

# 2020 Officers

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# Albuquerque, NM

## Chapter 179



July  
2020

Visit Albuquerque EAA Chapter 179 Web Site: [www.eaa179.org](http://www.eaa179.org)

Newsletters are at: <http://eaa179.org/newsletters/>

The Web Site for the LOEFI is: <http://www.loefi.com>



LOEFI Postponed until 2021. Look for some things online. See page 4...

## Upcoming Events & Chapter Meetings

July 21. Tuesday, EAA Chapter 179 Social Gathering Using ZOOM, look for an email with the link and time (6 PM) information -coming soon.

Our remaining scheduled Young Eagles dates for 2020 are: September 12 and November 7. - On Hold pending COVID-19 concerns.

LOEFI 2020 Cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic. See page 4...

## Inside This Issue

Upcoming Events & Chapter Meetings .....	1
From the President.....	2
From the Editor .....	3
Actors read the Declaration of Independence .....	4
LOEFI 2020 Postponed To 2021 .....	4-5
Sophie Haag's Solo Story .....	6
Sporty's launches virtual airshow experience .....	7
And More...	

## From the President, Emilio Verastegui

Hello Members and friends of EAA Chapter 179!

I wish I had some news that might make you feel like the world is returning to normal around here, but I don't have any to give you. The Covid-19 issue still remains and it has taken over every aspect of our lives. That is regrettable, to say the least. Our activities and social gatherings have taken a huge hit and it seems it will never end. As I write this, another LOEFI Zoom planning meeting is going to take place tonight to determine the enthusiasm and probability of this event happening at all. I will communicate the outcome of that decision to you as soon as I am able.

As you know, the State Fair has been cancelled, as well as the Balloon Fiesta, in addition to many other public events schedule to begin later this year. I know that these closures and cancellations have impacted many of our members. I am aware that many of our older members would rather stay at home rather than risk exposure to the virus and risk getting sick or worse. With that in mind, I hope we can salvage something from this year's planned activities. Let's all hope for the best, but be prepared for the worst!

Now for some positive news, of sorts. The Chapter was contacted by a family that wanted to donate a kit airplane that the patriarch had started but never finished. After some quick discussions, we accepted. Of course, "we" had to travel to the Carriazo area to retrieve it. Four volunteers, Konrad Werner, Dan Horschel, Gwen Walcott, and Randy Reimer commandeered a truck and trailer to make the trip, pick up the load, return to KAEG, then disgorge and deposit the "gift" in a convenient hangar for temporary storage. Dan's hangar was chosen as the lucky winner! I was told it was a long, hot, and dirty job. But, without our volunteers, this kit may have ended up on the scrapper's junk pile. A big "High-5" goes out to our four volunteers and to NMPA

for generously lending their trailer for the move!

What we have is a partially completed RV-12 kit (pictures below). The wings are probably 70% complete at this time. The tail feathers seem to be mostly finished, as well. The fuselage kit was still in its shipping crate, unopened, and it is not a Quick-Build type of kit. As far as I know, there are no other items of the kit that were not picked up and brought to KAEG. So the questions to be answered now are several. Such as, how to go about finishing this kit, who will be the Quality Assurance person, what is left to purchase, where to permanently store it so further work can be accomplished, once it is finished and flying - then what, etc, etc. In time, I am sure these and many other questions will be answered. Stay tuned for further communications about this project. As we all know, time is money and money is time!

I wish I had more news to give you, but that is all I have for now. Be safe and stay healthy. We want everyone to return to Chapter 179, full of enthusiasm and good cheer, willing to participate in all Chapter activities as soon as things return to "normal".

Sincerely,

Emilio Verastegui, President EAA Chapter 179

505-280-2421



## From the Editor, Harley Wadsworth

The last time LOEFI did not happen as planned was 9-11-2001. The day before the fly-In, Nine Eleven happened. All aircraft were grounded so we had a drive-in, so to speak. The Civil Airport Cadets did some color guard activities and we ate and did some hangar flying. LOEFI was at Moriarty that year. We recovered from that and we will recover from this.



The New Mexico Pilots Association (NMPA) has a great newsletter with several technical articles and adventure articles that I think everyone would enjoy. The link to their web site is in the lower right corner of this page. There you will find their latest newsletter. I recommend that you check it out. A lot of New Mexico EAA members are also members of NMPA, myself included. Please check them out.

Hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable 4th of July (Independence Day). There is a link to a reading of the Declaration of Independence by well known actors, on page 4 of this issue. I think it will enlighten those who view it. I personally got a lot out of it.

LOEFI 2020 is cancelled and will return in 2021. See page 4.

From all of the information I am getting from EAA about a virtual Oshkosh this year, it looks like we can keep ourselves in the loop online that week and even get some of those good price specials. See page 7 of this issue.

Our chapter has been given some airplane projects that could be exciting for those who like to build. See Emilio's "From the President" article on page 2.

Be safe and keep your love for aviation and other people as a guiding beacon of hope for the future.

HW

## Past Chapter 179 Gathering presentations:

See Wright Brothers **Master Pilot Award** links in this issue... page 10.

(Ctl-Click links to load under a new tab)

[Samson Switchblade Flying Car](#)

[Oshkosh 2018 and 19 .pdf](#)

Please send me your presentations so I can post them.

## Other NM EAA Chapter Newsletters

EAA 691, the Green Chile Chapter: <http://eaa691.org>

EAA 555, Triple Nickel Chapter: <http://555.eeachapter.org/>

EAA Chapter 1306, Edgewood, NM - Not on the web yet, but they have a nice newsletter.

