

1955-2021



The Beacon 15

April 2021

Upcoming
Meetings:

May 11th

AirVenture 2021 Camping

AirVenture 2021. It's that time of year again... finally!

So who's going this year? If you are and need a camping spot, EAA Chapter 15 and Chapter 461 are teaming up again to camp at Oshkosh. We had a great time together (except for the dust after the storm..) and we're doing it again. Also, invites are going out to other Chapters in our area as there was interest shown about having having our own 'island'. Hopefully we'll have another cookout like we had last year!

We've sent out an email earlier this month about camping and we're including the email in this months newsletter. We need to act quickly so we can secure a better location than we had in 2019. Josh Krecek, Treasurer of 461, is handling all the reservations (Thanks Josh!) and we need to start lining things up now.

This is what we need from you:

Name

of people

Arrival Date

Departure Date

If you are showing up later in the week there are typically spots available as some people start clearing out Wednesday/Thursday.

Spots are \$252 for the week, no refunds for early departures. The quicker we can get these in the better spot we can claim.

Checks of \$252 can be mailed to the following address:

EAA Chapter 461

118 S Clow International Parkway

Bolingbrook, IL 60490

Attn: Oshkosh Camping

When sending your check, make sure you let Josh know the what Chapter you are from and also let me know so I can compile a list of members attending

**MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DO. IT'S ONLY \$10 PER YEAR...
CHEAPEST AROUND! FILL OUT THE FORM IN THE NEWSLETTER
AND MAIL, OR CATCH UP AT ONE OF THE COOKOUTS.**





Trevor Christoffersen

Hello everyone, this is Trevor again and I would like to give you all an update on everything going on here as of recent. Currently, right now there has been some more things that have happened since my last update. A couple of weeks ago I ended up going to O'Hare to do some more plane spotting which is a thing I like to do when the weather is warm outside. While I was there, I met a friend who is a member of an organization group called the ORD airport watch. By being able to learn more about this group, I have realized that all the people who are a part of it are also passionate when it comes to aviation. I plan to sign up for a membership and will see what ends up happening as time continues to go on. I signed up for a membership to be a part of the Chicago Area Business Aviation Association (CABAA) and I hope in the future that I can try and get involved in that as well. I also volunteered at a young eagle's flight rally recently for chapter 461 and had a fun time there and getting to go up on an awesome ride with Bob (Thank you Bob). With everything happening, I am curious where these future opportunities will end up taking me and to continue to experience the world of aviation in ways that I have never seen before. I am looking very forward to where all these opportunities will take me and the new things that may come along the way while I am here in college. -Trevor





Ray Aviation Foundation Scholarship information for 2021

We're still taking applications for this years Ray Foundation Scholarship. Candidates must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum of age 15 for glider training.
- Age 16-19 for powered flight training.
- Possession of a student pilot certificate.
- Possession of FAA medical certificate. (private pilot students)
- Be able to begin their flight training within 60 days of receiving the award.

Additional consideration will be given to candidates who are former Young Eagles, EAA student members, and actively participating in the EAA Flight Plan, specifically the Sporty's Learn to Fly Course.

Once selected by the chapter, the youth will also be screened by EAA through an application process, which will require approval from the local chapter. If approved by EAA, the scholarship recipient will have to comply with the following requirements of EAA Chapter 15:

- Partake in two hours of chapter volunteer service per month, such as:
- Young Eagles rally volunteering.
- Pancake breakfast/fly-in - Cookout volunteering - Concession Trailer
- Fundraising Opportunities
- Chapter build project support.
- Chapter meetings participation.
- Assisting other members with aircraft maintenance
- Submit regular progress reports, signed off by local chapter and CFI.
- Reach flight training milestones, as outlined by EAA's training timeline.

