



Fightline Chronicles

A Wind in the Door

BY MARY-ELLEN PFEIFFER

As I write this, a look outside gave me a view of dreary gray skies and a thick layer of fog, bringing to mind all the dampness that we will feel the second we step outdoors. I am in Missouri, having just welcomed my second grandchild, Scarlett Elizabeth Schwab. The weather has been like this the whole time, making me wonder if the sun ever shines here. That is the narrative of December, right? It leaves us wondering if and when the sun will shine, we will feel the warmth of the rays on our face, if the cloud layer will raise high enough for us to fly, if the moisture will abate enough to not cause icing hazards. December has always struck me as a month of promise of what is to come. Madeleine L'Engle once wrote, "December teaches us that endings are just beginnings in disguise." Don't be confused, this quote is from *A Wrinkle in Time*, but I, quite literally, have a wind coming through the door of my AirBnB, which also happens to be the companion book for a *Wrinkle in Time*, thus the title.

As a chapter, December has indeed, been a time of endings and new beginnings. We completed our chapter renewal, ensuring that EAA 1702 will be around for another year. In addition, we bought a Blackstone Grill - which members plan on using for every single event we have (it was hot dogs and onions for December's gathering, what will it be next? Pancakes?? Ask how you can help!). We released our yearly calendar (there is always room for more, so if you have an idea, let us know!). We took our chapter survey AND our national survey in order to give our feedback and make the efforts of both better. We completed our first outreach Young Eagles flights for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, which saw member Ken Hopper flying kids in a PC-24. If you read last month's newsletter, you read about my abysmal performance during Pattern Day. Member Tobey Strauch and I made up for it with our 16 takeoffs and landings.

December also brought the opportunity for the Chapter to acquire a Rand Robinson KR-1,, donated by member Robert Van Hulle. This airplane will not be made airworthy. However, it will give our chapter the opportunity to allow students to chair fly from a cockpit, to manipulate flight controls and watch what happens., to take apart and put together various surfaces in and around the plane, and more. The possibilities are endless. More about this in the future!

As December becomes but a memory, 2025 brings a world of possibility. I look forward to seeing where the wind takes us in this new year!

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How the Dream of Flight Helped Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Spread His Dream



LEFT - Dr. King arrives at Heathrow Airport.

BELOW - Dr. King's Final Flight Home



They had a dream.

They believed that flight was possible for man. On December 17, 1903, the Wright Brothers' dream of powered, sustained, and controlled flight in a heavier-than-air ship was achieved. This one flight marked the beginning of modern aviation which impacted everything from communication to globalization. Mail could be delivered quicker, crops could be managed more effectively, wars could be fought with more precision, people could experience new countries and cultures, politicians could campaign more efficiently, and it even allowed for one pastor to spread his Gospel message or unity and equality to the world. The impact of the message of Martin Luther King, Jr. regarding civil rights is undeniable. His unrelenting efforts to mobilize non-violent protests and march's to increase awareness and influence legislation led to groundbreaking rights for a deeply marginalized peoples through the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, and the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

These pieces of legislation extended not only to people of color, but benefitted women as well, detailing prohibitions on discriminating based upon sex or race, segregation, and strengthening voting rights.

Oddly enough, it was aviation that was the single greatest factor in Martin Luther King, Jr.'s success. In fact, in his short life, he travelled 6 million miles. These flights took him to India, where he studied nonviolence. He travelled around Europe, Ghana, Senegal, and the list could go on. Through his travels, he observed cultures, grew his message, and inspired others. He saw racism as a global struggle, and knew that he could learn from social justice efforts in other countries. He also knew that our struggles as a country were not isolated, but rather formed a global fraternity, and that the key to fighting those struggles was acknowledging it with deep respect and understanding. He believed the action required was nonviolent, and through his travels, learned that nonviolence was a way of life.

Aviation made Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream take flight, spread his message, coast to coast, and globally. It was even a flight that transported his body from where he breathed his last to his final resting place.

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do, you have to keep moving forward." What are we going to do in the new year to move forward and realize our dreams?

BELOW - Dr. King steps carefully out of a GA airplane



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.

0:30 Survey

Your Input Matters

How do you typically receive information about our chapter events?

You can take this 30 second survey by following this link. This will help us focus our efforts to serve you best.

<https://forms.gle/uFdqEeDooyXLbJ6j7>

Spirit Wear



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.



Jane Berg Tailwheel Scholarship

This scholarship is for tailwheel training in Milan, Illinois at the KMLI airport. The training will be completed in a 100HP 1946 Piper J3 Cub in accordance with 14 CFR §61.31(i). It will consist of approximately five to six hours of flight training and will conclude with a tailwheel endorsement.

This scholarship has a combined value of \$2,000. Of that amount, \$1,000 will be granted for the flight training. The remaining amount will be used for transportation to the training airport, housing, food, etc. That amount will be reimbursed upon completion of the training. If the applicant selected is determined to be based locally*, the amount for expenses will be held for the following year's scholarship. Applicants will have one year to complete the training or the funds for the flight portion will be forfeited.

