



2022 Leadership

President:

Jim Kessler

Vice President

John Brown

Secretary:

Joyce Woods

Treasurer:

John DeWitt

Board Members

Lance Hunter

Mark Sturm

Emilio Verastegui

Mike Wirstrom

George Young

Standing Committees

Membership

Art Woods

membership@eaal179.org

Land of Enchantment

Fly-In (LOEFI)

OPEN

loefi@eaal179.org

Double Eagle Aviation

Academy (DEAA)

TBD

deaa@eaal179.org

Young Eagles

Daniel Fuka

youngeagles@eaal179.org

Scholarships:

Mark Sturm

scholarships@eaal179.org

IMC Club

John DeWitt, Barry Harper

imc-club@eaal179.org

Publicity

Lance Hunter

Technical Counselors

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David Otero

Emilio Verastegui

Gwen Walcott

Storage Locker

TBD

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Reimer Aircraft Factory/ Tool Crib

Lee Otto

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Newsletter

George Young

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Web Master

George Young

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General eMail

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Snail Mail

EAA 179; PO Box 3583

Albuquerque, NM 87190-3583

(new airport address coming soon!)

Upcoming Events & Chapter Gatherings

Mar 15 – John Adams MS Career Day, 0830-1130

Mar 18 - Controllers and Coffee (KAEG), 0830-1000

Mar 18 – IMC Club (KAEG), 1000-1130

Mar 21 – Monthly Gathering (KAEG)

Apr 01 – Young Eagles (KAEG)

Apr 18 – Monthly Gathering (KAEG)

... and check the list of Upcoming Fly-in Events on page 11

March 2023

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Reminder—have you renewed your Membership?
See details on [page 6](#).

Throughout the newsletter, blue underlined text indicates a hyperlink – click it to “take you there”.



Notes from our President

Jim Kessler



We had a fantastic Gathering at M'Tucci's on February 21st. There were about 40 people in attendance, and we learned about the New Mexico's use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicle's for a number of projects.

Our Young Eagles Rally on March 4th was a huge success. We had 12 pilots and 90 kids. Dan Fuka has done a great job with this program. The process was very well organized. Also a big thanks to all the pilots and ground crew who man-

aged the hoard of people all morning. A special thanks to Alex Carothers for his consistent help at registration.

There is an Air Force Career Day at the end of March. We will get some great exposure during that event. The Air Force is bringing several of their Special Operations aircraft that they fly at Kirtland AFB out to Double Eagle. We plan to have a table with flyers and a science fair board showing the different classes and hands-on activities we do at Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA). We'll also have a simulator set up for the students to try out. We'll need some help with that. If you are available March 31st let me know.

We have opened up applications for DEAA. I foresee a robust application season this year. DEAA is a week-long introduction into topics related to aviation, scheduled for June 5 – 9th. It officially starts on Monday at 9:00 with a demonstrated aircraft preflight to small groups of students. However, the day starts earlier with aircraft displays on the ramp and discussions with the pilots who own them.

During the week we instruct in aviation weather, aircraft instrumentation, communications, navigation, weight & balance, aerodynamics and much more. It is a fun week for students who are interested in careers in the aviation field. We'll have career speakers on maintenance, engineering, UAV operations, and military careers.

I encourage those who know someone who might be interested to get their application in early this year. DEAA is for age 14 to 17. Applications can be downloaded from the chapter website.

We've had our first meeting of the DEAA volunteers, and everything is on schedule. There is still room in the schedule for more volunteers if you are interested. (See the DEAA poster on [page 14](#) and more info on our web site eaa179.org/deaa.)

Here is the iPad Pilot News for March. This is the Sporty's presentation I talked about at the Gathering.

[App roundup: airplane flight tracking \(video\)](#)

[Keep your head up with iPad audio alerts \(video\)](#)

And more at [Sporty's iPad Pilot News](#)

Don't forget the Gathering on March 21st. We will be introducing our scholarship winners. The event will be catered at the City Maintenance Facility on Double Eagle Airport.

If you have a hangar out at Double Eagle Airport start thinking about getting your badge. Go to the Bode desk; they will give you a registration form.

Hope to see you in a couple weeks.

Jim Kessler, President
EAA Chapter 179

Recurring Events

Chapter Gatherings

3rd Tuesdays at Double Eagle II

(KAEG, spring and fall, see Newsletter for [hot] summer and [cold] winter)

(March-Scholarships & December-Holiday Gathering)

Chapter Board Meetings

Normally the First Tuesday of Odd Months via ZOOM

IMC Club

Third Saturdays at Double Eagle II (KAEG) and via ZOOM

SPECIAL NOTICE

A Change to Airport Access is in the Offing

[Watch your eMail](#) for a message to all Members; you should have received it by the time you read this. The topic: conversion of the ramp entrance gates at KAEG to [card access only](#). The eMail provides details on how to get your card. If you don't receive it, let us know by contacting Jim Kessler or Art or Joyce Woods, or send eMail to chapter@eaa179.org.