If you are a possible candidate or know of someone deserving of such a wonderful opportunity, please reach out to a member of the chapter or contact us at scholarships@ea15.org





A Word From the Prez



Ok... so I'm sitting here trying to think about something to write... just enough to fill one page. I've been in this position before, and let me tell you, it's not easy. I have low expectations about how many people actually like this... let alone read it. Some people just may skip this page and go to the next... and some may read it all the way through.. and that's just outstanding. Or, I got a guy that could possibly write an article for me but it wouldn't be my own words. So, lets see what I have for this edition.

It's been 2 weeks since I wrote the words above and I still didn't have anything to write until today. A couple nights ago, I was sitting on my patio next to the fire pit working on my computer. While dodging the smoke when the wind was changing, I was watching a few YouTube videos and noticed a 'recommendation' video on the side for 'This is your life'. I watched a total of 2 that night about this particular subject. The first was a description was about a WWII pilot, Douglas Bader. I've never heard of him... probably because he wasn't a pilot from the U.S. It so happened that it was the U.K version of the program that aired in March of 1982 and Douglas Bader wasn't who I thought he would be. Without giving away the shocking story behind the man, he was a significant pilot in the RAF. He was in fact an ace with the RAF credited with 22 aerial victories, four shared victories, six probables, one shared probable and 11 enemy aircraft damaged. He was shot down over German occupied France and was captured. If only he could run away... (watch the video and the movie and you'll understand) He remained a prisoner until 1945 when The First United States Army liberated the camp. I'd love to write more about it but I highly suggest watching the video link below on YouTube and also the movie *Reach For The Sky*.

The second video was about Johnnie Johnson of the RAF. He was featured on *This is Your Life* in May of 1985. Johnson was credited with 34 individual victories over enemy aircraft, as well as seven shared victories, three shared probable, 10 damaged, three shared damaged and one destroyed on the ground. Johnson flew 700 operational sorties and engaged enemy aircraft on 57 occasions. Included in his list of individual victories were 14 Messerschmitt Bf 109s and 20 Focke-Wulf Fw 190s destroyed making him the most successful RAF ace against the Fw 190. This score made him the highest scoring Western Allied fighter ace against the German Luftwaffe. Also, Johnson is credited in intercepting a flight of four Fw 190s. The German fighters, however, waggled their wings to signal non-hostile intent and Johnson's unit escorted them to an RAF airfield. Unlike Bader, Johnson continued to fly with the RAF until 1966, including flying with the US Air Force during the Korean war in both a Lockheed F-80 and a North American F-86 Sabre. At the end of his tour, he received the US Air Medal and Legion of Merit.

It wasn't until tonight that I realized these 2 men had something in common besides being RAF pilots. After the death of Bader in 1982, Johnson, along with Denis Crowley-Milling and Sir Hugh Dundas set up the Douglas Bader Foundation, to continue supporting disabled charities, of which Bader was a passionate supporter.

Douglas Bader YouTube Video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4408_DJOu3I

Johnnie Johnson YouTube Video: [video https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2ZfHeS6KMU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2ZfHeS6KMU)



Rans S-21 Update: Bob Kopeika

Work resumes after the move to the hangar last month. The wings were hung with no issues. Working on the many punch list items now. It will be done on a Thursday some time in the near future.

If anyone wants to stop by and take a look (but of course don't touch) let me know.
Gpbob1@sbcglobal.net



Currently working on a project? Let us know. Send us a short write-up along with some pictures so we can get it in next months newsletter!





News From Oshkosh

March 25, 2021 – Along with all the experienced aviators at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh each year, The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration inspires many others who find themselves asking, "I would love to learn to fly someday. What steps do I need to take to begin flight training?" The Learn to Fly Center at AirVenture's bustling EAA Four Corners area can provide the information they need and kick-start their flight training journey.



"The ultimate mission of the Learn to Fly Center is to motivate, excite, and show attendees a clear pathway to those who are inspired to earn a pilot certificate," said David Leiting, EAA's membership development manager. "We love to see the passion of people who are eager to learn because of AirVenture, but we also know they need answers to their many questions."

