

The Flypaper

Promoting Sport Aviation in Central Illinois for More Than 58 Years

Chapter 129 achieves Silver status

Chapter 129 received this recognition letter from HQ. Thanks to all who work to make this a great chapter!

'Congratulations to your chapter in successfully reaching the SILVER level status recognition level for the combined 2020 and 2021 years. EAA is happy to present you with a chapter recognition banner to proudly display where your chapter meets. Your level also will be displayed online at EAA.org/FindAChapter with a specially designed emblem.'

This program was developed and measured in partnership with EAA's Chapter Advisory Council, and is based on 10 criteria that are consistently found in active and highly engaged chapters. An additional 11th criteria point was included this year to observe unique chapter approved



activities. There are three levels of recognition: bronze (7 out of 11), silver (8 out of 11), and gold (at least 9 out of 11).

1. Attends a chapter leadership training session
2. Growing or steady membership
3. Offers IMC or VMC Club programs
4. Participates in Young Eagle or Flying Start programs
5. Has EAA-approved Flight Advisor or Technical Counselor
6. Participates in EAA's Annual Chapter Member survey
7. Participates in Young Eagles Build and Fly, Young Eagles Workshops, Ray Aviation Scholarship program, or sends a youth to EAA's Air Academy
8. Requests an EAA ChapterBlast email
9. Hosts at least two public events each year
10. Owns/leases a facility
11. Extra credit activity, such as a chapter build project, youth build project, chapter scholarship, a chapter tool crib, IAC competition, etc.'

John Egan, Sr. Manager, EAA Chapters

You Have Information May!

May Membership Meeting

Thursday, May 19 at 6:00 PM

May is traditionally our first barbecue month!

The chapter will provide burgers, brats and dogs for dinner at 6 PM. Please bring a dish to share.

Guest Speaker at 7:00

Alan Shackleton from Aircraft Spruce & Specialty CO. / Aero Performance



Bring a dish to share!

EAA Ford Tri-Motor Returns to Bloomington June 16 to 19

Volunteers needed!

Please check out the 'Chapter Roles' below of opportunities to help manage our Tri-Motor event. Contact Charlie Bates with your interest in serving in those roles. Besides the lead roles listed below, we will need volunteers each day to brief and escort passengers for each flight. We will also need BMI AOA badge holders for each shift (2 shifts per day) to secure the area per TSA requirements.

Thursday, June 16 is media day where local media folks will be offered an opportunity for photos, interviews with Captain Bill and a free ride. Friday,



Saturday and Sunday we will offer rides to the public from 9 am to 5 pm.

Watch for a schedule with opportunities to volunteer at the four day event!

Chapter Roles - From the Ford Tri-Motor Hosting Manual

Please consider volunteering for one of these important roles!

Tour Stop Chairman - The Ford Tri-Motor tour stop chairman has overall responsibility for the Ford Tri-Motor visit. This includes selecting the host site, recruiting co-chairs listed below, and serving as a liaison to the Ford Tri-Motor crew. This will be the main contact with EAA headquarters air tours staff. The tour stop chairman will relay all pertinent visit information to their Chapter as well as the FBO and airport.

Volunteers and Equipment Chairman - This person is responsible for recruiting, scheduling, and briefing volunteers, as well as making equipment arrangements needed for a successful visit.

Marketing Chairman - The marketing chairman coordinates promotions and advertising. While not required, it is helpful if the marketing chairman has experience in promotions and/or media relations. While EAA's marketing department will place paid advertisement (s) for your

city location, the budget is limited and we encourage all Chapters to contact local media and inquire about sponsored or donated ad space, or getting a story written about the upcoming event.

Advising your local Visitors Bureau, Tourism Center, or Chamber of Commerce can also lead to event calendar placement and advertising opportunities through their organization. At your request, EAA can provide any graphics needed for sponsored advertising as well as any pilot phone interviews in advance of the visit.

The marketing chairman should ensure that all printed materials are distributed in the community prior to the event. As the chairman is spreading the news about the event, they are welcome to invite outlets to the complimentary Thursday media flight. Please communicate any confirmations to the air tours office and we will combine these with our marketing team's efforts and relay the complete attendee list to the crew onsite.



Ethel Sheffler earns Congressional Gold Medal

Editors note: In March of 2010, more than 1,000 women who ferried aircraft for the U.S. armed forces in WW II were honored at a ceremony on Capitol Hill in Washington. Ethel taught at BMI for a number of years. 2022 marks the 80th anniversary of the WASPs.

Ethel Jones Sheffler got hooked on airplanes when she took her first ride in her early 20s. An Illinois native, she soloed on October 1, 1942, when she was 21, and had her pilot's license (and 150 hours of flying time) when she volunteered.

Members of the Women Airforce Service Pilots were the first women to fly U.S. military planes.

Her love of the open skies eventually led her to make history as volunteer female pilots under the direction of the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II. In March, 2010, more than six decades after their service, the nation's first fly girls were awarded the Congressional Gold Medal at a ceremony in the U.S. Capitol.

Sheffler, 89, was not able to travel from Wisconsin to Washington to receive her gold medal, the highest honor Congress can give civilians. But she said in interviews that she was proud to have served her country at a time when the military was strapped for manpower.

Asked whether she knew she was making history when she signed up to serve in the Women Airforce Service Pilots, or WASP, Sheffler shrugged off the question, preferring to talk instead about the female pilots who followed her in military service, women such as Lt. Col. Nicole Malachowski, who became the first female member of the Air Force

Thunderbirds.

"There are plenty of them who went way beyond anything I would ever do," said Sheffler, of Appleton.

More than 1,100 WASPs served between 1942 and 1944, ferrying aircraft between U.S. bases, testing fighter planes and towing



targets for the men to practice shooting at with live ammunition. They flew every type of aircraft flown by the Army Air Corps, including the B-26 bomber - also known as the "widow maker" - and the B-29 Superfortress. Thirty-eight of them died while serving their country.

Despite their service, the women had to pay their own way to Sweetwater, Texas, for training at Avenger Field. They set up collections to help bury fallen female pilots, who - because they were considered civilians - were not given military honors. And, as

the war was ending, they were forced to pay their own bus fare home. When the program was disbanded in 1944, the women's records were classified and sealed, denying them recognition for their service. They were not granted military status until 1977. Only 300 of these female pilots survive today.

"The WASPs served our country without hesitation, with no expectation of recognition or praise," said Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, a Florida Republican who co-sponsored legislation recognizing these women.

Now in their 80s and 90s, more than 100 women traveled to Washington, D.C., to be feted by Congress and the Air Force. At Wednesday's ceremony, many wore their blue WASP uniforms, carried old black-and-white photos taken during the war and joined in



singing the Air Force anthem: "Off we go, into the wild blue yonder."

Tom Brokaw, the television anchor and author of the "Greatest Generation," praised the women, saying the generations that followed them owe them a debt of gratitude.

Sue Sheffler, who attended the ceremony in her mother's honor, became emotional when she spoke about the fly girls' raw heroism, integrity and love of life.

See Ethel, Page 5



Chapter 129's YE Notes



Rachael Henderson
YE Coordinator

Third time is a charm, right? Yes, this is our third attempt to host a Young Eagle event and fingers crossed

we get to pull this one off on Saturday. Expect to see our first jet flying young eagles. Kerry Riley will be volunteering with his Cirrus Vision Jet. Last year I had a pilot volunteer to fly his Citation but his offer was declined since we had a much smaller fleet including a piper cub. As for preparation for this event, well, I am feeling a bit rusty when it comes to the paperwork and organization but I also know that it will all come together since I get to work with great volunteers. Currently we have 6 confirmed pilots and at the time of writing this article, 40 participants registered online.

Using the chapter Gmail account, I sent out a link for volunteers to get registered and I greatly appreciate you taking the time to fill it out. If you did not get this email with a volunteer registration link, shoot me an email so that I can get you added to the next registration email. This document will be helpful in creating a common list that I can reference quickly of all

volunteers and has been extremely helpful in the organization of responses. The responses are generated in an excel spreadsheet where I can access all the information I need without searching through numerous emails where occasionally responses have been lost. For that I apologize. Again, thank you for filling out this volunteer registration form. To better accommodate our pilots, I plan to add the question: "How many passengers are you comfortable/willing to fly (maximum 3 passengers per EAA rules)?" Know your personal minimums and don't be afraid to let me know of your personal minimums. If you only want to take 1 passenger that is perfectly acceptable. I want this to be an enjoyable experience not only for the participants but for our volunteers as well.

As we look ahead to June WE WILL NEED ALL AVAILABLE VOLUNTEERS. Ch 129 will be hosting EAA's Ford Tri-Motor at the same time Ch 29 is hosting EAA's B-25 and a young eagle event. June 18th will be a busy day. Please volunteer at one event or both. The young eagle event will be from 9-11 on Saturday, June 18th at Willard airport. We would greatly appreciate all pilots that can fly that morning and then return to volunteer in the afternoon with the Ford Tri-Motor. Look for an email to come out in late May or early June about this big event. I look forward to seeing you at the aviation event. See you soon. Until then, clear skies and tailwinds. Please contact me if you have any questions. 217-778-3900 or rhenderson797@gmail.com
~Rachel Henderson



President's
Corner

Charlie
Bates

Getting into Summer

After a wet and windy March and April, Spring/Summer has arrived with a 90 degree day in early May. Summer is upon us. Our calendar is filling up with events including five remaining Young Eagle events that we are coordinating with our sister Chapter 29, our Ford Tri-Motor event in June at BMI, and several pancake breakfasts in the area. Look for opportunities to volunteer at the EAA events. And then there is the big event at Oshkosh in July. I plan to be at Airventure for the week, parking planes in the South 40 lot. Watch for an announcement for our traditional July chapter meeting/cookout on Wednesday evening of the show. Hope to see you there.

Our favorite destinations are opening up again after hitting the pause button for a year or two so it's time to get out, knock some rust off, and plan some trips. I went up with a CFI this week to do some pattern work and was greeted with winds 21G29 at 40 degrees off centerline. We

got some good real-world practice with crosswind landings and relearned some techniques. And had some fun doing it.

Meanwhile, if you are stuck inside, be sure to check out the many EAA webinars listed on page 6 and the monthly Chapter Video Magazine with updates from HQ. And if you find yourself driving instead of flying to your destination, look into The Green Dot for a list of great podcasts to pass the road time.

Plan some trips and send me photos for our 'Favorite Places' page.

Blue Skies,
~Charlie



EAA Young Eagles 2022 Proposed Schedule

Date	Proposed location	Time
March 19	CMI - Champaign	9-11
April 9	CMI - Champaign	9-11
May 14*	BMI - Bloomington	9-11
June 18	CMI (w/B-25)	9-11
July 16	BMI - Bloomington	9-11
August 6	TIP - Rantoul (scouts)	9-noon?
September 17	MTO - Mattoon	10-noon?
October 15	MTO - Mattoon backup date	10-noon?

Builders Update - Mark's Christavia



At our last meeting, Mark had just moved his Christavia into his E-row hangar and now she has grown wings. With all the loose ends coming together, Mark has started preparing documents for certification with FSDO. Last week, using the chapter's scales, he worked through the weight and balance charts.

It has been fun to witness the chapter members pitching in with parts and advice for his Christavia project in our Saturday morning gatherings. Last week there was talk about fueling her up for flow tests and perhaps a first engine run. Stay tuned.



Ethel from Page 3

"I cannot tell you what this means to me," Sheffler said. "These women are forces of nature."

Ethel Jones Sheffler was a small-town Illinois farm girl when airplanes were just getting off the ground. She became so enamored with flying as a young adult that she scraped together her money and paid a private instructor to teach her to fly. When she heard about the WASP program, she jumped at the chance to fly for the Army Air Corps. As she reflected on her service, her thoughts were with her two older brothers who served in Germany and England. "(They) had a pretty rough time. I didn't," she said.

"I thought it was fun," said Sheffler, who became a flight

instructor when commercial airlines would not hire her as a pilot after the war.

She flew small planes and helicopters while raising three daughters, all of whom got their licenses to fly before they got their driver's licenses. Sheffler didn't retire until 2004, continuing to fly well into her 80s.



Ethel Jones Sheffler
U.S. Army Air Forces WASP

Female Air Force service pilots

- The first women to serve as pilots and fly military aircraft for the U.S. Army Air Forces during World War II.
- The WASP served in the Army Air Forces from September 1942 to Dec. 20, 1944.
- 25,000 women applied for the Women's Flying Training Detachment.
- 1,830 women were accepted and 1,074 graduated from the training program.
- The WASP were stationed at 120 air bases in the United States.
- The WASP flew 78 different types of aircraft.
- The WASP flew 60,000,000 miles of operation flights.
- 38 died while flying in service.



Favorite Places

EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS

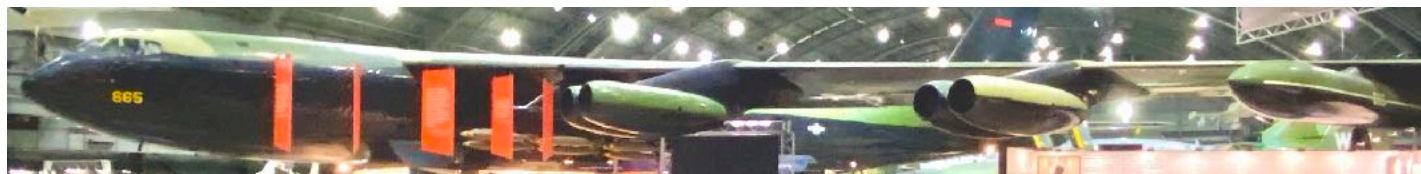


A Day at the Museum

In late March, Paul Krueger, Doug Reeves and Charlie Bates departed BMI on an early morning flight to visit the National Museum of the United States Air Force in Dayton Ohio. We had great weather and flew into KDAY, Dayton Int'l. The FBO folks were very accommodating and had a crew car ready for us for the entire day. They are supportive of the museum and its visitors, and ready to help with travel and directions to the museum, just 30 minutes away.

The museum is a wonderful walk through Air Force history and showcases a history of flight from the Wright brothers to space travel. They have recently added a fourth hangar with former presidential planes and a space shuttle walk-through exhibit. Unfortunately, we weren't able to cover it all in one day so will have to make another trip.

At just a 1.5 to 2 hour flight from BMI, it is a great day trip.



Webinars, Podcasts, Videos!

Be sure to check out these great podcasts!
Interviews with A10, U2 bush pilots and
astronaut homebuilders.

THE GREEN DOT

A podcast for those who fly for the love of it or are simply fascinated by the world of flight. The Green Dot features EAA news, general aviation topics, history, personal experiences from the hosts and a variety of guests, and anything fun, interesting, or cool in and around the world of flight. <https://www.eaa.org/eaanews-and-publications/eaanews-and-aviation-news/eaanews-the-green-dot-podcast>



Chapter Video Magazine

May 2022



What You Can Expect

In May's Chapter Video Magazine, Charlie Becker shares an exciting EAA Aviation Museum update, reintroduces the Young Eagles Workshops, and updates everyone on AirVenture events for chapters.

