



The Flypaper

Promoting Sport Aviation in Central Illinois for More Than 60 Years



July Chapter Gathering - Wed, July 24

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Following a long-standing tradition, Chapter 129's July Gathering will be held at Airventure on Wednesday evening, July 24 at 6:00 pm. You will find us near the intersection of Knapp and Waupun Road. We will grill burgers and brats, please bring a side dish if able. The Wednesday night airshow follows. Bring a lawn chair!

And don't miss our annual chapter photo Wednesday at noon under the Brown Arch.

Hope to see you all there!



June Chapter Gathering and Fly-In June 7 & 8

The June Chapter 129 gathering was held at Bill Thacker's airport 11LL. In preparation for the event weekend Thursday morning Doug Reeves, Wayne Sampson and Charlie Bates borrowed 57 folding chairs from Prairie Aviation Museum, Charlie and Wayne collected the 8 tables from the F-15 hanger and delivered everything to 11LL. Charlie and Wayne went shopping for food and supplies at Sam's Club and delivered the groceries to Bill's hanger kitchen. Doug used Bill's International H tractor to mow the aircraft parking area and the runway. By late Thursday afternoon, everything was in place for the gathering later

Friday. On Friday afternoon, Bill had moved his airplanes from his hanger and Mark Langley, Wayne Aldridge, Wayne Sampson, Charlie Bates, and Jim Visel set up the grills, coolers, tables, and chairs for the evening event. Charlie, Mark, and Doug marked the parking area for guest aircraft. Paul Krueger made a low pass over the landing strip but because the crosswind was so strong and directly off his wings he returned to KBMI without attempting a landing, but we enjoyed seeing him fly by. The guests began arriving by 5:00 in anticipation of a great evening. By the time the meal was ready there were over 35 members and guests in attendance. The cooking team of Paul Krueger, Jim Visel and Mark Langley began cooking burgers, brats, hotdogs, and Mark's

special pepper/onion/tomato topping. Members and guests brought extra food dishes to share and there was plenty of food for everyone. There was no formal meeting for the gathering, but great conversations and touring Bill's beautiful facility filled the evening. At dark, Bill featured his tradition of a movie shown on the hanger door for everyone.



The movie was Memphis Belle, a story about a B17 crew on their 25th mission after which they were sent home. Several guests brought their camping gear or an RV and camped overnight under the trees in Bill's yard.

Saturday morning was the traditional pancake breakfast beginning at 7:00. Food specialties were pancakes, sausage, biscuits, sausage gravy, coffee, and orange juice.

Visiting planes started arriving by 8:00 with the prevailing winds blowing directly down the runway, a positive change from Friday. Since Kirk Sampson had promoted the Saturday pancake breakfast across social media, there were fly in guests from LaSalle/Peru, Pontiac, Peoria and White Bear Lake MN.

~ See June Page 3



June Chapter Gathering and Fly-In June 7 & 8



Doug Reeves gives the runway and ramp a manicure before the event.

~ From June Page 2

Several members helped marshal the arriving and departing airplanes safely to and from parking to provide a professional appearance to our fly in event.

During the morning there were airplane rides given by John Rettick in his 1941 Stearman, Bill Thacker's Super Cub and Bill's Cessna 172 and David Pfister gave some special rides in Roger Stoller's Champion. If watching airplanes wasn't enough fun, Bill provided a place to play the 'Corn Hole' game outside the hanger doors.

A quick total of members and guests on Saturday morning numbered 80-85 in attendance. The weather was perfect, the



location was beautiful, and the fellowship was outstanding for the whole two-day event.

Saturday late morning the cleanup crews began collecting trash and cleaning the extra supplies, chairs, tables, and grills. Bill's hanger was returned to its pre-event status.

