

August 2021

PROPWASH

A Newsletter of EAA Chapter 517, Inc.



Five Valleys Flies



EAA Chapter 517, Inc.

From the Chapter President



Steve Rossiter

It seems like it is Missoula's turn to have a smoky fire season. I think this is the worst I've seen since I allowed the government to pay me not to come to work. I remember a number of years ago when I did more instrument approaches in one fire season than in my whole previous aviation career. I actually got pretty good at it. I can only assure you that this too shall pass. Just be watchful when you fly, and remember we have a lot of fire helicopter, airtanker and other fire-related aircraft traffic.

Speaking of traffic, I was visiting with the MSO Tower Chief, Keith Eberhart, the other day and he remarked how much busier MSO is with all the airline traffic. MSO is becoming quite an active airline hub for those of us in the Five Valleys area. You can fly direct from MSO to Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Oakland, San Jose, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Salt Lake City, Denver, Dallas-Fort Worth, Atlanta, Minneapolis and Chicago. Pretty cool! When Sherry and I moved to Missoula, we could go to Seattle, Salt Lake City, Helena, Billings, and Boise. Things have certainly changed. It is too bad about losing



Helena, Billings and Boise as direct destinations.

We owe a big thank you to Bryan Douglass for his presentation on the history of "Experimental Aviation" at our July Chapter meeting. It makes me proud to think that homebuilders are, even today, the biggest contributors to aviation technology. Think about it; even Cessna took a version of a Lancair aircraft and turned it into their fastest single

reciprocating engine production airplane. The highest volume of general aviation sales today are the various SLSA aircraft, all of which had their roots as experimental amateur built aircraft.

I need to compliment Ed Lovrien as our new one-person Asset Disposal Committee. He is turning property the Chapter has had for years or had donated into cash for Chapter 517. Space is always better

utilized when it is dollars in the bank rather than something taking up physical space in the hangar or our storage trailer.

Speaking of getting rid of stuff, you may have noticed we have some aviation history magazine on the bookshelves in the hangar. They are free for the taking, so please take them. If they don't move, I will haul them down for recycling. I am adding a couple of other things to the "free for the taking" shelf. There will be several copies of the Aircraft Bluebook there soon. Now that I'm out of the brokering business they are surplus to my need. They are not current, but they do give a person some feel for the value of airplanes and how those values are determined. Help yourself; there are more where those came from when the first batch disappears, otherwise off to the dump. I am also putting a few airport directories from other states there. Nothing will remain there long, after the Saturday breakfast, off to recycling or the dump.

I would like to remind everybody to support Five Valley Flyers / EAA Chapter 517, Inc. by having at least one of your vehicles sporting the Chapter "Fly The Big Sky" license plate. If your vehicle has "aged out" and you have bought a permanent tag for you license plate, it would be appreciated if you would continue to support the Chapter with a special \$20 license plate donation to replace what the state used to collect from you for the Chapter. Remember this is a big part of how we pay our mortgage and support our aviation scholarships.

I have yet to hear of anyone pulling together a multi-aircraft fly out. I know some of our gang are doing almost weekly motorcycle "ride outs." Why not fly outs? Yes, I understand smoke is an issue right now. Keep in mind we are approaching half way through the summer. This is Montana; snow could fly in September. I'm just saying! Hmmm, snow sounds kind of good right now!

Until next month, fly the big sky, and be safe out there.

Steve



The decision to build an RV 10



By Allan Glen

Our family relocated to Missoula in 2018 and one of our early activities was to attend a Five Valley Flyers pancake breakfast. I had recently completed my private pilot certificate, I had been checked out in the Northstar Jet Flight School Cessna 172, and our family had just started flying in the big sky of Montana.

Renting an aircraft has a lot of advantages – no maintenance, no repairs, no ongoing commitments –

but it comes with a major drawback: limited access to an aircraft for any extended period of time. With family in nearby Washington state, family in British Columbia and many beautiful destinations nearby, the idea of being able to get up and go for several days is pretty compelling.

I had encountered the world of homebuilt aircraft long before learning to fly but it felt like a distant, unlikely possibility. During my flight training, I was exposed to the expensive, aging fleet of certified aircraft and I trained in several aircraft that were built before I was

born. After browsing listings for used, certified airplanes, I started to seriously consider the idea of building an airplane. A new airframe, new engine, modern avionics and a much more capable aircraft at a significantly lower price point than the certified equivalent.

I'm someone who enjoys building things so that part of the equation was also part of the appeal. If someone else can do it, then why can't I?

