



April 2024

# EAA CHAPTER 145

SINCE 1962



**Chapter Meeting: Saturday, April 13, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.**  
**Riverview Airport (08C)–in the Main Hangar**

## CHAPTER PROGRAM

Bob Aardema will be talking about his 70 + years in aviation at our April 13 meeting. Bob first flew in 1952 out of Holland Park. In 1970 he joined the USAF, getting his wings and after pilot training was assigned to KC-135s. He has since done extensive corporate flying, joined the Aviation College at Western Michigan, and flew A-10 Warthogs for the Battle Creek National Guard. He is excited to share his experiences with us.

Bob will be talking about his many years of FLYIN FUN. He is a Chapter 221 member in Kalamazoo and also is familiar with the various restorations of aircraft at the Air Zoo. Through his help we hope to hold our May meeting at the Restoration Center.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Chapter Program
- 2 President's Corner
- 3 Kzoo Air Restoration
- 4 VMC Club
- 5 Knocking of the Rust
- 6 Facebook
- 7 Thank You Cary Marsh
- 8 Masters of the Air
- 9 Young Eagles
- 10 Learn to Fly Week
- 11 Eclipse April 8



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

As the weather warms up, I'm getting ready for Young Eagles again this summer. As chapter members you should know that EAA has a policy regarding Young Eagle flights that deals with Youth Protection. Here is what you need to know about EAA's Youth Protection Policy:

- Young Eagle pilots are required to have the training and background check.
- Ground coordinators are required to have the training and background check.
- Ground volunteers are not required to do the training, it's optional. EAA has set up on-line training to be easy, it takes about 10 minutes and it's free.

Please go to the EAA web site and complete the training/check so you can help with Young Eagle activities this summer. [www.EAA.org/YouthProtection](http://www.EAA.org/YouthProtection) Let me know if you have any questions. I believe that the

Young Eagle program has done a lot for general aviation and I'm looking forward to your support this summer. - Randy Houtman

## **K-ZOO AIR ZOO RESTORATION CENTER**

Chapter 145 is planning on going to the Restoration Center for our May meeting. However Chapter 221 is having their meeting at the Center to discuss the progress at their facility for the FM2 Wildcat. Their meeting is Wednesday, April 3 at 7 PM. As an added note, did you know that you can volunteer to help restore aircraft there? While some Chapter 145 members travel to Weeks Hangar in Oshkosh in the Spring, you can help in Kalamazoo. Location: AirZoo Flight Discover Center – 3101 E. Milham Avenue, Portage, MI.

## **VMC CLUB**

The VMC Club meets on the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in the Riverview Airport Lobby. The next meeting will be on Tuesday April 16. Everyone is welcome to join in.

We have open discussions about flying topics, generally one or two ideas suggested by EAA National, and then whatever news, safety or Riverview information members find of interest. For example, March Question of the Month was “when performing turns about a point, at which point in the maneuver is the bank at its maximum value?” Might be something you consider when you are “knocking off the rust” this Spring. Speaking of which....

## **“KNOCKING OFF THE RUST”**

Just about a year ago, our local FSDO FAASTeam, led by Tom Kazura and Dr. Andrews Focks, delivered an excellent presentation called Brushing Off the Rust, preparation for Spring Flying after the Winter layoff. Topics included “Don’t confuse being “Current” from being “Proficient.” What is your medical status?” This is a good review as your refresh and prep for flying season. Online, just go to [www.facebook.com/EAA145](http://www.facebook.com/EAA145), select “Documents”, select “Brushing off the Rust” and take perhaps 30 minutes to review. It is a great refresher.

## **FACEBOOK**

[www.facebook.com/EAA145](http://www.facebook.com/EAA145)

The EAA 145 Chapter Facebook allows you to see upcoming events, interesting news items, photos, etc. This is a good tool for getting information and keeping up to date between the meeting times. For quick and easy access, save a ‘bookmark’ of the EAA 145 facebook page.

## **THANK YOU CARY MARSH**

The March meeting featured Cary Marsh, an Air Force Academy graduate, pilot and officer who spent 20 years in service. Cary focused his talk on his experiences flying the KC-135 Tanker (designed by Boeing starting with a B-707 airframe). Whether it was refueling fighters before or after the F-4 combat missions, training pilots in air-to-air refueling stateside, or ferrying fighters across the Atlantic and Pacific, Cary gave us insight into the equipment, procedures and experience of inflight refueling. Start with 170 000 pounds of jet fuel, go up and loiter for hours on end, and fly a racetrack while the “receiver” snuggles up and plugs in. Do this day or night, and not always in the smoothest conditions. Keep adjusting the trim, to keep it within limits.

