

24-June-2024

EAA Harbor Springs Chapter 1087 Update



A note from Pete:

As we get into summer, our chapter activities remain busy, which I personally like! The next events on the calendar in addition to our regular breakfast meetings are our chapter picnic, Young Eagles at Boyne City, Oshkosh, and the once again rescheduled trip to Detroit.

Scheduled Upcoming Events

- Young Eagles at Boyne City, Saturday July 20th 9am-12pm– please let Bill know if you can fly or assist on the ground. The regular breakfast meeting on that date will still be held if you are not participating in the YE event.
- Our next normal breakfast meeting on Saturday July 6th at Southwoods Petoskey.
- Fly-out to Detroit Metro – has been rescheduled once again for Sunday August 4th. Please let Ron Bazman know if you would like to attend. He has been coordinating this event which is limited to 10. Thanks Ron! I'm sure it will be awesome.
- Annual Summer PICNIC at KMGH is Wednesday July 17th. You will receive and email fairly soon with a signup sheet for potluck and other details. The chapter will be funding the hamburgers and hot dogs. Please block your calendar.
- Our monthly IMC/VMC Club Wednesday, July 17th at the KMGH terminal following the picnic

To-Be scheduled Event Planning

- Young Eagle events – Pellston expected in early September, Mackinac Island with the Boy Scouts in September
- Fly-out to the Air Zoo at Kalamazoo – we're looking at a weekday sometime in August. Please contact Pete (who is coordinating the event) if you are interested to attend and preferred dates.
- Fly-out to North Fox 6Y3
- EAA Oshkosh Airventure – July 22-28

Member Profile – Christopher Coleman – our newest Private Pilot – CONGRATULATIONS!!!!

I always knew I wanted to be a pilot. My grandfather and father are pilots and they instilled in me the desire to fly. As a toddler, I remember sitting on my dad's lap and flying on our flight simulator for hours. I took my first flight lesson two days after my ninth birthday. I appreciated the invitation to join the local EAA chapter when I was so young. I remember working the radio on the ground at the Young Eagles events, as well as handing out certificates. Before I turned sixteen, I slowly continued my flight training, working around school and instructor availability.



I soloed in N4376H on October 29, 2022, my sixteenth birthday and a beautiful day. This opened up the opportunity for me to fly more consistently. The following spring, that plane suffered a landing gear strut failure, so I couldn't fly for many months. With this setback, my grandpa started looking for a similar plane that could be used for training. Last October we received the plane (N5164S) and I proceeded to fly as much as possible. However, the plane had to go in for maintenance. So, over the winter I continued to study for the oral



portion of the checkride. When we got the plane back in April, I flew numerous hours in the weeks preceding the checkride. At that point, I felt very confident in myself.

I went to take the test on the 30th of May in Cadillac. The ground portion went great, however, I made a hard landing on my soft field so I was unsatisfactory. In the weeks after, I practiced a lot of these landings, and I felt very confident in my abilities. I was scheduled to go back to Cadillac on June 14th, but the examiner had something come up, so he asked me to reach



out to another examiner. That other examiner was able to get me on his schedule on the 15th but in Traverse City. Now, I'm sure for almost everyone reading this, towered airports are second nature. I, however, hadn't been into one for a very long time. Therefore, my dad and I flew down and did some practice earlier in the day, to review tower procedures. We returned to Traverse City later in the afternoon and I had my retest. It was exciting knowing I had so little left until I had my license. After three takeoffs and landings, I taxied back and was done.

I want to extend my thanks to everyone in the aviation community in Harbor Springs and Petoskey especially my instructors, including Al Sturza, Jerry Schmidt, Winston Weibel, and Robert Bowden. I couldn't have done it without all of the support and encouragement.

Forrest Neff – our EAA Ray Scholarship winner has already Solo'd

Forrest is off to a great start with his training. He has been working with Tom Palmer and Ryan flying a Cessna 172 out of Cheboygan. Here's a couple pics of his first solo flight and a copy of an article written in the local press.

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Local senior awarded flight training scholarship from Experimental Aircraft Association

Forrest Neff, a senior in the Aviation Science and Technology program held at Pellston Regional Airport, has been awarded an \$11,000 flight training scholarship from local Chapter 1087 of the Experimental Aircraft Association.

Neff, of Harbor Springs, is a student at Crooked Tree High School who will graduate in early June. He has attended the aviation program, a Char-Em ISD Career and Technical Education class, this school year and developed a passion for flying, something that has run in his family through generations.

"Aviation runs in my family's blood," said Neff. "My grandfather, Mort Neff, was a pilot who flew around Michigan in search of stories for the Michigan Outdoors television program. My step-grandfather,

Edward Mayne, bravely served as a pilot in World War II and was shot down twice. A family cousin, James Cameron, was a B-24 Liberator pilot who was also shot down during WWII. Receiving this scholarship provides invaluable support as I pursue my aviation goals."

