



# Flightline Chronicles

## Gratitude

BY MARY-ELLEN PFEIFFER

A smile is worth a thousand words. For this reason, I am putting some of our pictures from our recent Young Eagles Workshop. In these pictures, you will see kids and teens (and Greg) with the gliders that they designed. I could elaborate but their smiles say it all. I am grateful to have been able to be a part.

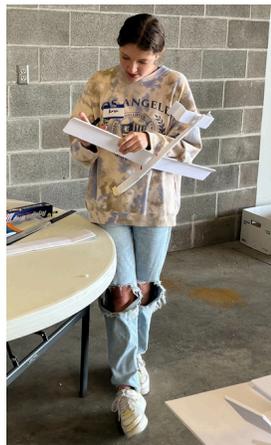
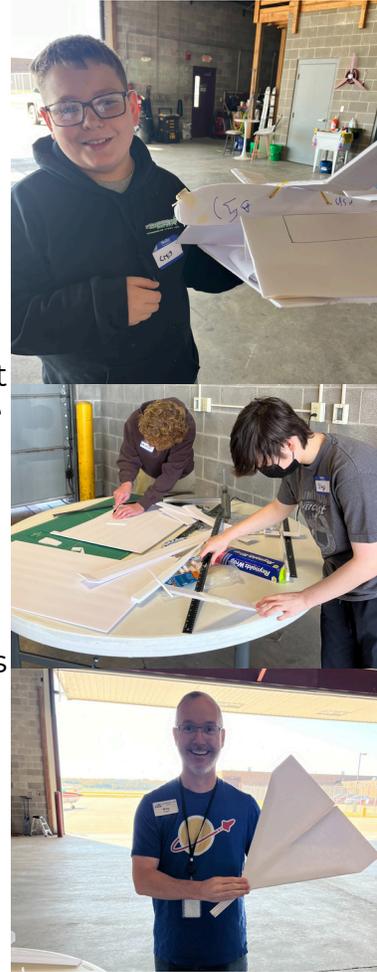
Our daughter had to spend a week at Mayo. On our return home, I had to fly her to Aurora where she attends school. The flight home.... wow, was it peaceful after a LONG week, and beautiful - it is just therapeutic to leave the earth behind and soar. I am grateful for these opportunities, for the A&P's that keep the planes in the air, for the CFI's that worked endlessly to help me, for my father that introduced me to planes.

I am grateful for each of you - for your contributions to building a strong aviation community, your support and enthusiasm, for everything that we have accomplished together in under a year.

Today, I deposited over \$2300 into our Chapter bank account from Birdies for Charity. I am grateful to live in a community that is dedicated to promoting and advancing charitable work - I am grateful for Birdies for Charity, for our donors, and am excited about what is to come.

I 100% believe that we have the best ATC. I am grateful for their guidance in the air and on the ground, their constant dedication to keeping us safe, their correction when necessary, and their continued support.

I could continue, but I'd love to hear what you are thankful for. Hit us up on Facebook and let us know what you are thankful for. Maybe it's aviation related, maybe it's not. Regardless, we'd love to know!



### Inside:

[Pattern Day - P2](#)

[Note from Brady Seei - P3](#)

[Member Achievements - P4](#)

[Upcoming Events / VMC - P5](#)

[Leadership Academy - P6](#)

[Important Information - P7](#)

[Contacts & VMC Ans. - P8](#)



# PATTERN DAY

## PATTERN WORK AT MLI

16th November, 2024  
07:00 AM - 17:00 PM

### About Our Event

Looking for pilots to come out and do some pattern work at MLI. Tower is hoping to grab as many operations as possible for a single day, and for pilots to experience a faster tower environment. Follow the QR code to register.

Fly, hang out, have fun!!!!

**SCAN HERE** 



### Event Highlights

#### Pattern Work

Come practice your take offs and landings, get current, and/or just participate in busier tower environment.

