



## 2023 Leadership

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Jim Kessler

### Vice President

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### Secretary:

Joyce Woods

### Treasurer:

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Mark Sturm

Emilio Verastegui

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George Young

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#### Land of Enchantment

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#### Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA)

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## Upcoming Events & Chapter Gatherings

- Jun 5-9 [Double Eagle Aviation Academy \(DEAA\) \(KAEG\)](#)
- Jun 10 [DEAA Young Eagles Flights \(KAEG\)](#)
- Jun 17 [IMC Club \(ZOOM or KAEG\)](#)
- Jun 20 [Monthly Gathering \(QueLab\)](#)
- Jun 21 [LOEFI Planning Meeting \(ZOOM\)](#)
- Jun 28 [Chapter Board Meeting \(ZOOM\)](#)
- Sep 23 [Land of Enchantment Fly-In – LOEFI \(KAEG\)](#)
- Oct 13-15 [B-25 Visit \(KABQ\)](#)

June 2023

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## Notes from our President

Jim Kessler



It's time for the June Newsletter and I must tell you my thoughts are on the Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA).

But first a big thanks to Lance Hunter for the great job explaining Basic Med at the Gathering on May 16<sup>th</sup>. We had a good turnout with around 40 folks. The BBQ was good, and the side dishes were excellent as always. Lance had motivated me to go Basic Med, so I had done it that morning.

We have some challenges to overcome this year at DEAA. Our normal classroom is not available so we will be meeting in the garage area of the maintenance building in the morning, before it gets too hot. After lunch, when it gets warmer, we are planning to meet in the conference room. The conference room is not large, so we had to reduce the class size to 18 students. We have 2 freshmen, 7 sophomores, 5 juniors and 4 seniors this year. Some anonymous folks in the chapter donated scholarship money for a few of the students. Thank you to those donors.

The presenters and career speakers have come together nicely. We built the binders on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Many thanks to Angela and Isabella Baldonado, Dan Horschel, Kevin Frick, John Dewitt and Doug Dingman. I hope set up on June 1<sup>st</sup> goes as well.

We are trying to include our DEAA alumni in this year's instruction. One will help with aerodynamics on Monday, plus a couple will help with the

traffic pattern work on Tuesday. We have one SAMS graduate teaching the Compass Heading lesson.

Come on out to the Friday graduation on June 9<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM. Our new aviation devotees will be excited to share their weeklong experience with fellow aviation enthusiasts.

Please sign up to help with the Young Eagles Flight on Saturday the 10<sup>th</sup> when the DEAA graduates will fly the flight plan to Belen, which they prepared during the week.

Thank you to all the volunteers who help with DEAA. We'll have over 50 volunteers by the time the week is over. The success of this week is a direct result of your time and effort. We could not do this without your cooperation.

Our board meeting will be delayed until June 28<sup>th</sup> due to DEAA.

Remember the June Gathering is downtown at QLab, 680 Haines Ave NW, Albuquerque, NM 87102, on the 20<sup>th</sup>. It starts at 5:30 as usual. The evening will include the decarb of a Rotax 503 2-stroke engine and possibly a Bing54 carburetor. This should be fun and educational, but don't wear your Sunday best if you want to participate. Hope to see you there.

Keep the canopy side up,



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

### Recurring Events (but check the Newsletter and [Web](#) for changes)

#### Chapter Gatherings

3rd Tuesdays at Double Eagle II (KAEG)  
KAEG, spring and fall, - comfortable weather  
A restaurant, see Newsletter for [hot] summer and [cold] winter locations  
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

The new access control system for KAEG went into effect June 1. The keypad will no longer open the gates. Instead, an electronic access card is required. To get your card

- Fill out an application form at the Bode counter, leave it with them. They are to pass it on to the City Office.
- After processing (which may take two weeks or more), pick up your card from the City Maintenance Building.

## Notes from the Editor

George Young

Sixty years ago, June 5th 1963, I flew solo for the first time – 15 minutes and two landings in a T-34 on a gravel strip at USAFA.. I could say I was then an amateur apprentice pilot. I've flown many hours since, all for recreation, some for adventure. I have always flown someone else's airplanes: aero clubs and FBO rentals. Then along came 179's *RV-12 Project* and the opportunity to join in shared ownership of an airplane via the *High Desert Flyers Association* (HDF).

This has presented new opportunities, a new way to be involved in aviation. Since HDF took ownership, I've needed to pull my share with more than just paying the bills, but to be actively involved in the "care and feeding" of our airplane. So I became an amateur apprentice aircraft mechanic.

