

The Flypaper

Promoting Sport Aviation in Central Illinois for More Than 60 Years



March Chapter Gathering

The March Chapter 129 gathering started with our traditional March corned beef and cabbage and side dishes provided by members. Our program featured Brian Lloyd who flew around the world in his Mooney M20K 231 following the Amelia Earhart's flight on the 80th anniversary of her attempt.

Brian presented via interactive A/V link, recalling stories of his 35 day adventure around the world. Brian walked us through the multi year preparations required for his trip. He previously owned a 1983 Comanche which he flew to the 1985 Paris airshow

Solo Around The World In A Mooney



where he encountered a pilot on the same route in a Mooney who was using considerably less fuel with greater IAS. In 2012, Brian bought his 1979 Mooney M20k 231 and spent four years preparing it

for the around the world trip. Updates included an Aspen panel, ADF, DME and HF radio equipment for long range communications. He added fuel tanks for a total of 210 gal capacity and a central oxygen system for his planned 190 to 250 FL trip. Brian is a fascinating speaker and storyteller - we ran over our planned 1 hour discussion and everyone stayed for a Q & A session. Thanks to Kirk Sampson for arranging the meeting setting up the A/V system.

~See Solo Page 3



You Have Information April!

April Membership Gathering - Thursday, April 20 at 6:00

We are breaking out the BBQ for April - burgers and hot dogs!

Our speaker will be **Walter Boyd**, founder of iFlyEFB - it all started with a trip to Mexico in his Grumman Traveler - with no maps available.



- 6:00 - 6:30 Meal and Discussion
- 6:30 - 6:45 Cleanup
- 6:45 - Visitor intros, chapter milestones, discussion
- 7:00 - 8:00 Speaker



Bring a dish to share!

Chapter 129 VMC Club - April 22

Chapter 129 will host its monthly VMC Club meeting April 22 at 9:30 a.m. in our chapter hangar following our pancake breakfast.

Real world scenarios will be presented and discussed to determine the best solution from the conditions presented.

Non-instrument rated pilots who want to improve their proficiency have an excellent resource through EAA's Visual Meteorological Conditions (VMC) Clubs. The purpose of EAA VMC Clubs is to build proficiency when flying under visual flight rule conditions.

EAA VMC Clubs are extensions to local EAA chapters and offer monthly meetings in which pilots can network and share knowledge and experience. The meetings use real-world scenarios to engage members, and allow a free exchange of information that improves awareness and skills. The intent is to create a community of pilots willing to share information, provide recognition, foster communications, promote safety, and build proficiency. Through the EAA VMC club programs, visual flight rule pilots have improved their proficiency, and they love it.



- **April 22 - 0930**
- Complimentary 6 month EAA memberships available
- Qualifies for FAA WINGS credit!
- Come early for breakfast

April Question of the Month: *What information regarding a planned flight must a pilot determine for any flight (local or cross-country)?*



The March VMC Club meeting attracted a good crowd who engaged in a great discussion on the topic:

“What is a special VFR clearance and under what conditions can a pilot use one?”



Solo Around the World

~Solo from Page 1

Brian Lloyd Flew Round the World Tracing the Earhart Route

~ from projectameliaearhart.org

Spring Branch Texas, USA. August 4, 2017 – Brian Lloyd, solo-flying his single-engine aircraft Spirit, landed at Kestrel Air Park today, completing his circumnavigation of the globe. He was accompanied over the last few miles by an escort of pilots in eight planes flying in formation with him. On the ground, a reception and hangar party welcomed him home.

At the celebration, Brian Lloyd said, "How do I say, 'thank you' to everyone here and abroad who has helped me along the way on this epic journey? I couldn't have done this solo flight without the time, effort, and good will of hundreds of people out there around the world."

He began the round-the-world flight at that same spot on 31 May 2017, then flew to Miami on 1 June to commemorate exactly eighty years

months, he followed the historic Earhart equatorial route, stopping at dozens of airports that were once grass and dirt airstrips where Earhart had landed. Some of those airstrips have grown up to become sprawling international airports, while others simply don't exist anymore, or are in the midst of conflict zones.