March Chapter Gathering – March 21, 2023

Joyce Woods



Tuesday, March 21, 2023

5:30 PM *Dinner Provided, donations accepted*

6:15 PM Intro & Program

Program: EAA 179's 2023 Scholarship Presentations , Mark Sturm

Meet recipients of Chapter 179 scholarship awards! Always inspiring, join us to meet students and learn about their aviation goals. Expect to meet parents and let's see what we may do to help these youth move forward along their aviation journeys.

This year, we present two \$2000 flight training scholarships, one in honor of "Doc" Weaver* and the ongoing Jay Schmitt Memorial Scholarship. Two students will be awarded full tuition to attend EAA's Air Academy in Oshkosh this summer. In addition, four recipients will be awarded \$1000 each for various flight training pursuits.

Our program supports youth up to age 25 pursuing aviation education. Thanks to our generous donors, Chapter 179 has awarded over \$60,000 in scholarships over the past 5 years.

These monthly Chapter Gatherings offer time to network with programs centered on exchanging experiences and ideas about aviation – air-planes, flying, and flying activities – rather than the chapter business which is addressed in bimonthly Board meetings.

Where: **City Maintenance Facility at Double Eagle II Airport,** next to the Control Tower; 7401 Atrisco Vista Blvd NW; Albuquerque

Directions: Take I-40 or Paseo del Norte westbound to Atrisco Vista Blvd and follow airport signs.

Once on the Airport road, there is a stop sign before turning left to the main airport parking lot, DON'T TURN LEFT.

Proceed straight through the gate towards the Control Tower. Park in front of the 1st building on the left, marked 7401A. We'll be in the south maintenance bay. *Look for EAA signs.*

February Chapter Gathering - RECAP

Joyce Woods

Mark Chappell Likes Maps!

Gathering at the M'Tucci's restaurant off airport for our first time, we had a great crowd! Mark Chappell presented. Our connection with him goes back to his attending the 2014 Double Eagle Aviation Adventure. He also attended EAA's Air Academy in OSH. He became active in the Mexico Civil Air Patrol as a cadet and rose to the rank of Cadet Major while serving as the wing Director of Training for Unmanned Aircraft.

Now gainfully employed by NM Dept of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, Mark shared fun stories of his journey, while providing insight on advancements of drones and GIS mapping.

He shared his 2020 experience in Puerto Rico with FEMA as a cadet using drones to assess earthquake damage and respond to the emergency. They monitored refugee tent setup and reported on contractor progress.

This led to coordinating the state's use of drones in response in the 2022 wildfires, when 1% of the state burned. They tracked fire locations with data compiled from a mix of manned and unmanned aircraft. Mark monitored the TFR during the June 2022 presidential visit with a Secret Service person assigned to him. At 23 years old, he briefed the president on their work.

Chapter attendees were impressed by the sophistication of results from combining map technologies of infrared, moisture, ground type, and the resolution currently available. Mark answered questions about technologies and capabilities of drones including battery and solar powered, and the progression to a mandate for ADSB for new drones.

With a nasty windstorm forecast for the next day, Mark used maps to explain the severe weather warnings - which became a reality!



A full house at M'Tucci's Moderno—Rio Rancho

Notes from March Board Meeting, 3/7/23

Joyce Woods

Your board is up and running with several new members! Here's a summary:

John DeWitt, chapter Treasurer reported account balances has brought accounting experience, providing structure. Art, Lance and Jim will review 2022 books with John for learning, and to serve as our annual audit. The Board allocated EAA Young Eagles credits to help pay for 2023 Air Academy tuition scholarships.

Dan Fuka, Young Eagles Coordinator reported on the successful March 4 rally. Since it's always a challenge estimating YE registration capacity based on early pilot commitments, Art Woods and Lance Hunter are calling a Young Eagles pilot meeting in March to review procedures and get pilot input for improvements.

Art Woods, Membership Coordinator reported that member renewals are coming in slowly so will be following up as needed.