~ More Pics Pages 4 & 5

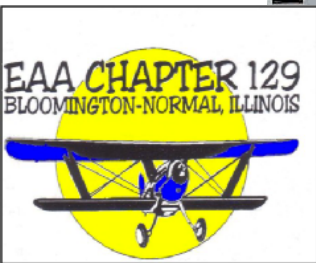


June Chapter Gathering and Fly-In June 7 & 8



Thank you to everyone who helped gather supplies, tables, chairs, and the grills for the event and then helped return them to their correct location. Thank you to Bill and Janice Thacker for allowing Chapter 129 to hold their June gathering at their home/hanger and airfield.

~Doug Reeves chapter secretary



June Chapter Gathering and Fly-In June 7 & 8



Chapter 129 supports Children's Discovery Museum

On June 25 and 26, EAA Chapter 129 and Prairie Aviation Museum hosted 17 campers for an aviation Summer Camp called "Aerospace Engineering".



In 2022 Wayne Aldrich shared an idea for an aviation themed event with staff at the Normal Children's Discovery Museum. In July 2023, CDM Executive Director, Beth Whisman introduced Wayne to the new Education Director Nick Papineau who was immediately excited about such an opportunity. Eventually the CDM, PAM and EAA 129 agreed to share a week long Aviation Summer camp with two days at the Central Illinois Regional Airport with events sponsored by EAA 129 and PAM. Planning conversations continued with Derek Snyder, CIRA Deputy Executive Director and Melissa Beaver, CIRA Manager of Marketing and Communications and Tom Kuhn, President of Prairie Aviation Museum.

Wayne led planning meetings with members of EAA129 who would provide activities for the campers on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings June 25 and 26. Wayne coordinated activities with Derek Snyder and Melissa Beaver for tours of the CIRA main terminal, Bloomington Airport control tower, Bloomington Fire station 6, and OSF Lifeline Helicopter hanger. Derek also agreed to provide a bus tour of the airport runways too. Tom Kuhn, President of Prairie Aviation Museum organized a guided tour of the museum and the aircraft on display.

Monday June 24 was scheduled as set up day for members of EAA129 to organize their hanger, set up demonstrations for evaluating weather, parts of an airplane, how thrust and drag affect flight, weigh and balance impact on flight, how flight controls affect flight and demonstrating Bernoulli and Newton's laws of physics. Wayne provided several types of simple airplanes that the campers could make and test fly including a Styrofoam plate plane and a simple folded paper airplane. Wayne had also scheduled several surprises for the campers each day. On Tuesday, John Rettick had agreed to taxi his 1941 Stearman to the ramp area just outside the EAA hanger. On Wednesday, Bill Thacker agreed to fly his Piper Super Cub in, and Charlie Bates agreed to taxi a Crosswinds Flying Club Piper Archer to the ramp area next to the hanger to allow the campers to learn about

it means to preflight an airplane.



Chapter 129

supports Children's

Tuesday morning was a perfect day to discuss aviation weather with a sunny day south of the hanger and an impending storm front just to the north. Campers stood outside of the hanger to observe both directions and discuss if it was a good day to fly. Once back inside, Wayne gave an introduction to the airport and asked what questions the campers might like to ask during the next two days. Focus was given to things you might see at an airport and what their purpose is. When John Rettick arrived with his 1941 Stearman, complete with flight suit and leather helmet and goggles, the campers were excited to step outside and have John tell them about his biplane. They were able to touch a fabric covered wing and learn how the control surfaces move to direct the plane in flight. John was such a hit many of the campers asked for his autograph.

An aviation video was shown that described diverse types of aircraft and explained their differences.



Weather 101 - Is this a good day to fly?

Chapter 129 supports Children's Discovery Museum

With the weather front producing rain, the campers relocated to the CIRA main terminal building for lunch and to begin their airport tour.

