

# THE CHAPTER 961 "FLYER"

EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION CHAPTER 961  
ROCK HILL, SC - KUZA



## N800UD PZL-102B

There were only 10 PZL-102s built, and of those, this is the only flyable example left.

It is owned by Anthony Spence, who now lives in Memphis, TN. He imported it from South Africa, where his father, Mike Spence, was the founder of the first Experimental Aircraft Association chapter in South Africa, Chapter 322, in 1964.

This model was built in 1959. It is powered by a Continental C90-12F, and has a maximum speed of 193 km/h (120 mph, 104 kn) and a range of 640 km (400 mi, 350 nmi) at 135 km/h (84 mph; 73 kn).

## N88NX SKYOTE

In October 2016, I went to the Union fly-in. While there, I flew with Ken Nelson in his Husky and got this shot of Joe Baker flying the Skyote belonging to John Roberts.

## N44V DC-3

When Runway 36R at Charlotte Airport opened on January 6, 2010, the Piedmont DC-3 was the first plane to land on the new runway.

PHOTOS AND TEXT BY  
EAA CHAPTER 961 MEMBER JAY SELMAN

[jaybirdaviationadventures.com](http://jaybirdaviationadventures.com)  
[jaybirdaviationphotos.smugmug.com](http://jaybirdaviationphotos.smugmug.com)

# NEXT MEETING

This month we will have our introduction to EAA's VMC Club, with Brian Cope presenting.

This is an opportunity for us all to share aviation experiences and problem solving applied to actual incidents, in an effort to answer the ultimate question:

"What would you do?"

We will watch an introductory video from the EAA, talk over the question of the month, and then watch and discuss a scenario that we can solve together.

Please bring your tablet/EFB/paper charts, and take a look at charts and airport info for KBID (Block Island State Airport) up in Rhode Island.

**FEBRUARY 8**  
**7:00 PM**

**JOE BAKER'S HANGAR**  
**KUZA - TAXIWAY J**

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## President's Message

WRITTEN BY JOE BAKER

Greetings again, fellow EAA'ers!

As we begin the second month of 2021, it seems sometimes that not much has changed since we gratefully left 2020 behind. But there are signs of hope! Vaccines are here (and more coming), the weather will start warming up in a few weeks, and even Dr. Fauci says that Oshkosh will run! Well, maybe not directly, but he shoulda! He DID say, though, that by the end of the summer there should be a fair

amount of "normalcy." So, we got that goin' for us. Which is nice. . . .

I have always hated that word, "Normalcy," simply because it was made up for a political campaign, and like "copacetic" and "aeronica" (to describe the Champ's parentage) it offends my linguistic ego. But the parallels to today are striking. Warren G. Harding won the presidency with it in 1920, and he was campaigning on a return to the "normal"

lifestyle and stability found in society before two cataclysmic events: The First World War, and the 1918 Spanish Flu epidemic. Since none of us were around during that monstrous epidemic, the Spanish Flu was mostly remembered by historians and epidemiologists. Until about a year ago.

So let's use the word "Normalcy" freely! And while the world has indeed changed, much still remains the same. We still want to build, fly, and gather.

And about that—a few weeks ago I got a phone call from Kelly Brady, who is the new President of EAA Chapter 309. Some of you know him. I had been trying to make contact with the good folks over there since I started here as your President. But, you know, a detour from "Normalcy" kinda got in the way. It seems like Kelly could read my thoughts. He called and said that it doesn't make sense that, even though we share some EAA members, 309 and 961 are virtual strangers. I had thought the same thing, back when I was trying to reach out to them. And I couldn't agree more!

On Wednesday, Kelly and I are going to be joined by Wade Kennedy (731, Hickory), Grieg Hillman (1016, Asheville), and Lance Berrier (1083, Salisbury), in a Zoom call. The purpose of the call is to discuss increased collaboration among our units (even though we all know 961 is the best!) in what Kelly says, "to allow the ... chapter to share with the other chapters a little information about your chapter." And—specifically—he wants to try to start getting together, in the form of a fly-in, pancake breakfast, or something, to instill a little bit of camaraderie and solidarity among the chapters of the region. And I think this is a great idea. The call is scheduled to happen on Wednesday, so I will report on it when we meet Monday.