#### Food

Burgers, brats, and a warm hangar for participants, served 11-1 at the **South T's**, Hangar **H-3** (by pilot lounge and Self Serve .

#### Raffle

KMLI to raffle airport branded merchandise such as a t-shirt/hat.

#### QC Aero

Offering a discount on airplane rental to participate.

QUESTIONS?  
craigblumer27@gmail.com



# why pattern day **MATTERS**

**by Brady Seei, Operations Supervisor, MLI ATCT**

Since our traffic count at MLI has increased around 34% in the past year alone, we started looking into how it benefits us and the area. After diving into how it [FAA operations count] works, we realized it plays a major role in our pay and local funding.

When it comes to supporting the local community, when pilots contact us and tell us their destination, we have to "tag" the aircraft up for the system to count that operation. If an aircraft departs MLI and goes to DVN, MLI gets a departure and DVN gets an arrival. IFR traffic counts higher than VFR traffic as well. GBG is a fantastic example of how this worked locally. We have been in talks with the GBG local pilots and it has already paid off! Since they increased their IFR arrivals, they are now considered a "regional" airport which equates to an additional \$150k a year in funding!

<https://www.wgil.com/2024/10/10/a-huge-win-galesburg-now-a-regional-airport-heres-what-it-means/?amp=1>

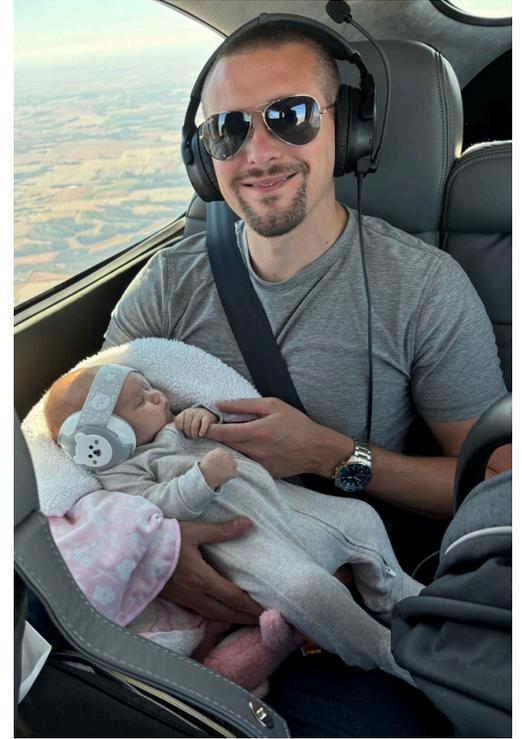
When it comes to our pay, the more traffic we have, the more our salary increases. No, it doesn't work like one operation equals 34 cents, but we would have to have 50,000 more operations to potentially gain an upgrade in pay. Also, MLI airport gets federal and state funding based off of our local traffic count. They submit the numbers we track each month to the government for additional funding.

Touch and go traffic at MLI is one of the quickest ways to increase local numbers. One trip around the pattern equals two counts! This is what lead us to the idea of November 16th. We are trying to boost local numbers while also trying to help our local pilots become used to talking to ATC (especially with a busier pattern). The idea is to have 4-5 aircraft in the pattern from sun up to sun down. There is also a possibility to break the all time single day operations record which is around 1,400. We also don't want to pressure pilots to do a certain amount of touch and goes. We are simply trying to help everyone (ATC and pilots) gain experience with a busy pattern while also keeping it safe and efficient.