He was excellent at answering all questions. And the audience really loved to hear of his experiences.



## MASTERS OF THE AIR STREAMING SERIES

The nine episodes of Masters of the Air have all now been released. Apple TV+ has broadcast a story of the B-17s flying during World War II. The series focuses on the 100th Air Bombardment Group (Heavy), 8th Air Force, the “Bloody 100th”. For aviation buffs and military historians this is a series to watch. Based out of Thorpe Abbots RAF field, the pictures and action are incredible. Each B-17 was crewed by 10 men, most very young. The losses were high, facing both flak and German fighters on each mission. Casualties on some missions were approaching 90 percent.

Episodes include training, life at airfields in England, ground crews, missions, capture and POWs, the Tuskegee Airmen, with spectacular photography.



## YOUNG EAGLES

EAA So far this year, we are working on plans for Young Eagles at the Air-Zoo on May 11, Grand Haven on June 1<sup>st</sup>, Plainwell STEM Academy on June 15, probably at the Sparta Pancake breakfast event in August and the Wings of Mercy event in August. If you are interested in helping at any of these activities, please contact Dick Foster – Young Eagle coordinator.





## **Basic Requirements for EAA Young Eagles Youth Protection**

EAA Young Eagles Youth Service Standards include two steps, which are described under EAA Youth Service Standards below. These are Training, and Background Checks.

- **Effective Date.** This policy is mandatory as of May 1, 2016 for all Young Eagles Pilots, Chapter Young Eagles Coordinators, Field Representatives, and “Two-Deep Leadership Supervisors”.
- **Required.** If you are a Young Eagles Pilot (either in Chapter Rallies or individually flown), Chapter Young Eagles Coordinator, Field Representative, or Two-Deep Leadership Supervisor, you must complete both Training and a Criminal History Background Check (U.S. residents only\*), with acceptable results in EAA’s judgment, before you may work with youth in the Young Eagles program, even if you have previously participated in services to youth.
- Please note that parents and legal guardians of youth participants may be volunteers, and then they are subject to the same EAA Young Eagles Youth Service Standards as other Young Eagles volunteers.
- If you are a minor and a volunteer, you also are subject to the same EAA Young Eagles Youth Service Standards as other volunteers; however, background checks aren’t available for minors. You may cover your Background Check requirement with a credible written character reference delivered to us, until you become an adult under the laws of the state where you live.
- EAA staff who are involved with Young Eagles activities are subject to the same requirements as other Young Eagles volunteers.
- **Encouraged.** If you work with youth in the Young Eagles program, but are not required to complete Training and Background Check as described above, we still request that you complete at least the Training, in order that all volunteers will have consistent understanding of EAA’s Young Eagles Youth Protection Policy.

## **LEARN TO FLY WEEK, MAY 13-18**

“EAA Learn to Fly Week returns for the second straight year May 13-18, 2024. This weeklong event serves as a prime opportunity for dreamers to gain the knowledge and inspiration they need to see their flying dreams become a reality.” (Sport Aviation, March 2024)

Monday through Friday, EAA offers online courses for beginners, private pilots, ultralights helicopters, and medical certificates. Then on Saturday, May 18, EAA National encourages local chapters to host a Flying Start Open house. Chapter 145 will not be hosting at Riverview, but we will be posting where in West Michigan you might find an open house.

## **ECLIPSE 2024 APRIL 8**

A solar eclipse will be moving across the Midwest on April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Indianapolis & Toledo are the closest cities with 100% cover. Grand Rapids will be at 94% coverage. See below for a good link that shows the progression of the eclipse across the USA:

[www.greatamericaneclipse.com/april-8-2024](http://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/april-8-2024)

You should have already received a Chapter 145 e-bulletin showing the path of this eclipse. See below for links for aviation events in the path of the eclipse:

[www.aopa.org/destinations/event/86](http://www.aopa.org/destinations/event/86)

[www.aopa.org/destinations/event/457](http://www.aopa.org/destinations/event/457)  
[www.aopa.org/destinations/event/460](http://www.aopa.org/destinations/event/460)  
<https://midairevents.com/>

## NEW MEMBERS

New members are always welcome at Chapter 145. Last month we welcomed Mary Gleason, Molly Konzen and Colin Snyder. Say “hello”, share your aviation experiences and find out what interests in aviation they find exciting.

