

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF EAA CHAPTER 252 OSHKOSH WISCONSIN

President's Report— David Leiting, Jr.



Aviation's greatest month is finally upon us! It is July in Oshkosh, and although the convention doesn't begin until Monday, July 24, there is a month-long build-up to the festivities. Our chapter is incredibly lucky to get a front row seat to set up, and simply stroll across the airport to enjoy all that AirVenture has to offer.

Many of the out-of-town volunteers have begun to arrive. Rumor has it that opening day at Camp Scholler was one of the busiest in recent memory. Volunteers have been busy around the convention grounds preparing for the hundreds of thousands of aviation enthusiasts that are inbound to Oshkosh.

You'll likely see a number of these volunteers at the July chapter gathering. I encourage you to take the time to chat with these folks. It is a great opportunity to meet EAAers from around the country and make some new aviation friends.

Speaking of the July chapter gathering, we will run things a bit differently from traditional gatherings. Basler Turbo Conversions has invited us in for a tour of their facilities. I won't spoil the fun, but there are some fun aircraft that we will be able to check out! The tour begins at 6:00 p.m., so please arrive at Basler Turbo Conversions at 5:50 p.m. sharp.

Following the tour, we will head back to the chapter hangar at 7:00 p.m. for a dinner of brats and hotdogs. This is also when we plan to take the annual chapter membership photo.

Although this is an exciting month, I'd like to quickly reflect on a busy spring for EAA Chapter 252. June marked one of the busiest Young Eagles months for the chapter in quite some time. Under the leadership of John and Carrie Forster, the chapter flew nearly 90 Young Eagles at three different rallies. These events earned the chapter approximately \$900 in Young Eagles credits, and helped several chapter pilots meet EAA's 30 Young Eagles for 30 Years challenge.

The RV-12 Teen Build continues to progress very nicely, as you will see at the July chapter gathering. Through the recent Young Eagles activities, I've had the opportunity to get to know a number of these youth, and I am so impressed with their commitment to aviation. They are truly making the most of the opportunity.

Now, it is on to AirVenture. I hope you can soak in these next few weeks and recharge your aviation batteries.

Tailwinds,

David Leiting, EAA Lifetime 579157

July 13 Chapter Gathering

Tour of Basler Turbo Conversions

Tour At Basler Turbo Conversions: 5:50 PM Sharp!
Meeting At Chapter Hangar and Dinner: 7:00 PM

PLEASE BRING A SIDE DISH OR DESSERT

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July Chapter Gathering



Our July gathering is one you don't want to miss— a tour of Basler Turbo Conversions! Basler has a very unique business of modifying DC-3s/C-47s into modern turboprop aircraft for a variety of uses. They also restore those models in their original configurations, including warbirds. Chapter member and Basler Turbo Conversions Administrative Assistant Sarah Marshall and reports that “we will have two brand-new conversions ready for delivery (#s 68 & 69), one nearly complete (#70) and one that has yet to begin.” There may also be another non-DC-3/C-47 hangar resident in attendance we can see... you'll have to wait until the tour to learn more about that!

***Please arrive at Basler Turbo by 5:50 PM. Our tour will begin at 6:00 PM sharp!
Anyone arriving even shortly after 6 PM may not be able to access the facility or join the tour!***

**Basler Turbo Conversions is located at 255 W 35th Ave,
Oshkosh, WI 54902.**

Minors must be accompanied by an adult for this event.

Upon completion of our tour, we will move to the chapter hangar for dinner and our business meeting.



May Chapter Gathering Report

Chapter members enjoyed hearing from fellow member and EAA Museum Manager Chris Henry talk about his research into MASH units in Korea. Chris discovered that a WWII P-38 pilot he was interviewing later served as a helicopter pilot for a MASH unit. Chris gave us the history of how MASH units were created and operated, the real MASH unit the surgeon who served in it based his novel on and the personnel who were the basis for the characters.