- I came out to our Chapter hangar when members of HDF and Lee Otto, the lead Chapter builder, were proceeding with installation of the Rotax 912 ULS, the Dynon avionics, and the remaining airframe components. I found that the best thing I could do was – fetch tools and return them to their places when no longer needed. Otherwise, stay out of the way and .. watch and listen ..
- As I became familiar with the pattern of activities, I became comfortable holding a screwdriver or wrench and doing something productive .. under the watchful eyes of one of the experienced builders. I became aware of the many details in aircraft construction – the builders manual and specifications, deburring edges and rivet holes, torque requirements, AN bolts, rivet types and sizes, and the list goes on.
- Then came the RV-12's first flight, flight testing, and members flying .. and soon enough the 1st and 2nd condition inspections/annuals. It was back to the shop and more learning about the "care and feeding": taking things apart, inspecting and servicing, and putting things back together. By now, under those *watchful eyes*, I could do the simpler tasks, some straightforward and some requiring problem solving.

I know there are many among our Members who already qualify as masters in the art of building and caring for airplanes – who have built one or more and even earned the A&P certification. I don't expect to ever leave the rank of amateur apprentice, but this has been and continues to be a great experience: working hands-on, learning about details of airplane design and construction, seeing the whole airplane inside and out, and working side by side with experienced, knowledgeable people .. a team effort.

As you've seen elsewhere in the Newsletter, we (the Chapter) are looking hard for another building project. If my example resonates with you, you are invited to become part of the Project. It doesn't require prior knowledge or experience, or every-day commitments – but you might "get hooked".

George Young  
Newsletter Editor  
newsletter@eaa179.org



Highlights of the Project Team producing N179Q.

## June Chapter Gathering - May 16, 2023

Dan Fuka



**Tuesday, June 20, 2023**

**5:30 PM** – Enchiladas provided  
Bring a side dish to share

**6:15 PM** – Intro & Program

**5:00 to 9:00** – QueLab Open House

### Program: Introduction to the QueLab & Demonstration of Aircraft Engine Work

Dan Fuka has arranged an Open House and “live demonstrations” of activities at the [Albuquerque QueLab](#). The demonstration planned is *Engine Decarb and Inspection, Learning on a Rotax 503*.

QueLab members will provide tours of the facility. Dan says: “... we are all Makers on our own accord and QueLab has some amazing tools for aircraft builders.”

**Where:** **Quelab Makerspace**, 680 Haines Ave NW

**Directions:** — If eastbound: take 12th St Exit. Upon merging onto the I-40 South Frontage Road, turn right on 7th St NW.  
— If westbound: take 12th St exit, turn left, then immediately turn left on the I-40 South Frontage Road. Turn right on 7th.

Continue south on 7th St for two tenths of a mile; QueLab is on the left, southeast corner of 7th St and Haines Ave.

[\[GoogleMap from I-40 and 12th\]](#)

If you miss 7th St, continue on I-40 South Frontage road, turn south on 6th St (past the Bow and Arrow Brewing Co), then right/west on Haines back to 7th St; QueLab will be on your left.

*Monthly Chapter Gatherings offer time to network, with programs centered on exchanging experiences and ideas about aviation – airplanes, flying, and flying activities – rather than the chapter business which is addressed in bimonthly Board meetings. We hope to see you there.*

## May Chapter Gathering - RECAP

Lance Hunter

At our May 16<sup>th</sup> EAA 179 membership gathering, my presentation was on Basic Med. We also had an open discussion on obtaining and keeping your medical and dealing with special issuances from the FAA.

Basic Med is yet another tool in our tool box which could help a pilot continue to fly in the event the pilot cannot qualify for a 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> class medical.



### To qualify for Basic Med the pilot must satisfy these requirements:

- Possess a valid U.S. driver's license
- Possess an FAA medical certificate that was valid at any time after July 14, 2006.
- The most recent application for a medical certificate was not denied.
- The most recent medical certificate was not revoked, suspended, or withdrawn.
- One-time authorization for Special Issuance of a Medical Certificate for the following conditions:

Mental Neurology Cardiac

### Aircraft limitation for pilots using Basic Med:

- Any aircraft authorized under federal law to carry not more than 6 occupants and .. Maximum certificated takeoff weight of not more than 6,000 pounds
- Passengers: Not more than 5 with 6 total seats
- Flight rules: VFR or IFR
- No operation for compensation/hire (Exception: CFI)
- No speed beyond 250 knots
- Less than 18,000 feet MSL

### Countries who have approved use of Basic Med:

United States

Mexico

The Bahamas

The Dominican Republic

Puerto Rico

U.S. Virgin Islands

American Samoa

Northern Mariana Islands



Lance Hunter  
Chapter Publicity  
[chapter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)

## May IMC Club Meeting

Barry Harper, John DeWitt, IMC Club Coordinators



### Sharpen your Instrument Flying Skills!

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

#### **NEXT MEETING: Saturday, June 17, 9:30—11:00 AM**

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/meeting/register/tZAId2tqD4sE9WV57OSplfnyqnrj9KMuyOI>

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

We always welcome new members no matter the time of year. Please consider joining over 90 members who renewed or joined us for 2023. The dues payments help fund a scholarship, pay our national EAA fees and enable your chapter to offer fantastic programs throughout the year. Online payment through our website is quick and easy. And we now offer the option of multi-year renewals for both individual and family memberships.