EAA chapter president Pete Aiello said this is the first year the local club participated in the Ray Aviation Scholarship, part of a national scholarship program that helps high school students seeking to pursue careers in aviation.

"Our five-member selection committee interviewed eight students, reviewed their applications and letters of recommendation, and made our selection," said Aiello. "It was a remarkably rewarding experience for our chapter



Forrest Neff (Photo courtesy of Charlie MacInnis)

as we got the opportunity to meet some great young people in Duane Enos' aviation class. We were very gratified by the experience and wish all of the students well."

Aviation instructor Duane Enos said community support continues to lift students skyward to meet their goals.

"I am so blessed to have so much support from the local community, verbally and financially," said Enos. "The local support is fast tracking the training of these future pilots. It's giving them focus and putting them on the right path. Forrest is very dedicated to his training and I know he

will succeed at whatever he sets his mind to. I look forward to flying with him when he gets his commercial license!"

In accepting the award, Neff said, "It's an amazing opportunity. It's driving me harder to get my private pilot license."

After graduation, Neff said he plans to "Fly, fly, fly!" This fall he will attend North Central Michigan College in Petoskey for a year, then transfer to Northwestern Michigan College's aviation program in Traverse City.

About the EAA: EAA Chapter 1087 based in Harbor Springs is a group of local pilots who belong to the Experimental Aircraft Association. Each year, the group conducts several "Young Eagles" programs that give hundreds of kids the opportunity to take their first flight in a small airplane owned and flown by a chapter member. Flights take place at the Harbor Springs, Boyne City, Pellston and Mackinac Island airports.

About the Aviation Science and Technology program: Char-Em ISD offers 20 dif-

ferent Career and Technical Education programs throughout Charlevoix, Emmet and northern Antrim County high schools. The Aviation program is hosted by Alanson Public Schools and housed at Pellston Regional Airport. All career tech classes are open to any student, in any Char-Em ISD district. Students can ask their high school counselor how to enroll. Complete CTE program information is available online at www.charemisdcareertech.org

About Crooked Tree High School: Crooked Tree High School is a Char-Em ISD operated alternative high school program located in Harbor Springs. It was founded in 1998 to provide an alternative option for high school students to earn their diploma. Crooked Tree was named the Michigan Alternative High School of the Year by the Michigan Alternative Education Organization for 2024. It is open to any high school student in Charlevoix, Emmet and northern Antrim Counties. More information: www.charemisd.org

Young Eagles at Harbor Springs on June 8th

A very successful event, here's the front page article from the Harbor Light published on June 12th. Many thanks again to everyone who helped with the event.



Seventy-one children received a free airplane ride over Little Traverse Bay on the morning of Saturday, June 8, courtesy of volunteer pilots and ground crew members from the local chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association. The event took place at the Harbor Springs Airport as part of a nationwide "Young Eagles" program to introduce kids to aviation and inspire them to think about the many possibilities associated with flight.

(More photos inside)



Young Eagles Credit

Our successful Young Eagles events last year have resulted in a \$980 credit. It has been proposed that we donate these funds to the Char-Em aviation program at KPLN. We'll discuss this at the next breakfast meeting. Other ideas are also requested.

IMC/VMC Club for our Chapter

– Rod Cortright (IMC/VMC Club Coordinator)

Our IMC/VMC club meetings have been very successful. We typically have 10-12 members attend each meeting. Each meeting has one video scenario presented for VMC and IMC. The discussions that follow are very interesting. Seems like we never had consensus on a specific outcome but there were several possible directions one could take for each scenario.

The IMC/ VMC Club promotes visual and instrument flying, proficiency, and safety. We present two video scenarios at each meeting—one in VMC and the other in IMC. After each video, we discuss what you would do faced with a similar situation. The intent is to create a community of pilots willing to share information, provide recognition, foster communications, promote safety, and build proficiency in all aspects of flying.

We will be meeting on the third Wednesday of each month at the Harbor Springs Airport. Whether they are EAA members or not, all area pilots are welcome to attend.

2024 Chapter Dues

Please note that the 2024 dues are being collected. If you haven't paid dues yet, please be prepared to give Rod your \$20 at the next available opportunity or send it to him at his home address: PO Box 435, Boyne City, MI 49712

Chapter 1087 Board Members:

- Peter Aiello, President
- Rod Cortright, Secretary/Treasurer and IMC/VMC Club Coordinator
- Bill Meyer, Young Eagles Coordinator

Newsletter bonus to anyone who got down this far – a little humor:

