The WingNut

EAA Chapter 1 Flabob Airport (RIR) Riverside, CA

Volume 63, Issue 2 **We Make Flying Fun!** **4th Quarter - 2016**

Tales from AirVenture 2016

By Jim O'brien - EAA Chapter 1 President

I'm not sure how this happens, but AirVenture keeps getting better and better each year! The people at EAA in Oshkosh out-do themselves, and YOU should be there to enjoy it!!! I had the pleasure of taking 2 first-timers with me. Jim Meeker, Ch.1 YE pilot, and my good friend Joe Listmeister-fellow Aeronca aviator from Santa Maria, CA. Although they were excited, I was equally excited FOR them, as they really had no idea of the magnitude and spectacle of it all.

We arrived a few days early to meet up with my nephew in Chicago, get our rental SUV, load up and make the 3 hr. drive from there to OSH. Even though we arrived when many were already there, they were amazed at the constant parade of arrivals by the minute. It was so successful, the airport actually closed… and was only accepting airplanes that had confirmed camping space! Over 10,000 aircraft movements… which is a record. Attendance was the highest it's been in years, so clearly, they're doing something right.

The seminars, vendor areas, food, and displays were first rate. The daytime airshows were awesome, but the Canadian SnowBirds stole the show. When they were flying as a formation of 10, they appeared welded together. It was just amazing. What separated them from the other flying teams… was the number of them. They flew an ongoing formation of 6… while 4 others were doing fly-by's and overheads… so they were always in sight. We never had to wait for them to turn around and fly by again… there was always something show-center to watch. The nighttime airshows keep getting better as well. It's amazing to see fireworks being launched from the wingtips, and to watch the smoke and lights of say the Aero Shell team do their night routine. I haven't a guess as to how many people watch the night time show on Wednesday and Saturday night… but I'll bet it's over 100,000 each time. By the way… over 675,000 walked through the gates this year.

The weather wasn't as good as it could have been. It rained most of the weekend before it opened on Monday, but Friday night it poured… and almost all night long at that. A couple of days if rained on and off… and remained cloudy, but the show went on as scheduled. Even though it was more wet than most years, everyone was just happy to be there. For the first time, EAA has a program for chapters to reserve up to 4 camping spots…. to be reserved early, without having to pay for the days they're unoccupied. This is a huge thing for chapters who camp together, because of the prime spots to do so, as well as the money saved. I'd like to have enough Chapter 1 members attend next year, so that we can join and camp with other chapters and make new friends and enjoy the camaraderie of it all. I have the commitment of several people, but there's room for more. Please give it your best consideration and join us next year. I'll give more detail early next year so we all can plan.

As a member of the EAA Chapter Advisory Council, I was invited to give a talk about Chapter 1 and to tell all the other chapter leadership that attended what the Council was established to do. We don't have a formal description as of yet, but the council is the voice of the chapters to EAA. We advise, and let them know the good and the bad… offer our opinions and experience for the collective good. This was the message I did my best to convey, and encouraged every leader to contact one of us in their region should they have an issue or need help. EAA has made a significant commitment, approved by the national Board of Directors, and has earmarked a significant budget to get back to giving the chapters the support that's been lacking in the recent past. Since convincing EAA to bring the Leadership BootCamp to Chapter 1 in January, with it's success…. they've held 5 others in various regions of the country, with equal success as ours was. I digress, but I want to make the point clear that EAA is recommitting to the chapters. Many people have witnessed this first-hand, and the disappointment is apparent, but hang in there with us… it's already changing for the good.

If you've never been, or it's been years since you've attended, it's time you get to or get back to AirVenture. It's bigger and better than ever, deals galore on supplies and equipment, and the spectacle of it is always something to behold. Lets get ready for AirVenture 2017!!!

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Calendar of Events

November

3rd	Chapter 1 Board Meeting
4th	Fab Friday Night Flix 5:30pm
5th	Young Eagles Rally and Membership Meeting
12th	Flabob Airport Annual Veterans' Day Celebration
19th	Chapter 1 Pancake Breakfast 7am - 10am
	Aircraft Display Day

December

3rd	Spark of Love Toy Drive Fly In
9th	Toy Delivery - Mathis Bros. Ontario CA
10th	**Chapter 1 Christmas Party**

January

5th	Chapter 1 Board Meeting
8th	Fab Friday Night Flix 5:30pm
14th	Imperial County Airport Day
	(There will be no YE Rally this month)
21st	Chapter 1 Pancake Breakfast 7am-10am
	Aircraft Display Day



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The Prez Sez...