We look forward to seeing you at our monthly gatherings, at Young Eagles rallies and of course at our premier Land of Enchantment Fly-In on September 23rd.

We look forward to seeing you at our monthly gatherings, at Young Eagles rallies and of course at our premier Land of Enchantment Fly-In on September 23rd.

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 Coordinator  
[membership@eaa179.org](mailto:membership@eaa179.org)

# Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA) - Update

Jim Kessler



*By the time that you receive this Newsletter, DEAA will be under way. We have 18 kids in attendance and many volunteers from the Chapter and beyond to share information and experience with the students. If you haven't seen a description of DEAA, we're including it again in the Newsletter. (Editor)*

Double Eagle Aviation Academy 2023 is preparing for another group of 24 19 young aviation enthusiasts between ages 14 to 17. The class starts June 5<sup>th</sup> and goes until June 10<sup>th</sup> when we will have a special Young Eagles Rally for the students. We have a full schedule for the week with classes covering the following topics:

Rally for the students. We have a full schedule for the week with classes covering the following topics:

Aviation Weather	Navigation - Flight Plan/NavLog
Compass Heading	Maintenance Careers
Commercial Pilot Career	Engines
Simulator Training	Avionics
Aerodynamics	Weight & Balance
Instruments	Communications
Navigation - Dead Reckoning	Aircraft Construction
Engineering Careers	

Here is a summary of activities for the week:

- Every morning we have pilots displaying their aircraft and talking about their flying experience. Lunch is served each day around noon.
- We have 4 simulators to use during the week. On Thursday the students will practice fundamental flying maneuvers using the simulators.
- Each student receives a binder with all the classroom presentations included. They are encouraged to take notes during the class presentations.
- On Friday afternoon June 9<sup>th</sup>, we have a reception, during which the students receive their certificates. All are invited to attend.
- The students can participate in a special Young Eagles Rally on Saturday, June 10<sup>th</sup>. They will have planned the navigation route and are encouraged to fly the route they planned. This is the culmination of the week.

There is room for more volunteers. If you have an airplane that you would like to show the students on one of the mornings, please contact Joyce Woods.

We will begin teardown on June 9<sup>th</sup> in the afternoon. Final teardown will be on Monday June 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

Jim Kessler

[jhkfour@gmail.com](mailto:jhkfour@gmail.com)  
(910)467-2162

## 1st Day at DEAA 2023



Off to a great start

Getting acquainted with airplanes, preflights with the pilots.



Full report in July Newsletter.

## Scholarship Update

Mark Sturm – Scholarship Coordinator



Mark submitted an article to EAA about two of our Ray Scholars. It was [published online](#) on May 15 in [Youth & Young Eagles](#). Congratulations, Mark. Here is a copy of the article. (Editor)

“The EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship program provides an amazing set of oppor-

tunities to anyone fortunate enough to be selected. From their website,

*“The Ray Foundation strives to make a positive impact on young people who have a strong passion for aviation. James Ray firmly believed in the life skills of discipline, self-reliance, character, and self-confidence taught throughout the flight training journey.”*

As the scholarship coordinator for Chapter 179 in Albuquerque, NM, I keep those personal attributes of James Ray in mind when looking for someone worthy of receiving one of his generous scholarships. We have been very fortunate to have had two back-to-back outstanding Ray scholar award-ees who epitomize those virtues embraced by James Ray.

In 2020 our chapter received a scholarship application from Sophie Haag, a long-time “airport kid” and supporter of our chapter. Sophie grew up with airplanes and has been flying with her dad since about age five. The family Cessna 182 has taken their family of four, plus two dogs, on many vacation trips. Early on Sophie learned, and participated in, routine aircraft maintenance. She learned about cleaning spark plugs, timing magnetos, and her favorite job, packing wheel bearings. When Sophie was finally old enough to get her pilot’s license, she convinced her dad to allow her to train in the family 182.

After all, she knew the plane very well and already had dozens of hours in the right seat. She soloed on New Year’s Day 2020 and passed her check ride in August 2020.

