



Albuquerque, NM Chapter 179



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Upcoming Events & Chapter Gatherings

Double Eagle Aviation Academy – Jun 14 - 18

Chapter Gathering – Jun 18, 1400 hrs, **Friday** at KAEG

See details on page 3

IMC Club – Jun 19, 0900-1130 hrs, via ZOOM

Open Hangar – July 10, 0900 hrs, **Saturday** at KAEG

Chapter Gathering - Jul 20, 0900, **Saturday** at KAEG

Young Eagles – Sep 11, Oct 16, Oct 23, and Nov 6

Open Hangar – Aug 17, 1800, **Tuesday** at KAEG

Land of Enchantment Fly-In – September 25

See details elsewhere in this Newsletter

June 2021

Inside This Issue

Upcoming Events & Chapter Gatherings/Meetings.....	1
Notes from Our President	2
Notes from the Editor	3
June Chapter Gathering	3
May Chapter Gathering—Recap	4
IMC Club	4
Open Hangar & Monthly Gatherings	4
Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA).....	5-6
DEAA Donations/Tuition Scholarships	6
RV-12 Build Project.....	6
LOEFI — Planning Update	7
From the Young Eagles Nest	8
Open Hangar – Building a Velocity	9
Scholarships.....	10-12
Call for Ideas, Presenters	12
Space Reserved for Your Story.....	12
Technical Counselor’s Corner	13-14

Other NM EAA Chapter Newsletters

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

EAA 1306, Edgewood: <http://www.eaa1306.org>



Notes from our President
Emilio Verastegui

Hello Fellow EAA Chapter 179 members and friends.

WOW! Was it just me or did you feel it too? It was really exciting to be back for our first in-person Social Gathering of the year on the 25th of May! There seemed to be a buzz in the air and a great feeling of “finally, we can breath again” among those attending the Gathering. Mike Wierstrom and wife Wendy did a great job presenting his Velocity program to all in attendance. Mike is a great speaker and entertainer and kept everyone's attention.

Art and Joyce Woods became our favorite “pizza delivery people” as they were very generous in supplying all the pizza and soft drinks. Not sure that there was that much pizza left over, but everyone seemed to agree that it was very tasty!

Susie Reimer did a marvelous job of making deserts and other goodies for everyone too! She always does a great job and is very generous with her time and energies for the Chapter - thank you Susie!

As noted, our Gathering was held on the 25th, the **THIRD** Tuesday of the month, and it was not at the Copper Canyon. The Chapter officers have been toying with the idea of possibly having the monthly Social Gathering again at the City Building, or maybe having it at another hangar on the airport, and not necessarily on the always-on-the-second-Tuesday of each month. Some Gatherings may include plans for a simple “Pot Luck” meal to help satisfy any hunger pangs that may be present. To make it more interesting, we might even have it in the morning to beat the heat in the coming months.

The reason for all these possible changes is to generate a lot more excitement about airplanes, flying, and aviation in general. So what better motivation is there than go to the airport to talk, see and touch airplanes! There is much to talk about on this subject, but we think we might try it more often in the coming months. Generally, most people, pilots included, do not like change for change's sake, but we feel that until the Chapter has its own place to operate from on the airport, this might be a really good opportunity to improve the camaraderie and the volunteer response from our members, especially now that we are on the back side of the pandemic. So, be aware and stay tuned to the Newsletter for coming announcements about where and when our Social Gathering will take place for the coming months.

As previously mentioned, Joyce Woods has been very active on many fronts, not only for our Chapter, but with many other projects. All these things take time and dedication, but she seems to have the time and energy for all of it. She has been very active finding speakers and presenters for our coming Gatherings. In the near future, we will have two aircraft builders presenting their projects and more. We look forward to having them in the spotlight.

Very soon, DEAA will begin with its full week of Aviation Academy with 16 students at the City Building. It will be a very exciting time for the students and DEAA volunteers. Please contact Jim Kessler if you want to be part of this project. I am sure Jim will be more than happy to help you find your niche.