By Jim O'Brien - President EAA Chapter 1

It's been a long time since I've written to you. I've heard from several people that they were worried that the WingNut had 'gone out of business.' It's a lot my fault, as writing for it has fallen on my shoulders, something I will talk about in a later segment of this newsletter. If my memory serves me correctly, the last WingNut was in January or February, and lots has happened since with and for the Chapter, as well as personally. Things for me just have been very busy, but the only part of the chapter business I've been neglectful of has been writing for the WingNut. My apologies, and will make a concerted effort to be more diligent.

On March 15th, I was draining fuel out of my 172 and it spontaneously ignited, and consequently the row of hangars I was in at Flabob burned, taking my 172 and Stephen Bates' 150 along with it. We were able to get a beautiful 180 out of the hangar next to mine out and safe, and drywall saved a lot of Jan Johnson's belongings and Woody Pusher, but otherwise, everything else was a total loss. I can't even put into words how horrific that was for me. I was slightly burned, and had some smoke inhalation, but other than that, I came out of it mostly unscathed. So…. the lesson… NEVER… NEVER TAKE FUEL OUT OF YOUR AIRPLANE WHILE IT'S IN THE HANGAR. Avgas, I've learned, can create it's own static if if free-falls more than 4"… so outdoors with a fire extinguisher is the smart and safe way to de-fuel your aircraft.

The Young Eagles program has progressed along well. We had a couple of months of weather… wind and low clouds that set us back and were unable to fly. Roberta Phillips has taken over as Young Eagles coordinator for Wes Blasjo. Wes was there for Chapter 1 from the beginning of the entire EAA Y.E. program, and has gotten us this far… for which we will be forever grateful. But Roberta is doing a fine job of scheduling pilots and organizing dates for our young eagle kids to fly. I've had many reports from our pilots that the early notifications of pertinent info 10-14 days in advance is appreciated. So, in a nutshell, our YE program is doing well.

Elections are an annual event, so if you haven't received your ballot in the mail, you will shortly. There are some new and some old names up for election. My position as president, secretary, and 2 board spots are up for vote. You'll see 3 names for board members, of which you'll vote for only 2. We've had a couple of people on the board who have had to resign, and we've filled them with eager and effective members. Loreen Wynja, a YE pilot and long time friend and supporter of Chapter 1 has agreed to hold a position, and a new EAA and chapter member by the name of Brian Duffield has stepped up, and I do mean 'stepped up!' If you don't know Brian, I suggest you do so, as he's a real do-er… and gets things done. Bobby Lee Litchfield (Who has been an energetic YE pilot for over a year now for Chapter 1) is another one of those kinds of people as well, and your votes should be something you take seriously. We look forward to counting your ballots, and announcing the results at the annual Christmas party, December 10th, at 6:01 PM. (No, that's not a typo!)

We got a call to take a donation of a Pietenpol and we accepted. As it turns out, it was the one Jim Pyle was building before Jim went west. We posted on FaceBook's Pietenpol page that we had it available for a 'donation.' I took a call about an hour after it was posted from an 18 yr. old by the name of Jacob Lasse. As he explained, he has always wanted to build and fly one, but he only had $1000. The board unanimously agreed that this enthusiastic young man should have it. Jacob lives in Wisconsin, and his parents were reluctant to let their son drive from there to here to pick it up. So, our man Brian Duffield made a connection with his friend who has a trucking company, and secured a donation from them, Kaiser Trucking, and we boxed up the fuselage, all the components included in the donation, ribs and engine, and within 2 weeks Jacob was picking up his Pietenpol in Janesville WI. This is EXACTLY how a chapter and it's members should cooperate to get things done! Your chapter did a GREAT thing in getting a fair donation from a worthy young man, along with the help of the chapter and the community. When Jacob got the crates home, took the top off, and saw what he had, he telephoned me immediately. He was nearing visible tears of joy, as his voice was cracking when he was talking. It was a real moment for me, him, and the chapter as a whole.

