

Runway 15



The Monthly Newsletter for EAA Chapter 1541, Lincoln, California

March 2019

Briefing Strip

- Our next chapter member meeting is Wednesday, March 20, at Cattlemens Restaurant in Roseville. Meeting starts at 6:00 pm. Dinner is optional but if you plan to eat, cost is \$22 cash or check payable to EAA Chapter 1541; credit or debit cards also accepted. Details on the program are inside.
- Beginning in April, our meetings will move back to our EAA Hangar at the Lincoln airport, optimistic for those warm spring evenings with birds chirping, etc.
- New T-shirts and caps are back from the vendor and will be available for purchase in the very near future. Both shirts and caps are \$15 each, and we have some women's styles now available in the shirts. More inside.
- Our next chapter Young Eagle Rally is scheduled for Saturday, May 4. Set the date aside.
- Our chapter has applied to EAA HQ to participate in the Ray Aviation Scholarship program that will allow EAA to disburse \$1 million in funds as \$10,000 flight training scholarships. More coming.
- As announced last month, our two EAA Air Academy sponsor winners are Amy Whelan and Sarah Wallin. Our chapter is beginning the paperwork process to get them registered and set for their July trips to Oshkosh, Wisconsin.

Calendar

- Saturday, March 9:** BBQ Lunch and Program, EAA Hangar 11:00 am-1:00 pm.
- Saturday, March 16:** LRAA display day at Lincoln Airport, 08:00 am-12:00 pm (no chapter pancake breakfast at the display day until April).
- Wednesday, March 20:** Monthly Member Meeting at Cattlemens in Roseville starting at 6:00 pm. Program:
- Saturday, April 6:** Pancakes and a Movie, EAA Hangar 8:00 am to 10:00 am.
- Saturday, April 6:** Chapter board of directors meeting, EAA Hangar, 10:30 am-12:00 pm. All members invited.
- Saturday, April 13:** Airport Fun Day from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at the EAA Hangar: aimed at youth and families, we'll offer hot dogs, aviation movies, events, information, and fun. More inside.
- Saturday, April 20:** LRAA display day at Lincoln Airport, 08:00 am-12:00 pm with EAA Pancake breakfast offered from 08:00 am to 10:00 am.
- Saturday, May 4:** Chapter 1541 Young Eagle Rally

In addition to the events listed above, there are pancake breakfasts, fly-ins and other aviation activities scheduled for almost every weekend throughout the area. Check the chapter website calendar for the most current information: <http://eaal541.org/events/>

For the most up-to-date information, go to the chapter website

<http://eaal541.org>

Newsletter Contributions

Please help by contributing stories and photos that might be of interest to other chapter members. Perhaps where you flew, what you are building, or what you know about something. A few short paragraphs and a photo or two of your project or travels would be a great contribution. I'll take care of the rest. Please email me (Scott Thompson) at sthompson@aerovintage.com or call me at 916-716-3442.



Dues are Still Due!!

A reminder that with the new year, the 2019 chapter dues are due. Member dues are \$20 for a single member and \$30 for a family membership.

Our chapter also offers a sustaining Gold Membership for \$300 per calendar year, a level that includes a few perks including chapter prepared pancake breakfasts, BBQ lunches, BBQ dinners, and a nifty gold badge.

Also, please note that if you are a member of an EAA chapter, you are also expected to be a member of the national EAA organization, details of which can be found at the EAA website at eaa.org.

Chapter Information

Meetings:

Usually the third Wednesday of each month held at KLHM Hangar S-12. Details available at the website.

E-mail:

eaal541@gmail.com

Website:

<http://eaal541.org>

Mailing address:

EAA Chapter 1541, PO Box 1126, Lincoln, CA 95648

Chapter Hangar:

Hangar S-12, Lincoln Airport

Chapter Officers

President:

Scott Thompson

Vice President:

Tom Lieb

Secretary/Treasurer:

Jim Hughes

Chapter Board of Directors:

Cheryl Andrade

Darren Coomler

John House

Dan Masys

Bruce Robinson

Randy Sharp

Erika Wallin

Ruben Wallin

Webmaster:

Dug Smith

Newsletter:

Scott Thompson (916-716-3442)

(sthompson@aerovintage.com)

Membership:

Chapter dues: \$20 per year for individuals; \$30 for families; \$300 for gold membership.

President's Corner



*by Scott Thompson
Chapter President*

Spring is almost upon us and, for aviators, that means good weather and more flying. Thus for our chapter also, as we have an uptick in activities and events as spring gets going. Let's go over a few of these coming attractions.

