

# 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 February 5, 2026 7-8 pm	<b>IMC/VMC club online</b> "What Would You Do? scenarios" FAA Wings credit available
Saturday February 14 11-1 pm	<b>Second Saturday BBQ lunch</b> Program: <b>US Navy Carrier Aviation</b> <i>Tom Taylor</i> Navy F/A-18 Strike Fighter Pilot Fmr squadron commander, VFA-113
Saturday, February 21, 2026 8:00a – 12n	<b>KLHM Vintage Aircraft Display day</b> 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	<a href="mailto:eaa1541@gmail.com">eaa1541@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	Vacant
Secretary	Penny Mach
Treasurer	Scott Whelan
Chapter Board of Directors	Paul Darbo Tim Devine Jim Hughes Lesa McArdle Josh Smith
Membership	Chapter dues: \$30 per year for individuals and families; \$300 for gold



## President's Corner



Welcome from the chapter to 2026. We're looking forward to another good year for EAA Chapter 1541, and I'm glad you're onboard with us.

Our chapter board of directors is laying out some of the activities and events for the coming months. We'll continue to have our Second Saturday Gatherings, and our first Thursday IMC/VMC club Zoom meetings. And, we hope to have regular Young Eagles rallies on the fourth Saturday of each month.

Along with those, one special event we are working on is chapter fly-out for Saturday, March 21. More details will be forthcoming shortly, but I hope we can get a bunch of planes and a bunch of pilots and non-pilot passengers to participate in a lunch run to a good eating spot at a neighboring airport. Food,

flying, and friends all seem to go together well.

And, it looks like our February gathering will be special. One of our new members, **Tom Taylor** happens to be a retired U.S. Navy fighter pilot and F/A-18 Attack Squadron Commander, shown in the picture at the right as the catapult has just fired and he is on his way from zero to 170 knots in 2.7 seconds. He is putting together what should be a great presentation about **U.S. Navy carrier aviation** and his experiences over the years. Look for more on that in the coming weeks.



Down the road, we expect to participate in the summer **Wings and Wheels** event, and continue to offer scholarship opportunities for young people. As it stands right now, we hope to administer two new **Ray Aviation Scholars** in 2026. More details on that in the near future also.

I'm happy to announce that chapter member **Tim Devine** has joined our chapter's board of directors. His experience and enthusiasm will be a real asset to our leadership group. As a reminder, our current chapter officers are myself as president, Scott Whelan as treasurer, and Penny Mach as secretary. Our vice-president position remains open, as it has for the past year. Our current board of directors are, **Paul (Dubs) Darbo, Tim Devine, Jim Hughes, Lesa McArdle, and Joshua Smith**. I am thankful for the time and effort expended by the board and officers to make the chapter run. The current term for the officers and board runs through the balance of 2026.

As I've continuously said, we always have volunteer opportunities in our chapter. Do you like taking pictures? We can use help photographing our various events and keeping said photos organized. You like writing? We can always use newsletter articles about things going on or personal aviation stories? You like to cook? We have cooking opportunities. You like introducing aviation to young people? We have needs supporting Young Eagles and our scholarship programs. You like computers and technology? We run our flight simulators for all our events. There is a place for anyone who has an interest in helping our chapter out. Directly helping out is not a huge time commitment and you'll get to know some very nice folks.

In any event, welcome to 2026. We are looking forward to a fun and educational year for EAA Chapter 1541.

Scott Thompson  
EAA chapter 1541 President

### Summer Camp Opportunity for Young People



Our chapter is hoping to sponsor two individuals to attend one of the EAA Air Academy week-long Summer Camps this coming June/July/August at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. ***Note, though, that you have a very short deadline to apply for this opportunity.***

To quote from the EAA on this Air Academy camp...

