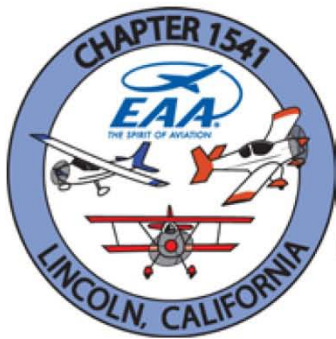




Runway 15



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: <https://eaa1541.org/>

Date	Topic
Thursday November 6 7-8 pm	IMC/VMC club online "What Would You Do? scenarios" FAA Wings credit available
Saturday, November 8 11 am – 1 pm	Second Saturday BBQ lunch
Saturday, November 15, 2025 8:00a – 12n	KLHM Vintage Aircraft Display day Airport main ramp

EAA CHAPTER 1541 INFORMATION

Meetings	Usually the second Saturday of each month held at KLHM Hangar S-12. Details available on the website.
E-mail	eeaa1541@gmail.com
Website	https://eaa1541.org
Mailing Address	EAA chapter 1541, PO Box 1126, Lincoln, CA 95648
Chapter Hangar	Hangar S-12, Lincoln Airport
President	Scott Thompson
Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Penny Mach
Treasurer	Scott Whelan
Chapter Board of Directors	Paul Darbo Jim Hughes Lesa McArdle Jeremy Preece Josh Smith
Membership	Chapter dues: \$30 per year for individuals and families; \$300 for gold



President's Corner



The days are getting shorter and we are well into autumn. As I write this, it is already mid-October. Soon, Halloween and then Thanksgiving and then Christmas. 2025 seems to be zooming by. We still have a few more events planned for this year, though, that we'll fit in around the holidays.

We'll have our regular IMC/VMC Club Zoom meetings on the first Thursday of both November and December. These hour-long meetings have drawn a good group of pilots and non-pilots each month. Check it out if you have not yet sat in on one of the meetings. And, we'll have our Second Saturday BBQ lunch on November 8...the last one of the year.

One special upcoming chapter activity is the chapter Holiday Party set for Wednesday, December 10, at BJ's Restaurant in Roseville. This will be the third year we've been at BJ's for our Holiday Party. It's a good venue with a buffet style dinner which encourages a bit more socializing, and we'll have a few special activities to add. One nice thing is that we've been able to hold the price steady from the last two years: \$40 for adults and \$15 for kids under 12. There is more information elsewhere in this newsletter so check it out.

It takes a good group of volunteers to make a successful chapter happen and fortunately we've enjoyed such volunteers. But, particularly for our newer members, please know that we are always looking for more help. We are particularly in need of people to help prepare food at our Second Saturday gatherings each month. The work is easy and, dare I say, fun as we work together to cook some good food. You get plugged in quickly to the chapter activities when volunteering, so please consider stepping up and helping out. You can talk to me at any time, either at the meetings or via the chapter email at eea1541@gmail.com.

Scott Thompson
EAA chapter 1541 President



October Second Saturday Lunch

Our Second Saturday gathering on October 11 was a success! A great BBQ Lunch with burgers and hot dogs was prepared by our cooking team led by Scott Whelan, and then we had a very interesting program presented by guest Gary Veer on his path toward adding a glider rating to his pilot certificate. Lots of discussion ensued about the ups and downs of glider flying.





HOLIDAY PARTY!

Holiday Party Tickets Now Available Wednesday evening, December 10



Our Chapter 1541 Holiday Party is set for **Wednesday, December 10**, at BJ's Restaurant in Roseville (across from the Galleria). We are able keeping the cost as low as possible so we can include more families. Tickets are **\$40 for adults** and **\$15 for kids under 12**.

The meal will be a pizza buffet with a specialty entrée, with salad and non-alcoholic drinks. There is also a no-host bar available at BJ's. You can also bring your own bottle of wine with no corkage fee. Our party will be an informal social gathering beginning at **6:00 pm** and lasting until **8:00 pm**. Our program will include presentation of the 2024 EAA Recognition Awards to chapter volunteers, and we will have some fun including an **Ugly Sweater Contest** -- please come dressed for success! We are planning a couple of other fun activities, too.

Again, for this year we are adopting a "Helping Others for the Holidays" theme at our event. For this we are asking attendees to bring either a canned food item for [The Salt Mine](#) charity in Lincoln, or a new unwrapped toy to donate to [Toys for Tots](#) in Lincoln. Add a little of the joy of serving others to your holiday menu!