RV-12 Teen Build - Landing Spot Discussion

**August 8 at 6pm
Chapter 252 Hangar**

Dedicated volunteers and high school teens from EAA Chapter 252 are building an RV-12iS. This project has brought great energy to the chapter! However, the chapter is al-

ready at the stage of considering what to do with the aircraft once it is completed, since the chapter cannot own a flying aircraft. One consideration is to sell the aircraft to a separate non-profit flying club, where the aircraft can be used for flight training and recreational flying.

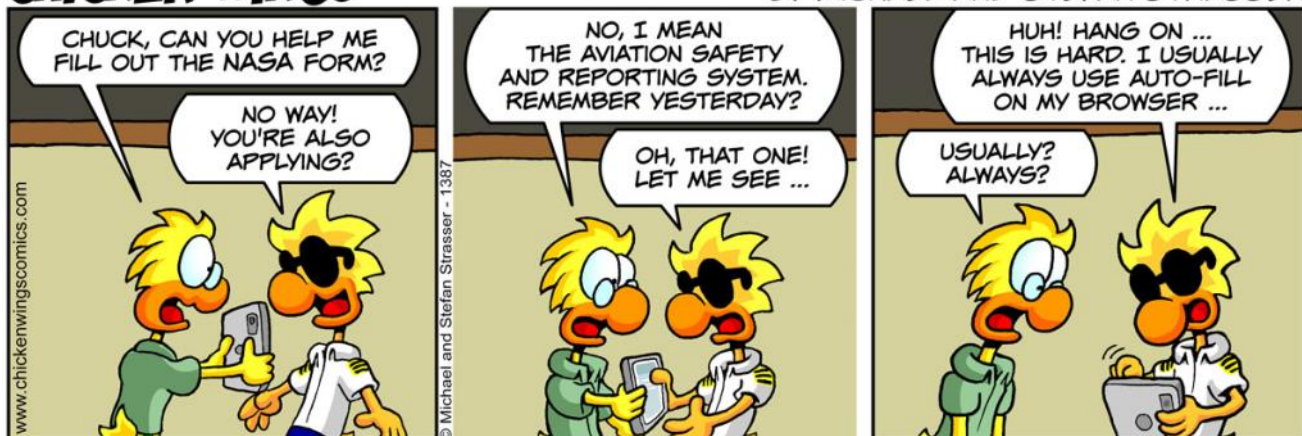
Join us on Tuesday, August 8, at 6pm at the Chapter Hangar for an informal open house to discuss a potential landing spot for the aircraft. If you've been interested in joining a local flying club or buying a share in a brand new aircraft, then this meeting is for you!



EAA RV-12 file photo (the chapter 252 teen build airplane isn't built yet !)

CHICKEN WINGS®

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



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

Wittman Regional Airport - Turf Operations Area Description and Operational

Cameron Hallock
Deputy Director,

Wittman Regional Airport

Revised 6/29/2022

DESCRIPTION: The Wittman Regional Airport hosts a Turf Operations Area (TOA) for pilots that prefer to operate off of grass when conditions and other limitations permit. The TOA is not an officially designated turf runway, it is simply a grass area for takeoffs and landings.

The TOA will be in operation between April 1 and July 4, and then from August 4 through November 30 annually, as conditions allow. The TOA is on the south side of Runway 9-27, adjacent and parallel to the approach end of Runway 9. It's approximately 2,250 feet long by 60 feet wide, and its boundaries are contained within the runway safety area of Runway 9/27. See the attached diagram.

OPERATIONS: Simultaneous aircraft operations will not be permitted on the TOA while other runways are in use. Simultaneous aircraft operations on the TOA and Pioneer Airport will also not be permitted.

Wittman Regional Airport Management may close the TOA at any time due to water saturation, snow accumulation, or other conditions that would prohibit safe turf operations for aircraft. ATC can deny requests for use of the TOA based on current air traffic operations/complexity.

Departures - Aircraft will enter and exit the TOA by instruction from ATC and pilots will be instructed to

cross Runway 9-27 and then cleared for takeoff from the TOA.

