023, and run until Friday, January 27, 2023. The live online presentations will be open to everyone interested in building their own aircraft. Sessions will start at 11:30 a.m. CST and run until 8:30 p.m. CST daily.

This event is an opportunity for a new person to jump in with both feet and learn a lot about the wonderful world

of homebuilding. We will cover areas like getting started successfully and techniques when building with sheet metal, composites, steel, and wood. But it won't be just for the newbie; we are offering in-depth talks on panel planning, engine selection, FAA certification, flight testing, and selling a homebuilt aircraft. There will be something for every builder, whether you are just starting out, knee deep in a project, or just received your airworthiness certificate — it is going to be a great learning opportunity.

EAA is working with industry experts, kit manufacturers, and other subject matter experts to provide top-notch material for builders. The sessions will be live and allow time for attendee questions. Recordings will be ar-

chived and available to EAA members for review.

EAA Homebuilders Week coincides with the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Experimental Aircraft Association in 1953. Those founding members of EAA lit the fuse on the homebuilt movement that provides affordable access to aircraft ownership and today has spread worldwide.

EAA Homebuilders Week is possible through the generous sponsorships of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co., Dynon, Scheme Designers, Inc., and Van's Aircraft, Inc.

Visit [EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek) to review the schedule and sign up for a session.

## Homebuilders Week Schedule

January 23 - 27, 2023

All Time Central

[www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek)

CST	Monday 1/23/2023	Tuesday 1/24/2023	Wednesday 1/25/2023	Thursday 1/26/2023	Friday 1/27/2023
11:30-12:45	Building an Aircraft: What You Need to Know- Charlie Becker	Composite Construction Basics- Mark Forss	Top Five Project Killers- Lisa Turner	EAA's Homebuilt Movement: Past Accomplishments and Future Opportunities -Jack Pelton & Charlie Becker	Amatuer Built Aircraft Certification Process-Joe Norris
1:00-2:15	Wiring Basics - Dick Koehler	Buying a Used Homebuilt- Vic Syracuse	Flight Testing Basics-Gary Baker	Lycoming Engine Installation - Dave Prizio	Working with Wood 101- John Egan
2:30-3:45	TIG Welding-Charlie Becker & Earl Luce	The REAL Culprit in HB Accidents- Ron Wanttaja	Zenith Aircraft Kits & Plans- Sebastien Heintz	Panel Planning-Stein Bruch	Advocacy Update: MOSAIC, Fuels & More - Tom Charpentier & Rob Hackman
4:00-5:15	Sonex Aircraft & AeroConversions Products- Mark Schaible	Fabric Covering Basics - Mark Forss	Advanced Flight Systems- Rob Hickman	Garmin Experimental Avionics Solutions- Brad Brening	Plans Built Aircraft: The Affordable Option-Tim Hoversten
5:30-6:45	Sheet Metal Basics - Mark Forss	Dynon Avionics-Michael Schofield	Gas Welding -Budd Davisson	Choosing Wheels & Brakes- George Happ	Van's New High-Wing RV-15-Greg Hughes
7:00-8:15	Kit Selection - Paul Dye	Van's RV Aircraft Kits-Greg Hughes	Finding an Engine for Your Homebuilt-Mike Busch	Painting Your Plane: DIY or Use an Expert?-Craig Barnett & Ken Reese	Maintenance Horror Stories - Vic Syracuse

To sign up, visit:

[www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek)



## Attention: Published Roster Info

**By Charlie Becker, Membership Coordinator (sonex450@gmail.com or 920-573-3381)**

Starting in February, we will distribute the chapter roster in a PDF file to current members with the goal of helping new and existing members get to know each other better. It will allow members to put a face with a name, know what air-

**Becker, Charlie & Theresa**  
3975 Sharratt  
Oshkosh, WI 54901  
Cell: 920-573-3381  
sonex450@gmail.com

**Ratings:** PPL SEL, Tailwheel, TIG Welder  
**Aircraft Owned:** WagAero Cuby, Sonex  
**Aircraft Projects:** Pirate Cub, EMG-6  
**Aircraft Built:** Sonex, Zenith CH750  
Cruzer, Zenith CH750 STOL



craft projects & aircraft they own and be aware of pilot ratings and other skills of note. Here is an example of the information that will appear in each person's entry:

If you DO NOT want us to share your address, phone or email, just let me know and I will mark it private in our database and it will not export to the shareable roster.

If you would like me to update any of the following fields, just email me the info.

Spouse's name:

License/Ratings/Skills:

Aircraft Owned:

Aircraft Project:

Aircraft Built:

Do you want to be on the IMC Club mailing list?

Also, if I haven't taken your photo in the past, please email/text me a "mugshot" photo (closer the better). If you don't have a photo, no problem and I'll take one at the next meeting.

## Member Profile: John Forster

Ask what got Chapter 252's new Vice President interested in aviation, and he answers without hesitation: "July 20, 1969!"

John likes to joke that "I didn't get too far in my life"—he was born in Kaukauna and still lives there along with his wife Carrie who recently stepped down as chapter president after serving in that capacity for four years.

