



# Above it All

May 2024

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 327 - DUBUQUE IA USA  
www.327eaachapter.org www.facebook.com/EAA327/

## From The Desk of the President

Dear members,

It was a gorgeous Monday in early May for flying. Doug needed to work on his currency so we can go on a flying destination trip soon, so here I am, soaking up the sun along with dandelions with a front row seat of my own personal air show.

That reminds me – about our SIM’s we have at the hangar available to all members! Work on your skills, and currency. Check out the article later in this newsletter by Kevin Bohach.

### What’s New at Chapter 327

#### Welcome NEW May members!!

- Doug & Tracy Barlett
- Jake Hiatt & Family

#### RDIF Fobs available soon!

We are improving ease of access with a one tap fob to open the front door to the hangar. Besides the added convenience, it will provide greater security for our hangar, our members, member plane builds, simulator. More details to follow this month will come, so check your email!

#### Special Concert

Cellist, Sam Day June 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun @ 4-6pm

**Chapter Fly-In at Orchard Landing! (also known as MERKLE)** June 22<sup>nd</sup> Sat 8am-12pm. Coffee, apple cider doughnuts, and live music.

#### We are going to start forming committees

A lot of hands doing a little bit with help us out a lot! You may be contacted to consider working with a group of other members on a committee. Please consider saying yes. It will be Fun and Easy. I promise.

#### Oshkosh Chapter Camping

Anyone interested in camping this year? The deadline is quickly approaching!! Please let me know ASAP. Stay after May’s chapter gathering for a quick meeting.



I’m looking forward to seeing you all May 21<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30. Hope to see you all there!

Nancy Du Plessis  
President DBQ EAA Chapter 327  
815-281-0399 – call /text  
[nancydupe@gmail.com](mailto:nancydupe@gmail.com)

*Editor’s notes: Looks like Nancy is working on her tan while Doug is pre-flying the Dakota in this picture!*

*Please take note of the concert on Sunday, June 2nd. Sam Day is amazing and not to be missed!*



## EAA AirVenture 2024—Chapter Camping

If you are interested in joining other EAA 327 members and camping in adjacent spots in beautiful Camp Scholler please contact Nancy Du Plessis (nancydupe@gmail.com) or Bob Woodward (bob.woodward312@gmail.com).

This is a fun way to hang out with others from our chapter, camp close to the southwest gate, and near to all the amenities (red barn food and supplies, showers, chapter pavilion and more). We can have anywhere from 2-6 campsites and they are full-week reservations (although some have only stayed part of the week and “handed off” their credentials for remainder of the week to someone coming later in the show).

We are also looking for someone to coordinate the camping reservation submission and the credentials during the week of. If you are interested in either attending or helping coordinate.

**Stay after May’s chapter gathering for a quick meeting!**

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## New member spotlight: Doug Bartlett

Doug Bartlett first started flying upside down while competing as a gymnast in high school. As a young child, he was diagnosed with an eye problem that limited his depth perception. As a result, the family doctor advised Doug’s parents to “keep him away from flying”. Undeterred, Doug subsequently spent most of the money he earned on flying lessons at the old Chicagoland Airport and soloed in 1974 while a senior in high school.

Doug attended the United States Naval Academy where he continued as a gymnast and took up skydiving as a new air sport. After graduation and serving time in the Marine Corps, he returned to the Chicago area to start a career in electronics and raised a family.

Finally with enough time and money, Doug returned to flying in 2001 with a vengeance. He received his instrument rating that year then combined his flying and gymnastic skills to start flying competition aerobatics. Beginning with a Decathlon, he then flew a Sukhoi 29 and an Edge 540 working his way up through the competition levels. He was the U.S. Intermediate National Aerobatic Champion in 2005 and won a gold medal in his first Unlimited flight at the National Championships a few years later and finished 6<sup>th</sup> in the nation.

Doug first started his support of aviation programs by supporting his high school teacher, coach and friend, Jim Jackson, in an aircraft building class at Mundelein High School in Illinois. They financed the building of a Lancair Super ES and worked with the students on the building of the aircraft. It was during this time that Doug and Jim (using term papers from aviation students) decided to fly up to and around the Magnetic North Pole. This was achieved successfully in August of 2004 in a stiff leg Cessna 182.