Speaking of volunteers, LOEFI (The Land of Enchantment Fly-In) is still in need of volunteers. Many have said that they would like to help, but not many have specifically contacted me to request a specific position to help the planning committee fill the need. If you want to help with planning, please join one of our Zoom meetings, held the first Tuesday of each month. Contact me for information to join these meetings. We all welcome any input and help.

The May Young Eagle event on the 8th was a success by all accounts. There were a number of YE kids that had their first flight, but there were also some returnees. I know that all the pilots had a great time and the weather cooperated for a change. Our next regular YE event is scheduled for September 11, but there will be a YE fly day on the Saturday as DEAA closes, the 19th of June. As always, please contact Barry Kromer if you feel the need to volunteer in any capacity.

Please enjoy the month of June as it will be an exciting time to be at the airport. I look forward to seeing as many as possible at our next Social Gathering and at DEAA too.

Fly safe, be safe!

Sincerely,
Emilio Verastegui, President
EAA Chapter 179
chapter@eaa179.org

With three of our recent scholarship winners having completed their first solo flight, I thought this poem would be quite fitting.

SOLO

Patrick Phillips, courtesy The Catalina Preservation Society

*The earth rolls by beneath my wings,
My mind dwells not on other things,
For as my nose points towards the sky,
I can't believe I'm going to fly.*

*The years of waiting over now,
My instructor says that I know how,
And as the spinning wheels break free,
I wish that he were here with me.*

*Higher, higher the ship is lifting,
Racing thoughts my mind is sifting.
What's that he said on rate of climb?
I wish we'd done this one more time.*

*Five hundred feet. It's time to turn,
There is still so much I have to learn.
Ease the yoke and now the rudder,
The trick is not to make her shudder.*

*Eight hundred feet, another turn,
This time there's not as much concern,
Throttle back and trim her out,
Seems there's less to care about.*

*Downwind check now, just in case,
Runway's on the left, some place?
Carb heat on and lots of power,
Oh God I've got to call the Tower.*

*Victoria Tower! I call my name,
Why no answer? Is this a game?
Radio set, I know it's right,
Settle down, no time for flight.*

*Crackle, crackle, I hear him talking,
Straight ahead, not time for gawking,
Cleared to land, it's said and done,
Thank the Lord, I'm number one.*

*The heart inside me seems to race,
As I ease her onto base,
Power back, she starts to sink,
Easy does it, time to think.*

*Nose up trim, at seventy knots,
Six hundred feet is all I've got.
Turn for final, almost over,
On the blacktop, not the clover.*

*Hold her level 'til the last,
My! The runway's moving fast.
Hold the nose up, gee I'm clever,
Seems she wants to fly forever.*

*Thump! I'm down! It feels so good,
Nothing to it, I knew I could.
Take heart my friend and have a try,
For now I know that I can fly.*

George Young
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EAA Chapter 179 Monthly Gathering

Friday, June 18, 2021, 2:00 - 4:00

Double Eagle II Airport—City Maintenance Facility

Celebrate the future of aviation! Join in the fun at the close of the Double Eagle Aviation Academy. Mingle with students and parents as they begin to consider next steps in their aviation journeys. Participants include SAMS Academy, Bode Aviation flight school, CNM A&P program, etc.

As described in the last newsletter, the panel discussion led by Manuela Thompson is an opportunity to hear from past DEAA students and parents who will share their experience in actually pursuing aviation careers, addressing issues such as financing, military options, etc.

Expect to be inspired by the impact of our local aviation community as we cultivate the next generation of aviators. Join us!

2:00—2:45 Panel Discussion: Aviation Careers, What Next?

2:45—4:00 DEAA 2021 Graduation and Reception

Directions: The City of Albuquerque maintenance facility at Double Eagle II Airport is under the Control Tower. *Before you turn left to the main airport parking lot, proceed straight through the gate towards the Control Tower. Look for a DEAA sign straight ahead from the stop sign.*

NOTE: There will NOT be a 3rd Tuesday evening gathering in June since DEAA involves so many of our chapter members.

