

EAA Chapter 565

General Membership Meeting

February 5, 2025

Attendees - 35 Members, 2 guests - Jasmine, Jake Faulkner

The meeting was called to order at 1900 by President McClure with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Amanda Fox of the Charlotte County Technical College updated the group on the new hangar being constructed for the aviation program at the Airport just east of the Air Center. The hangar will be 10,000 square feet and house space for students to work on aircraft as well as classrooms. Since their budget is limited, they really have no way to advertise the program - and she would like anybody that might know someone that is interested in a career as an A&P or an avionics technician to contact her at the school. The program is a 14 month program with a tuition cost of \$12,000. Some students after graduating and upon their second year of working are earning over \$100,000. She said that it's not only young people that are in the program - there are some older folks enrolled as well. It really sounds like a great opportunity.

President McClure updated the group on the parking lot construction at the Chapter building. The PGD maintenance building is being excavated, and crushed stone has been placed in the parking area. People can now park anywhere on the crushed stone, even at the fence next to the lake. It was originally thought that the crushed stone would be extended to cover the area next to and behind the Chapter building, but that is no longer the case and sod will be placed there instead. We've been told that we will actually have more parking places now than we previously had. Larry is looking for someone that lives in the area in the summer to volunteer to mow the sod and water it if needed. It wouldn't be a huge job, but it would be good if someone would step up and help out. Hiring it out would be an expense that wouldn't have to be made if someone would just volunteer - at least for a while. Please contact Larry if you're like to help out.

The Membership was reminded of the Pancake Breakfast to be held on this Saturday (February 8) from 0800-1000 at the EAA building. Blueberry pancakes, sausage, eggs, hot maple syrup, and plenty of coffee are available. It's always a great way to start the day!

The next Member dinner will take place on Saturday, February 15 with social hour at 1700, and dinner at 1800. The space is limited to 50 people. The menu will include Chili made by various members. This won't be a chili cook off, but just lots of good chili. Members can bring chili, an appetizer, a side dish, or a dessert. For those that bring food, there will be no charge for the dinner. If one doesn't bring food, then there will be a \$10 charge at the door. There are still spaces available - so if interested in attending please contact Larry.

Treasurer Hill reported that the Chapter finances are in good shape, and that we actually have \$1000 more in the bank than we had last year at this time. That's good news considering the expenses that we had last year (new refrigerator and floor maintenance.)

Secretary Willecke reported that an email was sent out to remind those members that have not yet paid their 2025 dues to do so as soon as possible. Dues are starting to come in. As another reminder, a member of Chapter 565 must also be a member of EAA National.

Wally Rojem was introduced as the Board Member at large. Wally expressed an interest in helping out on the Board with various issues and it's great to have him be a part of the Chapter leadership.

Scott Sorenson reported that the web site is up to date, and encouraged everyone to take a look at it.

Dick Solar gave an interesting presentation on bank angle, especially during the turn from base to final in the traffic pattern. Bank angles are divided into three groups - shallow bank angle (less than 20°), medium

bank angle (20°-45°), and steep bank angle (over 45°). As we know, stall speed increases with increased bank angle, but not as much as one might think. In a medium bank angle turn the stall speed only goes up 7%, whereas in a steep bank angle turn the stall speed goes up by 40%. This most often happens when you overshoot the final approach and try to steepen up the turn to get back on track. That's where the stall/spin happens most often. When close to the ground, (as you are on the turn from base to final) - there is little room for recovery. The best practice to avoid this is to use medium bank angle turns because the stall speed is minimal, the airplane is more stable, the radius of the turn is decreased, and it allows the pilot to get to a wings level position on the base leg so he will be able to visually see the airplane's position and traffic. This was a very interesting and timely presentation since we encounter this situation each time we fly in the traffic pattern.

Joe Makray introduced Jake Faulkner to the membership. Jake has expressed an interest in starting a Young Eagles program for our Chapter. The new EAA Chapter in Arcadia started a Young Eagles program and they had a good turnout at the first two days of flying, but the interest has dropped off and they don't have very many participants any more. At one of our previous meetings, Jim Duran of Chapter 66 in Fort Meyers offered to set up a Young Eagles program for us if there was interest. It was suggested that Jake contact Jimmy Duran and see if they can come up with a plan for our Chapter if there is interest.

The membership was asked if anyone has any building projects underway. Jim Weston wasn't in attendance, but he's actively building an RV. Wally Rojem is building an Avid Flyer, and Jim Strong is rebuilding an L-16A up North in Buffalo.

Member Dave Nelson reminded everyone that by 2030 100LL fuel will not be available any more, so by then if you have an experimental aircraft it would be prudent to make sure that the fuel system will handle the new unleaded fuel. Apparently the lead free fuel can have an adverse effect on certain parts of the system - such as o-rings.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 1955.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Willecke, Secretary