After high school John went to the Milwaukee School of Engineering where he studied electrical engineering. John returned to Kaukauna a year after graduating to take a position with Baisch Engineering and stayed with the company for 36 years before retiring!

John grew up in the time of the Space Race and had space models, Major Matt Mason, and books. (John and your newsletter editor got sidetracked while preparing for this article discussing Major Matt Mason toys.) John, like millions of other kids, dreamed of becoming an astronaut. He later considered opportunities with the US Naval Academy to possibly fly jets, but ultimately went to college and started a family and career before circling back to aviation. "I always had the bug and the interest; I just didn't have the time."

By 1995 John had attended AirVenture and decided it was time to learn to fly. He went to Max Air in Appleton and began lessons. After getting his license, it wasn't easy keeping current. Joining the Winnebago Flying Club brought consistency. "Then my darling wife made the mistake of saying 'Hey maybe we should get our own airplane!' Then when she started learning to fly, that was the big thing." They bought a Piper Archer which over time they've upgraded with a new engine and a new panel. With both John and Carrie now retired, they plan to fly more than in the past, and John is working on an instrument rating.

It's no surprise that John became interested in homebuilding given his proximity to Oshkosh, and not long after earning his license he bought a kit for a KIS TR-4 Cruiser. The four-place airplane was a new design from a new company. After making some progress on the kit, other responsibilities beckoned, the manufacturer shut down, and John realized that a smaller, simpler homebuilt would be more practical. He sold the TR-4 and, along with daughter Jessica, bought Sonex kits. Jessica now has a young family of her own, but with her dad now retired plans are being formulated to combine both their kits and a B model upgrade and complete an airplane.

The Forster Archer got a hangar mate a few years ago—a Citabria, which Jessica flies. John enjoys family flying outings, even if it means that he only gets to fly a third of the time.

John is also working on another flying machine... since retiring he has gotten back to his roots and rediscovered model rocketry. He always wanted an Estes Saturn V model rocket kit, and now he has one. Liftoff is expected later this year.

John has given back to aviation though Chapter 252 for many years, where his new position of Vice President is just his latest officer position. John has been our Young Eagles Coordinator



(with Carrie) and is also (again with Carrie) a leader in the chapter RV-12 teen build program. In spite of his employer's best efforts to keep him from retiring and enduring several call-backs, John is now free, and we expect to see him at the chapter even more in 2023.

# December 2022 Board Meeting Agenda

EAA Chapter 252

Thu, December 22, 2022 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CST)

**Attending:** Carrie Forster, David Leiting, Fred Stadler, Christopher Gauger, Jim Cunningham, John Forster, Jim Casper, Charlie Becker, Doug Milius, Wayne Daniels, Eric Abraham

## Monthly Gatherings

January 13, 2023:

Rob Hackman, EAA VP of Government & Advocacy, will present. Charlie will confirm his availability.

Pizza again for the meal. Jim Casper will pick it up. We ordered 12 pizzas last time.

## Ray Aviation Scholarship

Chapter application for 2023 completed and submitted.

Application process: Candidates will be interviewed by scholarship committee (David, Wayne, Jim Cunningham) on January 21.

## Air Academy

Need someone for Advanced Air Academy age group. Will offer to member of the teen build group. Young Eagle Credits from this year used to pay part of Air Academy reservation.

## IMC Club

Meeting on December 20 at the EAA Education Center. 13 attendees, including Fred leading discussion.

Still need a coordinator. Should lay out responsibilities so people know what they're getting into:

Email reminders for event.

Book event location.

Make sure food is provided (coordinator does not have to cook the food).

Coordinate which CFI will present that month.

Need to decide on frequency of meetings. Do a few more monthly meetings to decide on sticking with monthly schedule, or making it bimonthly.

Invite more CFIs to contribute to discussions.

Food a necessity for an evening meeting.

Move meetings to Wittman terminal or chapter hangar? Chapter hangar would be convenient if we cook food for meeting; beverages available. Attendees can see the teen build project. Could alternate locations throughout the year (terminal during cold months, chapter hangar during warm months).

January 17, 2023 Meeting:

Move to Wittman terminal. Book for January, February, and March. Chris Gauger will contact terminal to book events. Carrie will make Facebook events for each meeting.

David can provide food for January meeting.

Carrie will file chapter insurance request; recurring for January-March.

Jim Cunningham will facilitate discussion for this meeting.

February 21, 2023 Meeting:

Need to find a CFI for discussion (Fred and Jim Cunningham will be out of state).

## Teen Build/RV-12

December 21 (last night's) session: Worked on tail cone assembly. Kids got a lot done. Biggest challenge remains attendance and communication about attendance. Usually 4-5 kids per build session, but room for a couple more.



Kids becoming more independent in construction, letting adults stand aside.

Carrie will provide monthly update for newsletter now that she won't be president in 2023.

Inventory completed 12/7/2022. Some parts were missing from RV-12 kit, totaling \$882.20. Wheel pants are the bulk of the missing items. Will have to order missing parts from Van's. Chapter will pay for parts; Fred will track the transactions.

