

# Spirit of Flight

**Experimental Aircraft Association**

**Chapter 14: San Diego, CA**

**February 2025**



*Otay Mesa fire from the EAA Ramp 1/24 Photo by Ryan*



## Table of Contents

<b>Page</b>	<b>Topic/Author</b>
2	Chapter Briefing .....Chapter 14 Members
3	President's Message .....Trinidad Lopez
3	February Flyout to Flabob
3	Young Eagles Photos.....
4	New Members ..... Donna Ryan
4	Don't Delay—Renew Today!..... Donna Ryan
4	More Young Eagles Photos
5	Even More Young Eagles Photos
7	Marketplace
7	Chapter Information
8	EAA Chapter 14 Membership Application / Renewal

**February 8<sup>th</sup>**—Young Eagles Rally

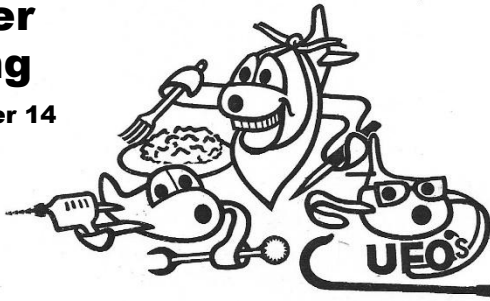
**February 15<sup>th</sup>**—Pancake Breakfast & Membership Meeting 10:00 am. TRACON presentation

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**—Flyout to Flabob. 8:15 am departure. Contact Chris Constantinides for details

**February 22<sup>nd</sup>**—Volunteer Day—Spring Cleaning & Repairs. 9:00 am to noon. Pizza!

# Chapter Briefing

EAA Chapter 14 Members



Otay Mesa fire as seen from Otay Mesa Road. 1/23

**Chapter Activities:** Information provided by Chapter members.

New Years Day saw Gary L., Trevor P., and Jonathan R. take to the skies with the traditional trip to Chiriaco Summit. Joining them was 2024 Ray Scholar Bekk LeBlanc, who was taking a quick holiday break from college. It was a beautiful day for flying. In fact, much of January has been good for flying. However, we also have fog, cold Santa Ana winds, and fire – none of those conducive to taking to the sky.

As usual, our regular Chapter events were well attended. The January Young Eagles event was very busy – many thanks to the pilots, coordinators, and ground crew who spend hours putting together one of these rallies. It is an inspiring program, and fundamental to encouraging the aviators of the future.

And our third Saturday Chapter function brought out members and guests as well, beginning with a warming pancake breakfast and then another excellent program arranged by Program Chairman Kerry P.

On 1/24/25 we received some great news. Samantha Liebold, one of our Ray Scholarship recipients, passed her check ride and is now a private pilot. Her grandfather, Bob H, served as her Scholarship advocate and sent this message,



Ray Scholar Samantha Liebold displays her newly-awarded Private Pilot Certificate. Congratulations Samantha!

“My thanks to EAA both national and local chapter 14 for giving her this opportunity.” That same day, we keep close watch on the Otay Mesa fire which came close to the airport. Airport personnel had water trucks stationed around the perimeter. Many thanks to Scott T for first advising the Board of Directors of how quickly the fire had grown and provided a list of resources to monitor the fire’s progress. Thanks also to Ryan for providing ongoing pictures and for ensuring that tumbleweeds that had backed up against the fence to our new next door neighbor were disposed of. Trinidad also helped with tumbleweed disposal when he stopped by to monitor the situation. We all breathed a sigh of relief when the wind direction changed from west to east.

Stu S has exchanged his Aeronca Chief for an Aeronca Champ – we’re looking forward to seeing it. At the end of the month Ryan and Mike B. picked up a donated Berkut fuselage with lots of parts, and paperwork. Ryan stated that the work so far has been impeccable. It will be a great project for someone. See the article and pictures elsewhere in the newsletter.

John L., an EAA member from Chapter 691 in Rock Hill, South Carolina, sent an email asking for some help. “I have a self-built RV 8 based at KUZA and am considering a flight later this year to KSDM. I am interested in some local knowledge and information on best routes, best time of year to plan on, etc. If you have someone who is willing to spend a little time advising me, I would appreciate the time and info. I have about 800 hours on my RV8 and am a retired airline pilot. If I can complete this flight it will allow me to complete the four corners of the US and I’ll only have 4 or 5 states left to complete the 48 continental states.” Director Jonathan R graciously agreed to call him and help him out. John wrote back expressing great appreciation for all Jonathan’s help and information. But, of course, what else would we expect from our great EAA 14 members? They are always willing to lend a hand, share our love of aviation, and help a fellow pilot.

**The sky is not the limit,  
it's just the beginning**





## President's Message

Hello Everyone,

We had some excitement at chapter 14 a couple of weeks ago as a wildfire which started on Otay mountain quickly spread and for a couple of days threatened the airport. We were lucky in that calm winds and a small amount of rain allowed the firefighters to gain control of the fire. Fortunately the fire was contained to mostly remote areas. Thank you to our firefighters, military, Cal fire, airport operations, and everyone else who works so hard to keep us safe.

