



Runway 15



The Monthly Newsletter for Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1541, Lincoln, California

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On the Horizon: Calendar of Events

For the most up-to-date information, go to the chapter website: <http://eaal1541.org/>

Date	Topic
Wednesday, January 15, 2020 6:00 pm dinner 7:00 pm meeting	Monthly chapter meeting at Cattlemens Restaurant. Program: Dr. Dan Masys "Why am I so Dizzy?" Understanding Inflight Spatial Disorientation and Vertigo
Saturday, February 1, 2020 8:00 a.m. Chapter hangar	Pancakes and a Movie
February 1, 2020 Chapter hangar, following pancakes	Chapter Board Meeting All chapter members welcome
Wednesday, February 5, 2020 7:00 p.m.	IMC Club meeting

Sat. Feb. 8, 2020 11:00 am EAA hangar	BBQ Lunch Program: Aviation News and Video Vignettes
Wednesday, February 19, 2020 6:00 pm dinner 7:00 pm meeting	Monthly chapter meeting at Cattlemens Restaurant. Program: Scott Thompson Sacramento's Airports, Past and Present

EAA CHAPTER 1541 INFORMATION

Meetings	Usually the third Wednesday of each month held at KLHM Hangar S-12. Details available on the website
E-mail	eaal1541@gmail.com
Website	http://eaal1541.org
Mailing Address	EAA chapter 1541, PO Box 1126, Lincoln, CA 95648
Chapter Hangar	Hangar S-12, Lincoln Airport
President	Darren Coomler
Vice President	Dan Masys
Secretary/Treasurer	Jim Hughes
Chapter Board of Directors	Cheryl Andrade John House Mike Lagomarsino Ray McNaught Bruce Robinson Randy Sharp Scott Whelan
Webmaster	Dug Smith dug@dugbert.com
Newsletter and Tech Counselor	Dan Masys dmasys2@gmail.com

Membership	Chapter dues: \$20 per year for individuals; \$30 for families; \$300 for gold membership
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President's Corner

Hello EAA 1541, Happy New Year!



Let me introduce myself. My name is Darren Coomler and I'm your new chapter president> Before I get much further I need to thank

Scott Thompson and the previous Board of Directors.

This team has done a great many thing to strengthen the chapter, from major upgrades to the hanger, public outreach including Young Eagles, Airport Fun Day, and LRAA display days, to scholarships for young aviation enthusiasts. This group has also provided excellent member meeting programs covering all types of interesting aviation related topics. My immediate goal is to continue the programs and actives set forth by this team with same level of commitment.

I little about myself: I've been a member of this chapter for a little over 2 years now, and I fly a 1976 Piper Warrior that I co own with my son-in-law Tim Cooper. I'm a Student Pilot, with my PPL check ride scheduled for mid-February. I feel that my current rating gives me a different perspective on how we approach our chapter activities. By becoming an aviator at a later age, I wanted to fully immerse myself in

everything aviation since I really knew nothing. I joined AOPA, EAA, and chapter 1541.

Joining our chapter has been everything I hoped for and more. With the rich aviation history and experience that our combined membership possesses there is no question flight- or airplane-related I can't seem to find that someone in our chapter has first-hand experience with.

I would like to utilize this vast resource of experience and knowledge our members possess in another goal I have for the upcoming year. With the success of the Young Eagles and Airport Fun Days I see that the public is very interested in experiencing more aviation-related activities after they attend one of these events. As part of encouraging these folks to join our chapter, I'd like to have some of our experienced aviation-related members share their personal experiences and career paths. We have a couple of current member families with young people looking at career options in aviation, and chapter members have stepped up and gone out of their way to help these youth on their journey. I can't think of a better calling than to help the future aviators with a vision of what could be.

I'll make a point to introduce myself to all of you over the next few member meeting and get your input on ideas for activities for the upcoming year.

Thank you!

Darren Coomler
President, EAA chapter 1541

Crew Change

In addition to welcoming Darren Coomler as chapter President, 2020 also welcomes a Board of Directors with new faces, and some new roles for Board members who still have the same face as before 😊.

