

# 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://eaa1541.org/>

Date	Topic
Saturday, January 27 11 am – 1 pm	<b>BBQ lunch and program</b> Designing, building, and flying the LR1 biplane air racer Speaker: Cris Ferguson
Thursday, Feb. 1, 2024 7-8 pm	<b>Online IMC/VMC club meeting.</b> FAA Wings credit available. Link to join will be sent via e-mail to chapter members.
Saturday, Feb. 3 8 –10 am	<b>Second Saturday Pancake Breakfast</b> at the EAA hangar
Saturday, Feb. 17, 2024	<b>KLHM Vintage Aircraft Display day</b> 8:00 a.m. – noon main ramp

Saturday,  
Feb. 24  
2024

**BBQ lunch and program**  
11 am – 1 pm

## EAA CHAPTER 1541 INFORMATION

Meetings	Usually the second and fourth Saturdays 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="https://eaa1541.org">https://eaa1541.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	Cheryl Andrade
Secretary	Jim Hughes
Treasurer	Scott Whelan
Chapter Board of Directors	Paul Darbo Penny Mach Lesa McArdle Jeremy Preece
Membership	Chapter dues: \$30 per year for individuals and families; \$300 for gold



## President's Corner



Our chapter is hitting the ground running as 2024 gets underway. Briefly, in the last few weeks and the next few weeks, we have or will have two Pancake Breakfasts, a Build and Fly Informational Meeting on building a chapter RC aircraft, a BBQ Lunch with Program, a World War II Education Day for a local 8<sup>th</sup> Grade charter school, and an IMC/VMC Club meeting. So, lots going on. We are getting a head start on what we hope will be a great year for our chapter.

The chapter Board of Directors is also looking at several new initiatives we are pursuing. Among these: sponsoring young people to the California Aerospace Museum summer camps and Aviation Explorer programs, as well as additional youth scholarship opportunities. We are also in the initial stages of planning a Poker Run for the already-pilots in the group...the tentative date for this is Saturday, March 30. More on this later, but the intent of our chapter is to try and encourage young people and engage our more experienced members with various offerings. These new initiatives are in addition to our established fare: Air Academy sponsorship, Ray Scholarship administration, monthly pancake breakfasts, monthly BBQ Lunches, monthly Young Eagle rallies, etc.

And, happily, our chapter continues to grow. We've added a good number of new members in these last few months and they are bringing new experiences and ideas to the group. Case in point is our program presenter for our January 27th Program. Cris Ferguson and his wife joined our chapter in December, just in time for the Holiday Party. Cris has an extensive aviation background going back decades and he will talk about one small aspect of his aviation experiences: designing, building, and flying a Reno Championship Biplane air racer (more on that program elsewhere in this newsletter).

It is good that we are seeing such new members. As a chapter it is important to seek out fresh blood in leadership...fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and energy. Toward that end, I certainly would like to talk to you if you have any interest in joining the chapter leadership team. There are several opportunities presented elsewhere in this newsletter for anyone with an interest to step up. Please consider how you might want to help the chapter continue to thrive. Talk to me or any of the chapter officers...we want to hear your ideas.

Scott Thompson



## Homebuilders Week

January 22–26, 2024

**LEARN. BUILD. FLY.**

*An online opportunity to learn about building your own aircraft*

By Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager

Homebuilders Week is an online opportunity to carry on the founding mission of EAA by sharing as much knowledge and information about building your own aircraft as possible in five days. We start on Monday, January 22nd, 2024, and end on Friday, January 26th, 2024. Each day, we offer six live webinars back-to-back, starting at 11:30 am central time and running every hour and a half until the last session at 7pm central. The sessions are live and allow time for questions. To sign up for the sessions, visit [www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek)

The topics cover a wide variety of areas of interest to anyone curious about building their own aircraft. We try to make sure there is something for everyone, whether you are just considering the idea of building an aircraft, are knee deep in a project or getting ready for test flying. We even have EAA president Jack Pelton lined up on our anniversary date, January 26<sup>th</sup>, to talk about EAA's Advocacy efforts on behalf of the homebuilt members.

EAA Homebuilders Week coincides with the anniversary of the founding of the Experimental Aircraft Association in 1953. We have come so far since that first EAA meeting. Back then, information on homebuilding was sparse and hard to come by. I know that if our founder, Paul Poberezny, was still with us, he would give us a big thumbs up for this effort to support the homebuilder.

EAA Homebuilders Week is made possible through the generous sponsorships of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co., Dynon, and Scheme Designers, Inc.

Visit [www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek) to sign up.

### January 27 BBQ Lunch and Program

Our Fourth Saturday BBQ Lunch and Program will be held on Saturday, January 27, from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm. The BBQ Lunch starts at 11:00 at our hangar at the Lincoln Regional Airport. If you are not familiar with our hangar's location, come to the airport and just follow the "EAA" signs.