First off, beginning in April, we will move our monthly member meetings back to the chapter hangar. We had four months of Cattlemens which I thought worked out nicely, but we do have different kinds of meetings at Cattlemens vs. what we have at the hangar. It's a different environment and we have a bit more latitude in our meeting structure.

Also in April, we return to support our friends at the Lincoln Regional Aviation Association (LRAA)...many of us are members too of LRAA. But, with the LRAA display day on the third weekend of each month, our chapter will provide a pancake breakfast alongside the LRAA display day. All proceeds from the pancake breakfast support our Aviation

Scholarship program. We are spending a good chunk of money out of the program to send two young people to the EAA Air Academy this summer, so we need to replenish our fund to help send some more next year.

Also, a bit of a different event will be held on Saturday, April 13. This will be a chapter-sponsored Airport Fun Day. We will be having a hot dog lunch but, more importantly, we will be offering activities for the whole family with an emphasis on youth. We want to spread the word on what our chapter is doing and provide some information about the opportunities of aviation.

It is no accident that the Airport Fun Day is three weeks before our chapter's next Young Eagle Rally. Beginning March 26, we are accepting sign-ups for Young Eagles to get a ride in a plane, as well as sign-ups for pilots and volunteers to help out. It is our intent to fly 80 kids at this Rally...broken down into 20 kids in four blocks of 90 minutes each. This will be our third Rally in the prior 12 months...the other two Rallies were filled to capacity and we expect the same this time around too.

So, looking at the big picture, we are quickly spinning up the activity turbine for April and early May. Lots of opportunities for jumping in and helping make these events, our chapter's events, a success. This should be a fun season for our chapter. And, we have just the right place for all our chapter members to join in on the fun.

What's your name, who's your daddy?

You want to go where everybody knows your name, or so they say. But it is apparent that some older dudes have trouble just remembering their own names and thus cannot be expected to remember much else.

Now, we don't have anyone in our chapter like that, but if we did it would be nice for all to be wearing name tags. So, being a forward-thinking group, we are going to make it easier for all of us to have name tags on our shirts that are facing forward. As part of this initiative, we are going to make a few small changes, to wit:

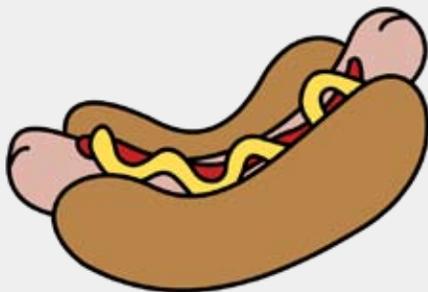
New individual and family members will be provided with one name tag by the chapter. To offset the cost of the name tags, first year membership dues will increase to \$25 for individual membership and \$35 for family memberships. After the first year, the dues will revert to the standard \$20 and \$30 respectively.

Additional name tags for family members can be purchased for \$7 each, prepaid at the time of ordering. Gold members will be provided with one gold name tag as part of that membership level. Cool.

Airport Fun Day Scheduled for Saturday, April 13

Mark your calendars. Our chapter will be hosting an Airport Fun Day on Saturday, April 13, between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm at the EAA Chapter at Lincoln. This will be a youth-centered family event as we go out to the community to spread the word about chapter activities to benefit youth.

We will have several static displayed aircraft on hand, with pilots standing by to answer questions and discuss aviation. We will have a flight simulator available, and will run the hit Disney movie *Planes* and it's sequel during the event. We will have information about the Young Eagle event to be held on May 4, and also information about the scholarship and sponsorship opportunities our chapter offers to young people interested in aviation. All this plus a variety of other activities that should appeal to kids from 3 years old all the way to older teenagers.



And we'll have hot dogs and associated lunch stuff available all during the event.

This day will be our chapter kick-off for the spring and summer months. Aviation has a lot to offer all the time but during the flying season it offers fun to sport aviators. We'd like to spread that fun around a bit, but also want to take to opportunity to highlight some of the opportunities offered by both our chapter and the aviation community in general. As chapter members, please plan on setting aside the day to help make this a success. And, please, if you have any suggestions ahead of time on things to include or activities to share, please don't be bashful. We are always looking for some new fresh ideas and if you have some, please let a board member know or just drop an email to the chapter at eaal541@gmail.org.

