

# SMOKY HILL E.A.A. CHAPTER #1127

**2024 DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE**

**BRING YOUR \$20 DONATION TO THE  
WINTER SOCIAL OR SEND IT TO:  
JIM HOMOLKA  
1035 16<sup>TH</sup> RD, ELLSWORTH, KS 67439  
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GREAT AVIATION ORGANIZATION -**

## CHAPTER LETTER – FEBRUARY 2024

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## NEXT MEETING

### CHAPTER MEETING - SUNDAY: February 11, 2024

Program:	Anthony Henke & Keith Houghton – Traffic patterns at uncontrolled airports
Host:	Patti Kubick
Where:	Ellsworth Municipal Airport
Who:	Members, Families and Guests
Time:	2:30pm

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

3 <sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY	BENTON AIR PARK
3 <sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY	ALVA OKLA, CRETE NEBRASKA FLY IN BREAKFAST
4 <sup>TH</sup> SATURDAY	AUGUSTA KS & ENID OKLAHOMA BREAKFAST



## Secretary's Report — December 10, 2023

*(Reprint from January 2024 Newsletter)*

**The regular meeting of Smoky Hill EAA#1127** was held on December 10, 2023 at the EAA meeting room at the Ellsworth Airport. The meeting was called to order by President Weinhold with 6 members in attendance. The minutes of the November meeting were approved upon a motion by Red Sigle and seconded by Larry Gourley. The motion carried.

**Treasurer** Homolka reported that the Savings had been moved to a different account that paid 5% interest and that the balance of that is \$8,000. He reported a checking account balance of \$2,952.43. Upon a motion by Woods and seconded by Sigle the report was approved.

**Young Eagles:** Weinhold reported that at the YE day in November the official number was 50 Young Eagles flew with 39 of them being first time Eagles. Also 9 adults were flown. Larry Gourley flew the most having flown 14. Weinhold also reported that Patti Kubick has accepted the roll of Young Eagles chairman for 2024. She will be assisted by Larry Farmer.

**Youth Workshop:** Red Sigle reported on the recent work shop. There were several cancellations and only 4 youth participated in the workshop. There was discussion on some things that would improve the activity, including maybe changing the age requirement to a closer spread. Sigle will check with EAA to see if that can be done. Several other suggestions were made to improve attendance. The final consensus was we should give it another try and bring it up for discussion when the YE Rally for 2024 is discussed.

Career day is still on the agenda, Weinhold will check with the school counselor again to be sure on the date. March is what we are looking at.

**Tech counselor report:** Nothing to report

**Flight Advisor Report:** Nothing to report

**Old Business:** The T shirts from NAC have arrived if you participated in the event, please get your shirt and scratch your name from the list so we know who received their shirt. The shirts are in the meeting room. Also, Weinhold read a card from the NAC committee chairman thanking us for helping and looking forward to us helping in 24.

The couch in the meeting room was discussed with one member thinking it took up too much room. After discussion it was decided to leave it for now.

**New Business:** The January Social was discussed, and all present agreed to hold it again in The Barn at the Midland Railroad Hotel in Wilson. The starting time will be 1300 hours. Weinhold will see if Anne Piper can coordinate the event. Also, it was suggested that we plan this event a bit earlier next year, possibly in November or October.

Jim Price notified the club that an FAA safety meeting will be held in Abilene on January 18<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. Location will be forth coming.

Dues are now payable to Jim Homolka, Treasurer. Weinhold also asked members to verify their EAA# on the sheet that Homolka has as they are needed from time to time in EAA correspondence.

Keith Houghton reported that today's program must be canceled as Anthony Henke is in McPherson and having trouble starting the airplane he was coming over in.

On motion by Red Sigle the meeting was adjourned.

Keith Houghton provided treats.

Minutes taken by President Dale Weinhold

## FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:

Well, February is our first regular meeting of 2024. Just some basic things at the Social and a little time to recognize those who helped lead us in 2023. This included a special recognition, Patti Kubick was awarded the MVP member of 2023. Patti is very deserving as she has been a big part of our Young Eagles Events for several years. Organizing the paperwork, certificates and necessary things to keep everything moving. More on the social, this has been a tradition of our chapter for a number of years, and this was another great one. Our Host, the Midland was great, service was great and the food great. Everyone seemed to be enjoying the food and fellowship, and that is what it is all about. Again, a very special thanks to our Newsletter Editor Anne Piper for organizing the entire event, from taking reservations and working with the Midland to making sure we all received the food we had ordered. Great Job Anne!!!! At our February meeting we will discuss the events we have pre-planned for 2024 as well as discuss any new things anyone has in mind. The closest one is probably Career Day with Ellsworth High School. I am thinking of March, however I will visit with the High School Counselor prior to our meeting. We need to talk about that and see how we want to handle it. So Welcome to 2024, it is going to be a great year.

The beginning of 24 for pilots has been interesting. A lot of snow, which was challenging for the city crew to keep the runway open as it continued to drift back after opening. However, they did a good job keeping an eye on it. The weather certainly had an impact on my flying time, that and recent cataract surgery has kept me out of the air for the past couple of months. I also found out recently that the construction of the Snow Equipment Storage building will change the way I get my airplane out, temporarily anyway. They tell me that the only exit for the SkyHawk is to move planes and go out the East door or figure out a way to exit to the North, which might be the best solution. However, I may have to exit and enter when the spray pilot is in the air or in the hangar, but we will see. Speaking of deciding to fly, today was that day, wind not bad, sun shining, and things looked good. Did a through preflight on the Hawk and all checked out good after adding some brake fluid which I seen had dripped on the floor. Everything looked good, pushed it out, climbed in the seat and checked everything again. OK we are ready for engine start. Big problem, the battery was not ready, just a click. So, pulled it back inside and hooked up the charger. However, I think this means it is about time to shell out some dollars for a new battery. We will see.

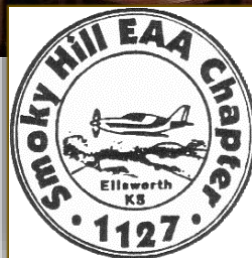
I also have been told that some members are already planning their summer trip to Oshkosh, sounds good, a bit of early planning never hurts when going to Oshkosh. Not sure that is in my plans for 24, but you never know, things can change. One of my best memories of Oshkosh was the year Jim Price and I flew up. A great trip. However, we did learn one important lesson. Never pitch the tent under the back side of the wing. A big rain one night filled the tent up as it ran off the wing into our tent. Lesson learned.

Well so much for my wisdom this month. I am looking forward to 2024. A lot of activities, some great programs and some of the best pilot talk around is always present at our meetings. Also, remember 2024 dues are **DUE** still \$20, if you are not paid up, March will be the last newsletter you will receive. Don't let that happen, bring your \$20 to Treasurer Jim Homolka at the meeting, or send it to Jim Homolka, 1035 16<sup>th</sup> Rd., Ellsworth, Kansas 67439. Continue to enjoy this great chapter.

***Dale Weinhold, President, Smoky Hill EAA#1127***

## **AVIATION PHOTO of THE MONTH**

- Courtesy of member Anne Piper



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