

Chapter News

Pike's Peak Flyer

The Voice of EAA 72

<https://eaa72.org>

April 2024

Chapter News—Let's Get Going!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Esther Smith's sudden passing was a devastating loss to her family and close friends. She was not only a cherished member of our chapter, but also a dear friend to many of us. Her sudden departure has left a void in our hearts and chapter that will be difficult to fill. Not only was Esther the chapter's chief cook/bottle washer, but secretary, past treasurer, and keeper of the membership list and dues. In recent years, some of our members seemed to procrastinate paying their dues until the year was nearly over, and next year's dues were coming due. This made it very difficult to keep track of who still owed dues and who had paid dues for next year. Out of this frustration came "Esther's Rule." **If dues weren't paid by the end of the first quarter, delinquent members were removed from the membership list, resulting in no more newsletters, plus**

rejoining the chapter required a new application. Never underestimate the power of a woman; particularly a retired E6 Navy woman veteran and disciplined middle school teacher!

Greg Wolff, a member of the program committee, and a board director has stepped up to become membership chairman. He assures me that he will not be relaxing Esther's Rule. Dues are past due! However, I have received several calls from members who claim they had mailed a check to Esther, and the check has not cleared. In light of this, Greg will hold off until the end of April, when we will have access to Esther's mail, before removing anybody from the membership list.

Patty Martin has volunteered to become Secretary! Patty has worked closely with Esther in the past, and will make a great secretary. Like Greg, Patty has worked with the board for some time, helping Richard Martin run the IMC/VMC Club meetings. It's still not clear to me who actually runs that club.

Mark Gabriel was elected to the treasurer's job in 2022. Like Greg and Patty, Mark had teamed up with Esther, and the board for some time, and makes an exceptionally good treasurer.

As far as cooking goes, I plan to return to BBQ'S (hamburgers, potato chips etc.)☺ plus adult beverages, for our lunch meals. **We need some members to help with this or we may go without lunch at some of the meetings!**

Chapter News

Do **NOT** show up at Meadow Lake for the April meeting. **YOU WILL BE ALONE!!** The April meeting will be in Pueblo at Chapter 808's Wings and Wheels event. The flier (see it attached in this newsletter) does not mention the Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast begins at 7:30 AM and ends at 10:30 AM and the cost is \$8.00. If you fly in you will receive a wristband that will get you into the car show and museum free. If you drive in, let them know that you are with Chapter 72. I have heard from a few members who will be flying down, and some that are driving. Let's see if we can have a good turnout to show our support for Chapter 808, and hopefully this will lead to more combined chapter events. Keep the spirit alive.

Blue skies and tailwinds,

Jim Steward

President, Bruce McCombs EAA Chapter 72

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|-------------|---|----------------------------|
| • Apr. 9-14 | Sun n' Fun, Lakeland, FL | all day events |
| • Apr. 13 | Young Eagles, MLAA Ramp | 9 am – noon |
| • Apr. 13 | Coffee & Donuts, EAA Hangar | 9-11 am |
| • Apr. 20 | Fly-out to Pueblo, Joint Meeting with Chapter 808 | 8:00 am fly-out |
| • May 11 | Young Eagles, MLAA Ramp | 9-11 am |
| • May 11 | Coffee & Donuts | 9-11 am |
| • May 18 | Nat'l Learn to Fly Day, Cookout | 9 am – noon, cookout after |

2024 CALENDAR OF EAA CHAPTER 72 PROGRAMS

- May 18 Cookout, Nat'l Learn to Fly Day
- Jun. 1 MLAA Open House, Breakfast & Lunch provided by Chapter 72
- Jun. 15 KFLY Project Tour, followed by Cookout
- Jul. 20 Eagle Flights, followed by Cookout
- Jul. 22-28 EAA Airventure, OSH
- Aug. 17 Josiah Bookman-Fiberglass Construction / Airventure OSH recap from attendees
- Sep. 21 Fly-in, Wreaths Across America, breakfast fundraiser
- Oct. 19 OPEN (Mountain Flying?)
- Nov. 23 Chapter Annual Business Meeting, Board Elections
- Dec. TBD Christmas Party, MLAA Hangar

Chapter News

ESTHER SMITH GONE WEST



Out of high school in 1974 located in Simi Valley, north of Los Angeles, she signed up for time in the U.S. Army. She later switched branches of service to the U.S. Navy. She was a Yeoman (Administrative person), attaining the rank of Petty Officer 1st Class, E-6. She was the only female in an otherwise all-male submarine squadron. She served in the reserves for a full 20 years and retired on 1 November 2001.

