



Writer: PingPing He | Editor: PingPing He

## The President's Flight Deck

Monday May 19<sup>th</sup> will bring us together for our monthly Chapter gathering. We will begin the dinner/social hour at 6:00 PM. We will follow the dinner hour with Chapter updates at 7:00 PM. Following the updates, we will have Chris Henry speak on his recent research project about MASH units in the Korean War. There is much more to this part of history than most of us realize! Chris is a fabulous storyteller, so this will be a great presentation. As always, if you can help with any early kitchen prep and final clean-up your assistance will be appreciated!

The Great Minnesota Aviation Gathering handed out two awards to our Chapter. The first is to Michael Grzincich for flying the most Young Eagles in Minnesota in 2024, and the second award is for our Chapter for also flying the most Young Eagles in Minnesota in 2024. Congratulations to Michael and all the volunteers that helped us earn these awards.

You should be receiving an email survey soon about AirVenture camping. Please complete the survey so we can finalize space requirements for the camping sites.

Our June 28<sup>th</sup> fly-in/drive-in pancake breakfast is shaping up. An email is on its way to Chapter members to sign up for volunteering. We do need some help generating signage. There are some flyers in the Chapter building for members to take and post. Any common area is a great place to post the flyers.

I plan to see you at the Chapter meeting!

Kevin



### YOUR CHAPTER BOARD OFFICERS

Kevin Sislo, President  
Kim Kuck, Secretary  
Charles Jasicki, Director

Robert Henkes, Vice President  
Mark Heule, Treasurer  
Michael Grzincich, Director

Contact the Board at: [board@eaa237.org](mailto:board@eaa237.org)



## Young Eagles



Our EAA237 Young Eagles scheduled for Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> last month was cancelled.

The next event will be from 9 AM to 2 PM June 14<sup>th</sup> at Atlantic Aviation.

All chapter members are invited to come out to support our effort to provide a safe, fun, and memorable experience for these young people, who share our interest in aviation. It's always fun to watch the smiling faces after they return from their flights!

If you would like to help, please set up a profile at <https://EAAchapters.org>. Your normal, EAA.org login should get you in. Need help? Contact [Michael.Grzincich@EAA23.org](mailto:Michael.Grzincich@EAA23.org).

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## Aviation Explorer's Post

On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Explorers went on an adventure to the Fagen Fighters WWII Museum in Granite Falls. The museum provides a unique opportunity to delve into the depths of WWII history. The collection of artifacts, exhibits, and testimonies gave the Explorers to learn about events and personal stories of the heroes that shaped the war.



**The next meeting will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> from 7:00 PM – 8:30 PM.**

**Meetings are held at the EAA Chapter 237 Building.**



## Ray Aviation Scholarship



Dear EAA Chapter 237,

April was another exciting month in my flight training journey, filled with accomplishments and opportunities to give back.

One of the biggest highlights was completing my first solo cross-country flight to Eau Claire. It was an incredible learning experience and a major step forward in my training. I also successfully passed the FAA Private Pilot Knowledge Test—a big milestone that I'm proud to have completed!

Beyond the cockpit, I had a great time volunteering at the Chapter's April pancake breakfast and assisting with the Young Eagles program as part of the ground crew. It was fun to be on the other side of the experience, helping kids discover aviation, just as I did one year ago during my Young Eagles flight.

Looking ahead to May, I'll wrap up my simulated instrument requirements, solo cross-country hours, and begin check ride preparations.

Thanks again to everyone at EAA Chapter 237 for your continued support and encouragement. It means a lot to me as I continue working toward earning my PPL.

Sincerely,  
Drew Lindquist  
*2025 Ray Aviation Scholarship Recipient*



*Drew's view of the St. Croix river from above*



*Drew piloting the aircraft*



## VMC/IMC Club at EAA 237

**3rd Tuesday of the month**

**VMC Club** starts at 6:30 PM

**IMC Club** starts at 7:30 PM

**Location:** EAA 237 Building

Pilots and non-pilots are welcome to attend either or both parts of the meeting.

VMC and IMC Club monthly meetings are where pilots can network and share knowledge and experience. The meetings use real-world scenarios to engage members, and allow a free exchange of information that improves awareness and skills. The intent is to create a community of pilots willing to share information, provide recognition, foster communications, promote safety, and build proficiency.

The IMC Club monthly programming is developed and produced by EAA, but it does not use a lecture or presentation format. Instead, an actual scenario is presented and is followed by a group discussion – so audience participation is encouraged! Since everyone has a different experience level and different airplane capabilities, we can all benefit from the discussion.

Wings Knowledge Activity credits are available to VMC/IMC Club participants that sign in with the email address they registered on faasafety.gov.