- The EAA Aviation Museum opened a new exhibit, [Corsair: Korean War Heroism](#).
- [Young Eagles Workshops](#) invite youth back to the chapter with hands-on activities.
- AirVenture chapter activities and events are updated and [presenter applications](#) are now open.
- Special "thank you" to chapter leaders - chapters@eaa.org

EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS



Find EAA's Chapter Videos at:
[http://
eaa.brightcovegallery.com/
chapters/detail/videos](http://eaa.brightcovegallery.com/chapters/detail/videos)



EAA Webinars

INTERACTIVE | EDUCATIONAL | MOBILE

5/18/22 7 p.m. CDT

[Pass Your Checkride, Part 1: Paperwork & Oral Quizzing](#)
Qualifies for FAA WINGS credit.

Larry Bothe

Get your paperwork right so the examiner is happy. Do your homework. Bring everything you need. Learn the common errors in the oral quizzing portion of the checkride, and how to avoid them. You have more control over your practical test than you think you do. Take advantage of these things, and pass the first time.

5/25/22 7 p.m. CDT

[Pass Your Checkride, Part 2: The Flight](#)
Qualifies for FAA WINGS credit.

Larry Bothe

Do the flight portion of your checkride like a pro. Perform maneuvers in ways that always work. Learn how to correct maneuvers that aren't working out. What will the DPE accept, and what is unacceptable? All this and more in this detailed flight portion guidance to your checkride, including a quick five-minute review of the paperwork and oral quizzing presentation. Fly well, and pass the first time.

6/1/22 - valve rotator caps and their importance 7 p.m. CDT

[Failure to Rotate \(Burned Valves\)](#)
Qualifies for FAA WINGS and AMT credit.

Mike Busch

Savvy Aviation's Mike Busch discusses the function of exhaust ce to keep unwanted deposits from sticking to the valve seat. Mike will review the causes of burned exhaust valves, and discuss ways to prevent and remediate without removing the cylinder.

6/07/22 7 p.m. CDT

[One Week Wonder Build: AirVenture 2022](#)
Homebuilders Webinar Series

Mark Schaible and Charlie Becker

Coming up at AirVenture 2022, EAA will be organizing a group of volunteers to build a Sonex Waix in 7 days. This webinar will provide an overview of the build, equipment, and volunteer opportunities.

6/14/22 7 p.m. CDT Aviation Museum staff members Chris Henry and Ben Page as they discuss the history of EAA's B-17, N5017N.

[Aluminum Overcast, the history of EAA's B-17](#)
Museum Webinar Series

Chris Henry and Ben Page

The B-17 is an icon of World War II, and the legendary bravery of the combat crews is still talked about today. EAA's B-17 tours the country to educate and inspire. Join EAA



BMI - On the Field

Check your BMI NOTAMS carefully in June. BNAA reports that runway 2/20 will be closed May 31 through June 24 for an FAA project to update the PAPI system. Please direct any questions to Airport Operations at 309-834-7396.

2022 Calendar of Events

May 14 - Young Eagle Rally BMI

May 19 - EAA Chapter 129 Member Meeting

June 16-19 - Ford Tri-Motor at BMI

July 2 - Pancake Breakfast at Paxton Airport

July 16 - Young Eagle Rally BMI

July 25-31 - AirVenture at Oshkosh!

July 27 - Chapter 129 Gathering at Airventure

Aug 6 - Young Eagles Rally at Rantoul

Aug 18 - EAA Chapter 129 Member Meeting

Sep 17 - MTO Mattoon (Oct 15 backup)

Every Saturday 7 to 9 AM - Gathering of Eagles at EAA

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 great food and some hangar flying at its best.



EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS



Wanted

Your stories, events, travel adventures, builder updates for our next issue of **The Flypaper**.

Email them to: cmbates50@gmail.com



2022 Annual Dues

Thanks to members who have paid their 2022 dues. If you haven't paid yet, please send your check to:

EAA Chapter 129
2825 E Empire St
Bloomington, IL 61704

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
Wayne Aldrich - STEM Coordinator