

Experimental Aircraft Association 1643 Inc Newsletter
March 5, 2021

TO ALL MEMBERS OF CHAPTER 1643:

In light of the exciting developments with a Young Eagles outing and B-17 visit, starting next month the Chapter will endeavor to publish its newsletter on the first of each month. Hopefully this will provide members pertinent information sufficiently in advance of the monthly Gathering to facilitate greater interest and participation in the upcoming Chapter events. Attendance at Chapter Gatherings is the best way for members to be fully informed on the Chapter's plans, to participate in the process and obtain useful information. Despite Valentines Day, 20 members attended the Special Gathering on February 14, 2021.

As you will see below, a lot of important planning is being undertaken now, volunteers being recruited and ideas being advanced and debated. Member input is always appreciated and attendance at a Gathering is the best way to present your ideas to improve the Chapter and its events.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING and CHAPTER GATHERINGS. As a reminder, as stated in the December 14, 2020 newsletter, Chapter Gatherings were rescheduled to the second Saturday of each month at 3:00pm.

Therefore the next regular Chapter Gathering is set for March 13, 2021 at 3:00 pm in the Jet Air hanger. Members are reminded that this meeting acts as the Annual Meeting of the Chapter with the election of Officers and Directors to take place at this meeting pursuant to the bylaws and the Illinois General Not For Profit Corporation Act of 1986.

**NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF
EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION 1643 INC IS
GIVEN FOR MARCH 13, 2021 AT 3:00PM IN THE JET AIR
HANGER. ELECTIONS OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS
SHALL BE HELD AT THE ANNUAL MEETING. YOU MUST
BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING EITHER IN PERSON OR
BY PROXY TO VOTE.**

At this time the current Directors of the Chapter are:

Matt Jern
Aaron Repp
Ellie Repp
Bill Hurley

At this time the current officers of the Chapter are:

Matt Jern	President
Aaron Repp	Vice-president
Ellie Repp	Treasurer
Bill Hurley	Secretary

The current officers and directors have announced their intention to seek reelection. If any other Member wishes to seek election as officer or director they may announce a nomination for office during the meeting when the floor is opened for nominations.

Procedurally, the floor will be opened for nominations. After nominations are closed, a vote will be called for each Director/officer position. It is anticipated that voting will be done by a show of hands. Members may vote by written and signed proxy which designates a Member to vote on their behalf. All proxies shall be delivered to the President for inspection and approval prior to the floor being opened for nominations. Each office shall be voted on separately and each Member may cast one vote for each office.

BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETINGS. As a reminder, as stated in the December 14, 2020 newsletter, Board of Directors meetings were previously rescheduled to the last Wednesday of each month at 5:00 pm s.

The next regular Board of Directors meeting is March 25, 2021 at 5:00 pm in the Jet Air Board Room. Members are welcome to attend and observe Board Meetings.

Young Eagles Update by Ellie Repp - 309-335-2887

At the last Chapter Gathering we polled the group and decided that May 22, 2021 will be our first official Young Eagles Rally! In order to get the bugs worked out and get a system in place, we have opted to have a closed registration for this event. I have been in contact with the leader (Lora Wright) of Girl Scout Troop 3019 which has around 12 girls in 6th-12th grade. They have actually made a visit to the Stearman Fly-In in the past; it was a big hit! Lora is very excited about this opportunity and thinks the girls will be, too!

We currently have 2 confirmed planes and pilots for this event (and a couple "it depends on farming"), and two confirmed ground crew. It'd be great if we had a few more confirmed, so check your calendars and let me know if you would be able to help! Lunch will be provided to volunteers after the event!!

On a similar note, we'd really like to name an official Young Eagles Coordinator! If you're questioning whether this would be a good role for you, please reach out and we can discuss more details on what it would entail. As our Chapter grows,

our Young Eagle Program will, too, so this single Coordinator position will hopefully expand into a full-blown committee. There are a lot of cool things we can do that EAA already provides guidance and materials for, so you will NOT be alone in this role at any point!