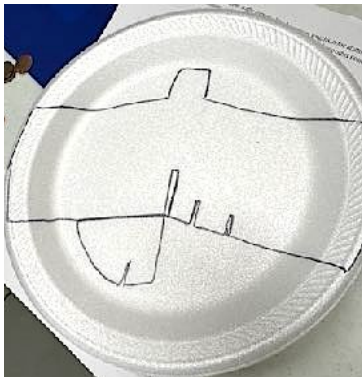
Both Derek Snyder and Melissa Beaver led the tour of the airport facilities. Mike Epley, Airport Tower Manager gave the campers a bird's eye view of the airport runways and described how they coordinate take off and landing of aircraft. The Bloomington Fire Station 6 crew give the campers a tour of the emergency fire fighting equipment necessary for safety at the airport. The campers were excited about the large "crash firefighting trucks." The OSF Lifeline staff gave the campers an opportunity to sit inside the rescue/transport helicopters based at Bloomington that service most of central Illinois. On the way back to the EAA hanger, campers were tasked with completing a scavenger hunt for items you would see at an airport with a trip down both runways and through the operations area and maintenance facility. Including a close up look at a Piltus aircraft landing in front of the group while waiting to cross 2/20.

Wayne hosted a wrap up session concluding the Tuesday series of activities.

Wednesday

Wednesday morning began with another weather check and the day looked perfect for a flight.

Before the various demonstrations started, everyone got to make their Styrofoam plate airplane and folded paper airplanes to use with the activities later.



CIRA provided a trip down the runways and through the airport maintenance and operations areas.

Chapter 129 supports Children's Discovery Museum



The Bernoulli Effect



The campers were divided into four groups to rotate around the various educational stations Wayne had created.

One group was visiting the Super Cub and Piper Archer, learning about preflighting an airplane, and sitting inside the Archer. Another group was learning about thrust with a rubber band airplane on a wire and various balloons attached to the wire by way of a sliding straw. Different size balloons were tested to see the impact of drag and increased thrust. A third group was flying their paper and Styrofoam airplanes with different control surface configurations to see the impact controls have on flight. A contest to fly through a hula-hoop gave everyone a fun experience. The fourth group saw demonstrations of wind over various wing configurations demonstrating Bernoulli and Newton's laws of physics.



Chapter 129 supports Children's Discovery Museum

Following lunch on Wednesday, the campers walked to Prairie Aviation Museum for a guided tour of the museum and airpark. Tom Kuhn, Keith Henson, and Doug Reeves hosted the campers as they saw various aviation artifacts and got to try on a jet pilot's helmet and a real parachute. The tour in the airpark included sitting in a Huey UH-1 Helicopter, an Army Th-55 training helicopter, and both an Aero Commander 680 corporate plane and a Cessna 310 private plane. Walking through the airpark learning about the Navy and Air Force jet planes on display also gave the campers an opportunity to have their pictures taken around the huge aircraft. Concluding the time at

Prairie Aviation Museum, Tom showed a Charlie Brown video describing the Wright Brothers first powered flight at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.

The campers returned to the EAA Chapter 129 hanger to complete the two-day aviation camp at the Central Illinois Regional airport.

Wayne wants to thank everyone who made the two-day aviation camp a tremendous success and gave the campers many things to discuss about aviation with their friends and family.

~ *Doug Reeves*



Getting an up close look at some GA aircraft



Astronauts at the museum

Chapter 129 VMC & IMC Clubs

There will be no VMC and IMC Club meetings in June and July due to conflicts with other flying activities. We plan to resume meetings in August. Please stay tuned.

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.



**In lieu of our regular June and July VMC and IMC meetings, Here is the QOM for July
Answer on Page 12**

July VMC QOM: When approaching to land on an upsloping runway, what common error or illusion might a pilot experience?

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



Young Eagles 2024



Dustin Davis Young Eagles Coordinator

Hi Flyin Friends,

Our June YE event was cancelled due to low ceilings at KAAA on Saturday.

Our next Chapter 129 scheduled event is August 17 at BMI, coordinated with the Prairie Aviation Museum's 40th anniversary. We are expecting a big crowd,

especially a number of walk-ins that discover our event while attending the PAM Open Cockpit Day event. Please consider signing up as we will need a number of pilots and ground crew.

We continue to work with our sister Chapter 29, sharing pilots and ground crew members. Be sure to check in on the scheduled events to see where our YE Coordinators need help at each event.

