



2026 Leadership

President:

Art Woods

Vice President

Gilbert Merriman

Secretary:

Diana Volker

Treasurer

John DeWitt

Board Members

Alex Basinger

Lance Hunter

Kyle Reinhardt

Joyce Woods

George Young

Standing Committees

Membership

Gwen Walcott

membership@caa179.org

Land of Enchantment

Fly-In (LOEFI)

Art Woods

loefi@caa179.org

Double Eagle Aviation

Academy (DEAA)

Jim Kessler

deaa@caa179.org

Young Eagles

Jim Kessler, Art Woods

youngeagles@caa179.org

Publicity

Lance Hunter, Kyle Reinhardt

Scholarships

Rowan Phlieger

scholarships@caa179.org

IMC Club

John DeWitt, Barry Harper

imc-club@caa179.org

Flight Advisors

Jim Kessler

Lee Otto

Mark Sturm

Technical Counselors

David Otero

Emilio Verastegui

Gwen Walcott

Fly-Outs

Open

Storage Locker

Open

Reimer Aircraft Factory

Lee Otto

Newsletter & WebMaster

George Young

newsletter@caa179.org

webmaster@caa179.org

General eMail

chapter@caa179.org

Snail Mail

EAA Chapter 179

7401 Atrisco Vista Blvd NW #179

Albuquerque, NM 87120



Upcoming Events

July 18 - [IMC Club at City Maintenance Bldg](#) (KAEG)

Aug 8 - [Young Eagles](#) (KAEG)

Aug 8 - [Fly Out: Rt 66 Centennial Fly-In to Santa Rosa](#) (KSXU)

Aug 15 - [LOEFI Planning Meeting](#), 1pm City Maint Bldg (KAEG)

Sep 5 - [Runway Run](#) (KAEG)

September 16-20 - [National Championship Air Races](#) (KROW)

September 18 - [Pizza & "Safe Skies" WINGS Seminar](#) (KROW)

September 26 - [Land of Enchantment Fly-In](#) (KAEG)

And check [NMPA's web site](#) for other events around New Mexico

July 2026

In This Issue (click on the item to go that page)

Notes from Our President	2
August Chapter Gathering (No July Gathering).....	3
May Chapter Gathering (Recap)	3
Membership	4
IMC Club	4
Chapter Board Meeting	5
LOEFI 2026 Planning Underway	5
Young Eagles	6
Chapter 179 Scholarship Tidbits	6
SPECIAL REPORT - DEAA 2026	7-17
Pedal Plane Update	18
National Championship Air Races	8
NM Aviation Division Launches "Safe Skies"	9
In the News and Other Interesting Topics	10-11
DEAA 2026 – After Action Review	15
DEAA 2026 – A Family Perspective	16-17
Pedal Plane Update	17
Luke Vaughn's Air Force Academy Graduation	18-19
National Air Traffic Control Day – July 6th	20
Run the Runway 5k and Mutt Strut 5k—2026	21
National Championship Air Races	21
NM Aviation Division Launches "Safe Skies"	22
Oshkosh 2026	23
CAP Donation	23
In the News and Other Interesting Topics	24-25
Individual Chapter Donor & Thanks to Corporate Sponsors ...	25-26
Recurring Events and Quick Links	27
For Sale – DEAA & Chapter Shirts, and Kitfox	28
Resources of Interest & LOEFI Business Cards & Poster	29-30



Chapter Gathering

Reminder that there is NO July Gathering!! We will get together next month on August 18th @ BJ's in Cottonwood Mall.

I want to thank Captain Pignatoro for presenting what, where and how the Air Force's 58th Special Operations Wing operates around Albuquerque.

I now know SKULL, DUSTY, WAKE, STALK, TACO and SHADO on flight tracking apps.

Sky Jumpers Away! Roy Mollenkamp presented about their skydiving operation at the Belen airport, and that for the most part, transient traffic is really welcome! He explained a couple of issues and how to be safe!

2026 LOEFI – planning is in full swing for this year's event. We met on Saturday with area leads discussing what else we're setting up and what needs to be done with help from our whole chapter. Please get involved by using the "Signup Genius" website link found elsewhere in this newsletter or on the chapter website!!

Aviation in & around Double Eagle II Airport

As I was driving to Air One Systems, noticed an excited group standing by the Chapter hangar watching the sky for an airplane in the pattern. And then saw N739HK taxi in and shut down. A solo by another Albuquerque Aviation Academy student!! Instructor, parents and friends there to celebrate the success!!

And then on June 29th, watched a group of five Piper Cherokees lined up on the downwind leg, spaced apart, to land at Double Eagle Airport. They had flown in from Prescott, AZ. Jovial group jumped out and hung around Bode for a while before launching on their next leg. Planes belong to a company in Louisiana – AB PROP PLANE LLC.



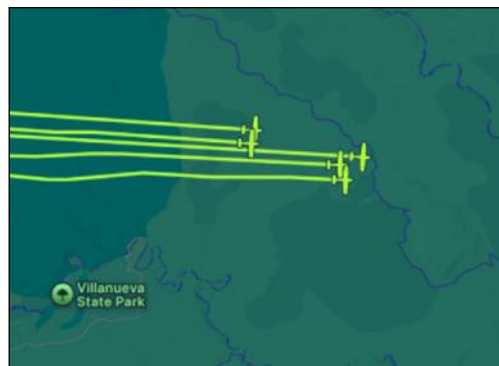
As caught by FlightAware tracking app, they left here in loose formation headed to Tulsa for the next stop.



INSTRUMENT FLIGHT RULES (IFR)

Don't need no white fluffy clouds or a fog bank to use an Instrument Rating!! Smoke & haze will do just fine.

Departing Montrose, CO towards the beautiful 10,500 foot Uncompaghre Plateau and the fourteener San Juan mountains beyond. What?? You ask what mountains? What plateau? EXACTLY!!



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



August Chapter Gathering



NOTE: NO JULY 2026 Gathering!
It's Oshkosh week! Watch AirVenture livecams!

Tuesday, August 18, 2026

BJ's Restaurant @ Cottonwood Mall

5:00 PM – No host dinner social

6:15 PM – Intros, Program

Arrive anytime from 5pm; dinner not required.

Primer: Roswell National Championship Air Races **By Erik Viking**

Flight Test Pilot, Pitts owner, and chapter member Erik Viking attended the Pilot Racing School at Roswell last year, helping test out the course, and considering participation in the biplane class.

He will offer an overview of National Championship Air Racing, specifics about race classes, and ways to enjoy this long standing event, now held in Roswell, New Mexico! With all 7 race classes participating PLUS the US Thunderbirds, it will be something! Aircraft displays are expected to include a B-52, B29, B24 and more.

Volunteer with fellow aviators and enthusiasts for Wing Walking, People Movers, Information Booth, and other positions still needed—contact Joyce Woods at 505 456 0832 if you are interested.

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 addressed in Board meetings.

We hope to see you there!



June Chapter Gathering (RECAP)



We returned to BJ's on the westside with multiple presentations planned.

58th SOW Flight Training: Capt Katie Pignatoro gave a briefing for local pilot awareness of low altitude Air Force flight training in the Albuquerque area. She reviewed the current aircraft of the 58th SOW including the CV-22B Osprey (callsign "Dusty"), the UH-1N Huey, callsign "Wake", HH-60W Jolly Green II, callsign "Skull", the C-130s, either callsign "Stalk" or "Taco" and finally the gunship AC-130J Ghost Rider, callsign "Shado".