**The next meeting will be held on May 20<sup>th</sup> with VMC Club starting at 6:30 PM and IMC club starting at 7:30 PM.**

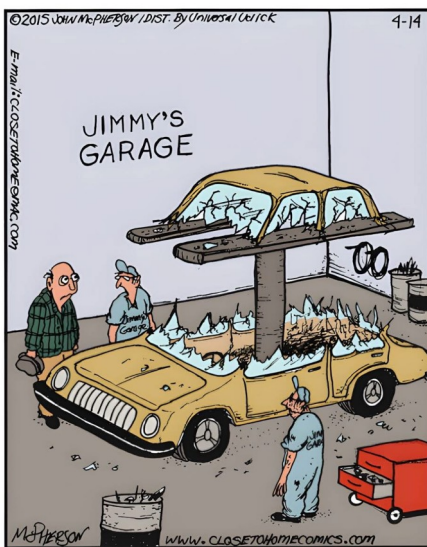
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## Chapter 237 Upcoming Events

- \* **Chapter 237 Meeting** - Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> - Dinner starting 6:00 PM & Meeting at 7:00 PM
- \* **IMC/VMC meetings** - Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> - **VMC** 6:30 PM-7:30 PM/**IMC** 7:30-8:30 PM
- \* **Explorer Post 237** - Friday, June 6<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM.
- \* **Young Eagles Rally** – Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> – 9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
- \* **IMC/VMC meetings** - Tuesday, June 17<sup>th</sup> - **VMC** 6:30 PM-7:30 PM/**IMC** 7:30-8:30 PM
- \* **Explorer Post 237** - Friday, June 20<sup>th</sup> - 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM.
- \* **Chapter 237 Meeting** - Monday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> - Dinner starting 6:00 PM & Meeting at 7:00 PM
- \* **Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast** - Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup> - 7:30 AM-12:00 PM

### The Lighter Side



"Well, first things first.  
Your dome light is out."

My kidnapers returning  
me after listening to me talk  
about Airplanes for two hours



## June Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast

Below is the flyer for next month's Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast. Please spread the word and share the invitation. Everyone is welcome!



# Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast

Saturday, June 28th, 2025

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT EAA CHAPTER 237  
FUTURE HANGAR PURCHASE**  
A 501(C)3 ORGANIZATION

**8:00 am to NOON**

**\$12 ADULTS**  
**\$6 KIDS (6-17)**  
**5 and under FREE**



**Fun For The Whole Family!**

- \* Activities for Kids
- \* Aircraft on Display
- \* And Much More!

**8815 Airport Road NE Blaine, MN 55449**

Event Updates at <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea237/flyin>  
and at <https://www.facebook.com/EAA237>

Contact: Kevin Sislo - email: [president@ea237.org](mailto:president@ea237.org) or 763-486-6475



## Anybody know how to move a B-17?

By John Ostrem, EAA Chapter 54



Well that is a tough one! But there is a small group of a dozen volunteers at AirVenture that are entrusted with moving these rare, priceless, huge warbirds and there is a connection right here in Minnesota at EAA Chapter # 237 from the Anoka County Airport. Veteran EAA members Alex Weinandt, Chuck Jasicki and Greg Crow have been with the group for nearly a decade. While there are 6,000 volunteers needed to pull off the week long air show, this specially trained group are at work long before the show starts in late July and they stay late to finish the task. They are experienced and accomplished in the process and have graduated from the EAA training classes on tug operation, wing walking, and tail watching.

The whole process starts a month early with, you guessed it, air compressors to pump up tires, many after removing wheel pants and there is usually a struggle with bad valves, leaky tubes and tires. The first job to move aircraft that are “stuffed” into the 4 large vendor buildings A, B, C and D. Next time in Oshkosh look at the large doors that allow planes to be moved into the space. Once the show is over this becomes the storage home for all manner of aircraft, especially the older non-airworthy fighter jets. They are moved into their locations on the field and tied down. Also before they crew can start, they go on a scavenger hunt for a collection of equally rare tow bars that are always missing from where they should be. Crow reported that the Navy, Air Force and Marines are very sneaky at “stealing” tow bars for their warbird collections. For each plane the crew needs to know if they pull forward, backward or strap the wheels on specially made carts, so it requires some skill and experience.

Headquarters for this important task is at the Kermit Weeks Hangar on the North side of the airport. Weeks, a several time US Aerobatic Champion, has a large hangar and all the competition aerobatic pilots keep their planes in his facility. Weeks is the wealthy owner of an aviation museum in Florida and owns the largest civilian collection of planes numbering 150. But that’s another story. With his hangar and international reputation a “calling card,” all the VIP’s hang out with the group at the Week’s Hangar so its a fun place to be. A work plan for each day’s plane movement is designed by John Hopkins on the EAA staff.

A large part of the process is to relocate the EAA collection stored on Pioneer Field near the headquarters museum to make room for the helicopter fleet that gives rides throughout the show. Many of these are treasured antiques from the 1920's and 30's that are difficult to move to their show locations. Tug operation is especially difficult because some small aircraft only need a small powered tug while the C-47 Gooney Bird, the B-17 and B-25 class planes require large powerful all wheel drive tugs. Most of these aircraft are donated to the EAA and may not be airworthy but are treasured display examples. These larger aircraft are difficult to move around the field because the gates, particularly the pedestrian gates and the relatively narrow streets don't work very well with a C-47 in tow. Radios are used when the airplanes are near or cross the runways at KOSH. Crow noted that for very large aircraft they have even removed the two display radial engines at the main gate into the airshow.