Youth Outreach: We will participate in a March 15 Career Fair at John Adams Middle School (Joyce Woods, lead) and the March 31 Air Force Career Day at Double Eagle II Airport (Jim Kessler, lead). Anyone interested to help, contact us at chapter@eaa179.org

EAA has expanded a past 1 day event to a "Learn to Fly Week" with daily webinars, May 15-19. They encourage chapters to present an in-person "Flying Start" seminar on Saturday, May 20 followed by Eagle Flights. To do so, we need an event leader, coordination with available CFIs, and volunteer pilots.

The Board is interested in improving our RAF hangar. Current ideas include insulation and ventilation for better year round use. Jim Kessler will work with Lee Otto, Lance Hunter, and others to explore ideas.

DEAA plans are underway. We need to identify a LOEFI Committee Chair and get it launched soon.

Two additional areas we need volunteers to expand our reach and spread the load.

- **Youth Outreach Coordinator:** Someone to serve as the focal point for occasional requests such as participation in the March 15 John Adams Middle School Career Fair or connecting with groups such as JROTC, CAP, Scouts, or homeschool groups.

- **Program Committee Members:** Plan monthly gatherings, including arranging for an aviation presenter and the venue. Ensure setup/cleanup is covered. Provide newsletter announcements prior and Recap articles. If we could spread amongst 3-4 people, each would only have a few months to organize.

Anyone interested in getting involved? If so, let Jim Kessler know or email us at chapter@eaa179.org. Many hands make light work. . .

Joyce Woods
Secretary, EAA Chapter 179

Notes from the Editor – Not So Random Thoughts

George Young

Who Are We?

Does anyone know -

- How many airplanes we have among our Chapter Members?
- Or what makes and models of aircraft are represented?
- Or how many are owner-built, or EAB by another builder?
- Or how varied is the experience of our Members as pilots, builders, or any activity or skill that may be of interest to other Members?

Would you share your "story"? ... contribute to a sort of census of our membership? I'm working on a questionnaire that I hope you will use to share information about yourself with the Chapter. Meantime, if you have comments about the idea, please send them to me at [edi-tor@eaa179.org](mailto:editor@eaa179.org)

Big Chapter Activities – with Impact on the Community

Each year our Chapter takes on Big Projects – Young Eagles, DEAA, Scholarships, LOEFI, and even one-off opportunities, to share our enthusiasm for aviation and introduce people to aviation and flying. These require major commitments to plan, prepare for, and conduct each event.

Two elements are necessary: leaders to orchestrate each stage of the event, and volunteers who contribute their time, ideas, and energy. Each year members have come forward and made these events very successful. The Chapter will need these contributions again this year. I hope you will put the dates on your calendar. And while you are thinking about it, include in your plans helping in the planning and preparations by contacting the event coordinator and offering your assistance in the days, weeks, and in some cases months prior to the event

These activities have a –big– impact on our community.

- Young Eagles: As I welcome families to each Young Eagles rally, I see excitement in the kids who come to experience flight. Equally significant is how keen the parents are to introduce aviation to their children. And sometimes it generates interest in the adults themselves.
- DEAA: Each year 16, 20, or 24 youngsters attend DEAA when they are at an age when they (and their parents) are looking into the future. We introduce them to the whole range of aviation career opportunities. Many leave with inspiration to become pilots, air

(Continued on page 5)

Our BIG EVENTS for 2023

The Editor

(Continued from page 4)

traffic controllers, or aviation mechanics. And more than a few –have– made their careers in aviation.

- **Scholarships:** By reading the monthly Scholarship Updates you will see how the Chapter's Scholarships have "made people's careers". Whether it is providing assistance for tuition for DEAA, funds to make flight instruction possible, or attendance at EAA's Advance Air Academy, recipients receive a boost to pursue their goals in aviation.
- **LOEFI:** This is our Signature Event. Each year it brings large crowds to the airport to see aviation close-up. Between the aircraft displayed "center stage", the 50 or 60 more aircraft that fly in from around the region, the 20 or 30 exhibits, or activities especially for kids, the community leaves having made a connection with the airport, aviation, and ... Chapter 179.
- **Special Events:** Occasionally we have the opportunity to extend our reach by hosting a special aircraft at KAEG. Visits from the Ford Trimotor or B-17 have attracted large crowds giving them a window into aviation history. And hopefully the experience expands their appreciation of the contributions aviation makes to the community and country, today and in the past.
- **Scholarships:** By reading the monthly *Scholarship* Updates in the Newsletter, you will see how we have "made people's careers". Whether its assistance for tuition for DEAA, funds to make flight instruction possible, or attendance at EAA's Advance Air Academy, recipients are given support to pursue their goals in aviation.
- **Special Events:** Occasionally we have the opportunity to extend our reach by hosting a special aircraft at KAEG. Visits from the Ford Trimotor or B-17 have attracted large crowds, giving them a window into aviation history, and hopefully expanding their appreciation of the contributions aviation makes to the country, today and in the past.