A drop zone in place since October 2024 is now quite visible off the end of Runway 22 at Double Eagle II Airport. They recently graded it, apparently because of problems with items left in the area by nearby Westside Shelter inhabitants, making retrievals by AF personnel unsafe. She indicated they will be fencing it soon. For more info, see 2024 article and photos: [Dropping in a New Drop Zone](#)



Howard Drop Zone for C-130s off

Jumpers Away! VIVA Skydive pilot, Roy Mollenkamp, presented tips for flying safely around Belen airport and reviewed typical radio calls. From drop to all on the ground, is usually only about 5 minutes.

Roy's main advice was to fly a normal pattern and report position, to blend in. However, do not use the procedure to cross over the runway at 500' above the pattern altitude— not a safe procedure if jumpers are airborne. Roy's presentation was a brief version of what was prepared for area controllers. See full slide deck here: [Viva SkyDive—Jumpers Away.](#)



Speakers (R to L): Roy Mollenkamp, Capt Katie Pignatoro, and fellow Air Force instructor, chapter member Steve Westerdale in his EAA Air Academy shirt from years past.



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 2026.

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 by 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
eMail: membership@eaa179.org
web: eaa179.org/membership



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 hybrid session (in person or remote). Anyone welcome!

NEXT MEETING

Saturday, July 18, 2026 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 City of Albuquerque Maintenance Building Conference Room

Directions: Enter the gate straight ahead from the last stop sign before turning left towards main airport parking lot. City building is the first building on your left. **Security will hold this gate open from 9:15—9:45.**

OR Join Remotely via ZOOM: Register in advance for Zoom access info here: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/6TFs3hkETSC-Y7djl8-U3A>

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 instructions

See you there!

Barry Harper & John DeWitt
IMC Club Coordinators, EAA 179
eMail: imc-club@eaa179.org
web: eaa179.org/imc-club





Chapter Board Meeting – May 12, 2026

Art Woods, President

The chapter Board of Directors met via Zoom on May 12, 2026, with Art Woods presiding. A summary of business addressed follows.

TREASURER - John Dewitt

- John reviewed the financial reports as of April 30, 2026.
- Gilbert Merriman, Doug Dingman, Alex Basinger and Mark Wilson formed a committee to review the financials for 2025. The committee met on March 31, 2026, in the City Maintenance Conference room with John DeWitt present to explain the accounting procedures he uses. The committee spent two hours reviewing the reports and determined that the Treasurer for EAA Chapter 179 had demonstrated and maintained fiduciary accountability of the financial records for fiscal year 2025.
- The first quarter financial reports and the audit review findings were approved by the board.

SECRETARY - Diana Volker

- There was one error noted in the previous meeting's notes. I will remove and send the amended notes as well as put them on Google Drive under Board Matters. The notes were approved.

MEMBERSHIP - Gwen Walcott

- The chapter has over 100 members / family members. George Young would like to see new members submit "bios" to introduce them to our membership.

SCHOLARSHIP – Rowan Phlieger

- Most of the scholarship recipients have received their money and are actively using it. Ray scholars for 2026 have been identified and one of them is approved by national EAA.

YOUNG EAGLES – Jim Kessler & Art Woods

- Jim and Art have been using their personal laptops and have asked that up to \$500 be approved for them to purchase a chapter laptop or Chromebook that will connect to the internet and the printer so that the Young Eagle first time flyer certificates can be printed. A motion to approve the purchase was made and approved. Art is looking for a volunteer to be a Young Eagles co-coordinator with Jim.

RUNWAY RUN – TBD *(Now Don Prescott! Thanks Don!)*

- The run is scheduled for September 5, 2026. The chapter needs a lead to work with the city contact, Leah Black.

LOEFI – TBD

- The 2026 LOEFI kick-off planning meeting will be Saturday, May 16, 2026, in the city conference room at 1:00 PM.

Next Chapter Board meeting will be via Zoom on August 4th at 6:30 PM. Please send an email to chapter@eaa179.org if you'd like a link to join.

Art Woods, for Diana Volker
Secretary, EAA Chapter 179
eMail: secretary@eaa179.org



LOEFI 2026 Planning Underway

Art Woods



The second planning meeting was held on July 11th. During the meeting, we focused on several important areas:

- Site layout: refining how we set up aircraft parking, vendor areas, food service, and attendee flow.
- Fundraising and sponsorships: identifying opportunities to support the event financially and growing our partner base.
- Pilot participation: expanding outreach and making sure we have a strong showing of aircraft and pilots for the fly-in.



A business card is one very good way to publicize LOEFI. A supply is on the desk in the RAF – pick some up, share with family, friends, and businesses!

LOEFI has always been a reflection of the strength of our chapter and our aviation community. For questions, volunteer opportunities, or to join one of the planning committees, please contact the LOEFI coordination team at loefi@eaa179.org.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER: click [SignUp Genius](https://eaa179.org/loefi/#volunteer) or go to <https://eaa179.org/loefi/#volunteer>.

NEXT MEETING: August 15, 1PM @ City Maintenance Bldg Conference Room.

Art Woods
LOEFI Coordinator (temporary)
eMail: loefi@eaa179.org
web: <https://eaa179.org/loefi>



Young Eagles

Jim Kessler & Art Woods, Young Eagles Coordinators



A special Young Eagles event was held on June 6th, as part of our Double Eagle Aviation Academy (DEAA). The students were given an assignment to develop a flight plan for a cross-country flight from Double Eagle to Belen and to return via the ABQ VOR. Then ... to use that flight plan in a Young Eagles flight on Saturday.

This is always a great way to end up their introduction to aviation, to practice things that they have learned about in the real world: making a flight plan, doing a preflight, listening to the radio dialogs (or with the pilot's assistance making the calls), following the flight plan, and ... watching and in many cases –flying the airplane–.

A big Thank You to the pilots who made this event special for the DEAA students following their week-long introduction to many things aviation.

Meantime, our Young Eagles program will get under way again on August 8th. Registration will open up on July 25th.

For more, visit our
[Young Eagles web page](#).

Jim Kessler, Art Woods
Young Eagles Coordinators
eMail: youngeagles@eaa179.org
web: <https://eaa179.org/youngeagles/>



Notes from the Editor

George Young

I have many to thank for their contributions to this and other Newsletters. And this month in particular, for the DEAA 2026 Special Edition. Some special thanks:

- Raymond Alderete who provided all the photos used throughout the **SPECIAL REPORT—DEAA 2026**
- Jim Kessler for the special After Action report .. and answering questions I had for details in the notes.
- To the Quinn family who answered my call for a first-hand report on the experience of students and a family.
- And to all the students and volunteers who carried on with their activities while we took photos and notes for the Report.

Note: Photos of the students receiving their certificates can be downloaded from
[DEAA 2026 Certificate Presentations](#)

George Young
Newsletter Editor & Webmaster
newsletter@eaa179.org



Chapter 179 Scholarship Tidbits

Rowan Phlieger, Scholarship Coordinator

Thanks to the move from Reno to Roswell of the Air Races, here's an announcement of a new scholarship for New Mexico aviation students! Deadline is approaching, August 7, so don't delay!