And if getting the aircraft all moved isn't enough of a challenge just think about the mad scramble when the weather forecast is worrisome. The crew is "all hands on deck" if the winds or the rains are severe. Several times this crew has been called on to jack the planes out of mud puddles and put steel mats under the tires to keep them from sinking in. That is difficult work for these trained veterans. The group likes to say they are just normal volunteers, but it is easy to disagree with that assessment. This crew of airplane movers are a hugely important part of making AirVenture such a success and one that you might not have known about. So the next time you need your B-17 moved to another spot on your airfield, help is not far away. Just contact EAA #237 in Anoka and the team can show up and give you a hand!

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## Aviation playing crucial role in battling Minnesota wildfires

By Adam Del Rosso

Local meteorologist and March's guest speaker, Adam Del Rosso, wrote a great article about the north Minnesota wildfires and how aviation plays a critical part in the fight before and after a blaze starts. One of our members, Alex Weinandt, was also featured!

Link to article: <https://www.cbsnews.com/minnesota/news/aviation-crucial-battling-wildfires-northern-minnesota/>





## High Above the Clouds – A book review of *Ferry Pilot*

Reviewed by Bob Henkes

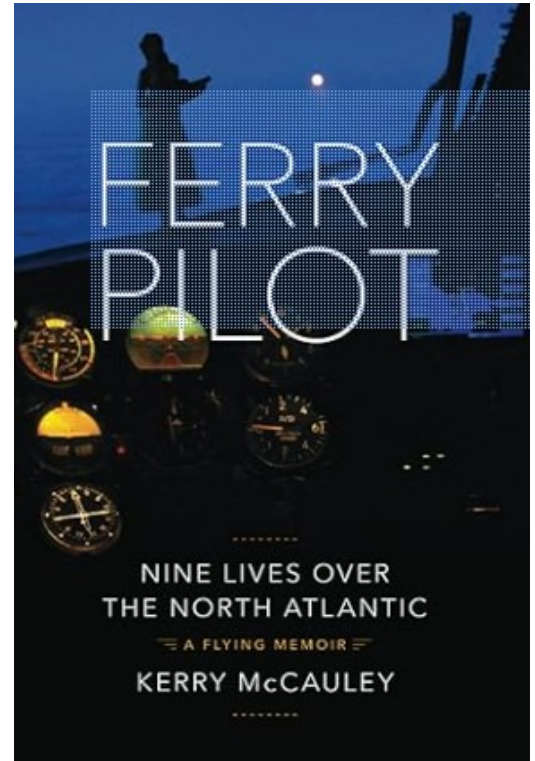
Published on July 27, 2020, *Ferry Pilot: Nine Lives Over the North Atlantic* is the flying memoir of a local pilot, Kerry McCauley, who trained next door at the U of M aviation school. For those of you who have been members for a few years, you may remember when he spoke at our chapter in late 2020. Others may recognize him as a pilot from Discovery Channel's "Dangerous Flights", an action adventure series following the perilous business of aircraft delivery.

In *Ferry Pilot*, Kerry takes us through his experience growing up in Minneapolis and his adventures in aviation. He writes about how his aviation journey started as a Frat boy and Army National Guard U-1H crew chief, attending the U of M aviation school, and skydiving. Kerry later does into detail about his career as a ferry pilot, where it has taken him to 60 countries, 12 seas, and 3 oceans in 50 types of aircraft with over 9,000 hours and 20,000 skydives. Kerry is currently running a jump school, Skydive Twin Cities.

The book reels you into each of the 9+ stories of his adventures ferrying aircraft. The mundane, the headaches, the excitement, the stupid, and the tragedies. Each individual adventure puts you in the seat. To pilots, some of it is familiar and some is unbelievable. Some of the adventures Kerry has been on would make good VMC/IMC discussion with Chris Baye from our chapter.

As any of you know if you stick around aviation long enough, you will know someone who died loving what we do. These stories are not for me to tell but for you to read as only Kerry could tell them.

This is a good short read that you can do a story at a time or all at once as it is about 350 pages. You can find more about Kerry on the many YouTube videos (<https://www.youtube.com/@KerryDMcCauley>) he has done and catch him at one of his talks. Even better, go for a jump at his school!



Kerry McCauley





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Oil cap more than "finger-tight" – mine was!



### EAA Chapter 237

*1st AirVenture Chapter Grand Champion*



**Gary Laurich**  
EAA Tech Counselor/Flight Advisor

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Blaine, MN 55449

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**Chapter Meetings:**  
4th Monday of the month  
Dinner Social: 6:00 pm  
Meeting Starts: 7:00 pm

### FLIGHT INSTRUCTION

Ground Instruction  
Flight Instruction



**Cheryl Ann Daml**  
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