The impact of our efforts can be seen in various ways.

- When we gain new Members and when someone who attended an event comes forward to support our activities. This has developed from all of the above events.
- The number of organizations, businesses, and individuals that support us through sponsorship and donations. You

can see the lists on pages 11 and 12. These folks recognize our efforts by entrusting Chapter 179 with their donations, good names, and direct support in various ways.

- The recognition that we've received from EAA. The Chapter has received [Gold Chapter](#) awards each year starting in 2019. (See the criteria that we have met to receive this award on [EAA's web site.](#))

We, the Chapter, are doing Good Things. It is through the efforts of many Members. There is much work required, but there is also the enjoyment of sharing work toward mutual goals and the satisfaction that comes from having produced events that are successful. See you at the next event, and the next, and

George Young
Newsletter Editor/WebMaster/eMail Clerk
newsletter@eaa179.org



Double Eagle Aviation Academy

June 5 - 9, 2023
Double Eagle II Airport, Albuquerque

Explore a Future in Aviation

- ✦ Consider aviation careers
- ✦ Learn about aircraft, how they fly, aircraft building, pilot communications
- ✦ Plan a flight, check weather, conduct pre-flight checks
- ✦ Meet pilots, mechanics, engineers, air traffic controllers, and other specialists
- ✦ Invited for a Young Eagles flight Saturday, June 10

Ages 14 - 17
Application deadline May 12, 2023
Selection based on applications. Previous aviation knowledge or experience not required.
Get application at www.eaa179.org



\$175 tuition includes T shirt, lunch & Snacks, all class / workshop materials. Tuition due after acceptance. Inquire per need-based scholarships.

Sponsored and directed by volunteers of Albuquerque EAA Chapter 179, a 501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organization. Contact us at: chapter@eaa179.org



Land of Enchantment Fly-In

September 23, 2023
Double Eagle II Airport (KAEG)
Albuquerque, NM
Hosted by EAA Chapter 179



FREE ADMISSION & PARKING Aircraft Displays & Judging
Food Trucks Live Bands Car Clubs Youth Activities Exhibitors



IMC Club

Barry Harper, John DeWitt, IMC Club Coordinators



Sharpen your Instrument Flying Skills!

The chapter IMC Club meets the 3rd Saturday of each month at Double Eagle II Airport, still a hybrid session (in person or remote). Anyone is welcome!

NEXT MEETING: March 18, 10:00—11:30 (Note Time Change!)

IMC Club sessions provide an open discussion based on instrument flying scenarios. Discussions provide a good review of essentials for IMC flight plus a fun way to meet and learn from other instrument pilots.

- **Participate in-person at Double Eagle II Airport** in the Bode Aviation conference room, 2nd floor, next to the café. Optional: meet others at the café prior for breakfast or after for lunch.
- **OR Join Remotely via ZOOM:**

Register in advance for Zoom access info here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91012020000>

You will receive a confirmation email with the meeting Zoom link.

If you'd like FAA Safety WINGS credit, please register through the WINGS announcement as follows, or sign in-person at the meeting.

- Visit the FAAST [Seminars & Webinars page for Events at KAEG](#).
- Scroll to the bottom and select the *IMC Club Meeting*.
- Follow "Registration Info" instructions

See you there!

Barry Harper & John DeWitt
IMC Club Coordinators, EAA 179
imclub@eaa179.org

Young Eagle Pilots

Fly 30 to celebrate this 30th!

See recognition details at:

[EAA Young Eagles 30th Anniversary](#)

Number of YEs flown as of today:

<https://www.eaa.org/eaa/youth/free-ye-flights>



Membership

Art Woods, Membership Chair

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

Thanks to those who have already renewed your 2023 membership!! Your commitment to our programs to reach youth and the general public is very much appreciated.

We've made it easy to join as a new member, or renew your 2023 membership, with online payment via credit card, debit card or PayPal. Just go to: <https://eaa179.org/membership/>.

Dues are \$20 for an individual member and only \$30 for a family (spouse and children under 18). If you would rather send a check, make it payable to "EAA Chapter 179" and mail to:

EAA Chapter 179
7401 Atrisco Vista Blvd NW #179
Albuquerque, NM 87120- 6601

You'll receive an e-mail confirmation, assuming I have your email address!

Don't hesitate to email me if you have questions about your membership status, if any personal information has changed, or if you need help with the website payment process.

If you joined our Chapter late last year, you are already paid up through the end of 2023.

