

**FOX VALLEY SPORT AVIATION ASSOCIATION
EAA CHAPTER 579
Aurora, IL**



The Propwash

February, 2014

Next Chapter Meeting

Thursday, February 27
Sugar Grove Firehouse
[Click here for Map](#)

Program Meeting: 7:30 pm

Director's Meeting: 6:30 pm

2014 Meeting Schedule

All meetings at the Sugar Grove
Firehouse unless otherwise notified
[Click here for Map](#)

January 23
February 27
March 27
April 24
May 22
June 26
July 17 **
August 28
September 25
October 23
November 20 **
December 18 **

**Meetings the Third Thursday in July
(Airventure), November (Thanksgiving)
and December (Christmas).

2014 Young Eagles Schedule

Flights will takeoff from and return to
the Aurora Municipal Airport. Pilot
briefing will be at about 8:30 am.
Begin flying at 9:00 am. Last
registration at 2:00 pm.

[Click here for Map](#)

May 18
June 22
August 24
September 28
October 26



Young Eagle 5 Step Plan

Chapter Leadership

Dave Smith, President – flypa12@comcast.net

Allen Rickert, Vice President – AL554@aol.com

Larry Shaw, Treasurer – DatecAviation@msn.com

Joe McBride, Secretary – joeemcbride@gmail.com

Mike Bowers, Director – aeromike21@hotmail.com

Bill Cameron, Director – MEC515@sbcglobal.net

Frank Cosentino, Director – frankcos@sbcglobal.net

Mark Hislop, Director – MHISLOP@aol.com

Alan Shackleton, Director and Past President – A.Shackleton@sbcglobal.net



Please join our Facebook page for
additional chapter pictures, postings and
updates.

Search EAA Chapter 579, Fox Valley
Chapter 579 Sport Aviation Association or
[click here](#)

If you have anything of interest to the chapter, please email me at joeemcbride@gmail.com: fun places you have flown to, progress on your special project, an interesting plane you have flown, your favorite flight, good places for the ~~\$100~~ \$200 hamburger. Let us all know about it. Pictures are always welcome. You don't have to have a completed article. If you send me the details, I'll write the article.

Dave's Dialogue...



Greetings EAA 579 Chapter Members and Guests,

I ran into several Chapter 579 members at the IDOT Safety Conference in Itasca earlier in the month. The snow from the night before kept many away. Tim and I bounced between the VFR and IFR programs to get the latest updates on airspace changes around Midway and to listen to other subject matter experts.

Several of us are heading up to Oshkosh March 8th for EAA's Hops & Props. This is our second year attending this event in the museum. There are still tickets available for those looking to get away for an overnight in Oshkosh. It also gives me an opportunity to touch bases with some of EAA's leadership team while in town.

We are pleased that Kathy Spano has agreed to represent Chapter 579 at EAA's Chapter Leadership Meeting held at the Air Academy Lodge, March 7-9. This program, sponsored by EAA, brings together chapter leaders from around the country to exchange ideas and to learn about EAA. You will certainly enjoy the weekend. Thanks Kathy!

For our February 27th program meeting, we are very pleased to welcome Mr. Steve Pagels, from Warbirds of America, Warbird Squadron 4. Steve crews on Tom Bucks Grumman TBM Avenger. He has enjoyed the ability to fly in many different aircraft both civilian and military. Mr. Pagels served in the U.S. Army during the Vietnam era and was attached to I Corps Seventh Division Korea. Please join us this Thursday evening as we learn about Warbirds of America and Warbird Squadron 4. Checkout their website: www.warbirds-aaa.org

Also, our March 27th program meeting is already set with a very special guest speaker. Mr. Ron Wolflick from Honor Flight Chicago, and guest WWII veterans from the area will join Mr. Wolflick, at the Chapter meeting to share details about Honor Flight Chicago. Videos of recent trips to Washington DC will be shared with our chapter. Checkout their website: www.honorflightchicago.org

See you at the meeting.

