



# Flightline Chronicles

Moline, IL / Quad Cities International Airport (KMLI)



## Our First Year!

BY MARY-ELLEN PFEIFFER

As Charlie Becker attached our patch to the EAA wall, I couldn't help but wonder about all the patches that had been put up before ours. Are all of the chapters on the wall still in existence? Did they keep their momentum and enthusiasm, or did it wane over the years?

During the last gathering, you heard the experiences from the tremendous group of volunteers who attended the recent Leadership Academy at Oshkosh: both what excited them and what they plan on doing with the chapter.

Unfortunately, due to an emergency, I wasn't able to make this meeting, but I wanted to share what I heard as a second time attendee.

My experience this time was shaped by my experiences with my former chapter, and with the experience of starting a chapter from the ground up. The first message that I heard is that the work we have done to build this chapter, and I truly mean "we," is truly incredible. As the leaders from Oshkosh describe "best practices," we've really hit many of the marks, so to speak. As I watched some of our publicity material and information pass across the screen as examples, and being the newest chapter in attendance with the most enthusiastic leaders, I couldn't help but be proud of everything that we have accomplished.

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# Our First Year!!

(Continued)

Another thing that I heard was the importance of being welcoming, inclusive, and responsive. A chapter can offer a great number of programs, but if people do not feel welcome or needed, if they feel like they don't have anything to contribute, and if the material isn't relative to the audience, then the chapter will not succeed. Thank you, to all of our members, for your outward charity and generosity of spirit

that have made this chapter so hospitable and accessible.

Little things stood out to me as "holy cow" moments, things I did not know or realize. For example, if you are an adult that is in flight training, but you have not taken the written test yet, please contact us to take an Eagle flight. Once you complete an Eagle flight, and we submit the paperwork, you are eligible for FAA written exam reimbursement once you successfully pass. This is a \$175 savings! Additionally, if you are not yet an EAA national member, you will receive a free, six month membership with all privileges of a full member.

As we move forward this year, we have plans to expand our outreach, fundraising efforts, grant applications, hospitality, social media presence, and develop more comprehensive approaches to Young Eagles and Eagles events. So much on the horizon to look forward to and so many opportunities for you to utilize your talents to get the most out of your membership!



OH MY how time flies



Chapter 1702 turns

ONE!

Please join us for a potluck birthday party  
SATURDAY | MARCH 1 | 11:30AM  
@ QC Aero

**Potluck Dish Sign-Up: [Click Here](#)**



THE SPIRIT OF AVIATION

Chapter 1702

Moline, IL



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our volunteers are the heart of everything we do, from Young Eagles rallies to gathering potlucks. Every successful event is a direct result of the time and effort you dedicate. Whether you're a seasoned pilot, an aviation enthusiast, or a parent cheering from the sidelines, there's a role for everyone.

Not sure where to start? Well, dip your toes in the water with one of our upcoming events! Tasks range from helping kids into planes for their first flight, flipping pancakes, greeting guests, taking photos, or simply sharing your enthusiasm for aviation.

No special skills required—just a little time and a willingness to lend a hand.

To prepare for some roles, you may need to complete the EAA Youth Protection Training. This quick, easy process ensures we're providing a safe and welcoming environment for all. Check out the upcoming events on page 5 and see how you can help! With your support, we'll continue educating current pilots and inspiring the next generation of aviators.

### Ready to join the action?

Email us at [chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org) today to sign up for a volunteer opportunity!

## Available Volunteer Positions

- Photographer / Videographer for Chapter Events
- Event Greeter
- Event Setup / Tear-down
- Chapter Publications via Canva (Event flyers, newsletter, social media graphics)
- Young Eagles / Eagles Ground Support Crew
- Event Coordinator (coordinate with other chapter members to prepare events)
- Fly-Out / Fly-In Coordinator
- Fundraising Coordinator
- Pilots for Youth and Adult Flights
- Educators to Facilitate Youth Activities at Young Eagles Workshop Events
- *Anything you're passionate about...we can use your talents to make our chapter better!*

Email [chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org) to let us know where you can help!