The EAA Learn to Fly Center will feature multiple stations, each dedicated to helping individuals take a step forward in their desire to learn to fly. Certified flight instructors (CFIs), experienced pilots, and those fresh out of flight training will be on hand to help answer any questions about the flight training process. Special attention will be given to helping visitors select the correct certificate that fits their flying desires, finding an Aviation Medical Examiner in their area, and how EAA can help them through their training process.

Also in the center will be four flight simulators outfitted with EAA's Virtual Flight Academy. Visitors will have the opportunity to fly a short introductory scenario, such as basic maneuvers and flying the traffic pattern. Users can access this same tool at home, via downloadable scenarios from [EAA.org/VFA](https://www.eaa.org/VFA).

To accomplish this mission, EAA will need a great team of volunteers. Whether you are a CFI, student pilot, recently passed your checkride, or are simply passionate about getting others involved in flying, we will have a volunteer slot for you. You can email David directly at dleiting@eaa.org if you have an interest in volunteering at the Learn to Fly Center.

The Four Corners area, located at the intersection of Knapp Street and Celebration Way, also features the EAA Member Center, filled with information about all facets of EAA and AirVenture, and the popular Pilot Proficiency Center designed for enhancing skills and decision-making for current pilots. The fourth corner welcomes the return of an EAA merchandise area, where visitors can find AirVenture apparel, souvenirs, and more.



Joke of the Day



The controller, while working a busy shift, told a 737 on downwind to make a three-sixty (do a complete circle, usually to provide spacing between aircraft).

The pilot of the 737 complained, "Do you know it costs us two thousand dollars to make a three-sixty in this airplane?"

Without hesitating the controller replied, "Roger, give me four thousand dollars worth!"

Classifieds

Stratux ADS-B Dual Band Receiver Aviation Weather and Traffic - AHRS, WAAS GPS

Now available: \$210

W/ 10000mAh External Battery Pack \$230

Brand New Units: 2 available



The Stratux provides the following ADS-B In services: Flight Information Service-Broadcast (FIS-B) - FIS-B provides regional and continental NEXRAD radar imagery from the National Weather Service, as well as NOTAMs, METARs, TAFs, PIREPs, winds aloft and other valuable in-flight weather services.

Contact Darren @ info@eaa15.org for more info



2002 Piper Arrow—N53580 | S/N 2844087—\$129,000



More information available at the below address

<http://www.flywildblue.com/airplane-for-sale/2002-piper-arrow/n53580>



What's happening in 2021:

Here are some important aviation dates in our area for 2021. More will be posted as the dates are confirmed. Lets hope this year turns out a lot better than 2020. See you at:



TBM Reunion May 14-15, 2021 The TBM Avenger Reunion & Salute to Veterans Airshow is BACK for 2021! The show returns to the Illinois Valley Regional Airport (KVYS) in Peru, Illinois! Friday Night (May 14th) & Saturday, May 15th. Friday Night Activities are 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM and Saturday will run from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM. EAA Chapter 15 will be there as a food vendor selling our famous mini donuts!!!! See you there!



Cavalcade of Planes June 5-6 2021: Clow International Airport 130 S. Clow International Parkway Bolingbrook, IL. Saturday, June 5th 2021 & Sunday, June 6th, 2021 Open 10:00am to 4:00pm Each Day.

More info can be found at <https://cavalcadeofplanes.com>.



Eyes in the Sky July 2-4 Lisle, IL. Approximately 50,000 people attend this annual, family oriented event, which features colorful hot air balloons, large scale flights, and dramatic evening balloon glows. We are still waiting for info for this years event.



AirVenture 2021 July 26-Aug 1: It's back! AirVenture is on and long overdue. With it's cancellation in 2020, everyone is itching to go back this summer for planes, planes and more planes. Once again, Chapter's 15 and 461 are teaming up for another great camping experience. Interested in camping with us? Contact us at info@eaa15.org to get more information. Camping is to anyone that wants to join us but we need to make reservation for spots soon!



