



Fightline Chronicles



Pattern Day

BY MARY-ELLEN PFEIFFER

"November 2245K, cleared to land."

This was the extent of my active participation in pattern day. We began the day by collecting people outside of the security gate that wanted to fly and pairing people with pilots. Bill Peiffer excitedly climbed in with David Cowlin to experience flying in a high wing aircraft. Bill is a new student and was trying to decide whether to train in a high or low wing aircraft.

In the back seat of mine sat August Thompson, and in the front right, Tobey Strauch on coms. We all rose early to get to the field just as the sun came up. So much excitement....

From the ground, the low ceiling was visible, but it looked like everything would be fine. Looping endlessly and with reckless abandon to the great delight of onlookers, Craig Blumer expertly performed multiple touch and go's as the less maneuverable planes circled the pattern. With great anticipation for joining the fray, we all jumped into our aircraft and taxied out.

"November 2245K, runway 13, cleared for take off."

Even "Boo Boo Chicken," our family Warrior, seemed giddy with anticipation and required very little from me to depart runway 13. Up, up, up we rose, with squeals of delight coming from the back seat. Turning crosswind at 600 feet, the ceiling looked awfully low. Turning downwind, we began to enter the cloud layer. We could still see the ground, so it was all good, right?

Tower alerted us to watch for traffic. *"Looking for traffic....."* Except, the clouds were too thick. Pattern altitude was not possible. Abeam the numbers..... I think?

"November 2245K, full stop."

"November 2245K, this weather is a disappointment. We hope it clears. November 2245K, cleared to land."

Unfortunately, N2245K pattern day flying was cut short, but we made up for it in celebration. Tower was able to perform **979 operations** in one day, despite the weather!!!! Look for an upcoming pattern day in the spring! Boo Boo Chicken can't wait!

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EAA 1702 EVENTS

2025



EAA1702.org

Monthly Gatherings Topics:

Chapter Gatherings are held at 11:30am every 1st Saturday monthly at QC Aero. Topics are subject to change based on presenter availability.

Jan 4th - Chapter New Year's Party w/ Gift Exchange

Feb 1st - What's New with EAA: All about EAA Chapter Programs

Mar 1st - FAA Medical Discussion with Dr. James Blum, Senior AME

Apr 5th - Part 107 Pilot: Unmanned Aerial Systems

May 3rd - A&P Career path

Jun 7th - Member Aircraft "Show & Tell" w/ MedForce

Jul 5th - Moline Airport Safety & Ops Tour

Aug 2nd - Pinch Hitter: Piloting basics for non-pilots

Sep 6th - Beyond PPL: Advanced Ratings

Oct 4th - Flight Simulators: Home vs. FAA Certified

Nov 1st - FAAST Wings Program

Dec 6th - Aircraft Systems: Avionics

Chapter Events

Our chapter plans to host a variety of public aviation-related events. Event dates may change based on coordination details, and flying events are weather-dependent. We welcome your ideas! If you'd like to participate, please reach out to chapter leadership.

Jan 1st - First Flight 2025!

Feb 15th - Coffee w/ Controllers (KMLI Tower Tour)

Mar 1st - Chapter Birthday Party (during Gathering)

Mar 29th - Fly-Out to Bessie's Diner

Apr TBD - Midwest Aerial Ag tour (Aledo)

May 1st, 2nd, or 3rd - Fly-Out to Pella Tulip Fest (if interest)

May 17th - EAA Learn-to-Fly / Flying Start (Eagle Rally)

Jun TBD - Pancake Breakfast Fly-In / Pattern Day

Jul 19th - Food & Fuel; BBQ Fly-In for OSH travelers

Aug 23-24 - QC Airshow Weekend!! (Group Event?)

Sep 20th - Girls in Aviation Day @ KMLI

Oct 18th - Coffee w/ Controllers (KMLI Tower Tour)

Nov 24th - 30th - Thanksgiving Leftovers Challenge

Dec 31st - Year End Closeout Flights / Pattern Day

VMC Club:

Our Chapter will continue our VMC club meetings at **6pm every 3rd Tuesday** monthly at QC Aero.

Chapter Business Meeting:

Our Chapter Business meetings will be held at **6pm every 2nd Tuesday monthly** at QC Aero.

Young Eagle Events:

Our chapter will host several Young Eagles (YE) events in 2025. Public Young Eagles Rallies will serve as the cornerstone of our youth outreach. Quarterly, we will offer Young Eagles Workshops with hands-on aviation education. Semi-annually, we will hold private Young Eagles Rallies to support youth organizations like Big Brothers Big Sisters and World Relief.