*"Embark on an unparalleled journey of fun and exploration at the EAA Air Academy, an ACA accredited program! Designed exclusively for young aviation enthusiasts aged 14-18, our camps blend excitement and learning like no other. Nestled in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, campers reside at the [EAA Air Academy Lodge](#), immersing themselves in the heart of sport aviation. Fuel your passion for flight with a diverse array of hands-on activities curated to ignite curiosity and spark a passion for aviation. Led by passionate aviators, you'll soar into the realm of aviation through immersive studies, captivating demonstrations, exhilarating flight simulations, and a myriad of other thrilling experiences. Don't miss out on this one-of-a-kind opportunity to elevate your summer with unforgettable adventures at the EAA Air Academy!"*

Our chapter will sponsor several campers this year...we will pay the camp tuition and may pay a travel stipend to help get the campers from Sacramento to Oshkosh on an airline.

**This requires a bit of advanced planning.** Please see the [dedicated webpage on our website](#) for dates and other details. Or, [jump right to the downloadable and fillable application](#) using this link.

***Note that the application deadline is Saturday, January 31. We will have a selection process and have campers identified by March 1.***

Start your Summer of 2026 planning now.

Any questions, please reply to our chapter email address ([ea1541@gmail.com](mailto:ea1541@gmail.com)) and we'll get an answer to you.

## Aircraft Building Workshops Coming to Las Vegas, January 24-25

### Go Hands-On With EAA's Two-Day Signature SportAir Workshops



If you're ready to build or restore an aircraft, or just thinking about it, grab your fellow chapter members and join us in Las Vegas on January 24-25, 2026, at the Aviation Institute of Maintenance. SportAir Workshops courses include sheet metal basics, fabric covering, and electrical systems and avionics.

Workshops are taught by experienced subject-matter experts who pair classroom instruction with hands-on projects, providing attendees with knowledge and know-how of proper techniques that save every aircraft builder time, money, and frustration. Class sizes are capped at 16 students to ensure personal attention, opportunities for feedback and evaluation, and time for Q&A. A recent workshop attendee shared, "I really appreciate how you could look at my work and give feedback specifically to the changes I need to make to improve my

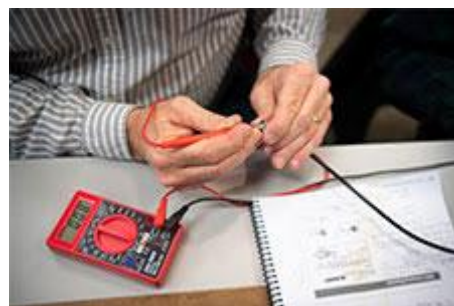
results, even the tiny adjustments to go from okay to good, to great... You answered all of my questions with a willingness... You're awesome. Thank you."

Workshop fees include all materials, safety equipment, and projects — you only pay for lunch! Attendees receive a workbook for reference, a certificate of completion, and an exclusive discount order form from Aircraft Spruce and Specialty on materials, supplies, tools, and accessories.

**Don't miss the Las Vegas two-day EAA SportAir® Workshops. Seats fill up fast.**

Register and learn more at [SportAir.com/Schedule](https://SportAir.com/Schedule).

*EAA SportAir Workshops are generously supported by Aircraft Spruce and Specialty and Poly-Fiber.*





## Homebuilders Week – Online Event Starts January 26

*A free weeklong online series on building your own aircraft*

By Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager



EAA Homebuilders Week 2026 offers 30 free virtual presentations for anyone interested in building an aircraft. Registration is required, and space is limited.

The event runs Monday, January 26, through Friday, January 30, 2026. Each day features six live, back-to-back webinars starting at 11:30 a.m. Central Time and continuing every 90 minutes until the final session at 7:00 p.m. All sessions are live and include time for Q&A. To sign up, visit [www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](http://www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek).

Whether you're just beginning to explore the idea of building, are deep into a project, or preparing for test flying, you'll find sessions addressing your needs. We are also excited to have EAA President Jack Pelton joining us on January 26 to discuss EAA's advocacy efforts on behalf of our homebuilt community.

EAA Homebuilders Week celebrates the anniversary of the Experimental Aircraft Association's founding on January 26, 1953. It's a great opportunity to carry on our mission by expanding your homebuilding knowledge with five straight days of learning about building and flying homebuilt aircraft.