May Chapter Gathering—Recap

George Young

The program for the May Chapter Gathering was open discussion of current activities among our members. We had a nice turnout for a ZOOM Gathering, about 20 people at one time in the course of the Gathering.



- May Fly-Out to Grants-Milan – 12 airplanes with 21 people converged on KGNT for breakfast at the WOW diner. See the article in last month's Newsletter.
- RV-Build Project – Lee reported that work is nearly complete with the materials on hand - wiring is basically complete. They look forward to receiving parts that have been on back order and getting on with the build. Meantime, Art reported that the engine is on order with delivery anticipated in August.
- RV-12 Flying Club – Art reported that the formation of the RV-12 Flying Club is in the final stages of preparing bylaws and other formalities towards forming the Club. It will purchase the RV-12 when the basic airframe is complete, and will then complete the airplane (engine, avionics, etc.). If you are interested in becoming a charter member, contact Art.
- May 8th Young Eagles – See the Barry's article later in this Newsletter on the "reopening" of our Young Eagles program.
- DEAA – See the update on final preparations later in this Newsletter.
- LOEFI – See the update on planning later in this Newsletter.
- Member's Building Projects:
 - Emilio's Skyote: "...tape is going on the ribs".
 - Warren's Breezy: his O-235-C1 has been sent to out for overhaul.
 - Dan's RV-14: "... fiberglass ...".
- We have some changes in the offing for key positions in the chapter:
 - Scott is stepping aside as Membership Chairman, so we need someone to step forward. He will continue taking care of the database and other 'bookkeeping' needs.
 - Ken will be leaving us later this summer. He has created a following for the IMC Club, garnering credit for the Chapter near and far. So ... we're hoping someone will take up the reins of this great program.

George Young
newsletter@eaa179.org

IMC Club – June 19th

Kent Berwick



The IMC Club meets the 3rd Saturday of each month, 0900-1130, these days via ZOOM. Barry Harper, in Raton, provides the computer hosting for our meetings due to my limited internet service and I moderate the meeting.

The IMC Club continues to be popular with good attendance each month. These "workshops" include review of essentials for IMC flight, and often include discussion of scenarios provided by EAA. We usually sort out the materials in the week before the meeting.

Our next meeting will be June 19th. The FAASafety announcement for it should go out prior to that for NM pilots.

I do look forward to resuming in person meetings (and maybe hybrid?) but not until I get my vaccinations.

UPDATE: As Covid restrictions are being lifted, we will be assessing the situation and hope to soon hold meetings in-person, or possibly hybrid. Please monitor our web site, eaa179.org/imc-club/ or EAA179 on [Facebook](#).

Kent Berwick
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Open Hangar & Monthly Gatherings

Joyce Woods

EAA Chapter 179 "Open Hangar" Events

The Chapter Board is planning more events to bring members together at the airport and around airplanes. To that end, please add these events to your calendar:

- Jun 18 (Friday, 1400): DEAA Wrapup, at KAEG
See details on page 3
- Jul 10 (Saturday, 0900): Jon Farley's Panther build, at KAEG
- Jul 20 (Tuesday, 1800): Chapter Gathering – TBA
- Aug 17 (Tuesday, 1800): Warren Cox's Breezy, at KAEG

Joyce Woods, Vice President
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We are gearing up for this year's Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA). After last year's cancelation due to COVID, we are on track for a great aviation experience this year. Sixteen high school

students have accepted the summer challenge of a DEAA, a week in the airport environment learning aerodynamics, flight planning, aircraft instruments and systems, as well as building aircraft, simulator training, and getting exposure to aviation and aerospace careers. Two of the students this year are from out of state.



