EAA 80 Membership Meeting

MONDAY August 2026

Volunteer! Offutt AFB Air Show

CHAPTER 80 NEWS

President's Corner August 2026



Happy August, everyone!

I hope everyone had a great July and was able to enjoy some of the flying, events, and activities that make this time of year so much fun. It's hard to believe we're already heading into August! Is anyone ready for winter yet?

A big thank-you to Shawn for organizing the campsite for the chapter during AirVenture. I hear the site was in a very opportune location, and I hope we're able to secure a spot like it again for next year's AirVenture!

Thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with our Young Eagles day on the 18th. Especially with AirVenture going on, these events take a lot of people working together, and it's great to see our members continuing to give their time to share the joy of aviation with the next generation.

We also had a great turnout at our summer chapter cookout on the 13th. It was great to see so many

(continued)

Check out EAA National's Video Magazine:
https://www.eaa.org/videos/chapters/chapter-video-magazine

members, family, and guests come out to enjoy some good food and even better company. Thank you to everyone who helped make the evening a success!
Finally, a word to those considering applying for one of our scholarships next year: competitive application due dates will come around faster than you realize! Now is the time to start thinking about what you can do to stand out from the pool of applicants. Whether it's getting involved in chapter activities, volunteering, or finding other ways to demonstrate your commitment to aviation, start thinking now about how you can make your application shine!

Fly safe!

Chris Williams

Check out Nebraka Dept of Transportation's Newsletter:

PIREPS

https://dot.nebraska.gov/media/n5aoetxl/june-2026-pireps.pdf

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Oshkosh 2026 Photos!

World Cup final, jam session, the boys flew in the Bell 47, Southwest with the 1776 livery. NASA director with his fighter jets.













Glastar Build Progress







EAA 80 Booth Needs Volunteers!
Text Bruce to Sign-Up 703-405-7817

EAA Chapter 80 — Omaha, Nebraska

Monthly Meeting Minutes July 2026

Location: Oracle Aviation (chapter space) Presiding: Chris Williams, President Notes: No formal notes were taken

The July membership meeting was held on July 13 at Oracle Aviation. In lieu of the regular meeting format, a cookout was held with good food enjoyed by all. A group photo was taken. Many thanks to all who helped out to make the cookout happen.

NOTES: EAA 80 will represent at the 2026 Defenders of Freedom Airshow at Offutt Air Force Base, August 8-9. Our static displays will be a Van's RV-12 and a replica Nieuport 28. We will need EAA ambassadors to man the booth and to look after the display aircraft. Time slots for volunteers will be Saturday Open to 12:00 and 12:00 to close, and Sunday Open to 12:00 and 12:00 to close. Please consider signing up for a shift.

Young Eagles: 17 flown on July 18; next event is 18 August.

AirVenture 2026 Report

From the EAA80 campsite at AirVenture:
A great group of campers and fantastic weather made for a memorable week at AirVenture 2026! Our camping spot could not have been better. We were situated across the street from the shower house with hot running water, modern toilets and sinks as well as laundry facilities and a Red One convenience store. The camping sites are supersized this year, with plenty of room for every one and a courtyard for soccer too.

My son reports that the pancakes at the Chapter Pavilion were top notch every day!

I hope you will make plans for next year!