Departing to the east: Pilots planning to depart to the east will obtain taxi clearance from ATC and request the use of TOA. Expect taxi instructions to Taxiway B1. Pilots will call that they are ready for departure. Once ATC has authorized the aircraft to cross Runway 9, pilots will taxi from the hard surface into the grass, using extreme caution to avoid all runway and taxiway lighting. ATC will then issue a takeoff clearance.

Departing to the west: Pilots planning to depart to the west will obtain taxi clearance from ATC and request the use of TOA. Expect taxi instructions to Taxiway B3. Pilots will call that they are ready for departure. Once ATC has authorized the aircraft to cross Runway 27, pilots will taxi from the hard surface into the grass, using extreme caution to avoid all runway and taxiway lighting. ATC will then issue a takeoff clearance.

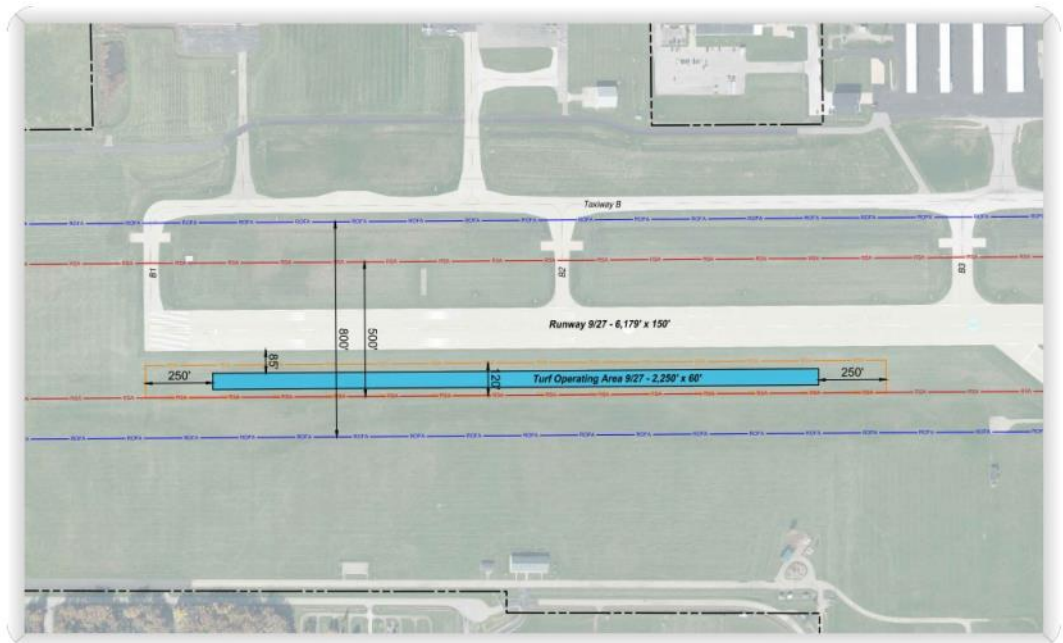
Arrivals - Pilots will call ATC as usual prior to entering the Class D airspace and re-

quest landing on the TOA. ATC will provide a landing clearance.

Landing to the east: After touchdown and rollout, plan to cross Runway 9 once instructed by ATC and exit onto the nearest intersecting taxiway. Use extreme caution to avoid all runway and taxiway lighting. Once off Runway 9, contact Ground for continued taxi as usual. Do not enter Runway 13-31. Page 2 of 2

Landing to the west: After touchdown and rollout, plan to cross Runway 27 once instructed by ATC and exit onto the nearest intersecting taxiway. Use extreme caution to avoid all runway and taxiway lighting. Once off Runway 27, contact Ground for continued taxi as usual.

EMERGENCIES An emergency on the TOA will be treated the same as on any other surface at Wittman Regional Airport. In the event of an emergency, Wittman Regional Airport will temporarily close the TOA and Runway 9- 27. Aircraft will return to normal operations on an alternate designated runway.