Dave

Minutes of January 23 Meeting

- Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm by Dave Smith.
- Treasurer's report: all bills paid. Report accepted.
- 16 members, 2 guests, 2 speakers in attendance.
- Minutes accepted as published in Newsletter.
- Update on Explorer Post 579 by Mark Hislop (see Mark's article in this Newsletter):
 - Moving meetings to IMSA. Additional 10 members from IMSA.
 - Curriculum is being shared.
 - Met with Waukegan EAA Chapter-- they are interested in starting an Aviation Explorer Post.
 - Meeting with Illinois State Senator Holmes to explain the program.
 - Looking for funding via grants.
 - There is a scout airfest at Lewis this summer. There will also a stem-a-rama.
- We got email from Johanna Enders who went to Air Academy sponsored by EAA 579. She is now a senior at the University of North Dakota studying air traffic control.
- Dave reported that he and other chapter members met with Jack Holley and presented the President's Award with a picture from last year's Young Eagle Rally. He is doing well.



- An outing is being planned for June at the Kane County Cougars for Jimmy Buffet night. There will be more information later.
- Motion to end the business meeting.

There was a short refreshment break.

- A presentation was given by Guy Lieser, currently with Aircraft Strategies LLC. Guy retired from the FAA as an Air Traffic Controller after 32 years
- Guy presented a lot of good information on how to work with Air Traffic Control.

Submitted by: Joe McBride

Aviation Exploring Post 579 by Mark Hislop

Here's an update on what's been happening with the Aviation Exploring Post that Chapter 579 is sponsoring. We have had a *fantastic* month. So good, in fact, that it's hard to list of all of the good things that have been happening. But here are a few of the highlights.

Because of difficulty in recruiting kids who could come all the way out to the airport to meet, we moved our meetings to the Illinois Math and Science Academy (IMSA) in Aurora. We now have about 15 young people enrolled, with several more who will probably join. These students are very interested in the program, and very smart. We couldn't have picked a better place to start a pilot program. The other units that form will have a difficult time keeping up with this group.

We have developed a collaboration with Shedd Aquarium. For the last five years, Shedd has had a similar program for Underwater Remote Operated Vehicles. While their program doesn't partner with Scouting like ours does, they feel there are enough similarities and shared goals that they want to see how we can help each other. And we're happy to have their name associated with our program.

Post 579 now has a corporate sponsor. And WHAT a sponsor. Don Miller, President and CEO of MadLab Industries in Aurora (<http://madlabindustries.com>), has agreed to partner with us. His firm designs and builds Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. His designs, and the capability of his machines, are simply mind-boggling. For example, he demonstrated a flying Hexacopter (6 rotors), that lands and then walks on six legs. It's an amazing technology demonstrator, even if it is a little creepy looking! He flew this for us at IMSA and had us all amazed.



Don has also donated one of his "Entry Level" Quad Copters to the Post, and one kit to be assembled by the kids. "Entry Level" to Don means a Quad Copter that can fly autonomously, navigating by GPS, over a course pre-programmed on Google Earth.



It can do this:

- While sending back live video.
- While sending back 160 channels of data.
- While holding pre-determined headings, orientations, and altitudes.
- While carrying a camera or other payload.

Not bad for "Entry Level"!!

Our Post has come to the attention of Illinois Senator Linda Holmes. We gave her a presentation about our program. She has written a letter of endorsement for us to use in our fund-raising efforts. She is also in the process of getting meetings for us with Representative Bill Foster and Senator Dick Durbin. Our goal in meeting with them is to have them introduce us to potential corporate sponsors. It'll be nice to "know people who know people".

