

The Flypaper

Promoting Sport Aviation in Central Illinois for More Than 60 Years



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April Chapter Gathering 4/18

Our April Chapter 129 Gathering will be **Thursday, April 18** and will feature member's soups. We have had a great selection of soups at our recent gatherings so if you have a favorite winter soup recipe (*it is trying to snow as I write this*), bring it along to share at our gathering or bring a side dish. We will eat at 6:00 pm, some brief announcements at 6:45.



Our Program will be at 7:00 pm

This month **Nick Loftus** will join us to speak on the topic of **Safety with WINGS**: Using the WINGS program is a great way to maintain your proficiency and expand your aviation knowledge. Setting up and managing your profile properly will make the experience much more beneficial and reduce some of the frustration. We will discuss how to navigate the faasafety.gov website to get the most out of the WINGS program and make it work for you.



Federal Aviation Administration

WINGS - Pilot Proficiency Program

Nick Loftus is the FAA Safety Team (FAASite) Program Manager at the Springfield Flight Standards District Office. Nick earned his Private Pilot Certificate in 2003 in Mattoon, Illinois prior to attending Southern Illinois University. While at SIU, he earned his Associate's Degree in Aviation Flight, Bachelor's Degree Aviation Management, Instrument Rating, Commercial Certificate, Multi-Engine Rating, and Flight Instructor Certificate. He graduated from SIU in 2007 and moved to St. Charles, Missouri where he spent 10 years as a flight instructor at St. Charles Flying Service. He served as Chief Instructor of the Part 141 flight school for 7 of those 10 years. He served as a board member for the Greater St. Louis Flight Instructor's Association and was the Assistant Chief Instructor for the organization's annual Flight Instructor Refresher Course. In 2018 Nick joined the FAA where he served as an Aviation Safety Inspector for 5 years before taking his current position of FAASite Program Manager.



March Chapter Gathering 3/21

The March gathering of EAA Chapter 129 began at 6:00 p.m. with a social dinner. There were 34 members and guests in attendance. Members brought eight varieties of soup, four salads, cheese and cracker trays, many cheese sandwiches, and four desserts.

At 6:30, President Charlie Bates called the gathering to order and explained the need identified by the board of directors to update the chapter bi-laws that had not been updated for over thirty years. The proposed revised bi-laws had been submitted to the membership for review as a link in the MailChimp notice of the March gathering. After asking for discussion and any questions about the revised bi-laws, a vote was taken of the members present and the bi-laws were adopted.

President Bates shared the following donations:

State Farm Aviation had donated a Bunn coffee maker to the chapter. Steve Chase had donated an I-Mac computer to the chapter.

New members were introduced:

Eva McCue of Lexington IL. Eva is a high school student who wants to become a pilot and certified AP. She took her first YE flight in 2022, met with Bill Thacker and discussed her interest in AP training. She is currently taking ground school classes for a PPL.

Bill and Janice Thacker's daughter Jessica and son-in-law Josh Fisher brought their new daughter, Eveline to the chapter gathering. She has taken her first Cub flight and her first commercial Jet flight.

EAA has awarded Chapter



Members' Appetizers, Soups, Grilled Cheese and Desserts

129 a Gold Certificate for 2023. This award recognizes the many new activities that the chapter has adopted in the past year.

There were no "New Milestones" reported.

Young Eagles flights will be starting April 20 at Pontiac Municipal Airport. Dustin Davis is gathering new supplies for the program for the new year after dividing the chapter flight schedules from Chapter 29 in Champaign.

At 7:00, Bill Thacker and Matt Kerner provided the chapter program explaining their work to remove, repair, paint and reinstall interior parts and new seat upholstery for a Piper Warrior.

Bill explained the Far 43, Appendix A, Paragraph C outlining what owner-operators are allowed to do for preventive maintenance for their aircraft. Requirements after the work is done are; log the description of the work done, attach any certificating documents, list your name and pilot's certificate number and the date. All work must return the items to "as new condition".



New member Eva McCue and youngest member Evaline Fisher



~See March Gathering Page 3

March Chapter Gathering 3/21

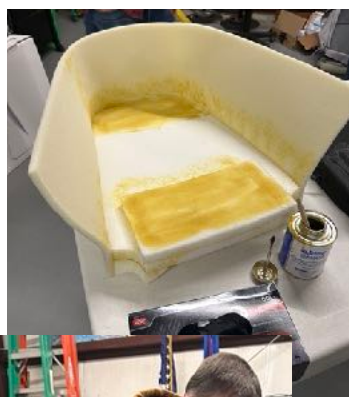
~From March Gathering Page 2

Bill and Matt demonstrated recovering aircraft seats and headrests using Airtex Interior materials. Matt showed a series of pictures documenting his work removing the original aircraft interior parts and his work to clean, repair and repaint the seat frames and plastic parts.