# RAY AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP



## Chapter Scholarship Update

We want to provide a short update on where our chapter is at with regards to the Ray Aviation Scholarship.

- Our Chapter has applied to EAA for a full Ray Scholarship, \$12,000 for 2025
- EAA will notify winning chapters beginning late Feb to early March
- Our Chapter has begun forming our Scholarship Committee in anticipation of receiving a scholarship
- Interested Chapter Youth must meet minimum requirements listed below

### **Eligibility Requirements for the Ray Aviation Scholarship**

- 1 Must be Age 16 – 19 for powered flight training
- 2 Must possess an FAA Medical Certificate
- 3 Must possess an FAA Student Pilot Certificate
- 4 Must begin flight training within 60 days of accepting the award
- 5 Must be able to volunteer for Chapter service a min of 2 hours per month
- 6 Must meet with the Coordinator and submit a Monthly Activity Report which details flight training and volunteer activities and costs.
- 7 Must be able to schedule at least 3 flight lessons per week
- 8 Must be able to Solo within 3 months of start
- 9 Must be able to pass the FAA Knowledge Test within 6 months
- 10 Must be able to take and pass the FAA Checkride within 12 months

## Boost Your Application Score

Here is a short list of things you can do now to help boost your application score. While none of these guarantee a scholarship, they will help set your application above other applicants.

**Take a Young Eagle Flight:** Becoming a “Young Eagle” opens up tremendous opportunities to help you advance in your flight training. The best part is that Young Eagle flights are given FREE from EAA Chapter Volunteers. Flights do not need to be completed with EAA 1702...any EAA Chapter Young Eagle flight applies! You can search for upcoming Young Eagle Rallies by visiting <https://events.eaachapters.org> or contact one of the chapters listed at the bottom of the page for more info.

**Complete EAA’s “Young Eagle Flight Plan”:** By taking a Young Eagle Flight, you receive FREE access to Sporty’s Private Pilot Ground School. Progressing or completing this online course not only helps you learn the knowledge required to become a pilot, but shows the scholarship committee your discipline and dedication to learning to fly. You should’ve received an email with link to access course at the email submitted when you took your Young Eagle Flight.

**Completion of AeroEducate Elemental / Grade Badges:** EAA’s AeroEducate is a FREE, self-paced online activity program for you to explore the exciting world of aviation. Through online activities, you will learn about the principles of flight, aviation technologies, and the vast career opportunities in aviation and Aerospace. As you complete activities, you will earn points and digital badges to mark your progression. Visit <https://www.aeroeducate.org> to sign up and begin earning badges today!



# UPCOMING

# Events >>>

## MARCH CHAPTER EVENTS

- Sat **Mar 1** Chapter Gathering  
QC Aero @ 11:30 AM
- Sat **Mar 8** Young Eagles Rally (Public)
- Tue **Mar 11** Chapter Business Meeting  
QC Aero @ 6 PM
- Tue **Mar 18** VMC Club Meeting  
QC Aero @ 6 PM
- Sat **Mar 22** Young Eagles Workshop  
QC Aero @ 8:30 AM
- Sat **Mar 29** Fly-Our to Bessie's Diner

## UPCOMING APRIL EVENTS

- Sat **Apr 5** Chapter Gathering  
QC Aero @ 11:30 AM  
*Baked Potato Bar*
- Tue **Apr 8** Chapter Business Meeting  
QC Aero @ 6 PM
- Sat **Apr 12** Young Eagles Rally (Public)
- Tue **Apr 15** VMC Club Meeting  
QC Aero @ 6 PM

[Click to View](#)

[2025 Chapter Events Calendar](#)

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

<b>Matthew Davis</b>	<b>Mar 1</b>
<b>Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer</b>	<b>Mar 4</b>
<b>Gary Rasso</b>	<b>Mar 7</b>
<b>Summer Kuehl</b>	<b>Mar 8</b>

Please email [chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org) if  
your birthday is not listed

## UPCOMING GATHERING TOPICS

### 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.

### APRIL - PART 107 COMMERCIAL DRONE PILOT: UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS

We welcome Ashley Hanson, head of John Deere's Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Division, to speak to us about what it takes to become a certified commercial remote pilot of Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems. This certification opens the doors to many careers that doesn't require your feet leaving the ground!