Doug has volunteered his time with the International Aerobatics Club (IAC) serving at the local and national levels and was the club president from 2009 to 2012. He also served as an EAA director during that time. Currently Doug is a director of the IAC and is still active helping pilots experience the thrill of aerobatics.

Starting in 2018, Doug built an RV-14A and had it flying by 2020. The plane now has over 350 hours in the air and is hangered in Platteville, WI.

Doug is a new member of EAA 327 and hopes to help keep the spirit of aviation alive and well in the Tri-state area.

“Keep him away from flying.” Yea, right!

# Ray Scholar Report by Jack Newhouse



Hello, Chapter 327. Spring is here. This last month has been arguably tamer than the rest. No exploding tires or drug deals gone bad. Instead, I have managed to land a job at the Prairie Du Chien Airport. Stop in on a weekend and you'll likely find me. I have been primarily pumping gas and chatting up everyone who decides to stop by. The job has gone pretty much as expected except for one odd Saturday night. On this night, I did not anticipate jump starting an old Soviet Mi-2 helicopter.

What began as a typically slow afternoon got a little strange, I had been staring at the rotorcraft all evening wondering who was flying it. A camouflaged paint scheme with a red star left no doubt of its provenance. I assumed I would get a chance to find out when the airport car was returned. I had been relaxing in the FBO waiting for aircraft to come, when three men in flight suits, straight out of some sci fi movie, walked into the building and out to the ramp. All three wore different styles of flight suit ranging from olive green to jungle brown to mustard khaki. A quick look at the patchwork left me curious as to who these jokers were. Some time had passed when I noticed them pushing the helicopter closer to the FBO. Wondering what was wrong, I went outside to be greeted by one of the pilots using some choice words for the outside GFCIs.

On a typical night, we get a fair amount of people flying into KPDC to use the airport car to grab a bite to eat across the street at the Angus. As the name would suggest, they do indeed serve a good steak. This seems to be the case with our three intrepid aviators. It turns out the helicopter is owned by the University of Iowa. The pilots are professors and scientists. They were conducting atmospheric research. The cabin of the helicopter was stuffed full of monitors and various pieces of scientific instruments far newer than Moscow intended upon its heyday. To hear their conversation, you would assume they were sailors not pilots.

Apparently, while they had gone to dinner, all their scientific equipment in the back had been left on, draining the rotorcraft's battery to the point they couldn't start it. In addition, the outside sockets on the FBO had tripped every time they tried to plug the helicopter in. They asked if I had an extension cord, so I began looking throughout the building.

After around ten minutes of searching, I eventually ventured into the maintenance room of the FBO and found an extension cord for them. They had one chord plugged into the helicopter's battery, to which I attached the second extension cord. We now had one long power chord reaching from the rotorcraft all the way inside the FBO to one of the inside outlets.

Making insurance men and electricians shudder, we waited as the chief scientist in residence started checking over everything. Then, they all climbed into their helicopter and started moving around the cockpit. As a low whine turned into a high-pitched howl, the twin jet engines mounted on top of the rotorcraft spoiled to life. I could tell when the combustion started due to the large blue flames shot out of the exhaust that the Russians have differing views of safe engineering than the Americans. Anyway, they flew up and off and the atmosphere of the Upper Mississippi River Valley got a little better understood in the process. Again, this leaves me with the understanding that the airport environment is never boring and there's always some new experience waiting to be had within the aviation community.

Many thanks for your support, see you soon,

Jackson

## EAA 327 Chapter Calendar May – August 2024

- ♦ May 13-18<sup>th</sup> EAA Flying Start Week
- ♦ May 18<sup>th</sup> Sat @ 9pm Chapter 327 Flying Start Event
- ♦ May 21<sup>st</sup> Tues @ 6:30-8pm Chapter Gathering
  
- ♦ June 2<sup>nd</sup> Sun @ 2-4pm Hangar 88 Sam Day Cello concert & BBQ. OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
- ♦ June 13<sup>th</sup> Thurs @ 7pm IMC Club Hangar 88
- ♦ June 17<sup>th</sup> Mon @ 3pm in Platteville Airport – Wright Brothers Award
- ♦ June 18<sup>th</sup> Tues @ 6:30-8pm Chapter Gathering
- ♦ June 22<sup>nd</sup> Sat. @ 8:00am to 11:00am Fly-in at Merkle (Private Grass 2,900') with apple doughnuts, coffee and live music! (tentative)
  
