



# Albuquerque, NM Chapter 179



## 2021 Leadership

### President:

Emilio Verastegui

### Vice President:

Joyce Woods

### Secretary:

Ryan Carson

### Treasurer:

Jessica Reinhardt

### Board Members:

Mark Sturm  
Brandon Fryar  
Mike Wirstrom  
George Young  
Robert Richter-Sand

## Standing Committees

### Membership:

Art Woods  
[membership@eaa179.org](mailto:membership@eaa179.org)

### Land of Enchantment

### Fly-In (LOEFI):

Emilio Verastegui  
[loefi@eaa179.org](mailto:loefi@eaa179.org)

### Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA):

Jim Kessler  
[deaa@eaa179.org](mailto:deaa@eaa179.org)

### Young Eagles:

Dan Fuka  
[youngeagles@eaa179.org](mailto:youngeagles@eaa179.org)

### Scholarships:

Mark Sturm  
[scholarships@eaa179.org](mailto:scholarships@eaa179.org)

### IMC Club:

Joyce Woods  
[imc-club@eaa179.org](mailto:imc-club@eaa179.org)

### Technical Counselors:

[chapter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)  
Dave Otero  
Emilio Verastegui  
Gwen Walcott

### Storage Locker & Tool Crib:

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### Newsletter:

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### Snail Mail:

EAA 179; PO Box 3583  
Albuquerque, NM 87190-3583

## Upcoming Events & Chapter Gatherings

**Chapter Holiday Gathering** – Dec 14, 1730 hrs  
See details on page 4

**IMC Club** – Dec 18, 0930-1100 hrs, in-person and via Zoom  
See details on page 5

**Chapter Board Meeting** – Jan 4, 2022; 1730 hrs via Zoom

**January Chapter Gathering** – Jan 18, 2022

**First Young Eagles** – Feb 5, 2022

**Double Eagle Aviation Academy** – Jun 6 – 10, 2022

**Land of Enchantment Fly-In** – Sep 24, 2022

December 2021

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Hello and **Seasons Greetings** to each and every one of you!

I trust you each have placed yourself on the “nice” list and have not been forced to admit you are on the “naughty” list this year. As we all know, he

checks his list twice during pre-flight, before starting his journey each Christmas, as great pilots are wont to do.

I want to thank each Chapter member for having the patience, fortitude, and willingness to work with me and help guide me throughout the year. I have had a lot of help and I sincerely appreciate it. Each of you, through thought, words or actions, has helped make me a better Chapter President and I am profoundly grateful.

We have had a wonderful year for accomplishments, although we are still under the threat of COVID. I think we successfully navigated around the many obstacles and hindrances that we encountered, and without too many failures, I might add.

To recap, we had five great Young Eagle Events, a very, very successful Land of Enchantment Fly-In, many Zoom meetings (more than I care to count), and several in-person Social Gatherings, with presenters at each Gathering that really captured the attention of those in attendance. Our DEAA Week was a tremendous success and I personally can say that each young student was very favourably impressed by the quality and quantity of information presented for the neophyte pilot and student. Each time our IMC Club met, it was well attended, both by inperson and Zoom attendees. We made many new friends and were able to solicit several new and eager members throughout the year. Overall, our goal to educate and inform the flying community and the general public was met in a very successful way.

Although we had many successes, sadly we had several losses. Our biggest and greatest loss was the passing of Randy and Susie Reimer this past October. It was a great blow to the Chapter, that I am sure it will take a lot of time to heal and for the pain to lessen. We miss them both greatly!

Also, we “lost” several other key members that we will miss - Barry & Carol Kromer moved to Massachusetts in November to be closer to family there, and Kent Berwick also decided to move to the same general area,

to be closer to the Atlantic Ocean, I guess???

While I considered the Kromers family, I guess their ties to the Chapter were not as strong as I thought they might have been, something akin to “blood and water” I heard.... I remember meeting Barry at CNM for the first day of the Aviation Maintenance Course and we became fast friends thereafter, to the point that he flew with me to OSH on a couple of occasions. Carol was soon introduced to the business side of the Chapter, becoming our Treasurer for a time, until they packed up and left!

All three will be missed! All were valuable, and highly contributing members, to the Chapter. Of course, you will remember that Kent was our IMC Chairman and Barry was our YE Chairman and YE pilot for many months. In addition to her work as Treasurer, Carol volunteered at YE Events, breakfast cooking with Susie and Meg Fleming, and at other activities.

While December is traditionally a slow month for the Chapter, the current Officers and Directors have been busy planning next year’s events already. As you might remember, our election slate was unanimously voted in during the November Social Gathering. We vigorously welcome the “newly elected” Officers and Directors for the coming year. I am sure they will do a superb job! Please welcome them when you next see them.

Our Christmas/Holiday party is set for the 14th of December at the home of Clyde Adams. Please plan to attend and have some good old fashion fun celebrating with your fellow Chapter members and aviation enthusiasts. Check this issue for more information regarding directions, what to bring, start time, etc. I look forward to seeing everyone there. Please member to wear your name tag if you have one (I can never remember who I am unless I wear mine!).... If you don’t have one or bring one, we can supply a tempo one for you.

Thank you for being such a great group of EAAers. I have been to other Chapters and I am sure this Chapter is the best I have ever seen. Let’s keep it that way. Merry Christmas, Happy Holiday, and Happy Hanukkah to all!