If this helps us to return to some semblance of "Normalcy," and I think it will, then I'm all for it. We all got dealt a bad hand in 2020 and I know we are all ready to climb out into the clear.

Hang tight, folks! Things will get better!

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## Vice President's Message

WRITTEN BY LOUIS KANTOR

Ladies and gentlemen of Chapter 961, we need to fill the role of chapter secretary.

This is an opportunity to give back to aviation and Chapter 961. Some of the roles of secretary are already being handled by other members so this is pretty light duty. The primary duties of our secretary are to take minutes at the meetings, submit and maintain

minor legal docs, and generally be available to assist the board.

If you would like to get more involved with our chapter and give back a little please volunteer! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me and I will get them answered. My contact info is at the bottom of this newsletter.

# YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHTS

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We had some good responses to the email Dick sent out to our membership several days ago, soliciting pilots and helpers for Young Eagles flights. However, we know there are more of you out there, and hope that you will respond positively.

Here is a [link](#) to EAA Young Eagles for those of you who have not registered as YE pilots.

Please spend a couple of minutes to register and let us know of your interest. Please reply to Dick Kruse at [krussr05@gmail.com](mailto:krussr05@gmail.com), as he is populating the spread sheets.

He is also keeping track of individuals and groups wanting to receive Young Eagle flights, and there are several waiting for flights.

You can see by the tachometer looking counter on this page, we are off to a slow start, so lots of room to go.

There will be YE materials available at each meeting and Dick will be manning a table devoted to YE's.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

Bob Kudwa and Dick Kruse

# EVENTS

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WRITTEN BY STACY LUTES



Photo by Jim Zazas, CAN Facebook Page

Hello fellow 961 members!

Keep those engines warm this month with fly-outs!

At the January meeting, I briefly mentioned a new Facebook group, not affiliated with EAA, called the Carolina Aviation Network (CAN). It is a group of aviators in the Carolinas to connect with pictures, questions, advice, and all-around aviation STUFF. They have decided to do a fly-out once a month on the last Saturday of each month.

Their first one was on January 30, 2021 at The Pik N Pig, BQ1!

Several chapter members went and enjoyed the BBQ. I do not know of their Feb. 27 location, but when I do, I will email you! Again, this is not affiliated with EAA, but may be a good way to connect with other aviators in the area.

Unfortunately, Triple Tree Aerodrome cancelled the Chilly Chili Fly in for 2021. Their website: [tta.aero](http://tta.aero) has their next scheduled event Uncle John's Fly-In April 9-11. See their site for a full list of 2021 events.

South Carolina Breakfast Club's (SCBS) next event is February 7 at Beaufort County, KARW. Their next two events, Feb. 21 and March 7 have been cancelled. The full 2021 schedule is every other Sunday and is posted online at: [southcarolinabreakfastclub.com](http://southcarolinabreakfastclub.com), click on the 2021 Schedule.

Nationally, Sun 'N Fun 2021 is a GO! April 13-18 in Lakeland, FL. If you're not familiar, it is like Oshkosh, but in Florida! "Spring Break for Pilots"! Their web site has information ranging from ticket purchase to Covid-19 protocols: [flysnf.org](http://flysnf.org)

That's all for now. If you have information about events to include in upcoming newsletters, please contact me.

# MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:

WRITTEN BY ANGELA SELLS



## Liz Lee

This month's Chapter spotlight is on Liz Lee. Many of you may know her from SC76, Unity Aerodrome in Lancaster, South Carolina. This is where she and her husband Ed make their home and have their hangar.

Liz was born in Shelby, North Carolina. Her dad was in the Army Air Corps and they were stationed in Tampa, Florida when she was young. She remembers when she was about 3-4 years old walking with her family to watch the airplanes take off and land. She says with a smile in her voice, "I still remember the smell to this day."

