

Links to Dreams



Volume 1, Issue 7

July 2024

President's Comments:

Dear Lake Country friends,

I hope everyone is enjoying the summer break, appreciating the relaxation and sunny (and hot!) days at the lake or travelling somewhere interesting. As for your Chapter Board members, we have been planning to promote more activities for our members and friends!

As you will read in this Newsletter we have been quite busy and constantly growing. In addition to welcoming 3 new board members, we are: 1) finalizing the details of our first EAA Young Eagles Workshop Day Camp for Kids - which will happen on 3 consecutive Saturdays in August; 2) planning for monthly educational scenario-based meet-us for our pilots; and have set a date for our second EAA Young Eagles Rally on 26 October. Make sure to save the date!

We had over 21 members and guests on June 17th at the Members Meeting and Social Gathering. I think we may have outgrown the FBO conference room... We shared ideas, plans, and enjoyed a great presentation on the Windy.com App by our June Newsletter Featured Chapter Member, Mark Hall.

Our next Members Meeting will be on July 15th, followed by a Chapter Social Gathering which will include a 30-minute presentation by Jim Bedsole. He will discuss his experience with the pilot profi-

ciency training website *pilotworkshop.com*. It seems perfect for our personal use and also may be a great tool for our future monthly pilot meet-ups. You will also get to know Jim Bedsole a little better here in this Newsletter, as he is our Featured Member of the Month.

As you can see, we are preparing some exciting events for you. In the meantime, please have a look at our website for a glimpse of our previous activities. You can do this by accessing our Photo Gallery or Events Calendar pages.

We look forward to seeing you on July 15th and hearing your thoughts and feedback. As always, our intent is to provide a forum for like-minded people to find commonality in their passion for aviation; to enhance camaraderie in aviation both socially and professionally; to assist in inspiring the local youth in discovering the joy of aviation, maintaining, or any other aspect of aviation that might lead to careers; and ultimately, to establish relationships.

If you would like to join us, 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

MEMBERSHIP

We are a growing Chapter!

As of July 1st, Chapter 1685 Links to Dreams has 24 active members. We would like to give a big *Welcome!* to our new members Ken Greenway and Jim Bedsole, who joined us in June; and Jim and Danielle Payne, who joined us in May.

Please read Billy Hobbs' Union Recorder article on our Chapter at:

https://unionrecorder-cnhi.newsmemory.com/?publink=175dff604_134d369

New Officers at the Board of Directors

Jim Payne and Andy Milani were nominated and voted in as Chapter Vice President and Secretary, respectively, and will be filling those positions until the end of the calendar year. We would like to express our gratitude to the departing Officers Tom Osborne and Tara Parker for their many contributions. We also welcome to the Board, Roberto Hornung as an at-Large member. We are looking forward to working with you!

Young Eagles Events Committee

Roberto Hornung, our EAA Young Eagles Coordinator, is forming a committee to tackle the many tasks associated with executing a 3-day Young Eagles Workshop in August, and our Young Eagles Rally in October. He is looking for volunteers to join the committee as a ground volunteer, mentor and/or as a Young Eagles pilot. Please let us know by sending an email to: info@eaa1685.org.

Please remember: All Young Eagles volunteers undergo a quick EAA online Youth Protection training and basic background check, as explained here: <https://www.eaa.org/eaa/youth/youth-protection-policy-and-program>

Chapter 1685's upcoming Social Media Presence

Danielle Payne has volunteered to be our Social Media Coordinator. If you would like to join her as we kick-start our Instagram and Facebook profiles, just let us know!

EAA Student Members

Since our EAA Young Eagles Rally back in April, EAA has welcomed 26 new young members who are already enjoying EAA's special Student Membership benefits! Also known as EAA's Young Eagles Flight Plan, this is their pathway toward an aviation journey. Parents, please make sure your kids have activated their EAA accounts and filled out our Chapter's Membership Form. Here is a link to the form: [EAA Chapter 1685 Application Form](#)



CHAPTER NEWS

EVENTS

Reminder: 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 Chapter 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 an email or SMS to: info@eaa1685.com / (256) 457-9671

EAA Young Eagles Workshop Day Camp for Kids at KMLJ



We are initiating the EAA Young Eagles Workshop program in August on 3 consecutive Saturdays (10th, 17th, and 24th). The program provides our school age youth, ages 11 to 17, an opportunity to learn about aviation in a relaxed setting. The program includes 9 learning modules on a variety of aviation subjects. There will be activity worksheets and interactive activities such as hands-on building, fabricating projects and role-playing related to piloting. To participate, visit the website below and ensure the Parents' Waiver forms are filled out and signed.

