



The Flypaper

Promoting Sport Aviation in Central Illinois for More Than 58 Years



EAA's Ford Tri-Motor a big attraction!

In spite of Mother Nature's attempts at blowing our event away, we had a very successful visit from NC9645 and her crew. We were able to do 18 flights between weather events on Friday and Sunday and over 100 visitors came by just to get a tour and take a few photos on Saturday while we were grounded.

Many thanks to Synergy Flight Center, BNAA and TSA for helping plan the event with us and providing a home for our Tri-Motor during her visit. And at the heart of the program, EAA volunteers Bill Thacker and Sherry Finkler brought their ticketing and flight scheduling machine.

EAA is an organization whose very existence depends primarily on volunteers. The EAA fleet of aircraft including the Tri-Motor, a B25 and a B17

are maintained by a host of volunteers; the weeklong AirVenture event depends on thousands of volunteers to put on its annual Oshkosh event hosting over 800,000 attendees. These local tour events are no exception and our Tri-Motor visit brought out volunteers from our chapter, the Prairie Aviation Museum and Crosswinds Flying Club. Thanks to all who supported the event and special thanks to Bill Thacker who worked with the EAA Tours Group to bring the Tri-Motor back to BMI.

It is truly a joy to see the number of people who came out to see the Tri-Motor and get a chance to take a ride on such a historical aircraft.

As Paul Poberezney put it: *'It's about passion, camaraderie, that ol' can-do spirit, and a grassroots way of sharing our love of aviation with others.'*

More event photos on Page 3

You Have Information May!

May 20 Membership Meeting

We are breaking out the grill again for the May meeting. Thanks to Chef Paul for cooking last month! Burgers and hot dogs will be provided by the chapter. Please bring a dish to pass. We will eat at 6 PM.

Our speaker this month will be Rachael Henderson, our Young Eagles Coordinator who will discuss our YE plans for 2021.



Keith's Big Sale!

Keith donated the proceeds of his hangar-purging sale to Chapter 129 last month. Bolts, instruments, clamps, air compressor, riveting tools and more!

I don't have total count on the donations as of this writing.

Thanks Keith!



Chapter 129's YE Notes

Rachel Henderson, our 2021 Young Eagles Coordinator, will be our speaker this month to discuss our plans for our 2021 YE events. Rachel has been volunteering for the Young Eagles program since 2015 and is putting plans in place for this year for chapter 29 and 129.



June 12 is International YE Day and we are planning for an event at BMI. A second rally is scheduled for August 21 with a rain date of August 28. More to come on those.

All Young Eagle pilots are required to attend the online Youth Protection Training. You can check the currency of your previous training at YEDAY.org.

And don't throw out those old Sport Aviation magazines. Bring them to the hangar to hand out to our YE kids.



Just ten weeks to AirVenture! The 2021 NOTAM is out at: <https://www.eaa.org/-/media/Files/AirVenture/FlyingIn/NOTAM/2021/2021-NOTAM.ashx>

Overheard on ATC enroute to Sun-n-Fun in 2019:

ATC: *Nxxxx, you are flying into an active MOA, turn right to 270, where you headed?*

Pilot: *(enthusiastically) We're going to Sun-n-Fun*

ATC: *Did you read the NOTAM?*

Pilot: *Umm, I glanced at it*

Don't be that guy!

Chapter 129 Web Page

Mike Todd is continuing to update our new web page at <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea129>.

We want to add a section highlighting our member's planes. Please send your photos to: eaachapter129@gmail.com. (google eaachapter129)

Also, please send your input on additional information you would like to see on our site as we put it together.

Thanks Mike for all your efforts!

Midwest Aero Restorations

Chapter 29 in Champaign has arranged an outing to the P-51 shop in Danville on June 3, at 6:00 PM. This is a great opportunity to meet members of Chapter 29 and see some awesome P-51 restorations.

More information at: http://midwestaero.com/site/Midwest_Aero_Restorations, Ltd.html

Ford Tri-Motor Photos

Thanks to all of our volunteers who donated their time to help us showcase aviation to our community! Saturday's winds kept us grounded, but we had over 100 folks visit us to see the historical Tri-Motor, and gave us an opportunity to give her a good cleaning.



The Art of Stepping Up

By many measures, our Ford Tri-Motor event April 29 to May 2 was a huge success, particularly with the number of moving parts involved.

This year's event started early in the year in a discussion with John Egan at EAA HQ over our strategic plan which included a Tri-motor visit and Young Eagle events. After cancellation of our 2020 events, I wanted to confirm HQ's view on 2021. The EAA Tour Groups were still working on possible schedules.

On March 29, Chapter 129 member and Tri-Motor captain, Bill Thacker texted me to announce the schedule was done and we were first up for an April 29th start date - just 30 days notice.

The former terminal building where we hosted the 2018 event

is gone and TSA requires 45 days to review a new security site plan. We had work to do.

We put a planning team together to sort out all the pieces needed to make it happen. We spoke with Synergy Flight Center who offered their big hangar and BNAA set out to work the security plan with TSA on day one. The Prairie Aviation Museum would provide the tables, chairs, stanchions and ropes. I was happy to see the excitement and support we received from our partners on the field.

When the week of the Tri-Motor arrival came, we still needed to do a security walk through, move in, set up, finish the volunteer schedule and prepare a briefing for the volunteers on logistics and security expectations. Some of this was on my plate as we distributed the tasks amongst the planning team.

We received the TSA approval for the event that week and then I got a call that required me to be out of town for most of the week.

Over the previous four weeks we witnessed many people and institutions step up to make our event happen and now we were days away from opening. While many people jumped in, I want to recognize two of our team members who took over my tasks and opened the event. Tanya Leahy and Doug Reeves simply took charge of the whole event, owned it, and made it happen. They stepped up big time. In my absence, we stayed in contact through the week to go through check lists and tie up the many loose ends.

When I returned to town I witnessed a well organized event running like a well oiled machine. Thanks to all who volunteered and to those who would step up and lead.

~ Charlie



2021 Chapter 129 Dues

Thanks to all the members who sent in their annual chapter 129 dues! If you haven't already done so, please send in your \$30 membership fee for 2021 to help us with those early year expenses. Please mail your checks to:

EAA Chapter 129
2825 E Empire St
Bloomington, IL 61704



Join us at the EAA Chapter 129 hangar for our Gathering of Eagles breakfasts Saturday mornings 7:00 am to 9:00 am for some hangar flying at its best.



Chapter 129 Officers

Charlie Bates-President, Treas
Jason Jording-VP
Josh Andracki-Sec'y, Social Media
Ben Schneider-Board Member
Don O'Neill-Board Member
David Pfister-Board Member
Rachel Henderson-Young Eagles Coord
George Wilts-Tech. Counselor
Mike Todd-Web Editor