We also accepted a donation of S/N 50 of a Stits Playboy from Bob Trew in Eagle Nest Airpark, AZ. Sadly, Bob is getting to the end and asked his friend Bob Cutback to make the arrangements with us. It's a beautiful cream and gold Playboy that Brian and I went to pick up and bring back to Chapter 1. Since it was donated as a non-flying airplane because it doesn't have a working power-plant, when we set a date to put the wings back on it, it will be for the Young Eagle pre-flight portion of our rally. It's very appropriate that Chapter 1 have this airplane says Bob Trew, because he was a good friend of Ray's, and Ray has many hours in it. So, S/N 50… welcome to Chapter 1!

Know that even though we…. I more precisely, have been remiss in communicating with all of you Chapter 1 members, YOUR chapter is alive and healthy. You have a very eager and active board of directors who have consistently stepped up to get and make things happen. BUT, the need for more volunteers still exists. There are many positions that would only require a few hours of your month, and we could use your help and experience to make Chapter 1 even better. We look forward to hearing from you… or better yet, seeing you again at our Chapter meeting on the 2nd Saturday of each month at noon for lunch.

EAA Chapter 1 Spark of Love Toy Drive

By Jim O'Brien - EAA Chapter 1 President

Ever since hearing that the 'Friends of Oceano Airport' has a Toys-for-Tots fly-in each December, I have always wanted Chapter 1 to have something like this for us and our community. It's a great time of year… people are generally in good spirits… and are in the 'giving' mode. Last year, I tried to contact the US Marines to schedule a date and drop off point as a 'Fly-In,' but was too late in asking. So… this year, as advised, I contacted the Marines in June… left a message to the Sgt. for our area, but got a call a month later saying again that all dates were already scheduled and to try again next year. Now what?

On the day my friend Joe and I were flying back to OSH for Airventure from LAX, it happened to be the day after SouthWest had their computer glitch when the entire SouthWest Airlines systems went down. People were stranded and delayed, so it was big news for the local television stations. Even our early morning flight, the day after the problem, was delayed, so we were sitting down with all the other affected travelers. Channels 2, 4, 7, and 11 had reporters randomly interviewing travelers for a segment for that day's program… so I walked up to them and took full advantage of the opportunity.

In speaking with the Channel 7 reporter from KABC, I told her about my idea. She seemed very interested, as they are affiliated with Spark of Love, a charity that involves the local fire departments, where they 'Stuff a Bus' with toy donations each December. It's quite the event, as they have and televise drop off points. My thought was that instead of stuffing a bus, we'd stuff a DC-3! That caught her attention, and we exchanged emails so that I could contact her and she would forward my email to the appropriate person in the newsroom. I was skeptical at best, especially after not having luck with the Marines… but low and behold, KABC called me about 2 weeks ago.

We are having a 'Spark of Love' Fly in on Dec. 3rd. We'll be BBQing hot dogs for everyone who donates a toy, regardless of whether you fly in or not. The central drop-off point for Channel 7 is at Mathis Brothers in Ontario, so when we deliver our donations, they'll play what they filmed, and talk with us live on TV. Our intention is to also get the Press Enterprise to help us get the word out, as well as the flyers from our new graphic artist… hint-hint… and coordinate with Channel 7 on TV coverage. Again, we won't be able to have a live broadcast, because it's only done on weekdays, but we hope to convince them to have a crew filming 'Stuffing a DC-3" at Flabob, and telling them about EAA and Chapter 1. It's a great opportunity to let the world know what EAA is, what's it's about, and that it's not a 'just for pilots' organization. EAA truly is for ANYONE who has any interest in aviation… right?

Please plan on coming to Flabob on Dec. 3rd, and be a participant in showing the entire KABC audience just what Chapter 1 and EAA are all about… Telling about our Young Eagles program, and that we're a community organization, bringing aviation to the community. Should something change, we'll send out an email blast with the details, but this is our real chance to get the word out about us. Support is very much needed, and if we're to have a successful event, it's going to take all of us to impress on those making the decision… to include us next year or not. We definitely want this to become an annual event for the chapter and the Riverside and surrounding areas. Let's take advantage of the opportunity while it presents itself… and show the support for your hard working chapter Board of Directors. Agreed?

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Chapter 1 Help Needed!