Attachment A: Runway Alternate Operations Area



Two Chapter Young Eagle Rallies a Success

Carrier Forster **Young Eagle Coordinator**

We've been very busy with Young Eagles so far in 2023. We've had five planned rallies, with only one of them being canceled due to bad weather. We've flown 139 youth in four rallies.

We held three Young Eagle Rallies in June. The first was a private rally for members of our Teen Aircraft Build, held on Wednesday, June 7 during our usual build session time. We flew out of our chapter hangar. It turned out to be a beautiful summer evening for our seven volunteer pilots to give flights to the seven members of our teen group who were available to participate. (One of our members is 18 and participated in our Flying Start program and got an Eagle Flight at that event.) These teens have been working since August on our RV-12iS project and we wanted to give them a chance to get in the air. David Leiting brought the EAA Flying Club's RV-12iS, which was the One Week Wonder aircraft in 2018 and is the same aircraft that the teens are currently building. All of these teens have had Young Eagle flights before and all are interested in learning to fly; a few of them are currently taking flying lessons. We tried to give them an extra special flight experience.

Thanks to our June 7 volunteer pilots:

Eric Abraham
Ethan Beswick
John Forster
Gary Geisler
David Leiting
Dennis Moehn
Fred Stadler

On Saturday, June 10 we held a rally in celebration of International Young

Eagles Day. This rally was held in conjunction with the Warbirds Squadron 32 Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast. We flew 47 youths that day. Just over half were first time flyers, and a third of the youth were girls.

Thanks to our June 10 pilots:

Eric Abraham
Daniel DeDeker
Al Fisher
John Forster
Gary Geisler
Ed Jeziorney
Doug Osterberg
John Powalisz
Mike Spurlock

Thanks to our June 10 ground and ramp volunteers:

Andrew Berger
Heather Berger
Jim Cunningham
Carrie Forster
Chris Gauger
Jim Heindl
David Leiting
Michelle Leiting
Allison Mischler
Katie Tyriver
Ben Van Handel

In honor of the 30th Anniversary of the Young Eagles program, we held another rally in June. This rally was held at the Wittman Regional Airport terminal building and was a stand alone Young Eagle event. The weather was hazy due to the Canadian wildfires, a condition we've experienced a lot this summer, but was adequate for VFR flights. We flew 35 youths at this

event. Once again, about half of the group consisted of first time flyers.

Thanks to our June 24 pilots:

Jim Cunningham
Daniel DeDeker
Chris Gauger
John Forster
David Leiting
Tom Otte

Thanks also to our June 24 ground and ramp volunteers:

Andrew Berger
Heather Berger
Carrie Forster
Jim Heindl
Patty Ramsdell
Katie Tyriver

Our next Young Eagle Rally will be on Saturday, September 16 as part of our fall Pancake Breakfast. We typically hold three big rallies each year: at our pancake breakfasts in April and September, and on International Young Eagles Day in June. We have been expanding our offerings and will be supporting the Girls on the Fly program in October by offering YE flights to those participants.

Are you interested in volunteering for Young Eagles with our chapter? Ask me how you can get involved. Pilots can fly as part of rallies, or individually. We get individual requests for flights and then send out emails to our list of volunteer pilots to see who is available. You are also welcome to set up YE flights on your own. (Learn more about becoming a Young Eagle pilot [HERE](#).) I can help you get YE materials, teach you how to use the YE website to arrange individual flights, and help you with tips on working with the youth to make it a great flight experience. Some pilots aren't sure what all the benefits of the YE pro-

gram are, or aren't quite sure what to say to the kids before and during the flight. I can help with that.

We are also in need of additional ground and ramp volunteers. Ramp volunteers marshal aircraft and we can teach you how to do that. Ground volunteers help with registration, greeting families, and escorting families safely to and from aircraft. We need 10 - 15 ground and ramp volunteers at a rally, especially the busy ones that happen with our pancake breakfasts.