The Salt Mine staff tell us that nonperishable food items with protein are much needed, such as canned tuna, tuna lunch packs, canned chili or protein bars. They also need canned fruit during the cold months.

Toys for Tots suggests new, unwrapped toys such as sporting equipment, balls, and bags, books, backpacks, board games or handheld electronics.

If you'd prefer to just make a donation at the party, we'll have scannable QR codes that go to those organizations' donation pages.

Or you can just enjoy the good food, fellowship and fun without making any donation! It's all good! Please plan on joining us on December 13. Tickets [are now available online at this dedicated page](#) on our chapter's website. They will also be available at the Second Saturday BBQ Lunch on November 8. We'll have to close out ticket sales on Wednesday, December 3, so buy your tickets early and often. If you buy them online, we'll have the paper tickets available to pickup on November 8, or we'll get them to you somehow.

Tickets will not be available at the door of the event; they must be pre-purchased. To keep the dinner ticket prices as low as possible, we are selling them at pretty close to cost, so the dinner itself is not a fundraiser for the chapter.



EAA Air Academy Summer Camp 2026



Now is the time to make plans to attend and put your deposits down on aviation camps for summer 2026! EAA Air Academy is a great opportunity for youth ages 14-18 to attend summer camp and be immersed in everything aviation. Camps are broken into two age groups: 14-15 and 16-18. EAA Air Academy is a 6 or 9 day residential camp held in Oshkosh, Wisconsin starting as early as June 11 and ending August 1. Two camps overlap with AirVenture and campers experience the excitement of attending events on the AirVenture grounds.

Chapter 1541 has been sponsoring youth to attend Air Academy each year since 2019. This year we are looking for youth who are willing to make a commitment to represent our chapter at Air Academy. Youth will be asked to complete an application, volunteer at chapter activities, assure they will attend the camp dates assigned, and present to the membership a short program about their experience upon their return.

If this sounds like something you or your family member would be interested in, please review the information about Air Academy 2026 on the EAA national website: eaa.org. Once you have thoroughly reviewed the website information, send the chapter an email stating your interest and include the camp title and date you are interested in, youth's name and age, and a contact e-mail and phone number for a parent.

A chapter member will then contact you when applications for the chapter sponsorship open.



Scholarship Updates

Ray Aviation Scholarship



Congratulations to our 2025 Ray Scholar, Aria Ramey! Aria completed her Solo flight on Saturday, October 11th. Both her parents and CFI were able to watch three beautiful take-offs and landings on a clear, crisp fall morning. Great job Aria! *(Editor's note: Aria's notes on the experience follow, next page.)*

Thank you Amy Whelan, CFI/CFII for mentoring and helping Aria obtain her Solo flight. Amy was a Ray Scholar herself and recently returned to the local area to teach at William Jessup and CFI/CFII at Mach 5 Aviation in Auburn after graduating from college and working at a flight school in Arizona.

Chapter 1541 "Get Started" Scholarship:

Congratulations to **Sam Mach** on being awarded the "Get Started" Flight Training Medical Certificate Scholarship. Sam received \$175 to cover the cost of his medical certificate.

Congratulations to **Tyler Madson** on being awarded the "Get Started" Flight Training Medical Certificate and Headset and Flight Training Materials Scholarship. Tyler will receive \$475 to offset the cost of his medical certificate, headset, and flight training materials.

First solo: A Morning to Remember

By Aria Ramey



The morning of October 11th in Auburn, California, was crisp and bright at 6:30 a.m. My CFI, Amy, had hinted my solo might happen that day. As I preflighted the red, white, and blue Cessna 172, the air felt electric, and not just because I'd turned on the master switch.

We flew to nearby Lincoln Airport for touch-and-goes, and after a few full-stop landing, Amy stepped out, signed my logbook, and waved goodbye. Alone for the first time, I took off from runway 15 feeling equal parts excitement and nervous energy.

Turning crosswind, I looked out to see the sun reflecting off the right wing and the trees below beginning their autumn change. In the distance, the familiar steam from the Lincoln log pile marked my pattern entry. For a moment, I just took it all in—realizing that only months earlier, solo flight had been a dream.

Thanks to the Ray Aviation Scholarship and EAA Chapter 1541, that dream became reality. Now, as I study for my FAA written and work toward my goal of becoming a KC-135 pilot in the U.S. Air Force, I'm grateful for the support and the lessons aviation continues to teach me—about persistence, precision, and chasing the skies.