Sincerely,  
Emilio

Emilio Verastegui, President  
EAA Chapter 179  
[chapter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)

## Notes from the Editor

George Young

### 2021 IN REVIEW

This year has certainly presented some unexpected turns. Covid interfered with our regular schedule of activities: monthly Gatherings, Young Eagles, DEAA, LOEFI, Fly-Outs, and more. Never the less, we made necessary adjustments so that, looking back on it, we enjoyed success on many fronts.

- We continued with Monthly Gatherings, though for a few months via ZOOM. As the year progressed we were able to have in-person Gatherings at Double Eagle in the Maintenance Facility (thanks, Mylo and the staff).
- The programs were most interesting. *Joyce Woods, Vice President*
  - Two visits to members' hangars to see their projects in progress.
  - Presentations by Members and special guests on a variety of subjects ranging from "how I built this" to presentations about special flying activities.
- The Pot Luck dinners were great.
- The open hangar/shop setting created a most social atmosphere with people mixing and sharing stories.
- The Chapter (volunteer pilots and supporting members) conducted five (that's 5) Young Eagles days plus the special YE event associated with DEAA. *Barry Kromer, Young Eagles Coordinator*
- In June, we hosted a group of 16 students for Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA). *Jim Kessler, Principal*.
- After missing a year due to Covid, in September the Chapter hosted LOEFI 2021. With the usual careful planning under Emilio's guidance and much work by many members, it was judged to be a great success. *Emilio Verastegui, LOEFI Chariman*
  - Aircraft on display: 56
  - Campers: 5 aircraft and 3 drive-in campers, 13 people
  - Visitors: estimated 1,500
  - Exhibitors: 31
- Again this year the Chapter presented scholarships to young people pursuing careers in aviation. From among 10 applicants, 4

were selected, and it has been quite rewarding to follow their progress. *Mark Sturm, Scholarship Chairman*

- We hosted a monthly meeting of the IMC Club. Conducted via ZOOM, participants were from the local area and from other Chapters. *Kent Berwick and Joyce Woods, Coordinators*
- A team of Members has "built an airplane" (at least the fuselage so far, the wings were donated). Soon the RV-12 will be transferred (sold) to the Chile Flying Club for installation of engine and avionics. *Lee Otto, RV-12 Project Leader & Art Woods, Chile Flying Club Organizer*
- A couple of Open Hangar weekend events were held, bringing members together at the airport and around airplanes.
- Fly-Outs were back this year, with 2 successful events and one cancelled due to weather (winds). *Brandon Fryar, Fly-Out Coordinator*
- It was with great sadness that we lost two very active and special members, Randy and Suzie Reimer. Their spirit will be with us far into the future.

These are only highlights. Check the Newsletters to get the background of these and more of the Chapter's activities in 2021.

### HERE COMES 2022

Long range planning will be getting under way as the new year begins. We anticipate having all the traditional activities – monthly in-person Gatherings, Young Eagles, DEAA, LOEFI (with camping), Scholarships, IMC Club, Fly-Outs, Scholarships, and open hangar gatherings. If any of these Chapter activities entice you to join in making them successful, contact the lead Member or Emilio. More hands make lighter the work.

As you might note, Chapter 179 is very active in supporting general aviation in many ways. This happens because of the interest and commitment of many Members in promoting and supporting general aviation in Albuquerque and beyond. A hearty Thank You.

George Young  
[newsletter@eaa179.org](mailto:newsletter@eaa179.org)

## December Gathering

Joyce Woods



### Chapter Holiday Party

**Tuesday, December 14, 2021**

**5:30 PM Social Time**

**6:15 PM Potluck Dinner**

**LOCATION: Clyde & Genet Adams**  
**1009 14th St. SW**  
**Rio Rancho**

Thanks to **Clyde and Genet Adams**, we continue our tradition of a holiday party! Hope you can come! Guests welcome!

**Please BRING a side dish or dessert.** Roast turkey with dressing & gravy plus ham provided. Also, plates, utensils, etc. available.

**Optional Gift Exchange:** To join the fun of a gift exchange, bring a wrapped gift costing \$15 or less. Each person who brings shall receive. Totally optional.

**DIRECTIONS:** Allow 25 minutes from Paseo del Norte and Coors Blvd.

- Take Paseo del Norte westbound to Unser Blvd
- Turn North (right) on Unser
- Turn West (left) on Southern Blvd for about 3 miles.
- Turn left on 14th Street SW and proceed to the second house. Park inside the gate or on the street.

**IMPORTANT: the street is 14th SW.** (You'll pass similarly numbered SE streets).

If questions, contact:

Joyce Woods  
[chapter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)  
505 974 5305



Emilio addressing 2019 Partygoers

## IMC Club – Saturday, December 18th

Barry Harper & John Dewitt, Discussion Leaders



### Sharpen your Instrument Skills!

The chapter IMC Club meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month, 0930-1130 at Double Eagle II Airport, still a hybrid session (in person and remote). Anyone is welcome to join!

**Participate in-person** in the Bode Aviation conference room, 2nd floor, next to the café.

**OR Join Remotely:** register in advance and Zoom access info will be emailed to you. <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZrcuGorz8oGtN04ssq-9sK8XhIXPFgGt4K>

IMC Club sessions provide an open discussion about actual instrument flying scenarios provided by EAA. Typically, it's a good review of essentials for IMC flight plus an opportunity to learn from and network with other instrument pilots.