The 2020 Board membership includes:

Vice President	Dan Masys
Secretary/Treasurer	Jim Hughes
Young Eagles	Cheryl Andrade
At Large members	John House
	Mike Lagomarsino
	Ray McNaught
	Bruce Robinson
	Randy Sharp
	Scott Whelan

If you have ideas for new chapter activities, or suggestions for improving what we are already doing, feel free to contact any of the Board members. We are here to serve you.

Holiday Party Hurrah!

Our chapter's annual Holiday Party on December 11 was not only a celebration of fellowship, food and fun, but also a great boost to the chapter's Scholarship fund that supports sending young people to EAA Air Academy at Oshkosh. Forty-eight dinners were served, and counting the evening's silent auction, raffle, donations and net proceeds after paying the restaurant, a total of \$1980 was added to the Scholarship fund.

Highlights of the evening included Randy Sharp's video, which included highlights of 2019 along with Ray Scholar Amy Whelan's first Solo on December 9th. We congratulated Amy on her pilot training milestone, and she wore her 'cut tails' solo T-shirt proudly! Tony Kasabasich again did a great job as Master of Ceremonies (loudly and with great flair) for the auction and raffle as well as the door prizes.

Young Eagle Pilots Wanted

Our first Young Eagle Rally will be held in May. We always fill all of the 75 or more reservation slots for airplane rides, and need

Young Eagle pilots. (A combination of the more the merrier and many hands make light work.)

You may already meet several of the requirements to fly a Young Eagle just by holding a current pilot certificate. Here are the requirements in full, which are designed to ensure your and your passenger's safety.

To fly passengers in the EAA Young Eagles[®] program, you must:

- Be an EAA member.
- Complete the [EAA Youth Protection Program](#), which includes a short training session and background check.
- Have a valid airman's certificate (sport pilot or greater).
- Possess a current medical certificate or BasicMed (if applicable).
- Be current to carry passengers in the aircraft you plan to use.
- Have a current biennial flight review.
- Conduct flights in an aircraft that is in airworthy condition.
- Have Aircraft Passenger Liability Insurance for the aircraft used (owned, rented, or borrowed).
- Adhere to all applicable Federal Aviation Regulations.
- Complete a Young Eagles registration form **before** the flight, signed by you and a parent or legal guardian.

For more information, contact our Young Eagle Coordinator, Cheryl Andrade at cherylsclub@gmail.com or see the EAA national Young Eagle web pages at <https://www.eaa.org/eaayouth/free-ye-flights/ye-volunteers/ye-volunteer-opportunities/eaayoung-eagles-volunteer-pilots>

Note: the background check done by EAA national as part of the Youth Protection Program involves a wait of a few days to a few

weeks for results, so if you are interested in becoming a YE pilot, start the process as soon as you are able.

**EAA 1541 Sponsorship of EAA Air
Academy Youth Camp,
Oshkosh WI
Summer of 2020**

Only a few days remain! Applications are due by January 15, 2020 for up to two 2020 Air Academy Awards that will be sponsored by EAA Chapter 1541. Each sponsorship will cover the Air Academy tuition costs (which includes food and lodging) and a \$700 travel stipend for transportation to, and from, Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Other incidental expenses will be the responsibility of the attendee and his/her family.

Applicants must have a sincere interest in aviation, and desire to have a “hands-on” experience of a lifetime through EAA’s on-site aviation classes in Oshkosh!

Our Sponsorship Award will go to one teen, age 14-15, and the second award in the 16-18 age bracket. (Must be of this age at time of camp.)

Basic Air Academy for the 14 & 15-year-old group is scheduled for July 6-11, 2020. Advanced Air Academy for the 16-18 yr. old group, is scheduled for July 24 – August 1, 2020

(Note that EAA Chapter 1541 reserves the right to not award one or both sponsorships if, at the discretion of the chapter, no suitable candidates have applied.)