Art Woods
membership@eaa179.org

SPECIAL NOTE: New Group on Facebook—EAA Chapter 179

Lance Hunter, Chapter Publicity

We have created a [Facebook Group](#) for Albuquerque's EAA chapter 179. This group was created to provide its members with an interactive way to keep up with current events and activities conducted by the EAA179.

- Group members can ask questions and get answers in real time.
- We encourage all EAA179 members to join
- We encourage all Young Eagles and their parents or guardians to join
- Any member of the group can post pictures of their flights or ground activities

Please go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/www.eaa179.org> and request to join our new Facebook Group.

Scholarship Update

Mark Sturm – Scholarship Coordinator



Greetings 179 Members and Friends.

As you may know, this is the busiest time for our chapter for scholarships. We had our application process open from 1 Jan - 15 Feb and received many quality and qualified young people. In late Feb our evaluation team reviewed all applicants and recommended 8 to receive one of our scholarships.

We were so excited to see that two were interested and applying to attend the Advanced Air Academy in OshKosh in conjunction with AirVenture 2023. Mia Alderete and William Reese are making plans to attend this very special aviation event. They will be staying in a beautiful facility that includes all meals, and have a week-long curriculum of studies and adventures.



The EAA Advanced Air Academy provides an atmosphere for students to become totally immersed in the world of flight. Ground instruction and introductory recreation flight experiences highlight this meaningful, action-packed camp. It combines "in-the-air" and "on-the-ground" hands-on activities. The EAA Advanced Air Academy also includes full participation (access to forums, flightline and all associated activities) in EAA AirVenture Oshkosh.

Congrats to Mia and William; this will be an exciting week for you both.

I will hold off on announcing our other six scholarship winners at this time. During our monthly meeting on 21 March we will announce our winners for 2023. Join us at the meeting to meet and say Hi to this exciting group of future aviators.

Mark Sturm
EAA 179 Scholarship Coordinator
scholarships@eaa179.org

EAA Advanced Air Academy Scholarships

EAA Chapter 179 offers scholarships to attend the EAA Advanced Air Academy held **July 18 – 26, 2023 in Oshkosh, Wisconsin.** [Academy Details](#) at EAA.org

Our \$1650 scholarship covers full tuition, room and board. Recipients must pay for transportation to and from Oshkosh or apply for a campership through EAA to help cover it.



EAA Air Academy Lodge, Oshkosh,

This year two scholarships have been awarded: Mia Alderete and William Reese.

Scholarship Funding Relies on Generous Donors

Chapter scholarships are funded by a combination of donations and from funds from activities throughout the year.

Like what you see? Want to Contribute?

We appreciate donations of any amount to our main scholarship fund, the Reimer Scholarship Fund, the *Bob Hartman Memorial Scholarship*, or *Jay Schmitt Memorial Scholarship*.



Chapter 179 is a 501c(3) tax exempt charitable organization. Donate online or send us a check.



179's Ray Scholar, Mia Alderete got experience with a short cross country flight. She did all the radio work, calling AEG Ground & Tower, ABQ Approach, ZAB Center, Santa Fe Tower and Ground.

Joyce Woods



From the Young Eagles Nest
Dan Fuka, YE Coordinator



I can't help but say it, folks, we had yet again another 5-year record event, topping our 2022 October event by 1 Young Eagle!
March 4th: This was an amazing event, and I can say with confidence that it wouldn't have been anywhere as smooth sailing as it was if not for the ground support from our **Ray Scholarship Student Mia Alderete**, **SAMS Academy's Brittney King**, and our **National News Famous Gabriel "CHIEF" Carothers**. They kept both Pilots organized and Young Eagles flowing. With their help, we were able to fly 76 of the 85 YEs registered, and over half, 59 YEs, took their first flights!

These numbers could not have been achieved without our 13 pilots. Emilio led the count with 12 YEs flown, and our fearless leader and President Jim Kessler led the number of flights getting airborne five times! A change for this event that seemed to work well was transitioning to printing certificates for the only first time YEs. The March event demonstrated that the kids love the event even when the printer won't print out the Certificates (someone loaded the printer into the car the night before on a cold night)... but the parents seem to like getting them, so we will continue printing for first-time YEs.

Next Month: We have many new and experienced YEs wanting to fly on April 1st; please look for a confirmation/deny email showing up in your inbox this week and we can determine how many seats to open up. So, don't miss our Young Eagles Day on April 1st! We will be starting again at 0745 as the time change sets our clocks forward.

Thanks for all you are doing!

Daniel Fuka
youngeagles@eaa179.org



Art Woods giving the pilots' briefing.



Alex & CHIEF Carothers, registering an early Young Eagle.



