

Notes from the EAA Chapter 255 strategy meeting, Sunday 25 January 2015

The meeting began at approximately 4 PM in the terminal building of Ashland Airport (3G4). Greg Miller started the meeting, explaining that this was not an ACPA meeting. This meeting was called to discuss the fact EAA Chapter 255 has recently been moved to the Ashland County Airport.

EAA 255 Members Present

- Mark Baldauf
- Joe Kollar
- Randy Luikart
- Greg Miller
- Ken & Tami Lowe
- Denny & Tracie Baum
- John Munroe

Introduction

Joe Kollar, current president of EAA Chapter 255 explained the situation. Chapter 255 voted to transfer its home-base late in 2014 to a larger and more active setting. This motion was made after a long period of decreased activity, poor member attendance and no headway towards the stated goals in EAA 255 bylaws. Only four (4) people showed up for the meeting. Three (3) out of the four agreed to transfer the chapter to Ashland County Airport and the motion was carried.

Financial Status

The checking account balance for the Chapter was approximately \$900. The chapter sold assets and received \$3000. The annual renewal process with national cost \$100 and the national EAA insurance cost \$240. The checking account balance for EAA Chapter 255 is now approximately \$3500.

Impact and Potential Conflict with the Ashland County Pilots Association (ACPA)

There was discussion about ACPA and how the presence of EAA Chapter 255 would affect the currently established ACPA organization. After a review of EAA chapter stipulations established by the national organization, it's clear that no co-mingling of the two groups, EAA 255 & ACPA can occur. This discussion was tabled for the time being and will be discussed at the regularly scheduled ACPA meeting in March. Greg Miller offered to send out an email to let ACPA members know about EAA Chapter 255.

The addition of EAA Chapter 255 at Ashland Airport means that we have new resources. For example, we can schedule EAA Young Eagle flights in an attempt to attract younger people to the airport. The chapter qualifies as a 501 c (3) and so would allow a person to contribute money to the local chapter while receiving a tax credit. If desired, airport events can be advertised in the Sport Aviation magazine. These are just a few of the benefits.

Questions & Points discussed:

- Chapter Membership Qualification: Yes, you can be an associate member of EAA 255 without joining the national organization. EAA Membership is only required should a person want to vote during a chapter meeting or hold an elected position.
- Involvement between EAA 255 and ACPA: Currently, both organizations are present at Ashland County Airport, and as discussed previously, they must remain separate entities. ACPA President, Greg Miller will alert the membership as to the presence of the new EAA Chapter, and will pursue formal discussions with membership in the March/April 2015 timeframe. They will most likely vote one of two ways; to remain as a functioning body at the airport, or, possibly dissolve the association and migrate current tasking to EAA 255.
- Question from Greg Miller: Can EAA 255, within the scope of the national rules and local bylaws, do everything the ACPA currently performs? Answer by EAA 255 President, Joe Kollar, yes.
- Question regarding EAA Liability Insurance: Yes, the national EAA organization does provide basic liability insurance for the chapter by way of the yearly fee structure (approx. \$340/year). Higher limits are available for an increased cost, and special event insurance is available for a fee, depending on the activity scheduled (Fly-Ins, Young Eagle Flights, etc.).
- Do we have a copy of the ACPA Bylaws: Unsure, but some feel we do have bylaws on record. It's possible that Linda Blodgett might have a copy in the records transferred by Candy Gubeno. It's also possible that Ellen might have a copy.
- Cost for Associate Chapter Members: Price is set by the local chapter. Of primary consideration is covering the yearly dues to the national EAA Organization of approximately \$340 dollars. If fund raising events or other proceeds do not cover the costs, then a small yearly fee could be voted on. No determination made on this matter yet.
- Concern: EAA 255 has no equipment or facilities at Ashland Airport to conduct events or facilitate functions. If the ACPA decides to suspend operations, in the interest of providing continued support to Ashland County Airport it is hoped those assets (barbecues, chairs, tables, etc.) could transfer custody to EAA 255.
- Question regarding EAA 255 tax status: Yes, EAA 255 does have an EIN and must e-file every May as a 501 c3.

- Question: Do any airplanes or aviation related equipment transfer with the relocation of EAA 255? No, the chapter sold their remaining airplane/equipment prior to relocation.
- Proposal: Joe Kollar proposed ACPA hold a membership meeting as soon as possible to discuss continued operations at 3G4. Discussion ensued and it was decided to do so at the next scheduled ACPA meeting in March, with a potential vote in April, 2015.
- Combined Assets: ACPA books show approximately a \$2000 dollar balance, and EAA 255 books show approximately a \$3500 dollar balance.
- Question from Ken Lowe: What is the purpose of an EAA Chapter at 3G4? Answer: To support the airport with a more aviation-focused agenda, to promote flying and aviation related activities, and to potentially attract attention and new business.
- Suggestion from Randy Luikart: Recommended we hold a straw vote of the ACPA membership to get a general sense about how members feel about potentially migrating duties and functions of ACPA to an EAA Chapter. Denny Baum backed up this recommendation and suggested we hold the straw vote in March/April when various members of ACPA are back in the local area.

EAA 255 Officer Selections

President: It was decided that Joe Kollar should maintain his position as President of EAA Chapter 255.

Vice President: In accordance with EAA 255 By-Laws, Joe Kollar selected Gregory Miller as the Vice-President of the Chapter.

Treasurer: Joe Kollar nominated Mark Baldauf as Treasurer, with Ken Lowe seconding the nomination. The motion was carried, resulting in Mark Baldauf's selection as Treasurer.

Secretary: Denny Baum nominated John Munroe as Secretary, with Mark Baldauf seconding the nomination. The motion was carried, resulting in John Munroe's selection as Secretary.

Summary, EAA Chapter 255 elected officers:

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| President | Joe Kollar |
| Vice President | Greg Miller |
| Treasurer | Mark Baldauf |
| Secretary | John Munroe |

The next EAA meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 8 February 2015 at 4 PM. During the next meeting we will discuss changes to the chapter by-laws along with a proposed agenda for the coming year.