



**Next Meeting-Sunday Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>. Noon lunch with meeting to follow.**

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#### **President's Message**

I must say, my dance card for the next couple months has filled up. And most of it will bring many of you along. First up is the 5th annual Chicken Drop. A week later I am scheduled to work at Reno Air Races helping display my friends warbird, my 27th Reno trip. Then we have Airport Day on October 16th. Still waiting out there is painting the Ramp letters, as well as my planned Hangar Sale. We are busily working on the plans for Airport Day, and more details about that will come out later.

Not a lot of flying going on around here with all the smoke and heat. Maybe in the Fall we will return to the skies. But a lot happening regardless. Several people building and I notice them all looking over at each other's work. Ever wonder why Russian fighter jets look exactly like OUR fighter jets? Hmmm.

Joe

## Treasurer's Report 8/23/2021

Checking account balance 6/31/2021	\$2,322.40
Cash box	\$200.00

### Receipts

cash	donations	\$ 40.00
check	dues	\$ 20.00
		\$ 60.00

### Transfers

### Expense

check	Pacific Power	(\$ 28.43)
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### Deposits

Receipts	\$ 60.00
interest	\$ .10
	\$ 60.10

### Ending balance

checking	\$2,354.07
cash box	\$ 200.00
<b>Funds available</b>	<b>\$2,554.07</b>

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## August

### Meeting Minutes (Treasurer Phil Cloutier filling in for Joe)

Call to order @ 12:56

**Guest and New Member Introduction:** We welcomed David Skrock to his second meeting. He moved up from Las Vegas and has a Lancair 360 in county hangar F3. Definitely interested in touching bases with other Lancair owners on the field. Jim Hammell, has signed on as a new member after attending a previous meeting. He and his wife Celeste are building a CH701 at their Medford home and are interested in talking to other 701 builders. He hosted other folks from the Medford area who may be interested in restarting the chapter there.

**Secretary Report:** The secretary position remains unfilled. This is as good as you get.

**Treasury Report:** Account balance to date is \$2252.40 cash available.

**Airport Advisory Report:** Stan Loer spoke about the planned fuel tank removal project coming up in the next couple of weeks. Stated a fuel truck is standing by if needed because of possible disruption to the fuel dock access. May or may not be required.

**Old Business:** Airport Day October 16. Volunteers requested to serve the pancake breakfast. Jim Hammell and Celeste, Dennis Crawford, Stan Loer, and Phil Cloutier committed to serve. We would need at least 10 persons to assist with the breakfast that morning. Painting letters at FBO apron postponed for cooler weather. Late September or October?

**New Business:** A Stearman flight for WWII Veterans is to happen tomorrow, Monday, at around noon. All are encouraged to attend and show support for our Veterans.

**Round About:** No flying activities. Too hot.

**Additional Comments:** Next meeting Sept. 5 here at the hangar

**Meeting adjourned @ 1:28.**

Submitted by Phil Cloutier with snarky editorial comments by Stan Loer

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## September Meeting

We have a lot of discussion topics for the September meeting. The Chicken Drop and Airport Day will head the list. Hopefully, Zach will be there to give us a rundown on Oshkosh and the subsequent cross country he and his dad made to bring the family 172 to Grants Pass. Maybe also some photos and impressions of the Chapter 292 Fly-in from the attendees. So come to the meeting, participate, and leave with some pertinent information you didn't know you needed.

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## Around the Chapter

### Projects

Just to break up the routine a bit, I'll start with the project our newest member is working on. I asked Jim Hammell for some material for the newsletter and he provided me with a bit of back story, status, and photos.

Jim purchased a CH701 project last October with a partially assembled aft fuselage and many component parts. Over the winter he finished the tail feathers, wings, flaps, slats, Rotax 912uls installation, cockpit, and instrument panel. He's slowly working up to engine start and ground operation. The left photo shows what he started with, the right shows the aircraft in its current state of completion. 90% done, 90% to go?



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Dennis Mitchell has a few more items to tidy up before he's ready to install the glare shield and fit the windshield. He hopes to have that completed by the end of the month. On Wednesday he taxied down to VSI to talk to Ryan about fine tuning the carburetors and preparing the paperwork in advance of the DAR inspection. Still a few months away, but not too early to start figuring out just what hoops he will have to jump through.

