







2025 Leadership

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Joyce Woods

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Upcoming Events & Chapter Gatherings

Apr 12 – Young Eagles, Postponed from Apr 5 (KAEG)

Apr 15 - April Chapter Gathering (BJs)

Apr 19 – IMC Club (KAEG)

Apr 19 - Run the Runway & Mutt Strut 5K (KAEG)

May 3 – Young Eagles (KAEG)

May 10 - Flying Start & Eagle Flights (KAEG)

Jun 2-6 - DEAA 2025 (KAEG)

Jun 7 – DEAA Young Eagles (KAEG)

Jun 7 – Grants-Milan Pancake Fly-In & Car Show (KGNT)

Sep 10-14 National Championship Air Races & Air Show (KROW)

Sep 27 - LOEFI 2025 (KAEG)

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Notes from our President

Joyce Woods



Spring weather in the high desert has been pretty unpredictable. Or actually quite predictable. Some days are wonderful . . . and some WINDY! It was disappointing to postpone our March meeting due to the horrendous dust storm and then postpone April 5 Young Eagles as well! In between, nicer weather made for a well-attended Ladies Aviation Social. Odds are that bad wx won't strike the same place twice, so join us April 15, meet our 2025 scholarship recipients and help celebrate!

We received results of EAA's 2024 chapter survey which had great participation with sixty respondents. *Thank you!* The Board will review the data in detail to assess where we adjust our effort. Individual comments are always super interesting and helpful. It is apparent that our emphasis on youth activities is greatly appreciated by our members.

However, in recent Board discussions, we've questioned whether we're doing enough for members. We realize we aren't as active now in member events like group fly-outs and getting together at the airport. So if you have ideas (or better yet, want to volunteer), please let us know! Most of what we do today is because someone stepped up and said, "what if I do this?" It is also apparent from feedback that we'd like our monthly gatherings to be more interactive and preferably more centrally located. We've wanted a place closer to I-25 so if you have ideas, let Eric Achen know.

The Corsair pedal plane kit arrived! Doug Volker & Joe Martinez are starting so it can be raffled in September. Contact Doug (email dvol2@msn.com) to help! And if you see Doug, thank him for cleaning the sand that poured in the hangar. A dirty job, but somebody had to do it!

Finally, I have to share a story about the ladies social. Some didn't know Randy Reimer, the namesake of our chapter hangar, the "Reimer Aircraft Factory" (RAF). He was the friendliest guy, starting each day getting coffee at the FBO. The morning of the Ladies Social, I woke up to an image of Randy entering the FBO, dressed up in a dark pink wool dress with wooly black trim and matching pink knit cap (Susie's?) With his innocent smile, he asked, "So are you going to let me come?" That would be Randy! Randy and Susie remain with us in spirit.

Blue Skies and Tailwinds.

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

Notes from the Editor

George Young

In the last issue of the Newsletter, I introduced a "New Topic", stories from Members about >>> Flying. I'm titling it *Places I've* Flown. I'm pleased that it garnered some interest:

- After some cajoling, Mark Wilson took up the challenge and provided an excellent report on his recent visit to the Santa Rosa airport, with a great selection of photos. He has provided a good introduction for anyone planning a visit there, to get some corss country time, or on your way to somewhere else. Thank you, Mark.
- Emilio has provide another of his great reports, this one on his recent IFR refreshment, uh .. refresher flight to hone his skills flying IFR.
- And Joyce provided photos from flights around our favorite area for practicing and touring the scenery the Rio Puerco. The photos show Cabezon with snow on its cap and slopes from a storm last fall and just this past week (1st week of April).
- I hope others will share their experience(s), with narrative and/or photos. If you're not into composing a story, let's collaborate – you have the experience, I'll help compose the story.
 - And .. a great addition to a story and photos would be a GPS track of the flight. I can produce a photo of the track and share the file for viewing on GoogleEarth.

| SPECIFIC | ATIONS |
|------------------|------------------------|
| WING SPAN | 29ft. |
| WING CHORD | 5ft. |
| LENGTH OVERALL | 17ft. 8in. |
| HEIGHT OVERALL- | 6ft. 6in. |
| TREAD | 56in. |
| WHEELS | 19" x 9" AIRWHEEL |
| PROPELLOR | SPECIAL Oft. din. DIAM |
| WEIGHT EMPTY | 610 lbs. |
| POWER | CONVERTED FORD -A- |
| GAS CA PACITY | 10 GALLONS |
| GURANTEED | PERFORMANCE |
| CLIMB LIGHT LOAD | OVER SOOFE FIRST MIN. |
| CLIMB FULL LOAD | OVER 200ft. FIRST MIN. |
| HIGH SPEED | 90 M.P.H. |
| LANDING SPEED | 40 M. P. H. |

I've stopped by the RAF occasionally, just to see the Air Camper, our current building project. 'Tho I haven't been there when Lee and the others are at work, nonetheless I'm intrigued to see this now-skeleton of an airplane. In my last visit, I spent some time looking at the drawings, including the specifications. Are you curious? Stop in the RAF anytime, or better yet, contact Lee to go when the team is at work.

George Young Newsletter Editor & Webmaster newsletter@eaa179.org

April Chapter Gathering Art Woods



Tuesday, April 15, 2025

BJ's Restaurant @ Cottonwood Mall

5:00 PM - No host dinner social

6:15 PM – Introductions, Program

Program: Meet the Recipients! EAA 179 Scholarship Awards

Celebrate our 2025 scholarship recipients by attending our March social gathering!. Meet our 2025 scholarship award recipients as they share their aviation goals.

