



# Runway 15



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

## Briefing Strip

- The program at our chapter's most recent BBQ Lunch on August 10 featured photos and personal impressions of **Oshkosh Airventure 2019** by three chapter members who attended (More inside.)
- Our chapter's **IMC Club** dodged the heat of a 105 degree day and 22 attendees met in the air-conditioned KLHM Pilot Lounge on August 14 to discuss, among other things, a flight that encountered problems in IMC conditions while trying to return home from **Oshkosh**.
- Our next chapter monthly member meeting will be held on **Wednesday, August 21**, at our chapter hangar beginning at 6:00 pm. The program will be presented by our two EAA Air Academy Scholarship recipients, Sarah Wallin and Amy Whelan, on their experiences at the **Air Academy program and AirVenture 2019**. (Do you detect a pattern here? )
- Our chapter has set the date for our next Airport Fun Day: **Saturday, September 14**. It will be similar to the one our chapter held in April.
- Readers with an eye for detail will notice a slightly different format for the chapter newsletter, beginning with this issue. This marks the passing of **the newsletter editor** baton from Scott Thompson to Dan Masys. Many thanks to Scott for his loyal editorial

service to the chapter, and please help Dan by sending any 'news fit to print' to the chapter e-mail address.

## In This Issue

Briefing Strip	1
Calendar of Events	1
EAA 1541 Chapter Information	2
President's Corner	2
There I Was... at AirVenture 2019	4
EAA Advanced Air Academy	6
Gone West: Fred Immen	7
Mark Your Calendars	8

## On the Horizon: Calendar of Events

For the most up-to-date information, go to the chapter website: <http://eaa1541.org/>

Date	Topic
Wednesday, August 21 EAA hangar 6:00 pm dinner 7:00 pm program	Monthly Chapter Meeting  Program: EAA Air Academy and AirVenture Experiences  Sarah Wallin Amy Whelan
Wednesday, September 4 EAA hangar 7:00 pm- 8:00 pm	IMC Club Both IFR and VFR pilots welcome!
Saturday, September 7 EAA hangar	Pancakes and a Movie

8:00 am – 10:00 am	
Saturday, September 7 10:00 am	Chapter Board Meeting All chapter members welcome
Saturday, September 14 EAA hangar 11:00 am – 2:00 pm	Airport Fun Day
Wednesday, September 18 EAA hangar 6:00 pm dinner 7:00 pm program	Monthly Chapter Meeting  Program: The A-10 Thunderbolt II (or if you prefer, Warthog!)

Newsletter and Tech Counselor	Dan Masys <a href="mailto:dmasys2@gmail.com">dmasys2@gmail.com</a>
Membership	Chapter dues: \$20 per year for individuals; \$30 for families; \$300 for gold membership



**President's Corner**



We've had some comments recently that our EAA chapter seems to be a pretty active chapter and, looking at our

calendar, I would have to agree. We do have a lot going on and there is more coming. Our chapter has some excellent opportunities we are pursuing and hope to turn some into initiatives in the near future.

To start, I want to make sure that everyone is aware of the great success enjoyed by our two sponsored EAA Air Academy students this past month at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Their experience at the Air Academy was the culmination of a process our chapter started about this time last year...in seeking to take advantage of the fund raising we did for the Richard and Susan Bristow Memorial Scholarship Program. We had a lengthy selection process that evaluated nine applicants, all students, for a "full-ride" sponsorship at the EAA Air Academy. The two young women we selected, Amy Whelan and Sara Wallin, both enjoyed their week-long camps at the EAA HQ facility at Oshkosh learning about the many

<b>EAA CHAPTER 1541 INFORMATION</b>	
Meetings	Usually the third Wednesday of each month held at KLHM Hangar S-12. Details available on the website
E-mail	<a href="mailto:eea1541@gmail.com">eea1541@gmail.com</a>
Website	<a href="http://eea1541.org">http://eea1541.org</a>
Mailing Address	EAA chapter 1541, PO Box 1126, Lincoln, CA 95648
Chapter Hangar	Hangar S-12, Lincoln Airport
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 <a href="mailto:dug@dugbert.com">dug@dugbert.com</a>

opportunities for fun and career in the aviation world.

As part of the sponsorship award, both Amy and Sarah are going to report back to the chapter on their Air Academy experiences at the August Member meeting to be held Wednesday evening, August 21, at our chapter hangar.

Initial reports by Amy and Sarah were so enthusiastic that our chapter board has decided to continue our program and sponsor, again, two Air Academy students to attend next summer. Information about the application and evaluation process is forthcoming, but expect applications to be due by January 31, 2020, with sponsorships awarded by March 1, 2020, for Air Academy weeks in July 2020. To make this happen, we are also going to need to do some specific fundraising to support our scholarship program, so look for that in the near future too.