Chapter 129 YE Rally Dates:

- April 20th - *Cancelled -WX*
- May 18th - Pontiac Municipal Airport
- June 15th - *Cancelled -WX*
- 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



July QOM answer from Page 11

Answer: An approach to an upward sloping runway creates the illusion of being too high on the approach, causing a pilot to unintentionally fly a low approach. Using a stabilized approach and the spot landing technique, or visual slope guidance (e.g., VASI or PAPI), can help avoid this common error.

Chapter 129 Ray Aviation Scholar Turns Ag Application Pilot

Adam Jacobs was our EAA Chapter 129 Ray Aviation Scholarship recipient in 2020. Has done very well with the headstart EAA has provided to him.

Adam grew up on his family farm, he is the fourth generation of his family living there. He recalls the family using aerial applicators but didn't get the bug to fly until years later. At 16 he saw an ad for a part time ground crew support position at Pontiac Municipal airport and joined the team there. His work included mowing, loading Ag Tractors with fuel and chemicals and cleaning windshields in their Ag application planes. This is where he found his love with aviation.

Four years later he got an introductory flight with Stacey Shrewsbury at Pontiac Flying Service and decided to take flying lessons. Adam applied for our Ray Aviation Scholarship which helped pay for his PPL and put him on his path as an Ag Pilot career. Adam paid for all of his flight training out of pocket so the Ray Scholarship was integral to getting him started.

Adam attended Parkland college and received a degree in Ag Business. In August 2023 he attended Riggins Flight School in Madison SD to finish his Instrument and Commercial training. He bought a Decathlon to build tailwheel time, got his High Performance rating in Pontiac's 180, and did spin and aerobatic training in Aurora. In March, 2024 he went to North Battleford, Saskatchewan for Ag Pilot training, learning spray techniques, GPS, and emergency procedures in a Piper Pawnee and stayed over for turbine training getting signed off in an Air Tractor 504.

He recently went to Colorado to pick up a Thrush 510 turboprop air tractor for Pontiac Flying Service with a PT6-34, 750HP SHP turboprop engine that he will be flying this summer applying fungicide and insecticide to corn and soybeans.

Adam still works the family farm while pursuing his Ag Application career, both seasonal jobs. In the off seasons he works in a local excavating business.

Adam would like to thank the Peterson family at Pontiac Flying Service and EAA Chapter 129 for their support through his development.



Builder Updates

There is much thought put into building an airplane and just as with flight training, there are some plateaus that one hits. I don't like working with fiberglass and was procrastinating working on the wingtips (plateau). The other problem was how do I fit an Aero-LED VX landing-taxi light and bezel designed for an RV 9-10 into a Bearhawk wing tip (thinking). The Bearhawk Forum was a little helpful. Having other builders look at the project sparked ideas and encouragement, but it came down to diving in and getting to work. Having some success with the NSP light mount gave confidence to continue with the landing-taxi light. It took a lot of epoxy, folx and fiberglass tape, along with sanding and cutting with the dermal tool to get the first light installed. The second wingtip has been started and proceeding much more quickly.