Brian Lloyd completed the historic route on 30 July, by landing at Oakland, California, which was Earhart's unfulfilled final destination. He retraced the steps of Amelia by visiting the historic building at Oakland airport where she had stayed during her original flights.

Brian Lloyd said, "I am driven by the spirit of historic flights. It is important to remember the aviation pioneers like Amelia Earhart, and their contributions to aviation. Their bold actions made today's air travel possible for all of us."



When he reached Hawaii, Brian Lloyd said, "My respect for Amelia Earhart has risen a thousand times now that I have flown 28,000 miles in her shoes. Speeds are comparable, and I have had to deal with the same sort of weather that she did."

Brian Lloyd is the first solo aviator to complete the historic Earhart equatorial route. Spirit has endured fierce winds, blasting sandstorms, and severe tropical weather along the equator. It has not been an easy flight, due to the long flight hours and complex logistics. On July 14th, Spirit's engine failed momentarily at



since the famous Amelia Earhart flight began. For two

Lloyd's route included an homage overflight of Howland Island, that tiny atoll in Pacific Ocean where the famous flight was mysteriously lost in 1937. He dropped two large pink tropical flowers over the site in memoriam for Earhart and Noonan.

21,000 feet over the Pacific ocean, forcing Brian Lloyd to land in New Zealand for repairs.

~See Solo Page 3

Solo Around the World

~Solo from Page 3

Everywhere he went, he invited ground crew and friends to sign the airplane with a marker pen. It became a mission of outreach and goodwill. The plane's fuselage and wings are now covered in signatures that bear witness to the huge network of support that it takes to fly around the world. At the Amelia Earhart Birthplace Museum in Atchison Kansas, Lloyd was awarded the medal from the Ninety-Nines, the famous international organization of women pilots founded in 1929, of which Amelia Earhart was its first president.

Several world records were set by Brian Lloyd and Spirit on this flight: First solo flight of the Historic Earhart Equatorial Route and first male pilot to fly the Historic Earhart Equatorial Route in a propeller aircraft.

Upon landing in Texas, Brian Lloyd commented, "Hopefully I can motivate kids to go out and try new things. Here I am at sixty-three, in a single engine aircraft, flying around the world. You can go out and do something amazing, too."

Brian Lloyd's aircraft, a Mooney M20K 231 with tail number N916BL, is outfitted with 200 gallons of fuel capacity and modern satellite avionics gear, giving it a 3000 mile range. But, like the Earhart's famous Lockheed Electra plane, there is a High Frequency (HF) radio

Spirit. Brian Lloyd used the HF radio to communicate with hundreds of ham radio operators all over the world while he was in flight, using the callsign "WB6RQN Aeronautical Mobile".

About: Brian Lloyd, 63, is a pilot, flight instructor, engineer, educator, and radio operator. He lives near San Antonio, Texas, USA. The commemorative flights like Project Amelia Earhart, are co-sponsored by The Classic Aircraft Aviation Museum, a non-profit in Texas, and many other individuals who contribute to support the flights through donations.

Listen to Brian's podcast on the Stuck Mic AvCast:

<http://stuckmicavcast.com/amelia-earhart/smac286-commemorating-amelia-earharts-solo-round-the-world-flight-with-brian-lloyd/>