By Jim O'Brien - EAA Chapter 1 President

Your Secretary, Gabe Baumert, who has served the Chapter for many years, has agreed to run in this position for another term. However, she has asked that we start the search for a replacement, as now that she's retired, she wants to do more with her husband and family. She has promised that she's not leaving the chapter, but just interested in passing the baton and spending the needed time with her replacement. If you or someone you know might be interested in holding a valued position in the chapter and on the board, we'd sure like to know so that we an talk.

We have been discussing our website over the last few board meetings as well. The reason for this discussion is that EAA has some options for chapters to get free web-hosting, where the formats are more modern and more easily navigated. The options are that we can use a 'canned' website… or from their platform, create a customized website of our own. I encourage you all to visit other EAA chapter's websites and see what others have done. You'll find websites that look totally abandoned, and some of them will amaze you with their content and design. After doing so… please call or email me or any board member with your comments, opinions or votes.

With this said, we are putting out the official word that we are seeking a qualified volunteer to lead us in the design and content… whether or not we continue with the current website or start fresh. Pease give this your best consideration, especially if you are the one reading this with these qualifications. There's nothing more rewarding than doing something for someone else… and I can't think of anyone or group who would be more appreciative than those of us at Chapter 1.

Since we have some excellent events in the near and distant future, we are in need of a graphics person to help us make some useful posters, both electronic and hard copies. When an event is announced electronically, color, wording and content are what attracts more investigation to read… and we want to maximize our impact to the appropriate audience whenever we have something coming up. When you investigate other websites, you'll probably see some of their posters, past and future… so you'll know what I"m talking about, We're not asking for an expert per se', but for someone who wants the job. IF it's you, please contact us ASAP.

We have an excellent lunch available to all chapter members every chapter meeting, following Young Eagles. It's not a big job, but a necessary one to get the food out for everyone, and to manage the clean-up. Again, it's a labor of love… and if you're an aviation enthusiast of any kind, being a part of the kitchen staff is a very rewarding position. No phone call necessary… just come to a chapter meeting and help. You might like the people!!… and helping is good for the heart.

We're always on the hunt for pilots as well. You don't have to be a "Flabobian" to fly, it's only a matter of being an EAA national member, and participating in the Youth Protection program. Roberta Phillips would love to take your call about being a YE pilot. We have all the info you'd need, and the pleasure to be had flying kids for the first time, is something only to be experienced. Come fly with us!



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Christmas Party Information

This year we are changing things up a bit. The annual Christmas Party will be held at the Flabob Airport Cafe and will feature a buffet style dinner catered by the cafe staff. Cost will be $20.00 per person, and can be paid at the door. Please RSVP to the Chapter Secretary, Gabe Baumert, by November 25th using the information below. We hope to see you there!

Please RSVP by 11/25 to:

Gabe Baumert
Email: gabebaumert@gmail.com
Text: (760)524-6629

Keep the Clubhouse!

by EAA Chapter 1 Board of Directors

It was presented to the board at the September board meeting that airport personnel has inspected and determined our clubhouse to have an unsafe roof, as well as a pretty good case of termite infestation. This was brought up by Beth LaRock, board member and Airport Manager, after the lessons learned in refurbishing one of the apartments below the windowed tower by the taxi way at the east end of the field. It was presented that a possible 'joint-use' facility could be erected in it's place. Know that nothing has moved forward or any action taken… that this is just a 'thought' of the Tom Wathen Center.

After a month of letting this all 'roll around' in our heads, your board has elected to solicit a bid to eradicate the termites, and have a few licensed contractors come and inspect the building on our behalf to compare opinions. We also know that many of you over the years have put a lot of time, money and your own sweat into building the clubhouse and making it the perfect facility it is. So, consequently, your board is a bit reluctant to give it up, unless it's absolutely necessary. We're not saying it is, and understand that we understand the clubhouse is what Chapter 1 really is, and that it was and should remain the HOME of Chapter 1 for as long as possible. The clubhouse area is also important to us… it's a matter of pride and ownership, because it's our showcase each and every month for our Young Eagle rallies.

We have, again by the diligent efforts of Brian Duffield, secured paint as a donation from PPG for the exterior of the clubhouse. Since he and I have been busy with work and traveling, a date for painting has not been set, but it sure would be nice if we had some help when we do set a painting date. The exterior will be a fresh white… and the blue is a good Chapter 1 blue. We also want to stencil 'EAA Chapter 1' in large letters… even possibly our BIG red 1 logo. So, again, if you can help, we sure would like to have it. Any and all support from our chapter members is appreciated.