EAA Chapter 15 Poker Run Date: T.B.A We are currently working on the date for this years poker run. Right now, it looks like it might be later in the year, probably in August or September. We'll keep everyone updated.



PLANE PERFECT PRODUCTS



At Plane Perfect, we have a passion for airplanes and couldn't find products to suit our detailing needs. Everything on the market either didn't work very well or was decades old formulas that could be improved for higher polish and more durability. We created a catalog of modern, safe products that work on metal, fiberglass or fabric and provide a level of quality just not achievable with older formulas. They are superior on cars, boats and RV's too! One other thing: We're local!

email: info@planeperfect.us phone: 630-882-2465



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THE GRAND CHAMPION - AIRPLANE DETAILING PROFESSIONAL PACK

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PERFECT SEAL AND PROTECT - AVIATION GRADE SEALANT

\$ 34.95 ~~\$ 49.95~~



ECOCLEAN - WATERLESS AIRPLANE CLEANER

\$ 13.25 ~~\$ 20.95~~



INTERIOR CLEANER - ODORLESS INTERIOR CLEANER

\$ 9.95 ~~\$ 29.95~~



THE ESSENTIALS - AIRPLANE DETAILING PILOT PACK

\$ 89.95 ~~\$ 124.95~~



EAA Chapter 15 Non-Profit Declaration and Legal Disclaimer

EAA Chapter 15 exists as a non-profit organization whose sole purpose is to promote the interests of its members, aviation. EAA Chapter Officers, Directors and Leaders serve without compensation and have sworn to carry out the will of the membership by means of Democratic processes and rules of order set forth in the Chapter's by-laws. No claim is made and no liability is assumed, expressed or implied as to the accuracy or safety of material presented in this publication. Viewpoints of those who contribute to this newsletter are not necessarily those of EAA Chapter 15, the EAA, or their board members. You must be of good character, adhere to the chapters by-laws, and respect the chapters Mission and Value Statement to become a member of the chapter. Dues are \$10.00 per year payable to EAA Chapter 15. Chapter dues are payable at the first meeting of the calendar year. Member correspondence and newsletter contributions are encouraged to be submitted by email to info@eaa15.org by the 25th of month to be considered for the next newsletter. Membership can be found at www.eaa15.org/membership.htm. The form can be filled out and mailed to the address:

EAA Chapter 15
1 George Michas Drive
Romeoville, IL 60446

EAA Chapter 15 meetings:
 2nd Tuesday of each month
 Board Meeting 6:00 pm
 General Meeting 7:00 pm

Location: Lewis Airport (KLOT) in the main conference room.
 1 George Michas Dr.
 Romeoville, IL 60446
 Website: www.eaa15.org



President	Darren Lilja	darren@eaa15.org
Vice President	Jerry Schiera	ggerald@juno.com
Secretary	Terry Scott	terryst@eaa15.org
Treasurer	Tom Williams	jrtwms@sbcglobal.net
Board Member	Jim Christopher	Coming soon
Board Member	Bob Remedi	Coming soon
Board Member	Jerry Ossowski	Jerry_osso@comcast.net
Board Member	Lee Nelson	Coming Soon
Newsletter Editor	Darren Lilja	darren@eaa15.org
YE Coordinator	Ed Neurnberger	Coming Soon



EAA Chapter 15

Membership Application or Renewal



Please print and complete this form and mail to the address below with a check for \$10 for the Chapter's 2021 dues. If you are a new member, please check the appropriate box below or contact a Chapter 15 officer or board member for more information. Dues renewals are due ASAP. As always, you can pay your dues in person at our meetings.

- MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**
- NEW MEMBERSHIP**

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

HOME PHONE _____ ALT. NUMBER _____

SPOUSE NAME (If applicable) _____

NATIONAL EAA NUMBER _____

Please mail this form and a check for \$10 made out to "EAA Chapter 15" to:

EAA Chapter 15
1 George Michas Drive
Romeoville, IL 60446

Chapter website: www.eaa15.org

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