You're on a VFR cross country flight in your VFR-equipped 1977 Cessna 172, flying by pilotage at about 3,000 AGL, on your way home with a friend. You're returning later than planned, and your friend asks if he can use his cell phone to call his wife to say he'll be late. Since you're flying VFR and not even using any onboard electronic navigation, is it legally permissible to let your friend make the call?

[Answer on page 9](#)



# **EAA Chapter 1702 Monthly Gathering Guest Speaker**



**Saturday, March 1st, 2025  
Quad Cities Aero  
3100 69th St., Moline, IL 61265  
Doors Open at 11:30am  
Presentation Begins at Noon**

EAA Chapter 1702 is honored to host Dr. James Blum, Senior AME HIMS from the University of Iowa as guest speaker for our Monthly Gathering. Dr. Blum will give a presentation on the FAA Aero-Medical Exam Process followed by a Question & Answer session. This event is open to the public, especially student, current, or rusty pilots wanting to learn more about FAA Medical Certificates.

This potluck event is family and youth friendly. It's our chapter birthday party!!!! Potluck dish sign up: [Click Here!](#)



James Blum, MD received his medical degree from the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and completed his residency in Anesthesiology and fellowship in Critical Care Medicine at the University of Michigan. He serves as the Chief Health Information Officer for University of Iowa Health Care and as an active member of the clinical faculty in the ORs and ICUs. Dr. Blum is also a Senior Aviation Medical Examiner (AME) with HIMS certification, which enables him to assist with navigating even the most complex clinical cases for pilots. As a commercially certificated pilot, Dr. Blum understands the unique needs of airmen seeking aviation medical advice.

**Dr. Blum does have a website with some interesting articles. His website can be found here - [Plane Medicine - by James M. Blum, MD.](#)**





it's time to  
*fly out*



Want to go to breakfast?

Let's plan a fly out!

March 29, 2025

7:30 AM Departure from KMLI

9 AM Arrival at Bessie's located at KJVL

Head count is necessary to so please  
sign up at link below or QR right:

<https://partiful.com/e/vYAGSO475BAkt4mgybXz>

If you are flying and have available  
seats, please let us know. Even though  
it's a "fly out," drivers are welcome as  
well. Bessie's is a great diner with  
aviation themed decor located at the  
Janesville, WI airport.



Find more information at  
[www.eaa1702.org](http://www.eaa1702.org)