Selecting the aircraft to build was an easy choice. Our mission is to be able to fly as a family of 4, visit



relatives, and to see this great country from the air before our girls grow up and move on.

I had previously gotten a ride in an RV-7. Bryan Douglass, another chapter member, also volunteered to take us for a flight in his beautiful RV-10. Thanks Bryan! Bryan completed his build in 2012 and he built himself an absolutely amazing aircraft – no comparison to the slow 172 that I currently fly!

Building requires patience (an RV-10 requires 2,000-plus hours), but after ditching three hours of daily commuting, the idea seemed manageable so we decided to get started.

The build proceeds through a series of kits (empennage, wings, fuselage, finishing). We placed our order for the empennage kit during the 2020 EAA Spirit of Aviation Week. In the meantime, I worked on setting up my workshop, ordering tools, and planning out the build.



The empennage crate arrived in August 2020 and I made my first cut on Sept. 9! Larry DePute, our local EAA Technical Counselor, has been a great help in providing guidance. It is amazing having local builders and resources available to

assist as I stumble my way through figuring out how to build an airplane.

Our build log is available online for anyone that wants to follow along at <https://airplane.allanglen.com/>.

EAA announces award winners



By EAA

August 1, 2021 – Hundreds of gorgeous, striking airplanes arrive at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh each and every year in hopes of winning a Lindy Award. Only a handful come away with any sort of award. Fewer still come away with a Lindy.

Awards are given out across six categories: Homebuilts, Warbirds, Vintage, Ultralights, Seaplanes, and Rotorcraft. Entrants can only be considered for one category in a given year, and are not eligible for the same or any lower-tier awards if they have won in the past.

Looks are considered in award judging, but the quality of craftsmanship inherent in the aircraft is a crucial factor as well. Careful construction and/or restoration, as well as tireless maintenance, is essential in winning a Lindy.

With all of that said, congratulations to all the 2021 award winners!

To see the full list of award winners,, visit eaa.org.





AirVenture 2021 by the numbers

By EAA

Comment from EAA CEO and Chairman Jack Pelton:

“This was perhaps the most challenging set of circumstances we’ve ever faced as an organization to make the event happen. I could not be more proud of our volunteers, staff, and participants on the way they came together to exceed our expectations and make AirVenture 2021 a truly memorable experience.”

Attendance: Approximately 608,000 – Only the third time attendance has surpassed 600,000 and within 5 percent of 2019’s record total. *Comment from Pelton:*

“We went into this year not knowing what AirVenture would look like and how big of an event was possible. The aviation community spoke loudly, though – it was ready to come to Oshkosh and we were happy that we could welcome them. Our theme was ‘The Wait is Over,’ and indeed it was. And the wait was worth it. There was joy and excitement throughout the grounds and it set the stage for the return of AirVenture, making us very excited for the future.”

Total aircraft: More than 10,000 aircraft arrived at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh and other airports in east-central Wisconsin. At Wittman alone, there were 16,378 aircraft operations in the 10-day period from July 22-31, which is an average of approximately 116 takeoffs/landings per hour when the airport is open.

Total showplanes: 3,176 included: A record 1,420 vintage aircraft registered, plus 1,089 homebuilt aircraft, 354 warbirds, 148 aerobatic aircraft, 112 seaplanes, 33 ultralights, and 27 rotorcraft.



Camping: More than 12,000 sites in aircraft and drive-in camping accounted for an estimated 40,000 visitors.

Volunteers: More than 5,000 contributing in excess of 250,000 hours.

Commercial exhibitors: 747.
Forums, Workshops, and Presentations: A total of 1,055 sessions hosted throughout the week.

Social Media, Internet and Mobile: More than 18.95 million people were reached by EAA’s social media channels during AirVenture, with engagement of 1.08 million; EAA video clips during the event were viewed 3.48 million times.

International guests: Despite travel restrictions that greatly limited the number of attendees from other nations, EAA still welcomed visitors from 66 countries during the week.

The Gathering shines: The EAA Aviation Foundation’s annual event to support its aviation education programs attracted more than 500 people and raised more than \$1.7 million dollars that will be focused on EAA’s mission of growing

participation in aviation.

Media: 567 media representatives on-site, from four continents.