In 2021, our chapter received another Ray Scholarship grant, and we began looking for our next great candidate. We learned that Luke Vaughn was awarded a Junior ROTC scholarship to attend a 9-week flight training program that summer at the University of North Dakota. Unfortunately, because of local wildfires, COVID, and an instructor shifting, he returned to Albuquerque having soloed, but without his pilot certificate. Luke has



such a passion for flying and was so disappointed not to have completed the program. With the Ray scholarship award, he quickly completed his training and received his certificate in May 2022. Throughout his training Luke was a regular at our monthly meetings and was an eager volunteer at our multiple Young Eagle events. He was so appreciative of EAA’s support of his flight training dreams, that he and his parents donated \$2,000 to our chapter’s scholarship fund to “pay it forward” for someone this year to realize their dreams of becoming a pilot.

Surprisingly, neither Sophie nor Luke knew each other throughout high school. However, the character attributes and qualities that earned each of them a Ray scholarship, were many of the same things being sought by the university they had both applied to attend, the United States Air Force Academy. Yes, both are now members of the Cadet Wing; Sophie with the class of 2025 and Luke in the class of 2026. Both are doing excellent academically, working on their glider ratings, and eager to become USAF pilots after graduation. Both are still members of our chapter, and I caught up with them over spring break to ask about their adventures at the academy and their experiences with EAA.

**Sophie:** *“At the United States Air Force Academy (USAF), I have met people from both this country and other countries connected through our love for aviation. The Ray scholarship made it possible for me to get my pilot’s license, and in combination with EAA, helped me explore and solidify my desire to fly. USAFA has such a rich history, and is an excellent institution filled with motivated and passionate people, qualities that I believe both the Ray Foundation and Academy seek out in individuals.”*

**Luke:** *“I could not have even imagined how I would’ve made it to where I am if it wasn’t for the resources and inspiration EAA has provided me. I am so grateful for everyone who has helped me, and the Ray scholarship is another way in which barriers to aviation are removed. I wanted to give back to just have even the smallest impact on another pilot and ensuring that on a day with clear skies nothing can stop an aspiring pilot from enjoying everything all of us have grown to love. I am excited to continue my path through the Air Force Academy and a future aviation career to inspire others as I once was when I looked up and said, “That will be me someday.”*

Our entire chapter could not be more excited for, or proud of, these two. Sophie and Luke both demonstrate the very character and values James Ray had in mind when establishing his scholarship foundation. While their aviation journey has just begun; they are off to a great start. Tailwinds and clear skies to these two former EAA Ray scholars from Chapter 179 in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Mark Sturm  
EAA Lifetime Member  
557803”

Mark Sturm  
EAA 179 Scholarship Coordinator  
[scholarships@eaa179.org](mailto:scholarships@eaa179.org)



## From the Young Eagles Nest

Mike Tolle, Young Eagles Coordinator

We're between public Young Eagles events – the next date is Sep 9. And ... arising from a conflict with the date for the B-25 visit, the Oct 14 date has been cancelled. Volunteers and pilots, mark your calendars.

There will be a Young Eagles event for attendees at DEAA on Saturday May 10 following their week of exploring aviation. Thanks in advance to the pilots who volunteer to give these kids an opportunity to practice something that they have learned – flying the flight plan that they developed during the final 2 days of DEAA.

Although we schedule YE events through the year, we are not limited to those dates. YE qualified pilots can make special “events”, that is make arrangements with an interested youth to take them flying any time under YE auspices. Contact me with questions and to report your “flight for the record”.

Mike Tolle  
Young Eagles Coordinator  
[youngeagles@eaa179.org](mailto:youngeagles@eaa179.org)



*Note: There are business cards on the desk in the RAF, one side for LOEFI, the other with Young Eagles dates. Pick up a few to distribute to family, friends, colleagues, anyone who might be interested in our Chapter events. (Editor)*

## LOEFI 2023

Mike Paxson, LOEFI Coordinator



Greetings Fellow Chapter Members,

Another month has come and gone and LOEFI planning has been steaming away. For those of you that have been involved, thank you for all the assistance you have provided me. As many of you know, there is quite a bit of planning that goes on behind the scenes for this great event we hold each year. And if it were not for all the great work of everyone chipping in, there is no way this event could be pulled off.

As the date of LOEFI gets closer I will be having a volunteer sign-up sheet for those interested in helping out. Volunteer roles could include assisting with parking, Kid's Area, Builder's Corner, EAA179 Booth, Public Welcome Booth, and others. If there is one area you would be more interested in, please let me know earlier than later.