Round The World Flight Itinerary : June-July-August 2017

Location : Date : Days : Airport ID

Kestrel Airpark, TX, USA : 31-May : origin : 1T7
San Marcos, TX, USA : 31-May : 0 : KHYI
Ft. Lauderdale Executive, FL, USA : 31-May : 1 : KFXE
St Thomas, VI, USA : 1-Jun : 0 : TIST
Canefield Airport, Dominica : 1-Jun : 1 : TDCF
Port of Spain, Trinidad : 2-Jun : 1 : TTPP
Paramaribo, Suriname : 3-Jun : 1 : SMJP
Fortaleza, Brazil : 4-Jun : 3 : SBFZ
Natal, Brazil : 7-Jun : 1 : SBNT
Dakar, Senegal : 9-Jun : 2 : GOOY
N'Djamena, Chad : 11-Jun : 1 : FTTJ
Khartoum, Sudan : 12-Jun : 1 : HSSS
Muscat, Oman : 13-Jun : 1 : OOMS
Karachi, Pakistan : 14-Jun : 2 : OPKC
Kolkata, India : 16-Jun : 1 : VECC
Chittagong, Bangladesh : 17-Jun : 1 : VGED
Rangoon, Myanmar : 18-Jun : 1 : VYYY
Bangkok, Thailand : 19-Jun : 2 : VTBD
Singapore, Singapore : 21-Jun : 7 : WSSL
Bandung, Java, Indonesia : 29-Jun : 1 : WICC
Darwin, Australia : 30-Jun : 2 : YPDN
Ayers Rock, Australia : 2-Jul : 1 : YAYE
Birdsville, Australia : 3-Jul : 0 : YBDV
Bundaberg, Australia : 3-Jul : 1 : YBUD
Warnervale, Australia : 4-Jul : 2 : YWVA
Sydney, Australia : 6-Jul : 0 : YSBK
Hamilton, NZ : 6-Jul : 17 : NZHN
Pago Pago, American Samoa : 23-July : 1 : NSTU
Howland Island overflight : 24-Jul : 0
Honolulu, HI, USA : 24-Jul : 1 : PHNL
Lihue, HI, USA : 25-Jul : 2 : PHLI
Waimea, Big Island, HI, USA : 27-Jul : 1 : PHMU
Kona, Big Island, HI, USA : 29-Jul : PHKO
Oakland, CA, USA : ETA 11pm 30-Jul : 1 : KOAK
Cameron Park, CA, USA : 31-Jul : 2 : O61
Prescott, AZ, USA : 2-Aug : 0 : KPRC
Grand Canyon NP, AZ, USA : 2-Aug : KGCN
Dalhart, TX, USA : 3-Aug : KDHT
Atchison, KS, USA : 3-Aug : KK59
San Marcos, TX, USA : 4-Aug : KHYI
Kestrel Airpark, TX, USA : 4-Aug : 1T7 : final destination



Bill Thacker's 1971 C172 Restoration

The Interior

As we continue with our flying restoration of my 1971 C172 N9870Q this winter we turned our attention towards the interior and doing a Stene Aviation STOL kit. The interior for obvious reasons as it was pretty worn and we like setting on leather seats versus Cessna



frames. That completed, we first attached reinforcing material to the frames and then glued on the pre-cut and shaped foam followed by the leather. For the side panels just glue them to the old stripped and cleaned aluminum panels. It is really an easy thing to do and completely within the scope for most owners to do themselves.

vinyl! Jake and I had already covered the headliner and window trim pieces with fabric so all we had to do now was reupholster the seats, make headrests and do the cabin sidewalls. As usual we turned to Airtex Products for the interior leather and fabric and proceeded to disrobe, clean and paint the seat



The STOL Kit



With the interior complete Scott Whittaker and I moved on to the Stene STOL kit. The main reason for the kit was that it would hide 52 years worth of leading edge bird damage and hangar rash plus, the kit includes a new set of badly needed wingtips.

First step was to clean and prepare the leading edge for the cuff and then RTV on the foam blocks that help with alignment. One picture I held my finger up so you could see just how much the cuff extends the

each wing by trimming and by slightly rolling the edges to ensure a perfect fit.

Next was to drill and cleco them into place followed by AVEX pop rivets for



permanent attachment.

Install the new wingtips and aileron gap seals and you're done.

