

THE STROBE

Placerville EAA 512 Newsletter



June 2020

Prez Sez... *Wait, What day is it?*

I'm definitely starting to lose track. Even though things are starting to open up a bit, it looks like we're in this for the long haul. We're trying to adapt the best we can, but for the foreseeable future, I can't see us doing any of our normal chapter group activities. We have looked into what it would take to start our pancake breakfasts up again, and while it might be technically possible, the steps we would have to take to comply with health guidelines would not only make it unprofitable, but probably not much fun either. The benefit simply doesn't outweigh the risk. Same for onsite chapter meetings for the time being.

So, instead, I'm once again inviting all who would like to participate to an online Chapter 512 meeting via **Zoom** on our usual meeting night this coming Wednesday, June 17 at 7 pm. (see page 2) Jim Wilson will be sending out a meeting notice to all members on Monday with a link and instructions. If you haven't used Zoom before, please try setting it up and trying it out before the meeting. If you have any issues or need some tips, please feel free to contact me any time—but at least an hour before the meeting starts and I'll see if I can help you with it. We had about ten participants last month and room for many more. I think everyone enjoyed the meeting; I know I certainly did. You have to supply your own refreshments though! This month's live presentation will be Nick Pfannenstiel of *Timber Tiger Aircraft*, speaking about his 95% scale Ryan ST replica (see page 2). I look forward to seeing many of you then.

NO GENERAL MEETING

June's General Meeting remains canceled until further notice.

However,

a Zoom meeting will be hosted Wed @ 7pm.
For more info on this meeting please refer to
pg. 2. For more info about Zoom, visit:

support.zoom.us



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Speaking of online, many more of us are doing our shopping online these days. If you use Amazon, remember that they also have a program called **AmazonSmile** which support non-profits like our EAA chapter. For every one of your purchases, AmazonSmile donates a percentage of sales to us—if you choose us as the recipient. It doesn't cost you extra. Just login to [Smile.Amazon.com](https://www.smile.amazon.com) and name EAA Chapter 512 as your donation recipient; everything else looks and works exactly like Amazon's main website. I've personally been using this for over a year and haven't had issues. So far, from just a few participants, we've received \$165 from AmazonSmile. So, it's definitely worth the small effort involved.

The coronavirus restrictions are really getting tiresome but are important as ever. Please continue to be careful; use good judgment just as you do in flying and other activities, and take care of yourself and each other. If you can, go fly!

By: Al Herron



Jim Wilson will be hosting the General Meeting via **Zoom** on **Wednesday, June 17, @ 7pm.**

To join the virtual get-together, access the links provided in an email titled *EAA 512 Virtual Chapter Gathering by Zoom*

or click this link at **7pm** on **6/17**
[link: zoom general meeting](#)



RYAN ST

Nick Pfannenstiel, founder of Timber Tiger Aircraft, will be presenting on his 95% scale Ryan ST replica and the challenges of designing and marketing a homebuilt airplane. Join the General Meeting via **Zoom** 6/17 @ 7pm.



Sent in by Jason Brand



Sent in by Jason Brand

LOG BOOK

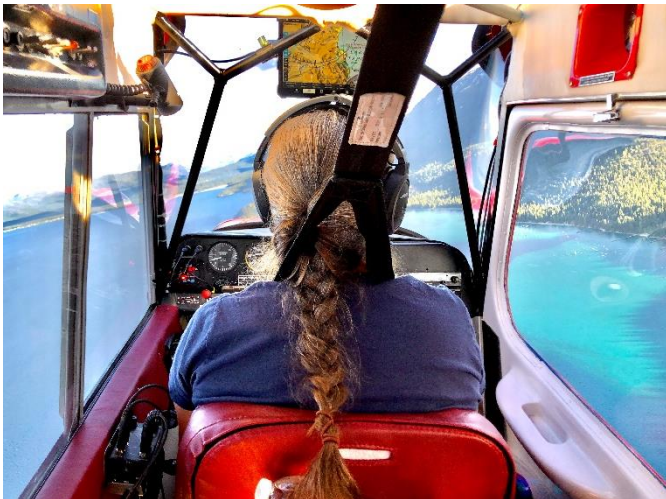
6/10/2020 The Tahoe Keys presented to you in only ten words.

Jason Brand



6/10/2020 Out looking for turbulence one day but none was found.

Jason Brand



Just filling this empty space with some text. Please ignore.

Sincerely,

The Editor

6/2020 Rob completed the build in May. Rob lives in Rescue and took time off from his flying job as Captain of 737 to complete this beautiful aircraft.

Sent in by Jim Wilson



6/15/1969 At Edwards Air Force Base, California, the second Lockheed C-5A Galaxy transport (66-8304) set several records, including the heaviest takeoff weight: 762,800 pounds, and the heaviest landing weight: 600,000 pounds.

