



September 2021

PROPWASH

AAA MEETINGS

[Click to Events](#)

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Wed., September 1st

This month's speaker will be AAA member **Chuck Klunker**.

Chuck is on the board of directors of the University of North Dakota's Aviation program and he's going to give us an overview of what they're up to. As you know, the AAA is really ramping up its Aviation education scholarship program, so this presentation will be very worthwhile for all of us to hear.

We'll see you at WINGS Grill on the patio at 6:00 pm. See below for your suggested potluck contribution. Feel free to bring your own dinner if you'd rather not share.

POTLUCK MENU

Please bring a potluck dish according to the first letter of your last name:

A-J: Side Dish

K-S: Main Dish

T-Z: Dessert

President's Message

A Little too Close For



Comfort ...

I interrupt this normally scheduled newsletter "A little too close for comfort" with some very exciting information about Auburn Aviation Association Scholarship Program. As many of you know that over a year ago we started the Auburn Aviation Endowment Fund.

This year in partnership with EAA we managed to award scholarships to four well deserving applicants. At our last AAA potluck dinner our treasurer, **David Dwelle**, announced that our fund had exceeded \$200,000! Incredible to say the least and with that kind of funding, demands more responsibility. Don Wolfe worked hard and put together a mentoring

program that monitors and requires accountability of AAA mentors and scholarship recipients. Monthly progress reports are to be submitted to the mentors, and in return, mentors will provide encouragement and support. We will be looking for private to airline pilots to lend their experiences to those considering a career in aviation.



President's Letter (cont.)

..... now back to "A little to close for comfort"

Let me start off with the "Dilemma". It's the first Wednesday of the month of August and that means, AAA POTLUCK!! But I have a charter flight to Fresno scheduled to return back to McClellan at 6 pm. I'm going to be very late for dinner and may not get to hear our guest speaker that I was looking forward to. But as fate would have it, when we arrived in Fresno, the passengers advised that due to the forecast of a 108 degrees they wanted to depart earlier. Eureka! Dinner and a speaker tonight!

As I'm driving up the hill from McClellan Airport, I see a very significant billowing cloud of smoke that appears to be near Auburn. Lisa is out of town so I don't know how concerned to be about our property and, more importantly, the animals. I contact Mike Duncan and he reassures me that the smoke is east of our place and moving northeast. I am somewhat relieved, but realize there would be many that would not be so fortunate.

During the meeting on the porch at WINGS Grill, it became very surreal to witness Cal Fire at its best. We had front row "seats" as we watched dozens of aircraft making trip after trip to beat down and contain the Bear River Fire within hours. Unfortunately, we know people who lost property to the fire. The pictures of the fire were taken by our very own AAA members that evening, and Shawn Bickford's picture at the top of page 1 was taken at 37,000 ft on his flight from San Francisco to London with the Dixie Fire in the background.

A few days later, I visited **Camile Tricomo**, who works for Dyn Corporation International located at McClellan Airport, flying pilots, mechanics and parts to the Cal Fire bases around



President's Letter (cont.)

California. She gave me a ramp tour of the actual aircraft that worked that fire. Also that evening, **Matt Carlson** and **Diane Hammer** were fueling aircraft and helicopters as we watched the Bear River Fire lose to the shock and awe of Cal Fire. This fire being so close to home gave me a greater appreciation for our firefighters and those who support them in keeping us safe.

That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

Randy Leys

President

PS Thx Mucho JR



Camile Tricomo

President's Letter (cont.)



Automatic Donations to AAA Via Amazon



The Amazon Smile program allows Amazon customers to designate AAA to receive a donation every time they buy eligible merchandise from Amazon. Have your Amazon login handy and use the link below to set up your charitable shopping.