Jan 11th - Public YE Rally

Feb 8th - YE Flying Start

Mar 8th - Public YE Rally

Mar 22nd - YE Workshop

Apr 12th - Public YE Rally

May 31st - Private YE Rally / Outreach

Jun 14th - International Young Eagles Day

Jun 19th (Thursday) - YE Workshop

Jul 12th - Public YE Rally

Aug 16th - Public YE Rally

Aug 21st (Thursday) - YE Workshop

Aug 22nd (Friday) - YE Workshop

Sep 27th - Private YE Rally - GIAD

Oct 11th - Public YE Rally

Nov 8th - Public YE Rally

Dec 6th - Private YE Rally / Outreach

Dec 20th - Private YE Rally / Outreach

Membership

Setting You Up for Success

If you haven't registered as a member yet, please do so as soon as possible. This will ensure that you are receiving all of the membership emails, are kept up to date regarding the happenings, you are aware of all the volunteer opportunities, and will allow us to hear your voice to give you the greatest chapter experience possible. Membership also allows all of us to work together to make a strong, vibrant aviation community and support network for each other. Registration is simple - [MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION](#) Membership dues is \$20 for and individual, \$30 for a family, but dues should not be an impediment to membership.



Show your chapter spirit with a t-shirt, hat, or hoodie! There are lots of options to choose from. **Click the photo above to go to the store.** Be on the look out for some special edition merchandise.

Through December 3, Bonfire will give you a \$10 gift card for every \$100 purchase!!!

EAA Chapter Leadership Training

Are you curious about what EAA is all about? Want to explore the wide range of Chapter Programs EAA offers? Considering a leadership role in our chapter but want to know what it involves? We have an opportunity that can answer all your questions!

Three times a year, the Experimental Aircraft Association hosts a Leadership Academy at its Oshkosh headquarters. This free, interactive workshop connects you with other EAA chapters, introduces you to EAA's extensive program offerings (there's more than you can imagine), and includes a tour of the world-class aviation museum. You'll also stay at the Air Academy lodgings and enjoy complimentary meals.

Join us! Ten people from our chapter are already signed up for the January 25-26 session. If interested, please email us at chapter@eaa1702.org so we can plan together!

[Chapter Leadership Academy Signup | EAA](#)

Flying Challenge

Soaring Sleigh Slayers

In terms of weather cooperation to get our Thanksgiving leftovers flown, November proved to be a cotton headed ninny muggin. Anticipating that December is going to be equally uncooperative, we will carry the same challenge through the entire month of Decemeber, with a festive name change. If you are a Young Eagles pilot, same rules apply. If you are not a Young Eagles pilot, but would like to become one, let us know! We'd be happy to explain the process.

[Soaring Sleigh Slayers List](#)

Member *Achievements*



Alli Hansen received her tailwheel endorsement and formally introduced Flint as her flying partner!



Travis Mensen registered as our chapter's SECOND tech advisor!



Bubba Kuehl is the newest member of QC Aero and serves as the greeter/guest announcer. He will be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays for cuddles and pets.



Jim Ries just keeps it going! He just passing his Commercial Multi Engine Checkride.



December 23, 2021

Dear Administrator Dickson,



Many thanks to the Federal Aviation Administration for once again granting special flight permission for my unique, direct air-cargo delivery operation to bring holiday joy to children of all ages across the United States on Dec. 24. The special launch license for my StarSleigh-1/Rudolph Rocket to take a quick trip to the International Space Station is also appreciated.

My main purpose in writing is to join my voice with that of many others for the continual improvement of all facets of air travel safety. It is important to recognize who is doing the right thing and to call out bad behavior and point them to the lighted path to understand and follow the FAA's safety rules. So here are my special FAA Safety Naughty and Nice Lists.

On my Nice List are the air traffic controllers and technicians, pilots and flight attendants, gate agents, ground crews, airport personnel, security staff, airlines, commercial space operators and government agencies that manage, operate and provide safety oversight of the system. The system is safe and resilient due to their dedicated hard work. I have the utmost gratitude and respect for everyone who makes it their job to keep air travel safe. Air travelers who properly wear facemasks also belong on my Nice List. I'll make sure all their holiday wishes are fulfilled.

For those people whose bad behavior puts air travel safety in jeopardy, remember: I'm watching! At the top of my Naughty List are unruly passengers who pose a serious safety threat. People who purposefully point lasers at aircraft are on the list because they could incapacitate pilots, some of whom are flying airplanes with hundreds of passengers. In addition, pilots or aircraft owners who operate illegal charter operations pose a serious safety hazard as they do not have the proper training or maintain their aircraft at the required higher safety levels in order to fly the public.

Most everyone involved in air travel are good people who care about their own safety and the safety of others. Please continue to follow crew instructions, be polite and enjoy the flight. For those on my Naughty List, I believe it is our duty to help them change their unsafe behaviors through safety programs, educational outreach and enforcement actions as warranted.

I encourage you to share my Naughty and Nice Lists widely and let it be known that Santa Claus and the FAA are steadfast partners in air travel safety!

Have a happy and safe holiday season!

