



Dear EAA Chapter 856,

My name is Hayden Ess and I would like to give my thanks to you all for sending me to Oshkosh, WI for the EAA Advanced Air Academy II. Just to give a little background of myself, I am 16 years old and attend Flagstaff High School. My goals to accomplish in aviation is to attend Embry-Riddle aeronautical university through the Air Force ROTC Program. After my higher education, my lifelong dream is to fly a Boeing 747.

I am still in awe that a group of people who love aviation as much as I do would pay for me to travel halfway across the country. It has been such a humbling opportunity to be in attendance at the world's greatest aviation celebration and to continue my stay at the Air Academy Lodge. During Airventure I have had the opportunity to see beautiful workbirds up close and in flight, view superior private jets, and fly for my first time in a helicopter (Bell 47).

At the Academy the schedule has been jam packed from classtime learning about meteorology to Greenwich Mean Time. In the workshop I built full scale wing ribs, a composite clipboard, sheetmetal sparkplug holder, and welded joints. We also got deep into weight distribution and how it affects aeronautical performance.