We also have had some direct reports from attendees at the big EAA AirVenture convention at Oshkosh. We had at least a dozen from our chapter make the trek to Oshkosh for the big show the last week of July. They brought back some excellent information about some specific programs coming available to chapters, among them being some new Young Eagle initiatives and a chapter recognition program.

The EAA chapter recognition program is growing in importance as it can help meet evaluation standards for such EAA initiatives as the Ray Scholarship (worth \$10,000 to qualified scholars for flight training). If we are going to be a busy and active chapter, we might as well get recognized for it and take advantage of EAA opportunities.

As sliding into our expanding youth outreach, you also need to be aware that our chapter will hold another Airport Fun Day on Saturday,

September 14, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. This is an opportunity to invite the general public out to see our airport and our chapter in action. We have planned some local involvement from William Jessup's new aviation program, the local DART team, a radio-control aircraft display, a flight simulator, and more. The Fun Day proved to be an unexpectedly popular event when we held the first one last April. I ask that all chapter members plan on giving this effort five hours of volunteer time on that Saturday. We need help in everything from cooking a hot dog lunch to ramp security to parking assistance. The more the merrier so please raise your hand when we come asking to put names down for our different teams.

The Airport Fun Day is a segue into our next Young Eagle Rally to be held on Saturday, October 12, with five blocks of flights to be flown between 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. We expect to once again fly 75 Young Eagles on that day. Registration for the Young Eagle Rally, which provides free flights experiences for young people aged 8 through 17, will open at our Airport Fun Day on September 14. It is like we planned to tie it all together because, well, we did.

There is more stuff going on in the background, but these are major events we are planning for September and October, so please join our chapter's efforts to spread the good word about aviation. There are many opportunities to get involved and, for me, I thank those that do get involved because it could not be done otherwise.

Finally, you will note a new look to this chapter newsletter this month. Dan Masys has agreed to take on the job of compiling and editing the newsletter. Dan has done this for other chapters in the past and I'm looking forward to some new ideas and formatting changes. For me, I did my first newsletter for the chapter in August 2016, and so compiled a total of 36 over the three years. Time constraints require

that I let go of this worthy task, so I am grateful that Dan has stepped up to take on the job. Please help Dan out with photos and written contributions...it makes newsletters so much easier to prepare and more interesting by having a variety of contributors.

Scott Thompson

**There I Was...  
At AirVenture 2019!**

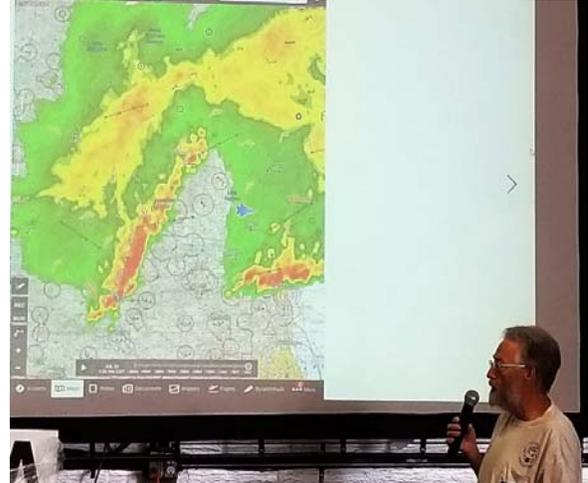
As dessert for the August 10<sup>th</sup> Saturday BBQ, three EAA 1541 chapter members offered their photos and impressions after attending this year's EAA AirVenture extravaganza at Oshkosh.

Chapter president **Scott Thompson** introduced the session by giving an overview of how Airventure (or simply "Oshkosh" as it has become known over the years) has evolved from an EAA-focused event to an internationally famous celebration of aviation of all types, including military, corporate, and general aviation in addition to EAA's traditional homebuilder activities.

**Mark Weitkamp**, who owns and flies a Baby Ace and is building a Thatcher CX-4, described his experience tent camping on the grounds at



OSH for this, his six or seventh visit. He was



there for a memorable set of thunderstorms that drenched the grounds on Friday night and most of Saturday the weekend before the show, dumping more than 5 inches of rain. He showed the weather radar of the approaching storms, and also how it looked from the ground as the storm sirens went off. Those storms turned the grass aircraft parking areas into ponds and rivers that were too soft for aircraft movement, and had to be closed to arrivals through much of opening day. They also turned Camp Scholler into a sea of mud that paralyzed recreational vehicles and stopped even four wheel drive trucks towing trailers.

Mark saw several kindred Baby Aces there,



and made a detour to Kansas on the drive back to visit a Thatcher CX-4 builder.