If you'd like to receive FAA Safety WINGS credit, register here: [https://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event\\_details.aspx?eid=109209&caller=/SPANS/events/ModifyEventList.aspx?type=1](https://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=109209&caller=/SPANS/events/ModifyEventList.aspx?type=1)

Joyce Woods  
IMC Club Coordinator, EAA 179  
[imcclub@eaa179.org](mailto:imcclub@eaa179.org)

## Preview: January 18 Gathering

Author and Speaker, Kit Crumpton will speak about WWII and the B-29 Superfortress. Her father was a B-29 pilot during WWII. This sparked her interest in WWII, both in the European and Pacific theaters. Maybe you talked to her as she has been a commercial Exhibitor at LOEFI for several years, selling her books. Her website offers a flavor of her style with the tagline, "Kit Crumpton, A good historical novel informs while the story entertains". Visit: <https://kitcrumpton.com>



## November Gathering—Recap

Joyce Woods

### Around the World In a Mooney

**CarolAnn Garratt's** story of three flights around the world in her Mooney was, well "riveting!". She covered both her whirlwind world record trip and her slower touring trip, with time to explore countries and cultures.



The detailed planning to minimize stops and customs delays for the record breaking flight were meticulously designed. Teamwork in the air and ground support was impressive. Throughout her adventures, she met memorable people, including members of the EAA chapter in Malaysia that arranged for an air-to-air photo shoot circling the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur and a Middle East pilot flying with her to places otherwise inaccessible. Her flights and book sales benefit ALS research which to date exceed \$510,000.

A couple more interesting tidbits -- CarolAnn retired from a manufacturing career and is a Mechanical Engineer. She's currently hooked on flying Gliders out of Moriarty which is why we she was able to join us for our Aviation Academy last summer and for this fantastic evening. Thank you CarolAnn!



Inspiring to all! CarolAnn with Scarlette and Sophie McIntyre

In case you missed it, OR if you want to learn more, check out her Flight Logs online or contact her if you are interested in her books. CarolAnn's website: <https://alsworldflight.als.net/>

Joyce Woods  
Vice President, EAA 179  
[chapter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)

## Annual Meeting & Election Results for 2022

The annual meeting of EAA Chapter 179 was held in conjunction with the November monthly Gathering on 15 November 2021.

The primary order of business was to elect the officers and board members for 2022. A Nominating Committee consisted of Dan Horschel, Mark Sturm, and George Young.

The slate proposed by the Nominating Committee was presented, and the following Members were elected to the respective offices:

- President Emilio Verastegui
- Vice President Kyle Reinhardt
- Secretary Joyce Woods
- Treasurer Jessica Reinhardt
- Board Members Brandon Fryar  
Mark Sturm  
Mike Wirstrom  
George Young  
Robert (Bob) Richter-Sand

Jessica Reinhardt and Mike Wirstrom fill vacant positions, effective immediately.

Other changes in important Chapter roles are changing, too:

- Young Eagles Coordinator Dan Fuka
- Membership Chair Art Woods

Other business:

- A report from the audit of Chapter finances was presented by Art Woods.

A hearty Thank You to these members for their contributions to EAA179 in their roles in 2021:

Ryan Carson (Secretary)  
Carol Kromer (Treasurer)  
Kent Berwick (Board Member and IMC Club Coordinator)  
Barry Kromer (Young Eagles Coordinator)

**Chapter Fly Out - November 21**  
Las Cruces (KLRU)

**Sunday Nov 21** - Fly out for EAA Chapter 555's big breakfast.

**Triple Nickel Chapter's Breakfast served from 8 – 10AM** (bring cash). Taxi to the aircraft parking lot. Covered by the big EAA!

**Weather interfered with the Fly-Out to 555's breakfast. Look forward to future Fly-Outs in coming months. (Ed)**

Everyone is invited to linger after the breakfast to socialize. RSVPs appreciated to Brandon Fryar if you plan to go:

**Regular Chapter Events**

Mark your calendars!

**3rd Tuesday – Chapter Gathering**

**3rd Saturday – IMC Club**

**1st Tuesday of Odd Months – Board Meeting**

**EAA Chapter Survey – Now Open!**

Joyce Woods

Each year, EAA HQ asks members to evaluate your chapter in the spirit of continuous improvement of the chapter network. It takes less than 5 minutes. Please help by completing the chapter survey here:

<https://tinyurl.com/EAAHQSurvey>.

The survey not only provides valuable information to help us improve our chapter, but is a critical component of the Chapter Recognition program. To retain our GOLD Chapter status, one of the criteria is that at least 20 % of our membership complete the survey.

Your Board of Directors welcomes any ideas and perspectives about what we could be doing to support our membership and our community. Both the EAA Chapters office and your Board of Directors receive the results and comments which are anonymous.

Joyce Woods



**EAA Chapter 179 Membership**

**Time for Renewal - Chapter 179 membership, that is . . .**

If you haven't already, it is time to submit 2022 chapter dues! We've made it easier than ever to join as a new member or renew your membership with online payment via credit card, debit card or PayPal. Just go to: <https://eaa179.org/membership/>

The conventional methods of payment are still accepted as well, including personal check, money order and yes, even cash. Dues are \$20 for an individual member and only \$30 for a family (spouse and children under 18).

If your contact information has changed, please complete the renewal form. Make cheques payable to "EAA Chapter 179" and mail to EAA Chapter 179, P.O. Box 3583, Albuquerque, NM 87190- 3583. You'll receive an e-mail confirmation.

I know many of you have always paid when we met in person. **You'll have one more opportunity – December 14th at our holiday gathering.** Don't hesitate to email me if you have any questions about your membership status or if you need help with the website payment process.

