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EAA Chapter 569 Newsletter

Lincoln, NE



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Meeting Announcement

Date: Tuesday, **Time:** 7:00pm
April 6th

Place: Duncan **Address:** 5500
Aviation Training NW 44th St –
Facility Lincoln, NE

Program: Andy Bajc

Andy is an A&P IA. He's going to give us a tour of the Duncan Aviation A&P Training Facility. He would be the Q/A guy for what it takes to get your A&P, when you should use a certified mechanic and what maintenance you can do yourself.



President's Message Tom Trumble

EAA 569's first in person general meeting was held at Whisler Aviation in Seward on March 2. Greg and Terri Whisler were, as always, fantastic hosts. Providing all the tables and chairs set up, snacks, and to top it off a pristine P-51 uncowed in the hangar as a backdrop. I am sure this is as close that a meeting space can come to aviation heaven as you can get while still on this earth. Greg presented a fantastic slide show of interesting aircraft recoveries and moves they had done. A red Ford pickup from Nebraska parked in front of the USS Intrepid in New York harbor delivering an aircraft to the carrier/museum is not an everyday sight.

We welcomed new members: Holly (Shoemaker) and Jon Dixon, Bob Bounds, and Noah Philson.

Cristi Higgins, Tom Winter, Glen Witte, Harold Bickford, Jerry Mulliken, and I have been gathering the Chapter Articles

of Incorporation, by-laws, tax and Secretary of State filings. I am pleased to report that most everything has been found to be up-to-date and in order. It's just a matter of gathering the documents and storing them in a manner to be easily accessed.

We did find the Articles of Incorporation and by-laws of when the chapter was originated. They are signed and dated June 1, 1976 by Rollie Woodruff (President), Don Shoemaker (Vice President), and Tom Trumble (Secretary/Treasurer).

Our Treasurer Cristi Higgins and I have updated our membership roster. We used this updated roster to send the 3/16 business meeting zoom link. If you did not get this meeting link, please contact me or Cristi to make sure the roster is accurate.

The Chapter Breakfast on March 20 was a pleasant success. The weather was excellent which drew a crowd of fly-in traffic.

Several discussions were had at the last business meeting held on March 16. Please read the minutes for the details.

Some bullet point items:

- We have resumed our traditional general meetings on the first Tuesday of the month.
- Our next meeting is on April 6, 7:00pm at the Duncan Aviation Training Facility. The host will be Andy Bajc. This facility is on the west side of the Lincoln Airport. It is in the same building as our traditional meeting room but at the **south end**. Address 5500 NW 44th St. Lincoln, NE (SE corner of NW 44th and West Cuming Streets).
- We agreed to start the process to host the EAA Ford Tri-Motor in Lincoln.
- The next business meeting will be a Zoom meeting April 14 at 7:00pm. We will send an email link.

Volkmer, Keeper of the Treasures of Aladdin's Cave

By Tom Winter

Lead-off item in Dennis Crispin's President's Message for January 2007: "We have a new newsletter editor. Doug Volkmer has volunteered to contribute his time and computer skills to getting out our monthly publication."

What a run! and what a gold-mine of Chapter history: every month, for the ensuing 14 + years, Doug has put out a newsletter, that's 171 so far, and has archived a copy on the chapter website — not to mention maintaining the website itself! Go to <https://eaa569.org/blog/eaa-chapter-569-newsletters>, and cast your eyes on the treasures.

Before the Volkmer era, putting out our chapter newsletter was a job someone would take on for a year, or maybe two or three years in a row, and then bow out, leaving the chapter scraping.

Our earliest available newsletter is November 1984. Jim Fix was president, Jerry Muhle was veep, and Jeff Clausen was the editor. Main feature of this issue was a Walter Mitty-esque piece by Jeff, imagining that his Plymouth was a P-51 dealing with Messerschmidts and Focke-Wulfs rolling along I-80.

Ted Oehlert was editor in 1986, 1987 and 1989. (The archive is missing all of 1988*). Les Christianson was editor in 1990, and Clay Champoux was president. The time machine aspect of it hits me: What a delight to be reminded of

Clay! Such a gentle soul! His signature is in my logbooks, and last I saw him, he was horizontal in a hospital bed. Good old Clay!