Thanks to generous donors, our chapter is dedicated to introducing youth to aviation and supporting advancement of their aviation education through scholarships.

Funds cover expenses related to flight training, A&P certification, or other educational programs for New Mexico applicants pursuing a future in aviation as a career or hobby.

Arrive anytime from 5:00 and dinner is not required.



Where: BJ's Restaurant and Brewhouse at Cottonwood Mall, 10000 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque

Directions: Take North or South bound Coors Blvd to Cottonwood Mall. Take the Cottonwood Loop to the south end of the parking lot. BJ's is in a separate building.

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!

March Chapter Gathering – Recap The Editor



Tuesday, March 18, 2025

BJ's Restaurant @ Cottonwood Mall

5:00 PM – No host dinner social

6:15 PM – Introductions, Program

This space is usually occupied by a Recap of the previous month's Gathering. But ... on the night of the March Gathering the Albuquerque area experienced one of the strongest wind and dust storms I've ever seen (and I grew up in western Kansas). It was so severe that visibility on the roads and highways was reduced to tens of feet. Joyce made the good call, cancel the meeting AND schedule the awarding of this year's Scholarships to the April Gathering (to the left).

Meantime, Art Woods, our Scholarship Co-Coordinator, has announced this year's recipients. See page 5.

Taking Care of Business A Correspondent

Following the dust storm, the RAF had at least a 1/2" of sand across the front.

Member Doug Volker took it upon himself to clean the chapter hangar after the dust storm. He's doesn't do anything half heartedly! He put stuff outside, blew it off, then blew out the hangar. Many thanks, Doug.

The rubber along the main door desperately needs replacement!



If you want to help, contact Doug! eMail at email dvol2@msn.com

IMC Club Meeting

Barry Harper and 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 <u>hybrid</u> session (in person or remote). Anyone welcome!

NEXT MEETING Saturday, April 19; 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 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/5 84unstT9SgVE3uw5JpmA

nttps://ds00wco.zoom.us/mcctmg/register/5_04dnst1/5gvL5dw55pmA

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

If you'd like FAA Safety WINGS credit, please also 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



Membership

Gwen Walcott, Membership Chair



We are seeking new members.

We always welcome new members no matter the time of year. Please consider joining the 90 plus individuals who are registered as members for 2024. The dues payments help fund scholarships, pay our national EAA fees and enable the Chapter

to offer fantastic programs throughout the year.

Annual dues are \$20 for an individual member and \$30 for a family (spouse and children under 18). Dues are not prorated for partial year payments. Also note that separate membership and dues payments are required to the National Organization (https://eaa.org) of which we are a representative part.

To join, simply go online, to https://eaa179.org/membership/ where you can submit your dues payment by Paypal or credit card, or you may send a check (include your name, address, EAA National Membership number, a contact phone number, and email address) payable to "EAA Chapter 179" and mail it to:

EAA Chapter 179
Double Eagle II Airport
7401 Atrisco Vista Blvd NW #179
Albuquerque, NM 87120.

If you pay be credit card or Paypal, also forward your EAA National Membership Number (on your ID card) to membership@EAA179.org.

Those who need to join or renew their National EAA membership should visit: https://www.eaa.org/join.aspx

Gwen Walcott Membership Coordinator membership@eaa179.org



Young Eagles

Art Woods, Young Eagles Coordinator



SNOW and COLD and WIND? April?

A Resounding Unfortunate YES.....

Aw, shucks. On Apr 5th, Mother Nature gave us with another Saturday of non-flying weather – wind, snow, and cold. But we were on top if it – word went out about the postponement by

eMail to registrants and Members. And Lance Hunter announced it on Face-Book.

The rally has been rescheduled to April 12th. With the online registration system, we were able to invite April 5th registrants to confirm their place on the 12th.

For those having to cancel with schedule conflicts, we will hold our next rally on May 3rd, with registration opening on April 18th. See you there!! In the Air!!

Art Woods & Jim Kessler Young Eagles Coordinators youngeagles@eaa179.org

Scholarship Update

Art Woods and Rowan Phlieger, Scholarship Coordinators



2025 SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTATION AND DINNER 5:15 PM on APRIL 15TH @ BJ'S in Cottonwood Mall

A flying event getting "weathered" out? Ya, I can understand. But an indoor event?? Come on!! You're joking?? Oh, it's New Mexico. It's Springtime!

We will try again to honor these wonderful young adults who received a scholarship to continue their aviation excitement and advance their aviation knowledge. The Chapter awarded 8 scholarships for 2025 with funding coming from committed Chapter members or their families as memorials to the dedicated service they offered to the Chapter.

2025 Recipients

Orion Francis Jocelyn Muniz
Ava Diaz Daniel Kiehne
Gabe Pohl Connor Wolff
Stephan James Matthew Croshaw

Chapter 179's active 2024 Ray Scholarship recipient is Ava Diaz. We mentioned last month that Ava passed her written exam and was able to solo the following week. Not wanting to let up on her goal, she has now done her dual long cross country flight and is planning a night long cross country. It's all down hill from here. Well, maybe except for those giant final hurdles for the checkride!