Kind regards

Art Woods  
[membership@eaa179.org](mailto:membership@eaa179.org)

**QUICK LINKS**

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

**Young Eagles:** [eaa179.org/YoungEagles](http://eaa179.org/YoungEagles)

**IMC Club:** [eaa179.org/imc-club](http://eaa179.org/imc-club)

**DEAA:** [eaa179.org/deaa](http://eaa179.org/deaa)

**LOEFI:** [LOEFI.org](http://LOEFI.org)

**Scholarships:** [eaa179.org/scholarships](http://eaa179.org/scholarships)

**Newsletters:** [eaa179.org/newsletters](http://eaa179.org/newsletters)

**Calendar:** [eaa179.org/calendar](http://eaa179.org/calendar)

**Membership:** [eaa179.org/membership](http://eaa179.org/membership)

**Facebook:** [facebook.com/EAA179](https://facebook.com/EAA179)



## The Often Underestimated Commitment of the Frequent Flyer

A report from Chris Grotbeck. EAA 844820, Dec 1, 2021

The title “frequent flyer” has long been considered a status symbol, and is worn as a badge of honor among airline passengers. It represents the savvy traveler, and carries with it a sense of achievement and pride. Our stereotyped perception of the frequent flyer is that of a jet-setting, knowledgeable and worldly traveler – fashionably dressed, confident, navigating fluidly be-

tween gates on their way to some distant and exotic paradise. The frequent flying elite are treated like royalty by the airlines and are rewarded with pre-boarding privileges, flight miles, free drinks, first-class upgrades and other fantastic perks.

Despite the perception, however, the lifestyle of the airline frequent flyer is anything but glamorous. The many hours of traveling are most often related to a job or other commitment, and the weary traveling worker has most likely paid for their prestigious title with endlessly long and mundane days of waiting, schlepping luggage through airports, running to catch planes and taxicabs, sleeping on cold benches and eating unsavory airport food. To be a frequent flyer is really a statement of the travelers’ commitment to their work, their mission, and their ability to overcome the myriad obstacles associated with travel to arrive at station, on time and ready to perform their duties.

These were my thoughts as I drove toward my hangar at Sandia Airpark on the morning of November 6<sup>th</sup>, on the way to fly what I had hoped would be my 150<sup>th</sup> Young Eagles mission. Suddenly, that seemed like a lot of Young Eagles missions to have flown. I silently mouthed the words to myself: “one hundred and fifty”. To be sure, I felt a sense of pride and accomplishment to have nearly completed that many flights and to have introduced the magic of flight to so many young people. I felt like a “frequent flyer” of Young Eagles missions.

Of course, it would be somewhat redundant for pilots to refer to themselves as “frequent flyers,” but they do have their own lexicon of status symbolology, replete with esoteric titles like “fighter ace”, “ATP”, “CFI/CFII”, “30,000 hours”, “100+ missions”, or “owner of plans-built backcountry turbine STOL monster”. The reality is that every mission, every sortie, every Young Eagle flown and each hour of flight time represents many hours of preparation, years of training and a substantial monetary investment - not to mention extensive ground support. The simplistic monikers used by pilots to distinguish themselves as “frequent flyers” really represent mountains of background effort and an unspoken, deep level of commitment to the mission itself.

The night before the Young Eagles rally, I had loaded all of my Foreflight® maps and software upgrades into my iPad® and had done all of my flight planning. I got a weather briefing from Flight Service as I was driving to the airport, and calculated how much fuel would be needed for the flights. When I arrived at my hangar, I made a thorough pre-flight inspection of the airplane, added some oil and fuel and made the necessary instrument and engine checks during runup. Flying to KAEG, I radioed ahead for entry to the Class Charlie airspace, “Albuquerque Approach, good morning, Skylane 3217



*(Continued on page 8)*



## From the Young Eagles Nest (continued)

Dan Fuka – Young Eagles Coordinator

*(Continued from page 7)*

Sierra, two-four miles east ABQ VOR, through niner-thousand descending eight-thousand five hundred, enroute Double Eagle with Foxtrot”, and got the cheerful reply, “November 3217 Sierra, radar contact one-two miles east Albuquerque airport, squawk zero-four-six-four, Double Eagle altimeter three-zero-three-zero, showing eight tousand seven hundred, maintain VFR at or above eight tousand fife hundred.” After landing at Double Eagle, I checked in with the new EAA179 Young Eagles operations director, Dan Fuka, and his dedicated team, and was assigned a YE flight. I thought to myself, “Gee whiz, there sure are a lot of individual steps, moving parts and people involved in making each flight happen – even for such a simple mission like Young Eagles.”

To get a better feeling for my Young Eagles Frequent Flyer status, and how I ranked ordinally among the other EAA179 YE pilots, I went to the eaa.org website and looked up the mission counts for all of the chapter members. I was amazed and humbled to see how many YE pilots there have been in the chapter, and how many missions had been flown. Notably, there were fourteen chapter members who had flown more than 100 YE missions each. Three of those had flown between 200 and 300 missions (Art Woods, Rick Richter and Richard Seddon); one had flown between 300 and 400 missions (Chuck Swanberg); and one (Bob Waters) had flown an astounding 462 Young Eagles missions! In addition to tracking the number of missions flown, the Experimental Aircraft Association also rewards these intrepid and committed pilots with patches and clothing – unpretentious displays of the level of dedication and preparation exemplified by these “Frequent Flyers”.