My old partner Wally Peterson was editor in 1991. He mailed them out himself! The addresses are in his handwriting. A highlight of Wally's year is Lester Christianson's essay "The Stuff of Dreams" in which he sings a paean to small airports, laments the recent loss of Arrow Airport (a dump! a city dump!) and the Lancaster County Board rejecting a plan to put in an airstrip southeast of Lincoln. Luckily for us, Doug does not have to address the issues and lick the stamps: John Cox takes care of getting the issues to us. Thank you John!

In the mid 90's Roger Aspegren produced the newsletter. (1992, 93, 94) Sample the February 1993 number and read about Jim Fix making a Pitts pedal car for his grandson! Ken Mueller was president. Good to be reminded of Ken. Thirty six years ago, and there you are again.

The next year, Roger moved up to president and Terry Carlson was editor.

Mark Turner produced a jam-packed newsletter in '96 and '97.

In '97 Doug Hill, incoming president, introduces himself with a short autobiography from Duncan line boy to Hillaero, where he still sweeps the hangar floor! The January '97 number also includes a telephone tree: look it over and see how many members from 24 years

ago you know, knew or remember! Sadly, Mark resigned before the year was out, leaving vice-president Terry Carlson to fill out the year.

In '98, Ray Supalla was the editor.

I remember when Roger Aspegren took over as Newsletter editor again in 1999. He did it, not because he wanted to, but because it needed to be done, was essential as the glue to hold the chapter together, so he stepped in, and he named it The Communicator. That year, I had just replaced George Myers as Young Eagle Coordinator. We had board meetings, in advance of every chapter meeting, and they included the YE guy, me, in the board.

July 1999 was my very first article for The Communicator, a long account of a bike ride through the countryside (not a flight!) to meet Jan and Barry Daniels, operators of the Weeping Water Airport, now private, and run by and for a skydiving club. Barry, a pillar of the chapter is gone. Last I knew, Jan is still active in Chapter 80. That bicycle to Brown's was my first of 69 articles for the chapter.

Chapter newsletters are missing for the years 2000-2004 inclusive, and when they reappear for 2005, Dennis Crispin is the editor. That was the year Tom Trumble joined me as YE coordinator (I had learned that you didn't have to have just one!) "Dennis produced a fantastic monthly newsletter and has invested serious time and effort into composing original stories about

(continued on page 3)

member projects and club events” wrote president Andy Lahr in his year-end thank you’s.

*A final note: Doug Volkmer has scanned in many of the pre-2004 issues, mostly from Jerry Carlson’s backfiles. Check your basement, check your attic. If you can fill in the missing years, bring backfiles to the next meetings!

(Yes, if you can help with the missing newsletters, I’ll scan and archive them on the website. – Ed.)

Minutes of the Club Meeting

The meeting was called to order over Zoom on March 16, 2021 at 7:00 pm by President Tom Trumble.

Attending were: Tom Trumble, Dave Fritz, Lori Oliveros, Mark Gaffney, Dean Hoy, Noah Philson, Jon Sullivan, Kermit Wenger, Cristi Higgins, Doug Volkmer, Harold and Edi Bickford, Don Osborne (via phone).

Treasurers report, Cristi Higgins, Treasurer- Current balance main account \$3420.78, breakfast account \$1429.31. Walmart can contribute \$500.00 dollars to charitable organizations for each 25 hour volunteer block by an employee, aka Cristi.

President's report, Tom Trumble, President- The membership list now includes “legacy” members who may not be active or in the local area but are interested in the club and activities and enjoy having the newsletter sent to them.

Breakfast Club report, Lori Oliveros- Breakfast for Saturday, March 20 is on. Set-up is 7:30am.

In April, the Corvette group may attend for “Cars and Planes”.

Young Eagles, Cristi Higgins, YE coordinator- David City Airport, April 24, 9:30am about (20 Young Eagles). Noah Philson interested in Ray Scholarship for flight training. St. Patrick's School interested in Young Eagle rides for about 10.

Doug Volkmer, Newsletter editor- Article submission deadline is March 26 for April newsletter.