NOW OPEN – FIRST-EVER NEW MEXICO FLIGHT TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The National Championship Air Races is excited to announce a major milestone for aspiring pilots in New Mexico. For the first time, students in the state can apply for the National Championship Air Races Flight Training Scholarship, helping turn dreams of flight into reality.

Applications for the 2026 scholarship program opened on **June 15** and will be accepted through August **7, 2026**, with recipients expected to be announced by the end of August.



The Flight Training Scholarship Program helps young people take the first step toward earning their Private Pilot Certificate by providing financial support for initial flight training. Eligible applicants must be between the ages of 16 and 20, be legal U.S. citizens, meet academic and medical requirements, complete a discovery flight, and pass the FAA written exam with a score of 70 percent or higher before applying.

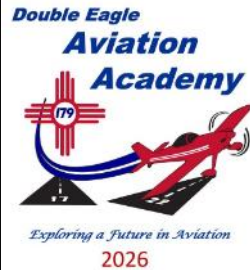
More info at: <https://airrace.org/now-open-first-ever-new-mexico-flight-training-scholarship-application/>

Rowan Phlieger
Scholarship Coordinators
eMail: schlarships@eaa179.org
web: <https://eaa179.org/scholarships/>



SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026

Each day began with a few airplanes on the ramp for the students to inspect.



Double Eagle Aviation Academy, or DEAA, is one of the premier activities presented by Chapter 179. This year's class of 21 youth age 14 to 17 were given an introduction to every facet of aviation opportunities open to them.

- Representatives from many career paths described their jobs: aviation maintenance, airline, military & law enforcement pilots, air traffic controllers, even amateur builders.
- Presentations covered many facets of airplanes and flying: aerodynamics, weather, navigation, communications,
- Along the way hands-on activities introduced them to aircraft systems, building techniques, and pilot knowledge and skills.

On the following pages are glimpses into the presentations and hands on activities, plus recognition of the many volunteers who made DEAA 2026 so successful.



Above:
The DEAA Class of '26

To the right:
The Class of '26 and many of the volunteers, with the Chile Flight after their flyover

You may download:

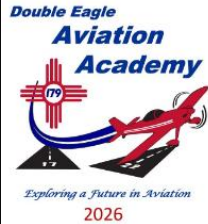
- A [Slide Show](#) of photos, each day of DEAA
- A [Gallery of Photos](#) of students receiving certificates





SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — Introductions to Airplanes

Each day began with a few airplanes on the ramp for the students to inspect.



On day one, after introductions in the classroom, the students reviewed a preflight inspection checklist. From there, it was out onto the ramp with the airplane owners to conduct a preflight inspections.

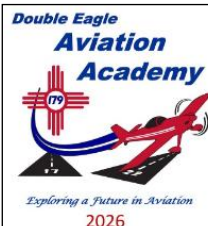
Each morning, a collection of different airplanes were parked on the ramp for the students to look at. To identify a few:: amateur-built (VANS RV-s, Velocity, Skyote, Zenith, and more), production aircraft (Cessna Skyhawk, Beech Bonanza, Bellanca Decathlon, Cirrus, L-29 Aero Vodochody jet, Romanian military IAR 823, Gyrocopter, even an RC Hot Air Balloon. And the Chile Flight and their RVs. *Thanks to all the aircraft owners and builders for sharing their aircraft!*





SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — Introductions to Knowledge and Skills for Pilots

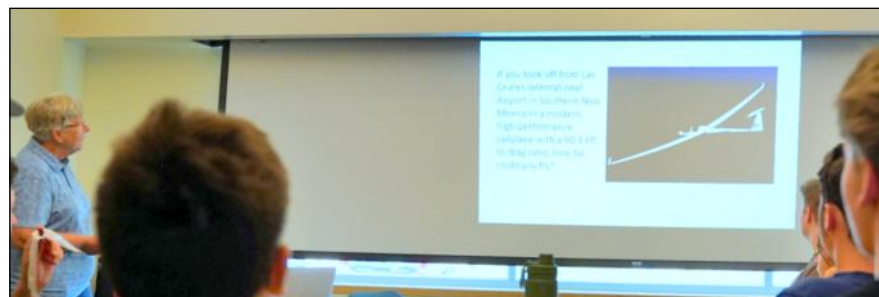
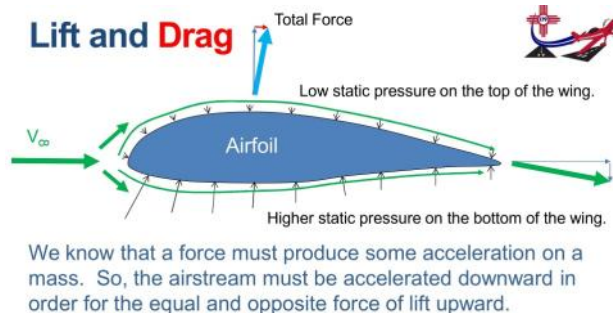
Each day included sessions on principles of flight and flying



Throughout the week, classroom discussions provided introductions to principles of flight and flying. Here are some examples (clockwise):

- Phonetic alphabet
- Aerodynamics

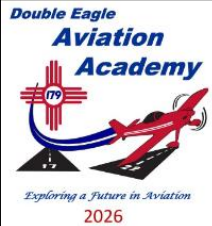
- Aviation Weather
- Weight and Balance
- Instruments
- Dead Reckoning Navigation
- Gliders





SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — Practicing

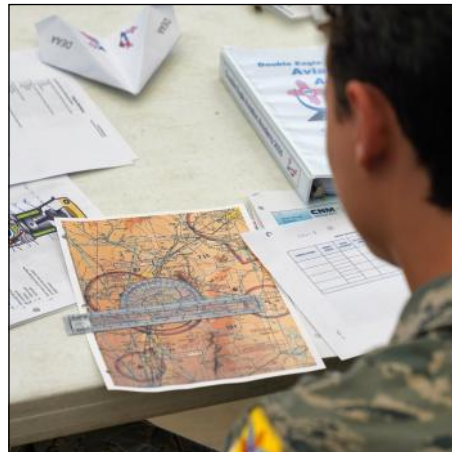
There were sessions devoted to developing and applying practical knowledge and skills.



There were also many activities, the chance for the students to explore and practice things introduced in classroom sessions (clockwise).

- ATC-Visit to the Double Eagle Tower

- Communications and Pilot to Controller Dialog
- Standard radio calls around a Traffic Pattern
- Plotting a course and developing a flight plan
- Flying basics – via Simulators





SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — Introductions to Skills for Hands On Activities



There were more Hands On activities: introduction and in some cases practice for building or maintaining (clockwise).

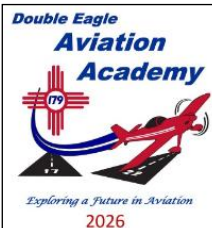
- Aircraft Building (sheet metal and rivets)
- Engines (reciprocating and turbo)
- Avionics (wiring and circuit assembly)





SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — Introductions to Career Opportunities

Each day, guest speakers from many aviation-related careers shared their perspective.