Students will see a flyover salute by the Chile Flight formation flying team who always arrive in style to lead the aircraft building workshop using Van's Aircraft practice kits. After a morning devoted to building a piece of an airfoil, more than one student has been heard to say, "I'm going to build an airplane!"



Students will receive career coaching through several "Career Speaker" sessions. Scheduled career speakers range from CNM A&P instructors to an Air Force pilot who flies the CV-22 to an Aeronautical engineer and a drone pilot. One of the career speakers this year is a glider pilot from Moriarty.



Engineers working in aviation and aerospace will highlight the value of a 4-year degree in mechanical, civil, or aeronautical engineering. Other sessions introduce careers in flight

instruction, aircraft maintenance, and how to get started with an aviation education.



Students will be greeted each morning with static aircraft displays to learn about antique, contemporary, production and amateur-built aircraft. The week starts out with a guided preflight of an aircraft paying particular attention to flight controls, airfoil shape and the pitot static components.



(Continued on page 6)

Double Eagle Aviation Academy - Jun 14-18 (continued)

Jim Kessler

(Continued from page 5)

A round table discussion of how to begin their aviation careers will be provided on Friday. Certificates of completion are presented to the participants, and several aviation organizations, including the New Mexico Department of Transportation and SAMS Academy, are part of a closing reception. This year's students range from those with no aviation experience to young men and women who had flown several times with the EAA Young Eagles.



Following the week-long academy, each participant has an opportunity to take a special Young Eagle Flight, following a route they will have planned. These flights will be provided by local volunteer licensed pilots.

The program is directed by Albuquerque Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 179, a 501c3 charitable organization of recrea-

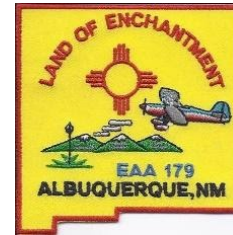


The DEAA Class of 2019

tional pilots and aircraft builders dedicated to sharing their love of aviation.

"Over 40 volunteers have contributed to the success of past DEAA's; we hope to keep this tradition going for years to come," said DEAA Director Jim Kessler. Parents have given high praise for the program with one saying, "This is the best kept secret in Albuquerque."

Thanks to Chapter 179 members for your donations and the countless volunteer hours which have made DEAA 2021 possibly the best kept secret in Albuquerque."



Jim Kessler
DEAA 2021 Director
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DEAA Donations/Tuition Scholarships Joyce Woods

Each year, generous donors help offset tuition for students to make sure they can participate in our Aviation Academy. Although we received some early donations, we are just short of our needs and will need to draw from our general fund. In addition, *we appreciate any general donations to the chapter in honor of the incredible volunteer effort to put on this full week of aviation experiences for teens.* If you are interested in contributing to support Chapter 179's youth programs, you can donate online on our website: www.eaa179.org. Use DONATE button at top and select "general fund". Thank you!

RV-12 Build Project Lee Otto, Randy Reimer, and the Build Team

An update from Lee:

"Today I inventoried the back ordered parts that arrived Sunday. We can now proceed with finishing the airframe and controls for flaperons and rudder and stabilator. The only thing we're missing is the nose strut and fork. Van's has those scheduled to arrive before the we get the engine and prop. That will work for us. We anticipate the engine will ship to us about mid August. So it's back to work..."



Two-thirds of the Landing Gear?



The 5th LOEFI Planning Meeting convened on June 1st Chaired by Emilio Verastegui, current team members continued with detailed planning for this major event for EAA Chapter 179.

Key take-aways from this meeting:

- **Camping is On.** Fly-in pilots (and passengers) will be invited to camp on the field Friday night. Arnold Bronson and Ron Keller (NMPA) will be Camp Hosts. Setup will be in the open field southeast of the old APD hangar. And they will be invited to join the after-setup hamburger fry Friday afternoon.

The Chapter has a history of conducting a really great fly-in. It happens because many members contribute to the effort (and often it includes their family and friends).