The most surprising frequent flyer of the day happened to be one of the Young Eagles themselves. I was assigned three wonderful teenagers: Julian, Ashley and Viaunna. Although Julian and Ashley were first-time Young Eagles, they were both very interested and focused, had great questions, and enjoyed their introductory flight. Ashley aspires to attend the USAF Academy and to become a frequent flyer for the military. The third Young Eagle, Vi-

aunna (age 14), had actually flown many YE flights in the previous five years, four of them with me as her pilot! Viaunna had photographs on her phone of herself flying in my airplane at ages 9, 10 and 13, as well as four separate EAA logbooks filled with YE flight signoffs! It was really fantastic to see the level of interest, and dedication, and commitment that Viaunna has shown to aviation. She is anxious to continue her flying career, and possibly seek an EAA scholarship. With approximately 12 YE missions, Viaunna is already a frequent flyer!

Finally, those who deserve the most credit for bringing together the YE rallies are not necessarily frequent flyers at all, but are the ground crews and crew chiefs – past, present and future. Barry and Carol Kromer took the YE torch from Todd Blue and have now passed that great responsibility to Dan Fuka. The ATC and airport flight line crews are also outstanding and deserve recognition. No frequent flying would be possible without the commitment of the planners and ground crews to the noble and very worthy cause of Young Eagles.

I hope to see you all flying soon, and frequently, at the next Young Eagles rally!



Dan Fuka  
Young Eagles Coordinator  
[youngeagles@eaa179.org](mailto:youngeagles@eaa179.org)



## Young Eagles — Photos from November 6th

Chris Grotbeck



Young Eagles “crew members” who flew with Chris Grotbeck on November 6th, 2021.





## Scholarships

Mark Sturm – Scholarship Coordinator



Greetings chapter members and friends. November was another great month for flying in New Mexico. We had a huge turnout for our 6 November Young Eagles event at Double Eagle.... Almost 40 kids got mom or dad up early Saturday morning to come out to fly with us, if I remember correctly (details elsewhere in the newsletter). I noted that several of them are the right age to apply for one of our upcoming scholarships. 2022 looks like it will be the best year we've ever had for providing scholarship opportunities. Our local EAA Chapter 179 is planning to offer four \$2,000 scholarships in 2022, and we have also submitted our chapter application for another (our 3<sup>rd</sup>) EAA National Ray Scholarship (\$10,000) for next year as well. That's possibly \$18,000 in scholarships for 2022!! We should be notified in February or March if our chapter was selected to receive a Ray scholarship in 2022. As a reminder, applicants must be between 15-25 years old, and residents of New Mexico. If selected, funds can be spent on flight training, aircraft rental, fuel, instructor fees, maintenance certifications (A&P), aviation related college courses for an aviation degree, etc. The online application process will be active 1 January 2022 through 15 February 2022. For further details, check out our chapter website ([www.eaa179.com](http://www.eaa179.com)), our January newsletter (via email or on our website), look for flyers around the city, or send me an inquiry ([scholarships@eaa179.org](mailto:scholarships@eaa179.org))

### Luke Vaughn, Our 2021 Ray Scholar

Luke Vaughn, is ready to get back in the air. He and I were scheduled to fly down to Las Cruces on 21 November (along with 4 other 179 members) for a pancake breakfast sponsored by our sister Chapter 555. As luck would have it, mother nature wasn't cooperating that day, forecasting moderate turbulence, and northerly winds at 17 gusting 32. No thanks. But, that day was still pretty special for him; as our Ray scholar, he was presented a brand new Lightspeed Zulu 3 ANR headset!! Yes, that one, the \$850 one! Lightspeed has generously partnered with the Ray Foundation and has pledged to providing a limited number of these headsets to deserving Ray scholars. Truly a remarkable commitment from an outstanding company. Congrats Luke... shown here sporting his new aviation bling.



Mark Sturm  
Scholarship Coordinator  
[scholarships@eaa179.org](mailto:scholarships@eaa179.org)

## RV-12 Build Project

Lee Otto and the Build Team

Lee Otto, along with Mark Dyslin and Doug Dingman, have been completing “finesse” finishing work on the RV-12, preparing for moving to the phase of installing the engine, then avionics.

Stop by to see their handiwork; they truly like sharing the project with members and visitors.



Have you visited the Build Team lately? They very much welcome visitors, whether to see the progress or even kibitz (welcome suggestions preferred). From each visit I learn something about building and about the airplane. Someone is there most weekday afternoons. (the Editor)

And –sanding– comes next.



## Local Pilots Honor Health Care Professionals

Joyce Woods

On Saturday, November 27, a heartwarming surprise unfolded overhead. The Chile Flight, the formation flying team based at Double Eagle II created a heart in the sky - in appreciation of health care received at Presbyterian Rust Medical Center by a member of one Chile pilots' family. Patients and staff could see the heart from inside the hospital.



Presbyterian Hospital posted these photos: <https://www.facebook.com/preshealth/posts/4907302582684926>

179 member Kyle Reinhardt caught this video of their subsequent flyover: <https://www.facebook.com/EAA179/videos/3172880702957680>

In May 2020, at the onset of the pandemic, Chile Flight flew down Central Avenue, recognizing the impact of area health care professionals and first responders. Considering healthcare workers' perseverance through this prolonged pandemic, they felt it was time to honor them again.

The Chile team has been flying since 2012, all volunteers sharing their aviation passion and prowess. They delighted Saturday Balloon Fiesta goers with flyovers during the 2019 and 2021 Opening Ceremonies. In 9 years, Chile has flown over 2200 sorties including 69 "smoke on" flyovers at public events and limited "missing man" flights to honor veterans who have passed.

