

EAA 292

INDEPENDENCE

OREGON

Taildragger



April 2020

All Chapter Meetings are cancelled until further notice for the safety of our Members. Please, everyone be safe during these difficult times.

If you have not yet done so, please pay your Annual Chapter Dues (\$35)

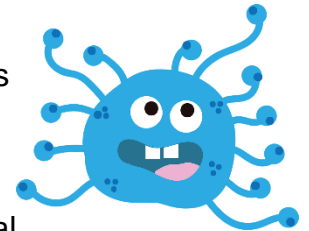
Send check to EAA Chapter 292 4803 Airport Rd. Independence, Oregon, 97351

President's Message

“Covid-19 Coronavirus Edition”

Challenging Times

The worldwide Coronavirus epidemic is something that our Chapter has never experienced, didn't see coming, and couldn't plan for (although some members are claiming to remember the Spanish flu in 1918, and the extermination of the dinosaurs 65 million years ago 😊)! The Board has made the decision to error on the side of caution. With the average age of our membership well-north of 60 years old, and some of our members having faced or facing medical issues, our demographic puts our Chapter at “high risk.” Even before the Oregon “Stay Home” mandate <https://govstatus.egov.com/or-covid-19>, we'd made the prudent decision to cancel all club activities and functions including Chapter Meetings, VMC/IMC, Youth Build, Committees, etc. These will remain cancelled until the crisis has dissipated. This is not just about any one of us getting sick individually, it's about protecting our families and community. We are not prohibiting use of the hangar clubhouse or toolroom, but please avoid the premises if you are sick. Even if you aren't sick, please respect the restrictions to no gatherings over 10 people, and try to maintain the social-distancing of 6'. Please protect yourself, AND those around you!



We don't know how long this crisis is going to last. At this point, the general thought the infection will “peak” in early April and the worst of it will pass in 30-60 days. If that is true, we still may be able to have our Young Eagle and Fly-In events. I believe that we should all be optimistic and continue to plan for success and for the Summer events to happen. There's no reason to start cancelling events that are that far out.

However, we do need to start thinking about how to do things differently. There are some Doctors who are saying that because of the global economy and easy worldwide travel, pandemics like this could become more the norm, rather than the exception. Because of this, the Board has begun to explore ideas on how we can better communicate with the membership.

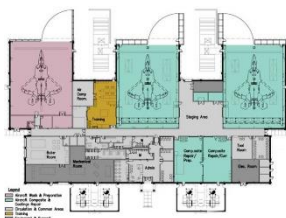
New Ways to Communicate

One of the ideas that the Board came up with to better communicate with our members during this virus out-break was to use video or recorded meetings. This is something we are going to try. Our planned speaker for March was Chuck West, who was going to discuss the Elite RC-1 flight simulator program here at EAA 292. The simulator committee is proposing some changes in the management of the sim that would open it up to most, or all our members at a very low cost.

Our thought now is to try capturing this meeting content and making it available to members as a video. If this is successfully, we may try it again while we are impacted by this situation. Be checking you e-mails for further information.



North Hangar Expansion



“Social distancing” has caused many of our committees and workgroups to slow down or come to a halt. The North Hangar expansion project is no exception. Until we can solicit our members inputs, we really can't come up with a viable project scope or budget. Speaking with the Project-Lead, Bruce Patton, we've agreed to come up with an electronic survey form so that all our members can provide their ideas and comment during this period when we can't meet face-to-face. Bruce and Mike K. will be developing the survey and members should

expect to see it in their e-mail within 2-3 weeks. Please respond in a timely manner if you want to your opinion to be heard.

New Fly-In Promotional Video

At the most recent fly-in committee meeting a request was made to create a short promotional video for the event and the Chapter. After gathering photos from many members and video from Ron Singh's STOL Expo DVD, a short “montage” of our event over the years was produced.

[Click here to see the new video!](#)



Membership Aircraft Database



Do you know all the airplanes that our members fly or are building? How can you talk to someone about the flight characteristics of the Vancair-15SP? These were questions (except about the Vancair) that were being asked by Chapter member Jim Wixson. Because the data has never been collected, Jim has volunteered to collect the information from our members. You can expect a telephone call or e-mail from Jim, and we'd appreciate you help him out. He'll be asking 1) What aircraft do you fly today?, and 2) What projects are you building now? If possible, Jim will also ask for a photo of your plane, and if you don't have one, he may propose taking one for you!

This information will only be shared with our internal members. It won't be available to the public. Please cooperate with Jim when he contacts you!

Please Stay Healthy and Safe!

Mike Kelley

FMX-4 Facetmobile Update (Reported by Dr. Bob Ingle)

The FMX4 proceeds! I finished the closing inspection about Christmas time. We decided to fabric cover it with a single piece on the top, one single piece on the bottom, and then the two side pieces. The fabric is only 70.5" wide and the plane is 180" wide, so I needed to sew together 3 pieces to get one really wide piece. The larger pieces end up over 15' wide and are very inconvenient to work with, but I got it done with lots of sewing help from Denny Fuhrman's better half. (Though it seems I broke her quilting machine at some stage there)

When the upper fabric was glued in place, I began the shrinking process with an iron. The fabric needs heating to about 300 deg F for proper sealing, but that may lead to almost 10% shrinkage. For my 15' span, that is 18" of shrinkage. I put the fabric on loosely but still bent a side tube when the temperature got to 300 deg. Fortunately the tube wasn't permanently bent when I removed the fabric. I had to add 2 small tubes there to provide compression support to prevent the upper tubes from bending when I glued on and heated the second try of fabric. This time the upper fabric didn't bend anything.