***The grill is hot from 11:00 a.m. until 11:45 a.m. when it shuts down, so come early. BBQ Lunch is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for youth 17 or under (yep, we changed the youth age range to 17 and under), and \$25 for families.***



And, for your convenience, we are now accepting credit and debit cards, plus other methods of electronic payment, for our meals, t-shirts, dues, and donations. Also, if you have not paid your chapter annual dues (\$30 for single or family membership) we will accept payment for that also.

And, remember, we will have our two flight simulators up and running. We just added a T-6 Texan, a P-51 and a Spitfire to the options, so perhaps you'll want to take one for a spin around the circuit, old chap.

There will be a short business meeting at 11:45, followed by our program beginning at 12:00 noon.

***Our program for January will be presented by chapter member Cris Ferguson.*** He will speak on designing, building, and flying the LR1 biplane air racer. Cris flew the LR1 when he won the 2007 National Champion Air Race for the Biplane Class.



Cris has been flying since he was 12 years old. Since then, he has accumulated more than 5,000 flight hours in 75 different aircraft ranging from a 1918 Jenny bi-plane to a Grumman US-2C Tracker. He has flown competitive aerobatics, performed in more than 80 air shows, and raced at the Reno National Championship Air Races in the Bi-Plan class and Formula One class for 20 years. Besides this, he also holds an Airframe and Powerplant mechanics certificate With Inspection Authorization.

He owned an S1-C Pitts for 22 years which he rebuilt from the wheels up. It had a highly modified engine capable of generating 230+ horsepower and he used this for airshows and air racing for many years.



His passion is building and designing experimental aircraft and race planes. This led him into the aircraft restoration business after he rebuilt a fellow racer's aircraft after it was damaged in a runway accident.

In 2000, he moved to Arkansas to help start C & H Aircraft Restoration, Inc. Projects he worked on included an AQC-6 Cabin Waco and Meyers 145 (one of only 20 in existence). Plus, he designed and built a new race plane, the LR1, for fellow race pilot Jeff Lo; it debuted at the Reno Air Races in 2003. Chris later flew the LR1 himself at Reno and won the National Championship in the Biplane class.

Additionally in years past he worked for All Coast Aircraft Recovery. In moving various types of military aircraft across the United States for museums, he gained a wealth of knowledge and expertise.

In 2011 he and his wife Margret moved to California where he worked as the Service Manager for Selway Machine Tool Company in Hayward and retired from them in 2022.

Today he lives in Yuba City and both he and his wife joined our chapter last December.

## Membership and Young Eagles Update

### NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome the following new members to our Chapter:

**Dirk Dreyer** is interested in the Young Eagles Program.

**Greg Hansen** is building an RV-14 and is very close to the final phase of getting the project inspected and an airworthiness certificate issued.

**Derek Knodt** is a retired Army aviator and currently flying for United Airlines. He would like to learn more about general aviation and share his passion for aviation with his family and others.

**Todd Tanber** is interested in exploring experimental aircraft, learning about maintaining ownership, and interested in volunteering for Young Eagles.

### YOUNG EAGLES UPDATE

Our regular mini-rally is scheduled for January 27, 2024, from 8:00am to 10:00am before our barbecue lunch at 11:00am to 11:45am, followed by our meeting and guest speaker.

We currently have four pilots committed to flying and thirteen openings for children. We appreciate the following pilots who never let us down, nor the children; they are Mike Haag, Jim Hughes, Chris Silva, and Thomas Thompson. Thank you, gentlemen.

### UPDATE ON MY SHOULDER

By January 27, I will be able to participate again in the Young Eagle Rally and the barbecue lunch. The operation on my torn rotator cuff was a success, and I am on my way to recovery. Once again, thanks for all your well-wishes.

Be happy and fly safe.  
Cheryl Andrade

### Ray Scholars... Oh, the Places You'll Go...!



James C. Ray and the philanthropic efforts of the Ray Foundation have funded the education and dreams of young people. Their mission is to “encourage the potential in the youth of America by enabling them to develop life skills such as self-discipline, self-confidence, and self-reliance.” EAA Chapter 1541 continues to strive to meet and exceed the Ray Foundation mission by administering the Ray Aviation Scholarship.

After taking some time off to focus on college applications, our current Ray Scholar, Danielle Hanes is ready to begin her run up to completing her PPL. She plans to take her FAA Written Exam in the very near future. It will then be time to get back in the air and complete her training before the final checkride.





Congratulations to Ray Scholar Alumni Kaden Kusick on his decision to continue his aviation education at ATP Flight School in San Luis Obispo. He recently passed both his instrument rating and Commercial checkride. Way to go Pilot! Kaden is continuing his flight plan in Mesa, Arizona studying for his CFI. Only time will tell where his next adventure will be.