Shoppers can search for Auburn Aviation Association, or use this personalized link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/68-0083066>

As The Prop Turns

Hot temperatures, lots of smoke, Covid 19. What more could we ask for? Just kidding. Well the new students took on the challenges and flew anyway. **Zak Klutts** earned his Commercial Rating with **James Duval** as his DPE (Designated Pilot



Zak Klutts passed his
Commercial Check Ride

Examiner) and **Michael Duncan** as his instructor. Zak came all the way from Orange County to fly up here. It seems that he could not get an instructor in a timely manner down there and so he came up here. We knocked it out in ten days. Actually, I have known him for several years and I was the pilot for some of his flag jumps he has done for local rodeos, including at Folsom, Marysville, Grass Valley, and more. **Andrew Chubatenko** earned his Private Pilot Certificate with James Duval as the DPE and **Rory Ondracek** as his instructor. We should be extra proud of Andrew, since he is one of our AAA scholarship recipients. Through many unforeseen delays, with much patience on his part he has completed his goal of getting his Private Pilot Certificate. **Michael Buman** soloed in the Light Sport Aircraft with **Helen Dobeck** as his instructor. Michael was completing his flight time for the Air Force so he could apply for OCS (Officer Candidate School) and flight school. Although soloing was not a requirement for the Air Force, but we were able to cap off his training with his solo flight. In traditional Air Force manner we doused him with 10 gallons of water in addition to taking his shirt tail. Additionally, **Akash Guha** soloed in a Cessna 172 with **Greg Nelson** as his instructor. After we took his shirt tail and hung it on the wall, he came back the next day to take a picture of it to show all of his friends. He was that proud of it. Soloing is a pretty unforgettable accomplishment. Finally, AAA Membership Director **Chase Morgan** passed his PPL check ride

at KMCW Mason City, IA, in a Hawk XP. The DPE was **Doug Rosenthal**, who is also one of the leaders of the Commemorative Flying C-47s and the Tuskegee PA-51 Redtails. Congratulations to all on a job well done.

Fire, fire, everywhere. And this fire season has been a sad month for our area, particularly. Personally knowing people who have lost their homes makes us better able to understand what many others have gone through. It also has shown the generosity of all of us here. People pull together in times like these with fundraisers, offering a place to stay for people and animals, food, transportation, clothes, etc.



Andrew Chubatenko earned his PPL

While I am on the subject of generosity, our scholarship endowment now exceeds \$200,000.00. The endowment is growing much faster than I thought it would, due to efforts of many people. This could only have happened with the donations and support from you, the many individuals adding to the fund to make it successful. Thank you all for your contributions and please keep up the good work.

In this new era of trust and cooperation between the users of the airport and the city, there will be a meeting on September 14th to discuss some of the issues on the airport. The city has recently removed some of the derelict aircraft on the east end of the airport. It is my hope that the city will respect the knowledge and experience of stakeholders on the airport to help run and manage the airport smoothly and efficiently. After our speaker last month telling us what is happening at Sutter Country airport, we know it can be done.

Well that is about all for this month, so Good Night Miss Daisy. The Prop Turner Mike Duncan



Member Matt DiCiccio stopped by in his Cessna 180A. He was on his way from KGOO to his home airport Frasier Lake.



Akash Guha solo'd with CFII Mike Duncan



Michael Buman solo'd with CFII Helen Dobeck



Raffles and Wreaths

RENO AIR RACES Ticket Raffle



We are giving away ten single day tickets with pit passes! [Buy chances online](#), or in person at the meeting. Additional drawing for a five-day parking pass.

**Drawing will be held at the
AAA General Membership
Meeting
Wednesday
September 1st 6:00 p.m.
WINGS Grill - Auburn Airport**

Contact Doug Fee
530-305-0924



Wreaths Across America is a solid fundraiser for our scholarship program. Local coordinator Marilyn Schneider will set up a booth in the Sierra Bldg. at this year's Gold Country Fair. We are asking all of our groups to help man the booth at least once during the 4 days it will be up. We're asking that you provide at least 3 bodies that can be there an hour or two for any of the days available to us: See the schedule below:

Sept. 9 - 4pm to 8pm

Sept. 10 - 4pm to 9pm

Sept. 11 - 11am to 8pm

Sept. 12 - 12 Noon to 7pm

Please call or email Marilyn Schneider @
ph: 831-521-8238
email: mjs1045@aol.com

This is an opportunity for AAA to get their name out into the community (sell T-shirts, too) and sell wreaths for our Dec. 18th ceremony. If you can't get a hold of Marilyn, call Paula @ 530-885-1428 or email: crowpaula0211@gmail.com

Photos



Michael Murphy and son Karsten following the first flight of their new RV-12A. Check out those "RV Grins"!