EAA Homebuilders Week is made possible thanks to the generous support of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co., Dynon, Scheme Designers, and Van's Aircraft.

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



## Time to Give Back: Tim Devine – New Chapter 1541 Board Member

After 36 years at KLHM, it's time for me to give back and support EAA Chapter 1541. I first landed at Lincoln Airport in September 1989 as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force. In February 2012, I purchased my second aircraft, Bonanza P35 N404V, and secured my first hangar—B19 on the south end of the field.

Lincoln Airport has been a special place for my family. All five of my children were introduced to aviation here at KLHM, and one of my youngest went on to become a multi-engine commercial pilot, CFI, and ultimately an airline pilot.

Now retired from the Air Force and as the owner of Aviate Enterprises, Inc., a government contracting firm, I remain deeply committed to supporting aviation. As I look ahead, I'm excited to serve as a board member of what I believe is the best EAA chapter and to further support our flying community at KLHM. I look forward to helping organize events and activities that share the many benefits aviation brings to our local community.

I'm honored to be more involved with the chapter and the broader aviation community. I'll be flying back to Oshkosh again this year, and I hope to bring more than a few EAA Chapter 1541 aircraft along with me. None of us are getting any younger—it's time to go fly and enjoy the skies.

Tim Devine  
[devine@aviateinc.com](mailto:devine@aviateinc.com)  
Cell: 916-425-3264



Tim Devine (right) with CFI son Steven, in Tim's Bonanza

# WORLD'S GREATEST AVIATION CELEBRATION<sup>®</sup>

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## FREE YOUTH ADMISSION

Free youth admission ages 18 and under is supported in part by

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## Young Eagles Update



A word from EAA National:

“The Young Eagles program has introduced more than 2.4 million kids to the magic of flight since 1992. Now, 33 years later, we are setting our sights on another historic milestone that will require the support from the entire Young Eagles community, including pilots, coordinators, and ground volunteers.

**Mission: 2.5 million Young Eagles flown by EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2026.**

Every Young Eagles flight is more than just a ride; it’s a spark that ignites curiosity, fuels dreams, and opens doors to careers in aviation. When a volunteer pilot provides a Young Eagles flight, they are not just flying, they are shaping the future of flight, one Young Eagles flight at a time.

Volunteer Young Eagles pilots who fly 25 Young Eagles or more from October 1, 2025, through July 31, 2026, will be awarded a limited-edition commemorative cap to thank you for your participation in helping us hit this significant milestone.

Once pilots reach this milestone, EAA will automatically fulfill the cap order. Fulfillment will occur on a quarterly basis.

As part of Young Eagles Mission 2.5, EAA is offering a new incentive to encourage chapters to recruit volunteer pilots. For every first-time Young Eagles pilot recruited by your chapter, your chapter will earn \$25 in Young Eagles credits. This incentive runs January 1-July 31, 2026, with credits applied to your 2026 totals and available in 2027.”

Please send an email to [EAA1541@gmail.com](mailto:EAA1541@gmail.com) if you are interested in becoming a Young Eagles pilot or ground volunteer or just want to know more about the program. The chapter is here to help you get started.





Each year our chapter receives Young Eagles Credits based on how many Young Eagles flights our chapter pilots do. These funds can be used for activities and items that benefit the Young Eagles program. This year our chapter received \$365. We used the funds to purchase new tablecloths and runners for our events, supplies for a Young Eagles workshop activity, and deposits for a camper to attend Air Academy this summer.

Thank you to all the volunteer pilots and ground crew for making our chapter Young Eagles program such a success.

## Ray Scholar Updates



Congratulations to our 2025 Ray Scholar, Aria Ramey for receiving a Lightspeed Zulu 3 headset from EAA and Lightspeed Aviation. Aria received this headset for successfully soloing on October 11<sup>th</sup> and submitting an essay to Lightspeed Aviation about how the Ray Aviation Scholarship has impacted her so far and how it is helping her achieve her aviation goals. Aria was presented with her headset at our

January 10<sup>th</sup> membership meeting. A special thank you to Lightspeed Aviation and EAA for supporting our youth and providing this valuable resource that can be used and enjoyed for many years.