Archives of thisdayinaviation.com





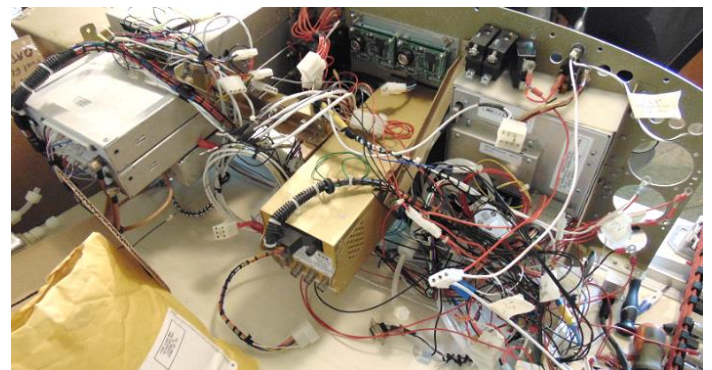
RV-7A Panel Upgrade Part II

GETTING DOWN TO THE WIRE

Last month, I reported on the upgrade I had begun to the instrument panel in my RV-7A. At that point most of my time had gone into figuring out where I wanted to place new and existing components in the new layout, how they would need to be wired together, and creating a new wiring diagram to follow. About the only “real” work I had accomplished, aside from few half-hearted efforts at completing my overdue condition inspection, was ripping out my old panel and taking it home to my temporary workbench (strategically located inside in the air conditioning with critically short, straight access paths to the Google machine, the refrigerator and the, uh, facilities).

I’ve never been happy with the wiring on my plane, and I’m going to try to correct it while I’m doing this upgrade. Everything works, but the workmanship isn’t what can be considered anywhere near aviation-grade. The panel portion of my original build wound up taking way longer than anticipated, and I began to

rush through things. Adding to this were some changes and fixes to wiring system where wires were run in random routings rather than taking the time to pull everything apart and rebuild the wire bundles. The result was some, shall we say, not fully-posteriorized work. I’d say it was pretty much half-posteriorized. When I got the panel on to my work bench the back side looked like a bad COVID-home



haircut.

Not the neatest wiring job.

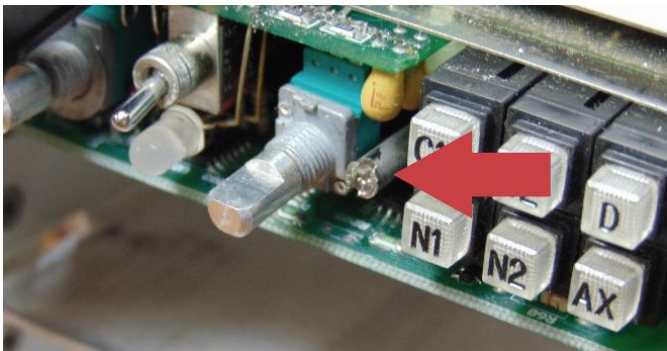
So, lessons learned. When I start feeling pressured for time is when I should probably stop and step back to reevaluate my priorities. If I want a quality job, I have to commit to it and not compromise first principles. Also, it’s wise to ask for help. Imagine my shock at discovering I’m not the world’s greatest electronics genius. Who knew? If you are taking on a project like this, do some research and try to find examples of really well-done projects. Take advantage of any resources you can. I was four years into this project the year YouTube was launched, and it was another few years before I “discovered” it. What a lot of time and errors that might have saved me! Just remember to “reality check” what you find with experienced builders and other experts you trust. Plan everything out ahead of time, and get

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others to critique your plan – they are likely to spot things you haven't.

Once the panel was on the workbench, the destruction, er, preparation began in earnest. Starting on the left side of the panel (because it was the least scary part), components were removed one by one. Wires were labeled with masking tape flags where needed for future reference. By taking things slow and methodically, everything went according to plan, the only glitch being a stripped-out Allen screw that releases audio panel from the mounting tray. After a little experimentation, I was able to remove the panel front and carefully carve a slot in the screw head with a micro-die grinder so it could be removed with a flat screwdriver (the less desirable option would have been to drill out the rivets holding the receiving nutplate on the back of the unit).



This tiny stripped screwhead had me scratching my head for a while.

Next time: building an assembly jig and making a whole new panel arrangement. This is the turn-around point. Everything from this point on is being put together instead of being taken apart!

Al Herron

JUNE 27 - Red Bluff - KRBL

160 miles +- - Class E - Elev/TPA = 352'/1400' - Rws 15 RP, 33 LP, 5431' x 100' - CTAF 123.00 - AWOS 120.775 (530/528-8030). Meet at north end of field at tie down area at 1145 hours near Leigh & Val's. Please confirm your attendance before 0800 hours on 6/27 so that I can alert the cafe as to our numbers. Dave Walters, 925/348-3584 - text preferred. Aviate, ya'll!

Bring a mask, just to be safe!