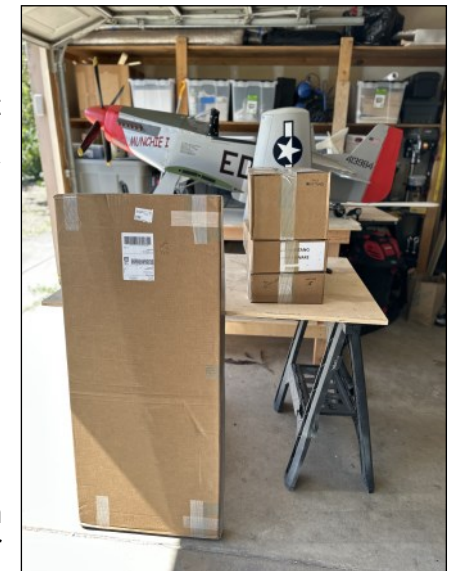
There are a couple of big volunteer roles that I could still use help with. Most notable is the **Media Outreach Coordinator** who is charged with media releases and making sure the event is posted on several websites. If this is something you would be interested in taking on, please let me know!

In other news, the PedalPlane kit has arrived and I plan on starting construction once I return from my family vacation. The biggest decision about this kit will be the paint job. We had discussed at the last meeting that it could be neat to paint the P-51 in New Mexico Air National Guard colors since they did use them when they were designated as the 188th Fighter Bomber Squadron in the late 1940s. The other paint job to be considered is Bud Anderson's "Old Crow" paint scheme as these decals were included with the kit.

Our next planning meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 21 at 6:30 PM on Zoom**. If you are interested in participating and do not have the Zoom link, please let me know.

That is all for now. As always, please feel free to reach out to me with any questions or concerns you may have about LOEFI.

Mike Paxson  
2023 LOEFI Chair  
[loefi@eaa179.org](mailto:loefi@eaa179.org)





# Flying Start Program May 13 - RECAP

Joyce Woods



*For Adults to learn about aviation pathways  
and take a FREE introductory flight!*



## Off to a Flying Start!

Ten prospective pilots got a kick start to their flight training journey through participation in a program, led by George Young, Joyce Woods, and Lee Otto.

George kicked off the program asking “why learn to fly?”. He reviewed common reasons and shared his personal experience from early fascination with

flight, through his first solo, various milestones, and the type of flying he does today. He explained that depending on what kind of flying you want to do, the choice of aircraft and level of pilot certificate varies. Joyce gave an overview of the flight training process and reviewed requirements and privileges for Private Pilot vs. various Sport Pilot options. Lee Otto shared his aviation background including military and business pursuits. As a CFI and aircraft builder, he planted seeds for considering building an aircraft. Participants and pilots then shared stories of how they became interested to fly and memorable flight experiences. Fun and informative!



George Young set the tone for the day, getting everyone thinking and sharing aviation stories

As organizers, we were initially disappointed when gusty spring winds forced us to postpone the Eagle Flight experiences. (*Would anyone want to stay for pizza?*) However, a Plan B materialized and surprisingly turned out effective! Our awesome volunteer pilots filled the gap by leading hangar visits. This included the chapter build RV-12 now owned by members of the High Desert Flyers flying club.

This approach allowed time for everyone to get to know each other a bit, and to see and learn about several aircraft in our member fleet.

It was a great time (except braving the winds) and everyone stayed for more discussion over a pizza lunch. What might have been a let-down turned out to be a *really great day of good ol' EAA camaraderie.*, thanks to the *Spirit of Aviation*, alive and well in Chapter 179! And everyone eventually got to fly!

We held our event at the start of EAA's “Learn to Fly Week”. If you missed these new online programs, they're still available:

[EAA 2023 Learn to Fly Week Videos - Watch Here |](#)

If you wish you'd participated, consider David Leiting's webinar, “[Stop Dreaming and Start Flying—Flight Training First Steps](#)”. It follows the flow of the presentations we conducted locally and includes great data and advice.



Simone Mahoney expresses her flying interest



John Brown's Eagle Flight on a great weather



Lee Otto shares his passion for flying and aircraft building

## For All Pilots .. All About Thunderstorms

Emilio Verastegui



Hello fellow EAAers and friends! Here we are in the month of June now.

I wanted to take a few minutes to talk about weather in general and specifically about those dreaded TRWs that show their ugly nature this time of year. We have been having a lot of afternoon storms it seems, mostly the kind that are hit and miss, but there have been some “Duzies” out there, especially in the eastern and northern areas of the state.

So, what makes a thunderstorm “a thunderstorm” and why might you want to think twice before flying close to or even near one of these bad “hombres”? Yes, they produce rain, sometimes a lot of it, but the worst thing, in my mind, is the wind associated with a TRW. The following is a simplified explanation of TRWs.

The Building Stage: Thunderstorms are created by the lifting of moisture-laden air to higher and colder altitudes. That lifting motion produces an apparent column of rising air, but as it rises, it cools and then begins its downward trek. This rising and falling cycle repeats itself many times and eventually, that column of air will be dragged towards the ground by the falling rain. But why or how does the air rise in the first place, you ask? It could be many factors that cause it to rise. The most obvious is the heat of a summer day. Another mechanism is a strong horizontal wind that push the moist air against a mountain, with a resultant vector upwards.