Aria also received a tablet computer donated anonymously to help with her flight training, for which she writes:

*Dear EAA Chapter 1541,*

*Thank you for the tablet I received anonymously! All of the continued encouragement and support from the chapter has made a meaningful impact throughout my aviation journey, and this thoughtful gift is deeply appreciated.*

*The tablet will be an invaluable tool for many aspects of flight training, including flight planning, weather briefings, navigation, and overall organization! Having access to reliable and efficient technology helps me to enhance preparedness and confidence, a gift will be used regularly as training progresses.*

*Support from EAA Chapter 1541 plays an important role in helping aspiring pilots much as myself grow, learn, and succeed. My gratitude is extended to the chapter and its members for investing in the future of aviation and for supporting student pilots in such an accessible and encouraging way!*

*With appreciation,*

*Aria Ramey*

### **A Flight Milestone for our first Ray Scholar: 1000 hours!**



Congratulations to our 2019 Ray Scholar Alumni, Amy Whelan on reaching her milestone of **1,000 flight hours!** Amy surprised everyone by renting a plane and flying into our member meeting last Saturday just as she reached her big 1,000<sup>th</sup> hour. Amy said it was important to share this special day with the people who have supported her from the very beginning of her aviation path.

## Ray Scholar Reflection and Thank You

By Amy Whelan



I'm excited to share a personal milestone with the chapter: I've officially reached the 1,000-hour mark toward my Restricted Air Transport rating (R-ATP). Hitting this goal is incredibly meaningful to me, not just as a professional achievement, but because it represents a journey that truly began with this EAA chapter.

As a former Ray Scholar, I can say without hesitation that the support, encouragement, and inspiration I received early on were foundational to everything that followed. From those first Young Eagles flights to earning my certificates and now instructing as a CFII, this chapter has played a major role in my development as both a pilot and an aviation professional.

Aviation is rarely a solo endeavor, and my path certainly hasn't been. Whether it was mentorship, financial support, networking, or simply having people who took the time to invest in a young pilot, this chapter consistently showed up. Your continued support through each stage of my training and career has made all the difference.

Reaching 1,000 hours is a significant step toward my airline goals, but it's also a moment to reflect and say thank you. Thank you for helping me get my start, for continuing to support me through every phase of this journey, and for fostering a community that builds the next generation of aviators.

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### A Note about our 2026 Ray Aviation Scholarship

Our chapter has applied for a 2026 Ray Aviation Scholarship from EAA and we are anxiously awaiting word if we will be awarded a 2026 scholarship. If you are interested in this scholarship, please send an email to the chapter to confirm your interest. We will open up applications once we have confirmation that we received a scholarship. The scholarship in 2026 will remain at \$12,000.

## Membership Update

### Membership Renewal

Thank you to all the members who have already sent in their 2026 membership renewal payment!

Just a reminder that chapter membership renewals were due January 1<sup>st</sup>. Annual membership dues in 2026 will remain at \$30 for both individual and family memberships. We will continue to offer an individual Gold membership at \$300.

Visit our chapter website today, renew your membership, and check that off your 2026 “To Do List”. We thank you for your continued support of our chapter.

## Treasurer’s Report

**Members:** As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, our chapter membership stands at 221, including 12 Gold memberships.

**Dues Reminder:** Just a friendly reminder for those who haven’t paid your dues yet, now’s the time. You can renew on-line using [PayPal](#), mail a check to our PO Box, or in person at any chapter meeting. This is also a good time to verify your EAA National membership is also up to date. Thank you again for your support

**Ray Scholar:** As of December 31<sup>st</sup>, the balance is - \$2,959.00.

### Activity:

#### **Wings and Wheels 2025 – Lincoln**

**Airport Open House:** Thank you again to all the chapter members who volunteered at this years Lincoln Airport Open House - *Wings and Wheels 2025*. Representing the city of Lincoln, and chapter member, Richard Pearl presented our chapter with a **\$7,500 donation** to our scholarship fund as a thank you for our continued support for the annual Lincoln Airport Open House. Thank again to everyone who volunteered – your efforts help make this donation possible.