From the Galley

By Scott Whelan



A big thanks again to everyone who helps in the galley. We all work to provide chapter members with a good meal.

The November member meeting will be lunch. We will be grilling burgers. I will reach out to those who have expressed an interest in helping in the past, please let me know if you would also like to join in on the fun we have in the galley.

Membership Update

There were no new members in September.

Treasurer's Report

Members: As of September 30th, our chapter membership stands at 216, including 12 Gold memberships.

Ray Scholar: As of September 30th, the balance is \$ -3,042.50. The August training expenses were \$3,345.50

Activity:

R&S Scholarship fund:

Increases – income from the donation buckets at the breakfast meeting and recycling income – \$140.11.

Decreases - the chapter awarded a \$175 “Get Started” Scholarship to Sam M. We put a deposit for \$800.00 towards the EAA 2026 Air Academy. .

Hangar fund: No Activity

Chapter's fund:

Increases – Member Dues \$ 30.00, Meal sales \$240.00

Decreases – Food costs \$ 376.94, Propane \$85.46, Website – GoDaddy renewal \$208.00

Account Balances:

Hangar Fund

Ending Balance \$ 30,216.48

R&S Scholarship Fund

Ending Balance \$ 20,162.97

General Fund

Ending Balance \$ 19,773.53

Ray Scholar Fund

Ending Balance \$ (3,042.50)

Balance of all accounts

September 30, 2025 \$ 67,110.48

Aviation thought for the month: *If black boxes survive air crashes, why don't they make the whole plane out of that stuff? – George Carlin*

Respectfully Submitted,
Scott Whelan
Treasurer EAA Chapter 1541

Project Updates and Adventures

Scott Emerson provides an update on his RV-14A project:

Finally got the insulation installed onto the firewall and then reinstalled the firewall components and engine mount. Some time ago, I decided to install firewall insulation to help reduce engine noise in the cabin as well as add a little fire protection. I purchased Koolmat Insulation heat barrier from Aircraft Spruce at around \$50 a sq ft. I think I ordered around eight sq ft if I recall correctly.



Installing the insulation wasn't too bad. I cut out all the openings needed for pass-throughs and bolt holes etc and applied a few layers of Scotch-grip 1300L adhesive. I also used 3M fire Barrier 2000 around all edges. With the firewall insulation finally in place, I re-mounted the engine mount and nosewheel to finally get her back on her own feet once again!



My next major milestones are hanging the engine as well as finishing the canopy "glass" installation. So far I have had a fairly easy go at drilling the glass and attaching the canopy. Only hang ups so far are trying to figure out how to dimple the skin right at the roll bar for the canopy and how to dimple the very top center hold for the rear glass where it sits over the brace for the roll bar!

Along with that, the wife and I just made a weekend trip up to Kenai Alaska to look at an acre lot on an airpark with both a gravel runway and access to a seabase lake! We are looking to get some serious salmon fishing summers in and then possible buy a seaplane once we get a hangar built!

Hoping to have an update sometime next year with the cutting-in ceremony as we start clearing the land in Alaska!

Brent Smith writes:

For those who haven't heard (seems the airport grape vine is alive and well!), Menehune's crow hop attempts were thwarted by an inability to rotate even at 85 knots (25 knots above expected rotation speed). Turns out there's an obscure reference in one of Molt Taylor's notes written in 1984 that the long-nosed Mini-IMPs should have their stabilizer rear spars raised 1/2" to increase the down force on the tail. Thinking that had been done to the rolling shell of the "factory demonstrator" long-nose project I purchased, I was a bit surprised to find that its stabilizer was still at the short nose setting. New stab rear spar mounts have been made, the left one reinstalled with its stabilizer and the right one is ready for the same treatment.



After removing the left stabilizer, I was surprised the following morning to open the hangar to the strong smell of aviation fuel. Turns out the fitting for return of excess fuel from the fuel injection system was seeping. I took the hint and replaced all three fuel tank inlet/outlet fittings and am ready to pro-seal their replacements in place. All these discoveries are leading to important improvements but, dang it, I'm tired of set backs! Your positive thoughts are welcome.

Brent

Editor's note: for those interested in Brent's Mini-IMP crow hop attempts, a [YouTube video of it](#) has now logged over 78,000 views (!)

**Tom O'Hair** writes:

Finished the Zenith 750 Cruiser inboard flaperons.

This is a "slow and steady" build competing with time on the golf course. The wings and tail are also complete.

I plan to start on the fuselage after the first of the year.

