

1955-2023



The Beacon 15

January 2023



## *EAA Chapter 15 Newsletter*

Upcoming  
Meetings:

Feb 14th

Before anyone says anything, yes, it's been some time since our last newsletter. A lot has happened in the last year and we're sure we're not going to cover everything to in this newsletter. Hopefully we'll be back on track and publish one every month as we have a ton of things ahead of us in 2023.

### *Chapter 15 Dues... are Due*

The first item for the newsletter, Chapter Dues. For the 4th year in a row, the Chapter dues remain the same... at just a whopping \$10! That is less than \$1 a month to be an EAA Chapter 15 member. The dues help with paying for our yearly insurance and to keep our chapter in good standing with Oshkosh. Dues are due by March 1st, 2023.



**FILL OUT THE FORM IN THIS NEWSLETTER AND MAIL IT IN,  
BRING IT TO THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING, OR CATCH UP  
AT ONE OF THE COOKOUTS.**

### *It's Back!*

It was a tradition many moons ago, one everyone looked forward to each and every year. Well, we think it's about time to bring it back. What is it? Soup Night. Yup, you heard it right, soup... just like your mama use to make (we hope). Terry Scott has been pushing for this for some time and has been looking for an accomplice. All of the sudden, who swoops in? None other than Steve Targosz of the Targi twins. They are currently working on date and the formalities. As soon as they can lock that down, we'll send out the info. I personally said I'll help make some soup, maybe I'll whip out grandma's old recipe book. Ox tail Soup? Or, the recipe she made in the old country, Chicken Testicle Soup. Don't get me wrong, with the description 'Chicken testicles are creamy on the inside and very similar to tofu but they have a tighter skin that's more like a sausage' it sounds like a treat to behold. Others say it reminds them of an undercooked egg. This soup is said to have good health benefits and you can buy black or white chicken testicles for your soups. Yummmmm!





## *A Word From the Prez*



Wow... it's been how long since our last newsletter, hasn't it? You would think I would have a ton of things to write about since the last one. As many of you know, anything that did happen was often talked about during one of the weekly cookouts we held during the summer. We were very fortunate with the weather in 2022, I think we only cancelled 2 dates because of rain, but we did move them to Thursday. Again, we set the bar really high this summer, there were a few times that we had over 50 people, and one of the days we didn't think a lot of people would show up... we hit 70! We ran out of chairs and were scrambling around everyone's hangars trying to find more. We totally underestimated that day BUT... we did have enough food for everyone. Needless to say, the beverage fridge took a big hit. We met a bunch of new people this year, we had pilots from up from Champaign and Kankakee, down from Lake in the Hills and Waukegan. We even had a trio from out of Midway Airport make a few cookouts during the year. We're already working on 2023 for the cookouts, and it's going to be interesting with the new tower being active this year. We going to change things up a bit, one thing is we'll probably not advertise them as much as we did last year. And before moving on to another topic, I have to thank my partner in crime, Tom Williams. He took over as lead cook all summer and he put our griddle through the ringer.

For all the years we owned it, it's never worked as hard as it did in 2022. Not only was it used weekly, we also took it on the road to Lockport Canal Days. Along with selling mini donuts from our concession trailer, we took a gamble of knocking out Maxwell Street Polish. Tom wasn't the only one flippin' on the grill, Terry Scott took the reigns on the first of 3 loooooonngg days. Oh, and the concession trailer. We started out the season by attending the TBM Reunion in LaSalle, IL. Things were going great.... Until... something on the donut machine broke. A long story short, we found a husband and wife, that are also EAA members, from some airport out west, to help tig weld the broken part. To our surprise, it was the wife that knew how to weld! But, it was the same story as 2021... it rained on Saturday and the days events were cancelled. The trailer is parked now, but we plan to do some upgrades in early spring to get it ready for 2023. Maybe Oshkosh bound?? Only time will tell.

One other update: The Ray Aviation Scholarships. As of this writing, we have 2 scholarships available. I'm happy to report that one of them is spoken for. Who is it? We'll disclose that information within the next few weeks when it's officially presented to the individual. I can say that our scholar came from our Young Eagles event we held at Lewis University back in the fall and they are looking forward to starting in the next couple of months.





January 2023



## *What's Jimmy D. up to?*

Hi Everyone!

It's been a while since I have seen most of you, so what better way to tell you what I'm doing than in a newsletter article. As of right now, I'm sitting just shy of 200 hours with a majority of them still being in Pipers. I have finally become comfortable using the G1000s at school as well. As for progression on my instrument rating, I am in the home stretch! On Thursday I am going to start the school's testing out process by taking my stage 2 oral exam. Following that, I will have a stage 2 flight and then the check ride very soon after (as long as the weather plays nice). The instrument rating has been a very challenging, but fun rating to work on. With the New Year just starting the other day, I have two goals; #1- To finish my instrument rating this month, #2- get my commercial license by the end of the year. That's about all I have to update everyone on, and hopefully, the next time I see everyone I will be an instrument rated pilot!



- Jimmy



## *Lewis Tower is open!*

The Lewis University Tower is now open! They are open 7 days a week 6am-8pm (the Chart Supplement is wrong). Tower frequency is 134.8 (CTAF when tower closed) Ground is 120.425, and the ATIS is 126.675. Be as accurate as possible when making position reports! Tower has no radar, so help them out when they need it (lights on helps)! Confused? Ask for help! Hopefully we'll have information about a meeting/presentation about the tower and their procedures, along with a tour courtesy of Chris Lawson.