A milestone was achieved on the 24<sup>th</sup>, when Dennis C., Phil, and myself helped Dick install the wings on his CH701. All instrumentation indication issues have been resolved (except for fuel pressure), so it was time for strong backs and weak minds to hoist the wings into place. Speaking of weak, Dick is going to need a stronger battery to crank that Jabiru. He wants to do a rough weight and balance first to make sure the existing battery location is OK. After that, it's time to hook up the fuel lines so he can taxi around the tarmac. May be able to do that by meeting time.



Dennis and Phil complete the wing strut attachment for the left wing. The right wing is already in place.



Wow, there really is an airplane inside all that aluminum. Major progress.

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Tracy reports that he has sold his CH701 project that he was storing in my hanger to a new owner from LaPine. Who knew? Guess I should visit my hanger more often. His 701 is ready to go once he replaces a tire. An encounter with the virus set him back a bit, but he's rapidly recovering and figures to be back in action soon. He's hoping it can make its first flight very soon, maybe even before meeting time. He's lined up Chris Beebe to do the honors.

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Gabe Johnston has been very busy with his Dutch Bros. flight schedule and summer family activities, but he continues to make progress on the tail surfaces of his Sonex. He's just about to the point where he'll need a wing kit to continue, but there may be a bit of a detour coming. A decision has been made to seriously consider replacing the recently sold Debonair with another family airplane. He's just on the leading edge of the search for a suitable replacement. Maybe it will be a done-deal by the time I need to put the next newsletter together and we can help welcome their new airplane to G. P.



With Dick Smith's help, Dennis got the cylinders reinstalled on his Ercoupe and is continuing the reassembly of his engine. Expects to finish it within the next several days. Still has to paint the nosebowl, but may have that done by the time you read this. Then it's just getting the cowlings back on and he'll be ready to run. Lots of activities coming to a head in early September. If the smoke clears, we might even get in a lunch flight or two before the fall rains arrive next spring.





Phil is making great progress on his CH650. He's painted his wings and moved both to their new home in A4 as shown in the photo. Control surfaces and other small parts are finished at home. After cleaning up the paint booth a bit and masking the fuselage, it will be ready for paint. We may see it at the airport within the coming week. The base color is metallic bronze and it's quite visually impressive.

Phil finally gave up on trying to make a filter kit work on his Super Sport and returned the oil system to its original configuration. An hour flight last week gave it a clean bill of health.



Zach and his father, Keith, completed their post-Oshkosh cross-country odyssey and brought the family C172 from northern Minnesota to its new home in G. P. It's in hangar 101. So now we have another member with wings. But not to worry. Dad has a couple of airplanes back home to fly, a Rans S7 and Murphy "Rebel". Zach intends to work on an instructor rating over the next several months.

## Around the Airport

### AIRPLANE RIDES FOR TWO DESERVING VETS

At the end of July I learned of an event coming up that I felt needed attention. Two veterans of WW-2 were going to be flying out of Grants Pass airport as part of the Operation September Freedom program. A beautiful Stearman that is operated as part of Dream Flights would take Bill Francis aged 94, and Larry Wills aged 98 up for a flight over town. Francis had served in the Navy on the USS Midway and Wills was a ball turret gunner for many missions over Germany in a B17 bomber, a very dangerous job. When I heard this I contacted the Courier and said now's the time to honor vets like all the signs on the highway say. On Monday, August 2nd, the paper, along with quite a sizable crowd, showed up at the airport to watch the Stearman land. I spoke at length with both very impressive gentlemen. The Courier wrote an excellent article about the day, which I would suggest you look up for more information about these men. A few of us also pulled our same era aircraft out onto the ramp and Mr. Wills asked me to take him for a ride in my Ercoupe, which I plan to do. Dream Flights operates a good number of these white Stearman Kaydets around the country for this purpose. It was a humbling and impressive experience to meet these fine men. They absolutely loved their flights, and at the end of his I watched Mr. Wills as he just sat stoic-in the cockpit, silent. His pilot asked him if he was ok. He calmly replied...yes, just remembering.

Got to have a few photos to memorialize the event. Here's a small selection from Joe's and my collection.



Bill (left) and Larry (right) are strapped in with helmets on, ready to go. Can't imagine what was going through their minds as they awaited their flights. It was a real treat to see them honored in this way at this point in their lives.



Not too many left from our "Greatest Generation". Good to see there are organizations like Dream Flights which pays tribute to those remaining few.



Oh to be a fly on the cowling with an earpiece. What stories these two must have had to share.

