

Links to Dreams



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June 2024

President's Comments:

Dear Lake Country friends,

School Summer break is finally here and with it, plenty of time to be with the family – and a great opportunity for us to share our passion for aviation with our kids!

As a new EAA Chapter, we have been approached by many people asking about what EAA is, so I thought I would leave a link to a short video that explains EAA and its 'Spirit of Aviation'. Please feel free to share it with your family and friends. Here it is: <https://bit.ly/3xaezdZ>

As you would imagine, we are busy planning our next events. I would like to invite you to join us on June 17th at our next monthly meeting for a rich discussion on our upcoming events. For example, we will be inviting our youth to revisit the airport as a follow-on activity to the April 20th Young Eagles Rally. We are looking to host a Young Eagles educational program on August 10th. It will be a one day or a multiple-day experience geared toward introducing kids to the basic elements of airplanes and aviation. The program is called EAA Young Eagles Workshop Day Camp for Kids, and it caters to kids between the ages of 11 and 17.

Our next meeting will be followed by a Chapter Social Gathering which will include a 30-minute presentation by Mark Hall, who was one of the pilots who flew Young Eagles participants on April 20th. He will share his experience and give tips on the use of Windy, an App used by many general

aviation pilots. You will also get to know Mark a little better here in this Newsletter, as he is our Featured Member of the Month.

If you missed any of the activities during our Spring Aviation Weekend, we are preparing not only the summer activity, but also our Fall EAA Young Eagles Rally! Details about these 2 events are in this Newsletter in the 'News' section.

We look forward to seeing you on June 17th and hearing your thoughts about our upcoming Young Eagles Workshop. Please bring your ideas on establishing additional monthly events that promote camaraderie amongst members of our community, such as a 'Pancake Breakfast' at our airport, as an example. Our intent is to offer a place for all members – airplane builders, student pilots, seasoned pilots, A & P mechanics and aviation enthusiasts. Our goal is to further the aviation network of friends and to exchange knowledge and experience. We feel a duty to share our passion with our kids by exposing them to aviation and its various career opportunities.

If you would like to build your legacy by mentoring participants in the Young Eagles Workshop, be a member of our event committee, or volunteer your talents in other roles, we would love to hear from you! Safe flying!

Kalina Milani

Have you been to our website? It has all the information on how to become a member of our Chapter – and more! Please visit <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea1685>.

Our Chapter Mission: To grow participation in aviation by promoting and supporting recreational flying in our community and inspiring the next generation of aviation enthusiasts.



CHAPTER NEWS

EAA Chapter 1685 will be at Air Venture 2024!

Have you ever been to the world's largest aviation airshow – AirVenture in Oshkosh Wisconsin? This seems to be a great time to do it as many of our Chapter members and friends are planning to attend and fly their own airplanes into Oshkosh's Wittman Field. Our Chapter has reserved a lunchtime slot at the EAA Chapters Pavilion during AirVenture 2024. It will be a fantastic opportunity for our fellow members, friends and members of other regional EAA Chapters to enjoy a special get-together during an exciting aviation week. If you would like to join us, please let us know. For more information about EAA's AirVenture 2024, ticket sales, and arrival procedures, make sure to visit: <https://www.eaa.org/airventure>. AirVenture 2024 takes place between **July 22 - 28, 2024**.

WHAT: *Links to Dreams* EAA Chapter 1685 lunch at EAA AirVenture 2024

WHEN: Tuesday July 23rd from 12:30 pm to 2 pm

WHERE: EAA Chapters Pavilion at Camp Scholler, Oshkosh, WI

HOW: Send us an email: info@eaa1685.org

EAA Young Eagles Workshop Day Camp for Kids at KMLJ



Our Chapter wishes to continue to share our passion for aviation and flight with our local youth. This is why we are initiating the EAA Young Eagles Workshops program this Summer. The program provides our school age youth, ages 11 to 17, an opportunity to learn about aviation in a social setting. The program includes learning modules on a variety of aviation subjects, activity worksheets, and interactive activities such as hands-on building, fabricating projects and role-playing related to piloting. Depending on the number of interested participants, we will offer this program as a one-day or a multi-day event. Stay tuned for more information and feel free to email us if you are interested.

WHAT: EAA Young Eagles Workshop

WHEN: 1st Workshop: August 10, 2024. From 9 am to 3 pm.

WHERE: Baldwin County Regional Airport, 216 Airport Rd., Milledgeville, GA.

HOW: Register by sending an email between **07/01/24 and 07/31/24** to: nfo@eaa1685.org .

Parents' Waiver forms must be filled out and sent back to us for the registration to be complete.

Please note that there is a \$10.00 fee per participant.

Links to Dreams will offer its next EAA Young Eagles Rally this Fall!

Kids aged between 8 and 17 can expect to have another opportunity for their first small airplane flight, free of cost, right here in Milledgeville. Join us as a participant or as a volunteer pilot. **SAVE THE DATE: October 19, 2024.**



Total Young Eagles Flown by EAA volunteers: 2,375,977 - Stats as of June 6, 2024.



Did You Know?

Our *Links to Dreams Young Eagles* participants are getting access to:

- EAA's free student membership
- Academy of Model Aircrafts (AMA) membership
- Sporty's ground school
- Free first flight lesson
- Ability to apply for an EAA flight training scholarship (up to \$11,000)



If you missed our fantastic first speaker series event on April 19th headlined by U.S. Army Special Operation Aviation flight leader CW5 (Ret) Doug Englen and co-hosted by the Georgia Military College (GMC), you can watch it on GMC's YouTube channel by accessing this link: <https://bit.ly/3VcprQz>

Did you also know that our EAA Chapter is here for anyone interested in everything aviation, not just pilots and aircraft builders? Come and join us by becoming a member!