It was also mentioned at the Gathering that in order to hold youth events, we may have to get background checks done with the Galesburg Police Department. We followed up with our most recently retired Police Chief and determined that the City offers a service where you can get a background check done if an event requires it and that event does not offer the resources to get the background check. EAA requires and offers a background check for youth events, so we are all set and do not need an additional background check by the City of Galesburg.

Once again, thanks to those who have already volunteered for this Rally and thanks to those who will! ;)

B 17 VISIT. Aaron Repp made a presentation at the Chapter Gathering about a visit by Aluminum Overcast, the EAA B-17. Aaron was chosen by the Board of Directors as the Tour Stop Coordinator because of his extensive prior experience with airport management and operations, not to mention general aviation activities. Aaron made a substantial and detailed presentation about the visit which no doubt will evolve as efforts are made to coordinate the visit with the Stearman Association, the EAA, the City of Galesburg and related entities.

As part of this effort, Aaron and other chapter directors Matt Jern and Bill Hurley met with the Stearman and Stearman Fly-In representatives on Monday February 15, 2021 to discuss the planning and organization of what will effectively be two special events in their own right. Issues discussed were widely diverse and included parking of participant aircraft, ramp use, activities and evening entertainment, general public access and general requirements for a successful event. Immediately following the meeting with the Stearman representatives, Aaron Repp and Bill Hurley held a conference call with Ron Eisele, the EAA Event Coordinator. Questions and requests directed to facilitating the B-17 visit contemporaneously with the Stearman Fly-In and the Chapter's involvement had previously been presented to Mr. Eisele by the Board of Directors. He promised follow-up by EAA National.

Additional meetings of the Board of Directors on February 23, conferences with city engineers/planners, and a meeting of the Chapter Board with Stearman, Jet Air and Galesburg Parks and Recreation and Airport Management People on February 25 have all taken place. It has been a very busy month.

That said, Mr. Eisele and EAA National has advised the B-17 will not arrive until September 8 due to other prior engagements. Also, the EAA is not presently, and will not through June, be conducting interior ground tours of the aircraft due to Covid 19 protocols. Whether this will change or not by next September

remains to be seen. No ground tours would limit potential chapter revenues from the event. So far the aerial tours appear unaffected. Also, current plans now have the B-17 ramp area to be at the southern end of the ramp to provide better visibility and separation of the different activities, facilitate static displays of other aircraft and provide better ingress and egress to the ramp for transient or participating aircraft.

In addition, Aaron has procured Chris Henry as the keynote speaker for the Friday night activities. He is the EAA Aviation Museum Program Coordinator with EAA National and has written a book about the B-17. It should provide for a very interesting presentation. Stay tuned for further updates!

More volunteers are needed to help with the event. Ellie Repp is the Volunteer and Logistics Coordinator. If you have not previously logged your name on the volunteer signup sheet and wish to volunteer, please sign the volunteer sheet at the next gathering or contact Ellie Repp.

The Board of Directors does wish to recognize and thank Nate Compton for volunteering to be the Chapter Marketing Chairman. Nate has the technical expertise to assist the Chapter with its future advertising and marketing efforts. The Board confirmed Nate as the marketing chairman at its meeting on February 23.

The Board of Directors also wishes to recognize and thank Ellen Larson who has volunteered to be Co-Chair of the B-17 Marketing Committee and, along with Nate Compton, will be working to coordinate advertising with local media outlets to get out the word about the B-17 visit. The Board confirmed Ellen and Nate as Co-Chairs of the B-17 Marketing Committee at its meeting on February 23.

CHAPTER NEWS

Deepak Dogra has soloed and is moving forward with PPL training.

Sam Caracci is a new member. He is a student pilot working on a PPL and just bought a 172.

Ellen Larson is a flight student working with Brian Vallero on her PPL.

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