Dave Walters

A Column of Good Jokes And Puns



Sent in by Dick Wampach



Sent in by Dick Wampach



Also, sent in by Dick Wampach

Contacts

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Things

Canceled

- June General Meeting
- July Pancake Breakfast
- Oshkosh 2020
- Shaking Hands

Things

Pending

- Things to Do N' Ads
- My Sanity

Things

To Do

- Red Bluff Fly-In
- or Aviation
- & More Aviation
-

EAA Chapter 512
Monthly Board of Directors
June 10, 2020
Minutes

Meeting called to order at: 7:03 p.m. by: Al Herron

Board Members Present (Online Meeting):

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| ✓ Al Herron, <i>President</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> John McPherson, <i>General Director</i> |
| ✓ Jim Wilson, <i>Vice President</i> | ✓ Dave Lugert, <i>General Director</i> |
| ✓ Judi Gordon, <i>Treasurer</i> | ✓ Tim Sullivan, <i>Past President</i> |
| ✓ Rob Bulaga, <i>Secretary</i> | |

Business from the Floor, Changes to Agenda - none

Approval of Minutes - approved

Board Member Reports

➤ **Al Herron – President**

- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, AirVenture 2020 has been canceled. EAA National will host a Spirit of Aviation Week from July 21-25. This is intended to be a “Virtual AirVenture”, with displays, workshops, and vendors. More details will be forthcoming.
- The Chapter annual budget has not been updated. Al will complete the update shortly.
- It is intended that our Chapter utilize the current downtime to establish a timeline and to complete existing projects. Tim and Dale have been doing various hangar upgrades; i.e., kitchen organization and upgrades, upstairs railing upgrades, tool organization, etc. Since we are not, as a group, spending time in the hangar, we will prepare an Activity Log to keep track of who in the hangar doing what jobs. We will prepare a list of on-going jobs. We will break out individual tasks that member volunteers can complete.
- Bob O’Hara’s memorial service is scheduled for Oct. 10. To maintain social distancing, this will now be an outside service.
- The presentation of the Chapter Flight Simulator at Travis AFB was a big hit last year. They have invited us to repeat the visit this coming September. Jim Wilson, the Steins, and other volunteers will be supporting this effort. The Board has approved picking up out-of-pocket expenses (gas, food, etc.) for the volunteers.

➤ **Jim Wilson – Vice President**

- The July Pancake Breakfast has been canceled. More than likely, the August breakfast will also be canceled, but we will make a final decision on that next month. EAA National has provided a webinar with general guidelines on how to run Chapter events during the pandemic. Major changes Include:
 - Limited attendance
 - All seating would have to be outside (not enough room in hangar)
 - More volunteers are needed
 - Volunteer training is needed prior to the event
 - Supervision during event to ensure compliance with social distancing
 - Extensive pre-packaging of utensils, condiments, etc.
 - Spacing and separation of both personnel and guests during all phases
 - New equipment and supplies required, such as:

- Thermometers for testing volunteers
- Face masks
- Hand-washing/sanitizer stations
- Extra utensils (spoons, tongs, etc.)
- Sneeze guards at food service and cashier stations
- Accommodation for cashless transactions or cash isolation
- Andrew Gordon still needs to complete his application for the Ray Aviation Scholarship. Getting flight training for his Sport Pilot License will be difficult due to the pandemic shutdown of many area flight schools.
- Last month's General Meeting via Zoom seemed to be a success. We may repeat a Zoom meeting next week, June 17 at 7:00 PM. Final announcement of this meeting will be in the Strobe.

➤ **Judi Gordon – Treasurer, Membership**

- Banking account balances (from last month, update needed):
 - Cash and checks on hand: \$730.80
 - Chase Checking 6001: \$14,694.80 (of which \$5,705.70 is earmarked for scholarship funds)
 - Chase Savings 8668: \$2,922.03 (Airport security account held in trust. Not property of EAA 512)
 - Total as of 5/31/2020: \$15,425.60 plus \$2,922.03 in Airport Security Account.
- The Zenith Tail Kit, donated to the Chapter by Judi's neighbor, has been picked up and is currently residing in Dale Kral's hangar.
- Through Benevity, Intel donates money for volunteer work done by their employees. The Brand family has been diligently tending to our grounds. The Chapter will be awarded ~\$1400 for their efforts.

➤ **Tim Sullivan – Past President**

- The Board approved expenses of up to \$400 for materials for Tim to build a railing around the loft stairwell. The expertise gained during this project will be used to cost and build the longer railing along the front of the loft.
- The new hood for the kitchen area is currently on hold.
- We have a potential buyer for the refrigerator that has been standing near the sheet metal brake.

Committee Reports

- **Monica Breaux – Fundraising** – Monica has moved and will no longer head our Fundraising Committee.
- **Dale Kral – Tool Master** – The Board approved expenses of up to \$450 for the purchase of a lockable tool cabinet and its associated wheeled base.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m. by: Al Herron