The demonstration continued showing how to apply adhesive to foam and fabric materials, how to compress a foam headrest to make recovery easier and applying new upholstery to a seat.

The gathering continued until after 8:30 p.m. with members and guests sharing stories and watching the program demonstrations.

~ Doug Reeves, chapter secretary



Fabric stretching - a good workout!

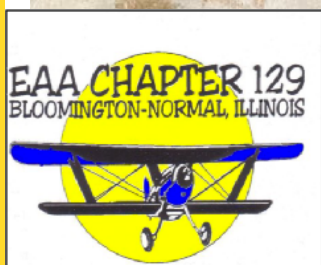
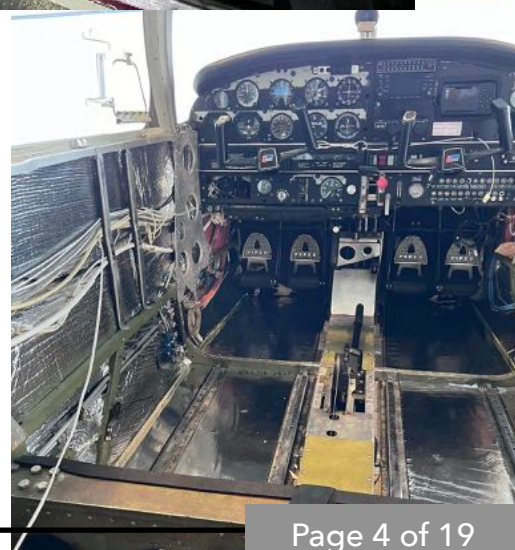


Vacuum compressing the foam to fit in the headrest



A new interior for N313AC

Chapter 129 member Matt Kerner is part owner in N313AC, a Piper Warrior located at KBMI. Having just installed a fresh engine, Matt encouraged the owners to replace the time-worn interior. The work was performed by the owners under the guidance of Bill Thacker in accordance with Far 43, Appendix A, Paragraph C, outlining what owner-operators are allowed to do for preventive maintenance for their aircraft. The recovering process became the topic of our Chapter Monthly Gathering.





Milestones

Chapter 129 members achieving
their goals in aviation



Member Jason Kieser
received his Instrument
Rating in March, 2024



**There is still time to get your
2024 dues paid!**

Annual membership dues for EAA
Chapter 129 are \$30 - *where else
can you have this much fun for \$30?*

You can mail your payment to:

EAA Chapter 129
2825 E Empire St
Bloomington, IL 61704

Have you renewed your EAA national membership? Renew [here](#).

Chapter 129 VMC & IMC Clubs

The intent of EAA VMC & IMC Clubs is to create a community of pilots willing to share information, provide recognition, foster communications, promote safety, and build proficiency. Real world scenarios will be presented and discussed to determine the best solution from the conditions presented.



We are excited to add the Chapter 129 EAA IMC Club in 2024.

Our next IMC Club meeting will be April 6 at 0900

April IMC Question of the Month: What is the significance of a black sign with a white numeral "1" located on the side of the runway?



Our next VMC Club meeting will be April 13 at 0900

March VMC Question of the Month: Question: What is the difference between torque and P-factor?

Each IMC and VMC session includes a **Real World Scenario** involving a pilot encountering a situation involving weather, plane or engine performance, changing conditions in flight to initiate an open discussion over "What would you do?" There isn't necessarily a single right answer, but a variety of discussion points offering learning opportunities for all attendees.



John Rettick leads an IMC Club discussion

Don't miss these opportunities to sharpen up your piloting skills!! VMC and IMC Club meetings are lead/moderated by experienced CFIs who have researched the month's topic to ensure a quality experience for the members.

- Complimentary 6 month EAA memberships available
- Qualifies for FAA WINGS credit



Chapter 129 at Bloomington Area Career Center Event

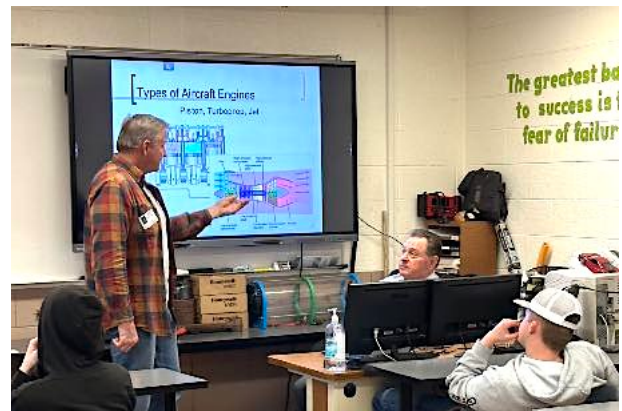
Intro to Aircraft Engines

On March 5, 2024 Chapter 129 members Bill Thacker and Wayne Aldrich presented to the Bloomington Area Career Center's (BACC's) Automotive Technology classes. The presentation introduced the students to aircraft engines and discussed the similarities and differences between automotive and aircraft engines. The students were also introduced to aviation careers including aviation maintenance and technology. Approximately 50 students in 3 separate classes took part in the discussions.