Our chapter calendar now has us returning to a normal schedule of events.

The 2nd Saturday of this month the Young Eagles will be back and we are expecting a large turnout including a local scout troop.

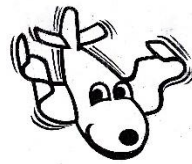
The 3rd Saturday will continue with a pancake breakfast and chapter presentation from our local FAA Tracon.

The 4th Saturday will be volunteer day. We will continue with some of the cleanup and repair items that are chapter sorely needs. This includes a free pizza lunch. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to noon.

Our chapter has received two Ray aviation foundation scholarships for 2025. Applications for the scholarships are being accepted throughout the month of February. I will be available to provide scholarship information and conduct interviews on the 2nd and 3rd Saturdays of the month during our chapter events. Coming in March we will be hosting our 2024 chapter end of year report to our members, this will include a free lunch. We currently have a vacancy for chapter newsletter editor. Please consider helping the chapter by volunteering for this position.

Clear skies,

*Trinidad Lopez*



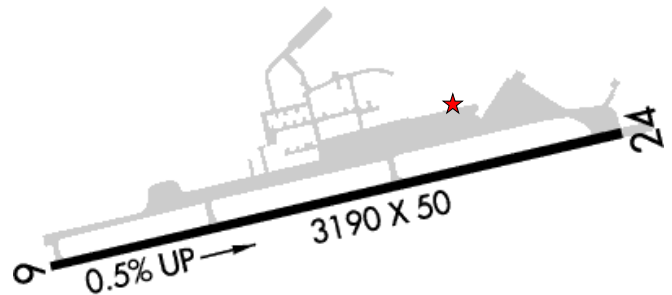
## February Flyout to Flabob

Save the Date! Member Chris Constantinides is planning a flyout to Flabob on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Chris shared the following information:

“Weather permitting, destination will be Flabob, KRIR. [AirNav: KRIR - Flabob Airport](#) Departure time will be at 8:15am. We will be having breakfast at the Flabob Airport Café. Please have members confirm with me if they are interested. If members do not have a ride I could try to pair them with others.”

If you think there is even a remote chance you'll get to share in the flyout, please email Chris and let him know you're interested. That way he can keep you up to date on any change in plans or requests.

Contact Chris at [ikaros61@hotmail.com](mailto:ikaros61@hotmail.com) or 619-301-2026 for more information.



*KRIR Airport Diagram showing approximate location of Flabob Airport Café.*

## Young Eagles Photos



## New Members

By: Donna Ryan

Welcome to our new members. The information below comes from their membership application. Some people just include the essentials; others expand a bit on their experience and we always appreciate that.

Look for them at the next meeting, introduce yourself and get to know them better. We very much appreciate their support.

**Craig S.** holds a variety of ratings: ATP, multiengine land, commercial rotorcraft-helicopter, instrument- helicopter, LRJET, G-IV. He is almost finished with his A&P (always valuable to Chapter members). He is interested in warbirds, aerobatics, and vintage aircraft.

**Viktoriya L.** is an active YE mother and mentions she is good with languages, and likes to cook, and organize events. Very useful skills for the Chapter.

We also have two new young Eagles who joined EAA 14:

**Sam A.** is interested in the flight simulator and flight.

**Elizabeth L.** is a student pilot and states she can help others with study methods and prep for ground school. She is interested in flying, working out, and cooking.



CHAPTER  
**REE-UP**  
14

## Don't Delay – Renew Today!

By: Donna Ryan

Thanks to all of you who have already renewed your membership for 2025. Your support enables us to help keep general aviation alive in San Diego County when there are so many pressures weighing on its future. Through your participation we are able to maintain our fine facility at Brown Field, where we can offer monthly seminars on aviation-related topics, Young Eagles flights, an extensive aviation related library, and a place to meet with like-minded aviation enthusiasts. Obviously the greatest asset of our Chapter is our members. Together, they represent years of aviation experience, ranging from gliders to helicopters to homebuilts to general aviation to jet fighters. We encourage you to remain a part of this enthusiastic and knowledgeable group. Your membership helps pay for our lease, our supplies and the facility maintenance, as well as our outreach to the community. Please help us by renewing your membership in EAA 14. It will take just a minute but it will pay dividends for your Chapter throughout the whole year.

Use the Membership form included in this newsletter and then mail it back to us, along with your payment, to EAA Chapter 14, 1409 Continental Street, San Diego, CA 92154-5707. You can also drop the form and your payment off at the Chapter. Put your packet in the *Payment/Form* slot of the *Hangar or Membership Payments* lock box in front of the lunch counter inside Hangar 1 or in the mail box outside of the small door to Hangar 1.

If you want to pay by PayPal, follow the steps below:

1. Access your personal PayPal account.
2. In the upper menu, select **Tools**, then at the dropdown menu, click **Send Money**.
3. Enter email address: [Eaach14@gmail.com](mailto:Eaach14@gmail.com)
4. Enter payment amount: \$25.00 (\$5 for Young Eagles)
5. At the **Add a note** option, enter “2025 membership for [your name]”
6. Send the payment.