WHAT: EAA Chapter 1685 Young Eagles Workshop

WHEN: 08/10, 08/17 and 08/24 from 9 am to 2 pm.

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

HOW: To apply, visit: [EAA Chapter 1685 Young Eagles Workshop](#)

Registration will be open until 5pm on 08/08/24. Slots will be filled in order of application.

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

Attention! New date for our next EAA Young Eagles Rally: 10/26/2024

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 26, 2024.**





Did You Know?

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

- EAA's free student membership
- Academy of Model Aircraft (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 incredible 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:

- Web/Newsletter Editor, Membership Coordinator
- Eagle Flights Coordinator
- Homebuilding & Restoration Presenter
- EAA Safety Programs Flight Advisor or Technical Counselor
- EAA Aviation Education Seminars
- IMC / VMC Club Mentor





Featured Chapter Member: Jim Bedsole

Jim Bedsole tells everyone that he is “living the dream.” He and his wife Lynne own a home on the Sebastian Cove Airstrip (32GA) at Lake Oconee, have a hangar in their backyard, and have a Van’s RV-6A and a pontoon boat in that hangar. With a grass runway literally in the backyard and one of the nicest lakes in Georgia with a private neighborhood boat ramp just a ½ mile down the road, finding something to do in their spare time is never a problem for Jim and Lynne.



Sebastian Cove – 32GA

Jim grew up on Air Force bases around the world as his father served 21 years on active duty in the Transportation field in the USAF. As long as he can remember, Jim wanted to fly. Like many boys growing up in the 1960s he had early aspirations to be a fighter pilot and astronaut, but poor eyesight made that dream an impossibility. With no clear direction and guidance, it wound up being many years before he finally found the right circumstances of time, money, and location to learn to fly and got his private pilot certificate in 2007 at the age of 48 in Mount Pleasant, SC. This was followed with an instrument rating 18 months later.

Because of his early childhood travels, Jim started school in England and as a result wound up a year ahead of his age group throughout school. He graduated from high school in Portsmouth, NH two days before his 17 th birthday. Ten days after he turned 17, he was at US Army basic training at Fort Dix, NJ. That will make you grow up fast. He served 2 years on active duty in the Field Artillery corps. This was followed by another five years in the SC Army National Guard while attending The Citadel as a Veteran Student.

After graduating from The Citadel, Jim has spent the last 38 years in the banking profession serving in a variety of risk management related roles including internal audit, regulatory compliance, security, and risk management. He has numerous professional certifications and is a nationally recognized thought leader in the banking compliance profession. Most recently, he has been the Chief Compliance & Risk Officer for BankSouth at Lake Oconee for the past 10 years. This will soon end, as he is scheduled to retire from banking on August 1, 2024, and looking forward to having a lot more time to focus on other pursuits.



Jim and Brady



Jim bought his first (and only) airplane, his RV-6a in December 2018. The airplane was in Livermore, California so Jim and Vern Darley, a well-known RV expert, CFI-I, and DAR took a Delta flight to SFO and flew the RV back to Georgia. That was an incredible learning experience for Jim, both regarding the RV airplane itself and the process of planning and executing a true across-the-whole-country cross-country flight. He now has almost 300 hours of flight time in this airplane with a total of over 720 hours. It would have been a lot more, but for 22 months of down time due to a runway overrun incident that damaged the plane.



Jim's Grandsons

In 2019, Jim attended his first EAA Airventure and has been back every year since (except 2020 when they didn't have it because of COVID). He is looking forward to Airventure 2024. In addition to aviation, as a devoted follower of Jesus Christ, Jim is very active in his church, Grace Fellowship of Greensboro, GA, having served as a Small Group Leader, Elder, and Church Moderator.

Because of the lack of guidance he received when he was young about options for learning to fly, Jim has a strong desire to encourage young people in learning to fly. He is excited to be an active part of this new EAA chapter that shares that passion.

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.

Next meeting will be on July 15th from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm followed by a Social Gathering. You don't want to miss Jim Bedsole's presentation on the pilot proficiency training website *pilotworkshop.com*!

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 2024, you can do so using the following website:

<https://square.link/u/WFzaZ7ji>

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>

QUESTIONS?

Please feel free to contact us at:

EAA 1685

President: Kalina Milani

Contact: (256) 457-9671

Email: info@eaa1685.org

Please spread the word and help us bring together our grassroots community of aviators, enthusiasts, innovators and bring our younger generation closer to aviation!

See you all soon!