# Member Achievements



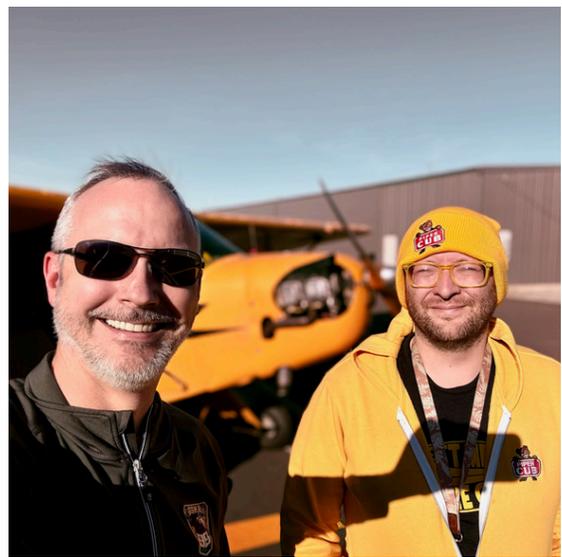
**Matthew Davis** completed his ATP and is officially a First Officer at Republic Airways. Pictured on the right with his First Lady, **Riley** and First Baby (coming soon)!!!!



**Evelyn Rose**, who previously accepted a position with QC Aero, takes her **first flight** in her daddy's arms.



**Travis Mensen** accepted a position with QC Aero and is leading the maintenance department!!!!



**Greg Stopyra** earn his tailwheel endorsement from **Craig Blumer, CFI**

# UPCOMING

## Events >>>

### NOVEMBER CHAPTER EVENTS

**Nov 2 Sat** - Monthly gathering potluck

QC Aero @ 11:30 AM

**Nov 12 Tue** - Chapter Business Mtg

QC Aero @ 6pm

**Nov 16 Sat** - KMLI Pattern Day at KMLI

QC Aero @ 7 AM - 5 PM

**Nov 19 Tue** - VMC Meeting

QC Aero @ 6pm (virtual option)

**Nov 23 - Dec 1** - Thanksgiving Leftover Challenge

### UPCOMING DECEMBER EVENTS

12/7 - 11:30 AM Monthly Gathering

12/10 - 6 PM Monthly Business Meeting

12/17 - 6 PM VMC Meeting

\*\*\*\*\* Looking for a date (and weather alternative) for a Big Brothers/Big Sisters Young Eagles Rally

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Greg Stopyra**

**Nov. 2**



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

## THANKSGIVING LEFTOVER CHALLENGE

What is this, you might ask? We have had a couple of Young Eagles events that needed to be cancelled due to weather. That has left us with some “leftover” flights that need to be done. If you are a pilot, the challenge is to safely (and with all the attention we normally give) complete the most flights with our leftovers during this week.

The challenge begins November 23 and ends on December 1st. Prizes will be awarded when all pilots submit the names of their passengers.



## VMC Question?

When arriving at an uncontrolled airport that uses the standard left traffic pattern, can a pilot of an airplane decide to use right hand traffic in order to improve safety? An example might be when there are low clouds adjacent to the airport that would potentially raise a safety concern for aircraft making a left-hand pattern, but the other side of the airport is clear with 10-mile visibility.

[Answer on page 8](#)

# 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.

## Spirit Wear



Spiritwear is here!!!! 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.

## Chapter Leadership Training

Are you curious what EAA is about? Want to learn more about the many Chapter Programs that EAA offers? Are you on the fence about serving our chapter in a leadership role, but want to know what you're getting yourself into? Well, we have an offer that will answer your questions!

Three times per year, the Experimental Aircraft Association offers Leadership Academy in Oshkosh. This is a free academy offered at EAA headquarters and is an interactive workshop that allows you to network with other EAA Chapters, learn about everything the EAA has to offer (there is an incredibly diverse array of program offerings - way more than you can even imagine), visit the very extensive aviation museum, stay in the air academy lodgings, and, for some, most importantly, get fed, all for free.

A few of us have been to the Leadership Academy and it is well worth your time. You will meet the staff of the EAA, they will lay out their programs, support, and products so you leave with a much clearer picture of what the EAA offers you as an enthusiast, how you can become more involved (if you want to), and what we can offer as a chapter. Again, this entire weekend - food, lodging, the academy, and the museum are all FREE. We have to arrange our own transportation but are very willing to car/plane pool.