~ Roger Kennell



Starting First Wingtip



Fitting Bezel



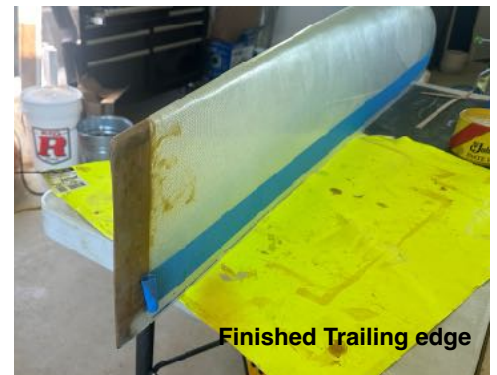
Light Installed



Starting Left Wingtip



Glueing wingtip trailing edge



Finished Trailing edge



Builder Updates

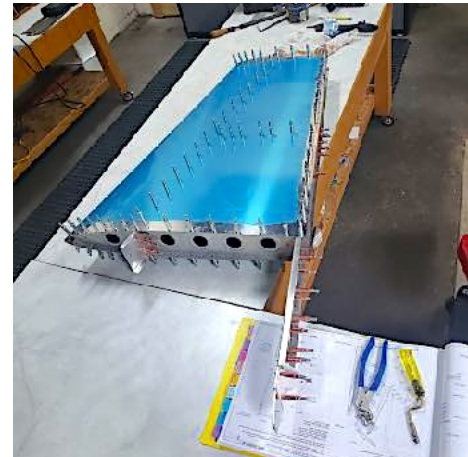
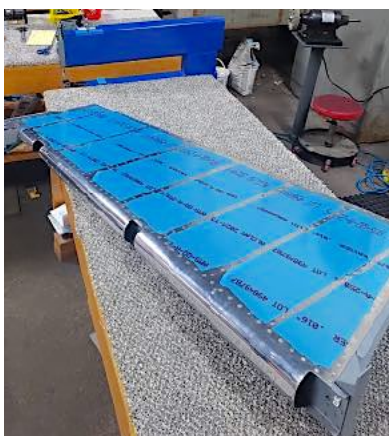
I got the Empennage and the Fuselage kits for the RV-14A in late April, I have completed the vertical and horizontal Stabilizers and rudder assemblies, and am currently working on the elevator. ~ Gary Remaley



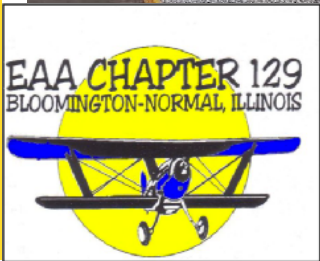
Rudder Assembly



Horizontal Stabilizer



Vertical Stabilizer



Quiz: 5 Questions to see how much you know about airports

1) You're flying into tower controlled airport during the day.
When is ATC required to turn on the beacon?

Anytime ceilings are less than 1000' or visibility is less than 3SM

a

Anytime ceilings are less than 2000' or visibility is less than 5SM

b

ATC isn't required to turn the beacon on during the day

c

2) You're flying into Boggs, and you notice that the 122.725 frequency is in italics. What is it?



Multicom

a

Unicom

b

Guard

c

FSS

d

Airport Advisory

e

Tower

f

3) Why does Leaders Clear Lake (8Y6) appear as a hollow circle?

It's a seaplane base

a

All runways are soft

b

It's a military airport

c

It's a private airport

d

The longest hard runway is less than 1000'

e

All runways are soft or the longest hard runway is less than 1500' long

f



4) You're flying in Denver's Class B at 9,000' MSL. What's the fastest you can fly?



200 knots

a

250 knots

b

No restriction

c

5) Why is there a star next to the tower control frequency (118.25) for St. Cloud?

Lighting limitations exist

a

Beacon located on the field

b

Navaid located on the field

c

Tower operates part-time

d



Quiz courtesy of [boldmethod](http://boldmethod.com)

See answers on Page 18

CIRA - from the Operations Desk



From The Desk of the DED (that's deputy executive director....Derek Snyder)

New GA Portal

On behalf of the Airport Authority staff, we are excited to launch our new Airport tenant-focused website, BMI's "**GA Portal**." The website will be going live next week on Wednesday July 10, 2024. Last week correspondence was mailed out to all leaseholders announcing the new GA Portal and provided an overview of the website, the resources it will have, the web address (URL), and credentials to access the website. Also, the letter stated that an email would be sent containing a *User Guide* with instructions on how to navigate the GA Portal and setup monthly invoice payment using a credit card – please see the attached for this User Guide.