Hand tools donated by Auto Plus from Fond du Lac for the project.

EAA Chapter insurance filed for teen build sessions through November 2023.

#### Hangar Updates

Jim Casper set up scaffolding and laid out pattern for hangar lights. Ready to go for electrical work.

Kyle Voltz put up banner and is doing more reorganizing.

#### Wi-Fi

Equipment ordered by Charlie and has arrived. Reimbursement arrived in chapter bank account.

Need to pick a data-only plan. We would need a sim card for our router.

Still looking for hangar committee members.

#### Awards Banquet and Chapter Awards/Spirit of ELO

February 4, 2023 for the awards banquet.

#### Potential restaurants:

Pullmans in Appleton. David reached out, no reply yet.

Holidays in Neenah. Has upstairs banquet rooms we can use for free.

Mile High Pub in Oshkosh. Has a basement banquet room.

TJ's Harbor south of Oshkosh. Has more than just bar food: buffet-style, suitable menu. Has a separate dining room. Wayne will check on this.

Attendance: anticipate 25-45 people, unlikely to be more than 50.

#### Spirit of ELO Award

Board selected the recipient of the 2023 award and will contact the recipient soon.

Doug suggested presenting Spirit of Elo award at July chapter gathering since we have the largest crowd there.

Doug made motion for moving Spirit of Elo presentation to July. Jim Casper seconded. All board members voted in favor.

We will keep presenting chapter service awards at banquet, but present Spirit of Elo at July gathering.

#### Chapter Membership

David and Charlie discussed changing the membership structure.

Keep \$20 per primary adult member, but if you want to add a spouse, it's \$10 per spouse. Helps pay for their member nametag. Spouse only counted as member if spouse membership fee is paid. Will be called Family Membership.

Student members: 12-26 years old get free membership, \$10 one-time fee for nametag, "free" renewal per year until age 26.

Under 12 years old: free membership, but no nametag.

Some teen build members have joined chapter, but not all have yet.

New membership structure adopted by board members.

#### Miscellaneous

##### Newsletter

Continue emailing to expired members with reminder that their chapter membership is expired?

Stick with business as usual for now. Will return to this matter after drive to renew chapter memberships in early 2023.

Chapter no longer able to provide lunch for SportAir Workshop in Oshkosh due to change of EAA's food policy at its facilities.

Monthly Gatherings:

EAA Chapter insurance filed for monthly gatherings through November 2023.

<b>2023 Chapter Gatherings</b>	<b>Topic/Presenter</b>
Thursday, January 13	Rob Hackman New EAA VP of Government Affairs Based in DC but will be in OSH for the January meeting. Will talk about fuels, MOSAIC, and other issues.
Thursday, February 10	TBD
Thursday, March 10	TBD
Thursday, April 14	TBD
Saturday, April 22	Pancake Breakfast & YE Rally
Thursday, May 12	TBD
Saturday, May 20	Flying Start
Thursday, June 8	TBD
Saturday, June 10	International YE Day
Thursday, July 13	TBD
Thursday, August 10	TBD
Thursday, September 14	Annual Corn Roast
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.eeachapter.org](http://www.252.eeachapter.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.

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

President: David Leiting, Jr.  
262-914-4278  
[davidleiting47@hotmail.com](mailto:davidleiting47@hotmail.com)

Vice-President: John Forster  
920-540-6481  
[forster@new.rr.com](mailto:forster@new.rr.com)

Secretary: Christopher Gauger  
[gaugdog711@gmail.com](mailto:gaugdog711@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Fred Stadler  
920-303-5582  
[stadler@att.net](mailto:stadler@att.net)

Hangar Manager: Jim Kress  
920-233-5660  
[jim.kress@att.net](mailto:jim.kress@att.net)

Past-President: Charlie Becker  
920-573-3381  
[sonex450@gmail.com](mailto:sonex450@gmail.com)

Board Member:  
Wayne Daniels  
920-410-0107  
[wedan444@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wedan444@sbcglobal.net)

Chapter Historian & Board Member:  
Jim Casper  
920-460-0858  
[jiminoshkosh@gmail.com](mailto:jiminoshkosh@gmail.com)

Board Member  
Eric Abraham  
[ericabraham2@gmail.com](mailto:ericabraham2@gmail.com)

Membership: Charlie Becker  
920-573-3381  
[sonex450@gmail.com](mailto:sonex450@gmail.com)

Young Eagle Coordinators:  
Carrie Forster  
920-540-6432  
[forster@new.rr.com](mailto:forster@new.rr.com)

John Forster  
920-540-6481  
[forster@new.rr.com](mailto:forster@new.rr.com)

Eagle Flight Coordinators:  
Carrie Forster  
920-540-6432  
[forster@new.rr.com](mailto:forster@new.rr.com)

John Forster  
920-540-6481  
[forster@new.rr.com](mailto:forster@new.rr.com)

Newsletter Editor:  
Jim Cunningham  
[jlcunni6@yahoo.com](mailto:jlcunni6@yahoo.com)

### **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

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

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