

PERMIAN WING

EAA CHAPTER 123 OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

WELCOME TO 2025!

Happy New Year, EAA Chapter 123 members and friends! As we kick off another exciting year of aviation adventures, camaraderie, and learning, I'd like to take a moment to reflect on what makes our chapter special.

From our memorable trips and holiday gatherings to the successful Young Eagles events where we inspire the next generation of aviators, our shared passion for aviation continues to strengthen our community.

This year promises to be filled with new opportunities. Whether it's planning fly-ins, pancake breakfasts, or backcountry adventures, or supporting each other in building, flying, or simply enjoying the beauty of flight, there's something for everyone in our chapter.

As we look ahead to January's meeting and beyond, let's stay inspired, connected, and eager to make 2025 another year to remember. Thank you all for being part of this incredible journey — we couldn't do it without you!

Blue skies,
EAA Chapter 123

January Chapter Meeting



Photo Credit: USAF

December Meeting Minutes

Food & Fellowship: Everyone gathered for BBQ hamburgers, hotdogs, and dishes brought in by others to share for the Holiday season.

Low Pass Only: We had several aircraft fly-in for the Christmas Banquet, and they didn't disappoint giving everyone some cool low passes for photos!

Officer Elections: Personnel were nominated, and the members voted officers in for 2025. See more about this in the following pages. Details from the meeting are also discussed below.

Chapter Video Magazine: We all watched and discussed some of the topics in the video.

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2024 Year In Review

As we look back on 2024, it's amazing to see how much our chapter has grown and the milestones we've achieved together. From expanding our community to hosting events and inspiring the next generation of aviators, this year has been one to remember. Here's a look at our chapter's highlights:

Chapter Growth and Engagement

- **Facebook Growth:** Our Facebook following grew from 113 to 235! This growth has helped us connect with even more aviation enthusiasts, keeping everyone informed and engaged with chapter news and events.
- **Website Refresh:** This year, we launched a newly updated chapter website, making it easier for members and visitors to access event information, sign up for activities, and read our monthly newsletters. A link to our website is located in the header of this newsletter if you would like to head over and check it out.
- **Monthly Newsletters:** We successfully published 12 monthly newsletters filled with chapter updates, aviation stories, event reminders, and safety tips. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to making these newsletters informative and engaging!

Young Eagles Program

Our Young Eagles program continues to spark excitement among young aspiring pilots. Thanks to our dedicated pilots and volunteers, many young people experienced the joy of flight for the first time this year.

Looking Ahead

As we celebrate the successes of 2024, we're excited to build on this momentum in the new year. One of our goals for 2025 is to engage more volunteers and chapter members in our events and programs. Whether it's helping out at Young Eagles flights, participating in fly-ins, or sharing knowledge during chapter meetings, every contribution helps us grow and remain a vibrant part of the community. Together, we can continue inspiring the next generation of aviators and fostering a strong, connected aviation family.



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Member Update: Jason's Cessna 172XP Gets a Fresh Look

Jason, one of our chapter members, recently picked up his Cessna 172XP after a visit to Murmer Aircraft, and the results were worth the wait!

The paint turned out even better than expected," Jason shared. "Murmer also installed vortex generators (VGs), which look fantastic and add to the aircraft's performance." While communication with the shop wasn't always smooth, Jason noted that the quality of their craftsmanship makes Murmer Aircraft a solid choice if you're looking for expert paintwork.

Jason also gave a thumbs-up to his new Hartzell TopProp, saying it not only performs exceptionally well but also gives the plane a sleek, standout look.

If you're in the market for paint or prop upgrades, take it from Jason—Murmer Aircraft and the Hartzell TopProp are worth considering!



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Looking Ahead to 2025

As we step into the new year, we're excited about the opportunities ahead for EAA Chapter 123. From inspiring the next generation of aviators to creating memorable experiences for our members, 2025 promises to be another great year.

Membership Dues

We will begin collecting 2025 membership dues starting in January. We're working to make the process as simple and convenient as possible for all members—stay tuned for more information on how to renew your membership seamlessly. Your dues go a long way in supporting our chapter's events, programs, and initiatives, and we appreciate your continued involvement!

- Individual Membership: \$20
- Family Membership: \$25

Meet Your 2025 Officers

We're excited to introduce the new officers for 2025, who are ready to lead the chapter into another successful year:

- President: Kelly Gayneaux
- Vice President: Andrew McCarthy
- Secretary/Treasurer: Dr. Tim Campagna
- Young Eagles/Eagles Coordinator: John Carnett

Thank you to our outgoing officers for their dedication and service over the past year, and welcome to the new team! Together, we'll continue to build on the strong foundation of our chapter and make 2025 a year to remember.



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Final Flight Notes: Start the Year Safely

1. Update Your Personal Minimums

As we enter a new year, take time to review and, if necessary, adjust your personal minimums for flying. Factors like experience, proficiency, and changing conditions (e.g., winter weather) might warrant updates to your go/no-go criteria. Stick to these limits to ensure safe decision-making.

2. Revisit Weather Decision-Making

Winter often brings complex weather patterns, including low ceilings, turbulence, and ice. Brush up on reading METARs and TAFs, and be prepared to plan alternative routes or delay flights when conditions are uncertain.

3. Verify Weight and Balance

After the holiday season, cargo, luggage, or even passengers might affect your aircraft's weight and balance differently than you're accustomed to. Ensure that all calculations meet the aircraft's performance limitations before departure.

4. Conduct a Pre-Flight "Systems Review"

Take a few minutes before each flight to mentally review key systems like avionics, powerplant, and fuel. This ensures you're not only checking physical components during inspection but also prepared to operate and troubleshoot them in the air.

5. Refresh Your Emergency Preparedness

Winter weather and shorter daylight hours increase the need for readiness. Carry a survival kit tailored for cold conditions, including blankets, extra food, water, and a flashlight with spare batteries. This preparation can make a critical difference in an emergency situation.

As we embark on a new year, let us take a moment to appreciate the friendships, passion, and shared love for aviation that make our chapter so special. Together, we continue to inspire one another, embrace challenges, and celebrate the joy of flight. Here's to a safe, fulfilling, and adventurous 2025. Thank you for being a part of our journey!