This is when she first recalls falling in love with aviation. Later they moved to Greensboro, North Carolina where she met Ed Lee during high school, who later became her husband. She attended Guilford College, while Ed went to North Carolina State University. They were married at the end of college.

Ed was in ROTC in college and went active duty military after college during the Vietnam War. He was sent to Korea right away. This left the newlyweds apart for the first year of marriage. Ed stayed in the military for five years and they moved around a lot. They both had an interest in flying and began flight training in the late 1970s.

Liz began her training at Wilgrove Air Park (8A6) and obtained her Private Pilot's License (PPL) in 1977. She and Ed both obtained their PPLs less than a year apart. She laughs and says, "There was a little competition between us." She obtained all of her ratings and check rides at Wilgrove with the exception of her multi-engine rating. Liz enjoyed flying so much, she became a flight instructor and obtained her CFI in 1981. She was an instructor at Lancaster and Goose Creek Airports for many years.

Ed and Liz's first airplane was a Piper Tri-Pacer that she says, "was Pepto Bismol pink," with a snicker in her voice. She says they bought it because, "It was available and affordable. We flew that little airplane everywhere with the kids." She and Ed have two children, a boy and a girl. While neither became pilots, they enjoyed flying as a family. Her daughter did marry a young man that was a flight student of Liz's that went on to become a commercial pilot.

Ed and Liz's current airplane is an RV-9 with tricycle gear that they both love. While they didn't build it, she says that Ed loves to tweak it and make improvements to it.



Liz painting the compass rose at Rutherfordton.

While Liz spent most of her flying time due to being an instructor in Cessna 172s and 152s, her favorite airplanes are the Van's RVs. She thinks, "They are just beautiful aircraft."

Her favorite \$100 hamburger flight is to the Pik N Pig at BQ1 in Carthage, North Carolina. While Liz has tons of flying time and many adventures, there is one that sticks out above the rest she says, "Because it was so much fun!" She had a friend that wanted to fly across the country and so they planed it out and for three weeks, they flew everywhere in a 172. Liz says they didn't stay anywhere more than a night with the exception of Cochise, Arizona where they stayed for four nights. She says the area was amazing and they enjoyed it so much that they ended up staying multiple days to take in the sights.

As a flight instructor, her advice to students is, "Stick with it. There's no experience like flying."

Liz found EAA by attending AirVenture at Oshkosh. She says Ed became a local chapter member first and she later joined as well. She says, "It's the best organization for anything she's ever come across."

They have visited Oshkosh three times. Liz's favorite thing to do at AirVenture is walking around and looking at all of the airplanes and talking to different people about aviation. "It's a place where everyone loves airplanes."

When talking about our local chapter, she loves, "That there are so many different experiences and different types of aviation exposure within our group. The fact that there is so much depth of knowledge to share with each other makes our group incredible."

While flying has always been her passion, Liz also loves to scuba dive. She says they haven't been able to do much of that lately due to Covid, but they do enjoy going often.

Liz says that the isolation during this crazy time has been made more tolerable by spending time in her pottery studio at home. She says, "It keeps me sane." There is an annual pottery tour in Lancaster that she participates in each year as one of five local potters that are featured.

It's always a pleasure getting to know more about each of our wonderful Chapter members. Each person has such interesting and exciting experiences to share. Please take the time to introduce yourselves and enjoy sharing the excitement of aviation with others.



Carolinas Chapter 99s Christmas party

# CLASSIFIED ADS

ADVERTISEMENTS FROM LOCAL CHAPTER MEMBERS

SUBMIT YOURS TO [EAACHAPTER961@GMAIL.COM](mailto:EAACHAPTER961@GMAIL.COM)

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## RV-6 EXPERT NEEDED

CONTACT: DANA NICKERSON  
[dnickerson80h@yahoo.com](mailto:dnickerson80h@yahoo.com)

I'm looking at purchasing a 1992 RV-6 in the Avondale, NC area and I was wondering if there were pilots in our chapter would be qualified to inspect an RV-6 and do a checkout for me.



# CERTIFIED FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS



**AARON HARPER**  
CFI, CFII

803-944-6472  
[acharper6472@gmail.com](mailto:acharper6472@gmail.com)

**BILL VAUGHN**  
CFI, CFII, MEI

704-231-4352  
[vaughnclt@bellsouth.net](mailto:vaughnclt@bellsouth.net)

**BRIAN COPE**  
CFI

803-818-1053  
[brian.cope30@hotmail.com](mailto:brian.cope30@hotmail.com)

**DALE FRUMP**  
CFI

803-389-9110  
[dale.frump@gmail.com](mailto:dale.frump@gmail.com)

**DICK KRUSE**  
CFI, CFII, TAILWHEEL

704-999-4025  
[krussr05@gmail.com](mailto:krussr05@gmail.com)

**GERRY MCBURNEY**  
CFI, CFII, MEI  
CHAPTER FLIGHT ADVISOR

315-382-2943  
[gemmail@earthlink.net](mailto:gemmail@earthlink.net)

**JOHN CONNOR**  
CFI, CFII, TAILWHEEL

803-944-6472  
[gearupandfly@gmail.com](mailto:gearupandfly@gmail.com)

**MIA LANGFORD**  
CFI, TAILWHEEL

704-456-8443  
[miaslangford@gmail.com](mailto:miaslangford@gmail.com)

**TYLER FISHER**  
CFI, TAILWHEEL, UPSET  
RECOVERY

704-915-1682  
[tfisher1112@yahoo.com](mailto:tfisher1112@yahoo.com)



# LEADERSHIP CONTACT INFO

## **PRESIDENT**

*Joe Baker*

k7cci@yahoo.com

## **VICE PRESIDENT**

*Louis Kantor*

louiscfi@aol.com

## **SECRETARY**

*TBD*

## **TREASURER**

*Paul Fischer*

plfischer31@gmail.com

## **COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR**

*Emma Baker*

eaachapter961@gmail.com

## **FLY-OUT COORDINATOR**

*Stacy Lutes*

stacy\_lutes@hotmail.com

## **YOUNG EAGLES**

*Bob Kudwa and Dick Kruse*

kude@aol.com

krussr05@gmail.com

## **DAVID GRIFFIN AVIATION FOUNDATION**

*Ken Nelson*

nelsonk957@gmail.com

## **SERVICE PROJECT COORDINATORS**

*Bob Cottom and Mike Drews*

nseg@carolina.rr.com

mdrews531@gmail.com

## **TECHNICAL COUNSELORS**

*Rick Maury*

*Bob Cabaniss*

*David Fortenbery*

maury4@comporium.net

bcabanis46@yahoo.com

jdfnnef@bellsouth.net

# EAA CHAPTER 961 MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT FORM

Interested in becoming a regular member of this active and growing chapter?  
Dues paid after September 1st, of any year, will cover the following year.

Print and mail the completed form with a check for \$25.00 (payable to EAA Chapter 961) to:

Paul Fischer / Treasurer EAA 961  
11500 Glenn Abbey Way  
Charlotte NC 28277

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Circle one: home / work / cell

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\*EAA Member Number: \_\_\_\_\_ \*

Pilot Ratings: \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft Owned/Interested In: \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*Are you a Young Eagles EAA Member? Circle one: YES / NO \*\*

Do you want to order a chapter name tag? Circle one: YES / NO

Do you want to order a chapter shirt? Circle one: YES / NO

If YES, then what SIZE \_\_\_\_\_ COLOR \_\_\_\_\_

(Grey is the standard, but other colors are available.)

\*You must either be, or become, an EAA National member to be a member of local Chapters.  
To join EAA call 800 - JOIN EAA or go online at [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org).

\*\*Young Eagles that have completed their registration using the code that is on the back of their Young Eagles Logbook and received their EAA membership number are exempt from paying EAA 961 dues until the end of the year they turn 18, per revised chapter bylaws of 30 Dec, 2019.