Doug's RV is ready for test flying pending wx conditions.

Regular meeting April 6, 7:30pm at the Duncan Training Facility, West Cuming and NW 44th.

May 4th Performance Aviation, Mark Gaffney, Presenter, Aviation Safety.

June 1, Innovation Studio Shops, UNL (former fairgrounds location).

State Fly-in, June 20, 2021 at Hastings, NE. Tribute to Harry Barr.

The club is interested in booking the EAA Ford Trimotor for Lincoln in 2022. Volunteers are needed to make this event work. Let chapter leaders know of your interest.

IAC 80, Harold Bickford, President Play day is scheduled for March 27th 11:00am at Seward. Western Regional Aerobatic Championship is scheduled for June 24-27 at Seward. Volunteers are always appreciated for this event.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00pm by Tom Trumble, EAA 569 President.

Respectfully submitted by Harold Bickford for Jerry Mulliken, Secretary



President Tom Trumble presented the 2020 Spark Plug Award to Dave Fritz and Lori Oliveros at the March 2nd meeting. Dave and Lori spearhead one of the finer fly-in breakfast in the area.



Harold Bickford
President, IAC/MAC 80

Here we are in April already. As flying weather gets better (sometimes!) we are getting closer to the Midwest Aerobatic Championship. That will be from June 24-27, 2021 at Seward airport.

The International Aerobatic Club (IAC) has designated the fourth Saturday in June as National Aerobatics Day. That happens to be the 26th this year during our contest. As such it is an excellent opportunity to highlight aerobatic flight!

As always, we are happy to have volunteers for the contest. This can be tech inspection, score keeping, assisting with judging, being a score sheet runner, to name a few.

I can be contacted via voice or text at 402-274-7530 to sign up. Whether for part of a day or the whole event we are happy to work with you.



Merit Badges at SAC Museum

By Dennis Crispin

Boy Scouts from all over the Midwest look forward each year to a Merit Badge Overnight at Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum. The Museum hosts programs that give the Scouts a lesson in history, allows them to earn a Merit Badge and have a lot of fun while doing it. The programs are built around the Scouting requirements for a specific Merit badge. Most popular currently are the Aviation, Engineering and Robotics Merit Badges.

Within the evening's activities, the Scouts receive an explanation of the role of the U.S. Air Force and Strategic Air Command in the era known as the Cold War. A guided tour of the hangers showcases the historic aircraft and other artifacts of this important part of world history.

At the end of the busy evening, the scouts get to camp for the night under the impressive SR-71 "Blackbird" aircraft. Where else do you get to sleep under the world's fastest, highest flying airplane?

An overnight program, called SAC Adventures, is geared to the younger, Cub Scout age kids. It focuses on activities selected for the fun factor; however, the Museum always slips in a bit of education with the entertainment.

The Museum's Education Department also provides outreach programs to the schools, Virtual Activity Field Trips, "field day" tours of the museum and summertime youth day camps.

Education Director Mark Strehle said "The Education Department is currently distributing support materials for our Virtual Activity

Field Trips and Tour to 63 school buildings, 350 classes and 12,850 students in the Omaha Public Schools. The Sherwood Foundation graciously provided a grant allowing us to support this district despite COVID-related safety restrictions confining students to their buildings. We intend to circulate these and expanded materials to underserved rural school districts in the upcoming school year."

SAC Museum houses an extensive collection of rare and historically significant military aircraft. It is the only museum in the world dedicated to the Cold War. You can find it midway between Lincoln and Omaha at exit 426 off Interstate 80.

Check the web site <https://sacmuseum.org> for the many programs and public events available at Strategic Air Command & Aerospace Museum.



Christopher Harris learned how to read an aeronautical map and plot a course in the navigation class that is a part of the Boy Scout Aviation Merit Badge program at SAC Museum. Christopher is the son of Jim and Barb Harris of St. Joseph, MO.