- Most of the key committees have members in Lead roles; a few are as yet unfilled. Please contact Emilio to express interest you may have in joining the effort, in any capacity.
- Members are being asked to start identifying ‘things’ that are excess to your needs, to contribute to the FlyMart we set up at LOEFI. This is always a good source of funds for our Scholarships and other projects, ... and it’s a good way to clean out one’s hangar (or garage).
- There is much to do between now and September 25th. Planning meetings are being held monthly on the first Tuesday of each month.
- And come September 24th and 25th .. please take it from me — LOEFI has been great fun and very rewarding experience.

Please contact Emilio to express your interest in joining us in planning, preparing, and presenting LOEFI to the New Mexico flying community and to Albuquerque’s public. And if you have questions, contact [Emilio](#) or [me](#) by eMail.

The next planning meeting will be held on July 6th.



George Young
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PS: If you would like to help spread the word, we have business cards. Contact me or Emilio to get some to hand out to friends, neighbors, colleagues, etc.

By August we will have posters, large and medium size, and even post cards. Look ahead, identify places where they can be posted or distributed, and plan to get a copy of the most5 appropriate media to distribute—all around the city and even outlying areas. More publicity is good publicity.

From the Young Eagles Nest
Barry Kromer, Young Eagles Coordinator



WOW, the first Young Eagles event for Chapter 179 in over a year was a big success. There were 42 kids signed up, 2 canceled, 3 didn't show up on Saturday morning, but we still flew 37 kids. One didn't get to fly since the wind came up at the last minutes, so Ryan's Young Eagle will get their flight personally.

The basic statistics are:

- 67% were first time flyers
- 41% learned about the event from friends
- 28% learned about it from Chapter 179 website
- 11% from EAA national website
- The remainder learned about the flights from Youngeaglesday.org, internet search or from a "flyer".



The online registration set up seems to have worked really well. I think if we do the outside scheme again we might arrange the flow a bit differently, but overall, the comments were positive. Also terrific were the appearance of 12 pilots. There was a bit of competition among them vying for kids to fly, so that was a good problem.

Thanks again to all the volunteers who made this reopening event a great success.

On a different note, we are setting up for the "private" Young Eagles flights offered to the students at DEAA. There are currently 16 kids registered for DEAA, so we are hoping for 16 pilots to step forward. As always, to fly as a Young Eagle pilot, you must be a current EAA national member AND have a current Youth Protection Program status.

Additionally, EAA will give the Chapter \$10 per Young Eagle flight during June, July, and August(instead of the normal \$5, per Young Eagle flight). So if anyone wants to do a personal Young Eagle flight, that will help the chapter. If you have any questions about personal Young Eagle flights, or need certificates or logbooks to give out, please feel free to contact me.



Barry Kromer
Young Eagles Coordinator
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Open Hangar - Building a Velocity Mike Wirstrum

As advertised, Mike Wirstrum shared the story of his Velocity 173RG ELITE, N66WW build. I'm not sure anyone expected his story to be as entertaining as it was technical but Mike made it so!

Mike explained how he started watching EAA "how to" videos, exploring various aircraft options, and deciding fiberglass was something he could do. With great support from Wendy, he then settled on the Velocity and began searching for an in-progress project for sale. Finding one in Minnesota, he shared the story of buying it sight unseen, then loading it on a trailer and transporting it himself to Albuquerque. He got a great start, for a good price.



He shared the angst of cutting out ailerons and moral and technical support from chapter builders. Special thanks goes to Mark Sturm, fellow Velocity builder, who took him flying frequently to keep him motivated to finish!

Videos of Mike's first flight gave us a sense of that incredible lift off moment and his first landing. Since Mike got weathered out returning from OKC over the weekend, Mark Sturm brought his Velocity over for display. We're grateful for our "elite" Velocity duo, Mike and Mark - thanks to you both! And Wendy, too!

This gathering, our FIRST in person for over a year was held at the City of Albuquerque facility on Double Eagle II Airport. Thanks to Emilio and Ann for setup and Susie and Randy for organizing food service. Thanks to everyone for cooperation with COVID procedures.