A few important items regarding the new website:

1. Your username for the GA portal is your email address we have on file – if you would like to use a different email please call the Airport office Monday-Friday during business hours and ask to speak to Lynnette Hindman (309) 663-7384
2. If you are currently setup on automatic monthly ACH payment and wish to use the new credit card function of the website, please contact Dianne Fazio at diannez@cira.com by **July 9, 2024** so she could stop your ACH from being processed.
3. In the letter that was mailed out was a temporary password to be used for the first time you sign in, upon which you will be prompted to change your password to a new one.
4. Your July invoice will be mailed out this month as usual, however, we will be

going to paperless invoices and in August invoices will be sent out electronically to the leaseholder's email on file (unless directed otherwise to send to a different email address). Starting in August, invoices will be sent out electronically around the 10th of each month (pending weekends and holidays)

5. For tenants that belong to a larger group rather than individual hangar tenant leaseholders (i.e., EAA or Crosswinds Flying Club), a shared username and password will be used by all members rather than individual users – please see the groups leadership for the credentials.
6. For any issues using the website, please call the Airport office and ask to speak to Lynnette or myself, or for billing issues ask for Dianne or Paulette.

GA Phase II

The Bloomington-Normal Airport Authority has entered into the final construction phase of our GA Facility project at the Central Illinois Regional Airport (CIRA or BMI). Phase II (proposed June through November of 2024) largely consists of hangar foundations and construction, utility tie in and connection, new perimeter fence and gate installation, and subbase and final pavement for the new apron and taxiway system. Depending on the weather and schedule, paint markings and topsoil seeding may be completed in Spring of 2025, if necessary.

Communication was sent out earlier this week about the 70-day closure of Runway 11/29 beginning August 5, 2024. Prior to this closure the Airport will need to restrict some operations on Runway 2/20 for airfield mowing within the Runway Safety Areas (RSA). Maintaining the RSA is critical to maintain FAA compliance standards as well as wildlife management. The Airport has rented an additional bat-wing mower and tractor to assist our



CIRA - from the Operations Desk

existing fleet, thereby allowing our maintenance department to mow Runway 2/20 in the quickest amount of time possible to minimize further inconveniences. When we did this last year we planned for mowing to take from sun-up to sun-down, however, our maintenance staff was able to complete all mowing in approximately seven hours, removing restrictions by mid-afternoon.

The Airport is planning to mow Runway 2/20 the week of either July 22nd or July 29^h. As we get closer to the middle of July we will be able to narrow this two-week window down further at which time an update will be provided stating which week will be selected for mowing operations. Once the week is selected, the Airport will send another email as to which day we will mow. For planning purposes, ideally, our maintenance staff is targeting a Wednesday if weather permits.

Depending on the growth rate of the grass, we may have to do this again during the 70-closure of Runway 11/29 (communication would also be sent out ahead of time).

The restrictions will be NOTAM'd and will include the following:

- Scheduled/unscheduled air carrier and cargo operations will not be impacted
- Aircraft with a MTOW of 4,000 lbs or greater will require a 20-minute prior permission request (PPR)
- Aircraft with a MTOW of 3,999 lbs or less will not be able to operate on Runway 2/20 on the day mowing is in progress

~ **Derek Snyder, DED**

Answers to Airport questions Page 16

- 1) **c** - According to the AIM, there's no regulatory requirement to turn on the airport beacon when weather drops below VFR minimums. And, at many airports, the tower can't control the beacon - it's controlled by a photoelectric cell or a timer. At airports where the tower can control the beacon, the ATC rulebook (FAA Order 7110.65) requires tower controllers to turn on the beacon between sunrise and sunset anytime the weather drops below basic VFR minimums. So, since you don't know if the tower can control the beacon at an airport, you should use the latest weather observation to determine if the field's IFR - not the beacon.
- 2) **b** - This is the UNICOM frequency, which at some non-towered airports may be different than the CTAF frequency.
- 3) **f** - A hollow circle indicates an airport with only non-hard surfaced runways (like grass or dirt), or an airport where all hard runways are less than 1500' long.
- 4) **b** - Since you're below 10,000' MSL, you're limited to 250 knots. However, Class B airspace doesn't specifically limit your airspeed..
- 5) **d** - A star next to the control tower frequency means the tower operates part-time.