Interspersed among other sessions, professionals from various career fields discussed their jobs and careers. These included (clockwise):

- Commercial Pilot – Troy Ettenson
- Military – officers from the U. S. Air Force
- Air Traffic Control – Anita Johnson
- Engineering, Aeronautical – Bennet Wehr
- Drones – Aiden Buckner
- Maintenance – Jeremy Frick & Orion Francis
- Law Enforcement/Helicopters – APD Pilot
- Engineering, Civil/Airports – Nicole Nasi



SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — The Unsung Heroes

Each day – snacks & lunch, and key preparations



The Binder team



The Computer Prep team



Snacks and
Lunch each day



And Raymond, al-
ways looking for
the best photo.



Snacks & Lunch, and the Unsung Heros .. Support Volunteers



SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — Reception and Closing Presentations



The week concluded with

- A Reception for students and families
- Displays by organizations who support potential “next steps”
- Closing Remarks by Raymond and Cynthia – inspiration for futures in aviation, Art Woods (Chapter President) and Jim Kessler (DEAA Coordinator and . . . Principal)
- Presentations of Certificates of Completion to each of the students

SPECIAL NOTE: Photos of each of the students receiving their Certificate can be download from our Chapter web site. Browse to [DEAA 2026 Certificate Presentations](#)





SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 — After Action Review

Jim Kessler – DEAA Coordinator and Principal



I promised a deep dive into the critiques we received from the students who participated in this year's DEAA. So here we go.

For the last 7 years that I've been involved with DEAA, we've asked the students the same 9 questions. The first five question were circle 1 – 5. Question 6 was circle 1 – 10.

The week met my expectations.	90%
Instructors were knowledgeable about their subjects	98%
There were enough fun, hands-on activities	83%
I expect to use something I learned	97%
Overall, this session was worth my time	99%
How likely would you be to recommend a future DEAA to a friend	87%

The final three questions were essay questions.

What did you like best? The hands-on stuff, simulators and morning airplanes were the clear favorites. The career speakers were a big hit. There was one food and one MR Kessler's lift lesson. Bonus points for that endorsement.

What can we do to improve DEAA? More sims, planes, hands-on activities and less math and less boring. Longer camp and one courageous student said explain thrust better.

Any other comments. A bunch of thank you, but one critiquer suggested a page of homework to nail down topics. There's some out of the box thinking.

On the parent's critique side we got a 4 on Pre-session communications were adequate. I'll take that hit. I think I had a wrong email address for one parent, and they weren't informed with the other parents. One other suggestion was to inform the students earlier that they have been accepted. Other than the one 4 we got all 5 and 10s. Here are the parent questions.

Pre-session communications were adequate.
My son/daughter was appropriately challenged by DEAA sessions
The session was worth the money.
How likely would you be to recommend a future DEAA to a friend?
What can we do to improve DEAA in the future?
More marketing at schools.
Any other comments?
Food and snacks so yummy!

If you look at the schedule, you'll notice each day goes from 8:15 to 4:30 and there's not really room for anything more. We do have to do some

classroom instruction, but we are always looking for ways to get more hands-on activities in the sessions.

I want to thank the city of Albuquerque for the use of the Maintenance facility and specifically Gavin Gallegos, Brian Boyd and Darrel Watts for their outstanding support.

We have a number of presenters that provide classroom instruction. I want to thank them, many of whom have taught for several years.

Classroom Presenters

Aerodynamics	Jim Kessler
Compass headings	Jocelyn Muniz
Aviation Weather	Kevin Frick
Instrument Six Pack	Will Taylor
Communications	George Young
Hazardous Attitudes	Mark Thoman
Weight & Balance	
Sectional Charts	Dan Horschel
Aircraft Building	Vyking & the Chile Flight
Engines	Emilio Verastegui
Avionic	Kevin Frick
Simulators	Doreen Branch
	Mike Wirstrum
	Connie Buenafe
Dead Reckoning	Mia Alderete

Food and Snack Coordinators

Pam Kessler
Cynthia Alderete

Photographer

Raymond Alderete

Career Speakers

Commercial Pilot	Troy Ettenson
ATC Careers	Antia Johnson
Engineering – Aerodynamics	
	Bennett Wehr
Drone Careers	Alden Buckner
Gliders	Connie Buenafe
Maintenance Careers	Jeremy Frick
Law Enforcement	APD Pilots
Engineering-Civil	Brett Shank
Student Pilot Advice	Mia Alderete

Young Eagles Coordinator

Art Woods

Young Eagles Pilots

David Otero
Emilio Verastegui
Gary Williams
Art Woods
Joyce Woods
Daniel Maxwell
Brett Shank
Tanda Headrick
Jim Kessler

As you can see this is a tremendous team of volunteers and I am grateful for their commitment to this endeavor. Sarah Quinn was there every day. I'm not sure we kept her busy, but she was available to help where we needed her. Two people that are indispensable are Joyce Woods and Kevin Frick. Joyce keeps me in line and Kevin coordinated all the career speakers.

My thanks to all who participated in making this year's DEAA a success. Thank you.

Jim Kessler
DEAA Principal

eMail: deaa@eaa179.org

web: <https://eaa179.org/deaa/>



SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 – A Family Perspective

The Quinn Family



Editor's Note: As DEAA wrapped up at the reception, I solicited the students and their families for an article about their experience this week. The Quinn family sent to me this superb article. Thank you, Mike and family.

This was our family's second experience with the Double Eagle Aviation Academy and it was just as thrilling and fulfilling as the first. We chanced upon the DEAA in 2025 through an online news story. Our youngest son was interested and we thought it sounded like a great short summer activity for him. We were completely unprepared for how this seemingly minor opportunity would open a door to a new world and entirely change our family's trajectory.

Since DEAA 2025, our sons have been immersed in the world of aviation – learning gliding at the Albuquerque Soaring Club, going on Young Eagles flights around New Mexico and participating in EAA 179 meetings and activities.

This is our perspective on DEAA 2026...

Mom

As a parent, spending the whole week at DEAA was such a great opportunity. I spoke with all the volunteers, young and old, on a daily basis and left feeling like EAA 179 is a true family. Questions are never silly, and everyone openly shares stories and help and advice.

- I was able to look at and touch some really special aircraft. Emilio's plane was just amazing to me. Before, I had never heard of a "plan build" before; now I know just how much time, patience and love went into building it and sharing it with the group.
- I also saw a hot air balloon up close and learned about it from the owner himself; how much of it was made by hand and how some of the fire-resistant materials used for the interior were difficult to source. I haven't been to a Balloon Fiesta yet, so it was super cool to be right next to it. This new knowledge will help me be an even better "runway mom"!



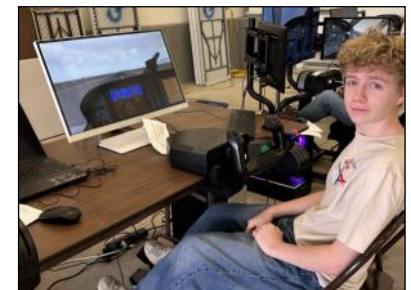
Dash

My time at DEAA 2026 was unforgettable. Being given the opportunity to meet and learn from talented and distinguished pilots, as well as professionals in the broader field of aviation, really set DEAA up to the standard I had expected. My favorite moments of the camp were the visit to the control tower, the Chile Flight and the police hangar. The camp was very well organized and gave everyone the chance to improve and explore their knowledge and interests in aviation.

