

# EAA CHAPTER 80 NEBRASKA IOWA



# News!

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[www.EAA80.org](http://www.EAA80.org)

November 2015

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## Wiping Off The Bugs

After the Young Eagles event I headed out to the hangar to install the oil cooler shutter for cool weather flying. That didn't take very long. Looking at Jane the plane, I decided I should really get all the bugs off (again) before it got cold and my bucket of bath water for Jane was frozen for the winter.

As I started, it seemed like a bit of a pain. I mean, who really likes wiping the bugs off their plane? The bugs themselves bring nothing to the flying experience-unless you're open cockpit and get one on your goggles or in your teeth. But I realized that wiping off bugs meant the plane was flying. In a way-it was a good way to cap off a good summer of flying.

I think we're kind of wiping off the bugs of a good year for Chapter 80. We're not at the end of the year yet, but darn close. This year we started a new program for visiting airplane projects, flew a bunch of Young Eagles, installed new audio/visual equipment at Oracle, and increased the membership by a fair amount. It takes people to volunteer to help with things and it also takes people willing to come out and support the projects that are put together. From the board of directors to the members, thanks for a great year and may there be many bugs to wipe off next year!

At the November general membership meeting, Dr. Mark Ptacek will present to us. The October builder's meeting will be at Ken Bahr's, Saturday the 24th, 9:00 AM. He is building a Sonex. His address is 4845 Farnam St., Omaha, NE 68132. Please contact him at [kwbahr@yahoo.com](mailto:kwbahr@yahoo.com) or leave a message at 402-559-0133 if you plan to attend. There'll be coffee!

**Chris**

## October meeting Minutes

The October membership meeting was called to order at 7 PM on Monday, 10/12/2015 in the main hangar at Oracle Aviation in Millard.

We had a couple of guests, whose names I did not manage to get.

**Minutes:** A motion was passed to approve the August and September meeting minutes as published.

**Treasurer:** Ed Haffke reported \$5864 in checking, \$1558 in a CD, \$3912 in the money market account for a total of \$11345.49.

**Membership:** We now have 112 members.

**Young Eagles:** Rally on Saturday, 10/17.

**Tech Counselor:** Nothing to report.

**Flyout Report:** Mike reported there was a flyout to the EAA Museum in Oshkosh. Three planes flew out, good weather with winds out of the NE. Mike says the museum displays are amazing and you really should take the time to go through if you get a chance. The next flyout will be to the Beaumont Hotel in KS, near Wichita. You'll get to taxi through city streets to park at the hotel. The date is Sunday, Nov. 1. Mike will send out an email to the flyout list.

**Social Coordinator:** Chris reports that Ken Bahr will host the builders meeting on 10/24. Ken is building a Sonex. There is supposed to be a BBQ at Oracle Aviation in early November, details are still being firmed up.

**Tools:** Everything is either in Jerry's hangar or accounted for.

**Web site:** Jerry demonstrated how to update your profile and contact information on the web site. Dale is working to improve the member directory page.

### New Business & Announcements:

**PO Box:** The Post Office box received a total of nine actual pieces of mail this year. Jerry made a motion not to renew the PO box, which was passed. The Treasurer will handle the mailing of the trailer registration.

Jerry announced that **Steve Bennett** is in hospice care.

**Meeting Equipment:** The old stacking chairs and plywood tables were deemed an eyesore and have been removed. We have a few newer plastic folding tables, and we were given folding chairs in good condition. We were also asked by Oracle to house our gear in a more presentable cabinet, and to install at least a 70" TV on the wall. Oracle bought our old TV, and we have a new metal cabinet to house our equipment. A motion was made and passed to reimburse Bob Cartwright and Jerry Ronk a total of \$1426.12 for these purchases as well as a storage rack for the folding chairs. The old chairs will be donated to the Open Door Mission.

