

Experimental Aircraft Association



PERMIAN WING

-June 2025

EAA Chapter 123
Official Newsletter



Scan the QR Code
for direct access
to our website





Springtime In The Skies

Welcome to the April Edition



WELCOME TO JUNE!

Dear Members and Friends,

As summer begins to heat up, we're taking a brief pause from our regular monthly gathering—but that doesn't mean things are slowing down at EAA Chapter 123! While several of our officers are away this month for work or travel, the energy and momentum in our chapter remain strong.

Behind the scenes, we're planning a private Young Eagles event in July, and we'll need pilot volunteers to help make it a success. If you're interested in flying Young Eagles, now is a great time to double-check that your EAA national membership, Youth Protection Training, and background check are all current.

We appreciate each of you who continues to support our mission—whether it's through volunteering, mentoring, flying, or simply spreading the joy of aviation. Your dedication keeps our chapter flying high.

Wishing you smooth landings, safe skies, and a wonderful start to summer. We look forward to reconnecting in July!

Blue skies,
EAA Chapter 123





Aviation Poker Run Highlights

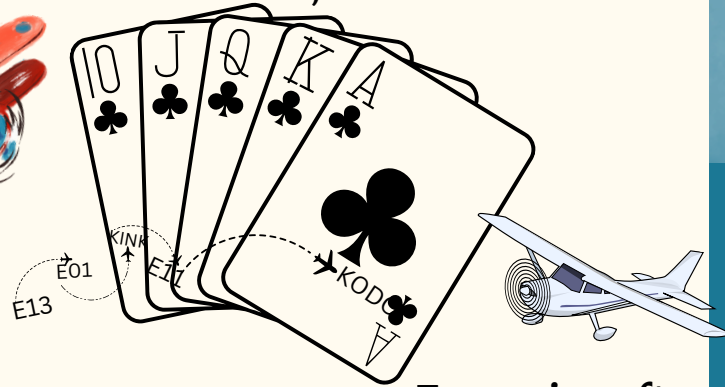


A Winning Hand for Chapter 123!

Our first-ever Aviation Poker Run was a huge success! Pilots, passengers, and aviation enthusiasts from across the region came together for a day of flying fun, camaraderie, and a little friendly competition. With five stops, dozens of playing cards drawn, and lots of burgers served at the final destination, the event exceeded our expectations in every way.

Congratulations to our winners:

- 1 Best Hand – \$500 Prize: Stacy S.
- 2 Runner-Up – \$200 Prize: Pam A.
- 3 Third Place – \$100 Prize: Jason W.



We also had fantastic raffle prizes thanks to our generous sponsors. From aircraft gear to fuel cards and cool aviation memorabilia, there was something for everyone.

Most importantly, the Poker Run helped raise valuable funds for our chapter while bringing our aviation community even closer. A big thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, or sponsored the event—we couldn't have done it without you!

📸 Check out some of the day's highlights in the photo collage below. We're already looking forward to next year's event!



Support Our Sponsors





Member Spotlight & Appreciation

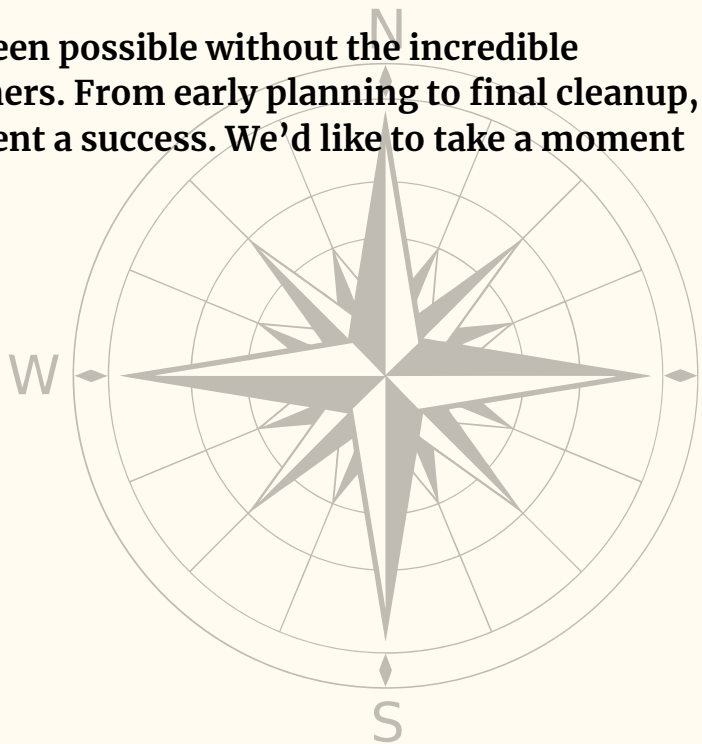


Behind Every Great Event is a Great Team

Our inaugural Aviation Poker Run wouldn't have been possible without the incredible support and dedication of our volunteers and partners. From early planning to final cleanup, each person played a crucial role in making this event a success. We'd like to take a moment to recognize and thank the following individuals:

Volunteer Team

- ✈️ Jon Crain – KODO Airport Manager
- ✈️ Matt Retzer – Host Facility Lead, Epic Aero
- ✈️ Brittany Hodder – Hospitality Coordinator
- ✈️ John Carnett – Airport Representative
- ✈️ Joe Gamertsfelder – Airport Representative
- ✈️ Andrew McCarthy – Airport Representative
- ✈️ Dr. Tim Campagna – Airport Representative
- ✈️ Lisa Gayneaux – Airport Representative
- 🔍 Eddie Buck – Supply Runner & Grillmaster
- 📷 Julie Reneau – Event Photographer



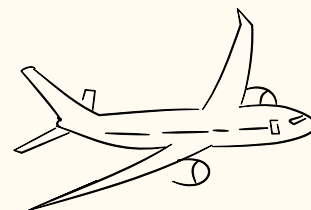
Your time, energy, and generosity made this event run smoothly and created a welcoming, festive atmosphere for everyone who participated. We're proud to have you as part of the Chapter 123 family!

Our Sponsors

A heartfelt thank you to the following sponsors who contributed raffle prizes, facilities, and fuel incentives that made the day even more special:

- Epic Aero – Event Hosting & Support
- Aircraft Spruce – Raffle Donations
- Titan Fuels – Fuel Gift Cards
- R3 Petroleum Contractors – Chapter Support
- EAA Headquarters – Promotional & Historical Items

Your support helps keep grassroots aviation thriving in West Texas.





Final Flight Notes

Springtime Safety Essentials



Arrivals

Final Flight Notes: Summer-Ready Safety

Plan for Heat-Related Stress

Summer flying often means higher cockpit temps and longer days. Make hydration and sun protection part of your preflight checklist. Heat can impair focus and reaction time—especially on long or bumpy flights.

Hot Weather = High Workload

Higher temperatures can increase workload during taxi, takeoff, and climb. Hot air means lower engine performance and longer ground rolls. Take your time, brief your departure thoroughly, and double-check takeoff performance numbers.

Battery & Avionics Vigilance

Summer heat can strain your aircraft's electrical system. Keep an eye on battery health, and avoid draining avionics or accessories before engine start. Always carry a backup power source or handheld radio when flying cross-country.

Don't Skip the Maintenance Mindset

With more flying hours ahead, now's the time to do a focused walkaround. Pay special attention to tires, oil, brake lines, and fuel caps. A summer trip should never start with an avoidable maintenance surprise.

Stretch Your Decision-Making Muscles

More daylight doesn't always mean more go-time. Just because the weather can support a flight doesn't mean you should. Review your personal go/no-go triggers, especially when flying into unfamiliar airports or long cross-country routes.

Fly Early, Fly Smart

Morning flights often offer smoother air, cooler temps, and less traffic. Consider shifting your summer flight planning to take advantage of those early hours whenever possible.



Departures

Gathering Minutes

Fairwell for Now

Date:

Time:

Location:

Social Time:

Welcome:

Discussion:

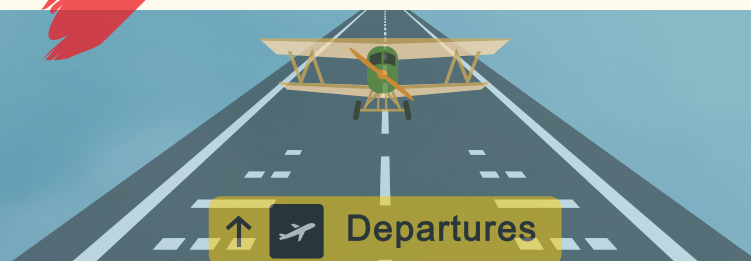
Guest Speaker:

Closing:

NO JUNE GATHERING -

Thank you all for the

support!



Appreciation in Full Throttle

As we reach the halfway point of the year, we want to take a moment to thank every member, volunteer, pilot, and supporter who continues to breathe life into EAA Chapter 123. Your passion and participation are what keep this community strong and thriving—even during months when we take a short pause.

From the success of our first Aviation Poker Run to the excitement building around our upcoming Young Eagles events, it's clear that 2025 is shaping up to be a remarkable year. While we may not be gathering in June, the skies are still buzzing with activity, and so is our chapter behind the scenes.

We encourage you to stay engaged, lend a hand, and keep sharing your love for aviation with those around you. There's plenty more to come, and we're excited to fly into the second half of the year with all of you.

Until next time—see you at the airfield, online, or up in the skies!

Blue skies and tailwinds,

EAA Chapter 123