Chicken Shot

The FAA Flight Safety program has a unique device for testing the strength of windshields on airplanes. The device is a gun that launches a dead chicken at a plane's windshield at approximately the speed the plane flies. The theory is that if the windshield doesn't crack from the carcass impact, it will survive a real collision with a bird during flight.

It seems the British were very interested in this and wanted to test a windshield on a brand new, speedy locomotive they're developing. They borrowed the FAA's chicken launcher, loaded the chicken and fired. The ballistic chicken shattered the windshield, went through the engineer's chair, broke an instrument panel and embedded itself in the back wall of the engine cab. The British were stunned and asked the FAA to recheck the test to see if everything was done correctly.

The FAA reviewed the test thoroughly and had one recommendation: "Use a thawed chicken."



Monthly Member Meeting
Wednesday, March 20, beginning at 6:00 pm
Cattlemens Restaurant, Roseville



The February member meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 20, at the Cattlemens Restaurant in Roseville. **Dinner is optional but available.** Menu choices will be Top Sirloin Steak, Lemon Herb Chicken, Grilled Atlantic Salmon, or Pasta Ravioli, plus all the standard Cattlemens sides for a standard, out-the-door cost of \$22 per meal that includes tax and tip. Meals include coffee or tea; other beverages are available on a “cash and carry” basis from the bar. Important note: there will be one meal bill presented to the chapter so you will be paying the chapter for the dinner and then we will pay the restaurant bill.

Very important note: Before you order, please be prepared to pay \$22 per meal in cash, check (made out the EAA Chapter 1541), or debit/credit card to be collected by our chapter. Let's make this easy to do...expect no change to be provided by our chapter as we collect the money to pay for your meals.

The presentation for the evening will be by Dave Vega, the regional sales manager for the Concorde Battery Company. Dave Vega brings decades of experience working with lead acid batteries, in both technical and customer support, working with maintenance and repair stations throughout the west. Dave has a 35-year aviation background in General Aviation to Business Jet & Rotorcraft markets. Dave began his aviation career working at Standard Aero back in 1982 and has continued as Regional Sales Manager for parts distribution for last 20 years, successful in sales management and support. Dave joined the Concorde Battery Sales Team in 2018.



Dave is an accomplished public speaker having presented to aviation related audiences ranging from GA groups, airframe manufacturers, private training, and IA Renewals throughout North America.

New Chapter T-Shirts and Caps Available



The 2019 EAA Chapter 1541 t-shirts and caps have arrived. Both the t-shirts and caps feature the updated chapter logo. The shirts are a sky blue color, and the cap is dark blue with white trim. Both will be available for purchase at chapter events for \$15 apiece. The 2019 Gold Members can choose either a cap or a t-shirt and receive it as a member benefit. We also have on hand some women's sizes and it is a simple process to order more. The chapter is also going to make available nice-quality polo shirts



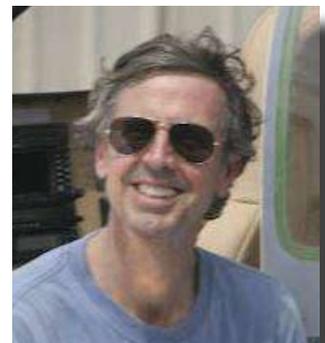
but these will be pre-ordered and pre-paid by those who want them before we place the order. Look for details soon on polo shirts.

EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship

Our chapter applied earlier this year to participate in the new EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship program whose goal is to distribute a grant of \$1 million in the form of \$10,000 flight training scholarships that will be administered by individual chapters. As this newsletter is being finalized, we heard back from the EAA qualifying committee. We were happy to hear that our chapter did qualify for the program... our application was ranked at 100 out of 231 applicants. However, the \$10,000 scholarships are going to the top 90 chapters only so, until more funding is made available, we will not be able to bring forth a candidate at this time. Our chapter leadership is still absorbing the details of the EAA response to our application and will continue to pursue the participation of our chapter in the Ray Aviation Scholarship. Board Member Erika Wallin is our Scholarship Coordinator for the program.

New Chapter Board Member

At the March chapter board of directors meeting, chapter member Dan Masys was elected to the board to replace Bill Wooton, who had to resign in January due to time conflicts. Dan brings a wealth of experience with him to our chapter board based on his significant involvement with two other EAA chapters. Dan moved last year from Washington State with his wife Linda to the Lincoln area, bringing their RV-10 and RV-12 with them, Dan will serve out the board term which ends in December 2019.