For me, every lesson and presentation taught me something new. For example, before the camp, I had a lot of difficulty understanding what pilots would say on the radio and the AWOS, and I could not read sectional charts very well. Now, I can anticipate what pilots will say on the radio and understand what they're saying, decode the AWOS information to instantly know the wind speed and direction, and confidently read sectional charts. My takeaway from DEAA 2026 is: if you want to be a pilot or be involved in the field of aviation in any way, participate! It may very well change the course of your life.

Perry

DEAA is an amazing camp. I honestly view it more as an important class rather than a summer camp. It is extremely professional and serious, but at the same time very fun and enjoyable. Last year when I attended DEAA, I was just starting out in aviation and didn't know very much. However as a beginner I still felt it was very easy to learn all the fundamentals and basics of aviation. I was eager to learn and I felt all the other kids surrounding me were as well, everyone was very engaged and enthusiastic, and it was the same this year.



(Continued on page 17)



SPECIAL REPORT – DEAA 2026 – A Family Perspective (continued)

The Quinn Family



(Continued from page 16)

Perry (continued)

Every single instructor was friendly and willing to help. If you couldn't understand something, they walk you through it slowly, which is very helpful. Most of the basic things we learned last year stayed with me, such as communication, navigation, flight forces, flight controls, and how to safely fly an airplane. It made this year's DEAA easier for me because I remembered a lot of the information. What also helped me a lot has been actively practicing these concepts in real life by flying gliders over the past year.

What seemed new again was the aerodynamics part of the class, it still challenged me and tripped me up a little, but by the end I was able to understand it fully thanks to the instructors. During my first



DEAA, I remember not being able to fully understand communications – it was hard for me to remember the phonetic alphabet and how to confidently talk over the radio. This year, I was able to understand it way better. I think it was the repetition that made it easier for me. Overall, the class surpassed my expectations yet again. I'm so glad to be part of the EAA community!

Dad

Since DEAA 2025, aviation has taken over our family. Our house now features planes as screen savers, flight tracking apps on everyone's devices, flying manuals on tables and chairs, and incessant discussions of routes into aviation. Even the dog looks up when there's a plane overhead.

DEAA 2026 has done nothing to change this situation, in the best possible way. To those who organized, volunteered and assisted – thank you. You are incredible ambassadors for aviation; opening doors for the next generation of pilots and encouraging them every step of the way. To parents who are considering DEAA 2027 or thinking about getting involved with EAA 179 – don't hesitate, the conditions are perfect!

- The Quinn Family



Pedal Plane Update

The Pedal Plane Team has been making great progress. Stay tuned. (Joyce Woods)



Discussing Blue Angels paint scheme.



Doug Volker explained the parts Mike Paxson is 3D printing: Instrument panel as usual, but also . . . Afterburners!





Luke Vaughn's Air Force Academy Graduation

Emilio Verastegjui

Editor's Note: Luke Vaughn, the Chapter's second Scholarship Recipient to attend the Air Force Academy, graduated on May 28th. Emilio and Pat traveled to Colorado Springs to attend the ceremonies and carry our congratulations to now 2Lt Luke Vaughn. Here's is Emilio's report. Thank you!

Luke Vaughn's Air Force Academy Graduation The 68th Graduation Class Class Motto - "No Quit All Grit"



My wife, Ann, and I were invited by Luke and his family to witness Luke's graduation from the Air Force Academy recently (27 & 28 May) which took place on the grounds of the Academy. It was our pleasure and honor to take part in two unique ceremonies.

Our arrival to Colorado Springs preceded Luke's Commissioning Ceremony that took place on the evening of the 27th. Each Graduating Class is, not surprisingly, separated into "Squadrons" due to the large number of cadets in each graduating class. Luke's squadron was Squadron #30, consisting of only 16 cadets in the Class of 2026. All told, there were 40 Squadrons in the Graduating Class of over 930.

As mentioned, the first ceremony that we witnessed was the Commissioning Ceremony. While it was an indoor event, it was still imbued with much pomp and circumstance. The program opened with a small cadre of band members from a local High School marching band playing various Sousa

Marches. This was followed by an Invocation and a salute to the Flag, followed by the singing of the National Anthem by one of the Graduates. There were further Opening Remarks and Welcoming Remarks by various members of Squadron #30, followed by speeches delivered by various active duty and retired Officers.

The actual Commissioning Ceremony then began. As each graduate is called to the stage, he or she is required to recite the Oath Office that every Officer must abide by. That oath was administered to Luke by his brother, Zachary, an Air Force Captain, who also happens to be a recent graduate of the Air Force Academy.

After the oath, the cadet's student epaulets were removed by family members. His 2Lt bars were placed on his shoulders by his middle brother and his mother. With that accomplished, all newly commissioned Officers customarily receive their first salute from someone from the non-commissioned ranks. In Luke's case, that salute was given to him by his dad, an Air Force Master Sargent, Retired.

The Ceremony was very solemn and full of great pride for Luke and his family. Of course, afterwards, there were many pictures taken and much handshaking going on. Luke told everyone that he was scheduled for two months leave before his next duty assignment. He mentioned that he would be traveling to Europe before returning to the US to begin his Primary Pilot Training at Columbus Air Force Base, near Columbus, Mississippi. He will join his brother Zachary, who just completed his Primary Pilot Training there.

Ann and I are very happy for him because we see that he has finally accomplished what he set his sights on so many years ago. When he came to EAA 179, his goals seemed so lofty and almost impossible for him to accomplish. But, with perseverance, determination, "Grit" and with help from our Chapter and Chapter mentors, he accomplish his goals in record time!



(Continued on page 19)



Luke Vaughn's Air Force Academy Graduation

Emilio Verastegui

(Continued from page 18)



The next day dawned cloudy, with a very low overcast, along with cool temperatures and some drizzle. Not the best day for an outdoor graduation ceremony, to say the least. At the appointed time, the Cadets filed into the stadium, in order and in step. Wearing their white trousers, and blue jackets, sporting a yellow sash along and their white caps, the visual impression was very striking, even as the weather tried desperately to put a damper on the ceremonies at hand. After the Invocation by the Academy Chaplain, the National Anthem was played by the AF Band and everyone was encouraged to sing the Anthem with gusto and at the top of their voice! The Superintendent of the Academy spoke briefly, then introduced the Secretary of the Air Force, who quietly but forcefully addressed the graduates, encouraging them to keep a positive attitude and a curious mind as they move forward in their career. He said these traits would help determine what their future role would be in today's modern Air Force. With the conclusion of his remarks, the Honorable JD Vance, the Vice President of the United States, was introduced. He gave a stirring speech that seemed to bring everyone to their feet from time to time. He encouraged the graduates to be doers and leaders, not just followers. While it was not the shortest graduating speech I have ever witnessed, I

do believe it was not the longest ever recorded! With all the speeches and encouraging words said and given, it was time to present the diplomas. The Vice President stood on stage, not only shaking hands with each and every graduate as they passed by after receiving their diploma, but also giving each a few words of encouragement.

Then, with the presenting of the diplomas completed, as the Commandant of Cadets was finishing his remarks and officially dismissing the graduates, the Thunderbirds roared by overhead, just as all 930+ graduates were tossing their hats into the air. It was quite a sight to see! Unfortunately, because of the paltry weather, that's all we got to see - one low pass!