Art Woods & Rowan Phlieger Scholarship Coordinators scholarships@eaa179.org

Flying Start/Eagle Flights – May 10, 2025

George Young & Art Woods

We have the initial 16 registrants for the Flying Start presentation and Eagle Flights. Registration is now open for more people who are interested in the information presented in the Flying Start presentation, but who are not assured of an Eagle Flight. (They will be offered a flight if pilots and seats are available.)



- The event will be held in Lance Hunter's hangar. We could use a couple of volunteers to move chairs and tables, to set up for the Flying Start presentation.
- Art is lining up pilots for the event please contact him to volunteer.

 Our goal is to have as many pilots as registrants so we can offer each of them and Eagle Flight.
- The plan for the day is
 - 0800: coffee, donuts, and get acquainted. <u>Could we get a couple of Members to be there to welcome them, get them checked in, and give them a bit of an introduction to someone who is a pilot?</u>
 - 0815-0930: the Flying Start presentation who we are, what we do, how the attendees can become pilots.
 - 0930-1100: Eagle Flights, one-on-one flying with a pilot.
 - ~1100: follow-up reception back in the hangar, with pizza and drinks. <u>Could we get a few Members to join the reception, to give</u> the attendees an opportunity to get acquainted with <u>-real- pilots</u>, to get answers' to their questions, and ???

Flights start at 0930. We aim for a 1:1 Eagle Flight experience for *Flying Start* participants and encourage follow up mentoring. Session size is limited so our goal is for most pilots to fly just one flight.

Active Young Eagles Pilots will receive a request to help. Any EAA member is welcome to participate—no Youth Protection training required. See <u>Eagle Mentor Pilot Requirements</u>

This is our 6th Flying Start & Eagle Flight event (4th recently). It has been well received and we've gained some aviation enthusiasts from it. If you have questions or can volunteer in the air or on the ground, please contact George Young or Art Woods at flyingstart@eaa179.org. Thanks in advance!!!

George Young and Art Woods Flying Start Coordinator and Eagle Flight Coordinator flyingstart@eaa179.org

Double Eagle Aviation Academy – 2025

Jim Kessler



Double Eagle Aviation Academy 2025

June 2 – 6, 2025 at Double Eagle II Airport

Now Accepting Applications!

<u>Deadline is May 9th</u>

Participants are invited for a Young Eagles flight June 7th
Applicants must be between 14 and 17 years of age.

The Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA) offers a fun and challenging week at the airport! Students ages 14 – 17 will explore a future in aviation. Students will learn about many facets of flying and airplanes:

- learn about career opportunities in aviation from professionals
- learn and practice reading weather reports
- learn how to control pitch, roll, and yaw
- learn the importance of balancing weight in the plane
- learn and practice interpreting the instrument "Six Pack"
- learn how aluminum structures are designed to be strong
- learn what is inside the motors of airplanes
- learn and practice the legs of a traffic pattern in a simulator
- learn and practice communicating at non-towered and towered airports
- learn and practice assembling a simple electrical wiring circuit
- learn and practice riveting and rolling aluminum to make part of an aileron
- learn and practice conducting an aircraft pre-flight inspection
- learn and practice planning a flight
- visit the Double Eagle II control tower

Then fly with a Chapter Young Eagles pilot on the following Saturday

The doors open at 8:15 AM with time to meet pilots and spend time talking about and sitting in different airplanes each morning. Class starts at 9:00 AM. Morning and afternoon snacks and lunch are provided. Each day ends at 4:15 PM. A student notebook with the contents of all the presentations is provided to each student. If you are interested in aviation, this is an exceptional opportunity to discover the possibilities.

Questions? Let us know. Contact us at deaa@eaa179.org
Download the flyer for DEAA 2025 (.pdf)



Jim Kessler DEAA Coordinator deaa@eaa179.org

1st Annual Run the Runway & Mutt Strut 5K – April 19 Double Eagle II Airport

Run on the Double Eagle II Airport runway 17-35!
Race starts at 11:00am from old SAMS Academy building

4100 Aerospace Parkway NW; Albuquerque

Benefits CABQ Animal Welfare and Albuquerque EAA Chapter 179

Whether you want to run or walk, you're going to love the stunning views of the West Mesa. Race starts at the old SAMS Academy building, goes the full length of runway 35 and 17, ending at the SAMS Academy. That's 5K!!!

Feel free to bring your furry friend along, or "borrow" a pup from CABQ Animal Welfare—there will be lots of adorable dogs ready for adoption, all vaccinated, spayed or neutered, and microchipped, with no adoption fees! And that's not all! We'll have a tag machine on-site giving out free pet tags with no limit.

Don't miss this exciting day featuring music, food truck garden from 0900 and cool drinks to keep you refreshed after your 5K adventure.



Click on Image to download .pdf

Register to run OR to walk a "mutt"! \$35 in advance; Day of event: \$40 from 10am. Includes a T-shirt.

EAA 179 Volunteers Needed

Wanna Help? We will help the airport staff conduct this event. What's needed:

- Help spread the word! Download poster and share!
- A few Aircraft displays at the Runway 17 Run-Up area on taxiway Bravo from 10am – 1:30pm.
- 2 people at each closed taxiway (B1 and Charlie), so no one crosses towards the 22/04 runway environment since it will remain active.
- Chapter members to staff informational tables at the Race Start and with aircraft displays at the Bravo Runup area.
- Friday staging of chapter displays, water stations, etc. at the old SAMS Academy building.
- Saturday AM final setup once 17/35 is closed.