- ♦ July 11<sup>th</sup> Thurs @ 7pm IMC Club Hangar 88
- ♦ July 22<sup>nd</sup> Monday – Sunday Air Adventure in Oshkosh!
- ♦ July 26-28<sup>th</sup> Fri-Sat CAF at Dubuque Regional Airport (EAA 327 assisting)
- ♦ NO CHAPTER MEETING IN JULY. Camp with us instead
  
- ♦ August 8<sup>th</sup> Thurs @ 7pm IMC Club Hangar 88
- ♦ August 20<sup>th</sup> Tues @ 6:30-8pm Chapter Gathering Hangar 88—Family Night Member appreciate night with a local area Live Band!

Also:

*\*Every Saturday @ 9am Chapter coffee social*

*\*Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday @7pm IMC Club Hangar 88*

*\*Available 24/7 Flight Simulator for your training use. Available Upstairs. For more information to get a 'check ride' on how to use call/text Kevin Bohach #563-579-3325 or Bridger Hawkinson # 563-581-3389 or Doug Duplessis 815-541-9286.*



## Check out the RealSim Gear FAA-approved Simulator!

By Kevin Bohach

In this newsletter, we are discussing in greater detail our two flight simulators in hangar 88.

We are fortunate to have a RealSim Gear BG-1 FAA BATD Simulator in the upper deck room, and an X-Plane 11 three paneled simulator in the lower conference room.

Both simulators were provided by the generosity of a few members in our chapter. They are wonderful tools to use as training, recurrency, having some fun, and overall good pilot knowledge. Pilots can add logbook time using the FAA BATD simulator. It can be used for private pilot training hours, instrument experience, and maintaining instrument currency.



The BATD is certified under F.A.R. Part 61 and F.A.R. Part 141 requirements. It is currently configured for Piper Archer and Cessna 172 aircraft with dual G1000 flight displays.

The simulator in the lower conference room has been upgraded recently to add a software Pilot Training program called Take Flight Academy. A scenario-based program used as introductory training, continuing into more advanced maneuvers, techniques, and stages of pilot development. There is a small amount of orientation required to use the simulators to ensure they are being properly taken care of.

***Members can contact Kevin Bohach 563-579-3325, Bridger Hawkinson 563-581-3389, or Doug DuPlessis 815-541-9286 to schedule an orientation.***

Once complete, there is a scheduling program we use to reserve your time to use these simulator rooms.

Please take advantage of these great training devices, ALL pilot skill levels can enjoy the benefits of having these in our amazing hangar!

Even our Chapter President made a guest appearance to check them out!



# Hanger Concert Sunday June 2

By Chuck Weber

After attending an enjoyable afternoon music event at Park Farm Winery in Epworth last summer, I thought a similar event in our Hanger 88 would be welcomed by our families and friends. Sam Day is a local classically trained cellist who trained at Baylor University in Waco, TX.

He plays for the Dubuque Symphony and Chicago Civic Orchestra. He has an electric cello that he uses to perform throughout the Midwest with his own arrangements of popular & classic rock songs. We're planning a potluck style event on a Sunday afternoon with music from 4-6pm.

My wife Mariann and Sandi Helgerson, chapter member Nick's wife, are planning the food. Expect to hear by email from them to sign up for a food contribution in the next few weeks. There is generally lots of food at these events, so don't let inability to cook or contribute keep you from attending.



It will be a "bring your own beverage" event. I expect Sam may be willing to entertain song requests, so keep some of those in mind. It will be fun!

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## Chapter 327 Flight Instructors

Here is a listing of Chapter 327 members that are flight instructors and would be willing to help with primary flight instruction, your next BFR or other. *If you are a Chapter member and a flight instructor please let me know and I will include your name in the listing. Additions/Corrections are welcome!*

CFI / CFII	Phone	New Students	CFII	BFR	IFP	Airports	Plane
Mike Nickeson	563/451-6246	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	DBQ	Owners, Club Plane
Taras Slyvka	563/235-6108	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	DBQ	Owners, Club Plane
e-mail - Bob Woodward (bob.woodward312@gmail.com) to add your name to the list.							

## Local Calendar of Events

For many other Aviation Related events, visit the following websites. Click on the following links. Will only list events submitted to the editor and other most local events here.

- [EAA Aviation Calendar of Events](#)
- [AOPA Calendar of Events](#)
- [Iowa DOT Office of Aviation Calendar](#)
- [Wisconsin Fly-Ins and Airshow Event Calendar](#)
- [Fly-Ins.com Calendar Website](#)
- [Fun Places to Fly Website](#)
- [Social Flight Calendar](#)
- [Midwest Flyer Magazine Calendar](#)



### Tuesday, May 21, 2024 Chapter Meeting

**Location: EAA Chapter Hangar 88 — KDBQ**

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

**Program:** Mike and Teresa Nickseon share a photo journey of their recent west coast flight.  
**Brat Dinner provided by CAP. Thank you!**

Chapter Website: [www.327.eaachapter.org](http://www.327.eaachapter.org)  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/EAA327>

Send event information on those activities that would interest the membership. Will be delighted to include any information on aviation related activities, fly-in breakfasts, etc. e-Mail your information to [Bob.Woodward312@gmail.com](mailto:Bob.Woodward312@gmail.com).

### EAA CHAPTER 327 OFFICERS

(Effective January 2024)

#### President

**Nancy Du Plessis** 815-281-0399  
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**EAA Chapter 327  
IMC Club**

*“To promote instrument flying, proficiency, and safety”*

Meets: 7pm, 3rd Thurs of month  
Location: Dubuque Airport Hangar 88

For more information contact: [nancydupe@gmail.com](mailto:nancydupe@gmail.com)

We would like to make you aware that as always, in past, present, and future, any communications issued by Experimental Aircraft Association, Chapter 327, regardless of the form, format, and/or media used, which includes, but is not limited to, “Above It All” and audio/ video recordings is presented only in the light of a clearing house of ideas, opinions, and personal experience accounts. Anyone using ideas, opinions, information, etc. does so at their own discretion and risk. Therefore, no responsibility or liability is expressed, or implied, and you are without recourse to anyone. Any event announced and/or listed herein is done so as a matter of information only and does not constitute approval.

# EAA Chapter 327 New Member Application Form



FORM REV. 1/3/2024

FIRST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ LAST NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
NICKNAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_  
STREET ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ NATIONAL EAA NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_  
LICENSES/RATINGS/SKILLS: \_\_\_\_\_  
AIRCRAFT OWNED/ PROJECT/ BUILT: \_\_\_\_\_

DO YOU HAVE AN AIRPORT ID BADGE?  YES  NO

(FOR REFERENCE AS OUR CHAPTER GROWS AND FOR EVENTS)

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING IN:  VMC  IMC CLUBS

YOUNG EAGLES:  PILOT  VOLUNTEER  
YOUTH PROTECTION BACKGROUND CHECK COMPLETED? (Y/N) \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE COMPLETED, IF YES: \_\_\_\_\_

EAGLE FLIGHT:  PILOT  VOLUNTEER

*Please email a passport like photo of yourself to  
members@eaa327.org so we can update our member directory.  
Thank You!*

## Membership Type

*Please checkmark a membership type.*

**Individual Membership**

*\$20 per year*

**Family Membership**

*\$30 per year*

All checks can be dropped off at the EAA Hangar dropbox or can be mailed to EAA Treasurer Andy Hawkinson at 15931 Lore Mound Road, Dubuque, Iowa 52002.

## Letter From the President

It is my great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to each and every member of EAA Chapter 327. As President, I am truly honored to lead a community of aviation enthusiasts who share a passion for the skies. Our chapter is a vibrant and dynamic family dedicated to fostering a love for aviation, promoting safety, and creating lasting connections among like-minded individuals. Whether you're an experienced pilot or someone taking their first steps into the world of aviation, EAA Chapter 327 is here to support and inspire you on your journey. Together, let us soar to new heights and celebrate the joy of flight.

Welcome aboard!

**Nancy DuPlessis**

President of EAA Chapter 327