It was an absolutely wonderful evening! Thanks to the City of Albuquerque's Mylo Moraga for spiffing up the space. Besides enjoying great evening weather, we topped off a pizza dinner with homemade crème puffs and cookies provided by Susie Reimer.

Joyce Woods
Vice President, EAA 179
chapter@eaa179.org



Well, since last month we received reports from Vlad and Sergio, I thought it a good idea to check in and see what our other two 2021 scholarship winners are up to. Everett Taylor moved to Italy several months ago, but he's still got the flying bug as you will see below. He has confirmed that your flying dollar doesn't go as far in Italy as it does in New Mexico. Also, check out the First Solo article from Scott Hofmann. Scott just turned 16 and he's well on his way to becoming a private pilot. Congrats to you both; keep up the great efforts. **Mark**

Everett Taylor: For the past six weeks, I have been taking the *Introduction to Aeronautical Science* class in the Embry-Riddle dual-enrollment program. So far, I've studied aircraft aerodynamics and performance, human factors in aviation, aviation safety, and aviation legislation. I have also completed several assignments and papers. My favorite essay so far has been comparing the design and performance of the Lockheed-Martin C-130 and the Boeing 747. I am greatly appreciative of the members of Chapter 179 for their generous support. Thank you all for this great opportunity!

Ciao..... Everett



Scott Hofmann: My first solo was a long time coming. First, I had to wait until I turned sixteen, then it was canceled twice. The first time, I was sick from my second COVID vaccine shot, so I had to postpone. On the next try, it was too windy. When I finally got to fly my solo on May 16, it was a beautiful morning. I left home in the dark and got to Del Sol Aviation as the sun was rising. My instructor (Noah Rodriguez) and I took off from Sunport and flew over to Double Eagle. When we got there, we landed four times. On the final landing, we taxied to the ramp and I dropped Noah off. I taxied to the runway and got ready to fly.



My first takeoff was smooth, and I flew around the pattern and came in to land. My first touch and go was not quite as smooth as the takeoff, but it was not bad. My second touch and go went the same way, smooth flight of the pattern but slightly rough landing. Then, on my final lap of the pattern, 4 trikes came in to land. As I was in the downwind, two of them lined up on long finals. They came well within the airspace before contacting tower, and I was forced to make one 360 and then extend my downwind. After two of the trikes landed, I followed suit. My final landing was nice and smooth and I finished by taxiing back to my instructor and flying back to Sunport with him.

In the end, it was a great experience that was worth the wait, and I really appreciate the support from EAA Chapter 179! Now, I am focusing on getting ready for my first cross country solo.

Scott



Last month we got reports from Everett Taylor and Scott Hofmann, 2021 Scholarship winners. I thought it a good idea to check in and see what our 2020 Ray scholar, Jacob Edington, is up to. Recall he was in a bad accident on his bicycle in December 2020 just as he was getting ready to solo. Jacob's been working with our own Jon Daffer and it looks like that first solo finally happened! Congrats to you both; keep up the great efforts.

Mark

Jacob Edington: My Solo: a day to remember.

This has been quite a year. I was set to solo in October, but I was grounded when various parts on the Cherokee 140 I train in had to be replaced. Shortly after that, annual maintenance kept me focused on the books for a little while longer. Just when all the technical things were squared away, I was involved in an accident that landed me in the UNM trauma ward for a week, with months of rehabilitation, surgery, and recovery time ahead of me.

Not only did I have the best care, but also the best support. My surgeon was a former flight surgeon, so he knew just what to look for, and he released me to fly only when he knew it was safe. My physical therapist, too, has helped me keep my eye on the goals I had set. Jon Daffer, my CFI, and the wonderful people in chapter 179 have been an ongoing source of encouragement over the last few months. I got cleared to fly... just in time for Springtime in New Mexico, which meant wind! We canceled more flights than we got in for a little while. But finally, the day arrived.