**Mark Siemens** towed his 5<sup>th</sup> wheel 5100 miles round trip to OSH, and camped in an RV park just south of the seaplane base.



His most memorable memories included the daily airshows, particularly the Wednesday and Saturday evening shows, the daily military fly-by's, the four buildings of vendors where one can buy anything for aviation, walking for miles, and the "best fireworks show ever."



He summed it up by saying it is just the best aviation experience, and "you gotta go."

**Scott Whelan** gave a first-timer's impression of the Big Show. Making it a family affair, Scott and his wife Shirl joined daughter Amy who had been attending Air Academy since the previous week (see Amy's report that follows). Scott and Shirl arrived via a commercial flight to Milwaukee, then a rental car to accommodations in Green Bay, making it a daily 1.5 hour car trip to the AirVenture gate,

and two hours to get out due to parking and traffic snarls.



As an Army veteran, Scott has a soft spot for military aircraft, and his most vivid OSH memory was standing by the restored B-29 "Doc" as an F-22 roared by in a low pass. He also was smitten by the 'out of the blue' appearances of the Blue Angels and Thunderbirds. Scott observed that "once you've been there, you've gotta go back". And he added "do make a schedule for yourself, but be prepared to abandon it." His own schedule had three events each day, and he ended up making it to only three all week due to everything else that was happening.

Neither long roads, wind, rain or lightning kept our chapter members from their appointed rounds at this year's edition of AirVenture, and all reported it being well worth the time, expense and effort.

You gotta go.



## EAA Advanced Air Academy



The EAA Advanced Air Academy was one of the most impactful experiences in my aviation career. This nine day camp taught me more than I ever could have imagined about flying. We had a great deal of exposure to fun

activities such as flying a Cessna 152, flying in a Bell helicopter, and building hands on projects. We learned from college students who are working on aviation related degrees, and they were able to connect with us and pass down what they are learning in school. We finished our amazing week by being let loose and attending AirVenture, the biggest air show in the world.

The camp days were split into two parts: workshop and ground school. There were many hands on activities that I could only get at this camp. The first half of the day was dedicated to workshop, and once we got there on the first day we were split into small groups. My group for that day learned about aviation science with topics like weight and balance, electricity, and safety wiring. After trying to safety wire I realized that it is definitely harder than it looks.

The second day in the workshop we did the composites station. There we made a foam wing and knee board. To make the foam wing we used a hot wire to cut a brick of foam. To make the clipboard we had a slab of marble that we waxed to layer all the supplies, then we laid down fiberglass and alternated epoxy glue on top of it. The second to last layer we placed a

design fabric that would be on the clipboard. We then had to wait a day for the layers to dry and harden, so we came in early the next morning to cut it to size and sand it and then riveted the clip on.

The third project we did was a wooden wing rib. We used a template to cut all the pieces to the correct size and then glued a small wooden square where the two pieces of wood would come together. To secure the wood and glue we used a staple gun to staple over the places where we put glue. We then waited for the glue to dry. After it dried we removed all the staples and sanded around the whole wing rib. The counselor who instructed us on how to make the wing rib then took us out to the museum and showed us different planes and where the wing rib was and all the possible different sizes of them. It was interesting to be able to construct a piece of a plane then see where it would be used in an actual plane.

Another hands-on activity we did was making a spark plug holder. We started with sheets of metal. Then we sanded them and used a step drill to cut holes in them. We then bent the metal to make a box and then riveted the bottom of the box on. The last hands-on activity we did was welding. The goal at the end was to weld a box that could hold water. We started out with welding straight bends and then went to welding pieces together with rod. Finally we used all of our acquired skills to weld the whole box together, and mine achieved the goal of holding water. These projects are something I may never have had the opportunity to do had it not been for this camp. It was one of the most amazing experiences of my life.

The second part of each day was spent in the classroom. We learned about a lot of topics you would not normally think about. The classes were taught by the counselors, and usually what they were teaching was related to the degree that they themselves have been working

towards. It was refreshing to learn from someone not that much older than myself so that they were able to connect with me and provide a deeper understanding.

The first day we did an exercise with weight and balance and learned how to plan a cross country flight. It was a lot of fun, and later on we had an even cooler event where we got to fly the cross country plan we made earlier in the day on a flight simulator. The second day was about aerodynamics and how every part of the plane helps it to fly. We got into more depth and physics than you would normally think goes into flying.

The next day we went over airport finance and the money it would take to run an airport. We went over how different size airports make more or less money and how they could make more money. The fourth day we learned about airport management and how an airport needs all these people to properly function. It was neat to see the difference from the small airport I fly out of versus the big regional airports.