Young Eagles (and parents) and Pilots heading out for the first flights of the day.



Jim Kessler introducing a Young Eagle (and parents) to The Airplane, Jim's RV-6.



Scott Harness getting a Young Eagle settled in the cockpit of the RV-12.



Filling out the Logbook for this Young Eagle.



The Hospitality table, folks gathering to talk airplanes & flying.

Photo recap of 2023 Young Eagles Rally #2, March 4, 2023



Our Young Eagles program is reaching out to many audiences. I received the following from participants in our Rally on Feb 4.

LaMonica Whitaker-Walker from Central New Mexico Community College and a local organization *Justice Code* worked with Dan Fuka to get some Young Eagles to our Feb 4 Rally. And she sent photos of her kids after their flight with Art Woods and a display

that they created at CNMCC.

From LaMonica: *The Walkers were so excited with their Young Eagle's flights that they dedicated the CNM February window box poster. Here is the Black History display at CNM (main campus). It's called Above the Clouds. It focuses on Aviation and Space contributions of people like Gen Daniel "Chappie" James,*

the Tuskegee Airmen, Lucean Headen (patented de-icing aircraft wings and propellers), and others.

A window into a part of our world influenced by the Chapter's volunteer pilots, ground support folks, and our Young Eagles coordinator.



The Walkers were so excited with their Young Eagle's flights last year that they dedicated the CNM February window box poster to a Black History display about influential people in aviation.

Some of the March Young Eagles—a debriefing from her pilot, showing off their Certificates, and a Group Photo to remember this special day.



On Becoming Old Pilots

Jim Kessler



I flew my Bi-annual Flight Review today. That got me to thinking about aviation safety.

There is an old saying in aviation that goes like this, “There are old pilots and bold pilots, but there are no old bold pilots.”

I’ve been flying for over 40 years and the older I get the more that old saying has shown its veracity. But one thing is also clear. The aviation community is learning from the mistakes we have made. What makes that possible is that we are brutally honest with ourselves. As a result of this brutal honesty we have seen the enemy and he is us.

So I want to take this newsletter to remind everyone that we all want to become old pilots.

I’ll be the first to tell you that “God watches over fools and drunk” and I wasn’t drunk at the time so ... I’m writing this as one who has on occasion put himself in a precarious situation and learned much from it.

What I’ve learned is that at some point in the process of getting into that precarious situation I thought to myself, “Is this a good idea?” So I knew I was about to test my skill/luck as an aviator. If you find yourself thinking you are about to test your skill as an aviator, take the other path. Many an aviator has not passed the test.

There are a couple of situations that aviators find themselves in that cause them to decide to test their skills/luck. One of the most overpowering is “Get-Home-itis.” This is generally a cross country situation. It is a disease of the mind that says I have a schedule to keep and therefore testing my skills is worth the risk. Do not let the perceived importance of your schedule deceive you into a dangerous situation.

There are solutions to Get-Home-itis; leave yourself a day or so in your schedule for delays, be prepared to be late or plan a more reliable means of transportation. Set it in your mind that being late is an acceptable outcome or by a ticket on an airline (perhaps not Southwest).

Now for the brutally honest part. Our chapter has been deeply affected by the syndrome of Get-Home-itis. We are still waiting for the Final NTSB accident report on Randy and Suzie Riemer’s fatal accident. But much can be learned from the preliminary report.

The weather was marginal or worse. Randy was a fairly low time pilot. The flight path indicates a case of vertigo resulting in a spiral descent into the terrain. The airplane’s velocity was high enough to spread the debris over two hundred feet and tear the wings off in tree covered terrain. The engine was found about 80 feet beyond the main wreckage.

This is not a time to point fingers but rather to say “there but for the grace of God go I.”

Don’t find yourself in the position of depending on the grace of God. If you are not confident in your ability to complete the objective, make sure you have another pilot that can assist you or better yet don’t go.

Instrument flight in GA aircraft should be considered an emergency unless you are qualified **and** conscientiously maintaining currency. Flight in IMC is a very perishable skill. From my experience it takes an instrument qualified pilot who has not been conscientious about 10 minutes to reestablish their scan and get comfortable again. That is more than enough time to get yourself in trouble.

Let’s all do our best to become old pilots.

Jim Kessler, President
EAA Chapter 179

Planning to buy a Lightspeed headset any time soon? EAA 179 can benefit!

Buy directly from Lightspeed using our custom link and **EAA Chapter 179 will receive 10%** on select sales of Lightspeed Delta Zulu, Zulu3 and Sierra headsets. The potential is unlimited—we benefit from anyone buying via our custom link.