As the warm moist air rises, it takes the water vapor with it and the clouds begin to form. We’ve all seen and been fascinated while watching the clouds roll, tumble and curl around each other, all the while rising higher and higher, as if they were alive, becoming some monstrous creature. Recently, we have seen cloud tops easily as high as 45,000 feet MSL and some even rising as high as 55,000 feet MSL.

It doesn’t take a TRW very long to form and rise that high in the desert SW. Here we are talking about the first stage of a TRW, the Building Stage. All this time, the clouds are getting more and more moisture laden because as the moisture in the air is driven higher, it cools and condenses forming water. Sometimes, TRWs are found in a line which is very hard to circumnavigate. A single storm, while easier to fly around, will still present problems for any pilot that is careless.

The Mature Stage: If the amount of water is relatively small, it stays in the clouds, alternately rising and falling within the cloud. That means there

will be columns of rising air and falling air right next to each other, causing a significant amount of turbulence. As soon as there is a sufficient amount of water in the cloud that is heavier than the surrounding water vapor, it cannot be contained within the cloud any longer and you see the rain begin to fall from the bottom of the TRW. Now it is in the Mature Stage. Often, you might notice the cloud has a flat top. That “anvil head” is caused by the upper level winds shearing off the top of the building cloud mass.

The Mature Stage is the time to be most vigilant. Not only is it raining very hard under the TRW, there are destructive winds associated with the rainfall. These are forces strong enough to bring down large aircraft, such as commercial aircraft that carry passengers and cargo. I am talking about microbursts. These microbursts are described as a shaft of rapidly falling air, that when it reaches the ground, tends to spread out in all directions, also called an outflow. That is why they are so dangerous to any aircraft that is taking off or landing. These outflows produce large and abrupt changes in windspeed and direction very near the ground.

Within the cloud structure, there may also be hail forming that will eventually be thrown out of the cloud top or just spewed from the bottom. Hail has been known to be thrown as far as 20 miles from a TRW! The size of the hail will vary with the length of time the hail was in the cloud and how many times it endured its trip up and down inside the columns of air within the cloud. In New Mexico and in the SW desert area where we live, hail can grow to 3 inches or more in diameter. Hail is no friend to any aircraft!

All the while, it may have been raining on the periphery of the storm (the TRW) and there may have been a lot of lightening associated with it. So what causes the “fireworks”? As the air rises and falls, there is a lot of static electricity generated. This energy has to go somewhere, so it takes the path of least resistance. Depending on the state of charge, the released energy may travel from the cloud to the ground, or it may go in the opposite direction, ground to cloud. Often, it may also travel cloud to cloud! In all my years of flying, I have seen all three examples. At night, when lightening releases its energy within a cloud, it will light up a good portion of the cloud, making it look like a work of art!

The Dissipating Stage: As the TRW releases its energy, the rain begins to fall, and the shaft of rain begins to destroy the TRW from within because it is dragging a lot of cold air towards the ground. The death of the TRW may not happen all at once; sometimes the TRW will continue to generate

*(Continued on page 11)*

## For All Pilots .. All About Thunderstorms (continued) Emilio Verastegui

(Continued from page 10)

energy and rain for a long time, but eventually its energy will be spent. At that point, it is in the Dissipating Stage. The TRW can no longer sustain itself and will eventually just go away. It may still be raining to some degree, but it will no longer be the threat that it once was.

In any case, the best option for any pilot is just to avoid them! The minimum distance often quoted is to maintain a distance of 20 NM from the center any single storm as you fly around it. Remember, the PIC has the final word as to operation of his/her aircraft. A 180 degree turn is an option too. As the saying goes, "Discretion is the better part of Valor!" As PIC, never put yourself or let any one else put you in a position where you have no more choices.

Point Made: That last point was "driven home" to me last year as I was flying from Knoxville (KDKX) to KAEG. It had been a long day, with an early start. My first leg was an IFR departure from DKX. At takeoff, I entered the clouds at 700 feet AGL while climbing to 6,000 feet MSL. I think I broke out on top around 3100 MSL. I was on top of a solid undercast with clear blue skies above. Several legs later, all in IFR weather, and after multiple approaches to "new and different" airports, I finally landed in Winkler County, TX., KINK.

After talking with the FSS person, looking at the radar, and looking out the window, I made my decision. It was going to be a long flight from KINK to KAEG, even without any weather issues. And, of course, that evening, there was another line of TRWs approaching the airport from the west ahead of a cold front. If I took off then, it would mean a night flight over inhospitable terrain in a single engine aircraft, with an even later arrival. I was tired, hungry and thirsty. I chose to stay on the ground.