**Trailer:** A discussion was had regarding the condition of

the trailer. Jerry refurbished and cleaned up the trailer, but it needs new tires still. Reimbursement was made to Jerry for parts and paint (see "Meeting Equipment" above). TW said we have a problem with the trailer axle bending and wearing out tires. Mike and TW will work to see if we can engineer an improved axle to keep this from happening. TW will also investigate possible replacements for the trailer without costing the chapter more than we can justify for the amount it gets used.

**Builders reports:** The **Shoemakers** report that there is not much new to report. **Mark Miller** is almost ready for his airworthiness certificate. **Eric** bought Bob Soukup's RV-4. **Jim Beyer** is working on the overhead console of his RV-10.

**For Sale:** **Ed Haffke** reports that he has a 1956 Cessna 140 for sale at a very attractive price (\$22K or less); contact Ed for details.

**Trimotor:** No change, they're supposed to contact Mike about the schedule. Mike will check to see if MLE can hangar the plane if it comes here.

**Nominations:** November is election month! Nominations for chapter officers were entertained. The following nominations were made:

- For President: **Chris Halfman**
- For Vice president: **Chris Beran**
- For Treasurer: **Bob Cartwright**
- For Secretary: **Dale Botkin**
- For Membership: **Jim Beyer**

**Kevin Faris** reports that he has plans for a Thorp T-18 and a Vari-Eze along with a few parts, books and some clecos that were donated by the family of someone who was interested in experimental planes in the late 1960s. See Kevin if you're interested in the plans.

**Jim Beyer** reported that Twin Creek Cinema would be showing *Flying the Feathered Edge*, a movie about the career of Bob Hoover, on Wed. 11/11. This is for all aviation enthusiasts and their friends. You can make reservations at [tugg.com](http://tugg.com).

Respectfully submitted,  
Dale Botkin—Secretary

### Welcome, New Members!

Please take note that we have a number of relatively recent new Chapter 80 members. If you see these folks at the meeting or around the airport, be sure to say hello. And remember—if you have a friend, neighbor or relative who is interested in aviation, antique aircraft, home building or warbirds, bring them to a meeting. They may become a member too.

Bob Alf	Dave Bentley
Chris Beran	Dan James
Shawn Farwell	John Lindinger
Mark Parry	Rich Tonar
Mark Miller	Eric Stadjuhar
Jonathan Fitzsimmons	Don Newton
Mark Ptacek	Hal Johnson
Jonathan Fant	Dave Poole
Bob Negis	Julie Negis

## **Making The LSA Transition**

By Dale Botkin

I'd been pounding rivets on my RV-7 for a couple of years even after my unfortunate encounter with the cardiac cath lab, hoping for the long promised changes that would eliminate the requirement to get a third class medical certificate to fly it. Those changes may or may not happen some day, but it now has become obvious that even if the rules do change it won't help my situation much. I finally had to make the decision that it was time to go for a light-sport plane instead. As much as I have come to enjoy building, I like flying even more.

A couple of weeks of searching had eliminated several potential options for various reasons. One promising candidate emerged: a five year old, low-time RV-12 priced well below the apparent market. I enlisted the help of Mike Howard to come along to take a look, since he is the most expert RV-12 person I could find. We set out for the hills of very rural North Carolina via flying anchovy tins in Delta Airlines livery.

The plane was... well... it was there, and it seems airworthy enough if not pretty. It will be at least a winter-long project to get all of the service bulletins done and make it presentable, but then I already had planned to work on a plane all winter. I debated whether to buy it or not, then finally called the seller and made an offer I was pretty sure he'd scoff at... but he did not, and we made a deal. I'm buying an RV-12.

Now comes the long list of things to do! I need to get current again, having flown only an hour or so in the past two years. I need to get "trained up" enough in an RV-12 to not pose a danger to myself, the airplane or those on the ground. The plane needs to be flown back from NC to its new home. I have to get a hangar rented. Of course there's insurance to be handled. There's a lot of details to be handled when you make a decision like this.

