

# SMOKY HILL E.A.A. CHAPTER #1127



## CHAPTER LETTER – MAY 2025

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## NEXT MEETING

### CHAPTER MEETING:

**SUNDAY, May 11, 2025 \*\*\*NO MEETING\*\*\***

Program:

**Mother's Day**

Host:

Where:

Ellsworth Municipal Airport

Who:

Members, Families and Guests

Time:

1430 hours / 2:30 pm

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

**May 10th, Saturday Young Eagles Event – Smith Center KS**



## **Secretary's Report- April 13th, 2025**

EAA Chapter 1127 met on April 13th, 2025. President Dale Weinhold opened the meeting at 2:30 p.m. There were 14 members present w/one guest: Lindsey Drieling from Salina (who became a member of our chapter! Welcome, Lindsey.)

Larry Adamek moved, and Darren Liby seconded that the previous meeting's minutes as published in the newsletter be approved. Motion Carried.

### **Treasurer's Report: Jim Homolka**

\$120 deposit of dues. \$1954.24 in the checking account.

Approximately \$8,500 in a Savings CD.

Mike Olson moved, and Larry Farmer seconded to approve the treasurer's report. Motion carried

### **Young Eagles Report: Patti Kubick**

Patti contacted a representative at Smith Center and they are very interested in hosting a Young Eagles event there. Larry Farmer moved, and Mark Ford seconded that our chapter conduct a Young Eagles Day at Smith Center (K82) on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m until 1:00 p.m. Motion Carried. It was discussed that pilots should plan on leaving Ellsworth Airport no later than 8:00 a.m. for a 66 NM flight. If there are volunteers who would like to fly to Smith Center, feel free to contact Mike Olson, Mark Ford, or Dale Weinhold for a ride. Patti plans to drive and bring up the equipment needed for the ground crew.

### **Flight Advisor Reports: Larry Gourley**

No report this month. Dale will get Larry officially signed up as one of the Flight Advisors.

### **Tech Council: Jim Homolka**

No report this month.

### **Old Business: Dale Weinhold**

Dale had contacted K-State Salina's pilot program and they will be available to speak at a **Career Day at the Ellsworth Airport on April 29<sup>th</sup>**. The Ellsworth High School agreed to this date and will bring students for two sessions. The first session will start at 10:00 and the second session will start at 11:40.

Dale proposed that they start the session with a 10-minute video that Red has which provides an overview of the many careers in aviation. Then we will have some of our professional pilots talk about their careers. This would include Larry, Keith, Tony, Tom, and Gary. Scott Jones was going to check to see if he could step away from work for a little bit to talk about the A&P path and Dale mentioned that there was a flight attendant that lives in town that he would ask to speak. The remainder of the time would be used by the K-State representatives. It was mentioned that the K-State pilot program is a different group than the UAS (drone) group. Dale thought he had interacted with somebody from the pilot group and was going to follow up with K-State again as he thought several of the students were interested in the UAS program. The volunteer group agreed to meet at the Ellsworth airport no later than 9:30 a.m. on April 29<sup>th</sup> to be ready for the students.

The Chapter's trip (fly out) to Hutchinson's Cosmosphere was discussed. Larry Gourley relayed information from Deb Houghton. Deb said if we get a group of 15 or more, we could get tickets for \$20/person. Mark Ford moved

that we plan a trip to the Cosmosphere for July 13<sup>th</sup>. Scott Jones seconded and motion carried. Mike Olson volunteered to develop the details for this adventure.

Dale reminded us that we had agreed to provide a pancake breakfast and drivers again for the National Aerobatic Competition in Salina. Patti has agreed to be the chairperson organizing the breakfast. We do not have the specific dates yet.

Remember that we will also be hosting the annual Cowtown Fly-in the first Saturday of August (August 2<sup>nd</sup>) and our annual Young Eagles event in Ellsworth the first Saturday of November (November 1<sup>st</sup>). The following Saturday is typically the rain date.

### **New Business: Dale Weinhold**

We did not receive any EAA Chapter awards this year from National. There were a couple of key items that we did not complete that knocked us out of the running.

Larry Gourley moved, and Larry Farmer seconded that we cancel our May meeting due to Mother's day. Motion carried.

With no further business, Patti Kubick moved, and Darwin Steinle seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried.

Delicious treats were provided by Larry Farmer. Mark Ford shared a video regarding the risks associated with flying "low and slow".

EAA Chapter 1127 Secretary for the Day  
Mike Olson

### **FROM YOUR PRESIDENT:**

**NO MEETING THIS MONTH!** That's right, our regular meeting day is the day set aside to honor your Mother, so we are canceling our meeting as is our tradition so that you can do just that. However, we have scheduled a Young Eagles Day in Smith Center Kansas on the day prior, May 10. It was pointed out to us last year at the Kansas Fly-out that the Northern portion of the state does not have an EAA Chapter, and there are a lot of Young Eagle candidates that would love a ride. So, the membership voted to host the event. If you are a pilot, come on up we always can use pilots, and if you just want to be a part of this great day come on up. As always help is needed for signing up the kids, organizing rides and other things. We can always use help. Smith Center has a nice airport and a nice room we can use to sign kids up.