She arrived in Colorado Springs in early 1993 and got involved in the school system shortly after arrival. Esther graduated from multiple schools, the last from Regis University in Colorado Springs and received a Master of Arts Degree in Liberal Studies: Education in August 1999. She taught for 25 additional years to middle school students in various schools in Colorado Springs. Her latest classroom was in Galileo Middle School.

In the past 25 years, she has been actively involved with the EAA Chapter 72 general aviation unit, located at Meadow Lake Airport just northeast of Falcon. She served as Secretary, Treasurer, Head Cook, many years as all three simultaneously. She helped plan, shop, and supervised many thousands of meals for members and public functions.

She also got middle school students involved in a somewhat forgotten cemetery named Fairview Cemetery, located on south 26th Street, just south of Highway 24 going towards Woodland Park. The students cleaned the cemetery and eventually found and documented the tombstones of over 550 buried service veterans. She got the students and other military organizations become involved in Wreaths Across America and posting U.S. flags for Veterans Day. These actions taught the students the importance of the service these veterans did for their country.

Chapter News

She was less involved with supporting two needy families who had students in middle schools. She planned parties and breakfast gatherings for EAA Chapter 72. She travelled with a Youth Education organization for years. She chaperoned students to Europe, Australia, Canada, and other locations. She really liked doing tax returns for friends. Pooh Bear and Disney films were favorite entertainments. Taking the grandchildren to Disney World in Florida was a real treat. She especially enjoyed ocean cruises to US-friendly islands and Alaska.

She is survived by sisters Patricia and Cynthia, brother Wallace, son Benjamin, two grandchildren, and significant other, Michael.

A funeral home viewing was held at the Springs Funeral Home at 3115 East Platte Avenue on Thursday, 21 March from 5pm to 8pm.

In lieu of flowers, Esther would wish that annual donations be sent to Wreaths Across America Organization to remember veterans.



Chapter News

Volunteers,

We currently have 31 Young Eagles signed up to fly next Saturday, April 13th, with another 9 on the waiting list. Please let me know if you're able to help and in what position.

Doug will be out of town so Jim Densmore will be the lead pilot for this event.

Please arrive at the MLAA building by 835 AM and Pilots by 840AM for a pilot briefing. There will be coffee, doughnuts, and bagels in the classroom for volunteers. The event will go from 9AM- 12PM. The address is 13550 Piper Lane, Peyton, CO 80831.

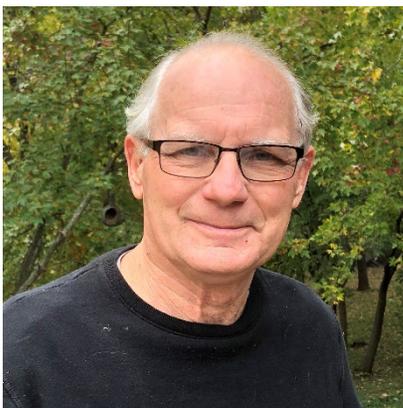
Thank you so much for your support. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you and seeing all of the after-flight smiles! If you have any questions, please let me know.

God bless you,

Jeff Hyatt
Young Eagles Coordinator, EAA72
719-649-3869
jeffhyatt777@gmail.com



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM GREG WOLFF



New Membership Chairman

Greg Wolff has volunteered to serve as the Membership Chairman. He will be responsible for collecting new member applications, maintaining an accurate membership list, and dues status. Like Santa Claus, he is making a list and checking it twice for annual dues payments. Those payments of \$35 were due in January. But if you hurry, it is not quite too late to submit your payment. Once we have the dues status organized and confirmed, those unpaid members will be moved to "inactive" status and will no longer receive correspondence from chapter 72. You don't want to be in that group, do you?