There are 8 active Chile pilots, 7 based in Albuquerque and 1 from Pagosa Springs, CO. Their flying backgrounds vary from top notch Army, Air Force and Navy pilots to disciplined recreational pilots. Chile Flight aircraft are various models of Vans "RV" Aircraft.

## Congrats to Ryan Carson

Joyce Woods

### Ryan Carson Passes the Airframe O&P !

That is, the FAA Airframe Oral and Practical exam. You know, the hard part, when you have to actually demonstrate that you know your stuff!!! Once he takes his written exam, he can do and sign off on airframe maintenance!!

Ryan started the A&P program at CNM, taking advantage of the online options offered due to COVID-19. However, as he discovered, the program still requires considerable hands-on lab time and homework, the workload is a real challenge.

Ryan does have a full time job, you know. In his spare time, he flies—both for pleasure and sharing that fun with Young Eagles. He served as Chapter Secretary for the past year. *Busy guy!*

*Great job, Ryan!!*



### CNM A&P Program—Space Open for Session Starting January!

If you are interested to pursue an aviation maintenance certification, contact Jeremy Frick, Aviation Technology Instructor/Program Director at Central New Mexico Community College 505.224.4000 ext. 50287 or email: [Jfrick4@cnm.edu](mailto:Jfrick4@cnm.edu)

## 179's Charter President, Bill Guernsey has Gone West

Joyce Woods

From Bill's Obituary:

"Gibson "Bill" R. Guernsey passed away on November 1, 2021, at the age of 87. Born in Dayton, OH, he was an avid aviation enthusiast, having restored multiple classic aircraft, and having built several homebuilt aircraft including, a Mustang II that won a Wright Memorial Award in 1982. He was the Charter president of EAA Chapter 179, and also was involved in aerobatics and air racing. He worked at Sandia Labs for 40+ years as a precision machinist / tool and die maker and had his own machine shop. He was known for having a passionate spirit and strong convictions, but also for being supportive and compassionate. Read his full obituary here:

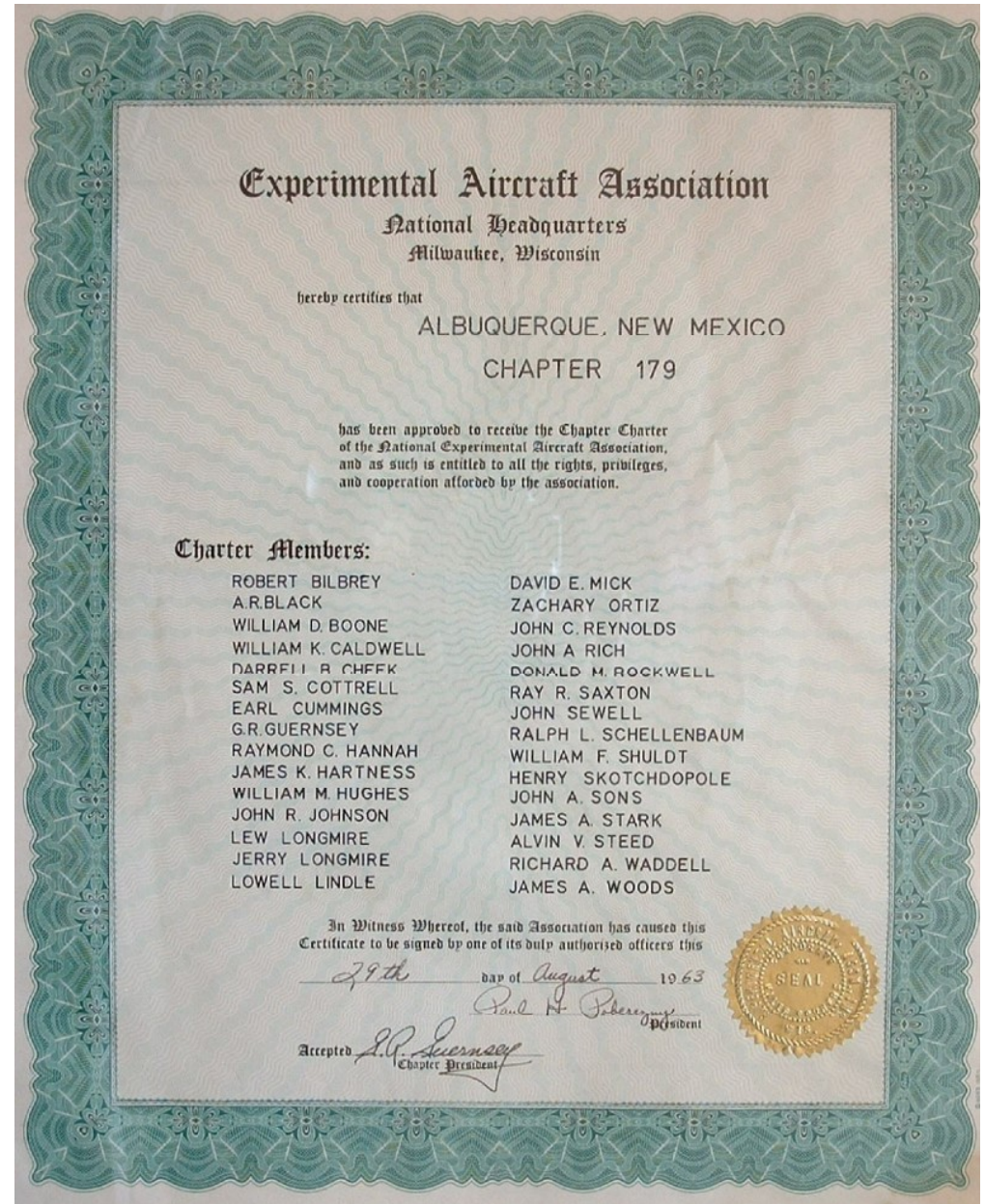
<https://www.tributearchive.com/obituaries/22972074/gibson-ralph-guernsey/belen/new-mexico/noblin-funeral-service>"

Bill was proud of our chapter's early years. He told many a story, a few that I will always remember – one of the benefits of participating in the MidValley Tuesday coffee and lunch gatherings. It would be fun to hear stories others remember.