## **County**

On the fuel island project, the bid process is in its second round. Only one bid was received the first time and it was declared incomplete. Previous milestone dates have come and gone, so no promises are being made. There are actually two contracts in the project, one for tank removal and the other for site prep. But they go together and the project encompasses both parts to be complete. The second bid has been ruled complete, but not yet approved through the county legal department.

## **AIRPORT DAY PLANS (from Joe Williams)**

We are working toward a very special event this year. In our planning meetings we have received positive input for the following potential activities. Of course, most any of these are fluid, and could be changed, or canceled for various reasons. This is just fact of any such planned event. We will have a classic car display of some sort, we are not certain which group will end up participating but we have options. There will be a band playing near the car show. ODF plans to provide a booth, Smokey the Bear, and possible static display from the Aviation Division and a waterdrop demo. DutchBros plans flyby(s) of Corporate Aircraft. Pacific Aviation will have static aircraft displays, and possibly rides of some sort. There will be a version of the Chicken Drop contest that will involve public participation in the form of choosing their preferred winner and prizes. Rural Metro is working on having a REACH Helicopter on display. There will be a display of RC model aircraft. And last but not least !...I have arranged for a WW2 CORSAIR fighter plane to arrive and be on static display. This subject to weather, visibility and other factors but it is scheduled and will be paid for by some very generous donors among our airport community. I am familiar with this aircraft and it is a beautifully restored rare plane that is not commonly seen at smaller shows. On the Food and Beverage list we have a number of vendors signed up including Mexican, BBQ, HotDogs, drinks and a Snow Cone machine. As usual the EAA Chapter will also have the Popular Pancake Breakfast going in the morning hours until food runs out. There are other plans in the works but this gives you an idea of what a fun show it will be. Updates will follow as things change or get added. As far as the current mask mandates, we feel that being an outdoor event with ample space in all, masks will be purely up to the individual. We hope to see everyone there, and ask you to assist with the Pancake Breakfast if possible. Parking is still a challenge we are working on. More on that later.

Joe

## **FIFTH ANNUAL CHICKENDROP CONTEST (Also from Joe Williams)**

On September 10th we will hold the 5th annual contest. As usual we will provide trophies and other items for winners and some participants. This is an open contest for all licensed and legal pilots. As before, each aircraft will use one rubber chicken to drop upon a ground target, either by pilot or designated bombardier. The closest to bullseye will win the pot. Each participant will be charged \$5.00. (nope, no inflation here !). I will also have some giveaways for the kids. The rules are simple: A 200' AGL hard deck, but altitude above that and speed is up to the pilot. It is a lot of fun to participate and/or watch. If you would like to see video of previous contest, look up ErcoupeTV on Youtube.com. Video #3 in the series takes you to last year's drop. Any questions contact Joe Williams at [Joew601h@gmail.com](mailto:Joew601h@gmail.com).

Joe

## **Pacific Aviation**

- The low visibility conditions caused by smoke from the area forest fires is definitely causing a continued juggling of student flight instruction schedules to take advantage of every available VFR hour. One active IFR student is continuing her instruction and is making great progress towards her instrument rating.
- Caleb Cross has joined the Ramp Associate team which includes Nick and Liam. A real 3 Muskateers group.
- Christiaan Schrimpf's last day is Tuesday. He has been hired by NetJets, a company that sells fractional ownership shares in a wide variety of private business jets.



## **Baker Avionics**

Mostly business as usual, but they're preparing for a major project starting in September and continuing for the next several month's. This will be the avionics upgrade of Shaun's Turbo Commander, which should arrive in the next few weeks. Photos? For sure. Don't we all need flat panels and touch screens?

## **VSI Aviation**



Progress continues to be made on the RV10. The cabin superstructure has been fitted. Ryan is designing a long-range tank to fit the rear seat area as the owner wants the capability to fulfill his dream of flying to Europe. Has he been talking to Andreas?



This photo doesn't do the display justice. No chance I have anywhere near enough years left to learn how to use this high-tech instrumentation. And it probably goes far beyond years. I'm looking at PhD level stuff and I didn't get beyond a BS. Interpret that any way you like.

Drew Meltebeke has been working on his Air Cam at home, but it will be returning to VSI after the RV10 is complete. This is a very interesting aircraft with twin Rotax engines. Looks like a canoe with wings. I've included a few photos in the past when he was initially working on it in Ryan's shop. Will be interesting to see how it has progressed since.

It looks like Derek Reed's RV6A may finally be sold. Ryan has a handshake agreement with an interested party in Eugene. No money has changed hands, but it's a start. I'll have an update next time around.