Chapter News

Long Term Bellanca Super Viking Project Available



Bellanca Super Viking Fuselage frame and some flight controls will get you started in a long-term restoration project. Can be viewed at Springs East Airport by appointment. \$100.00 and you pick it up. Contact Debbie Privette, 719-510-6792.

PUEBLO WEISBROD AIRCRAFT MUSEUM



FOURTH ANNUAL

Wings & Wheels



2024 CAR SHOW AND FLY IN



- ★ LIVE MUSIC ★
- ★ VENDORS ★
- ★ FOOD TRUCKS ★

SATURDAY • APRIL 20, 2024
9:00AM-3:00PM • GENERAL ADMISSION \$10.00
EXCLUSIVE HANGAR PARKING BY INVITATION ONLY
 EARLY CAR REGISTRATION DEADLINE: APRIL 13 • REGISTRATION FEE BEFORE APRIL 13: \$20, AFTER APRIL 13: \$30
 REGISTRATION INCLUDES ADMISSION FOR 2 TO THE MUSEUM
 (719) 948-9219 • 31001 MAGNUSON AVE. • PUEBLO, CO 81001 • PWAM.ORG




Chapter Financials

*Thank you for supporting
these EAA Chapter 72
members!*

EAA BRUCE MCCOMBS CHAPTER 72 TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 04/01/2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
03/01/2024	Beginning Balance	\$2,542.85
03/31/2024	Ending Balance	\$7,084.00
03/31/2024	Scholarship Account	\$16,076.46
03/31/2024	Building Account	\$8,978.83

A Travel

Advantage



Joan Spratford, Owner
(719) 630-7700
(800) 739-2520 Fax (719) 630-1892



Jerome Limoge, M.D.

1360 Aviation Way
Colorado Springs, CO
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(719) 659-0988 c

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[HTTPS://MEDXPRESS.FAA.GOV](https://MEDXPRESS.FAA.GOV)

**FILL OUT FAA FORM 8500-8
USE PASSWORD AND SUBMIT
PRINT OUT 8500-8 IF ABLE
BRING IN FORM AND CONFIRMATION #**

Chapter Meeting

Date: Saturday, 20 Apr. 2024

Time & Place: 8-12, KPUB fly-in

Program: Chapter 72 and Chapter 808
combined meeting/breakfast

Randy's Flying, LLC

Will certify airplanes for food

Gary R. (Randy) Loyd

FAA Designated Airworthiness Representative

17435 Caribou Dr. E

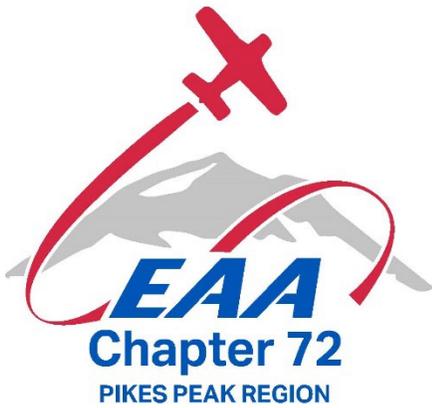
Monument, CO 80132

719-331-2169 mobile

[garyloyd@outlook.com](mailto:garylloyd@outlook.com)

Next Meeting Apr. 20, 2024

Randy Loyd
Newsletter Publisher
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Visit our website: <https://eaa72.org>

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About our Chapter

The Bruce McCombs EAA Chapter 72 meets at Meadow Lake Airport. Meetings are held on 3rd Saturday of each month with a breakfast or lunch. Look for the calendar of events to highlight special chapter activities like Young Eagle Rallies, fly-outs, and other chapter sponsored events. The Chapter Newsletter is published monthly, normally emailed, and available on the website a few days before each meeting. Readers are encouraged to contribute articles, photos, etc. by submitting them to the Newsletter Editor by the first Saturday of each month.

Annual membership is \$35. Send to: Secretary Esther Smith, 1303 Fosdick Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. Make check payable to EAA Chapter 72 or pay on-line at <https://chapters.eaa.org/eaa72>. Be informed, attend the meetings, and have a great time with sport aviation.