I carefully, visually checked out all the tubes for the bottom and side fabric and added 2 support tubes for the fabric on the front window bracket. These areas are longer than most, and this area seems to flutter a bit on some of the videos of models of the FMX4. I knew that this area would be heated to 325 deg to help minimize any fluttering here. In any case, after all the fabric is on and tightened, and I don't see any bending except perhaps 1/8" on a single side tube that has a strengthener already attached.

I had all kinds of suggestions and recommendations for the covering process, as the central portion on the top are hard to get to. Eventually I used a forklift and a packing create to be able to reach out over the expanse for installing the metal strips over the stringers to hold the fabric down.



I have a picture at this stage, with the Lexan windows in place, but still with the protective covering. All the clecos are holding the Lexan, and the overall plane looks like a *Drosophila* (ed. Bob used this word and we had to look it up. *Drosophila* is a genus of flies, belonging to the family *Drosophilidae*, whose members are often called "small fruit flies")

Then came the taping. This too was a challenge. I could reach most but not all of the top with ladders, but the forklift wasn't enough for the center. I used a 16' scaffold beam and ladders for this section. Occasionally I needed to lean out over the top and fortunately I had a readily available counterweight to keep me from tipping onto the top.



Now the plane is covered, with the metal hold-down strips in place and riveted to the stringers. It is taped and ready for painting.



Next, I need about 5 layers of various paint. The Lexan windows have been on and off with cecos about 3 times already. I'm anxious to finally install the Lexan windows with rivets. Then it needs a cowling, whose design is already well on its way.

The engine has already been run but needs further ground runs to break-in properly.

The list of to-do items now seems "finite" at last. It seems like it may get done soon! Here's hoping...

Bob Ingle

Board Meeting Minutes

Board meeting 3/14/20

- In attendance were Mike Kelley, Jerry Pryce, Bob Schwarzler, John Roberts, Al Cleveland, Jesus Cuevas, Ernie Moreno, Chuck West, Denny Fuhrman
- On the phone Mike Short, Dave Ullman, Vince Homer
- Mike opened the meeting at 10:05
- Vashon was to be presenting here today, tentatively rescheduled for May. Next month may be Chuck on the Simulator or the Fire Department conducting training.
- Sec Report – Membership, 148 people have paid their dues for 2020, plus we have 24 Lifetime members and 6 students. All reports one more student has joined. This brings us to 178 paid members. There are 45 members from 2019 that have not yet paid for 2020.
- Treasury Report- John went over the current numbers, then John and Mike discussed the budget that they have worked out for the rest of the year. This shows an expected income of \$18,370, with expenses of \$18,055. This assumes we hold the Fly-In. On top of this there are special funds (Youth

Build, Adult Build, Simulator, Education funds, etc.) with income of \$9,800 and expected expenses of \$7,100.

- Mike asked for a motion to approve budget. Al moved, Jerry second and the board approved
- There was further discussion about total funds available for each of the Special Funds.
- Discussion about building a cowl to complete the 701
- Dave - Youth
 - The Monthly Meeting was canceled due to virus concerns.
 - Youth Aviation weekend planning is continuing, Dave is looking for presenters. Dave is Still looking for more kids to join.
 - Young Eagles will open registrations for June flight
 - There are plans for the Youth auction at the Fly-In
 - Al - Youth build, completing wings, fuselage kit showing up 4/20. Will likely need some adults to help complete the aircraft on schedule.
- Vince - facilities no major issues.
- Bruce is planning to hold a meeting on the Hangar Expansion, in flux with the current situation.
- Kolb is stalled. Steve Sands has been working on it, but he has been unable to for the past month.
- Lancair is progressing with work on the firewall forward.
- Fly-In planning is still progressing at this time.
- Mike said that meetings and possibly the Fly-In will not be happening at least through the summer.
 - Ernie suggested we expand the newsletter.
 - Mike suggested we do a video with monthly content to send to members.
 - Chuck has been thinking about doing a video, and discussed his ideas. Chuck and Mike will be getting together to putting together the first video. Mike will do the video editing.
 - Vince suggested we find someone to volunteer or a committee producing the videos.
- Chuck discussed that we need a follow-up youth program for youth to take them into flying. He is thinking of setting up a youth Ground School for High School age kids.
 - Chuck is asking that we try to set up Scholarships to take kids through solo and PPL.
 - Dave would like to work with Chuck to roadmap a program.
- Mike reported that Jim Wixson will be calling and talking to all members to collect a database of all projects and aircraft owned by members.
- Steve Heinrich is putting together a meeting with a local Gifting and Endowments operation to see if we want to establish a program with them.
 - Long term planning - next Friday afternoon. By vote of the board Planning meeting will be postponed until after the virus situation is abated.
- Flying club - This will not be a Chapter owned club, but we would be a sponsor of the club. Henry has worked a deal to acquire a '66 Cessna 172 for \$11,000 There is a proposal to use this as a nucleus of a flying club.
 - Discussion was held on the viability of supporting the club. The Flying club folks should put together a business plan for this.
- Ernie plans to pick up a Pterodactyl project in the next couple of weeks. This brought up the discussion of all the projects that have been donated, and where we can store them.
- Steve joined the meeting and said planning for the fly-in is progressing fine.
- Plan for the next board meeting on the second Saturday next month. This might be a teleconference rather than in person.
- Meeting ended at 12:05



Denny Fuhrman stands proud after the first flight of his beautiful “Maserati-like” Vans RV-10...



Andy Duncan took possession of a new (to him) O-360 powered RV-4

Requesting any photos and /or short stories from our members on their projects and flying aircraft to share on the Taildragger. Show your fellow members what you are working on! Please send them to EAA292@gmail.com or contact Rich Harrison.