BACC serves high schools in DeWitt and McLean counties and offers vocational training for several career paths. Hopefully some of the students will be interested in careers in aviation!

Special thanks to BACC Automotive Technology instructor Dennis Garrison.

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Chapter 129 STEM education initiatives, please contact Wayne Aldrich at waldo26z@yahoo.com or 309-824-2455



~Wayne Aldrich, STEM/Ray Scholarship Coordinator



Supporting the State Farm STEM Program

The State Farm STEM team asked a favor of EAA Chapter 129 to test some new hardware we built. Kirk Sampson had mentioned that we could probably test our code with a pilot from the chapter and ensure things were in shape before flying it in a balloon launch for local schools. Two members of the core team flew March 20th testing a tracking device used in the balloon flights. The team wrote some custom code to send additional environmental sensors and a location tracker that can be used in a radio fox hunt to find payloads in remote places without internet / cellular connectivity. Luckily testing was done and errors were found during the flight. Code changes were made in the plane and tested successfully! Thank you!

Flights are scheduled weather permitting:

4/5 at 9am Bloomington High School

4/8 at 1230 Normal Community High School

4/12 at 9am Location TBD for U-High

4/26 at 9am Normal West High School

Contact Tom Pankonen 630-728-1400 for high altitude balloon information and details.



Doing software on the fly!



Mission accomplished!



A view from the balloon at 90,000 ft



Preparing for a launch June, 2023



In the State Farm STEM program, students build a microcontroller with software and sensors to log atmospheric data. We fly the tracker to 90-110k feet logging the conditions mimicking what the national weather service does 2x a day at 91 locations in the us, pacific, and Caribbean. The students can then use data modeling software / skills to slice and dice the data to make reports from the flight.

Builder Updates

Roger Kennell's Journey to Homebuilding

I live in the house I grew up in. Like the house, I have experienced many life happenings. One of them has been a passion, Aviation. I started flying at SIU while studying Agriculture in 1970. After earning most of my ratings, I started flight instructing at SIU. After graduating in 1973, I entered the Pax program with Mennonite Central Committee and was sent to Pakistan and lived in a small village working with irrigation and agriculture extension. After 27 months of service, I returned home and renewed my CFII and started working at Mt Hawley Airport while farming with my father. After several years I moved over to the Charter department and started flying 135 charter and doing some pilot service. It was during the early 1980s that I received my ATP and multi engine instructor rating. Through the 80s, I continued to fly at 3MY for a couple of FBO owners. At the start of the 90s I shifted to corporate flying part time with LR Nelson who had a A36 Bonanza and a Cessna 414. In December 2005, as farming was becoming more difficult, I was offered a full-time job with RLI insurance. I switched from being a fulltime farmer-parttime pilot to fulltime pilot parttime farmer. I was typed in the Beech Jet in January 2006 and moved over to the left seat six months later. We flew all over the US with occasional trips to Bermuda, Mexico, and Canada. In August 2012 RLI decided to go with Netjets and I spent the rest of the year selling support equipment out at the hangar. RLI then moved to the main office, and I became Manager of Facilities Services for the Peoria campus. I retired from RLI at the end of 2017

and began filling in for the pilot of VSI, flying a 414A and 421C.

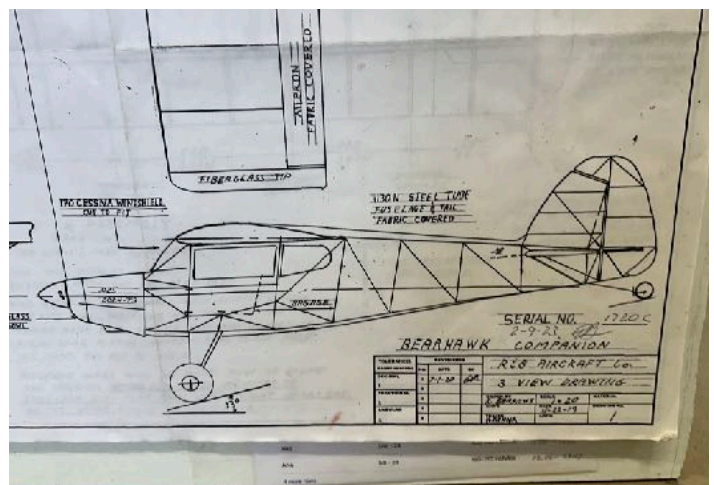
In the summer of 2018, I rode a bicycle from James Town Va. to Astoria, OR, the TranAm trial created by Adventure Cycling to celebrate the 1976 US bicentennial. In May of 2019 at the start of a cycling trip from Lincoln City, OR to Missoula MT and back to Florence OR, I experienced a heart attack and had bypass surgery in Salem OR. My commercial flying ended at that point, but my love of aviation did not.