I test flew it just a few days before our March Young Eagles Rally and was amazed at the increase in performance. With just me and 1/2 tanks I was able to get off the soft Thacker Airport runway in less than 600! The climb rate was incredible, too. The 172 already has a fairly docile stall clean but with the new cuff I found it impossible to full stall it without some additional G-loading. I can't wait for some nice calm days so that I can fine tune the take-off, climb and glide performance numbers. I am sure it will be impressive. I have to honestly say that of all the times I have plunked down the money for an aircraft modification the Stene Sportsman Leading Edge Cuff kit is

by far the most impressive bang for the buck. I would recommend that any Cessna owner should consider it, especially if you have the early non-cuffed wing.

leading edge.

Next we fit the cuffs, 3 pieces



Young Eagles 2023



Dustin Davis
Young Eagles Coordinator

We had to push our March Event back a day due to weather but we had our first successful March YE Rally in years. 72

kids, 8 pilots and 11 ground volunteers were registered for Saturday and with the pivot to Sunday we had 12 ground volunteers and 6 pilots fly 33 kids. 23 of which were first timers! Due to registration filling fast, waitlist being maxed out and pilots excited to each fly 30 kids by Oshkosh to get their 30 Year Anniversary Polo, we extended the April 29th YE Rally from 2 hour to 4 hours. This time will allow us to have up to 100 kids!

1. Reserve an aircraft if applicable
2. Update your profile at YEday.org for both ground crew and pilots
3. Check that your youth protection and background check are still current (valid for 3 years; required for pilots and encouraged for ground crew)
4. Current to take passengers
5. Have aircraft passenger liability insurance for the aircraft used (owned, rented, or borrowed) with \$100,000 per seat coverage.



April 29 - YE Rally Bloomington
9 am to 1 pm

May 20 - YE Rally Bloomington

June 17 - YE Rally Champaign

July 15 - YE Rally Bloomington

August 5 - YE Rally Rantoul

August 26 - YE Rally Mattoon

EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS



At our March gathering we were entertained by Brian Lloyd as he shared his stories from his trip around the world in his Mooney aircraft. We ran way over our planned time for the event but no one left. It was riveting. Thanks to Kirk Sampson for arranging the meeting with Brian and setting up the A/V system. We are working on a great lineup of speakers for our monthly gatherings and April's speaker proves to be another excellent choice - Walter Boyd, founder of iFlyEFB will join us to share his story.

We had a good turnout at our March YE event in spite of the weather causing us to move it out a day. Due to high popularity, we are extending our April 29 YE rally to a four hour event, expecting 100 kids to show up for rides. This would be our biggest YE event at BMI.

Our VMC club meetings are well attended and we expect that to grow as the word gets out. The Question of the Month provided by EAA has produced some lively discussions and we all walked away with a better understanding of the topics. I thought I understood SVFR until our discussion last month.

New to our Chapter - We now have WiFi in our hangar for our members use and to facilitate our online speaker sessions using A/V equipment. Password access is available at the 129 hangar. Also, be sure to notice our new Chapter sign at the front door donated by member Matt Kerner. It is a work of art!

Online resources - on Page 8 there are links to a number of resources including the monthly Chapter Video Magazines where Charlie Becker keeps us apprised of activities at HQ, a link to EAA's

Webinars and to the Midwest Flyer magazine that is only available online.

We are always looking for information on member's trips and stories to share in our newsletter. Do you have news to share?

I am overwhelmed with the efforts of our chapter leaders and members who are aggressively working to grow our chapter and advance our offering to our flying community, young and old. Thanks to all our volunteers who are working to make it all happen.