USE THIS LINK or the QR code to the right and SHOP: <https://www.lightspeedaviation.com/?ref=86>

You can set up or login to your own account. You won’t see anything special but we will receive funds!! If questions, contact Joyce Woods.



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Lightspeed—EAA179



Amigos del Cielo and Lordsburg Fly-In(s)

Editor

Again this year, I attended NMPA's fly-in at Amigos del Cielo, deep in the bootheel of New Mexico. It is a beautiful setting with a hard-packed 6,000 foot long runway, 4 large hangars, a BnB, and a building that serves as a bunkhouse (I took a tent on my previous visit; this year the bunkhouse was much more comfortable.) Scheduled for 2 nights with a fly-out to the Fly-In at Lordsburg on Saturday, attendance was dampened by a forecast for bad weather on Sunday. Even those in attendance planned to head home on Saturday.



I flew there and back with Lanny Toning in his Rallye. Weather was good on the way down on Friday, and again coming back to MidValley on Saturday after attending the Lordsburg Fly-In.



This is a special event for the city of Lordsburg; they turn out to provide great hospitality – tee shirts for fly-in pilots plus coffee and donuts (and maybe lunch – Lanny and I didn't stay around for that). Our sister chapter 530 hosted a Young Eagles event, and there were – many– families there to participate in the festivities.

And I got in some cross country time; after takeoff Lanny said "Your airplane".



Put this event on your calendar for next year. It is a great cross-country flight over interesting terrain (or mountains if you're so inclined). The overnight schedule creates an atmosphere of comradery among pilots, more than what occurs in a one-day fly-in event. And plan to support Chapter 530's Young Eagles rally. Also Peter Jarosak is a great host, generous to open the airport and facilities of Amigos del Cielo for this event.

Upcoming Fly-In Events (hosted by others)

LET'S GO

Upcoming Fly-In Events - hosted by others (Let's go!)

April 22 [Truth or Consequences Fly-in \(KTCS\)](#)

Sponsored by EAA Chapter 1615

June 16-18 [Tucumcari Rawhide Days Fly-in \(KTCC\)](#)

Jul 24-30 [AirVenture \(KOSH\)](#)

TBD [Copperstate Fly-In, Falcon Field \(KFFZ\)](#)

Check NMPA's "[Upcoming Events](#)" for updates

Reminder—have you renewed your Membership?
See details on [page 6](#).

We Are Looking for a Chapter Project

Here is a picture of our latest chapter project after it's first flight with some of the building crew celebrating. Now that we've finished this Vans RV-12, we're looking for our next building or restoration project.



Do you know of someone who as an EAB project who just can't find the time to finish? Or a project that is "hiding" in someone's barn? Contact us ...

Lee Otto
N326JL@gmail.com

In the News and Other Interesting Topics

Editor

Handy Pilots Tips, Articles, and News Items that you might find interesting:

Pilot Workshops—[sign up here](#) to receive via email

- [Trouble with the Flare? Practice Landing on the Highway](#)
- [Crosswind Landing Errors](#)
- [Clearing a Fouled Spark Plug](#)
- [Takeoff Over Max Weight?](#)

EAA

- [EAA](#) has a continuing schedule of Webinars. [Check out their schedule.](#)
- [EAA Chapter 555 February Newsletter](#) (Subscribe for future issues)
- EAA has many publications; log in and [subscribe here](#)

FAAsteam

- [Controllers & Coffee](#), Bode Conference Room, March 18, 0830-1000 (before IMC meeting)
- [Webinar: “Change Your Own Oil – Best Practices for Owner Pilots”](#), March 18

General Aviation News

- Paying for Pilots – [SAMS Academy](#)

The Aviation Geek Club

- [KC-97 Navigator .. story..refueled .. U-2 .. over Soviet Union](#)

Snippets from Aviation History (aka Rabbit Holes)

- Now & then I succumb to an “Internet Rabbit Hole”. Here is one I found most interesting – the XB-70 Valkyrie story (YouTube Videos)



- [XB-70 Valkyrie: The Mach 3 Bomber](#) (I think the best story)
- [XB-70A Valkyrie: Various Test Flight Footage ...](#)
- [XB-70A Valkyrie: XB-70a-1's Final Flight & Formal End of the Test Flight Program](#)
- [Tour around the North American XB-70 Valkyrie ...](#) (at the National Museum of the Air Force)
- [... Detailed Shots ... XB-70 Valkyrie Mach 3 Super Bomber's Cockpit](#)



Individual Chapter Donors

Gold Level

Brandon Fryar	Joyce Schmitt
Ron and Debbie Harmon	Lanny Sigler
Dan & Janice Horschel	Emilio Verastegui
Reimer Memorial Fund	Scott Weaver
Matthew & Kristi Reimer	Art & Joyce Woods

Thank You For Your Support

For information on Sponsoring EAA Chapter 179, visit <https://eaa179.org/sponsor>.