* "local" applicants are defined by their current address residing within a 100 mile radius of KMLI, Quad City International Airport

Scholarship applicants must meet all the following criteria:

- U.S. citizen or U.S. permanent resident
- Female
- Hold a minimum of an FAA Private Pilot or Sport Pilot certification in airplane
- Must hold a current flight review or equivalent under 14 CFR §61.56
- Meet parameters for the airplane (Piper Cub) to be flown within legal limitations

Essay Details

300 word minimum essay addressing why you want tailwheel endorsement training. Optional topics include: Why did you become a pilot? What qualities you enjoy in a flight instructor? Activities that promote aviation? Where you see yourself in five/ten years?

Application Deadline: February 18th, 2025

<https://forms.gle/aP8mRP8ncubLs2Zc9>

UPCOMING Events >>>

JANUARY CHAPTER EVENTS

- Wed **Jan 1** First Flight of the year!
- Sat **Jan 4** Chapter Gathering
QC Aero @ 11 AM
- Sat **Jan 11** Young Eagles Rally &
Pancake Breakfast
QC Aero @ 8 AM
- Tue **Jan 14** Chapter Business Meeting
QC Aero @ 6 PM
- Tue **Jan 21** VMC Club Meeting
QC Aero @ 6 PM
- Fri **Jan 24** EAA Leadership Academy
Departs
REVV Davenport @ 10 AM

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

UPCOMING FEBRUARY EVENTS

- Feb 1** - February Gathering
- Feb 8** - Young Eagles Flying Start
- Feb 11** - 6 PM Monthly Business Meeting
- Feb 15** - Coffee with Controllers
- Feb 18** - 6 PM VMC Meeting



- Cody Devolder Jan 4**
- Mathias Lauritzson Jan 8**
- Liza Whiles Jan 10**
- Robert Van Hulle Jan 22**

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

UPCOMING GATHERING TOPICS

February - What's New with EAA: All about EAA Chapter Programs

Chapter Members attending the EAA Chapter Leadership Academy in January will share their experience and lessons learned. Come attend if you are interested in learning about EAA Programs and what our chapter has planned for 2025.

March - FAA Medical Discussion with Dr. James Blum, Senior AME

We welcome Dr. James Blum, senior Aero-Medical Examiner from Iowa City to lead a discussion on FAA Medical Requirements for Pilots. This is a great session to attend if you are a looking to start flight training or a certified pilot with questions about Medical Renewal process and Basic Med.



You're planning a VFR cross country flight in your 1977 Cessna Cardinal RG, which does not have a Minimum Equipment List (MEL). As you're taxiing out for departure, you notice that the turn coordinator is inoperative (red flag showing). Can you legally fly the airplane on this flight with the turn coordinator inoperative?

[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



Contact us at
chapter@eaa1702.org



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. General Public is welcomed to this family friendly, potluck event.

- 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. All are welcome.

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

We may add events or programs during the year. Stay informed by following our webpage above or join our chapter email distro for free.

Find more information at
www.eaa1702.org



INSPIRE



LEARN



COOPERATE

Contact us at
chapter@eaa1702.org

Member Achievements



Member Katrina Pfeiffer flew a King Air for the first time.



Jason Staver loading the Rand Robinson KR-1



Bill Hitzhusen Passed his A&P Certifications!

Do you have an Achievement you want to share?

Email us at

chapter@eaa1702.org



CONTACT US

President	Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer	mary.ellen.pfeiffer@eaa1702.org
Vice President	Greg Stopyra	gregory.stopyra@eaa1702.org
Treasurer	Ashley "Alli" Hanson	ashleyhanson@eaa1702.org
Secretary	<i>Available</i>	<i>contact us if interested</i>

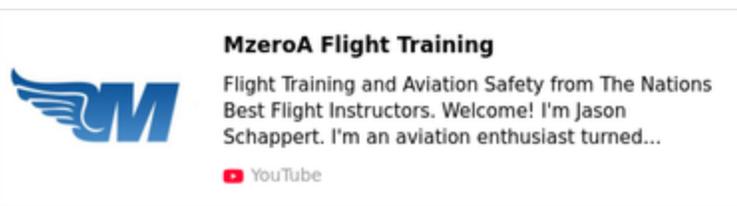
VMC Question of the Month ANSWER

Yes, but you need to stop and do your homework first. The turn coordinator is not required as part of the VFR-day type certification instruments and equipment (§ 91.205), is not listed in the Kinds of Operations Equipment List for the aircraft (POH), and does not pose a hazard for this flight (your determination). It is not required by any airworthiness directive (this might be harder to determine). However, per § 91.213, it must be deactivated and placarded "Inoperative" prior to flight. Since the instrument is on a separate circuit, it can likely be deactivated without assistance from a mechanic. It will need to be repaired no later than at the next aircraft inspection.

The one question to ask yourself is whether in an emergency (low visibility, or inadvertent continued VFR into IMC), would it be safe to be flying the airplane without this instrument.



Channel to Check Out



MzeroA is a channel produced by CFI Jason Schappert. Every January 1st he begins a daily series of posts titled "Safer Pilot Challenge". I enjoy his content and enthusiastic approach to teaching. If you haven't watched before, challenge yourself this year to watch all Thirty-One!!

- Greg Stopyra

YouTube videos are not a substitute for flight training with an instructor. Consult a CFI before trying anything you see online.