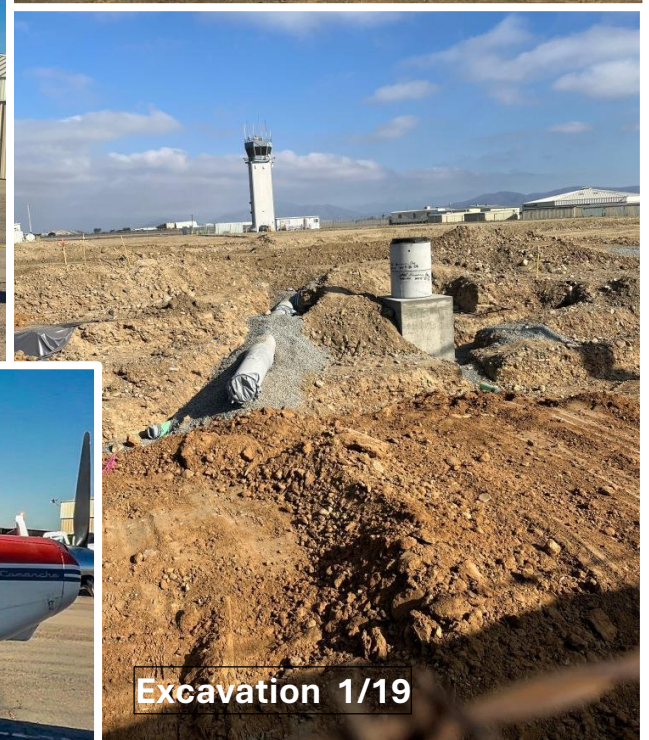
We look forward to having you with us once again in 2025.

## More Young Eagles Photos





## Even More Young Eagles Photos



Excavation 1/19





Fire 1/24

Excavation 1/19



# Marketplace

**GP4 aircraft for sale.** 200 mph plane in conditional inspection. Plane has been in a hangar its whole life. Has 200 hp fuel injected IO 360 with good compression. \$25,000 or best offer. Seller states, “Why spend 12 years of your life building a plane when you can buy this one cheap?”

See the youtube video showing seller doing a landing gear swing test with the assistance of his A&P.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vbaIsrJjVV&t=73s>

Contact EAA 14 member Dan McCarthy  
[mccarthyinv@gmail.com](mailto:mccarthyinv@gmail.com) or text (619) 997-2242.



**Berkut Project.** EAA 14 recently received a donation of a partially finished Berkut project. See attached pictures. In addition to the fuselage and canard, there are foam wing cores for building wings, as well as a variety of small parts – pretty much everything you need except for the engine, engine mount, or the cowls. Note: in the picture showing the instrument panel, there are no real avionics – it is just a picture. If you are interested in bidding on or inspecting the project, please text Ryan, the Hangar Manager, at 858-229-4875.



◀ Young Eagles Briefing. 1/11

## Chapter Information

<b>Website</b>	<a href="http://www.eaa14.org">http://www.eaa14.org</a>	<b>Events</b>	<p><b>Open House at the Brown Field hangars:</b> Every Saturday from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.</p> <p><b>Pancake Breakfast:</b> 7:30-9:30 am, third Saturday of each month</p> <p><b>General Meeting:</b> 10:00 am, third Saturday of each month</p>
<b>Hangar Phone</b>	619-661-6520		
<b>General Information</b>	<a href="mailto:eea14contact@gmail.com">eea14contact@gmail.com</a>		
<b>Membership</b>	Applications available at our Brown Field hangars and on our website		

# EAA Chapter 14 Membership Application/Renewal

Please Print Legibly

Current Member					
Name	E-mail			EAA National # /Exp Date	
Emergency Contacts (Name and Phone)					
Please check the box if there have been no other changes in your details since your last renewal. Otherwise, please update the applicable fields below. <input style="float: right; margin-left: 20px;" type="checkbox"/>					
New Member/Updates for Current Member					
Name (Mr., Mrs., Ms.) <i>Please Print</i>					
Street Address				E-mail	
City	State	Zip	Spouse/Partner Name		
Home Phone		Cell Phone		Work Phone	
Year of Birth	EAA National #/Exp Date		Occupation		Retired – Yes/No
Emergency Contacts (Name and Phone)					
FAA Ratings – Licenses Held		A/C Project		Aircraft Owned/Home Field	
Special Skills You Can Contribute to the Chapter					
Special Interests					
Payment Information					
New Member: <b>\$25</b> (\$13 after July 1) Renewal: <b>\$25</b> (due January 1 <sup>st</sup> ) Youth (under 18): <b>\$5</b> Additional Family Members: <b>\$10</b> Payment Enclosed: \$ _____				<b>Make checks payable to EAA Chapter 14</b>  Please mail this form with payment to: EAA Chapter 14 1409 Continental Street San Diego, CA 92154-5707	