Mike Long & "Yellow Cub"



ESN Jack Bell in a T-6 Texan 2 at Navy Pensacola

The More Things Change, The More They Stay The Same

In 1973 I had completed 2 years of college at Bowling Green State University (BGSU) and was waiting to attend Undergraduate Pilot Training in the USAF. I had the good fortune of gaining a job as the temporary airport manager at my hometown airfield the Richard Downing Airport (I40) in Coshocton, Ohio. Forest Hothem, a local pilot purchased a new Taylorcraft F-19 Sportsman and made it available for rent at \$10 per hour wet. All I needed was a tailwheel check out and I'd soon be flying a brand new airplane.



Don Emslie was one of the local CFI's and a pilot for Allegany Airlines. Don offered to give me dual instruction in the F-19 and I was soon on my way to logging tailwheel time. Don became my friend and one of my life long mentors in GA and airline flying. In 1977 I would return to I40 airport as an FAR 135 charter pilot flying a Piper Aztec. Don gave dual instruction to me in the Aztec for the 135 ride. Needless to say, I was well prepared for the check ride and passed with ease. It is worthy to mention that I arrived for this job flat broke and with a \$2500 college loan to pay off. Mentor Jon Mosier gave me 2 new shirts and a tie so I could be dressed to go to work. Like the mentors at KAUN, the pilots at my hometown airport were there to help me succeed.



In early August this year I went back to Ohio for a reunion and to see family and friends. Like many of you, every vacation trip includes a journey to the local airport. I went

up to I40 and ran in to some of my old aviator pals. We were chatting in the hangar when a beautiful Bellanca Scout landed and taxied up to the hangar. The Scout had recently been through a complete rebuild at the American Champion Aircraft Factory and sported a freshly overhauled engine from Lycon. Don Emslie was in the backseat and 20 year old Lane Wahl was up front learning to fly Don's taildragger.

They joined us in the hangar for chat. Jon Mosier, another one of my early mentors was there too. We soon discovered that Lane was attending BGSU and enrolled in the aviation program. I pointed out that I was the first person to receive a Minor in Aviation Education from BGSU. Lane was also researching a career in military flying. I suggested that he take a look at the Ohio Air National Guard F-16 squadron at the Toledo Express Airport just up the road from BGSU. I financed my junior and senior year of college by flying the F-100 Super Sabre in that squadron.

The hangar flying and mentoring that day reminded me of the period of time when I was the young man sitting there listening to Don, Jon and others at the Richard Downing Airport. Fortunately I paid attention to their advice and followed their guidance. What are the chances that 48 years after Don Emslie mentored me in that Taylorcraft we'd be sitting in a hangar with another young man going through the same process? What are the chances that Lane would be attending the same college as I did and earning an aviation degree along with his pilot licenses?

There's an undeniable beauty to a friendly local airport and good mentors in one's life. As pilots and those that love aviation, we're all in this together, so let's enjoy the ride. Take note though; the more things change, the more they stay the same.

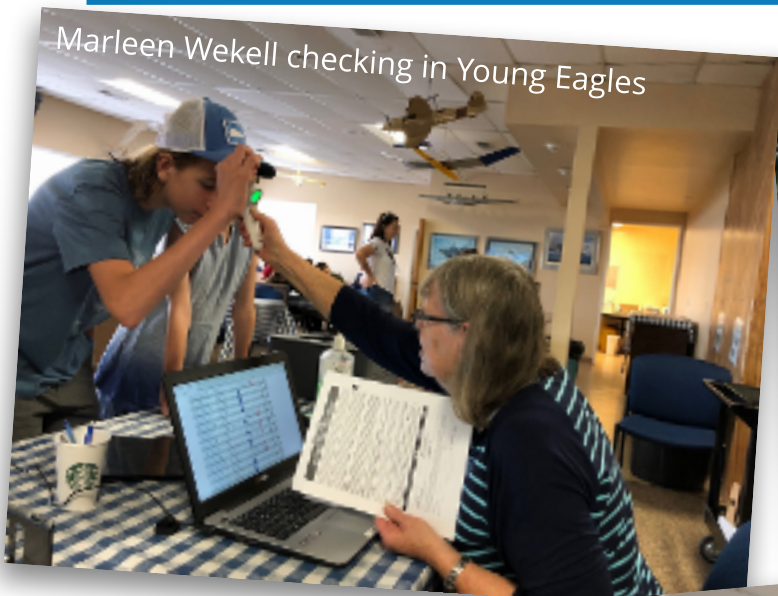
By Don Wolfe, Director, AAA Development, Scholarships and Mentoring



