

May

2023

EAA Chapter 25

# ON FINAL

“Waypoint”

John Schmidt, 2023 Ch. 25 President  
EAA Lifetime 250021



## Contributing to ‘The Cause’

Weather is warming; I can smell the pancakes in the distance already. Drop that battery back into the motorcycle. Time to plan the summer.

Most of you may know, I’m making the base-to-final turn on a teaching career; I don’t know how many school years I have left. Although not well paid (and, if you want me to philosophize, I can explain to you why, because of human nature, it will never be), there are certain rewards in teaching. Kids can keep you young. They are refreshingly malleable, most want to learn. You can see results. They are thankful, sometimes years later. There are funny moments. School is a buzzing beehive of activity. Most teachers who stick with the job for more than 5 years are remarkably positive, sometimes heroically so in the face of the battle.

There are also disappointments; no teacher bats 1.000. Some kids come to school so rough-cut and beat-up by the world that one must temper too-idealistic goals and re-prioritize in the face of immediate needs. A tough day at school can make one question one's own effort, judgment, actions, or career choice. Make no doubt, I've improved as a teacher over the years, too, which is a nice way of saying that I wasn't very good starting out (a lot of teachers aren't), and I've sometimes felt that I could've done better. That, along with under-funding, politics, some poor administration over the years, some parents who are 'interesting,' and various other points of friction / frustration make up a list of low-lights, as I look back.

But in the grand accounting ledger of life, the positives outweigh the negatives. I've had a positive effect on kids. I've felt success. I've tried to make someone's world a little better. I contributed to 'The Cause.'

What does this have to do with aviation and EAA?

I think about the effects we, as a chapter, and as individuals, have on aviation. We get an airplane, we are caretakers of it for a while, and, eventually, it leaves our hands and goes to someone else. Did we add value to it? Did we repaint, re-panel, restore, wash it, baby it? Did we share the joy of flying with others in our plane?

What about something other than an inanimate object? Did we encourage some newbie adult, sitting on the fence, to take the leap and get involved in our passion, or did we dismiss them with an unwelcoming phrase like "...you're never going to fly..." (I've actually heard a pilot say that to someone). Did we give away a magazine to a kid? Invite a family to an airport pancake breakfast? Did we volunteer, either in this chapter, or at Oshkosh, or in some other capacity in aviation?

We try to move the needle. We try to contribute to ... The Cause, however one defines it, and however one does it.

I believe that EAA chapter activities are what will keep current members happy and might draw new potential members in. We have a lot going on, both in our home shops, and in chapter events. 'Busy' and 'active' are signs of a healthy chapter. Our meetings are learning opportunities, as well as social events. There's a lot of joy in the selfless act of teaching, and there is a lot of satisfaction in in-

cluding others in our passion for aviation. We have, and must continue, a chapter 'esprit de corps' and 'joie de vivre.' Every reader of these words plays an important role in our chapter.

We, as a chapter have had such influence over our own members that I've had two chapter members contact me and ask about chapter information, because they want to remember and benefit chapter 25 in their wills - THAT'S how important the chapter is to their lives. One made mention of Chapter 25 being '....a second family.' Although these chapter members have asked for (and will enjoy) anonymity, it is nonetheless heartening to have these conversations with members. Maybe you feel likewise.

Like school teaching, inviting, sharing, involving, and educating people about aviation is, in my view, a noble and worthwhile pursuit. We contribute to 'The Cause.' Onward!

John Schmidt  
EAA lifetime 250021

Our speaker this month is our own member, Jerry Vecoli, Sport Pilot CFI, who will talk about overcoming snafus with the purchase of his warbird. This WILL be a 'Wings' credit seminar!

### Silent Auction to Benefit the Chapter

Some of the tools, along with a shelf unit, of the estate of Steve Adkins will be sold at the next Chapter meeting. This is a silent auction, and you get one, and only one, written (secret ballot) bid to buy. You can inspect the items on display at the next Chapter meeting, and submit your bid amount, along with your name, on the Post-It note provided, to Greg Cardinal. Bids close at the conclusion of the Chapter meeting, at which time the highest bidder (but not the amount) will be announced. Items can be removed once the check is written.