We congratulate Luke on his new career path, no matter where it might take him. He is bright, cheerful, enthusiastic, and is obviously willing to meet the world head-on. Without a doubt, Luke Vaughn has accomplished much already and I am sure we will hear from him again. He has met the challenge and we wish him well. Congratulations, Luke!

Welcome, Luke, to the ranks of USAFA Graduates. May your career be filled with great assignments and safe flying adventures.

George Young, USAFA '65.



Did you know?

On July 6, 1936, the U.S. Federal government officially took over the operation of airway traffic control stations, marking the birth of the modernized, regulated air traffic control system we rely on today. Prior to this, early air traffic controllers used little more than maps, blackboards, and binoculars to track planes. Today, these skilled professionals utilize state-of-the-art satellite tracking, advanced radar arrays, and digital communication systems to guide aircraft through any weather condition, day or night.

And the first Controller?

(from Facebook "[Aviation Update's Post](#)")

Today is National Air Traffic Controllers Day, a day to recognize the men and women who safely guide thousands of aircraft every day.

If there is one name that stands at the beginning of that story, it's Archie League.

In 1929, before control towers, radar, or radio communication became standard, aircraft simply took off and landed while trying to avoid each other.

As air traffic increased at St. Louis Municipal Airport, the city hired former barnstorming pilot Archie League to organize the growing chaos.

His first "control tower" wasn't a tower at all.

It was a wheelbarrow.

Inside, he carried a folding chair, a notebook, lunch, water, and two signal flags. During the summer, he added a beach umbrella for shade. In winter, he stood outside in heavy flying gear, directing aircraft in freezing temperatures.



His system couldn't have been simpler.

Checkered flag: Cleared to go.

Red flag: Hold position.

One man.

Two flags.

No radios.

No radar.

Just good judgment and perfect timing.

League later joked that "it took a while to educate some pilots," as a few thought it was amusing to buzz his umbrella or even knock over his chair with their prop wash.

As aviation evolved, so did League's career.

He eventually worked from a real control tower, served during World War II, rose to the rank of Colonel, and later became one of the FAA's senior air traffic officials, helping shape the modern U.S. air traffic control system before retiring in 1973.

He witnessed aviation's transformation from waving flags beside a runway to managing aircraft with radar and nationwide coordination.

Today, we honor Archie League—and every air traffic controller whose calm voice and quick decisions keep millions of passengers safe every single day.

References:

National Day Calendar: [National Air Traffic Control Day](#)

Checkiday.com: [National Air Traffic Control Day](#)

Wikipedia: [Archie League](#)

Run the Runway 5k and Mutt Strut 5k – 2026

Don Prescott, Coordinator

Run the Runway and Mutt Strut – Sept 5th
JOIN US as we support the City of Albuquerque's first annual
RUNWAY RUN 5K and Mutt Strut!



Chapter Members had great time last year supporting [Run the Runway](#). The event offers a great opportunity to introduce the public to Double Eagle (to many, it is that mystical airport on the west mesa). And it is an opportunity to introduce them to EAA and to Chapter 179. Check out their web page for details. Here is an extract from their Details:

Come run or walk the Double Eagle II Airport runway with us! (Custom T-shirt is included with registration.) There will be a Mutt Strut too, so bring your pooch and walk, run or strut for two great causes!

This is a fundraiser for the City of Albuquerque's Animal Welfare Department and also for EAA (Experimental Aircraft Association) Local Chapter 179. Last year, we raised over \$2000 for these amazing charities! Let's make it even bigger at this second annual event!

And, CABQ Animal Welfare who will be on-site all day with adorable adoptable dogs. There will also be an awards ceremony afterwards, music and food trucks to replenish you after conquering the runway 5K!

We enjoy a mutual-support relationship with the city and with the airport. We display aircraft, staff water stations, and discreetly keep race participants from veering over to the active runway.

National Championship Air Races

Volunteers Needed - Sign up with Fellow Aviators!



Volunteers Needed
Roswell Air Races
September 16 - 20, 2026



ALL seven race classes are coming to Roswell 2026, plus the USAF Thunderbirds. Larger crowds are expected, driving increased volunteer numbers, starting Monday Sept 14 through Sunday Sept 20.

See NCAR's announcement: <https://airrace.org/its-a-full-house-all-seven-classes-return-for-roswell-2026/>

SIGN UP HERE to Volunteer (NCAR site)

The New Mexico Pilots Association is helping recruit volunteers, partnering with area EAA Chapters for several race week positions focusing on:

1. **Race Aircraft Wing Walkers for the pit area**
2. **Tram Drivers/Conductors or Handicapped Shuttle Drivers**

Several other roles are available—check anything of interest. Scroll to the bottom of the page for descriptions.

WE NEED YOU! And it will be FUN!

To volunteer with fellow aviators, select "recommended by somebody" and identify Chet or Joyce as who referred you - as follows:

- For **Wing Walking**, enter "Chet Leach".
- For **Tram Drivers/Conductors or Handicap Shuttle Drivers** enter "Joyce Woods"

Once submitted, please EMAIL Chet or Joyce so they can help coordinate your volunteer assignment with NCAR.

BENEFITS: Assigned volunteers get FREE race admission for the days they work at least a half day plus free volunteer parking. The NCAR folks hope most volunteers can help at least 4 days, even if for a half day. We recommend securing your own [accommodations](#) in Roswell or Artesia asap, as they are limited. Free Tent camping available. Dry camping RV spaces are available from the ticket purchase page. Inquire with Joyce per comp spaces for volunteering the full week.

Questions? More info? Contacts: Chet Leach (chetleach@msn.com) or Joyce Woods (niner3echo@flylonecone.com) or Larry Shapnek (larry@larryshapnek.com)

NM Aviation Division Launches “Safe Skies” Quarterly Safety Seminars - Around the State

Safe Skies New Mexico is a 2026 aviation safety seminar series designed to bring practical, real-world safety education directly to pilots, aircraft owners, maintainers, airport sponsors, and aviation enthusiasts across the state.

Each session *qualifies for FAA WINGS credit* and focuses on topics that general aviation pilots regularly encounter in New Mexico’s operating environment.

These seminars are offered at no cost and are intended to be practical, discussion-driven learning opportunities rather than formal lectures. Our goal is to support the GA community and strengthen safety culture statewide.