Also, is there someone new to this area with an interest? Do you know students who are considering a career in aviation? Feel free to bring along a guest with you. Members love to talk flying!

## EXTRA GEAR

Extra gear has been left in the Chapter 145 hangar (C-1). This includes a complete oxy-welding rig, 50 foot air hose on retracting reel, shop vacuum and flannel robe (unsure what this last one was used for or why it was left behind) but this gear has to go. Anyone want to claim this?

EAA Chapter 145 website: [www.145.eaachapter.org](http://www.145.eaachapter.org)

EAA National website: [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org)

Riverview Facebook: [www.facebook.com/EAA145](http://www.facebook.com/EAA145)

### **EAA145 Specialists for 2024:**

Young Eagle Coordinator: Dick Foster	(538-8849)	<a href="mailto:c172foster@gmail.com">c172foster@gmail.com</a>
Flight Advisor: Hugh Eisen	(446-2541)	<a href="mailto:HVEisen@aol.com">HVEisen@aol.com</a>
Technical Counselor: Pete Steinbacher	(889-5971)	<a href="mailto:petes1776@allcom.net">petes1776@allcom.net</a>
VMC Club: Bob Swietek	(581-3138)	<a href="mailto:airdale69@aol.com">airdale69@aol.com</a>



## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

<b>April 13</b>	<b>Riverview Airport (08C)</b>	<b>Meeting – Bob Aardema, Flying Fun</b>
April 8	Crossing the US	Total Eclipse of the Sun
April 9-14	SUN n Fun	Lakeland, FL
April 16 (7pm)	Riverview Airport (08C)	VMC Club - EAA Chapter #145
<b>May 11</b>	<b>Air-Zoo Kalamazoo</b>	<b>Meeting – Air-Zoo Restoration Center</b>
May 13-17	EAA Learn to Fly Week	Online Courses
May 18	Flying Start Open Houses	TBD
May 21 (7pm)	Riverview Airport (08C)	VMC Club - EAA Chapter #145
June 1 (9-12pm)	Grand Haven (3GM)	Young Eagles
<b>June 8</b>	<b>Riverview Airport (08C)</b>	<b>Meeting – OSHKOSH for Newbies</b>
June 15	Ionia Airport	SMAT Open House & Breakfast
June 18 (7pm)	Riverview Airport (08C)	VMC Club - EAA Chapter #145
June 22	Galloway Landings (Green LK)	Food Truck Open House
June 29-30	Traverse City	Airshow – Cherry Festival
July 3-7	Battle Creek Airport	Airshow – Balloon Fest
July 22-28	OSHKOSH (OSH)	OSHKOSH!!!
Aug 24	Newman’s Field	Newman’s Fly-In

**If you know of events that should be on the event calendar, please e-mail them to me**

If you would like to be on the e-mail list for meeting, event reminders, or the newsletter electronically... please send your e-mail address to: [saliersrick@gmail.com](mailto:saliersrick@gmail.com)

**2024 Officers for EAA145:**

President, Randy Houtman  
([n49272q@gmail.com](mailto:n49272q@gmail.com))

Vice President, Bruce Whitman  
(616-915-7304 [bwhitmanpe@gmail.com](mailto:bwhitmanpe@gmail.com))

Secretary/Treasurer, Bob Swietek  
6962 Bridgewater Dr. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546  
(616-581-3138 [airdale69@aol.com](mailto:airdale69@aol.com))

Newsletter Editor, Rick Saliers  
([saliersrick@gmail.com](mailto:saliersrick@gmail.com))

Website Editor, Christian Bell  
([cshbell@gmail.com](mailto:cshbell@gmail.com))

Liabilities: \$4195.00

Cash: \$110.85

Checking: \$23.49

Savings: \$5684.46

Total: \$5818.80



**Treasurer's Report:** (as of Mar 31)

**EAA CHAPTER 145 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION / RENEWAL FORM**

DUES ARE \$25.00 PER YEAR – JANUARY 1st to DECEMBER 31st

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Pilot / Spouse \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_  
State / Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
e-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
National Membership # \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft Owned/Projects \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Check payment: Bring this form to the meeting or mail to:

EAA Chapter 145 Treasurer  
6962 Bridgewater Dr. SE  
Grand Rapids, MI, 49546

**Experimental Aircraft Association – Chapter 145 – Grand Rapids, Mi**