When I got to Sandia Airpark that day, we made sure that my solo endorsement was still up to date. I preflighted, and soon enough I was up in the air for a brief dual lesson. Practicing take offs and landings on a 30-foot wide runway was an extra challenge with a 30-foot wingspan, and less than 1500 feet of total runway added to the thrill of making sure I was on the correct approach.

After a few landings with Mr. Daffer in the right seat, he told me to go ahead and take a full stop. The past two weeks of rather intense (for a student pilot) crosswind conditions gave me the confidence to handle any changes up in the air after my instructor got out. After he left the plane, I felt oddly calm. I was anticipating my stomach to drop and butterflies, but I was incredibly ready when I opened the throttle as I rattled down runway 9. After lifting off I took a midfield crossing for a standard pattern for 27. The wind was just on the brink of changing which runway was preferable when I took off, and after a touch and go I went ahead and switched to runway 9, which also put me on a downhill slope. I floated just about every single landing, running especially light without an extra person, and the downhill slope was an extra excuse I wasn't going to give up!

Scholarships (continued)
Mark Sturm – Scholarship Coordinator

(Continued from page 11)



I have been able to solo a few flights since then, flying out of Sandia Airpark as well as Moriarty Municipal, and I'm now working on really getting comfortable with navigation as I prepare for cross-country.

Thank you so much for the help, patience, and support that the Chapter has given me during my journey with aviation. I have been able to push through unexpected setbacks and continue striving this past year thanks in large part to knowing that I have such an amazing team cheering me on, helping me find resources, and sharing knowledge and experience with me along the way.

Jacob

Mark Sturm
Scholarship Coordinator
scholarships@eaa179.org

Call for Ideas, Presenters
Joyce Woods

I'd like to hear your ideas for aviation related topics, . We need speakers for 3rd Tuesday evening gatherings. I'm also seeking a few weekend come and go/show and tell style topics at an airport.

Perhaps share your aviation story? The history or technical info about a favorite aircraft? Or a special flying trip? Or maybe you know someone else with an aviation topic of interest to our members? I'm always amazed how interesting and resourceful our members are – and it's fun to learn more about each other's experiences. If you have an idea or speaker, please let me know!

Joyce Woods
Vice President, EAA 179
chapter@eaa179.org

Space Reserved for Your Story
Any Member

Everyone has a story or two (or more?) to share from their flying experience. Maybe they are:

- Your experience building your pride-and-joy airplane.
- Favorite or memorable flights that you've made: your firsts solo or cross country flight; or your first flight with a passenger.
- Experiences from which others could learn: techniques you use for flight maneuvering; planning a cross country trip; navigating via pilotage, VOR, even IMC (us VFR pilots may find that useful as well).
- An experience getting lost or just confused on a cross country flight and finding your way to your destination; a potential accident avoided, or even an accident from which others could take away a lesson that you learned.



We have space in these Newsletters to augment stories exchanged at our Gatherings and to enjoy even more our shared passion for aviation and flying, especially for the less experienced pilots. Send me your stories.

George Young
Newsletter Editor

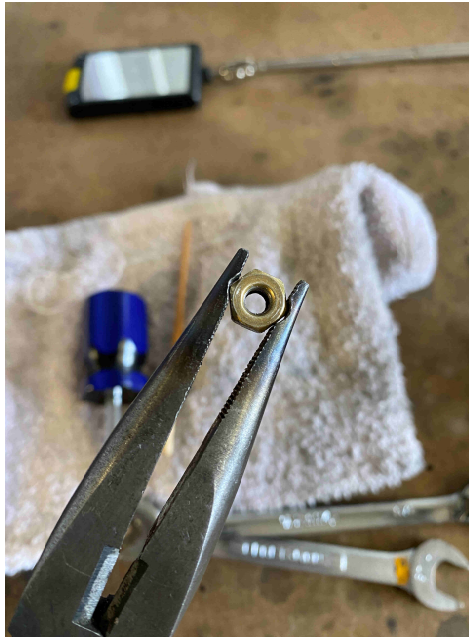
Making tools

My old hangar mate and I used to have a repeating dialogue about which, and how many tools were needed to complete a task. I would say to him, "Hey Keith. What tools do I need to... (fill-in any task)?" His response was, "All of them." It always seems to be the case that even after the simplest of tasks results in a pile of tools having to be put back where they belong.