Members on the Move



Milestones

Chapter 129 members achieving their goals in aviation



Congratulations Wade Thweatt who received his Commercial certificate in June, 2024

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.

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



Chapter Video Magazine

July 2024



RSAT Meeting - Runway Safety Action Team



7300 W. 129th Street
Overland Park, Kansas 66213
Tel. (913) 782-7082, Fax. (913) 897-9300

Airport Users,

Runway incursions remain a serious concern nationally. One important component of our ongoing efforts to improve surface safety at BMI Airport involves conducting a Runway Safety Action Team (RSAT) meeting at least once each year. In conjunction with airport management, we will be conducting a Zoom RSAT meeting, on Wednesday August 7th, 2024 at 10am.

To join the meeting through zoom, go to:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88352492610?pwd=K0tFTWNTcnVEMHpUc3QveUJh3eDBDQT09>

Click the JOIN button; enter Meeting ID: 883 5249 2610 Passcode: 556866. If prompted, accept the Zoom application as instructed.

The purpose of this RSAT meeting is to unite those individuals and organizations that are actively involved in air traffic operations and movement of aircraft, vehicles, and equipment on the Airport Operations Area (AOA). We look for participation from all major airport interests including tenants, fixed base operators, airport operations and maintenance personnel. Participants are asked to help develop recommendations and solutions to enhance surface safety. Those recommendations serve as the foundation for a site-specific Runway Safety Action Plan. You are cordially invited to join us.

Your participation is important, and your input is welcomed. Please RSVP to michael.eppley@midwestatcs.com. Include the name, organization, phone number and email address of those who will be attending.

If you have questions or need more information, please let me know. I can be reached at the contact information provided above.

Sincerely,

Mike Eppley
BMI FAA Contract Tower
Air Traffic Manager
309-663-1268

EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS

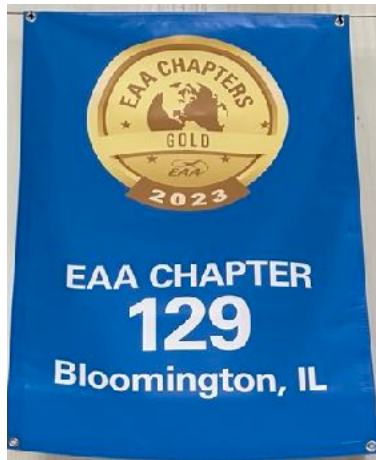


June was a particularly busy month for Chapter 129 with our Gathering and Fly In breakfast at 11LL and our two-day Aviation Camp at our hangar as part of the Children's Discovery Museum week long Aerospace Engineering Camp. Our planned Young Eagle Event at KAAA was cancelled due to low ceilings but we will go again on August 17 as part of the Prairie Aviation Museum's 40th anniversary celebration.

With so many activities on our calendar (including Airventure), we had to forgo our VMC and IMC Club meetings for June and July. We will resume in August. Our Saturday morning gatherings continue to grow and we are seeing a number of younger folks attending to explore aviation.

The Aviation Camp is an event we have been struggling to get some traction with for a number of years and this one was highly successful and worth the wait. Our STEM Coordinator, Wayne Aldrich worked with the Children's Discovery Museum, Prairie Aviation Museum, the Control Tower, Fire Department, OSF and CIRA to create an agenda. I counted at least 10 Chapter 129 volunteers at the camp, working to provide a meaningful and fun event for the kids.

These activities are successful due to our many volunteers who show up regularly in support of our mission to bring aviation to the community. And we were awarded the EAA GOLD certificate in 2023 for our efforts.



None of this happens without some focused planning and a dedicated team of volunteers. Seven members of our team attended the 2024 Leadership Academy in Oshkosh in January and at

least 12 of our leadership teams have attended in recent years to learn how to make our chapter better. Each year we plan activities that support our Strategic Plan following our charter below.

We are...A community of passionate aviation enthusiasts that promotes and supports recreational flying.