We already have chapter members who have signed up for the January 25-26 academy. Please consider coming with us. Here is the link to review more information and to register. Please email us at [chapter@eaa1702.org](mailto:chapter@eaa1702.org) if you sign up!!!!

[Chapter Leadership Academy Signup | EAA](#)



# We need you! **BUSINESS MEETING**

Our November 12 business meeting is extremely important and we truly need your help. We will be planning for the upcoming year. Please take a moment to fill out the member survey so that we can provide support and programs in ways that are meaningful to you. If you are free Tuesday, November 12, at 6 PM, come by QC Aero and help us plan!!!! We'd love to have you and will have warm pizza waiting, so you don't even have to cook that night!!! Just come help us make the Chapter better than ever!

## **Chapter Gathering November 2, 11:30 @ QC Aero**

Flight reviews can strike fear into the heart of even the most seasoned pilots. True, it's just a review of general operating and flight rules, maneuvers and procedures, but there is just something about having an instructor with you that can be so intimidating. Jim Ries is going to discuss the process, best safety practices, give some pointers, and answer questions. After all, this is not supposed to be a test we cram for, but rather a tool to ensure we are consistently safe and effective pilots. Students and enthusiasts would also benefit from this gathering.

As always, this is a family friendly potluck. If you can bring something to share, great! If not, no worries, come anyway!!!!

## **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?*



Pilots and support, we need your help in planning. In December, we would like to offer a Young Eagles rally just for Big Brothers / Big Sisters. We need dates that work for both pilots and support staff. Please, send Mary-Ellen a date that will work for you in terms of flights, with a second weather option date. I'd like to have back up plan.

Beginning on December 1st of this year, all NOTAMs issued by the FAA will be distributed using the ICAO format. The FAA is changing the format because pilots often can't identify or miss critical flight information about where they can fly and any issues with departure or arrival airports. To make NOTAMS more readable and understandable, the format is changing to the ICAO format. Although the deadline is December, many believe roll out won't happen until 2025. Regardless, we will be ready!!! Join the December gathering on December 7 @ 11:30 and let's figure this out together!

# 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 Hanson	<a href="mailto:ashleyhanson@eaa1702.org">ashleyhanson@eaa1702.org</a>
Secretary	<i>Available</i>	<i>contact us if interested</i>

## VMC Question of the Month ANSWER

It would seem that from a regulatory standpoint, right hand traffic is not allowed at airports where left hand traffic is prescribed. So at first blush, the answer is “No.” According to 91.126,

Operating on or in the vicinity of an airport in Class G airspace.

(a) General. Unless otherwise authorized or required, each person operating an aircraft on or in the vicinity of an airport in a Class G airspace area must comply with the requirements of this section.

(b) Direction of turns. When approaching to land at an airport without an operating control tower in Class G airspace —

(1) Each pilot of an airplane must make all turns of that airplane to the left unless the airport displays approved light signals or visual markings indicating that turns should be made to the right, in which case the pilot must make all turns to the right; and

(2) Each pilot of a helicopter or a powered parachute must avoid the flow of fixed-wing aircraft.

However, according to AC 90-66B, paragraph 9.1: Left Traffic. Use of standard traffic patterns (left turns) for all aircraft and CTAF procedures by radio-equipped aircraft are required at all airports without operating control towers unless indicated otherwise by visual markings, light gun signals, airport publications, or published approach procedure. In addition, this paragraph goes on to state:

It is recognized that other traffic patterns (right turns) may already be in common use at some airports or that special circumstances or conditions exist that may prevent use of the standard traffic pattern. Right-hand patterns are noted at airports on an aeronautical chart with an “RP” designator and the applicable runway next to the airport symbol.

All that said, if a pilot declares an emergency, that would change the complexion of the issue, but that opens another can of worms.