Quick Links to Chapter Website

Web Site:	www.eaa179.org
Young Eagles:	www.eaa179.org/youngeagles
IMC Club:	www.eaa179.org/imc-club
DEAA:	www.eaa179.org/deaa
LOEFI:	www.loefi.org
Scholarships:	www.eaa179.org/scholarships
Newsletters:	www.eaa179.org/newsletters
Calendar:	www.eaa179.org/calendar
Membership:	www.eaa179.org/membership
Contacts:	www.eaa179.org/contacts
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/EAA179

NEW!

Join the Chapter's new Facebook Group. Lance Hunter has created it as a place for Members to share information Join today

www.facebook.com/groups/www.eaa179.org



Mark Sturm and his beautiful Velocity at a recent Young Eagles rally.

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NM Aviation and Other Organizations and Resources Of Interest

The Editor

There are many organizations serving aviation interests in New Mexico. These include EAA Chapters and other such organizations, but also government agencies and commercial enterprises. In future months I plan to present a synopsis of the significance of some of these resources, what is interesting about them or what they offer in the way of enhancing our flying experiences.

This is a starter list of organizations that I have tracked down. If you know of others or have corrections or updates, please send me eMail at newsletter@eaa179.org. And if you use any of these regularly, please consider providing a synopsis and review. Thanks.

NM EAA Chapters

- [1306](#), Edgewood, 1N1
- [530](#), Los Lunas, E98
- [691](#), Los Alamos, KLAM & KSAF (Green Chile Chapter)
- [251](#), Alamogordo, KALM (& [Facebook](#))
- [555](#), Las Cruces, KLRU (Triple Nickel Chapter) (& [Facebook](#))
- [1193](#), Roswell, ROW (Aliens Chapter)
- [1570](#) Santa Teresa, KDNA
- [1615](#), Truth or Consequences, KTCS

New Mexico Organizations

- [New Mexico Pilots Association](#) (NMPA) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Fly New Mexico! Facebook Group](#) - started by David Otero. Ask to Join!
- [New Mexico Airstrip Network](#) (NMAN)
- [NMDOT Aviation Division](#)
- [New Mexico Airport Managers Association](#)
- [Lobo Wing of the CAF](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Rio Grande Norte 99s Facebook Group](#) (Ask to Join!)
- [Tuskegee Airmen \(local chapter\)](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Albuquerque Soaring Club](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Women in Aviation Intl - Land of Enchantment Chapter](#) (& [Facebook](#))

National and Other State Organizations of Interest

- [Experimental Aircraft Association \(EAA\)](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association \(AOPA\)](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Recreational Aviation Foundation \(RAF\)](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Ninety-Nines](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Angel Flight](#)
- [Air Care Alliance](#)
- [Emergency Volunteer Air Corps](#)
- [LightHawk](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Arizona Pilot's Association](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Colorado Pilots Association](#) (& [Facebook](#))

Online Resources

- [FAASafety.gov](#)
- [Kitplanes \(eMail subscription\)](#)
- [Pilots Workshop \(& eMail subscription\)](#)
- [Social Flight & eMail subscription](#)
- [AVweb – AVWeb Flash](#)
- [AOPA News & Media – AOPA Newsletters](#)
- [Barnstormers – Barnstormers eFlyer](#)
- [GA News Digital Edition](#)
- [On Facebook](#)
 - [Fly New Mexico](#)
 - [The Aviator's Lounge](#)

EAA Resources

- [Hints for Homebuilders](#)
- [Learn to Fly!](#)
- [Pilot Proficiency](#)
- [Become a Young Eagle Volunteer!](#)
- [AirVenture—Oshkosh](#)

eMail Resources (Subscriptions)

- [FAA Safety Team](#) – Safer Skies Through Education
Log in to your account, then go to Account Preferences.
- [AOPA ePilot](#) and [AOPA Aviation eBrief](#)
- [AVwebflash](#)

Cultural Web Sites

- [National Museum of the United States Air Force](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [National Museum of Nuclear Science & History](#)
- [US Southwest Soaring Museum](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- [Spaceport America](#)
- [National Aviation Hall of Fame \(nee Air Force Museum\)](#)
- [National Air and Space Museum](#)
- [The Wheels Museum](#),
- [War Eagles Museum, Santa Teresa \(KDNA\)](#)