To volunteer, please contact Lance Hunter: lhunter@microtek-sys.com

Land of Enchantment Fly-In 2025 (LOEFI)

Sean Babbitt, LOEFI Coordinator

The Land of Enchantment Fly In efforts marched forward (pun intended).

- April marks a big month for planning where we will start submitting permit applications and obtain insurance.
- The most exciting part of the month will be the solicitation of exhibitors and the continued contact with outside groups. We are hopeful of attracting some new groups to support to include the US Air Force! No promises, however, inroads are being made to see if we can get some Air Force iron over for the event.
- We expect to have an area lead discussion in mid to late April with monthly meetings following through the spring and early to mid-summer.

Please contact me with any questions, comments, good ideas or just to yell at me! Watch the Newsletter and announcements on FaceBook for updates.

Please send Sean your eAddress to be included in the ZOOM announcement: loefi@eaa179.org

Sean Babbitt LOEFI Coordinator loefi@eaa179.org



Ladies Aviation Social Joyce Woods

Over 35 ladies and a few guys came out for a first Ladies Social. Intended to initiate conversation and networking, we were unsure how many to expect. It was an incredibly impressive gathering including 6 CFIs, 2 air traffic controllers, 2 A&Ps (1 an IA), 1 news helicopter pilot, 3 jet pilots, 2 flight attendants, several veterans, 1 commercial balloon pilot, at least 8 commercial fixed wing pilots and several aircraft owners. Who knew? Wow!

Our chapter has already gained a few new members & we hope we've energized the local 99s and Women in Aviation Intl groups as well.

The idea started because Rowan Phlieger, Scholarship Co-Chair has wanted to get our young women scholarship recipients together. We decided to keep it simple, but had no idea if or how much interest there would be. As you can see, it was an energizing and fun gathering with many asking, "What next?"

As Rowan summed it up, "Whether you work in the aviation industry or are involved for fun/hobby, there is nothing like being surrounded by other female aviators in such a male dominated industry."

Per a (male) responder to an EAA Facebook post, "Congrats. Excellent collaborative event and outreach. Networking = priceless." Well said, indeed! Albuquerque EAA179 hosted an informal donuts and coffee "Ladies Aviation Social" yesterday.





CFIs: Lora Ferrin, Mia Alderete, Doc Chavez, Diana Volker, Stephanie Luongo, Carol Sugars

Ladies Aviation Social (continued) Joyce Woods





Sharing contact info

Right: Future pilots quoted saying, "This was the best day





Jet Pilots: Rowan Phlieger, Lora Ferrin, Carol Sugars



ABQ ATC: Wendy Smith, Anita Johnson



Quikris (Continue)

Right: Sharri Crawford and Joyce Woods: Women Fly!

Chapter 179 Youth Outreach Kevin Frick

Chapter 179 Youth Outreach activities in the local communities were pretty active in March. On the school front, the season started with our annual visit to John Adams Middle School. Kevin Frick and East-coaster Barry Cromer, wowed the kids with stories of aviating and sharing the kid-friendly activities offered by our chapter. Information was shared about the Young Eagles at Double Eagle, as well as lots of LOEFI lore.

The next school on the agenda was East San Jose Elementary School. This was their first-ever Career Fair and the school administration was quite excited to have EAA manning a booth. Kevin was flanked by Smokey Bear on one side and APD on the other, so the wee ones had a lot to be wide-eyed about. It was back to basics with this one, like "Do you know what that spinning part on the front of the airplane is called?" Nonetheless, the interest and excitement on the young faces was great. One of the teachers summed up the intent of the activity well. He said, "These kids just need to see what's out there so they can develop their own dreams." Well said.

March activities wound up with eight Junior ROTC students from Volcano Vista visiting AEG for a preflight and tower tour. These high schoolers were primed for the visit, led by their instructor Ted Hartenstein. Intrepid chapter volunteers Gary Williams and Doug and Diana Volker shared a plethora of details for a proper preflight inspection. This was followed by a visit to the AEG tower and a birds-eye view of airport operations.

Lastly, Hayes Middle School will be including our chapter in their Health Fair, which will be combined with "Curriculum Night." Slated for Thursday, April 24, it should be a very active event with the entire school and parents invited. Kevin, as well as chapter member and wife, Suzy Frick, will regale the group with all things about the EAA and aviation.

That's it, for now."



Kevin Frick Outreach Coordinator







Places I've Flown: Ms Blue Goes to Santa Rosa Mark Wilson



Mark Wilson wrote:

Monday March 24th I flew Ms Blu to Santa Rosa. It was windy from the north on take off so I went around the Sandias on the north edge. I flew mostly about 1,000 feet AGL with a nice tail wind on the way there. The return trip presented with a strong head wind of up to 50 mph at times.

Editor: This is what I hope will be the first article starting a series about <u>Places You've Flown</u>. With photos (like on final and otherwise), I envision these articles to introduce all of us to airports around New Mexico. I invite you to contribute to this series. And ... thanks to Mark for getting it started.

The airport is unattended but the FBO was very welcoming and stocked with refreshments. It had a map on the wall with pins on it showing all the places folks had flown in from.

It wasn't obvious where the fuel farm was located if your are looking for the typical round tanks, for these tanks were rectangular and looked like support buildings. It was the Green cover on the control box that led me to the fueling area.