Past Chapter 569 Presidents

2020 Tom Winter
 2015-19 Harold Bickford
 2013-14 Cristi Higgins
 2012 Tom Johnson/Cristi Higgins
 2011 Erick Corbridge
 2009-10 Tom Henry
 2008 Don Shoemaker
 2006-07 Dennis Crispin
 2005 Andy Lahr
 2003-04 Ray Supalla
 2001-02 Tom Winter
 1999-00 Russ Kelsea
 1997-98 Doug Hill
 1995-96 Roger Aspegren
 1993-94 Ken Mueller
 1992 Ken Dahl
 1991 Tom Werner
 1989-90 Clay Champoux
 1988 Bob Dinkel
 1986-87 Lonnie Davis
 1984-85 Jim Fix
 1982-83 Jeff Clausen
 1981 Jim Stephens
 1980 John Camden
 1979 Bill Sheahan
 1978 Postalwaite/Murray/Satterlee
 1977 Lowell Satterlee
 1976 Rollie Woodruff (*first President, organizer of Chapter 569*)

Spark Plug Award Recipients

2020 Dave Fritz, Lori Oliveros
 2018 Harold Bickford
 2013 Keith Gomon
 2012 Doug Elting
 2011 Cristi Higgins
 2010 Kerm Wenger
 2009 Andy Lahr
 2008 Tom Trumble
 2007 Doug Volkmer
 2006 Tom Henry
 2005 Dennis Crispin
 2004 John Tenopir
 2003 Russ Kelsea
 2002 Norm Sell
 2001 Ray Supalla
 2000 Roger Aspegren
 1999 Dana Dienstbier
 1998 Don Shoemaker
 1997 Steve Lukehart
 1996 George Myers
 1995 Doug Hill

Interested in a Vans RV-9A Flying Club?

Are you interested in exploring the idea of a flying club with a Vans RV-9A aircraft? These airplanes are a joy to fly, go fast, have modern avionic panels (with autopilot), and are like a "magic carpet". They are also experimental, and yes, it is OK to have a flying club that deploys Vans RV-9A experimental aircraft. See the AOPA web link below, for further discussion on the topic of a flying club having an experimental aircraft. I have a nice RV-9A with a Lycoming O-320 engine rated at 160 hp, driving a fixed pitch prop. The optimal mission for these aircraft includes flying at higher altitudes, in a very efficient manner (about 7.5 gal per hour), with an easy cruise speed of 140 kts TAS. Of course, it is a wonderful machine for local flights and the all-important \$100 hamburger. In addition, based on my research, it appears as though flying clubs offer the "best bang for the buck" in terms of flying enjoyment, risk management, and economics. Plus, it is possible to learn to fly under the auspices of this type of flying club, as long as the learner is a member of the club. AOPA offers tremendous support for establishing and sustaining flying clubs. With this concept in mind, it seems that an ideal club size for this situation, would be on the order of 3 to 5 like-minded individuals. If you're interested in flying a very popular aircraft, with all the modern amenities, and getting places fairly quickly in an economical manner, or just flying around the area in a fun and modern aircraft, lets visit about the possibilities. Feel free to call Wayne Woldt at 402-450-6170.

[AOPA Flying Club Info](#)



Wayne Woldt's RV-9A

Events

Apr-May, EAA Webinars. [Click here for more information.](#)

Apr 13-18, Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, FL; <http://www.sun-n-fun.org/>

Apr 24, 9:30am Young Eagles Event, David City, NE. Contact Cristi Higgins @ 402-217-9763 if you can help.

Apr 28 – May 1, MayDay STOL Competition, Wayne, NE (KLCCG). Click [here](#) for more information.

Jun 20, Nebraska State Fly-in, Hastings, NE (KHSI)

Jun 24-27, Midwest Aerobatic Championship, Seward, NE (KSWT). If you would like to volunteer, contact Harold Bickford @ 402-274-7530.

Jul 26 – Aug 1, AirVenture, Oshkosh, WI
<http://www.airventure.org/>

And finally ...

Don McPherson



Don McPherson from Adams, NE flew the F6F Hellcat off the aircraft carrier USS Essex in WW2. He worked his way to ace status by shooting down two planes on April 6, 1945 and three more on May 5, 1945. Don was recently reunited with a Hellcat in Beatrice, NE. The plane had similar markings to the one he flew. Don will be 99 in May. Click [here for more pictures](#).

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