Through Keith Unzicker, I was introduced to the craft of aircraft building. The Bearhawk Companion seemed like the airplane that fit the mission that I was dreaming of. With Keith's encouragement, I placed an order for the Companion kit November 2021. The kit arrived March 2023 and I have been learning new skills and making new

friends since. I started the process to get a special issuance 3rd class medical and need to get a biannual and tailwheel endorsement to be ready to start flight test in a year or so.

~ See Bearhawk Page xx



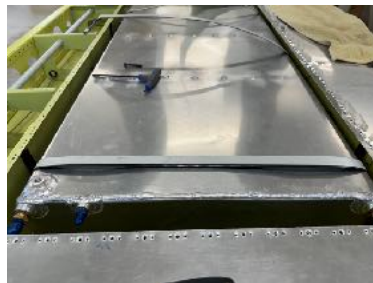
Builder Updates

~Bearhawk from Page xx

Keith also encouraged me to become an EAA member and member of Chapter 129. In the short time of my membership, I have been impressed with the leadership and the accumulated knowledge and experience that Chapter 129 has represented in its membership. To hear of others' experience and sharing of knowledge has been a great resource and encouragement. Dean Olson has also been a great encouragement, resource, and friend as I move through this building experience.

I married Mary in March 1983, and we have four wonderful children, two live with us and two that are married and live on either coast. Mary has been very gracious putting up with the build project taking up a lot of time and space in our lives. Family support is critical to any build or restoration project. I manage to volunteer for Midwest Food Bank driving semi about once a week. Retirement has been wonderful and full of new experiences.

~Roger Kennell



SDS EM-6 Header Tank

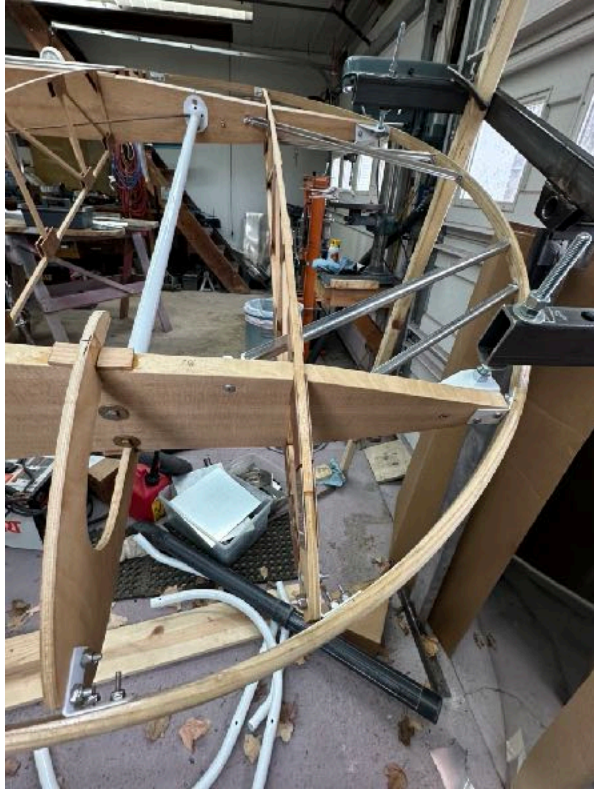
The Bearhawk will use the SDS EM-6 electronic fuel injection and ignition system. The main fuel tanks feed the header tank by gravity. The header tank supplies the fuel pumps. The pumps supply the fuel manifold and pressurize the fuel to 45 psi. From the manifold the fuel goes to the injectors which are electronically controlled to supply the correct amount fuel at the correct time to each cylinder. The excess fuel is returned to the header tank. A unique venting system is employed to vent the header tanks to the mains and provide a backup vent for the main tanks.



Builder Updates

Dean Olson is working on finishing up the wings on his Wag-Aero Cub, fitting up the ailerons, reworking parts that just don't fit exactly right and 'using lots of screws.' He recommends

not looking up to see the project finish line at the top of the hill, but keep looking down at your work and working through it. Great advice!



EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS



Young Eagles 2024



Dustin Davis Young Eagles Coordinator

Hi Flyin Friends,

Our 2024 Young Eagle Rally dates are set and we look forward to all the amazing support from our pilot and ground volunteers! It takes a lot of teamwork to make it all happen and we appreciate all who can help.