The weather was perfect, calm and around 70 degrees which was such a surprise after the winds aloft. Best part was the picnic table next to the fuel tanks (so nice in fact I took a short nap there)

The runways and taxiways were in very good condition.

















Refreshing My IFR Skills

Emilio Verastegui with Mia Alderete

Hello everyone!

Recently, I decided that I needed to hone my flying skills and polish my IFR flying techniques. To do this, I felt that I needed help from a trusted safety pilot and/or an instructor. I chose Mia Alderete to help me accomplish all this work that I knew I needed to do. While I fly regularly, or so I like to think, I have not flown IFR or used my instrument skills hardly at all since I retired over 9 years ago. Yes, you read that right, over 9 years ago! I can hardly believe it myself!

When I was working, every trip and every approach was flown on an IFR flight plan, even a Visual Approach. Today, my flying is basically by VFR rules, all visual, except for the occasional flight through a cloud or in poor visibility. But that amount of flying is hardly enough to stay current. As the saying goes - you use it or you lose it!

While I do get some occasional instrument proficiency checks, it is hard to maintain good IFR skills here in NM in actual IFR conditions because of all the great weather we usually have. Then, there are THOSE days that are not typical, but on THOSE days, nobody wants to fly for the fun of it...

Choosing Mia as my safety pilot/instructor was the right decision for me. Why I made that decision will become evident shortly. As of this writing, we have flown together 8 times, totaling 7.74 hours on the engine tachometer.

As a fairly new instructor, she has very recent and solid aviation knowledge and can spot things quickly if you are not on the mark. She can tell you what your corrections should look like and how to accomplish them quickly and most efficiently. She can spot the beginnings of bad habits and let you know what you should do to make good habits out of bad ones!

Don't get me wrong. She has a great personality and if you have met her, she appears very soft-spoken and somewhat shy. But, in my estimation, she's no pushover and she is very good at what she does. She is direct

and to the point. All business, as the saying goes. I like that. And that's why I chose Mia to help me through this Instrument Refresher period.

Also, since she was available, I wanted to fly a lot in a short period of time to feel confident again in my pilot skills and my instrument flying. I thought that if we only covered the minimum, then that would an injustice to her and to me. If you are going to fly on instruments, you need the confidence to do so. Having her watch my every move has helped make me more confident. Besides, I am more than 9 years older than I used to be and I need the practice...

I related a story to Mia after one of our flying sessions, whose subject was my first instrument instructor back when I was coming up and earning my chops. That instructor's name was Donna Bower. She had a reputation as a very strict instructor and one that was hard to get along with. I found that to be entirely untrue. We ended up becoming good friends and working together, not only as instructors at the same flight school, but also at a place called the Tennessee Valley Authority. TVA was and still is a Federal entity. Two years after I was hired, the Aviation Department there was sacked as part of a "Reduction in Force", except for two dual rated pilots. As I told Mia, while it was a shock, I didn't lose any sleep over that tragedy! But that's a story for another time and another Newsletter...

In conclusion, if you are a pilot that wants someone to help you polish your flying skills or you just want to feel more confident about yourself and your flying, I suggest you get in touch with Mia Alderete. She will help you any way she can and you will be all the better for it.

You may have to wait a bit. She is quite busy right now; she and I still have a few practice approaches to fly, as soon as the winds calm down!

Emilio Verastegui Pilot and Old Crow



The photo taken in November 2024

Took a neighbor flying today (11/5) who had started flight lessons in the 70's while living in Okinawa. Thought I would have to cancel after waking up to dense fog and 37 deg. Delayed 1 hour and we had a gorgeous flight in the Rio Puerco valley. We explored some of the area ruins, found the arch I haven't been able to locate, and other beautiful sights. Cabezon had this new winter cap, as preparing for the holidays. Joyce Woods



A photo taken on April 4th.

2024 EAA Chapter Membership Satisfaction Survey – Chapter 179 Results

Joyce Woods, President

Just in! Chapter 179 Survey results from EAA HQ.

THANK YOU to the 60 members who participated. Per EAA, "EAA's chapters are all about people, bringing together individuals interested in learning more about aviation and sharing their knowledge. Chapters represent EAA at a grassroots level where our EAA members live the spirit of aviation daily."

Included is a member satisfaction question used by industry called "Net Promoter Score" (NPS). The NPS index ranges from -100 to 100, indicating overall satisfaction and loyalty. More info on NPS. EAA encourages chapters to use these learnings to provide a more valuable experience for our members.

EAA Chapter 179: NPS = 82.46 Per the NPS link above, a score 80 or above is very high and can indicate a "World Class" organization. This is up from 70 for 2023. Reasons collected for why members rated this question as they did:

- Great Chapter, very active!
- It's a very active chapter with a lot of enthusiasm. The members are welcoming and you can be as involved or uninvolved as you likr
- The Chapter and the national organizations provides a community where anyone interested in aviation can find more information and can socialize.
- It is a great group of pilots
- I have recommended EAA before to some friends, and they seem interested. It is a very great opportunity for aviation, and I believe anyone interested would love to get involved.
- I've been flying for over five decades and involved with other EAA chapters and this one is bu far the best I've seen.
- It's a proactive chapter
- It's a great chapter with wonderful people
- "great group of people
- I am impressed with their attention to youth interested in aviation"
- Never met a better group of people
- "EAA 179 is the most welcoming and supportive group of pilots and aviation enthusiasts that I have come to know in 5 years of flying, going to school at ERAU Prescott, and being a professional pilot.
- I recommend to every person to join that meet in the Albuquerque area that is interested in aviation in some way or another.
- Good group of knowledgeable and friendly aviation enthusiast.
- This is the most PRO-ACTIVE Chapter in the State.
- Outstanding builder support
- It is a great community of people.
- The local chapter has been very supportive and is a great group of individuals. The chapter is very active in the local aviation community.
- it's the go to organization for aviation
- Our chapter is involved with everything, young eagles, summer camps, major fly in, building, scholarships, etc. We need more members to help support it.
- Great group of people. Lots of knowledge.
- "Young eagles"