EAA 80 July Cookout
Millard Airport
2026

Koehler's Korner



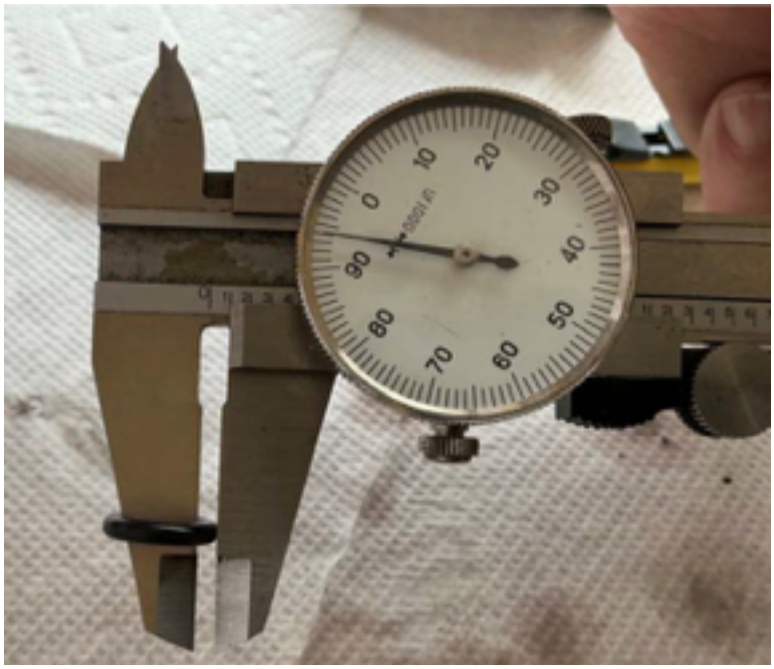
I recently was asked to look at a Piper Arrow (PA-28R-200) which was marking its territory by leaving a puddle of liquid under the engine area. Yes, I know, you assume it is an oil leak, and most airplane engines leak a little oil. However, this puddle was red, meaning it was from 5606 hydraulic fluid. The only thing in the engine area that had hydraulic fluid in it was the landing gear retraction system. The nose gear actuator on an Arrow is at the back right side of the nose wheel well. I checked it and found red fluid all over.

A simple inspection of the actuator showed it to have two flexible hydraulic hoses attached with Bnuts, one at each end, and the actuating shaft coming out of one end of the cylinder. I initially checked to see that both hydraulic hoses were properly and tightly attached to the actuator by putting a 9/16" open-end wrench on each B-nut and ensuring they were tight. We jacked the plane until all wheels were off the ground and wiped away all the fluid from the actuator. We then retracted the gear. Several drops of hydraulic fluid spurted from the area where the actuator shaft came out of the cylinder, confirming my initial guess that it was the O-ring for the actuator shaft that had failed.
It is not uncommon for this type of shaft O-ring to allow leakage. The actuator shaft rubs over it at every actuation, and upon gear retraction, when the shaft is pulled into the cylinder, dirt, grit, or debris can be pulled in against the O-ring further wearing its inside surface. A simple review of the Arrow Parts Manual showed the replacement O-ring to be an AN6227B-8 or MS28775-110, which we bought from Spruce for $1.07. A simple review of the Arrow Maintenance Manual showed the proper sequence to remove and disassemble the nose gear actuator.
The picture below is of the end plate on the actuator. It is held in the actuator barrel by a snapring and has a sealing O-ring on the outside and the shaft seal O-ring on the inside. The outer sealing O-ring almost never fails, if it is installed correctly since it is in a static environment, but the inner O-ring takes the rubbing wear of the shaft. It is not installed in this picture.



The O-rings are removed and inserted most easily with a dental pick, taking care to not scratch the surfaces of the aluminum end plate.
I measured the thickness of the O-ring in the unworn direction as shown in the picture on the next page at 0.1035".
Looking specifically at the worn side of the O-ring, I also used the vernier micrometer to measure the distance from the inner to outer surface as in the picture below at 0.0940".





So, the inner edge of the O-ring wore at least 0.0095". You could definitely see a flattened and worn face on the inside diameter with the naked eye, but I was unsuccessful in catching it in a photo. Also, the old O-ring was noticably hard and non-pliable compared to the new O-ring. When you need an O-ring, be sure to buy new, fresh ones. I have a box of O-rings from the auto parts store that is about 20 years old. I would never put them in an aircraft.

We put in the new O-ring, prelubing it with a dab of 5606, reassembled the actuator, and reinstalled it on the plane. Since we had introduced air into the gear retraction system, we did multple retractions and extensions until the operation of the system was smooth and even. With a double-acting hydraulic system like this, it tends to be self bleeding, as opposed to brake systems that almost always need bleeding after changing out a component.