## *Ray Aviation Foundation Scholarship information for 2023*

We're taking applications for the 2023 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@eaa15.org](mailto:scholarships@eaa15.org)

Application form is now available online @ [www.eaa15.org/forms/rayapp.pdf](http://www.eaa15.org/forms/rayapp.pdf)





## News From Oshkosh

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2022 is in the books, and it turned out to be a record setting year.

“We introduced a tagline of ‘Unlike Anything Else’ for this year’s AirVenture event and 2022’s fly-in proved to truly be unlike anything else,” said EAA CEO and Chairman Jack Pelton. “We had seven days of nearly perfect weather, along with this year’s programs and activities, which brought out people and airplanes in numbers that we haven’t seen before.”

This year’s attendance was approximately 650,000 people, which was 7 percent more than 2021’s attendance, and exceeded the previous record of 642,000 which was set in 2019.



“There were several factors involved in the record attendance this year, in addition to the great weather,” said Jack. “Programs such as the 75th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force contributed to exciting aerial displays all week, and it was a joy to welcome our international visitors back in full force for the first time since 2019.”

Here are some other details from this year’s fly-in:

**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 18,684 aircraft operations in the 11-day period from July 21-31, which is an average of approximately 121 takeoffs/landings per hour when the airport is open.

**Total showplanes:** 3,226, including: 1,375 registered in vintage aircraft parking, plus 1,156 homebuilt aircraft (up 6 percent over 2021), 369 warbirds (up 5 percent from ’21), 137 ultralights, 87 seaplanes, 77 aerobatic aircraft, and 25 rotorcraft.

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

**Forums, Workshops, and Presentations:** More than 1,400 sessions hosted throughout the week.

**Social Media, Internet, and Mobile:** More than 10.6 million people were reached by EAA’s social media channels during AirVenture, with engagement of 1.1 million; More than 83,000 hours of viewing EAA video clips online also occurred during the event.

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## News From Oshkosh

*Continued from previous page:*

**International guests:** International visitors returned in a big way in 2022, with attendees from 92 countries outside the U.S., just one behind the record total from 2019.

**The Gathering shines:** The EAA Aviation Foundation's annual event to support its aviation education programs attracted more than 1,000 people and raised more than \$2 million dollars that will be focused on EAA's mission of growing participation in aviation.

**Media:** 797 media representatives on-site, from six 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.

Looking ahead to 2023, Jack pointed out that the early planning conversations have already begun.

"We're going to take a little time to give our staff and volunteers a well-deserved rest, but there were numerous discussions at AirVenture 2022 about possibilities for next year," he said. "Certainly the 70th anniversary year of EAA will be among the big considerations as we look forward to next year's edition of The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration."

## *Joke of the day*

The captain was helping a new blonde flight attendant prepare for her first overnight trip.

Upon their arrival, the captain showed the flight attendant the best place for airline personnel to eat, shop, and stay overnight.

The next morning as the pilot was preparing the crew for the days route, he noticed the new flight attendant was missing.

He knew which room she was in at the hotel and called her up to ask what happened to her. She answered the phone, crying, and said, "I cant get out of the room!" "You cant get out of your room?"; the captain asked. "Why not?"

She replied, "There are only three doors in here," she sobbed, "one is the bathroom, one is the closet, and one has a sign on it that says Do Not Disturb!"



## Chapter Merchandise

Chapter Golf Shirts \$20 (Multiple colors available)



Drink Tumblers: 20 oz \$15 30 oz \$17



Mugs: \$9



Regular Glasses: \$7



(Personalized Tumblers: add \$2)  
(2 Lines: Name and/or N-Number)

Other regular glasses are available.

Items can be picked up during any of the weekly cookouts, monthly chapter meetings, or meet up at Lewis Airport. Shipping is available at an extra cost.

Please allow 5-6 business. If looking for a set of 4 or more please contact at [info@eaal15.org](mailto:info@eaal15.org)

## Classifieds



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

Now available: \$200

W/ 10000mAh External Battery Pack \$230

Brand New Unit



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@eaal15.org](mailto:info@eaal15.org) for more info





## *What's happening in 2023*

Here are some important aviation dates in our area for 2023. More will be posted as the dates are confirmed.



**TBM Reunion May 19-20, 2023** The TBM Avenger Reunion & Salute to Veterans Airshow is BACK for 2023! The show returns to the Illinois Valley Regional Airport (KVYS) in Peru, Illinois! Friday Night (May 19th) & Saturday, May 20th. 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 3-4 2023:** Clow International Airport 130 S. Clow International Parkway Bolingbrook, IL. Saturday, June 3rd 2023 & Sunday, June 4th, 2023 Open 10:00am to 4:00pm Each Day. More info can be found at <https://cavalcadeofplanes.com>.



**June Poker Run??** There's a good chance it's coming back in 2023. The board members will be discussing it at the next meeting. We'll have an update next month.



**AirVenture July 24—July 30 2023:** Last year's attendance was approximately 650,000 people, which was 7 percent more than 2021's attendance, and exceeded the previous record of 642,000 which was set in 2019. What's it going to be like this year when EAA celebrates 70 years!

## More events and dates coming soon





## 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](mailto: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](http://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](http://www.eaa15.org)

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Board Member	Lee Nelson	
Board Member	Steve Targosz	
Newsletter Editor	Darren Lilja	
YE Coordinators	Jerry Ossowski	
	Ed Neurnberger	
	Darren Lilja	



## **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 2023 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](http://www.eaa15.org)**

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