Economic impact*: \$170 million for the five counties in the Oshkosh region (Winnebago, Outagamie, Fond du Lac, Calumet, and Brown).
* - based on 2017 University of Wisconsin Oshkosh economic impact study

What’s ahead for EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2022? (July 25-31, 2022)

“Planning is well underway for next year’s event, including discussions during AirVenture 2021 about possible features and attractions for 2022. We also look forward to welcoming more international visitors next year to return AirVenture to a truly global reunion. In the next few months, we will be finalizing highlights in all areas to make the 69th EAA fly-in convention the World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration.”

Information updates posted at EAA.org/AirVenture.

Fly-in planned at the Ekalaka airport on Sept. 11

Greetings Montana Pilots, this information just came in.

You are invited!

Fly, Ride, Drive In at the Ekalaka airport 97M on Sept. 11, 2021.

They will start cooking hamburgers and hotdogs at 11 a.m. with sodas and water provided.

They are also planning a flour drop.

Airport information:

Elevation: 3,503

Fuel: 100LL

Runway: 13/31 - 3,801' x 75' paved

The airport has a very nice new pilots lounge with a nice shower and sleeping quarters. There is lots of room for camping.

This is a beautiful area with the pine-covered Ekalaka Hills and Rugged Chalk Buttes.

Lots of good people to meet.

Please contact Bill Kallstrom with any questions. Wkallstrom@yahoo.com.

Save the date: Annual MSO BBQ Sept. 18

Save the date: On Sept. 18, 2021 Five Valley Flyers will have an open house at our hangar at the same time the MSO Airport does their annual BBQ at the East LZ Condominium complex. This will give the Chapter the opportunity to show others in the aviation community what EAA is all about.



**Follow
EAA 517 on
Facebook**

Visit
[Facebook.com/
EAA517](https://www.facebook.com/EAA517)
and click on
"Like"

BUILDER'S REPORT

Bearhawk
Dick Tardiff
Bearhawk Patrol

Rutan
Ed Lovrien
Limo EZ – 50%

Van's RV
John Barba
RV-6

Allan Glen
RV-10 – 20%

James "Cal" Geyman
RV-9A – 50%

Zenith
Duane Felstet
CH-750 – 75%

Builders, please send updates to the newsletter editor at cburson@gmail.com so this list can be kept current.

One-Week Wonder to return in 2022

By EAA

Thanks to the support of Sonex Aircraft, we're excited to announce the return of the One Week Wonder for AirVenture Oshkosh 2022. Starting on Sunday, July 24, at 8 a.m., a group of volunteers will build a Sonex Waix, to be completed and ready to taxi one week later, on Sunday, July 31.

"The One Week Wonder event brings excitement and enthusiasm to others in the community by showing what it looks like and feels like to build an aircraft from a kit," said Charlie Becker, EAA's director of chapters and homebuilding.

Just as it has in previous years, the One Week Wonder build in 2022 will provide an excellent opportunity to show the world that anyone can build an airplane. Attendees will have the chance to pull a rivet, and have their photo taken as a souvenir.



Help the chapter by shopping online

By Ed Lovrien

I would like to ask each of you to help out our Missoula EAA Chapter 517. It will not cost you a dime.

You probably already use Amazon. If you would update your app to the newest version, click on the three horizontal lines and go to settings, then click on smile, or on the computer browser use [smile.amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=15576745011) or follow this link: <https://www.amazon.com/b?ie=UTF8&node=15576745011>

If you set Missoula EAA Chapter 517 as your charitable donation, every dollar you spend will kick a tiny bit back to the group at no cost to you.

The group does a lot of youth flying scholarships, young eagle flights to help introduce kids to flying, kids camps in the summer, breakfasts and many other flying activities.

Please help us out by letting amazon donate a tiny bit of their profit from your purchases at amazon to our group. Thanks for your help. Please copy and paste this and send it to all your friends and family. The more help we get, the better we can do for the community!

EAA CHAPTER 517 CONTACTS

Mailing Address

PO Box 18264
Missoula, MT 59808

Chapter Headquarters

4198 Corporate Way
Missoula, MT 59808

Phone number

406 541-0517

Email

eachapter517@gmail.com

President

Steve Rossiter
steverossitermt@aol.com

Treasurer

Don Bonem
drbonem@gmail.com

PropWash Editor

Clint Burson
clint.burson@eaa517.org

Vice President

Eric Ristau
406-207-5710
ewristau@gmail.com

Young Eagles

Ray Aten
406-721-0531

Website and At Large

Allan Glen
303-349-8595
allan@allanglen.com

Secretary

Sherry Rossiter
ssrossiter@aol.com

EAA Tech Counselor

Larry DePute
406-544-9212

At Large

Ed Lovrien
edlovrien@msn.com