We would love to offer some additional activities on the ground for the youth while they are waiting for their flights, or for younger siblings who are too young to fly, but we don't have enough volunteers to provide that at this time. If that sounds like something you'd like to be a part of, please let me know.

Did you know that our chapter earns YE credits for every YE flight flown, whether at a rally or by an individual pilot? Through the upcoming AirVenture, credits are \$10 per flight (normally it is \$5 per flight) and credits can be used by chapters to support youth and YE events. We are using our credits for two Air Academy Scholarships this summer where the chapter is paying 75% of the tuition for two recipients. We have also used credits to purchase tools for our Teen Aircraft Build project, and iPads and laptop that we use at YE rallies. We have plans to purchase restaurant style pagers to use at upcoming rallies and will use our credits for that.

Photos by Heather Berger



Chapter RV-12 Teen Update

Carrie Forster
Lead Volunteer

Our Teen Aircraft Build group has been meeting every Wednesday evening from 6 - 9 pm since last August. We held our last session for the season on June 28 and will resume building in mid to late August (exact date TBD).

We currently have a roster of 9 teens working on the aircraft. We've been making great progress on the tail assembly and wings. You can see our work in progress when you come to a chapter gathering and also follow our progress on our chapter Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/EAA252> or the electronic builders log <https://eaabuilderslog.org?s=EAA252RV12>

In August I'll be reaching out to our current group to ask for a commitment for the upcoming school year. Once I know if everyone is coming back, I'll know if we have room to add any additional members. If you know someone who is interested, they can contact me in August (planecarrie@gmail.com) and I can let them know if we have any open spots or add them to a waitlist. Youth must be high school age (grades 9 - 12) and be available on Wednesday evenings. They don't need to live in Oshkosh, but must be willing and able to attend build sessions at our chapter hangar. Our current group consists of students from Oshkosh, Menasha, and Kaukauna.

Many thanks to our dedicated volunteers who come each week to work with the teens; we could not do this without you.

Lead Volunteers:

Eric Abraham
Carrie Forster
John Forster
Dennis Moehn

Additional Volunteers:

Jim Casper
Chuck Eichinger
Gary Geisler
Dennis Winkel

Participating Youth:

Andrew Berger
Rusty Everhard
Josh Grindle

Ike Langkau
Rhys Leitl
Alayna McKinnon
Noah Merten
Isaac Moore
Connor Schwartz



Chapter Members Solo

Congratulations to Cameron on her first solo at Kylie's Cub Air Flight on July 4. Her twin sister Madison soloed on July 8. Cameron is the recipient of the Ray Foundation Scholarship for EAA Chapter 572 and the Kylie Murray Memorial Scholarship, and both Cameron and Madison are also members of EAA Chapter 252.

From Kylie's Cub Air Flight at Hartford Airport:

James Ray Scholarship & Kylie Murray Memorial Scholarship Student Solos on the 4th of July!

The morning began with a light westerly breeze, but that didn't phase Cameron Rucinski. After several takeoffs and landings, CFI Steve Krog exited the Piper J3 Cub much to Cameron's surprise and told her to make three more takeoffs and landings. Cameron, usually calm and quite focused, asked, "Are you sure?" She taxied to runway 36 and away she went. Mom, Jodi, was there to witness all three landings, while sister Madison was flying in another Cub at the time.

Congratulations to you Cameron from all of us at Cub Air Flight!



Chapter RV-12 Teen Build Featured on WFRV News

Our RV-12 Teen Build was featured on WFRV news on June 29. The segment featured footage of our chapter hangar and project volunteers and participating youth. You can watch the segment online at <https://www.wearegreenbay.com/news/local-news/ea-teen-build-program-teaches-kids-how-to-build-airplane/>



EAA Chapter 252

June 2023 Board Meeting Agenda

June 22, 2023 at 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CDT)

Attending: David Leiting, John Forster, Christopher Gauger, Fred Stadler, Carrie Forster, Jim Cunningham, Charlie Becker, Wayne Daniels

Membership Report - Charlie

161 members. Gained a few more at the May gathering, including Flying Start attendees from this year's event and from FS event a few years ago.