Finally, our program has attracted a great deal of interest in Northeastern Illinois Scouting circles. Based on our results so far, there are commitments to start 7 Aviation Exploring Posts in NE Illinois, and 3 or 4 in the Rockford area. BSA National Headquarters is watching all of this with a keen interest, with an eye to making this a national program. On top of that, we are now getting requests from events like STEM-O-RAMA, the Lewis University Airfest, the Rockford Airfest, and several robotics competitions to come out and showcase our program. The word is getting out fast.

The kids in the Explorer Post are invited to our Chapter meetings and Young Eagles Rallies. Please introduce yourself and welcome them.

Mark Hislop

In case you missed this in February *Sport Aviation*:

AFTER ERIC BEETS, EAA 1078480, took a Young Eagles flight on January 15, 2012, the 17-year-old high school student from Burlington, Wisconsin, made the decision that he would become a private pilot. Thanks to his determination and the EAA Young Eagles Flight Plan, Eric passed his checkride on April 5, 2013. Now he's organizing a Young Eagles rally at his home airport.

Eric gives EAA 100 percent of the credit for teaching him about aviation. After the Young Eagles flight, he completed the online Sporty's Learn to Fly Course (provided free to Young Eagles) and applied for and was granted a scholarship to attend the EAA Air Academy. He passed the FAA written exam on his first attempt (the cost of which was reimbursed by EAA), plus was chosen as a recipient of a Gathering of Eagles flight-training scholarship.

Now he's spreading the word about flight to his friends and the public. "I've already given flights to some of my friends, and I feel it's my duty to help others discover flying like EAA helped me," he said. "I want to help get anyone and everyone interested in aviation, and I thought that telling my story to other parents, kids, pilots, and anyone willing to listen would be a great way to achieve my goal."

Are you ready for Spring??



Our Young Eagles Trailer at Sky Haven



That's Bob Porter's Ercoupe

Tickets are still available:



Hops & Props: The Premier Event for Beer Connoisseurs
Saturday, March 8, 2014 | 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. | EAA AirVenture Museum

\$75 General Admission (\$65 EAA Members) | \$125 VIP Dining Experience (\$115 EAA Members)

[Purchase Your Tickets](#)

Tickets are on sale now for Hops & Props, the premier event for beer connoisseurs. This annual event brings the world's finest microbrews together with a world-class collection of aircraft for an unforgettable evening. All tickets include sampling of over 250 beers from around the world, delicious hors d'oeuvres, professionally prepared tasting guide, commemorative beer glass, and live music by Unity, Frogwater, Chelli Bri, and Sly Joe and the Smooth Operators. We are also excited to announce that new to this year's event, The Machine Shed will be providing a variety of food.



VIP Pre-Event Dining Experience

The VIP experience offers guests an education on the process of brewing specialty microbrew beers while dining on perfectly matched food and beer pairings. We are pleased to announce this year's VIP dinner will be provided by Becket's, a local favorite in Oshkosh. Surly Brewing Co. from Minnesota will be the brewmaster for the event. The pre-event begins at 5:30 p.m. and tickets include admission to the main event.

Hops & Props Overnight Package

Overnight packages and shuttle services are again available from many nearby hotels. [View lodging details and information.](#)

[Purchase your tickets today](#) and secure your spot at this great event! Contact [920-426-6510](tel:920-426-6510) for ticket details. For other information about the event, call [920-426-6281](tel:920-426-6281).



Snow piled high at the airport

(Thanks to Dave Smith for the pictures)

Fox Valley Sport Aviation Association
EAA Chapter 579
Membership Application or Renewal - 2014

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____

E-mail _____ EAA# _____

_____ New _____ Renewal Spouse's Name _____

Annual Membership = \$20.00
Checks made payable to EAA Chapter 579

Please mail this application and your check to our treasurer:

**Lawrence O. Shaw
147 N. Buckingham Drive
Sugar Grove, IL 60554**

To join or renew your membership, please fill in the form above and mail it to the address at the bottom with a check for \$20. If you have not already, now is the time to renew your Chapter membership for 2014.