### **New Chapter 25 Website:**

Chapter 25 has a new website. The old one is being phased out and the new one is part of the National EAA website. It's come a long way and is worth checking out. <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea25>

### **Airlake CTAF:**

At our April meeting, it was learned that the 123.0 unicom frequency (CTAF) for Airlake is shared with a number of other airports, making radio calls sometimes difficult. At the meeting, it was mentioned that you could state your support for changing the CTAF to the airport manager. If you would like to see Airlake's CTAF changed, you should express your wishes to our Airlake Airport Manager:

ROB DOCKRY, Manager, Reliever Airports  
612-726-8140  
[Robert.Dockry@mspmac.org](mailto:Robert.Dockry@mspmac.org)

Metropolitan Airports Commission  
6025 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55450  
[www.MetroAirports.org](http://www.MetroAirports.org)

Thank you,  
John Schmidt

### **Chapter 25 members:**

It is with a sad heart that I inform you that the wife of Don Eide, Bonnie Lindquist, has passed away. All of you know that Don has been a Chapter member for a long, long time. Well, not to be outdone, Bonnie was a Lifetime member of EAA National. She was always with Don at our banquets.

You can read her Obituary by going to  
<https://www.northfieldfuneral.com/obituaries/Bonnie-Lindquist?obId=27817950#/obituaryInfo>

Don and Bonnie both lost their first spouse many years ago. The families had been neighbors at Sky Harbor Airpark and when they got married, it was the blending of two families that knew and loved each other. Sandy and I were at the wedding reception at the Airpark, and I remember two of the girls (one from each family) saying they grew up playing together and always wished they had been sisters, and now they were.

Respectfully,  
Pat Halligan

### **Aircraft Spruce Orders:**

Every month or more often, Mark Elliot, EAA ch. 25 member, makes an order to Aircraft Spruce. And, if the order is for \$100 or more, shipping is free.

But what about you? If you have a small order, say, you want that \$7 AN bolt, or that \$20 can of Magic Aerospray, you have to pay shipping. And, annoyingly, shipping can cost almost as much as the small, one-off item that you want.

Mark has kindly agreed to 'aggregate' his monthly (or, sometimes, weekly) orders; combining your order with him would save you shipping. Save that money for avgas!

Contact Mark with the Aircraft Spruce part number and other order information, wait for it to arrive, and see Mark to pick up what you ordered (Payment arrangements and timing are between you and Mark). Contact Mark Elliot via email for more info at

[dreamlandaviation@gmail.com](mailto:dreamlandaviation@gmail.com)

### **Upcoming FLY-Ins**

**GMAC** - The Great Minnesota Aviation Gathering  
Friday and Saturday May 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Buffalo, MN airport KCFE  
For details - <https://mnpilots.org/gmag/>

**Benson's EAA 745 Pancake Breakfast**

May 20, 2023

9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Benson's Airport 6MN9

White Bear Lake, MN

Fly in drive in pancake breakfast. Breakfast coffee good friends blue sky. For more information contact: David Roster, Airport phone 651-429-0315

**Le Sueur Lions Club Pancake Breakfast Fly-In**

May 21, 2023

8 a.m. to noon

Le Sueur Municipal Airport 12Y

Le Sueur Municipal Airport Breakfast, Pilots eat free. Sponsored by the Le Sueur Lions Club

General Aviation aircraft get a \$0.30 per gallon fuel discount for the day. Our event is well known for fantastic Buttermilk Pancakes, real 100% Wisconsin maple syrup and sugar free syrup also, sausage, coffee (regular and decaf), Orange juice, milk. Plenty of aircraft parking available. For additional information contact Johnny Favolise 763-232-6503 or visit the Le Sueur Lions Facebook page.

**Isle Minnesota** MY72 will host a National STOL Series Event Friday, Saturday and Sunday July 7-9 2023.

Activities will include STOL practice on Friday and STOL competition Saturday.

A free concert Friday night featuring Rhett Walker, aerobatic practice featuring US National Aerobatic team members Craig Gifford and Britt Lincoln.

The annual Pancake Breakfast fly in/drive in will also take place Sunday morning.