The EAA Young Eagles organization offers credits to chapters for young eagles flown. Our activities in 2023 netted \$1,830 for our chapter which can be used for YE supplies. We have purchased some office supplies to help with organization at the events and are looking into a chapter iPad for tracking and uploading YE documents to the YE system that has gone digital, saving lots of paperwork and time

Chapter 129 YE Rally Dates:

April 20th - Pontiac Municipal Airport

May 18th - Bloomington

June 15th - Lincoln

August 17th - Bloomington

September 21st - TBD

October 19th - TBD

Chapter 29 YE Rally Dates:

March 9 Mattoon KMTO

April 13 - Champaign KCMI

May 11 - Mattoon KMTO

June 8 - Champaign KCMI

July 13 - Mattoon KMTO

August 10 - Champaign KCMI

September 21 - Champaign KCMI

October 19 - Mattoon KMTO

With this year's expanded event schedule we will be needing additional pilot support. If you are interested in being a Young Eagle Pilot or

ground volunteer for 2024 please TEXT me at 309-532-8180 with your name so I can add you to my list to contact. Also, if you haven't done so yet PLEASE Register at yeday.org and complete the necessary EAA requirements to volunteer. It can take a couple weeks for the background check, so please get that and the short youth protection requirements done early. If you are already registered on yeday.org as a pilot or ground volunteer PLEASE make sure you're current with the requirements. You must be a current EAA member and the background check and youth protection training also needs to be current. It would also be very helpful for all ground volunteers to register on yeday.org as then I can assign all to an event and everyone gets an email to confirm if you are available for that event. Once you confirm you are available, then, if there is a cancellation or delay with one update to yeday.org all parents, pilots and ground volunteers get notified of the change at once. The EAA is constantly working to provide amazing tools like this so all chapters and rallies can have the best success and smooth flying events.

Again, a HUGE THANK YOU to all who have supported in the past and we look forward to an AMAZING 2024.

Young Eagle Coordinator

Dustin Davis

Junior Young Eagle Coordinator

Lacie Davis



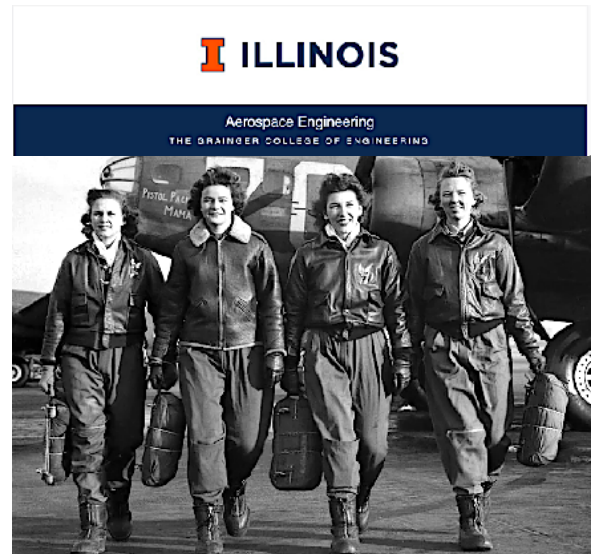
Fly Girls - Breaking Barriers in the Sky -the WASPs

*On Thursday, March 28, the Department of Aerospace Engineering and Women in Aerospace presented a film screening of **Fly Girls** which tells the largely unknown story of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP). The film was followed with a panel of women involved in the aviation industry to discuss the courageous and ground breaking women of the WASP program and how they relate to the struggles women in the aviation industry experience today.*

"In the midst of World War II, the call went out: women with flight experience were needed to fly for the military. All over the country, young women postponed their weddings, put their educations on hold, and quit their jobs to respond. From 1942 to 1944, more than 1,000 women were trained to ferry aircraft, test planes, instruct male pilots, even tow targets for anti-aircraft artillery practice. Despite serving with grit and determination, women pilots often encountered disbelief and resentment. Thirty-eight would give their lives.

Fly Girls tells the largely unknown story of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), featuring a remarkable group of former WASPs who recall the planes they flew, the challenges they met, and the pride they felt in playing a role in the American war effort."

After the film screening, stay to hear from the panel as they discuss the courageous and ground breaking women of the WASP program, the challenges faced during WWII, and how those lessons learned apply to women in the world of aviation today.



PANELISTS

Lisa Taylor, Executive Director of the WASP WWII Museum

During her tenure at the Museum, Lisa has led and completed an expansion initiative that has doubled campus facilities, expanded exhibits, and established school-age programs. Working with the Museum's key leadership team, Lisa has facilitated creating a first-class visitor experience for families and school groups as they learn about the WASP, their legacy pilots, aircraft, and STEM careers.



Prior to her museum role, Lisa worked for the Chamber of Commerce and taught in both the private and public-school sectors. She has always fought for the underdog and has enjoyed raising money for her schools and churches. Lisa holds a BS in Marketing from Texas Tech University and an MAT in Education from Texas Woman's University.