Ray Scholar Alumni Amy Whelan loves to share her knowledge and passion for aviation with others. After graduation from ERAU in Daytona she began teaching as a CFI/CFII here in the local Sacramento area. She recently was offered and accepted a position as a CFI at United Aviate Academy in Goodyear, Arizona. There she will be instructing future pilots for United Airlines. Way to go Amy! In addition to teaching, Amy will be continuing as a graduate student in ERAU's Master of Science in Aviation Safety program.

Our chapter is very proud of all our Ray Scholars and everything they have accomplished since the beginning of this program in 2019.

Shirl Whelan  
Ray Scholarship Coordinator

### Airport User's Meeting on January 13



Our EAA chapter hosted a very successful City of Lincoln airport user's meeting on Saturday, January 13. It was standing-room only crowd in the EAA hangar on a cold and rainy morning; our best guess estimate puts the attendance at more than 60 airport users. City Manager Sean Scully, Public Works Director Matt Medill, and Airport Worker Rich Spinale were in attendance on behalf of the city. The meeting lasted about 90 minutes with a presentation by Sean Scully and Matt Medill followed by a lengthy question and answer period.

We video recorded the meeting so for those unable to attend, that video can be accessed via our chapter's YouTube channel at:

<https://eaa1541.org/members/membership-meeting-videos/>

The videos page includes list of the topics discussed and questions asked, and you can click on the links to jump to a specific part of the recording.

## Successful Build and Fly Informational Meeting



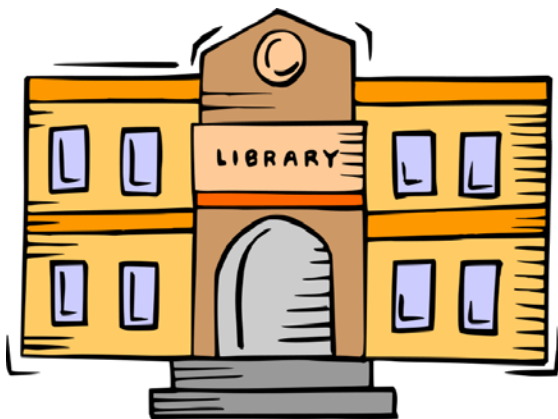
Our chapter held its Build and Fly informational meeting on Saturday, January 20, at the hangar. EAA Chapter 1541 is partnering with the Associated Modelers of Sacramento (AMOS) to enable a group of young people to build and fly a radio-control (RC) aircraft this spring. David Long, president of the AMOS group, and several AMOS volunteers were present to provide information about building an RC airplane, and they will continue to provide technical assistance over the next months. We had a good group of kids and parents present, plus chapter volunteers, as the EAA-sponsored initiative gets underway. The plan is to begin building sessions on Saturday, February 17, and continue sessions on the third Saturday of each month until we have an RC airplane. Then the focus will be for each young person to learn how to fly the chapter RC airplane.



The intent is for our participants to learn about aircraft structure, flight controls, aerodynamics, weight and balance, and powerplants while having a bunch of fun. The highlight of the informational meeting was when David Long, with the help of some of the young people, fired up his RC Viper jet powered airplane and ran it at high power settings while intentionally making a bunch of smoke. We also had an RC flight simulator set up so kids could try their hand at flying. It's not too late for a few more participants to join the building group.

Contact Penny Mach through chapter email for more information.

## Wanted: Darian or Marian Librarian



One new idea for our chapter hangar is to “energize” our chapter lending library. What? You didn't know we have a chapter library? It's a hidden gem...well, not yet actually a gem, but it could be. Right now, it is indeed well hidden and tucked into an unused corner of the hangar. We'd like to build a fire under the library, so to speak, and are looking for the right person who wants to take on the project. What we envision is a relaxed lending library with aviation-related books...history, flight instruction materials, flying techniques, etc. Plus, we'll maintain a lending library of aviation-related DVDs. Show your kids *Top Gun* so they know about ancient times F-14s. The library will be on the honor system...a user

is free to take something out but is mandated to return it in a reasonable time.

I think many of us have aviation books and DVDs that might need a good new home. Our librarian's job is to sort the wheat from the chaff, not accept magazines, keep things organized and well presented, and otherwise take the project under their arm. So, if you are interested, please come talk to chapter president Scott Thompson either at a meeting or via [the chapter email](#). Are you our Darian or Marian?

## **IMPORTANT: Parents of Kids Aged 14-18**

### **EAA Air Academy Summer Camp Opportunity**



As part of our youth scholarship program, EAA Chapter 1541 will sponsor two young people to attend individual sessions of the EAA's Air Academy summer camp to be held at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, this coming summer.