I borrowed the crew car from the airport manager to find food/drink and a hotel. I am glad I stayed on the ground because within an hour, it rained very hard and the wind blew a gale. I slept soundly that night. I left the next morning. Leaving the hotel, I was greeted with cool, blue, clear skies. While I did have a headwind, it was VFR all the way home. A perfect ending to a great trip!

Heed the words of the old/bold pilot! Be careful out there!

Till next time  
Emilio Verastegui - a pilot

## Upcoming Fly-In Events (hosted by others) and New Mexico EAA Chapter Activities

On this page I'm listing aviation events of interest around New Mexico. If you know of others, please send the information to me.

- June 9-12 [Murrow Field on the Divide Fly In \(NM99\)](#)
- June 16-18 [Tucumcari Rawhide Days Fly-in \(KTCC\)](#) see below
- Jul 24-30 [EAA AirVenture 2023 - Oshkosh \(KOSH\)](#)
- Aug 19 [Mystic Bluffs Fly-In \(NM56\)](#)
- Sep 1-3 [Gila Regional Fly-In at Reserve \(T16\)](#)
- Sep 16 [Magdalena Aviation Fly-in Day \(N29\)](#)
- TBD [Copperstate Fly-In, Falcon Field \(KFFZ\)](#)
- Monthly [Chapter 555 Pancake Breakfast, 3rd Sundays \(KLRU\)](#)
- Monthly [Santa Fe Jet Center Summer Cookouts – next one July 4th \(KSAF\)](#)

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



**A special weekend itinerary for fly-in pilots is planned! Just for us!** Enjoy an old West weekend along Route 66!

There will be a small fee for Friday dinner. PLUS enjoy a free pass to all the fun at the public Rawhide Days event at the Tucumcari Historical Museum site.

For more details and to [RSVP](#), please see the [NMPA website](#). You'll receive the latest info. and help coordinate for pilot activities. (Drive ins also welcome!)

### KTCC Fly-In Itinerary

Arrive Friday  
All ground transportation provided  
Friday Banquet w/local speaker  
Historic sites highlighted for area Fly-Out  
Special hotel rate at [Roadrunner Lodge](#)  
(40% off 2nd night stay if 12 or more rooms booked)

Saturday – join a Rawhide Days parade flyover or enjoy from the ground on Rt66

Contact Joyce Woods at [secretary@eaa179.org](mailto:secretary@eaa179.org) to coordinate with other EAA 179 participants.



## 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>

Art Woods upgraded to a Lightspeed Delta Zulu using the chapter code and going directly through LIGHTSPEED website. You can, too!



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.

Standard Lightspeed shipping discounts apply. FREE shipping for a purchase over \$199. Standard return policy: 60 day money back guarantee.

*Proud to participate in EAA's Ray Scholar program, we appreciate Lightspeed' for this extra contribution to our chapter!*



## We Are Still Looking for a Chapter Project

Lee Otto

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

## Spring Online Auction Results

Joyce Woods

As an incentive for our chapter to conduct the Flying Start Event during May 2023, EAA donated two wristbands for a full week admission to AirVenture in Oshkosh.

RAISED **\$741.56**

This prompted the Board to launch an online auction, adding items previously donated, PLUS **David Otero donated a custom set of BladeSox..** Always in demand, it received our highest bid.

### Albuquerque EAA 179 - Spring Auction 2023

All Items (1-12 of 12) Ended: May 16, 2023 - 9:00pm MDT

<p><b>02: BladeSox - Propeller Cover</b> Custom design to match your aircraft \$275.00</p>	<p><b>03: AirVenture 2023 - OSH: 1 Full Week Admission</b> Otherwise only available for EAA members \$130.00</p>	<p><b>04: Vintage Craftsman Toolbox</b> Add a vintage touch to your workshop or ha... \$115.00</p>	<p><b>09: Tabletop Drill Press</b> \$50.00 bids: 1</p>
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## 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.

Lance Hunter  
Chapter Publicity

## Light Sport Repairman Workshop in Albuquerque

Art Woods

### Hello Chapter 179 Members,

Thanks to hard work of Chapter 179 members, a flying club is actively flying an RV12, based in Albuquerque. The club finished the engine and avionics and received the E-LSA certification. Several flying club members are interested in getting their certification for the light sport repairman certificate as owners. We asked Rainbow if they might be interested in coming to Albuquerque and they said YES.

Rainbow will publish the dates to the public on April 10 – so we kind of have first rights to fill the class with New Mexico aviators. There are only 16 seats available so reserve your seat early if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity. See sign up info below.