#### Account Balances:

<b>Hangar Fund</b>	
<i>Ending Balance</i>	\$ 30,216.48
<b>R&amp;S Scholarship Fund</b>	
<i>Ending Balance</i>	\$ 27,382.03
<b>General Fund</b>	
<i>Ending Balance</i>	\$ 19,241.77
<b>Ray Scholar Fund</b>	
<i>Ending Balance</i>	\$ (2,959.00)
<b>Balance of all accounts</b>	
<i>December 31, 2025</i>	\$ 73,881.28



**R&S Scholarship fund:**

Increases –\$7,500 donation from the city of Lincoln.

Decreases – No Activity

**Hangar fund:** No Activity

**Chapter's fund:**

Increases – Member Dues \$ 450.00, Holiday Party Tickets \$480.00

Decreases – Annual EAA chapter renewal \$642.00, a new storage cabinet for the audio equipment \$72.92, badge order \$53.73

- **Aviation thought for the month:** *Welcome to Flight #2026. May the new year bring you smooth air, safe journeys, and the wonders only aviation provides.* - Unknown

Respectfully Submitted,  
Scott Whelan  
Treasurer  
EAA Chapter 1541

## Chapter Lost & Found



Are you missing your favorite cup? These cups have been left behind at the chapter hangar over the past few months. Please let us know if any of them are yours and we will try to set up a time for you to pick it (or them) up.

## Project Updates and Adventures

### Brent Smith writes:

After completing the repairs/alterations of Menehune to increase the likelihood of successful rotation, I rolled her out to do a quick operational check. I was frustrated to find that the mixture and throttle controls were stiff and one of the two fuel pumps was non-op, so rolled her back in the hangar to (once again) remove the canopy, seat and pod.

A few squirts of light lubricant solved the sticky throttle quadrant problem; a quick electrical check revealed that the circuit on the EXP Bus that fed one of the fuel pumps was dead. Fortunately, one of the members of the Mini-IMP online group had sent me a backup a few years ago when he abandoned his project so, since the backup is identical to the one it was to replace, it was just a matter of carefully labeling each connector as it was removed, swapping out the boards and carefully re-attaching the connectors. After a brief run-up showed that it's necessary to also connect the primary alternator lead to the board and correcting that oversight, all now appears to be ready to re-mount the pod, seat and canopy and pursue, yet again, high speed taxi tests leading to first flight.



These little challenges and corrections sound like they shouldn't take very long but, alas, life..... as you all know. 😊

Brent

### Chris Silva writes:



#### Silva Adventures

@SilvaAdventures · 1.29K subscribers · 59 videos

[Silva Adventures](#) had a few new videos drop since the last update. In my latest video I use a plane familiar to many of us as it was previously owned by a member. The story about the plane focuses on Upset Prevention and Recovery Training (UPRT), which is a great way to learn some new pilot skills for many of us. You can check it out here:



*More Than a Pretty Taildragger:  
A Citabria 7ECA as a Training Tool for Upset and Spin Flying*  
<https://youtu.be/d5i6yMBVExk>

Another video that may be of interest is an interview with some NorCal pilots discussing their Luscombe 8As. These are majestic vintage taildraggers and a reasonable cost way to enjoy general aviation. You can check it out here:



*Is the Luscombe 8A the Best Vintage Taildragger Value?  
Two Owners Weigh In*  
<https://youtu.be/QQ5RgezVZCo>



Weather and plane permitting, I plan to attend the **AOPA Buckeye fly in** next month. Maybe you could put the word out in case any other members need an excuse for a small XC trip. The event was a lot of fun last year and I expect it to be even better this year. I plan to camp under the wing. I am happy to help coordinate if you just want to give my contact info out.

<https://www.aopa.org/community/buckeye-air-fair>

I also have a few members teed up to do future interviews, so stay tuned!

Chris

## Sightings



Yet another slice of aviation...