This Chapter can offer our members a free 6-month EAA general trial membership. It includes the full set of EAA membership benefits at no cost, and as newcomers, they will:

- Receive *EAA Sport Aviation* magazine
- Have access to the members-only area of EAA's website
- Obtain membership discounts on programs such as EAA SportAir Workshops, EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, and more!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A VOLUNTEER OR A MENTOR?

Please let us know if you would like to be a volunteer or mentor in any of these areas:

- Become a member of our Board of Directors (such as: Web Editor, Membership Coordinator and more)
- Young Eagles Build and Fly Coordinator
- Eagle Flights Coordinator
- Fly-ins, Cookouts, Pancake Breakfasts volunteer
- Homebuilding & Restoration Presenter
- EAA Safety Programs Flight Advisor or Technical Counselor
- EAA Aviation Education Seminars
- IMC / VMC Club Mentor





Featured Chapter Member: Mark Hall

Mark has been a member of EAA since January 1, 1987. He started taking flying lessons in 1986 in Wilmington, Delaware, when a job transfer to the Chicago area that year sidetracked his pilot training for twenty-eight years. In late 2014, he started training and flying again and earned his private pilot certificate in 2017. He currently has logged a little over 400 hours and is working on his instrument rating. Also in 2017, Mark and three others founded the Lake Country Flying Club with a Piper Archer II. In 2019, with ten members at the time, the Club added a second Piper, a Dakota. The Club is based at Greene County Regional Airport. Today, the club has a dozen members and is looking for more.

Ever since joining EAA, Mark has wanted to build a kit plane. After a lot of research and planning, he decided on a Van's Aircraft RV-14a. The RV-14a is a two-place, aerobatic, all-aluminum kit plane powered by a Lycoming four-cylinder 215HP Thunderbolt IO-390. He has been working on the kit since June 1, 2022. With component and engine delays, he estimates that he has another year to completion.

Mark retired at the end of 2021 from Continental Automotive, a division of Continental Corporation in Germany (the parent company of Continental Tires). His career began as an auto mechanic out of school. After eight years he left a BMW dealership and went to work for Sun Electric selling automotive diagnostic equipment and teaching diagnostics. Prior to Conti, he worked for Delphi Automotive, formerly the Delco division of General Motors. In his ten years at Continental, Mark was a regional manager calling on truck, bus, off-highway equipment and boat manufacturers providing dashboard instrumentation, engine electronic components and camera systems. He was also responsible for the aftermarket distribution of VDO instruments with customers such as NAPA Auto Parts.



Mark and his wife, Vicki, have lived at Lake Oconee in Greensboro since 2005. Prior to moving to Greensboro, they lived north of Atlanta in Alpharetta. Mark and Vicki are both originally from Delaware and have lived in Crystal Lake, IL, and New Albany, OH. They have two daughters, both in Athens, GA, and three grandchildren. Their favorite places to fly to are Asheville, St. Simons, Hilton Head, Florida and the Chesapeake Bay. They plan to expand their travels in the RV-14a. Both enjoy boating and Mark is certified in SCUBA and likes diving in the Virgin Islands.



Mark and another flying club member will be flying the Dakota to Wisconsin in July for EAA Air Venture in Oshkosh. It will be their fourth time flying to Oshkosh in one of the flying club's aircraft.

SHARE YOUR STORY!

Share your aviation story with us and help inspire others! Send your story to: info@eaa1685.org and you will be featured in one of our upcoming Newsletters soon. Remember, your aviation story may be just what someone else needed to hear to fulfill their dream in aviation.



Other Items of Interest

MONTHLY MEETINGS AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS:

Our meetings take place at our airport at 5:30pm every 3rd Monday of the month. Please send us a note if you have any questions: info@eaa1685.org Next meeting will be on June 17th from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm followed by a Social Gathering. You don't want to miss Mark Hall's presentation on the App - *Windy!*

A NOTE FROM TREASURER KIRK BAUER:

Hello fellow Chapter members! I just want to give everyone a gentle reminder that our local chapter relies on your dues to fund operations. The EAA mothership does not provide any resources. Consequently, our chapter dues are separate from our payments to EAA. If you have not yet paid your dues for 2023 or 2024, you can do so using the following website: <https://square.link/u/WFzaZ7jj>

Thank you all for your support!

FULL TIME FLIGHT SCHOOL:

A Full time Flight School is operational at the Baldwin County Regional Airport! Horizon Aviation, headquartered at Falcon Field Atlanta Regional Airport (KFFC), is allocating a full-time aircraft and Flight Instructor here at KMLJ for those interested in pursuing their passion for aviation. Please contact them directly and get ready to soar! Horizon Aviation: (470) 332-0787. <http://www.HorizonAviationGA.com>

BUCKET LIST ALERT! EAA AirVenture 2024

Watch *Oshkosh: The Spirit of Aviation*, narrated by actor and EAA member, Harrison Ford, shows why EAA AirVenture is the World's Greatest Aviation Celebration®: <https://bit.ly/4aTFnge>

AIRVENTURE 2023 BY THE NUMBERS:

- Attendance: More than 670,000 people, from 92 total countries
- Total Aircraft: 10,000-plus
- Total Showplanes: 3,365
- Campers: 40,000 people
- Forums, Workshops, and Presentations: 1,400-plus
- Social Media Reach: 18.3 million people

Please spread the word about our EAA Chapter and help us bring together our grassroots community of aviators, enthusiasts, and innovators, while we assist our younger generation in getting closer to aviation!