### Repairman (LSA) Inspection Airplane Workshop September 16 - 17, 2023; 8am-5pm

This is the 16-hour class for all light sport airplanes and allows someone who completes the course to be able to sign off on condition inspections for their LSA. *There is also a 5-day course that enables someone to be an A&P equivalent and sign-off on non-owned LSA's. This isn't that class!!!*

Please email or call me if you have any questions.

Art Woods  
[Rv7@flylonecone.com](mailto:Rv7@flylonecone.com)  
505.974.5301  
EAA 179

### Light Sport Repairman Inspection Workshop, Hosted by EAA 179

Rainbow Aviation will hold its FAA-accepted, Light Sport Repairman workshop (fixed-wing & weight-shift) at Double Eagle Airport September 16 - 17, 2023, from 8 am to 5 pm both days.

Pre-registration for the two day course, which cost \$485, is available to EAA Chapter 179 members and friends. Registration will open to the aviation public on April 10th.

Attendees who successfully complete the class will be able to perform the annual inspection light-sport aircraft they own now or purchase in the future. There is no requirement for currency and no recurrent training. Once you are a repairman, you have the certificate for life.

For more information: [https://rainbowaviation.com/?page\\_id=3997](https://rainbowaviation.com/?page_id=3997)  
To reserve a seat in this workshop email the following information to:

[carol@rainbowaviation.com](mailto:carol@rainbowaviation.com)

Name:

Address:

Phone number :

Email Address:

Request reservation for a seat in the Sept 16–17 workshop in Albuquerque.

Or [download and complete this registration form](#) and mail with your fees to: Rainbow Aviation Services; 1562 SW HWY 58: Kingsville, MO 64061

Fees will be due in full by July 15th.

\$485.00 is based on cash, check, money order, or ACH payment

Fee is \$515 with a credit card

### Repairman (LSA) Inspection Airplane Workshop

**Date: September 16 - 17 .2023**

Time: 8am-5pm Please arrive by 7:45 am on first day

Hosted by: EAA Chapter 179

Address: Double Eagle Airport; 7401 Paseo Del Volcan NW; Albuquerque, NM 87120

Classroom at the City Maintenance Facility

[Click here for interactive map](#) [Click here for airport information](#)

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Warm Regards,

Carol Carpenter  
Rainbow Aviation Services  
[1562 SW State Route 58](#)  
[Kingsville MO 64061](#)

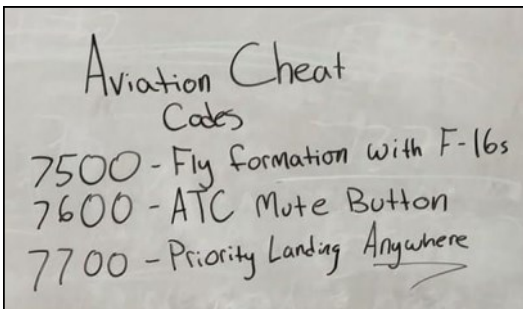
## In the News and Other Interesting Topics

The Editor

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

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

- [First Action for Any Emergency](#)
- [Will Spin Training Really Help?](#)
- [VFR Challenge - Mississippi Mix Up](#) (video)
- [VOR Phaseout](#)
- [PIREPS: What to Report](#)
- [Where is the “Upwind Leg”?](#)
- [Getting Back In The Air](#)



### **NMPA**

- [June 2023 Newsletter](#) – As usual, great articles and news by and for local pilots

### **KitPlanes**

- [Dealing with Off-Nominal: Part 1](#)
- Does this plane looks familiar?? Featured in an article “[Fabulous Fabric](#)”



### **FAAsteam Online Seminars**

- Jun 13: [ABS –x Collision Avoidance in the Traffic Pattern](#)
- Jun 14: [Pro Tips for Pilots – Those Nasty Thunderstorms](#)
- Jun 17: [Up And Down And Round and Round](#)

## 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:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org">www.eaa179.org</a>
Young Eagles:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/youngeagles">www.eaa179.org/youngeagles</a>
IMC Club:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/imc-club">www.eaa179.org/imc-club</a>
DEAA:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/deaa">www.eaa179.org/deaa</a>
LOEFI:	<a href="http://www.loefi.org">www.loefi.org</a>
Scholarships:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/scholarships">www.eaa179.org/scholarships</a>
Newsletters:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/newsletters">www.eaa179.org/newsletters</a>
Calendar:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/calendar">www.eaa179.org/calendar</a>
Membership:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/membership">www.eaa179.org/membership</a>
Contacts:	<a href="http://www.eaa179.org/contacts">www.eaa179.org/contacts</a>
Facebook:	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/EAA179">www.facebook.com/EAA179</a>

### **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](http://www.facebook.com/groups/www.eaa179.org)

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High Country Air Service



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

## 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](mailto: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 \(KDNA\)](#)