Samantha McCue (BS 2012, AE). System Engineering Manager, XQ-58A Flight Test Lead at 5-D Systems, Inc. a KRATOS company

Samantha McCue graduated from the University of Illinois in 2013 with her Bachelor of Science in Aerospace Engineering and Private Pilot Certificate with Instrument rating from the Institute of Aviation. She later earned a Master of Science in Systems Engineering Management from Texas A&M. After graduation, Samantha went on to work for Cimarron and Boeing based in Houston, TX, where she worked as a Systems, Instrumentation, and Test Engineer on the Boeing CST-100 Starliner program. In 2016, she began working with 5-D Systems (a Kratos company) and has served in the roles of Systems Engineer, Test Director, and Program Manager. Samantha is currently the Systems Engineering Manager for 5-D Systems and the XQ-58A Valkyrie Flight Test Lead for the Kratos Unmanned Systems Division. In her free time, she enjoys spending time outdoors, traveling, eating, and growing her small fitness business in the Austin, TX area.

~See WASP Page xx



Fly Girls - Breaking Barriers in the Sky -the WASPs

~From WASP Page xx

Christine Oksas (BS 2016, LAS), First Officer, SkyWest Airlines

Christine graduated from UIUC in 2016 with degrees in Molecular and Cellular Biology, and Anthropology. She received her private pilot certificate through the Institute of Aviation during her junior year. Upon graduating, Christine worked in the health tech industry for two years before moving west to continue her flight education. She received her instrument rating, single and multi-engine commercial certificates, and flight instructor certificates in 2019. Christine worked as a contract ferry pilot, a medevac pilot on a King Air 200, and a flight instructor for two and a half years before transitioning to the airlines where she now flies the CRJ 700 for SkyWest Airlines at SFO. Still passionate about flight training, Christine continues to instruct in her local pilot community and was one of AOPAs 2021-2022 Distinguished Flight Instructors. She also runs a mentorship program for commercial pilots through the Ninety-Nines International Organization of Women Pilots.

Robyn Woollands, Assistant Professor, Department of Aerospace Engineering

Robyn Woollands is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Aerospace Engineering at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Prior to joining Illinois, she worked for almost 4 years as a Mission Design Engineer at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Robyn's research interests are in astrodynamics, trajectory optimization, Picard-Chebyshev methods and space mission design. She is a recipient of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research Young Investigator Award for 2024. Robyn graduated with her PhD in Aerospace Engineering from Texas A&M University in 2016. She is a recipient of the Distinguished Graduate Student Doctoral Award for Excellence in Research at Texas A&M University.

Chy-Amari Finley, Aerospace Engineering Undergraduate Student

Chy-Amari is a second-year aerospace engineering student who currently holds a private pilot license. She has been involved in aviation and aerospace outreach since high school working primarily with students from underrepresented communities. Her most notable outreach has ties with several Tuskegee Airmen and OBAP chapters. Currently, she is working on her instrument rating and ground instructor certifications to help teach and spread her passion for aviation. As an aerospace engineering student, she plans to work with human spaceflight and use her extensive aeronautical knowledge to help solve more complex space-related problems.

Moderator: Laura Gerhold (BS 07, ACES), Assistant Director of Undergraduate Programs and Chief Advisor, Department of Aerospace Engineering

Laura came to the University of Illinois in 2002 to pursue a career in Aviation at the Institute of Aviation.

After several years as a flight instructor and academic advisor for the University of Illinois' aviation program, her passion for working with students led her to continue her journey as an academic advisor.

She joined the Department of Aerospace Engineering in March of 2012. Laura's passion for flight and space led her to find a home in the department.

Outside of work, she enjoys giving back to her community and is a member of various local organizations including the

Junior League of Champaign-Urbana, The Family Room, the Education Justice Project, and the Executive Club of Champaign County.



Where are they now?— Chapter 129 members on the move

Spotlight: Stacey Shrewsbury

My interest in aviation began in 2003 when I was hired by the Prairie Aviation Museum as Assistant Flight Director for the new Challenger Learning Center (CLC). While the facility was under construction in the former terminal building, the office was located in Image Air's charter hangar. Interacting with museum volunteers, Image Air staff, and local pilots I was in awe of all things aviation: the science of the aerodynamics, the art of flight deck management, the view out the window, and the mental realization that once we took off, we left more than the ground behind us.

I wasn't able to dedicate the necessary time and finances to flight training until my youngest son started kindergarten. In 2011, I enrolled in ground school, and began flight training in 2012 thanks to a \$5,000 scholarship from AOPA. May 6, 2013, I earned my private pilot license. A week later, I earned my Master's Degree in Curriculum & Instruction from Illinois State University. Being a wife, mom, and employed full-time, it took seven years to work my way through my instrument rating, commercial certificate, and CFI-I certificate. From 2019-2022, I worked part-time as a flight instructor for Crosswinds Flying Club and Pontiac Flying Service. In total, I helped sixteen people earn their PPL, or become legal and current after many years away from aviation.