Jessi Litz-Rowden
Director of Aviation
NMDOT Aviation Division



Director Jessi Litz-Rowden

*Join fellow aviators at Roswell
during the National Championship Air Races!*

3rd Quarter Seminar

Fly New Mexico and the Wilds

History, Geology, and High-Altitude/Back-Country Ops

by John Lorenz, NMPA Safety & Education Chair

Friday, Sept 18, 2026

5:30pm Pizza Meet ‘n Greet

6:15pm Program

WHERE: ITC Bldg; ENMU Campus

1 block from NCAR Main Gate at Roswell Airport

23 West Mathis; Roswell, NM 88203

For full WINGS announcement and to register for FAA WINGS credit:
Watch for FAA WINGS posting—[coming HERE soon.](#)

A large, colorful poster for the "Safe Skies New Mexico 2026 Aviation Safety Seminar Series". The background features a desert landscape with mountains and a sunset sky. At the top, the "SAFE SKIES NEW MEXICO" logo is prominently displayed, featuring a stylized sun and wings. Below the logo, the text "2026 AVIATION SAFETY SEMINAR SERIES" and "Aviation Safety Education for Pilots, Owners & Maintainers" are visible. A banner indicates "FAA WINGS CREDIT AVAILABLE". The "2026 SEMINAR SCHEDULE" is listed in three boxes: 1. "MARCH 28, 2026 | 0930-1200 Double Eagle (AEG) OWNER & OPERATOR MAINTENANCE" with a wrench icon. 2. "JUNE 20, 2026 | 0930-1200 Farmington (FMN) MOSAIC PROGRAM FOR PILOTS & MAINTENANCE" with a puzzle piece icon. 3. "SEPTEMBER 18, 2026 | TIME TBD Roswell (ROW) FLY NEW MEXICO AND THE WILDS" with a clock icon. A fourth box at the bottom shows "NOVEMBER 14, 2026 | 0930-1200 Deming (DMN) TECHNOLOGY RELIANCE" with a screen icon. To the right, a section titled "WHO SHOULD ATTEND:" lists: "✓ Pilots & Aircraft Owners", "✓ A&P & IA Technicians", "✓ Aviation Enthusiasts", "✓ Airport Sponsors", and "✓ FBO Operations". At the bottom, logos for the "aviation division New Mexico DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION" and the "FAASafety Team NEW MEXICO" are shown. A banner at the very bottom reads "FAA WINGS CREDIT • NO-COST STATEWIDE SAFETY EDUCATION".

Enjoy the sights and sounds of Oshkosh

Watch AirVenture Live

<https://www.eaa.org/airventure/live>



Watch aircraft landing, check out the view as the field fills up with aircraft from various viewpoints!

Listen to LIVE ATC.

Don't miss any of the action from EAA AirVenture with the official live stream cameras presented by Pratt & Whitney and Daher. EAA cameras go live to capture the mass arrivals, daily air shows, and the evening programming from around the AirVenture grounds.

Air Show Live Stream

Daily air shows streams begin approximately 2:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and at 1 p.m. on Sunday. These live streams offer a broadcast-style experience that brings the sights and sounds of show center right to you.

Wayfinding Cameras

Catch a glimpse of the runways for incoming aircraft or watch the respective airplane camping areas fill up with our wayfinding tours. These cameras rotate nearly 180 degrees to cover the action from several angles.

Streaming Evening Programming

Starting nightly at approximately 7 p.m., excluding Wednesday and Saturday, tune in for our evening programming from the Theater in the Woods or the Twilight Flight Fest at the Fun Fly Zone. Enjoy the high-profile panels and presentations at the Theater in the Woods or check out the other events at Twilight Flight Fest like the STOL demonstration, illuminated powered parachutes, and RC aircraft.

Webcams



Chapter 179 and CAP NM-083 have joined frequently in supporting each other's events. This includes Chapter members being also members of the CAP Albuquerque Heights Composite Squadron. They have asked if we might lend our support in raising funds for the Squadron.

They have arranged with Smiths Food and Drug to receive donations from purchases on the store's Shopper's Card.



Support Civil Air Patrol NM-083 every time you shop at Smith's. Signing up is free and easy

To get a Smith/Kroger "Shopper's Card", and register your digital account to CAP NM-083,

1. Go to SmithsFoodandDrug.com/inspire
2. Apply for an account if necessary, then link your Rewards Card by entering the CAP Squadron's number: **T1167**

Then every time you shop at Smith's with your Rewards Card, .05% of your total order will go to CAP NM-083



In the News and Other Interesting Topics

The Editor ... and you?

OK, This article has become bigger than fits on one page. So there is now an overflow page. And I invite you, friend readers, to send me links to resources of interest to you and others.

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](#)

National Weather Service (from Frank Beckwith—Thanks!)

- NEW** [Aviation Decision Support Services Page for Northern and Central New Mexico](#)



FAA FAASTeam

- **** [FAA Safety Briefing Magazine](#) >> [Check It Out](#)
 - This month's feature: *Weather Tech and Automation*
- FAAST Webinars: A list of many great topics; most qualify the attendee for WINGS credits.
Go to [Seminars & Webinars](#), select Show only Webinars, then [Search]
 - NTSB Safety Alert: [See and Be Seen: Your Life Depends on It](#)
 - Reference Data: [FAA Fact Book](#), and [Airport Data & Information Portal](#)
 - NEW** Flight Service Radio Frequency Reductions



Federal Aviation
Administration

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)
 - Recent Pilots Tip of the Week (**New in each issue**)
 - [How to Use a Fire Extinguisher](#)
 - [Fly an Approach to One Airport, Land at Another](#)
 - [Mixture During Descent](#)
 - [Engine Failure: #1 Rule](#)
 - [Critical Differences with "V"](#)
- Pilot Friendly Manuals
 - [How ATC Really Works](#)
 - [Pilot Exercise Program](#)
- ["Secrets from a tailwheel pilot" - Tailwheel Checkout Course with Patty Wagstaff](#)
- [Basic Aerobatics with Patty Wagstaff](#) (video)
- And many manuals, such as [Checkride Insights: Private Pilot](#)
- NEW** A couple of interesting Workshops:
 - [VFR Mastery](#)
 - [IFR Mastery](#)





In the News and Other Interesting Topics

The Editor ... and you?

(Continued from page 24)

EAA

- *** Are you affected by MOSAIC? EAA's news: [MOSAIC Implementations—FAA Releases Updated Advisory Circulars](#)
- [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 [eHotline](#), Announcements for Air Venture/Oshkosh and more



NMPA

- [July 2026 NMPA Newsletter](#)
- Visit the [NMPA web site](#) for the latest about their activities



Facebook

- [Student Pilots Group](#), with many instructional articles
- A Facebook group for local flying: [Fly New Mexico](#), Dave Otero, Administrator.
- Great Facebook spaces: [Commemorative Air Force](#) & [National Museum of the U.S. Air Force](#), [Pima Air and Space Museum](#) (& [Facebook](#))
- **NEW FINDS:** Some great resources to keep your "aviation knowledge" up to date:
 - [Aviation Knowledge](#), a Facebook thread presenting a variety of topics, to for budding pilots or refresh knowledge: (examples below, click to see original on Facebook)
 - [Aviation Update](#), another publisher of info for pilots, some basic, some more advanced
 - [Boldmethod](#). A variety of posts for new and experienced pilots, small and large aircraft
 - [The Sky's The Limit](#), another Facebook thread presenting many interesting facts and perspectives – weather, airplanes, aviation, and more.
 - **NEW:** From [Pilot Institute](#):
 - [Instrument Cross-Check](#)
 - **NEW:** From [Flying Knuckleheads](#)
 - [Engine Simulation](#)



2025 Individual Chapter Donors

Tandra Hicks Memorial
Mark/Linda Henderson
Joyce Schmitt
Joyce/Art Woods
Dan/Janice Horschel
Bob & Kat Richter-Sand
Corrine Matthes
Gilbert Merriman
Matt & Kristi Reimer
Bob & Sandy Waters
Mark Wilson

Donor Levels
\$10,000 - DIAMOND
\$5000 - PLATINUM
\$2000 - TURQUOISE
\$1000 - GOLD
\$500-999 SILVER
\$100-499 BRONZE

Thank You For Your Support!
 Sponsorship info at:
<https://eaa179.org/sponsor>.

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.



Thanks to Corporate Sponsors for their generous support!

DIAMOND SPONSOR

\$10,000 and up



PLATINUM SPONSOR

\$5000 and up



TURQUOISE SPONSORS
\$2000 and up



GOLD SPONSORS

\$1000 and up

Southwest



SILVER SPONSORS

\$500—\$999



Albuquerque Wholesale
Envelope & Paper Co



BRONZE SPONSORS - LOEFI 2025

\$100 - \$499

Airway Heritage Museum– KGNT
AirMedCare Network-Guardian
Commemorative Air Force, Lobo Wing
High Country Air Service
Merlin Aviation, Moriarty
New Mexico Aero Service
Recreational Aviation Foundation
Ridgeview Roofing & Restoration
UNMH Lifeguard Emergency Air Services

Fast as Flight Sponsors:

Montano Acura
Sandia BMW
Galles Chevrolet
Perfection Honda
Lexus of Albuquerque
University Volkswagen-Mazda



DBCWATERS

Food Trucks

Alitas de Pollo
Cerealsly Sweet
Loaded Lemon ABQ
One Stop Chill 'n Fill
Pop-Pop's Italian Ice

Garmin



Recurring Events for Chapter 179

Check the [Newsletter](#) and [Web](#) for details)

Chapter Gatherings

3rd Tuesday evenings, usually at a restaurant in Albuquerque.
March – Scholarships, November – Annual Meeting, December – Holiday Gathering

Chapter Board Meetings

Typically the First Tuesday of Odd Months via ZOOM—check newsletter

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 & fall

Quick Links to Chapter 179 Website & Facebook

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
Public Facebook: www.facebook.com/EAA179
Members Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/
www.eaa179.org](http://www.facebook.com/groups/www.eaa179.org)

Upcoming Aviation Events (hosted by others) & New Mexico EAA Chapter Activities

A listing of aviation events of interest around New Mexico.
If you know of others, send information to newsletter@eaa179.org.

Events

Weekly–Lobo Wing of the CAF Lunch, Saturdays 1200 (0E0)
(hangar at east end of Moriarty Airport, \$7 donation)

Monthly– [Chapter 555 Pancake Breakfast](#), 3rd Sundays ([KLRU](#))

**Newsletters – [EAA 555, June 2026 Newsletter](#)
[EAA 691 May 2026 Newsletter](#)
[EAA 691 June 2026 Newsletter](#)
[NMPA May 2026 Newsletter](#)
[NMPA June 2026 Newsletter](#)
[NMPA July 2026 Newsletter](#)**

Also Check NMPA's [Upcoming Events](#)

Websites

[EAA 691](#) – Los Alamos, “Green Chile Chapter”
[EAA 1306](#) – Edgewood
EAA 530 – Los Lunas
[EAA 555](#) – Las Cruces, “Triple Nickel “
[EAA 1570](#) – Dona Ana
[EAA 251](#) – Alamogordo
[NMPA](#) – New Mexico Pilots Association

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.

[EAA Chapter 179 New Mexico](#) 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.



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

NEW! Chapter T Shirts!

These high quality t-shirts with our dated chapter logo are in stock (most sizes) and will be brought to February gathering. Ladies scoop neck shirts in limited sizes are also available. Contact Diana or Doug Volker or contact us at [chap-ter@eaa179.org](mailto:chapter@eaa179.org)

\$20.00 for Chapter Members and
\$25.00 for Non-Members



T Shirt FRONT

up-
our



T Shirt BACK

DEAA T Shirts and Chapter Polo Shirts

These designs available by special order.
Additional colors are available for Polos - inquire with your order.
Contact us at chapter@eaa179.org with your SIZE.

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.

\$30 each.

Add Pocket (\$2)



For Sale: 1991 Kitfox Model 2 N138H s/n 138



Built, owned, flown and maintained by the original builder.
Located in Edgewood New Mexico, always stored indoors.

Registered 10/15/1990 - first flight June 1991

This AC has served me well.

Now it's time for Mosquito Build & Rotor Time !

TTAF 660

Rotax 582 TTE 378, Last Condition Inspection May 2025,
Time Since Engine tear-down/inspection 43 hours,

Propeller GCS 3 blade fixed pitch..

Empty weight 525 lbs, gross 950 lbs.,
9 gal. main header tank, 6 gal. wing tank



Nav/Com #1 ICOM IC-A24 Nav 2
Garmin GPSmap 765, Flightcom
IISx Intercom, EBC 102A ELT,
2 sets of tires - currently on Duro
18x8.5-8 shaved tread tires, Nanco
N800 "big" tires included, but not
mounted.

BRS parachute (expired / not eligi-
ble for repack).

Typical time from the ramp, to wing fold, to trailer is < 12 minutes.

\$20,000 includes trailer (Fly or Trailer it Home !)

Bruce Hansche 505-270-9839 earthstarbc@gmail.com



NM Aviation and Other Organizations and Resources Of Interest

The Editor

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

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

NM EAA Chapters

- [1306 Edgewood, 1N1](#)
- [530, Los Lunas, E98](#)
- [691, Los Alamos, KLAM & KSAF \(Green Chile Chapter\)](#)
- [251, Alamogordo, KALM \(& Facebook\)](#)
- [555, Las Cruces, KLRU \(Triple Nickel Chapter\) \(& Facebook\)](#)
- [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!)
- [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 \(KDNA\)](#)

BUSINESS CARDS & POSTERS IN THE RAF, “Reimer Aircraft Factory”

Business Cards are a great way to publicize the Chapter and its activities. And the LOEFI Poster too. Stop by the RAF and get a supply to “spread our stories”. And they will be on hand at our Gatherings.



Experimental Aircraft Association

EAA Chapter 179
Albuquerque, NM

Web: <https://eaa179.org>
eMail: chapter@eaa179.org



EAA 179 Chapter Activities

- **Monthly Gatherings**
3rd Tuesday evening, location varies
- **Land of Enchantment Fly-In**
A Saturday in September - www.LOEFI.org
- **Double Eagle Aviation Academy**
A week in June (Youth age 14-17)
- **Young Eagles**
Monthly in Spring & Fall (Youth age 8-17)
- **Scholarships**
February 15 application deadline

See website for dates & info: <https://eaa179.org>



Land of Enchantment Fly-In
September 26, 2026 7am-2pm
Double Eagle II Airport (AEG) - Albuquerque, NM



FREE ADMISSION & PARKING Aircraft Displays Car Clubs
Youth Activities Live Music Food Trucks Aviation Exhibits



EAA Chapter 179
Young Eagles Flights

Youth, Ages 8-17 Fly with a volunteer
EAA pilot at Double Eagle II Airport
2026 Dates
Feb 21, Mar 14, Apr 11, May 9, Aug 8, Sep 12, Oct 10



Details at eaa179.org/YoungEagles



Land of Enchantment Fly-In
September 26, 2026 7am-2pm
Double Eagle II Airport (AEG) - Albuquerque, NM



LOEFI.org

Hosted by
EAA Chapter 179



**FREE ADMISSION & PARKING Aircraft Displays Car Clubs
Youth Activities Live Music Food Trucks Aviation Exhibits**