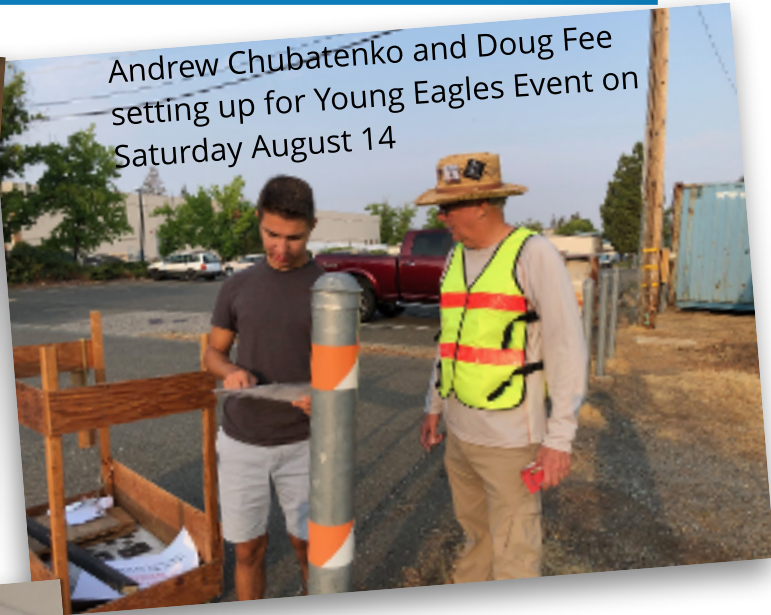
Pictured: Jon Mosier, Don Wolfe, Don Emslie, and BGSU student Lane Wahl.

Photos

Marleen Wekell checking in Young Eagles



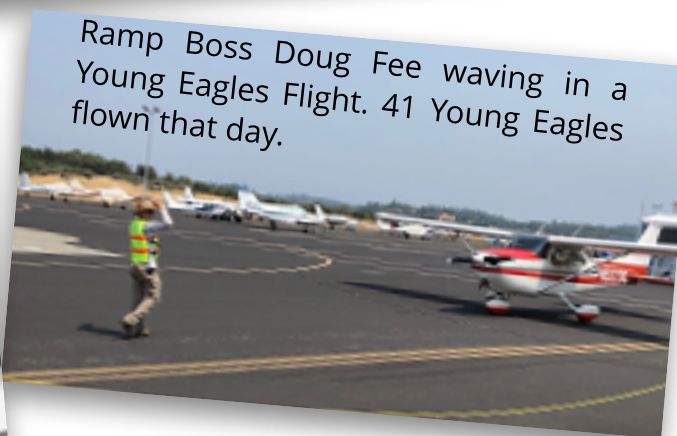
Andrew Chubatenko and Doug Fee setting up for Young Eagles Event on Saturday August 14



Gary Mourning and Craig Bednorski completing maintenance checks on their Commanche 250



Ramp Boss Doug Fee waving in a Young Eagles Flight. 41 Young Eagles flown that day.



Membership Director Chase got his PPL!



Wreaths Across AMERICA for AAA at Auburn Cruise night



AAA Members List September 2021

LIFETIME MEMBERS

We thank our lifetime members for their donations to the [AAA endowment](#)

Gold \$2500

Silver \$1500

Bronze \$750

Honorary Lifetime Members

Clarence "Bud" Anderson

Noah Mackenroth

Gold Lifetime Members

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Tom Murray

Don & Lori Wolfe

Peggy Dwelle

Jerry Severson & Nancy Benjamin

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Mike Long

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Shawn & Juliette Bickford

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Bronze Lifetime Members

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Peter Hastert

Joanie & Wayne Mooneyham

Chris & David Haven

Kyle Kokoul

Gary & Darlene Mourning

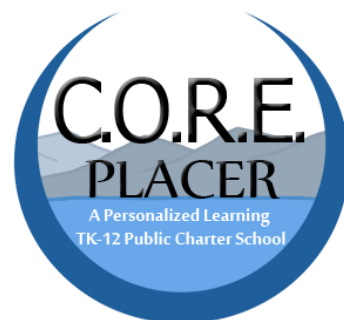
Richard Anderson

Mark Pilkington

Doug & Nancy Van Howd

Matt Diccico

Corporate Sponsors for Endowment Fund



AAA Members List September 2021

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Bob Andosca
Chris Anselmi
Gerry & Kathy Aubrey
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Jack Bell
Aaron Benedict
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Walt & Bonnie Wilson
Marcia Winborne-Graven
Roger & Joyce Wofford
Scott & Sharon Woodland