INSPIRE



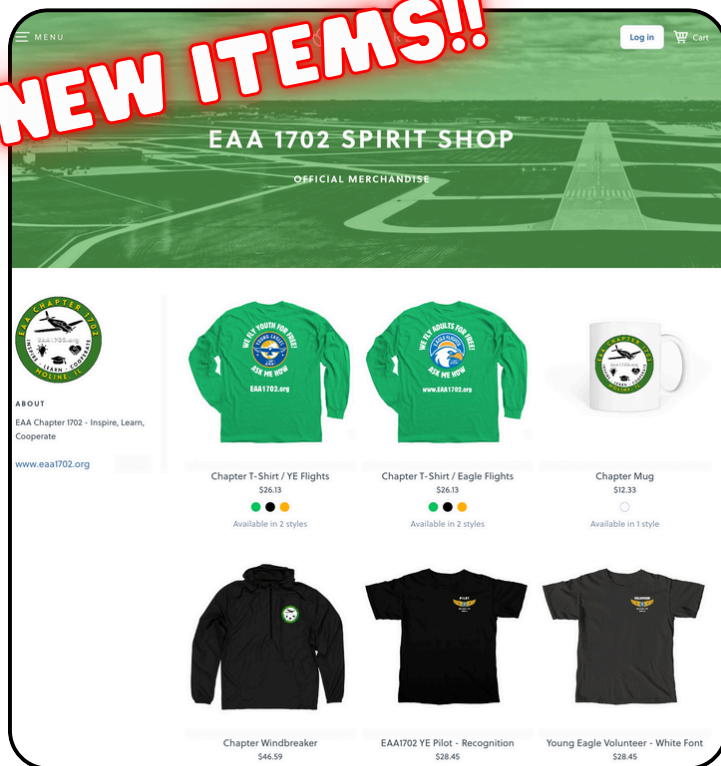
LEARN



COOPERATE

Contact us at  
[chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org)

**NEW ITEMS!!**



**SHOW YOUR  
CHAPTER  
SPIRIT!!**

We recently updated our chapter apparel store with new items! We've expanded our "We fly youth/adults for free" selections to include a windbreaker. Oh, and we have a mug...so you can enjoy your coffee / tea while repping your favorite chapter.

**Click the photo to the left to go to the store.**

## **VIRTUAL BOOT CAMP** Leadership Training

If you want to learn more about EAA programs, but unable to attend Chapter Leadership Training in-person, EAA offers Virtual Leadership Boot Camp on **March 4th and 5th, from 12pm to 4pm each day**. Each year, EAA's Chapters staff offer a Virtual Chapter Leadership Boot Camp using our EAA webinar platform. Like in-person Chapter Leadership Academies and Boot Camps, these virtual events are designed to help you improve your chapter and learn about the many programs available. The virtual training event is 8 hours in total, 4 hours per day, on two days.

**To Register, visit:**

<https://www.eaa.org/eea/eea-chapters/chapter-leadership-training/virtual-chapter-leadership-training-webinars>

## **Chapter Membership** Setting You Up for Success

If you have not yet registered as a member, we ask you 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.



# Member *Achievements*



Ashley Hanson takes to the skies on her birthday with Bill Hitzhusen...first flight in her own airplane!!



Do you have an  
achievement you  
want to share?

Email us at

[chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org)



# CONTACT US

President	Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer	<a href="mailto:mary.ellen.pfeiffer@eaa1702.org">mary.ellen.pfeiffer@eaa1702.org</a>
Vice President	Greg Stopyra	<a href="mailto:gregory.stopyra@eaa1702.org">gregory.stopyra@eaa1702.org</a>
Treasurer	Ashley "Alli" Hanson	<a href="mailto:ashleyhanson@eaa1702.org">ashleyhanson@eaa1702.org</a>
Secretary ( <i>interim</i> )	Kristin Mosher	<a href="mailto:kristinm@eaa1702.org">kristinm@eaa1702.org</a>

## VMC Question of the Month ANSWER

No, it is not permissible. According to AC 91.21-1D, paragraph 9.1, Restricting Airborne Cellular Telephone Use, "The FCC prohibits cellular telephone operation while airborne, as noted in Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations (47 CFR) part 22, § 22.925. This restriction is valid for all aircraft without technical provisions that enable control of onboard mobile devices to eliminate interference between ground-based cellular stations and airborne cellular devices. If technical provisions are installed, compliant with, or exempt from 47 CFR § 22.925, then usage of cellular-enabled PEDs is acceptable."

## YouTube Channel to Check Out

### **The Finer Points (@TheFinerPoints):**

The Finer Points is a channel created by CFII Jason Miller that focuses on developing systems and courses to help pilots improve their flying. I like these videos because they cover a range of topics from learning to fly, instrument challenges, and general aviation topics. With over 200 videos, you'll find something for everyone!

**Click Video on right to go to YouTube!**



**The Finer Points**  
Jason Miller is an expert CFII in the San Francisco Bay Area who has been leading the TFP team since 2005. Jason is a CFI for AOPA's Air Safety Institute...

 YouTube

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

Find more information at  
[www.eaa1702.org](http://www.eaa1702.org)



Contact us at  
[chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org)