One I found most fun was about the early airshow we hosted at Double Eagle. With great success getting sponsors, we presented big trophies for the aircraft awards. Bill liked to tell that EAA HQ called him out because they were bigger than what Oshkosh awarded. He also showed me that 179 conducted a youth camp previously to DEAA – featured in a national aviation magazine!

He was feisty and proud, and served us well. Thanks to Bill, for giving 179 such a great start! Condolences to his family. He will indeed be missed.

Joyce Woods  
Vice President, EAA 179  
[chapter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)





The Air Traffic Control System, as we know it today, was conceived and implemented by the Airline Industry and was expanded by the U.S. Commerce Department after it was formed in 1926.

The first Air Traffic Controller was a guy named Archie W. League, hired by the city of St. Louis in 1929, at Charles Lindbergh's home field. His "control tower" consisted of a wheelbarrow, containing a chair, an umbrella, his daily lunch, water, a notepad, and a pair of signal flags. Pretty basic tools! Within a few years, his flags were replaced by light guns to communicate with pilots. Of course, this was a very rudimentary form of communication and radio was the "new" technology then emerging.

Cleveland Ohio opened the first radio equipped control room in 1930. The airlines were all installing radios in their airplanes to take advantage of this new technology. By 1932, the Commerce Department was very busy installing 83 radio beacons across the country, that broadcast directional beams that allowed pilots and appropriately equipped airplanes to "ride the beam" to their destination. By 1936, the Commerce Department called for three Air Route Traffic Control Centers to be operational. They were called the Newark, Cleveland, and Chicago Centers. The existing airlines had already established these ARTCCs, but the Commerce Department took them over the following year.

The early route controllers used maps, blackboards and mental calculations to ensure the safe operation of aircraft. To represent planes, they moved boat-shaped weights – called "shrimp boats" – across maps. These controllers had no direct radio links with aircraft. They used telephones and radio to communicate with airline dispatchers, controllers in airport towers and airway radio operators, who relayed instructions and weather information to pilots.

By 1938, Congress established the CAA, the Civil Aeronautics Authority, consolidating all federal regulation of aviation into one agency. On the eve of World War II, the CAA expanded its authority over the airways to also include takeoffs and landings at airports, uniting airport towers with air route traffic control centers.

After the start of WWII, many new technologies began to emerge. The one that has had the most impact on aviation was "radar", an acronym for RAdio Detection And Ranging. Primarily invented for the military, this

technology revolutionized air traffic control!

By 1946, the CAA expanded the use of radar to civilian airliners. Sadly, the loss of two large aircraft over the Grand Canyon in late June of 1956, with the complete loss of 128 passengers and crew, prompted Congress to authorize a major overhaul of the nation's airway system, including advancements in radar.

This major overhaul came just as the civilian airline market was transitioning to the jet age - 1958. The first civilian US passenger jet was the Boeing 707. That year, for the first time, more people crossed the Atlantic by air than by sea. Also that year, Congress passed the Federal Aviation Act which created the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), now known as the Federal Aviation Administration.

By 1960, the FAA required the use of a "transponder" to aid in air traffic control. It was not until after the introduction of computers into the air traffic control system in 1965 and there after, that the air traffic controller was finally, at last, able to "see" flights in three dimensions.

With the new automation, controllers could also connect transponder signals with flight plans and detect and correct any variations. By 1975, all Air Route Traffic Control Centers (ARTCCs) plus the 61 busiest airports were receiving this real-time, in-flight data on computers. This allowed controllers to place their scopes upright, finally making the shrimp boat markers obsolete.

The Airline Deregulation Act of 1978 phased out the economic regulation of the airlines by the Civil Aeronautics Board, which ceased to exist at the end of 1984. As lower fares and greater airline efficiency followed, so did a rapid increase in air traffic.



*(Continued on page 15)*



## Did You Know ... Continued

Emilio Verastegui

*(Continued from page 14)*

By 1981, the frustrations of air traffic controllers boiled over into an illegal strike by their union, the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO). Three days after the strike began, the newly elected president, Ronald Reagan, fired all 11,000 strikers. However, aging technology remained an issue in the mid-1990s. Problems plagued centers and towers across the country when power outages, computer failures and other equipment problems caused air traffic disruptions and compromised passenger safety.

In 1995, Denver International Airport opened, the first new major airport in 30 years. During its first 11 months of operation, delays were five times less than those at the old Denver Stapleton Airport. Other modern airports, such as Detroit, Atlanta and Dallas-Fort Worth, became models, maximizing the use of parallel runways.