- They're extremely supportive of new aviation enthusiasts, always welcome new people.
- Chapter 179 is great group of people who do amazing thing not just for chapter member but for the public. Their enthusiasm for general aviation is outstanding!
- supportive and positive people
- Solid group of people
- If you're a builder, you want access to other builders, expert advice, tools, etc.
- Just a bunch of great people
- I recommend the chapter to many pilots, builders and students. I took a fellow pilot to last week's meeting - she'll probably join the chapter.
- Good group, organized, very strong youth program with the Academy and Young Eagles.
- These are "My People" They're passionate about aviation and support each other.
- Poor communications with members, poor management of Young Eagles events
- It is a great way to meet fellow aviators and good people who like to help the cause of EAA179
- The EAA is a welcoming community for all.
- Competent leaders, good communication, relevant chapter activities
- Activities, ability to volunteer, participating in homebuilding.
- Great group of people. Always willing to share, teach, and welcome new ideas.
- "Builder resources
- My teen came home daily from DEAA thrilled from the fun and extensive aviation knowledge exposed to. I hope every city has an incredible local chapter as we do.
- Very active Chapter. They really love teaching young people about aviation.
- New to the area and chapter representatives of chapter 179 have been absolutely fantastic!
- Great group
- Good group of knowledgeable and friendly people.
- Great community and opportunity
- 50/50.Don't know anybody "on the fence." Aviation types are already aware, non-aviation types N/A.
- a great bunch of people to know
- 179 is active with great camaraderie and resources for flying and building.
- 179 and its members are so very active, promoting GA (YE, Flying Start, our "summer camp" DEAA, our fly-in LOEFI) and being around aviation enthusiasts who share their experiences and more.
- I will offer a connection to the EAA and Chapter 179 to anyone who shows an interest in flying aircraft. This connection adds value to my life.

It is important to note that NOT EVERYONE participated in this survey and learning from non-participants can be most valuable to drive improvement. If you don't agree with what you see, we need to hear from you!

- Joyce Woods

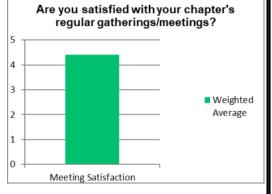
More from EAA's Chapter 179 Satisfaction Survey

Joyce Woods, President

Monthly Gatherings

Explain why you scored that way:

- Great Chapter
- The location for the meeting is not ideal and seem to be struggling to get a diverse topic of presentations throughout the year
- We are having trouble finding a place to gather where we can circulate and talk. The design of the meeting place puts the members into small subgroups and not a general meeting.

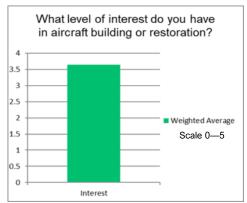


- The gatherings are informative and fun!
- My chapter has gone above and beyond in what these meetings are about, and have been very educational, as well as entertaining to attend.
- We do many of the things described above.
- A nice casual/informal affair
- I am extremely busy and haven't attended a meeting in months but it's a wonderful group
- Professional and supportive
- Very consistent and well organized. And they always have a great presentation set up.
- Meets regularly and well attended.
- I attend very few Chapter Meetings. I do participate in the Land Of Enchantment Fly-In LOEFI annually.
- We have fun getting together and the presentation are very interesting.
- Always informative content and friendly welcoming atmosphere
- We meet up with other aviation enthusiasts and always have a great speakers. It a nice time to catch up and ask questions and get new perspectives.
- It's a fun time.
- Meeting are great and informative!
- The venues are just ok, I am working on this!
- We meet informally 1x/month. Most of my interactions occur with other members daily at the hangars.
- Enjoy going. Great topics
- Meeting are well organized. I enjoy the social gatherings at restaurants.
- I like the location
- Always lively. The most active general aviation community in the state.
- Lots of good information and once again, just a lot of great people to hang out with
- Nice Group. Friendly, Sociable, Good gatherings.

- Poor communications about next meetings. Lack of email with calendar invite attachments, etc
- They are all inclusive
- The board of EAA179 works very hard to keep the public involved
- Although I have been a member I really haven't helped them out and from everything I observe there are many very dedicated members who work very hard to make this a great chapter. The airport is covered in members and every day I am at airport I can connect with members. They have also really accomplished a lot. From the build of an RV12 to a new wooden airplane project to young eagles.
- Good notification of meetings, convenient locations, activities.
- Monthly meetings are always planned.
- Prefer meeting at airport than restaurant. More direct connection to chapter hangar and build activities.
- I like the space, just hard to get there with rush hour traffic. I live 20 minutes away but at rush hour it's almost always an hour
- Meetings are well communicated and at convenient times/places.
- Good turnout but location sometimes makes it hard to engage with others or participate in activities.
- Excellent people and content
- Never been to one
- the meetings are always informative
- Programs have been really great and often highlight members amongst us and the breadth of resources we have.
- It has been difficult to find a meeting place that promotes discussion before and after the meal/program.
- We lost our quiet group meeting room and are now in an alcove off the main floor in a restaurant. Conversation with other members is difficult because of outside distractions.

In addition, the survey had participants rank importance of various typical EAA activities and provide detailed comments on "Recommendations for Improvement." Enough for now—stay tuned for those next month!

Joyce Woods President, EAA Chapter 179 <u>chapter@eaa179.org</u>



Master Pilot Award to Jon Daffer

Emilio Verastegui

Recently, on the night of March 13, 2025, one of our own was presented and honored with the Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award. This event occurred at a monthly gathering of the Quiet Birdmen Group here in Albuquerque. Our very own Jon T. Daffer, of much fame and fortune, was presented this prestigious award by Chris Grotbeck and Cliff Chetwin. This award, as you may have heard, is presented only to those aviators that have flown more than 50 years and whose record of excellence is beyond the pale! This Award is highly coveted and is not reached by many, so please help me congratulate and honor Jon T. Daffer for this achievement.

The next time you see him at one of our events or at our monthly Social Gathering or fly with him, remember that he is one rare bird and he deserves your praise! His many years of experience coincide with many wonderful and exciting events in aviation history. Just ask him!



Joyce: , seems like he should have received that recognition 10 years ago!! Jon was also Rowan's instructor. Great guy - dry sense of humor. Great seat-of-the-pants instructor. Lots of fun stories out there from flying with him.

Editor: I suspect many of us have flown with Jon. I did .. arriving in Albuquerque in 2010, I started flying with the Kirtland Aero Club – Jon checked me out in their T-41s. Congratulations, Jon

Tribute to Bill Donald Gone West

It is with great sadness as we share that Bill Donald passed away at the end of March.

Bill was our chapter's next door neighbor at the airport. On retiring from his later career as a financial advisor, he acquired local Pete Ettinger's beautiful



Comanche. I was there the day Bill sold it and sent it back east, realizing it was time to quit flying. He was happy knowing it was in good hands and the new owner was elated with how special the airplane was.

Many don't know that Bill sold airplanes for Cessna in the Midwest when airplane sales were strong. So he flew everything. He got his instrument rating in a Hawk XP like mine. I first met Bill through the New Mexico Pilots Association helping host an NMPA annual meeting, a first step to reconnect with the aviation community.

In recent years, Bill volunteered as photographer for our DEAA, LOEFI, Tri-Motor visits, and Young Eagles events. He really cared about people, evident every time you encountered him and through his photos.

A true friend, chapter volunteer and fellow GA pilot, Bill Donald will be missed. A May celebration of life is expected.



In the News and Other Interesting Topics

The Editor ... and you?

KABQ Safety Council

 From Wendy Smith, KABQ tower:: The Local Safety Council at the ABQ tower has opened an e-mail address just for pilot feedback/suggestions/questions: KABQ.safety@gmail.com

General Aviation News (repeat)

• New Edition of Pilot's Handbook of Aeronautical Knowledge

FAA FAASTeam

- FAA Safety Briefing Magazine
- FAAST Webinars: A list of many great topics; most qualify the attendee for WINGS credits.



- All About Airspeed, Wed Apr 9
- NEW NTSB Safety Alert: See and Be Seen: Your Life Depends on It
- NEW Reference Data: FAA Fact Book, and Airport Data & Information Portal

Pilot Workshops—sign up here to receive these via email

- Welcome to The Pilot's Tip of the Week (PDFs & videos) (extracts from online courses and manuals)
- How ATC Really Works (A Pilot Friendly Manual)
- Pilot Exercise Program (another Pilot-Friendly Manual)
- Recent Pilots Tip of the Week (New in each issue)
 - Helicopter Wake Turbulence
- Can Anyone Fly Tailwheel?
- Where to Stop for Fuel
- Underused Turbulence Prediction

EAA

- Webinars EAA & Aircraft Spruce present a constant flow of Webinars that
 cover virtually all topics aviation, from building to flying to flight rules. And
 many qualify you for WINGS Credits. Check out the schedule; perhaps you
 will find one or more of interest to you.
- EAA's Chapter Video Magazines (monthly)
- EAA's eHotline, Announcements for Air Venture/Oshkosh and more

NMPA

- April 2024 NMPA Newsletter Another great issue, with a very good article on Flying VFR "It's Always Good to be Seen", particularly apropos flying around New Mexico where radio/radar coverage can be limited.
- And visit the NMPA web site for the latest about their activities

Facebook

- New: Student Pilots Group, with many instructional articles
- A Facebook group for local flying: Fly New Mexico, Dave Otero, Administrator.
- Great Facebook spaces: <u>Commemorative Air Force</u> & <u>National Museum of the U.S. Air Force</u>, and a <u>NEW one</u> .Aviation Update







2024 Individual Chapter Donors

Turquoise Todd Blue Estate Mark & Linda Henderson Kat & Bob Richter-Sand Rick Richter Memorial Joyce Schmitt Art & Joyce Woods Gold Dan & Janice Horschel Emilio Verastegui Bob & Sandy Waters Dean Wadsworth Memorial

Thank You For Your Support

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
Chapter Facebook: www.facebook.com/EAA179
www.facebook.com/groups/
www.eaa179.org

SPECIAL NOTE: Chapter 179 on Facebook

Lance Hunter, Chapter Publicity

For those of you who follow things on Facebook, we have two spaces, one, a Facebook PAGE, directed to the public and the other a Facebook GROUP for Members and others closely associated with the Chapter.