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## **Farther Afield**

A few of us from the chapter made like road warriors and braved I5 to make the Chapter 292 Fly-in which was held the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at Independence. Attendees were Dennis and Cheryl Mitchell, Dick and Beth Smith, and myself. I had hoped to fly up, but the smoke here kept me grounded. Although visibility there was somewhat degraded, it locally remained VFR and a wide variety of aircraft arrived for the event. However, the attendance was down a bit from prior years, and I'm sure the many fires in Oregon, California, and Washington had something to do with that. The COVID restrictions also, although the event was almost all outside and very few masks were being worn. There were no forums and no Saturday evening program, but the dinner was well attended. Sunday's STOL competition featured home-grown talent in four different classes. Even an Ercoupe was entered-in a class of one.

As usual, there was a lot of aviation eye candy to grab your attention although, understandably, Van's products dominated the flight line. Given the conditions this year, most were from relatively close by. I got a good collection of photos and I've selected a few to give you a little flavor of the event. Sure would like to see some of these show up here for Airport Day. And maybe some of our chapter members will occupy a few tie-down spaces up there next year.





The latest teen-build project is this RV-12. The chapter has sponsored a number of these projects including a CH701 which recently completed its 40 hour flight test program.



Full-scale replica 1915 DeHavilland DH2 , one of 7 which were started several years ago. 3 were shipped to New Zealand as partially completed projects. This is the first one finished and has about 5 hours flying time. Not sure about the status of the other 3.



Bill McLagan's Skeeter 2 Mermaid, from the Czech Aircraft Works. Powered by a Jabiru 3300. It's for sale.



1974 Sportavia RF5B motorglider owned by Collin Gyenes of McMinville. Powered by a Limbach 1700 VW conversion. Used to be one of these at G. P.



The Chapter's Teen Build CH701, powered by an Aeromomentum AM15. This is a Suzuki-based engine . Bill McLagan was the primary mentor for the teen group builders. The aircraft has completed its flight test program and will soon be Missouri bound.



Father and son Stardusters. David Baxter and his Starduster 100 hail from St. Helens. Son Daniel and his Starduster 200 are from Lake Oswego. They arrived in formation. Beautiful matching paint schemes.



Although it's registered to the 21 Flying Club, Inc., you will most likely find Robin Reid in the pilot's seat. This 1928 KR34 reportedly has been in the family since 1930.



A beautifully finished Sonex owned by Russel Vanlandingham from Salem. Powered by an Aerovee 2180.

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## Future Happenings

### September

4th: OAHS Great Oregon Homebuilt Fly-in, Cottage Grove. **Maybe the last fly-out opportunity of the season. Attendees will be asked to wear a mask in compliance with whatever state requirements are in effect as of this date.**

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>: Flying Legends of Victory Tour. CAF Arizona Wing B17 "Sentimental Journey" at Medford Airport, Million Air FBO. Tours and flights available. Check schedule for times at [azcaf.org/tour](http://azcaf.org/tour)

10<sup>th</sup>: 5<sup>th</sup> annual Joe Williams Chicken Drop Contest, Grants Pass Airport.

10<sup>th</sup>-12th: Western Antique Aeroplane and Automobile Museum Fly-in, Hood River

15<sup>th</sup>-19th: Reno Air Races

25<sup>th</sup> and 26th: California Capital Airshow, Mather Field, Sacramento featuring the USAF Thunderbirds

### October

2<sup>nd</sup>: OAHS Fly-in Breakfast. Last of the season.

16<sup>th</sup>: Grants Pass Airport Day

And Finally



Just a final reminder. This isn't a chapter activity, but it's a real fun event thanks to Joe and his sponsors. And it's the **Fifth Annual**.

So come out and enjoy. Be a participant, help on the ground crew, or just be a spectator and cheer on the pilots and chicken chuckers. In most cases they will be one and the same. A good time will be had by all, **garonteeeed**.

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## **EAA Chapter 725 Grants Pass Airport-3S8**

**Meets: 1st Sunday of the month-1:00 P. M at the Chapter Hangar**

**Summer months: Chapter hangar with barbecue at 12:00 noon**

**Joe Williams.....President**

**Dennis Crawford.....Vice President**

**open.....Secretary**

**Phil Cloutier.....Treasurer**

**Stan Loer.....Newsletter Editor (stazel@cpros.com)**

**Ed Lee.....Web Editor**