The last day we learned about aero-med and how flight can affect a person's body. We got to watch a video on hypoxia and all the symptoms it can cause as well as how to help someone if they panic when being in the air. We also learned the different types of medical licenses and what kind you need to fly what plane. Having the classroom experiences was very beneficial in broadening my knowledge of aviation.

The program focused on two critical delivery methods of aviation: workshop and ground school. The projects that I was able to produce there were one of a kind. The people I met and the friends I made at the camp will carry everlasting memories. The information I obtained there has helped me grow in my aviation field and inspired me even more to pursue my aviation goals.

I appreciate that I was given the opportunity to represent my chapter at the EAA Advanced Air Academy. I would like to truly thank every person who helped me get to this camp.

Amy Whelan

### Gone West: Fred Immen

Chapter member Fred Immen passed away recently. Fred was a regular attendee and contributor to chapter events. At our most recent Young Eagle rally, Fred was watching over the kiddie airplane provided for eagles who are a bit too young to fly in the real ones.

Fred's daughter Robin sent this aviation biography note about Fred:

Dear EAA Members,

It is with deep sadness that I wish to let you know of the passing of my father, Fred Immen. He passed away on July 13 after a bacterial staph infection took him down a week prior. During that week of bed rest, he talked often of his love of flying and how all he wanted to do was to get into his plane and fly away. He passed peacefully with his family at his side proud to be the oldest family member in recorded history (92 11/12 years). I believe his spirit is now flying free, soaring through the high heavens where there are no FAA regulations or nasty weather conditions to ground his aircraft. During his life flying was his breath and solace, a time to soar above the bounds of earth and feel free.

I feel compelled to share a little of his history, as I am sure he didn't share too much with you, as was his bent. I was always so astounded and impressed with his aviation history and flying abilities up to the last time he flew in June. He was always humble about his experiences and accolades in the aviation field. You may only

remember him as a tough old bird and not very personable, that was just his façade – he was a very intelligent, solemn man with great integrity, thorough thinking abilities and humility. But, if you got him talking, he would share his knowledge and learning experiences freely.

As I have been going through his papers and work history I am finding out even more about this amazing man. We lived together for 12 years and although I got some stories out of him, there was much he never thought to brag about, though he certainly could have. When he was a young lad his mother took him to see a barnstormer; he fell in love with planes then and there. Only 17 when he joined the Navy and learned to fly in a Stearman bi-plane, he could fly before he could drive. He went on to fly a total of 39 types of aircraft!

Although the war ended before he was finished his training, he was proud to have been an active serviceman on D-Day. He was given the option of continuing his full time service or to go into the reserves and receive a full ride to finish his structural engineering degree from Cornell University (he had taken a leave from college to join the war effort). He opted for the Navy reserve where he spent the next 20+ years steadily moving up to become lieutenant commander of an elite helicopter squadron.

He was hired by Boeing right out of college and became one of original designers of the B52 bomber. Eventually he moved on to helicopter design. When the government approached Boeing looking for top engineers, dad was hired away to work as a civilian for the Army's aviation sector. He was awarded several aviation awards; the one he was most proud of being the FAA's Wright Brothers "Master Pilot" award.

Dad was a long time member of the EAA, always joining the nearest chapter to where he lived. He so enjoyed being an active member

and always looked forward to the various events: fly-ins, meetings, air shows and in particular the Young Eagles. He not only wanted his own children to love aviation, but also all children. In his quiet way he always tried to be of help and support. Thank you for welcoming him into your group and giving him a place to share and be surrounded by other aviation enthusiasts.

Warmly,  
Robin

### Mark Your Calendars...

***Saturday, September 14: EAA Chapter 1541 Airport Fun Day.*** We held our first Airport Fun Day back in April and it was unexpectedly popular with the local community. Time for another one, then! We'll have some static aircraft displays, some booths from local aviation schools and organizations, activities for kids from three to eighty-three, and more stuff too. Better yet, a free hot dog lunch for all attendees. Spread the word. Our Airport Fun Day will be held from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. We will need a high level of chapter volunteer participation for a successful event. Please plan to set aside a few hours on that date to help out and share the camaraderie.

***Saturday, October 12: EAA Chapter 1541 Young Eagle Rally.*** This will be our second Young Eagle Rally for 2019, and we will have slots for another 75 kids to fly. Rally will begin with the first flights at 9:00 am and the last ones at 1:00 pm. More information will be sent soon with web sign ups coming in September.

***Wednesday, December 11: EAA Chapter 1541 Holiday Party.*** Need to cool down a bit from these brutal summer temperatures? Think snow. Think Christmas! Expect our annual Holiday party on December 11 to be held once again at Cattlemen's Restaurant in Roseville.

