



# Flightline Chronicles

## What's Happening?

BY MARY-ELLEN PFEIFFER

Trekkie here, currently working through Star Trek Discovery. Last night, the crew broke through the galactic barrier. This mission began as Captain Burnham begins all of them, with her catch phrase, "**Let's Fly!**"

This month, our chapter gathering discussed airframes and powerplants, and learned what it takes, and how to become, an A&P. Our business meeting was extremely productive with new attendees. New social media volunteers are coming on board to enhance our media presence – thank you to Ellen Bloomingdale and Brandon Sharer. A scholarship coordinator stepped forward and is in the process of reviewing all the information so we can be on track to apply for our first Ray Scholarship in the fall – thank you, Tobey Strauch. New faces greeted our Young Eagle participants at our most recent rally which put our number of Young Eagle flights flown by our chapter at over 100.... For our first year – thank you to Ellen and Craig Bloomingdale!!!! Each and every one of you is incredible!

September is here! On September 7, beginning at 11:30 at QC Aero, we will welcome Brady Seei and Brenda Frye as our speakers for our gathering. Brady was in the tower at Oshkosh, and Brenda attended as the chapter chair for Iowa 99's and as a mom, and admittedly did not go to Oshkosh for the airshow, but for what was on the ground. Both will share their experiences and pictures. This is a family friendly potluck, please bring something to share.

EAA 1702 is looking forward to participating in Girls in Aviation on September 21, from 10 AM – 2 PM. If you have an hour or two, would you consider sharing the joy of aviation at our booth at the Quad Cities Airport? We will have some instruments out for people to touch, information on future flights, stickers, and more. On September 28, we will have a special Girls in Aviation Day Young Eagles Rally. If you would like to volunteer on the ground, as a greeter, or as a pilot, please let us know.

Looking even further ahead, we will be hosting our SECOND Eagles event on October 5, the morning before our monthly gathering. Many of our Young Eagle parents have requested EAGLE flights, so this is the date we're going to make those happen! Registration information will be posted on [www.EAA1702.org](http://www.EAA1702.org) as well as emails sent out to those parents directly.

The momentum of this chapter has been incredible as we push forward achieving our mission and vision - EAA Chapter 1702 is a community of passionate aviation enthusiasts that strives to grow participation in a diverse, inclusive, vibrant, and growing aviation community by promoting the "Spirit of Aviation" in the Quad Cities. **Let's Fly!**



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## How Important is Radio Communications to General Aviation?

Contributed by Tobey Straub

General aviation is not well known by commercial pilots for having good radio communications. Many Part 61 schools leave radio communications up to the certified flight instructor (CFI). This means that radio communications may not be a high priority, or the student only gets one point of view. Part 141 schools have more motivation because the FAA regulates their class topics and teaching plans. Regardless, all pilots must prioritize radio communications for the simple thought that others and Air Traffic Control (ATC) need to know who you want to talk to, who you are, where you are and what you want to do.

The radio “talk” can be intimidating and cause apprehension, but it is imperative that pilots communicate. If you are a pilot, it is important to be comfortable talking to other aircraft and ATC. The Aviation Safety Reporting System Database (ASRS) reports that a third of the accidents in general aviation are because of communications. How do you practice? If your CFI finds it important, then they are going to want you to practice on the ground and not just in the air. This method also saves the student money.

One simple solution for practicing on the ground is an application called ARSIM by Plane English. This application lets you practice comms on your cell phone with the proper verbiage and with scenarios that are for visual flight rules (VFR) and instrument flight rules (IFR). Many of us are overly attached to our cell phone anyway, so why not use it to practice speaking ATC scenarios? It is more advantageous than playing a game to kill time.

Also, the FAA recognizes the training as being effective, and awards WINGS credit for utilizing it. If your CFI is also an ATC controller, then they would appreciate it as well. Flying in the vicinity of air tractor pilots? The communication skills gained through this training prepare you for this as well. Let's raise the bar on radio communications and make it a safety priority! Outside of VFR, to proceed with training in IFR conditions, clear communications are even more essential. The point being that communication never goes away. Once you start training as a pilot, advancing your communication skills is a must. Thus, embrace it, and strive to improve.

ARSim can be found at the following link: <https://arsim.ai/>, or you may Google “ARSim”. They have software for ATC or pilots. Utilizing this program is good practice and practice is a part of piloting. The traditional radio sources are also available like ground school practice with the CFI and listening to the LiveATC.net. However, the cost of ARSim is comparable to any other application and the simplicity of it is great for those occasions when you can not receive LiveATC.net. Also, ARSIM is interactive, grades your voice and verbiage, providing necessary feedback for self improvement.

Try it out. Safe piloting.

# Member ACHIEVEMENTS



Tobey Strauch  
Private Pilot  
June 24, 2024



Evelyn Rose Kuehl  
Newest Chapter Member  
August 15, 2024  
Congratulations Summer & Kyle!!!