Our vision...A vibrant and growing aviation community.

Our mission...To grow participation in aviation by promoting the "Spirit of Aviation."

We serve the community by... Inspiring new participants in aviation

- *Inviting the public to experience flight*
- *Providing a compelling view of possibilities*
- *Nurturing interest in aviation*
- *Supporting clear pathways to participation*
- *Enriching the participation experience*
- *Protecting rights and the freedom to fly*
- *Encouraging affordable flying in a local environment*
- *Cultivating and providing knowledge, information, and resources*
- *Embracing diverse interests, camaraderie, and fun*
- *Supporting and promoting aviation events and activities*

Our chapter is doing great things - thanks to all who have contributed!

See you at AirVenture!

Chapter 129 meets annually at the Arch for a group photo at noon on Wednesday. Hope you can make it.



Our July gathering will be Wednesday, July 24 at Airventure with burgers and brats on the grill followed by the Night Airshow to finish out the day.

~ Charlie



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

FAASTeam
Safer Skies Through Education



FAA
Aviation Safety

WINGS - Pilot Proficiency Program

The objective of the WINGS Program is to address the primary accident causal factors that continue to plague the general aviation community. By focusing on this objective, we hope to reduce the number of accidents we see each year for the same causes. As you will see, it is not a simple "Award" program but is instead a true proficiency program, designed to help improve our skills and knowledge as pilots.

The **WINGS** - Pilot Proficiency Program is based on the premise that pilots who maintain currency and proficiency in the basics of flight will enjoy a safer and more stress-free flying experience.

You select (in your Airman Profile) the category and class of aircraft in which you wish to receive training and in which you wish to demonstrate your flight proficiency. Requirements for each aircraft category and class include specific subjects and flight maneuvers. To ensure you receive a well-rounded learning experience, only certain flight activities fulfill specific credit requirements. More information about how these subject areas are selected is available on your MY WINGS page.

The program encourages an on-going training program that provides you an opportunity to fly on

a regular basis with an authorized flight instructor. The program is most effective if the training is accomplished regularly throughout the year, thus affording you the opportunity to fly in different seasons and in different flight conditions.

Reviewing and refreshing your knowledge is just as important as actual flying. To meet this goal, we provide you many opportunities to complete online

courses, attend seminars and other events, and participate in webinars. Many 3rd party activities, such as those offered by AOPA, ASA, Sporty's, Gleim Publications, and others,

qualify for WINGS credit and will indicate such credit on their web site.

In almost all cases, arrangements have been made with the FAASTeam to automatically provide WINGS credit after the activity. However, please allow at least 24 hours before inquiring about WINGS credits. Remember, if you have questions about a course or activity, check with the provider. If you have a question about the WINGS Program, contact faasafety@faa.gov

Note that completion of any Phase of WINGS satisfies the requirement for a flight review. So not only will you complete a review of the most common weak areas that have led others to the accident site, but you end up with a flight review,

Note that completion of any Phase of WINGS satisfies the requirement for a flight review.



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Be sure to check out the June/July edition of Midwest Flyer Magazine

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



EAA Chapter 129 2024 Calendar of Events

June 7 - 8 - Thacker field Fly-in and Monthly Gathering

June 25-26 - Children's Museum Summer Camp

June 29 - YE Rally Lincoln

July 24 - Chapter Gathering at Airventure

July 22-28 - Airventure!

Aug 3 - IMC Club 0900

Aug 10 - VMC Club

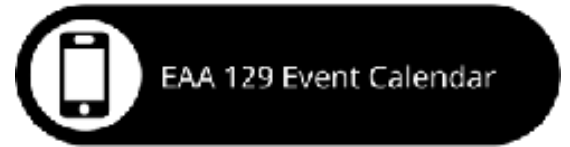
August 17 - YE Rally Bloomington

September ?? - watch for our Fall Fly-In

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.



EAA CHAPTER 129
BLOOMINGTON-NORMAL, ILLINOIS