Treasurer's Report - Fred

84,000 in the bank

Liabilities:

\$8,200 from Ray Foundation to spend on Ike and Alayna

Scholarship money from spring pancake breakfast to match Rusty: \$3,200.

That means \$72,000 left over, of which \$61,000 is in a CD.

Monthly Gatherings - David

July - Basler Tour

Two newest BT-67s will be in the facility, plus maybe a Wisk EVTOL in town for AirVenture.

6 PM tour, then 7 PM meal at chapter hangar.

Food: Pizza or Sandwich Board. David will take care of the food. He might grill hot dogs depending on the weather.

Will be larger group than usual due to out-of-town visitors for AirVenture.

Chapter group photo: We could do it at either Basler hangar or at chapter hangar, or both locations.

August - Weeks Tour

Confirmation from EAA for tour. Details to be determined.

Food: TBD. Meal at chapter hangar.

Young Eagles - Carrie/John

June 7 – YE flights for teen build members. Turned out great.

June 10 – IYED debrief

47 Young Eagles flown (out of 61 who signed up). 9 pilots. Half of the kids were first-time YE's. Weather and tower cooperated.

EAA Photo/Visual got footage for Young Eagle promos.

Some issues with YEDay digital signature app, but that was a nationwide issue with the app. All our data eventually got synced.

June 24

49 kids signed up (expect ~80% will show up). 5 pilots. 5+ ground volunteers.

Weather forecast looks good. KOSH tower notified.

Look into getting restaurant-style pagers to notify kids when their flights are ready. Based on idea from EAA chapter in Maryland.

Can use Young Eagles Credits for this.

Ray Aviation Scholarship/Other Scholarships - Carrie/David

Ike scheduled checkride for July 6.

Jim Cunningham did mock oral exam with Ike for the checkride.

Alayna back from school trip to Germany and resuming training. Lightspeed Zulu 3 headset arrived. She'll be at chapter gathering in August, so we'll celebrate her solo and headset awarding there.

Rusty started flight training with CFI Doug Osterberg at Brennand. Plans to stick around in local area for next year or two at least.

Might be able to receive a Ray Scholarship. Waiting for update from EAA HQ on that.

Hangar Updates - David

Wi-Fi

Tried multiple adapters to find the exact size needed for our router and SIM card.

Cellcom account activated. On hold until hardware setup is completed. Got 6 months to complete setup.
Monthly bill \$15 after it goes online.

Hangar Rental

Bally Bomber should be moved out for convention and is not expected to return to our hangar.

Chapter hangar open to being used for aircraft storage during AirVenture. Easier to work with a company than an individual.

AirVenture Wristbands

Since we held a Flying Start event in May, EAA HQ sent us two free weekly admission wristbands for AirVenture this year. We could try to swap them with EAA HQ for 14 daily passes.

Chapter receiving more free wristbands due to our chapter hangar being used as tenant space for AirVenture (about 6 wristbands?).

Wayne has two free daily wristbands to give away.

Need to find recipients for wristbands and how to give them away (raffle?). Find deserving people (e.g. parents of teen build members?).

Teen Build/RV-12 Updates - Carrie/John

June 28 will be last build session until late August.

Build is going very well. Working on fuel tank, tail cone, carry-through spar, and other parts. Lots of progress being made.

Discussed options for instrument panel. Wait until the fuselage is more complete before purchasing electronics.

Landing spot: Organize separate meeting to discuss what to do with the completed RV-12. Have open house at the chapter hangar for interested parties.

August 8, 2023 at 6 PM at the chapter hangar.

There will be no board meeting in July 2023 due to AirVenture.

Monthly Gatherings:

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:

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. 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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Skills: Tailwheel