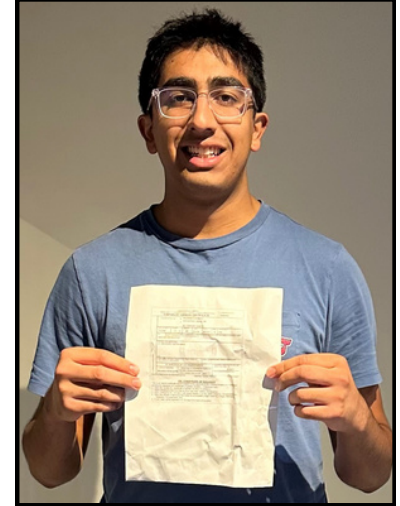


Brenda Frye  
Iowa 99's Chapter Chair  
June 1, 2024



Savannah DeVolder  
Pilot, 1st Young Eagle Flight  
August, 24 2024

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Suleman Chaudhry  
AGI/IGI  
Advanced/Instrument  
Ground Instruction  
Certificate



Scott Booth  
New KDVN Groundskeeper  
August, 14 2024



Bill Hitzhusen & Jason  
Staver sharing the Spirit  
of Aviation through A & P  
August, 2024 gathering





# Membership

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 - follow the link on [EAA1702.org](http://EAA1702.org) and, if you have any questions, email **[chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org)**. Membership dues is \$20 for an individual, \$30 for a family, but dues should not be an impediment to membership.

## Upcoming Chapter Events:

- Sept 7 Sat** - Chapter Gathering  
QC Aero @ 11:30am
- Sept 10 Tue** - Business Meeting  
QC Aero @ 6pm
- Sept 17 Tue** - VMC Meeting  
QC Aero @ 6pm (virtual option)
- Sept 21 Sat** - Girls in Aviation Day  
near QC Aero from 7am-2pm
- Sept 28 Sat** - GIAD Young Eagles  
Rally. QC Aero @ 8am

**Quad Cities Aero**  
3100 69th Avenue  
Moline, IL 61265

## Spirit Wear



Spiritwear is here!!!! Show your chapter spirit with a t-shirt, hat, or hoodie! There are lots of options to choose from. Find the link at **[EAA1702.org](http://EAA1702.org)**, or any of our social media. Be on the look out for some special edition merchandise.

# Upcoming EVENTS

## OCTOBER EVENTS

- 10/5 - 8 AM Adult Eagles Flights
- 10/5 - 11:30 AM Monthly Gathering
- 10/8 - 6 PM Monthly Business Meeting
- 10/15 - 6 PM VMC Meeting
- 10/25 - 9 AM - Noon Young Eagles Workshop
- 10/26 - 8 AM Young Eagles Rally

## young eagles WORKSHOP



Calling all 11-15 year old aviation enthusiasts!! We will hold our very first **Young Eagles Workshop** on **October 25** from 9 AM - Noon at QC Aero. This workshop will include hands on activities for the aviation enthusiast. Registration will open on October 1.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Brad Gantt	Sept 13
Scott Booth	Sept 15
Kristin Simmons	Sept 17
Carl Pfeiffer	Sept 26
Jason Dummer	Sept 30

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



*Girls*  
IN AVIATION DAY  
A Women in Aviation International® Event

**September 21**  
**10 a.m. - 2 p.m.**  
**QC Airport**



## Eagle.....FLIGHTS

Have you watched your child soar in a Young Eagles flight and wished it were you? EAA Eagle Flights is a program that offers hands-on flight experiences and mentorship to adults who are interested in learning to fly. Join us on October 5!

## Question?

Are pilots allowed to modify the manufacturer-provided checklists used for operating their aircraft?

**Answer, Page 6**

# Contacts

## & OTHER EVENTS

### Chapter Contacts

President	Mary-Ellen Pfeiffer	mary.ellen.pfeiffer@eaa1702.org
Vice President	Greg Stopyra	gregory.stopyra@eaa1702.org
Treasurer	Ashley Hanson	ashleyhanson@eaa1702.org
Secretary	Open	

## VMC Question of the Month

# ANSWER

According to FAASTeam Notice NOTC3401, no FAA approval is required to modify or customize a checklist, at least for those of us operating under Part 91. However, it recommends that aircraft owners start by consulting their aircraft's POH, AFM, or panel placards in some older aircraft. A general rule promoted by some flight instructors is that it is permissible to add items to the manufacturer's checklist, however nothing should be omitted. One should also note that when taking a checkride for a pilot certificate or rating, the Designated Pilot Examiner may request justification for changes made to the checklist being used, and may wish to verify its validity.

For checklists used in Part 135 or Part 121 operations, FAA approval of checklists is required. FAA Order 8900.1, Volume 3, Chapter 32, Section 12, contains the guidance that FAA inspectors use when accepting or approving checklists for Part 121 and 135 operators.