Find or Become a Tech Counselor and/or Flight Advisor: (your EAA login is required to see this information) <https://www.eaa.org/en/eaa/eaa-chapters/eaa-chapter-resources/chapter-programs-and-activities>

The [Lobo Wing of the CAF](#) The Lobo Wing is located at hangar 80 of the Moriarty, NM Municipal Airport.



[www.nmpilots.org](http://www.nmpilots.org)



## Actors read the Declaration of Independence

On July 4, 2001, a group of actors gathered in Philadelphia to perform the Declaration of Independence as a work of theater. Featuring Morgan Freeman, Mel Gibson, Michael Douglas, Kathy Bates, Kevin Spacey, Whoopi Goldberg, Edward Norton, Renée Zellweger, Ming-Na Wen, Winona Ryder, Benicio Del Toro and Graham Greene (Click on the Title above or the picture to view on youtube)

### LOEFI 2020 Postponed To 2021, Meet Ups Cancelled – “Mayday, Mayday, Mayday”

This year has tested our chapter in ways that we normally operate. EAA 179 was no different; we had to change the way we hold monthly meetings, outreach programs have been put on hold, and meet ups have been cancelled. Land Of Enchantment Fly In 2020 planning team has had to adapt to the changes also. We continued to push through the struggles.

Over the last month we have gotten more information from city leaders, Health Dept, and other event coordinators. From this information my wonderful team leads and myself decided to postpone the 30th annual LOEFI to 2021.

Again, I want to thank my whole team of Leads that spent hours and hours thinking, discussing, and coordinating for 2020. Their ideas and effort will not be forgotten. The ideas that have been given will be saved for future events. If you get a chance please thank the team leads for all their hard work and dedication. Without them I would have cancelled this event along time ago.

Emilio Verastegui, George Young, Joyce Woods, Art Woods, Dan Horschel, Susie Reimer, Randy Reimer, Gwen Walcott, Robert Waters, JD Huss, Scott Speirer, Chris Grotbeck, Bob Richter-sand, Dan Morse, Konrad Werner, Ryan Carson, and Ashley Goldman.

Even though LOEFI 2020 is cancelled we would still like to give back to our community during that day. This is where we need your help. Please give ideas on how we can showcase EAA Chapter 179 and aviation in NM in a safe manner on Saturday 26th. We currently have some ideas and will need pilots. If you are able to fly your plane on Sep 26th please let me know by emailing me at [Eric@eaa179.org](mailto:Eric@eaa179.org).

Thank you all for this amazing experience, I am sorry this was the outcome for this year.

-Eric Goldman, Chairman, EAA Chapter 179 Land Of Enchantment Fly In





## LOEFI 2019



## Sophie Haag's Solo Story

On January 1st of 2020, Sophie Haag, a member of EAA Chapter 179 in ABQ, NM soloed in a Cessna 182. Sophie has been flying with her family out of Double Eagle airport for as long as she can remember. When she was very young, her father bought into a Cessna



182 named Legs. This airplane, flown by her father, carried the Haag family of four all over the southwest for almost her entire life. To Sophie, “Legs is a part of the family”.

Sophie started her flight training in a Cessna 150, but close to the time she expected to solo, she was suddenly unable to continue flying the 150. Sophie then transitioned to flying Legs with her amazing flight instructor, Mark Sturm. At the end of December, both agreed that it was time for Sophie to solo. “We wanted to do it very soon because Mark had a trip and school was starting back up for me”. Only one thing stood in her way; she was still waiting to receive her student pilot certificate.

On January first, Sophie was finally emailed the certificate. After looking at the winds for the next couple days, Mark and Sophie decided to meet at Double Eagle within the next hour for her first solo. “I remember I was in the middle of

making lunch when Mark texted me that today sounded good and he’d see me soon. I left my lunch on the table and ran upstairs to tell my sleeping parents I was leaving to go solo. They were both very excited for me and before I knew it I was on my way to solo”.

As Sophie was downwind after her first touch and go, a familiar voice came over the radio. Sophie’s sister and father had run out to the airport and hopped in Phil Phillips’ L-19 Birddog and joined Sophie in the pattern. “It was super cool to hear my Dad come over the radio. It was totally unexpected” said Sophie. After doing her three touch and go’s, Sophie met Mark and her family on the ground. “Honestly, it felt strangely normal flying alone” Sophie commented. “I just talked myself through everything I needed to do and before I knew it I was taxiing back to the hangers”. Sophie is now almost done with her license and continues to prep for her check ride. She can’t wait to officially join the pilot community!



## Sporty's launches virtual airshow experience

JUNE 29, 2020 BY [GENERAL AVIATION NEWS STAFF](#) [1 COMMENT](#)

While EAA AirVenture Oshkosh has been cancelled due to the pandemic, the aviation celebration has found a new home — online.

Sporty's has kicked off its first ever virtual airshow, a five-week-long series of events and experiences that will be hosted on [Sportys.com](https://www.sportys.com) and various social media platforms.

In addition to new product introductions and show specials, Sporty's will also offer weekly webinars, livestream events, contests, and flying videos. The goal is to keep pilots connected and excited about aviation, no matter what their flying plans are this summer, according to company officials.

“[AirVenture](#) is our favorite week of the year, where we get to meet thousands of customers, show off the latest products, and see amazing airplanes in action,” said Sporty's President Michael Wolf. “But while we can't be together in Wisconsin, we hope we can help recreate some of the Oshkosh atmosphere online.” ...see more [Here](#)

## On-Going Events - In-person activities canceled For Now, due to COVID-19 pandemic

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