Fun and discovery combine for an experience that young people can find nowhere else at the EAA Air Academy, a series of weeklong camps designed to introduce young people ages 12-18 to the aviation world.

The chapter has reserved two slots, one for the Basic Air Academy for ages 14-15 to be held on June 28 through July 3, and one for the Advanced Air Academy for ages 16-18 to be held on July 16 through July 24. Our sponsorship provides tuition and a travel stipend for each young person. Participants

stay at the EAA Air Academy under the direction of EAA counselors for the entire session. Experienced aviation instructors help them delve into flight through studies, hands-on demonstrations, flight simulation, and other exciting activities.

[Here is more information available from the EAA website](#)

*As a parent, if you are interested in having your young person be considered for this sponsorship, we need to hear from you not later than February 29; the sooner the better. We have a process of evaluation to select the best candidates for the sponsorship, but we need to hear from you to start the process.*

### **Board Changes**

We've had some chapter Board of Director changes in the last few weeks.

The two-year terms of board members Christina Duran and Ray McKnaught ended on December 31 and they both decided that other time commitments precluded them from continuing to serve on the board. The chapter appreciates their service on the board. Both expect to continue to contribute to our chapter activities where they can.

Board member Lorin Ponton also recently tendered her resignation from our board of directors. Lorin has served on the board since September 2022. She is a CFII based here at Lincoln but has a new job in



Bakersfield and will be moving that way. Our chapter extends to her a thank you for her service to the board and the chapter, and wish her the best as she starts her new position.

As a recap, Jeremy Preece joined our board of directors last month and has already proven very helpful with some new ideas for our chapter. The other continuing board members are Penny Mach, Leesa McArdle, and Paul “Dubs” Darbo. Our chapter officers and board will serve through the balance of 2024. Chapter elections for both officers and board will be held at our November business meeting for the 2025-2026 term.

## Treasurers Report

**Members:** As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, our current membership stands at 171.

**Ray Scholar:** As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the balance is \$ 842.50.

**Dues Reminder:** Happy 2024 and just a friendly reminder for those who haven’t paid your dues yet, now’s the time. The chapter provides a simpler format, all memberships are now \$30 a year – individual and families. You can pay on-line using PayPal, mail a check to our PO Box, or in person at any chapter meeting. This is a good time to verify your EAA National membership is also up to date.

**Activity:** Thank you to everyone who attended the Holiday Party this year. For the chapter’s scholarship fund we raised \$662.00, (\$400 from raffle sales and \$262 silent auction sales). Thank you again to everyone that came out and supported our chapter at the Holiday Party.

### Account Balances:

<b>Hangar Fund</b>	
Ending Balance	\$ 26,016.48
<b>R&amp;S Scholarship Fund</b>	
Ending Balance	\$ 20,048.97
<b>General Fund</b>	
Ending Balance	\$ 15,434.19
<b>Ray Scholar Fund</b>	
Ending Balance	\$ 842.50
<b>Balance of all accounts</b>	
December 31, 2023	\$ 62,342.14

**Aviation thought for the month:** *Passion is the fuel that drives us to reach for the stars. Wally Funk*

Respectfully Submitted,  
Scott Whelan  
Treasurer  
EAA Chapter 1541

## EAA Webinars for January and February, 2024

### Upcoming Webinar: Young Eagles Coordinator Onboarding Wednesday, January 31, 2024 – 7 p.m. CST

Learn the ins and outs of the Young Eagles Coordinator position during this live webinar with Q&A. EAA Eagles Program Manager David Leiting will cover a wide range of topics including rally planning, online registration, and basic coordinator duties. [Register Today >](#)



### Upcoming Webinar: Become a Better Chapter Leader: President/Vice President Thursday, February 1, 2024 – 7 p.m. CST

Chapters Director Charlie Becker provides insights on the necessary tasks associated with the president and vice president positions within EAA chapters, as well as tips on chapter management and critical due dates for chapter-related events. [Register Today >](#)



### Upcoming Webinar: Become a Better Chapter Leader: Secretary/Treasurer Tuesday, February 6, 2024 – 7 p.m. CST

Chapters staff John Egan and Charlie Becker provide insights on the necessary tasks associated with the secretary and treasurer positions within EAA chapters, as well as tips on chapter management and critical due dates for chapter-related events. [Register Today >](#)



## Hangar Lock Combination Changed

We have proactively changed the combination on the hangar lock. Most security experts surveyed recommend changing the combination at least once a decade, and maybe even more often. Thus, we have moved forward on that thinking. We will probably make it a standard practice to change the combination in January of each year as a good operating procedure. Most of those who regularly need access to the hangar have been notified of the change. If you were missed and you need individual access to the hangar, please [email the chapter](#) for more information.

## Just For Laughs