The job of an Air Traffic Controller is not for the faint of heart! In general, there are controllers on duty 24 hours a day, every day, at more than 350 locations around the country. These are stressful, high-energy environments where controllers are responsible for the lives of thousands of people. The margin of error is zero. The physical and mental demands are such that new controllers can't be older than 31 and must retire by 56. Once hired by the FAA, candidates move on to the FAA's Academy in Oklahoma City. Upon graduation, OJT takes one to three years at a tower and three to five years at an ARTCC.

So, the next time you talk to a controller, tell them "thanks" for the great job they do. They will appreciate it and, who knows, they just might offer you that wonderful clearance you have been hoping for - "direct to destination - approved!"

More later from - Emilio Verastegui, a pilot.



Great participation at monthly gatherings, ever since we've resumed in person meetings. Thanks to City of Albuquerque Aviation Dept for use of the maintenance facility.

## Sponsorships

Thank you for your support.

### Gold Sponsor

Ron and Debbie Harmon

### Silver Corporate Sponsor



### Bronze Corporate Sponsor



For information on Sponsoring EAA Chapter 179 activities and events, visit [eaa179.org/sponsor](http://eaa179.org/sponsor).

### Other NM Aviation Organizations

EAA 691, the Green Chile Chapter:

<http://www.eaa691.org>

EAA 1306, Edgewood:

<http://www.eaa1306.org>

EAA 251, Alamogordo:

<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea251>

EAA 1570, Santa Teresa:

<https://www.facebook.com/EASantaTeresa>

EAA 555, Las Cruces:

<https://www.facebook.com/EAA.Chapter.555>

New Mexico Pilots Association (NMPA):

<http://www.nmpilots.org>

## Chapter Fundraisers & New Building Fund

Joyce Woods

Early this year, our Board of Directors re-established a previous chapter goal to acquire our own facility. Think what we could do if we had a center for chapter projects and aviation education.

Throughout the year, we've actively explored options and brainstormed what we want, need, and what we could financially manage. As a result, we opted to broaden our fundraising beyond scholarships. We outlined our strategy in a whitepaper.

Two seasonal online fundraisers to benefit chapter activities and particularly our Building Fund are:

- **Facebook Fundraiser** – donate online & we pay no transaction fees - <https://tinyurl.com/EAA179FBFundRaiser>
- **Online Auction** – <https://www.32auctions.com/EAA179>

**ONLINE AUCTION Closes 8:00PM  
on Wednesday December 15!**

**Remember to BID!** Most items will be on display at the Chapter Holiday Party on Dec 14, with just one day of bidding remaining.

Meanwhile, the DONATE button on our website now offers options for contributing to Scholarship, Building Fund, General Fund, and a newly established Reimer Memorial Fund.

Since mid October, we have received almost \$4000 in donations to the Reimer Memorial Fund from family and friends. including several chapter members. The Facebook Fundraiser launched with Giving Tuesday is at \$3500 and we hope to receive some matching funds from Facebook. The auction is underway with over \$500 so far. . .

We are serious about fundraising. But we also recognize that chapter members already give so much of your time and resources. We have plans to apply for grants to supplement fundraising efforts. If you have ideas or experience, please let us know!

**THANKS to all of our generous donors!**

## Holiday Auction—Fundraiser

Joyce Woods

### THANKS to Auction Donors!

DAVID CLARK Company - pilot headset

BLADESOX - custom prop cover by David Otero

Home Depot - Shop Vacuum

Ilene Hammack - Handheld radio, Weather station

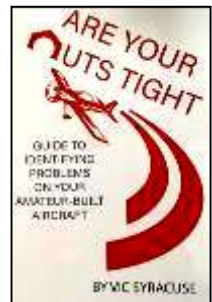
Natl Museum of Nuclear Science & History - 1 year Membership

Kathy Richter-Sand - Unique porcelain bowl with aviation theme

Reimer Family - Susie's gnomes, Santa wall hanging, Santa figurines with airplanes !

Lt Col Scott Weaver - Signed aviation books

BJ's Brewhouse - gift card





## Looking for the Perfect Christmas Gift?

Here it is!

This is a beautiful close-up photo of EAA's meticulously restored, 1930's era, **B-17 Flying Fortress Bomber, "Aluminum Overcast"**. Her beauty was captured by EAA 179 member Phil Thompson, when she came to Albuquerque's Double Eagle II Airport, on a nationwide tour stop in 2016. The Photo is in sepia tone and printed on gorgeous brushed aluminum. This was one of our grand prizes at the Land of Enchantment Fly-in event in September. It was such an awesome prize and sparked so much conversation with folks at the EAA Booth, we had several people ask if this print is available for sale.

The answer is YES! It is now available for sale. We have two sizes... the raffle prize size of 24" x 16" (wall mount attached on back) for **\$200**, and we have a smaller 12" x 8" size for your desk or side table (easel stand attached) for **\$100**.

Ready for your aviation gallery or would make a fabulous Christmas gift for the aviation enthusiast. Contact Phil Thompson directly with your order at [pttijeras@gmail.com](mailto:pttijeras@gmail.com) or (505) 379-7016 (check or cash only). Turn around time is about two weeks. All profit is returned to the Chapter.



## Go Chile!

This inspiring **Chile Flight Poster** celebrates our local Formation Flight Team. Produced by Phil Thompson and printed on photo-quality stock. Unframed, 12" x 18". Price: \$10.

Contact Phil Thompson ([pttijeras@gmail.com](mailto:pttijeras@gmail.com)) or Joyce Woods ([chapter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)) to place an order. Thanks to Ron and Debbie Harmon for printing. All proceeds go to EAA179.