All information about the Air Academy may be found on the EAA website: www.EAA.org

Application deadline for the chapter’s Air Academy Sponsorship Award is January 15,

2020, and the application may be downloaded from our Chapter website at <http://eaa1541.org/airacademy/>.

Please complete the online application, save it, and email to: airacademy@eaa1541.org

Questions, please contact Cheryl Andrade at: cherylscub@gmail.com

A Long Project Becomes a Plane

On Tuesday, January 7, 2020 chapter member John Tate’s RV-6A loosed the surly bonds and became a flying aircraft.

Originally started in 1997, the project had passed through the hands of three previous builders before John was able to get it to the finish line of a successful airworthiness inspection and RV grin-generating first flight.



Many EAA 1541 members helped along the way, particularly Dick Rupe, Ken Schwartz and Tech Counselor Dan Masys. The aircraft’s registration, N787TJ, reflects both John’s day job as a Dreamliner pilot for United, and the fact that all of the good N7xx numbers ending in JT had already been reserved by a pilot named John Travolta.

Congratulations, John!

Just for Laughs

Editor's Note: chapter members have from time to time noted that the newsletter is useful, but a bit on the dry side. In attempt to spice it up a little, we will be including a little aviation humor and some interesting images from time to time. Enjoy!

Drone Pilot Awarded Purple Heart

Beale AFB, CA

When an electrical fire disabled Colonel Jack "Van Go" Vandermulen's Predator drone, the 65 year old veteran pilot exclaimed "Mayday! Mayday! We're going down! We're going down!" while sitting at his cubicle, sources close to his office confirmed.

Witnesses stated Vandermulen began violently pulling and pushing the various ergonomic levers under his seat in an apparent attempt to "eject" himself. Unable to trigger an ejection, the pilot called out "Jammed! Alternate bailout. I'm outta here!" and rolled abruptly over the right armrest of his chair. He impacted the concrete floor, and his then un-piloted drone, armed with two Hellfire missiles, reportedly crashed into an Afghanistan hillside some 6,743 miles away.

Meanwhile, Air Force officials have been at a loss to explain the pilot's bizarre behavior. However, one drone crew member, who wished to remain anonymous, said there were some early warning signs. "We should have suspected a problem when he showed up for the mission in a leather bomber jacket, helmet, and goggles."

The Air Force later issued a statement admitting that Vandermulen was part of a new classified program dubbed "Balding Eagles," utilizing seasoned military airmen to fill the

government's growing need for Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPA) pilots.

The program has come under intense scrutiny following the incident. Concern has mounted at the highest levels of DoD that similar events might occur with other aging pilots. But USAF defenders of the program argue that this isolated case must not be used to bar all older pilots from flying RPAs.

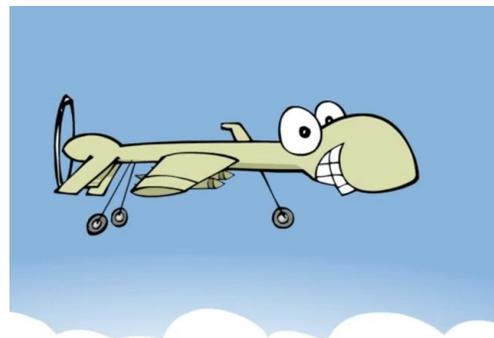
In an article to appear in next month's AARP Magazine entitled "The Baby Boom Bombers," author Christine Timmel argues that "with key accommodations such as post-it-note reminders and fun brain teasers during mission planning, aging pilots can continue leading successful RPA attacks."

Vandermulen is currently being treated for a broken right hip. No word yet from the Air Force as to when he will return to duty.

In other RPA news, it was reported that starting next year, an elite group of high scoring X-box veterans will be remotely piloting some of the US RPA fleet, from their bedrooms in California.

As long as it's ok with their mom.

*Adapted from The Aviator's Bathroom Reader
By Drew Chittea*



Sightings



Those Thunderbirds really know how to put on an airshow finale!