Don't see your name?
Call Chase! 530-263-8550

2021 AAA Board

OFFICERS

President - Randy Leys - (956) 453-7050 - aaapres1539@gmail.com

Vice President - Doug McDougall (530) 306-4110 - aaavp1539@gmail.com

Secretary - Joanie Mooneyham - (530) 401-0595 - AAASec1539@gmail.com

Treasurer - David Dwelle - (530) 906-1413 - AAATreas1539@gmail.com

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Assistant Scholarship - James Jacobson - skyfund1539@gmail.com

Membership - Chase Morgan - (530) 263-8550 - AAAMemb1539@gmail.com

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Propwash Editor - Mike Duncan - (530) 305-1438 - duncan7kcab@sbcglobal.net

5AC Chair - Open

Board Member at Large - Peggy Dwelle - (530) 305-9101 - peggydwelle@gmail.com

Donations Coordinator - Nancy Benjamin - (530) 368-0118 - don_benj@pacbell.net

Engraved Bricks for Veterans

Commemorative Bricks are available for sale to be installed around the Monument at Auburn Airport. As many of you know, our Association has taken on the task of ordering the bricks for the amazing Doug Van Howd monument honoring WWII veterans. For those of you who haven't seen it, stop by the grassy area at Wings Restaurant - you'll be awed and amazed. Bricks cost \$500 each. Proceeds, after costs, go to fund the "Col. Bud Anderson Scholarship Fund." See form on the next page for ordering. Questions? See Secretary, Joanie Mooneyham, (530) 401-0595



Col. C.E. 'Bud' Anderson Fundraiser BRICK ORDER FORM

Bronze monument of Col. Bud Anderson and his P-51 Mustang "Old Crow" created by Douglas Van Howd and installed at the Auburn Airport

Create an engraved brick!

Honor a loved one – Advertise a business – Share another message

Your inscription must fit into the white boxes below, 1 character per box. Each brick can have a maximum of 16 characters per line. A character is defined as a letter or number, a space or punctuation mark. Please do not use special characters. Text will automatically be centered.

Brick 1

4" x 8" brick	\$ 5 0 0
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Brick 2

(If you would like to order a second brick.)

4" x 8" brick	\$ 5 0 0
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

Payment: 4" x 8" bricks @ \$500 = \$	
Contact Information Name: _____ Phone: _____ Email: _____	Make check payable to: Auburn Aviation Association 501 (c) 3 Tax ID# EIN 68-0083066

Please mail your check payable to "Auburn Aviation Association" to:
Auburn Aviation Association
P.O. Box 6454
Auburn, CA 95604

Contact Joanie Mooneyham with questions: (530) 401-0595 joaniemoon05@gmail.com



Membership and Donation Form

Visit www.auburnaviationassociation.org (allow pop-ups) to join or to pay your annual renewal online. Scholarship donations are welcome at any time. Please select your membership type and optional donation amounts below.

Item	Price	
Aviator Membership —One-time fee until age 25	\$10.00	
Individual Membership —renewable annually	\$30.00	
Family Membership —annual, includes one additional family member	\$30.00	
Bronze Lifetime Membership —includes one additional family member	\$750.00	
Silver Lifetime Membership —includes one additional family member	\$1,500.00	
Gold Lifetime Membership —includes one additional family member	\$2,500.00	
Engraved Name Badge	\$13.00	
Donation to AAA Educational Endowment	\$	
Donation to General Fund	\$	
TOTAL		\$

Date: _____

Member Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

eMail: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Type of License (Circle One or More): Student Glider Rotorcraft Other _____

Aircraft: _____

Contact:
Chase Morgan
(530) 263-8550
aaamemb1539@gmail.com

Mail form plus check payable to:

Auburn Aviation Association
PO Box 6454
Auburn CA 95604-6454

AAA is a 501(c)3 Corporation. Donations to the Scholarship Fund are deductible using Tax Exempt ID number: 68-0083066