Aviation Career Day was held on April 29 in our meeting room and went very well. We had two groups and 18 kids. The school bussed them out in two groups and all went great. Red Sigle presented a video on Aviation Careers, Larry Gourley talked about his career as a commercial pilot, Gerry Hammond spoke to the first group about his current employment with the airlines and Scott Jones spoke about his A&P career and the opportunities in that field. Following that K-State Salina took over and presented information about their Drone program, the Pilot program and other career choices offered by K-State Salina. Following their presentations the K-State group took the kids out to a K-State airplane and let them climb in and explained all the controls and avionics. It was a great hour for the kids, and I think all enjoyed it.

The next event for our chapter is the trip to the Cosmosphere in Hutchinson which we are planning for July 13, which is our regular meeting day. Plans are still in the works, so keep watching the newsletter and if necessary, we will send a special email, so all know the plans. We need 15 to get the \$20 per person ticket rate.

Things move fast; it seems like it won't be long until our August fly in is here. I will have a sample flyer ready for our June meeting and will send them out late in June or early July. Following that will be the National Aerobatics Competition in Salina where we will provide van drivers and a Sunday Breakfast. Talking about the Aerobatics we were all saddened to hear that one of the pilots that competes each year in Salina was killed in an accident while landing. Rob Holland has been to Salina I think every year and has personally met several of our members. I haven't heard what caused the crash as FAA is still investigating. But he will be missed.

So, we have a busy summer planned and more may come up. Have an idea? Present it at the meeting, I am sure we can work more in.

Not much flying for me this month, seems the weather just did not cooperate. At this time of the year we all know that we need to keep our eye on the weather as it can change fast. Also, winds have been around a lot, which sometime can be a challenge.

So, if you can make it to Smith Center to give the Chapter a hand with this special Young Eagles event that would be great. A couple of planes flying out of Ellsworth, so if you want to fly up contact me or Mike Olson, we may have room for you. Or Patti Kubick is driving so she can haul all of the equipment so she may have space as well. Let's hope for good weather.

That's it for now, we will try and keep you up to date on everything and we will have a regular meeting again in June.

**"We get paid best for the things we do for nothing"**

Young Eagles is a perfect example of that statement the reaction of Young Eagle riders when the plane leaves the runway is priceless.



**EAA Learn to Fly Week Returns May 13-17, 2025**

There is no doubt, whether it was at the barbershop or doctor's office, when you've talked about your love for aviation, you've been met with this response: "I have always wanted to learn to fly, but...." Or "I started my ground school years ago and took a few lessons, but..."

It is a story as old as time: Aspiring aviators have the desire, but there are extenuating circumstances that are preventing them from pursuing their dream of flight. Here at EAA, we know there is an opportunity to turn these dreamers into doers.

EAA's mission is to "grow participation in aviation by sharing The Spirit of Aviation." This mission is fully embraced by EAA's 300,000-plus members and 900 local chapters. Though we can't break down every barrier, it is hard to find an organization and group of members more well-equipped to help aspiring aviators find their place in the sky.

Through EAA's vast library of educational materials and local chapter advocates, the organization is perfectly placed to help grow the pilot population.

To further the efforts of growing the aviation community, **EAA Learn to Fly Week, supported by Sporty's Pilot Shop, is returning on May 13-17, 2025!**

The week will consist of three straight days of educational and interactive webinars. Topics will range from how to get started in flight training to tips for passing the FAA written exam, how to save time and money in flight training, strategies for the checkride, pinch-hitter presentations, and so much more!

Representatives from EAA, Sporty's Pilot Shop, Redbird, TakeFlight Interactive, and designated pilot examiners from across the country will be presenting this wide range of webinars. Following each presentation, attendees will have time for Q&A with the presenters.

The final day of Learn to Fly Week, May 17, 2025, will play host to chapter Flying Start events across the country. Flying Start events are open house-style activities that introduce local aspiring pilots to the local knowledge, tools, and connections that they need to accomplish their goal of becoming a pilot.

During the Flying Start event, chapter members will break down the perceived barriers common to the nonaviation community that prevent people from pursuing their pilot certificate.

Following a short presentation from the chapter and local flight instructors about learning to fly, Flying Start attendees are paired with an Eagle Flight mentor pilot for a free introductory flight. At the conclusion of the flight, the attendee will be provided with a free six-month trial EAA membership!

Flying Start participants will walk away from the event with an "I can do this" point of view, and a clear understanding of "how flying can fit into my life," and "what I can do with this hobby."

Whether you're in the midst of your flight training journey, or just thinking about getting started, we know you'll value in EAA Learn to Fly Week

**You can learn more and register at [www.EAA.org/LTFWeek](http://www.EAA.org/LTFWeek)**



## **AVIATION PHOTO of the Month**

Courtesy of member Kevin Lundy



9K7

Ellsworth Municipal Airport

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