Young Eagles Progress Report

by Roberta Phillips, Young Eagles Coordinator

Hi! I know it's been a while since my last update so let me share where we are. Chapter 1 has flown over 300 Young Eagles this year. Even after rescheduling 3 months this year due to bad weather. Are pilots are truly awesome, always volunteering their time to show their enthusiasm for aviation, and continuing to keep Chapter 1 a priority.

We are doing so well this year that we have reserved and set up a Chapter 1 scholarship for 2 young Eagles to attend the Oshkosh Air Academy Camp in 2017.

This is a great opportunity for 2 lucky Young Eagles to explore their interests in aviation during a 5 day camp in Oshkosh in June or July. Candidates will be chosen by the Chapter 1 board in November. If you know of a candidate that is interested please visit our website at eaach1.org for an application and mail it back in asap.

We are Always looking for volunteers to help during our Young Eagles Rallies. It's really worth it to see all the smiles after they take their first airplane flight. Do you remember yours?

Until we meet again,

Roberta Phillips
Chapter 1
Young Eagles Coordinator
951-847-5474

WingNut To End Printed Edition

by Greg Yonge - Editor

Hello Readers,

Due to the rising cost of printing and postage, your board of directors has decided that this will be the last edition of the WingNut that will be printed and distributed on paper. From this point forward, it is our intention to deliver this newsletter in electronic form only.

We realize that there are still a few of you out there that prefer the feel of paper in your hands while you peruse the articles over your morning coffee, and we apologize in advance for the inconvenience.

Please know that printing and mailing the WingNut costs your chapter a lot every year, and eliminating that cost will help your chapter stay out of the red.

Of course, receiving the electronic copy is only possible if we have your current email address on file, so please be sure to get it to us if you're in doubt. You can either write your current email on your membership renewal form when you receive it, or simply drop us a line at "**membership@eaach1.org**"

You may also surf to the chapter's website, "**www.eaach1.org"**, and find the most current WingNut there as well.

For those of you who are on Facebook, we have set up a page there. Search for "@EAACH1" and give us a "Like" if you like what you see. We will be posting events , pictures, and information. Please share with your friends and family to get the word out. Thank You and Happy Flying!

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Young Eagles Middle School Outreach Program

By David Cheney

Our second annual Riverside City Middle School Young Eagle Outreach Program took place from the months of January through May 2016. This Program is a joint project between EAA Chapter One and the Riverside Unified School District Prime Time Program which is headed up by Janet Downey. Prime Time is an after school program for children wishing to experience diverse learning opportunities outside of the normal school curriculum.

Similar to the first year of our program, we visited a total of six Middle Schools on scheduled Wednesdays throughout the school year. Day one provided an afternoon of aviation learning activities and an opportunity for the kids to sign up for the Chapter One Young Eagle Program. Each of the school visits was split into two 60-90 minute assemblies, one for the attending 7th grade students and the other for attending 8th graders. Participating middle schools were Central, Sierra, Earhardt, University Heights, Gage, and Chemawa. Total attendance varied by school, ranging anywhere from 80 to 150 kids for each of the schools visited!



I started each assembly with a 20 minute interactive presentation of Chapter One's Young Eagle Program with an invitation for all of them to visit Flabob on a YE Saturday and take flight with one of our YE pilots. Afterwards the kids were divided into equal groups that rotated through each of five interactive aviation booths; this was the heart and soul of the program where we had the opportunity to connect individually with the kids, and to provide them with a fun and interactive means of learning about aviation and the immense opportunities the industry can provide.

Gabe Baumert worked patiently and enthusiastically with the kids as they made their paper airplanes at the Take Flight Booth and then provided her guidance and positive encouragement as each student attempted to test their creations in flight! Gabe brings an immense knowledge and background in working with kids and they really enjoyed the time they spent with her! Larry Van Dam manned the Charting and Navigation Booth where the kids learned hands-on how to operate a navigational plotter, read and understand aeronautical charts, and to plan and navigate a cross-country trip by air. Larry was very prepared for each of our visits and enthusiastically ready to take the discussion with the kids in any direction necessary to keep their interest piqued and their excitement level as high as possible. I staffed the aerodynamics booth where the kids learned the major structural parts of an airplane, the lifting properties of the fixed-wing, the four forces of flight, and how those forces are controlled within the aircraft by the pilot. To assist with this learning activity the kids had hands-on access to a one-quarter scale Piper Cub RC model plane and an actual wooden propeller removed from an aircraft. In addition, we had a booth where the kids could test their flying skills with remote control helicopters, and a booth with two flight simulators set to fly a DC-3 out of Flabob Airport!

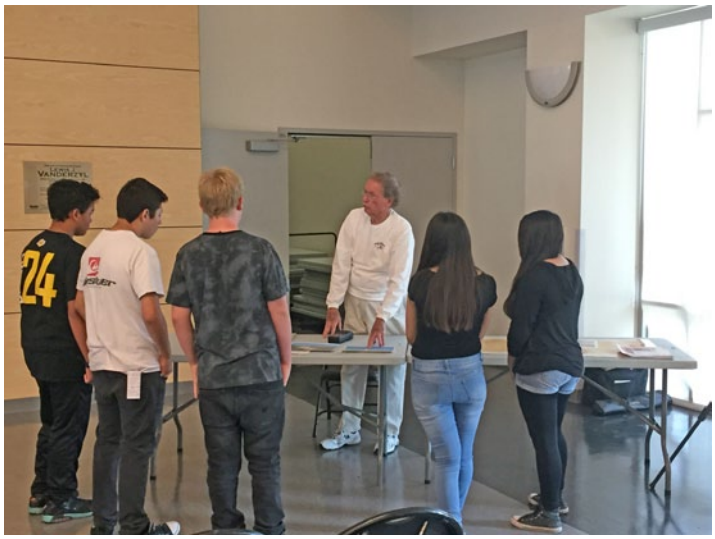
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Both of these booths were staffed by middle school personnel.

However, a major change for this year was the addition of a second visit at each school which took place on alternate Wednesdays. We again split the kids into two groups, seventh and eighth graders, for two sixty minute



presentations where the kids had the opportunity to hear and learn from real life success stories and strategies from former Viet Nam pilot, POW, and now Director of Shades of Blue, Tony Marshall. Tony is a regular at our Saturday Young Eagle rallies where he brings kids down to fly from the Rialto and Apple Valley areas. He is also an excellent speaker and has a special talent in his ability to relate and connect with the kids in a very quick, professional, and enjoyable manner! I learn something new every time I hear Tony speak, and at each of the school visits we had multiple kids line up to request Tony's autograph. We were truly fortunate to have Tony as part of this program!

A program with the scope such as this could not have been made possible without all the help and commitment of the talented volunteers that provided their services. I cannot express my gratitude or thanks enough to the folks who came out on a weekly basis to make this program the success it was!

In closing, what an exciting and rewarding opportunity for all of us who participated to share our aviation and life experiences with a substantial group of young and impressionable middle school aged children! In regards to aviation, today's kids do not have the same access to an airport and the varied aviation opportunities residing there that many of us had in our youth. This, plus differences in socio-economic status, changes in how kids today are entertained and mentally stimulated, and the lack of ability to travel far from the home without committed support, have all conspired to keep many kids on the sidelines rather than to explore new and exciting opportunities such as aviation. So we did the next best thing, we brought aviation to them; and I believe all of us, the students as well as the participating volunteers, benefitted immensely from the experience! Thank you again to all who participated!!







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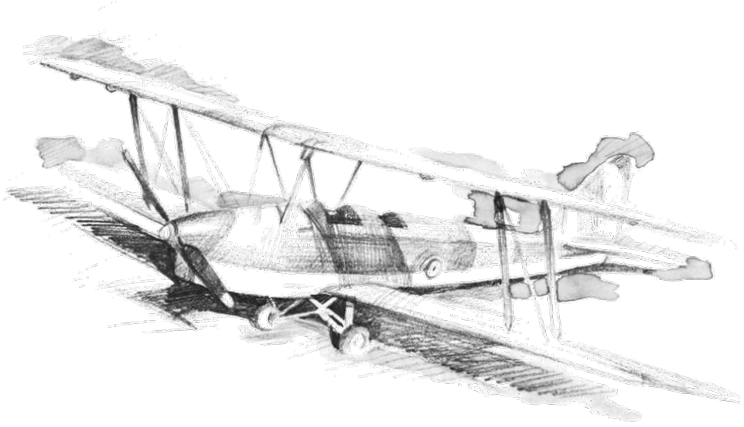
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