City explores options for airport's \$6.4M debt

Lincoln's Finance Department is undergoing a staff-described "overhaul" and on the list of items to be remedied are the city-owned Lincoln Regional Airport financials. As of June 2017, the airport has amassed a \$5-million loan debt in borrowed funds, according to the most recent annual audit that analyzed the 2016/2017 city finances. An additional \$1.4-million in interfund loans brings the total balance to \$6.4 million in the red.

"The airport does not have the revenues to repay the debt it is carrying," said Airport Committee member and Mayor Paul Joiner.

The result has been a years-long practice of interfund borrowing that is not compliant with the city's own standards, according to staff. Lincoln Interim City Manager and acting Finance Director Jennifer Hanson said the \$5 million amount is a short-term loan that is not in line with proper accounting methods. The other \$1.4 million is in the form of an interfund loan related to the financing of an airport hangar project, according to Hanson.

"I believe it's a problem that's been building and it just hit an inflection point," said Airport Committee chairman Richard Pearl.

Hanson said that the immediate need to address the city's interfund processes has brought the issue of the airport's finances into the forefront in a way it hasn't previously. The city has shored up the airport's more immediate operational debt by increasing revenue and decreasing expenses related to its labor and fuel operations, according to Hanson.

"What we haven't been able to do is make a dent in the previous debt and that keeps compounding," Hanson said.

The audit found that the airport's enterprise fund does not have a demonstrated ability to repay the \$5 million in borrowed funds.

Additionally, an analysis of the airport's financials conducted mid-February by the city's contracted financial consultant Stephanie Beauchaine characterized the airport's operating

fund as "essentially insolvent." In summary, Beauchaine wrote the fund has \$6.4 million in borrowed funds, debts in excess of assets of \$510,000 and "only has 6.9 days of working capital on hand."

Hanson said the practice of non-compliant interfund borrowing will not continue and that the city's comprehensive interfund loan processes are currently undergoing staff review before the issue is presented to council within the fiscal year. Next steps to rectify the airport committee's debts are now being discussed amongst city staff and advisory Airport Committee members in ongoing public meetings, the next scheduled for March 20 at City Hall.

"It's going to be a combination of reducing expenditures, increasing revenue, and possibly the selling of some of the assets that the airport currently owns," Hanson said.

One of the first steps in the city's preliminary plan to reduce expenditures is to cut staffing and reduce full-time staff from two to one employee. Hanson said the staffing change will impact the operation hours of the airport but will still allow full-time service.

"Over the last few years, we've been working diligently to stop the bleeding at the airport and I think we've got that fairly well-handled," Joiner said. "Moving forward, we've got to take a look at that long-term liability of debt that has built up over the past couple of decades."

Pearl said cutting costs won't singularly solve the problem and he wants to focus more on growing the airport and hiring a professional management company to take over. Other options suggested by staff include privatizing services, implementing a public-private partnership, better leveraging fuel costs and leasing land to private entities.

Joiner said the city's financial outlook has improved enough for the city to begin to address the airport's debt. "I think we're look at this more directly now than we ever have," Joiner said.

**FREE AIRPLANE RIDES FOR CHILDREN
AND TEENS**

YOUNG EAGLES RALLY

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 2019

8:30am to 2:30pm

LINCOLN REGIONAL AIRPORT

Sponsored by EAA Chapter 1541

Our Lincoln EAA chapter is offering free airplane rides to any young person aged 8-17 at our Young Eagles Rally to be held at the Lincoln Regional Airport on Saturday, May 4th beginning at 8:30am, weather permitting.

The Young Eagles is a national program by the EAA that has provided over 2 million young people with introductory flights since its inception in 1992. Our chapter participates with local experienced EAA pilots who offer their time and planes to introduce the world of aviation to young people. Parental permission is required.



To register for a YE flight, go to **website <http://yeday.org>**, and you can also get more information about the national EAA program at EAA.org.

Come join us for a fun morning for both kids and parents. The Young Eagles Rally will be held at the main area of the airport, next to Norcal Flight Center, Gate 2, 1420 Flightline Dr. Lincoln, CA 95648. Signs will direct you; however, you can't miss it.

Space is limited and you need to register ahead of time.

Register Online Beginning March 26th

<http://yeday.org>

You must pre-register online. Parental approval and signature required.

This is not a school funded activity

Questions? Contact Chapter 1541 Young Eagles Coordinator, Cheryl Andrade
(cherylsclub@gmail.com or 530-923-7111)