Weekend under wing camping is available, stay tuned for the final schedule and weekend parking/camping costs.

<https://www.rhettwalker.com/>

For more information on tickets visit:

<https://nationalstol.com/>



## Build News

**1940 Piper J4A** Tad Tessier's restoration project:

I just finished assembling the RH wing. After trammeling (squaring) it I did a quick fit check to the fuselage.



Now I am installing the leading and trailing edges.





## GlaStar:

Engine mounted and working on installing the left aileron in background.



## Pietenpol:

This is a update (5/7/23) on the original Pietenpol project for the Chapter. After a few issues with filtering compressor air and with fisheyes, we have started to paint again. Kim Johnson, Pat Halligan and myself are the painting crew at this point. The tail feathers have been painted now in final color. The vertical stabilizer and rudder is now in "AN True Blue" and the horizontal stabilizer plus elevator is now "Randolph White". The next thing to paint is the center section, the center flop and the ailerons for the wings.



Kim Johnson applying primer.



Pat Halligan spraying.



## Young Eagles Update

by Kris Olson, Ch. 25 YE Coordinator

We canceled our April 15th Young Eagles rides event, due to weather. The forecast was for scattered rain and clouds. We had several pilots and ground crew signed up and kids were interested in coming for rides.

Our next Young Eagles rides event is Saturday, May 13th at Airlake Airport. We can use pilots and we invite people to sign up to help with ground crew. Our June rides will be Saturday, June 17th.



## IMC Club Update

IMC Club meetings are on the second Wednesday of each month via Zoom. Our next meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2023.

Contact Terry Carmine for more information at [tlcarmine@gmail.com](mailto:tlcarmine@gmail.com).

All are welcome to attend.

## Trivia ?

by John Schmidt

In 1985 Senator Jake Garn, a veteran Navy pilot, became the first sitting member of Congress to fly in space, aboard the space shuttle.

As a result of his flight, NASA coined 'the Garn Scale.' What does the Garn Scale measure?

Answer on page 12

**"If you could read my mind, love,  
what a tale my thoughts could tell."**

Gordon Lightfoot  
Singer Songwriter  
Died May 1st

Contact any of these folks if you have questions or suggestions on what we might do differently to improve our Chapter 25.

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John Schmidt	President
Greg Cardinal	VP
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Richard Hedeem	Treasurer
Gordon Duke	Ass't Treas.
Kim Johnson	Ass't Treas.
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Bruce Anthony	Board Member
Terry Carmine	Board Member
Kris Olson	Board Member
Mamie Singleton	Board Member
Mike York	Board Member
Kris Olson	Young Eagles Coordinator
Terry Carmine	IMC Coordinator
Bill Norton	On Final Newsletter Ed.
Jeff Coffey	Webmaster
Gary Stinar	Food Coordinator
Pat Halligan	Banquet Coordinator
(available)	Social Media Guru
Doug Anderson	Tool Crib Manager
Thaddeus (Tad) Tessier	Technical Advisor
(available)	Flight Advisor

## Trivia Answer :

The Garn Scale is an informal measure of how motion sick one becomes in space. Because of the Senator's propensity for throwing up during his Space Shuttle flight, NASA created the scale to describe just how sick an astronaut might be. It is rumored that no one has reached the maximum 'one full Garn' on the scale (except, of course, the senator himself). Garn logged 108 Earth orbits and over 167 hours in space. The Jake Garn Mission Simulator and Training Facility, NASA's prime training facility for astronauts in the Shuttle and Space Station programs, is named after him.

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Submissions for publication, questions or comments on articles, etc. are encouraged and should be addressed to: Bill Norton

e-mail: **loribill123@gmail.com** Submission deadline: 1st Wednesday of the month.

New or renewal Chapter membership (\$25/year) should be addressed to: **Mike C. York, 15860 Jocko Ct., Shakopee, MN 55379-7512.** Membership forms will soon be available at our new website <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea25> Permission for other EAA Chapters to use the non-copyrighted portions of this publication is hereby granted provided the source is acknowledged. Any copyrighted material that appears in this newsletter is with the permission of the acknowledged copyright holder. Any further copying must obtain the permission of the original copyright holder.

## On Final

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