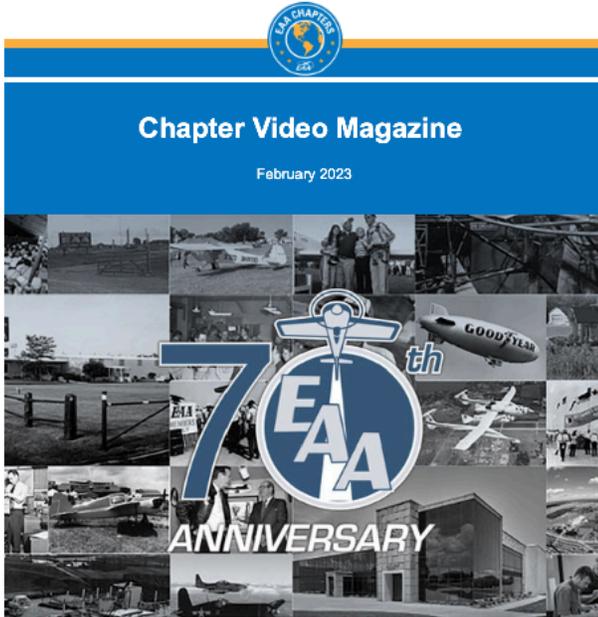
~Charlie



A new look for 129 - Member Matt Kerner developed a new sign for our hangar to replace the tired original. Matt has a vinyl die cutting machine at home and recreated our original sign and logo, mounting it on a Corian base that should last another 30 years. Thanks Matt!!



Webinars, Podcasts, Videos!



Find EAA's Chapter Videos at:
<http://eaa.brightcovegallery.com/chapters/detail/videos>

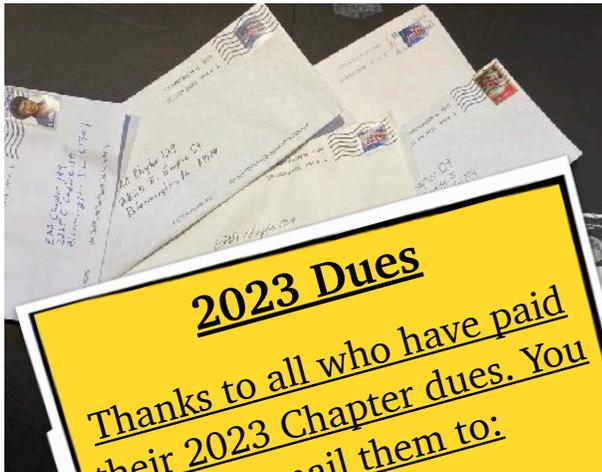


Click here to access EAA Webinars



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

Click here for link to website!



2023 Dues

Thanks to all who have paid their 2023 Chapter dues. You can mail them to:

EAA Chapter 129
2825 E Empire St
Bloomington, IL 61704

Wanted

Do you have an aviation story to share? Send your pictures, stories, events, travel adventures, builder updates for our next issue of **The Flypaper**.

Email them to: cmbates50@gmail.com



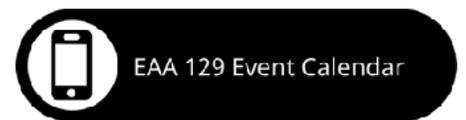
2023 Calendar of Events

- March 18 - YE Rally Bloomington
- Chapter 129 VMC Meeting
- April 20 - Chapter 129 Monthly Gathering
- **Speaker - Walter Boyd, founder iFlyEFB**
- April 22 - Chapter 129 VMC Meeting
- April 29 - YE Rally Bloomington
- May 18 - Chapter 129 Monthly Gathering
- May 20 - YE Rally Bloomington
- Chapter 129 VMC Meeting
- June 15- Chapter 129 Monthly Gathering
- June 17 - YE Rally Champaign
- Chapter 129 VMC Meeting
- July 15 - YE Rally Bloomington
- July 20 - Chapter 129 Monthly Gathering
- July 24 to July 30 - AirVenture
- August 5 - YE Rally Rantoul
- August 17 - Chapter 129 Monthly Gathering
- August 26 - YE Rally Mattoon
- September 21 - Chapter 129 Monthly Gathering
- October 19 - Chapter 129 Monthly Gathering

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



- **April 22 - 0930**
- Complimentary 6 month EAA memberships available
- Qualifies for FAA WINGS credit!



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.



Chapter 129

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