Fortunately I don't have a problem with having lots of tools. I'm also fortunate enough to have good flying friends who feel the same way, so if I don't have the tool I need, someone at the airport probably does. If you maintain your own plane for any length of time, you too will probably have accumulated a good collection of tools too.

There are times, however, when there is no tool available to do the job at hand. That's when custom making a tool is the only option. This may be as simple as grinding a flat spot on a wrench or as complex as 3D printing the tool you need. I have modified several tools over the years and find that most of them aren't just a one time tool, but I return to them often enough to not ever consider getting rid of them.

My favorite modified tool and most used by me are my notched needle nose pliers. I made these by putting a short round file in my drill press and then grabbing the rotating file in the jaws of the pliers. In a few moments I had a nice half circle in each jaw. I use these pliers to hold bolts, nuts, and to pull the hinge-pin on my RV-7 cowl.



Here are a few of the other tools I use regularly. Steel and aluminum rod bent to hold parts in place or to reach a nut into a tight location, awls made from damaged screwdrivers, an offset wrench made to be very offset by taking a torch to it and bending it over 90 degrees, a wrench ground down to fit in tight places, Notched and ground sockets, and welded socket to a ratchet wrench extension.



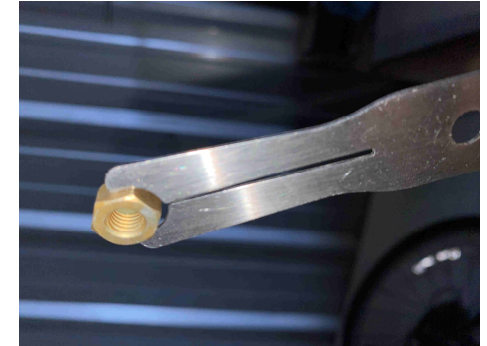
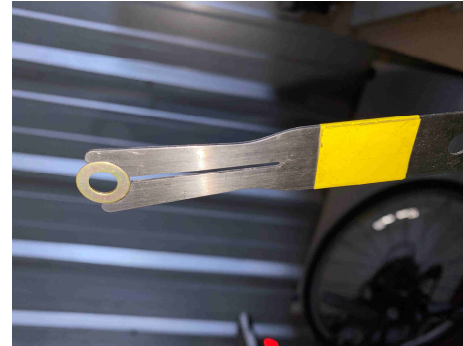
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(Continued from page 13)

A couple of weeks ago, during my condition inspection, I needed a 3/8" wrench with a handle just a few inches longer than what I had in my tool box. Solution was to safety wire two wrenches together.



This last tool isn't custom made, but I just can't go without mentioning the Washer Wrench Set made by Cleveland Tools. In my opinion, this is the greatest tool ever invented! It will hold a washer tight so you can slip it in the slimmest of spaces. I've even used it to hold nuts too.



I would love to learn and share what unique, favorite, and/or custom tools are in your box.

Dave Otero

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Bill Lindell w/photo of his beloved Cub, based at 7 Bar.

FOR SALE

Cub Parts? These were recently donated to the chapter by area pilot, Bill Lindell who joined us for a Tri-Motor flight a few years back. Proceeds will go to benefit EAA179. Contact us at chapter@eaa179.org

- CUB Hub Caps
- Scott 3000 Tailwheel 6X2.00 - needs refurbishing and lubricating
- Radair Quazar Haf-Pak Strobe Light 12v-28v Complete
- Champion M41N Spark Plugs in the original sealed packs and wrench