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 179, is our outlet to the public. Anyone can go to this page and see information about the Chapter and its activities.

<u>EAA Chapter 179 New Mexico</u> is a Private GROUP. Only users who have joined have access to it. It will have up-to-date information and Members can participate with their own posts and in dialogs via Likes, comments, and replies.

Lance Hunter and Kyle Reinhardt are our lead FaceBookMasters, who manage both and keep Chapter information up to date. Contact them with questions or ideas.



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\$100 and up







Air Service



Bolder Flight Systems

Culligan





Western New Mexico Aviation Heritage Museum, Cibola County







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)
- <u>555</u>, Las Cruces, KLRU (Triple Nickel Chapter) (& <u>Facebook</u>)
- 1570 Santa Teresa, KDNA

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!)
- <u>Tuskegee Airmen (local chapter)</u> (& <u>Facebook</u>)
- Albuquerque Soaring Club (& Facebook)
- Women in Aviation Intl Land of Enchantment Chapter (& Facebook)

National and Other State Organizations of Interest

- <u>Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)</u> (& <u>Facebook)</u>
- 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)

- <u>FAA Safety Team</u> 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)

Invitation to Pancake Fly-In and Car Show – Jun 7 Grants-Milan Airport

Dear Chapter Members,

We are thrilled to extend a warm invitation to you on behalf of the city of Grants and the Grants Airport. Please join us for a delightful Pancake Fly-In and Car Show on Saturday, June 7th.

My name is Terry Warner, EAA 129427, and I am honored to serve as a new board member for the Grants-Milan Airport. In my role, I am dedicated to transforming the Grants Airport into a premier destination for sport aviation in western New Mexico, and I am seeking your invaluable support to achieve this goal.

The city has organized an exhilarating car show on Saturday, June 7th, and we are looking forward to welcoming a fantastic turnout of airplanes for the breakfast event. This is an excellent opportunity for aviation enthusiasts and car aficionados alike to come together and celebrate our shared passions.

We are excited to announce the establishment of a new EAA chapter at the airport and our plans to construct new T-hangars, enhancing our facilities and community.

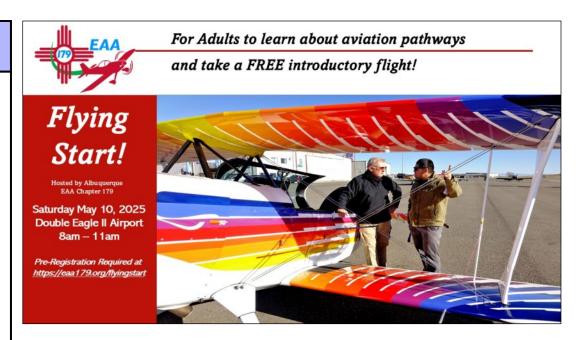
Please come and enjoy the Pancake Fly-In and Car Show! We look forward to seeing you there.

Warm regards, Terry Warner EAA 129427 Board Member, Grants-Milan Airport





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Click on Poster to download .pdf file.

COME JOIN US! AIRPLANE FLY-IN PANCAKE BREAKFASTI DATE 06.07 SATURDAY PANCAKES & COFFEE \$5 TIME 8 AM **QUESTIONS & REGISTRATION** LOCATION 505-290-9305 **GRANTS - MILAN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT** TERRY_WARNER2000@YAHOO.COM 1116 N. DALE CARNUTTE RD. SPOKES ON 66 CAR SHOW BEGINS AT 10 AM

AT THE RIVER WALK PARK!

Call for Chapter 179 Scholarship Donors

We're proud of our recipients and enjoy sharing in their successes!

As our 2025 Scholarship program is well underway, it's a good time to consider contributing. Chapter 179 scholarships are funded by a combination of donations and from funds from activities throughout the year.

We appreciate donations of any amount to our Chapter 179 Scholarship fund, to extend EAA's Ray Scholar Fund, or in past member Memorial funds. Your specific wishes may be designated in the optional notes at the top.

You can donate online via Paypal or Credit Card:



or send a check to EAA 179 Scholarships; Double Eagle II Airport, 7401 Atrisco Vista Blvd NW #179, Albuquerque, NM 87120-6601.

EAA Chapter 179 is a 501c(3) tax exempt charitable organization.

Recurring Events for Chapter 179

Check the Newsletter and Web for changes)

Chapter Gatherings

3rd Tuesday evenings, usually at a restaurant in Albuquerque.

See the current Newsletter

March - Scholarships, November - Annual Meeting, & 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

Land of Enchantment Fly-In (LOEFI)

A weekend in late September

Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA)

First full week in June

Young Eagles Flights

Monthly each spring and fall. Follow our web site and current Newsletter for details.

Support your Chapter

Joyce Woods

Proud to be a Member? Want a Chapter 179 shirt?

Two designs available by special order.

Contact Joyce at secretary@eaa179.org with your SIZE. Payment due on receipt of shirts. Proceeds benefit our chapter programs.

DEAA T-Shirts

Design on shirt front \$15 each (men's or women's sizes available. no pockets)



Chapter 179 Polo Shirts

Gray with embroidered logo on left breast. \$28 each. Add Pocket (\$2)