While I enjoyed GA flying, getting the \$100 hamburger, and seeing some beautiful sights, it was during my time as an instructor that I began to consider what it would take to change careers from education to aviation. In November of 2022, I earned my multi-engine rating. The following March, I had enough time to meet the requirements for an unrestricted ATP certificate. With my youngest son graduating high school, I interviewed with Envoy Air, a wholly owned subsidiary of American Airlines Group, and received a conditional job offer as First Officer on May 31.

Since then, it has been a whirlwind of training and new experiences. In July I passed the ATP written test, earned my ATP certificate flying the Embraer 175 in November, and completed Initial Operating Experience (IOE) in December. I am currently based at Chicago O'hare flying to places all around the United States and Canada. I look forward to gaining more knowledge and experience in my role as First Officer, and can see my next goal of Captain on the horizon.

It has taken a lot of hard work and dedication to become an airline pilot. However, I would be remiss if I did not mention that the support and encouragement from those in aviation, along with family and friends, has made it possible for me to have one of the best jobs in the world. For that, I will always be grateful. I encourage others to always do what they can to help another person achieve their dreams. You never know where your words or actions might take them!



Solo Flight – June 7, 2012



First Student to Earn PPL



First Officer, Envoy Air



A Beautiful Sunset



Quiz: Can You Answer These 5 V-Speed Questions?

- 1) What speed is defined as the stall speed in landing configuration (full flaps and gear)?
 - a. V_{sf}
 - b. V_{so}
 - c. V_{ref}
 - d. V_{app}
- 2) Your examiner asks you to define V_x speed. So you tell them...
 - a. The speed that gives you the maximum excess thrust
 - b. Best angle-of-climb speed
 - c. The speed that allows you to gain the most altitude in the shortest distance
 - d. All of these
- 3) If your aircraft's gross weight increases, your maneuvering speed (V_a) _____
 - a. Decreases
 - b. Increases
- 4) The maximum flaps extended speed is:
 - a. V_{mf}
 - b. V_f
 - c. V_{fe}
 - d. V_{flp}
- 5) Name that V-speed: The speed at which you will stall before you cause structural damage if you deflect a single flight control, in one direction, in smooth air
 - a. V_{mo}
 - b. V_{no}
 - c. V_a
 - d. V_{lo}



Quiz courtesy of [boldmethod](#) ▶

See answers on Page 18

EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS



Chapter 129 received notification that we have achieved a GOLD level of recognition after receiving 10 points on the EAA recognition scale. GOLD is the highest rating a chapter can attain.

EAA Chapters have always been one of the most vital components in making general aviation fun, affordable and accessible at the local level. To recognize chapters that have demonstrated outstanding commitment to general aviation, EAA rolled out the Chapter Recognition Program. This recognition is based off ten criteria that have shown to correlate with **active and engaged chapters**.

Chapters receive one point when meeting each of the following criteria:

1. Attends a chapter leadership training session
2. Growing or steady membership
3. Offers IMC or VMC Club programs
4. Participates in Young Eagle or Flying Start programs
5. Has EAA-approved Flight Advisor or Technical Counselor
6. Participates in EAA's Annual Chapter Member survey
7. Participates in Young Eagles Build and Fly, Young Eagles Workshops, send a youth to the EAA's Air Academy, or fully completes a Ray Scholarship program
8. Requests an EAA ChapterBlast email
9. Hosts at least two public events each year
10. Owns/leases a facility
11. Extra credit activity, such as a chapter build project, youth build project, chapter scholarship (separate from Ray Scholars), a chapter tool crib, IAC competition, etc.

Our first Young Eagle event this year is April 20 at Pontiac Municipal Airport. We will be expanding our events this year to some local airports to give more kids a chance to experience aviation. In August we will coordinate our BMI YE rally with the 40th anniversary of the Prairie Aviation Museum. We are expecting a big crowd.

We will be working with the Children's Discovery

Museum, Prairie Aviation Museum and Bloomington/Normal Airport Authority to host a day camp from June 24 to 28 for kids 5 to 12. The campers will spend time at each of the facilities to learn more about aviation.

Other outreach activities for the chapter include supporting State Farm's STEM programs, presenting Aviation themes at local High School STEM programs and supporting the Bloomington Area Career Center with aviation career opportunities.

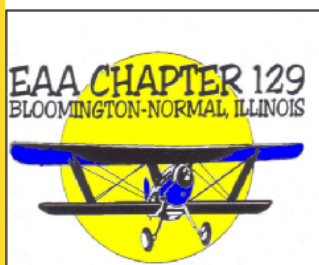
All of these activities, accomplished by many Chapter 129 volunteers has gained us the recognition of 'active and engaged' and has resulted in our GOLD recognition. Thanks to all who have contributed.

We have a busy year in store for 129, if you are looking for a place to volunteer get in touch with one of our leadership members.