*To be continued...*

## **Overall Accident Numbers Down**

In September, EAA completed its annual tracking of experimental category fatal accidents. Experimental aircraft were involved in 60 fatal accidents during fiscal year 2015, with amateur-built aircraft accounting for roughly two-thirds of those accidents.

As in previous years, the FAA established a "not to exceed" number based on the goal of decreasing experimental fatal accidents by 10 percent year over year. The number of fatal accidents for fiscal year 2015 came in well below the not to exceed number of 64. Additionally, experimental fatal accidents saw a decrease of more than 11 percent over fiscal year 2014 data.

Despite the promising numbers, EAA is committed to expanding its role in experimental aircraft safety with the goal of seeing even larger decreases in fatal accidents.

## **Parts and Tools For Sale**

Tom Newell has decided to offer some of his collection of

parts and tools for sale to Chapter members. Included in the items Tom is selling are the following:

- An ACK Mod E-01 ELT, bought for his Stearman but never installed
- Riveting tools, bucking tool, air drill, bars, and attachments. \$100 for the lot.
- Under wing jack, 26", like new. \$100
- Homemade jack for RV 6a, works great. \$20
- 3 cabinets of rivets and AN hardware, \$30ea.

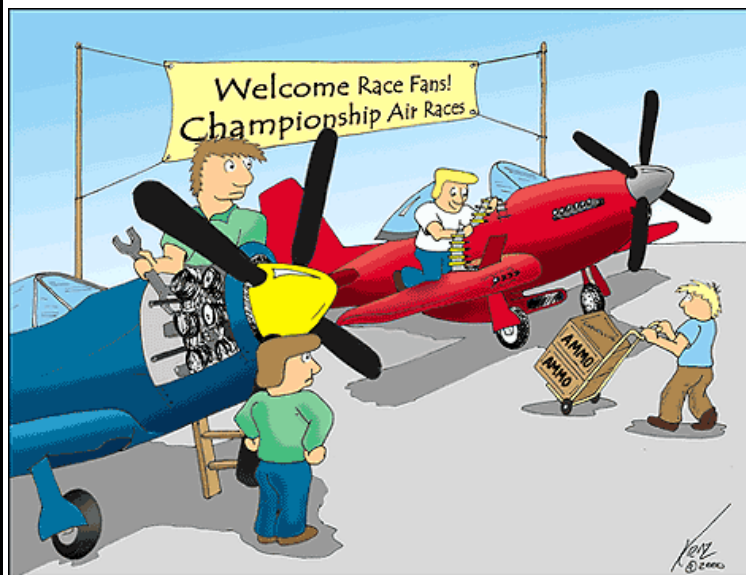
Contact Tom via email at [tomnew@windstream.net](mailto:tomnew@windstream.net), or find him at the next meeting.

## **Upcoming Events**

- ⇒ **10/24 at 9 AM:** EAA 80 Builders Meeting. See the front page for details.
- ⇒ **11/1:** Flyout to Beaumont Hotel in KS (07S). Plan on arriving at 12:30 on 11/1/15. Contact Mike Howard for details.
- ⇒ **11/9 at 7 PM:** EAA 80 general membership meeting, Oracle Aviation at Millard Airport. It's election time!
- ⇒ **11/21 from 8 to 10AM:** EAA 569 Fly-In Breakfast at Crete (CEK)
- ⇒ **11/7 from 11 AM to 2 PM:** Chili Fly-In at Independence Municipal Airport (IIB). PIC and children under 5 eat free.

## **Two lost in RV-4 crash**

Sad news from the Seward area. I'm very sorry to report that we lost two fellow aviators and IAC MAC 80 members, Jerry Alder and Dave Schneider, in an RV-4 crash over the weekend. There is a memorial gathering from 6 to 8:30 PM on Thursday, October 22nd at the Lincoln Firefighters Hall 241 Victory Lane, Lincoln. (Out by Speedway Motors off Sun Valley Blvd.)





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