I hope this little story was entertaining and gave you some confidence and understanding for chasing leaks in a hydraulic system. Oh, by the way, even though we cycled the gear about eight times, not a drop came out of the repaired nose gear actuator! It was a satisfying result.

Keep building, flying, and maintaining.

Dick

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Calendar

REOCCURING EVENTS			
Sundays	Glastar Build	1:00 - 17:00	Oakview Mall
August 2026			
Sat 1	EAA 569 Fly-In B-Fast	08:00 - 10:00	Wahoo Airport
Sat 1	CAF GPW Pancake Feed	08:00 - 12:00	Council Bluffs Airport
Sat-Sun 8-9	Defenders of Freedom		Offutt AFB
Mon 10	Membership Meeting	18:30 Social 19:00 Start	Oracle Aviation
Sat 15	CAP Fly In Breakfast	08:00 - 11:00	Millard Airport
Sat 15	Young Eagles	08:00 - 12:00	Millard Airport
Wed 19	GP Wing CAF Cookout	17:30 - 19:00	Council Bluffs Airport
Fri-Sun 28-31	Antique Acft Assoc Fly In		Hastings Airport
September 2026			
Tues 1	Antique Acft Assoc Fly In		Red Oak Iowa
Wed-Sun 2-6	Antique Acft Assoc Fly In		Blakesburg Iowa
Sat 12	EAA 569 Fly-In B-Fast	08:00 - 10:00	Wahoo Airport
Mon 14	Membership Meeting	18:30 Social 19:00 Start	Oracle Aviation
Wed 16	GP Wing CAF Cookout	17:30 - 19:00	Council Bluffs Airport
Sat 19	Young Eagles	08:00 - 12:00	Millard Airport
Sun 20	K of C Fly-In B-Fast	08:00 - 11:00	Albion Airport
Sat 26	Antique Acft Assoc Lunch	11:30 - 13:00	Hastings Airport
October 2026			
Sat 10	EAA 569 Fly-In B-Fast	08:00 - 10:00	Wahoo Airport
Mon 12	Membership Meeting	18:30 Social 19:00 Start	Oracle Aviation
Sat 17	Young Eagles	08:00 - 12:00	Millard Airport
November 2026			
Mon 9	Membership Meeting	18:30 Social 19:00 Start	Oakview Mall

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EAA 80 MONTHLY TREASURER REPORT	
Jul-26	
Income	
Annual Member Dues	$15.60
TOTAL INCOME/RECEIPTS	**$15.60**
Expenses	
Ray Scholar	$2,400.00
Jim Beyer Scholarship	$1,110.00
Oak View Rent	$150.00
Food & Drink	$58.43
TOTAL EXPENSES/OUTFLOWS	**$3,718.43**
Assets	
Jim Beyer Scholarship (included in Checking Balance)	$2,671.02
Pinnacle Bank CD's	$42,596.63
Glastar Project	$25,000.00
Shirt Inventory (est)	$400.00
Checking Account Balance	$29,134.78
Venmo Balance	$2,962.99
TOTAL ASSETS	**$102,765.42**

EAA Chapter 80
Returning Member Renewal Form

Member Key Contact Information

Name:

E-mail Address:

Mobile Phone:

Membership Profile Updates

Requested Updates to Member Profile?: *New Mailing Address, Pilot Rating, Aircraft Ownership/Build, EAA80 email list, etc?*

Annual Dues – $25 ($15 Student)

Payment for Year(s): [☐ *2026* ☐ *2027* ☐ *2028* ☐ *2029* ☐ *2030*]

Payment Details: **Type:** **Amount:** **Date:**

Mail Check to:

EAA80 Membership
c/o Richard Kolkman
18058 Leavenworth St.
Elkhorn, NE 68022

Venmo Payment:

venmo

Please Add ***$1.00*** *to cover processing fee*

For More Information:

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