Finally, take a minute to look at the online offerings on Pages 18 and 19, particularly for days like this cold, rainy Thursday in April. The FFAST team has put together a host of seminars online with WINGS credit. Also check out the free EAA webinars that cover topics that include aviation history, piloting tips, fascinating stories and more. The Monthly Chapter Video Magazine is great way to stay current with events at EAA HQ in just 15 minutes a month. Just click on the link. Midwest Flyer Magazine offers a free online subscription of their bi-monthly magazine.

If you have other aviation information resources to share, drop me a line and I will include them.

~ Charlie



The FAA Safety Team offers a number of activities, courses, seminars and webinars at <https://www.faasafety.gov>. Following are a few current webinars.



"Pro Tips for Maintenance - Ramp Inspections for the Pilot / Mechanic and Dynamic Regulatory System"

Topic: What You May Experience During A Ramp Inspection By An FAA Inspector and an Introduction to the Dynamic Regulatory System (DRS).

On Wednesday, April 17, 2024 at 19:00 Central Daylight Time

Select Number: GL15127975

Description: Program Manger Alan McKinney will discus what happens during a Ramp Inspection. What you should know and how to be prepared. If you are prepared this will be a quick interaction. **To view further details and registration information for this webinar, [click here](#).**

The following credit(s) are available for the WINGS/AMT Programs:

AMT: 1.00

Basic Knowledge 3 - 1 Credit

The FAA has selected a list of videos for pilots and aircraft maintainers on Youtube. Click the icon below or go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for FAA.



Answers to V-speed questions Page xx

- 1) **b** - Vso is the stall speed in landing configuration (full flaps and landing gear down).
- 2) **d** - Vx is defined as your best angle-of-climb speed. This speed gives you the maximum excess thrust and allows you to achieve the greatest altitude gain within the shortest distance.
- 3) **b** - As gross weight increases, maneuvering speed also increases
- 4) **c** - The maximum flaps extended speed is indicated as 'Vfe'.
- 5) **c** - If you are at or below maneuvering speed, you will stall before you cause structural damage as long as only a single flight control is moved, in one direction, in smooth air.



Webinars, Podcasts, Videos!

Keep in touch with what is happening each month with the Chapter Video Magazine. Charlie Becker and Jack Pelton discuss current events and activities at HQ.



Chapter Video Magazine

April Video

What You Can Expect

In this month's Chapter Video Magazine:

- 1.) Jan 2024 70th Anniversary of First Chapter
- 2.) Homebuilders Week Review
- 3.) Young Eagle Software 2.0
- 4.) EAA Membership Profile Updates and a prize
- 5.) EAA Sun n Fun Corn Roast
- 6.) Airventure

Find EAA's Chapter Videos at:

<http://eaa.brightcovegallery.com/chapters/detail/videos>



PODCASTS that you will want to hear. Outstanding interviews from some of the industry's best. Click on the link above and taste a sample of The Green Dot. It's cold out; a great time to sit back and hear some great flying stories!



Our **Webinars** are free of charge and cover topics that include aviation history, piloting tips, fascinating stories, and more. We're sure you'll find a presentation to enjoy!



Webinars

INTERACTIVE | EDUCATIONAL | MOBILE



Be sure to check out the April/May edition of Midwest Flyer Magazine

[Click here for link to website!](#)

EAA Chapter 129

2024 Calendar of Events

April 6 - IMC Club 0900
April 9 to 14 - Sun n Fun
April 18 - 129 Monthly Gathering 1800
April 20 - VMC Club 0900
April 20 - YE Rally - Pontiac
May 4 - IMC Club 0900
May 16 - 129 Monthly Gathering 1800
May 18 - VMC Club 0900
May 18 - YE Rally Bloomington
June 1 - IMC Club 0900
June 15 - VMC Club 0900
June 15 - YE Rally Lincoln
June 20 - 129 Monthly Gathering
July 6 - IMC Club 0900
August 17 - YE Rally Bloomington
Sept 21 - YE Rally TBD
Oct 19 - YE Rally Bloomington

Every Saturday 7 to 9 AM - Gathering of Eagles
at EAA Chapter 129 hangar F-15



EAA Chapter 129

Charlie Bates - President
Wayne Sampson - Treasurer
Jason Jording - VP
Doug Reeves - Secretary
Dustin Davis - YE Coordinator
Wayne Aldrich - STEM Coordinator,
Ray Aviation Scholarship coordinator
George Wilts-Tech. Counselor
Kirk Sampson - Media & Web Editor
Bill Thacker - Advisor
Newsletter Editor - Charlie Bates

Web - <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea129>

Join us at the EAA Chapter 129 hangar for
our Gathering of Eagles breakfasts
Saturday mornings 7:00 am to 9:00 am
for some great food
and some hangar
flying at its best.