/s/

Santa Claus
North Pole

**This letter dated 2021 to the
FAA is still valid!!**

UPCOMING

Events >>>

DECEMBER CHAPTER EVENTS

Dec 7 - Sat Big Brothers/Big Sisters Young Eagles QC Aero @ 8 AM

Dec 7 - Sat - Chapter Gathering
QC Aero @ 11 AM

Dec 10 - Tue - Chapter Business Meeting
QC Aero @ 6 PM

Dec 17 - Tue - VMC Meeting
QC Aero @ 6pm

Dec 21 - Sat - Weather date BB/BS YE
QC Aero @ 8 AM

[Click Here to View Chapter Events Calendar](#)

UPCOMING JANUARY EVENTS

1/1 - New Years First Flight Challenge

1/4 - 11:30 AM New Years Party

1/11 - Young Eagles Rally

1/14 - 6 PM Monthly Business Meeting

11/21 - 6 PM VMC Meeting

1/25 - Leadership Academy - Oshkosh

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Eyleen Polanchek Dec 2

Chris Welvaert Dec 2

Floyd Taber Dec 24

Dax Manary Dec 30

Jim Ries Dec 31

Please email chapter@eaa1702.org if your birthday is not listed

DECEMBER GATHERING NEW FAA NOTAM FORMAT

B0667/21 NOTAMN
Q) KZAU/QMRLC/IV/NBO/A/000/999/4159N08754W005
A) KORD<Location>
B) 2106231700<From>
C) 2106232300<To>
D) <Schedule>
E) RWY 04L/22R CLSD
F) <Lower Limit>
G) <Upper Limit>

*Say
What?*

Starting December 1, the FAA will issue all NOTAMs in the ICAO format. This change aims to make NOTAMs clearer and easier to understand, addressing concerns about pilots missing critical flight information. While the official deadline is December, many expect full implementation to extend into 2025.

Join us on December 7 at 11:30 to discuss these changes and prepare together!

White Elephant GIFT EXCHANGE

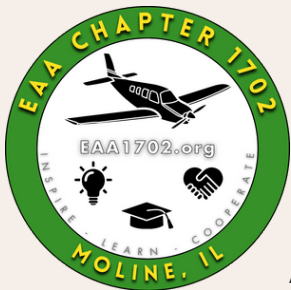


The **January 4 gathering** is serving has our holiday celebration!!!! This includes a white elephant gift exchange. There are two age categories: 1. 17 and under, 2. 18 and older. Gifts should be \$10 or less and wrapped. Please mark which age category its for. Chapter awards will also be distributed. Please join us to celebrate!!!



You are flying a single engine aircraft, the POH for which identifies a Demonstrated Crosswind Capability (DCC) of 17 knots. Approaching an airport for landing on runway 24, you check the ASOS to learn that the winds are 300 at 15 gusting to 25 knots. Is it a violation of the FARs to land this aircraft under these crosswind conditions?

Answer on page 8



NEW YEAR'S CELEBRATION

AS WE BID FAREWELL TO THE OLD YEAR AND WELCOME THE NEW ONE, LET'S COME TOGETHER TO CELEBRATE ALL THAT WE HAVE CREATED, TOGETHER, IN OUR AVIATION COMMUNITY. WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO BRING A POTLUCK DISH TO SHARE. AS ALWAYS, CHAPTER GATHERINGS ARE PUBLIC, FAMILY FRIENDLY EVENTS.

SAT JAN 4, 2025

11:30 AM - 1:30PM

3100 69TH AVENUE
MOLINE, IL 61265



CHILI COMPETITION:

BRING YOUR BEST CHILI TO THE TABLE FOR OUR CHILI COOK OFF. ALL CHILIS ARE ALLOWED: BEANS, NO BEANS, WHITE CHILI, EXTRA SPICY. WE ASK THAT YOU LIST MAIN INGREDIENTS SO EVERYONE KNOWS WHAT THEY'RE GETTING THEMSELVES INTO!



WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE:

WE WILL CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR WITH A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE. THERE IS A \$10 GIFT LIMIT. ADULTS AND YOUTH WILL EXCHANGE IN SEPARATE GROUPS. WHO WILL END UP WITH THE MOST CREATIVE, FUNNIEST, AVIATION RELATED GIFT?



CHAPTER AWARDS & VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION:

WE WILL TAKE TIME TO RECOGNIZE THE VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE MADE THE CHAPTER SUCCESSFUL THIS PAST YEAR. COME CELEBRATE WITH US AS WE LOOK FORWARD TO 2025!!

Find more information at
www.eaa1702.org



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COOPERATE

Contact us at
chapter@eaa1702.org



CONTACT US

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contact us if interested

VMC Question of the Month ANSWER



Considering a 20 gusting 25 knot wind 60 degrees off the nose, the crosswind component exceeds the DCC of 17 knots. However, the DCC is not considered an operating limitation of the aircraft, so in that regard, there would be no regulatory violation. However, flight schools, flying clubs, and flight departments often impose restrictions on the maximum crosswind conditions under which an aircraft can land, which may be imposed by the operator's insurance company, and these restrictions often correlate with the DCC. So while the aircraft and pilot might well be able to perform a landing under the stated conditions, the risk should be carefully considered before attempting such.



In 1927, Santa Claus was given an airplane pilot's license by Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Aeronautics William P. MacCracken. Santa also received airway maps and a guarantee that the airways would be lit on Christmas Eve.

Find more information at
www.eaa1702.org



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Contact us at
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