

**A Chapter Of The  
EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION  
Bult Field (C56) – Monee, Illinois**



## **UPCOMING CHAPTER 2024 MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

**Meetings and Events below at Bult Field (C56) unless otherwise**

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Saturday, January 20 <sup>th</sup>                               | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Saturday, February 17 <sup>th</sup>                              | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Saturday, March 16 <sup>th</sup>                                 | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Saturday, April 20 <sup>th</sup>                                 | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Saturday, May 18 <sup>th</sup>                                   | Chapter Meeting <u>and</u> Poker Run                                  |
| Thursday, June 6 <sup>th</sup>                                   | Bluegrass "Airjam" 6:00 P.M.  |
| Saturday, June 15 <sup>th</sup>                                  | Pancake Breakfast, Young Eagles Rally (Rain date Saturday June 22nd)  |
| Tuesday, June 18 <sup>th</sup> to Thursday June 20 <sup>th</sup> | Air Race Classic - details to follow                                  |
| Saturday, July 20 <sup>th</sup>                                  | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Monday, July 22 <sup>nd</sup> to Sunday, July 28 <sup>th</sup>   | <b><i>Oshkosh AirVenture, at KOSH-Oshkosh, WI</i></b>                 |
| Tuesday, July 23 <sup>rd</sup> (tentative)                       | At Oshkosh AirVenture in the evening- Chapter dinner                  |
| Saturday, August 17 <sup>th</sup>                                | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Saturday, September 21 <sup>st</sup>                             | Pancake Breakfast, Young Eagles Rally (Rain date Saturday Sept. 28th) |
| Saturday, October 12 <sup>th</sup>                               | Aviation Trivia 4:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.                                   |
| Saturday, October 19 <sup>th</sup>                               | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Saturday, November 16 <sup>th</sup>                              | Chapter Meeting 10:00 A.M.  |
| Friday, December 6 <sup>th</sup>                                 | Chapter Christmas Holiday Party 6:00 P.M.                             |

### **IN ADDITION TO THE ABOVE EVENTS...**

**The IMC Club meets the second Monday of the month at 6:00 P.M.  
The VMC Club meets the third Monday of the month at 6:00 P.M.**

**The Chapter Board of Directors meets on the second Thursday of the month at 6:00 P.M.**

Specific details regarding these events will appear in upcoming newsletters, emails, on the Chapter website and on Facebook.

Event dates, times are subject to change.

**TO MAKE THESE ACTIVITIES SUCCESSFUL, VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED!**

## CHAPTER 260 PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members of EAA Chapter 260,

I'd like to thank everyone for trusting in me to serve you as the President of this wonderful organization. Your Board of Directors have met to begin planning 2024 and are excited to release a list of events in the near future.

We are eager to continue to work towards the mission of the Experimental Aircraft Association and promoting and protecting general aviation. It is critical that we foster a drive for aviation in our young adults; not just those who are interested in pursuing aviation as a career, but also those whose passion leads them to general aviation. We are fortunate to have a great committee who organizes the Young Eagle events – and members who participate. Whether flying Young Eagle participants, working at the registration desk, or coordinating the flight line, every person is important – and necessary – to make the event a success. To that end, we will be looking for assistance as we host our events.

While we have focused much of our efforts on Young Eagles, it is equally important to promote general aviation to adults. An influx of aviators is necessary to sustain what we already have, and to ensure that resources are not diverted from general aviation. In order to support your organization, I respectfully ask you to explore the available committees and sign up for one that interests you. We need your assistance to be successful! See the list of Committees below.

I want to thank outgoing President, Rob Unger, for his extraordinary dedication and leadership he has provided Chapter 260 over the years. Rob has guided Chapter 260 through a period of tremendous growth. I'm happy to report that Rob has agreed to remain a member of the Board of Directors.

President, Joe Cirelli



### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

*Recently joining  
Chapter 260 are:*

Brian Jamrok  
Kent Hamm  
Jerry Ossowski  
Dr. Wayne Gedutis

*Our Chapter continues  
to grow!*

## JOIN A COMMITTEE!

As indicated in the President's above, the continued success of our Chapter is active member involvement in the various committees. We are looking for members to chair and/or assist in the following committees.

Sign-up sheets will be  
posted at the next  
Chapter Meeting.  
**GET INVOLVED!**

**Young Eagles:** Assist current coordinators  
Jerry Pearson, Dave Vancina, Dan Simanaitis.

**Ray Scholarship:** Assist current  
coordinators Jerry Person, Dan Simanaitis.

**Pancake Breakfasts:** Need chairperson to  
coordinate set-up for this event which will be  
held twice a year.

**Food and Beverage:** Assist current  
chairperson Steve Sikorski.

**Tool Crib:** Need a new Coordinator to  
manage along with others to assist.

**Chapter Outreach/Member  
Development:** Assist Jim Orange. This is  
a new committee.

## A NEW PRIVATE PILOT!

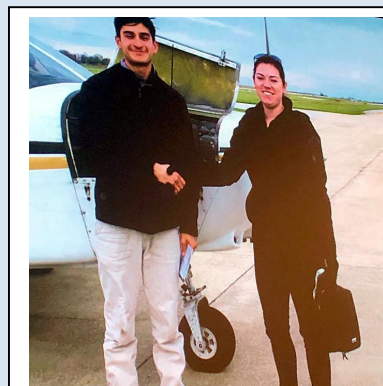
On November 1, 2023, **Al Jacome**, our 2023 Ray Scholar passed his Private Pilot check ride in a Piper Warrior. According to Jerry Pearson, who was present that day, he reported that the examiner was very impressed by Al's knowledge and professionalism. ***Congratulations Al!***



At the November 18<sup>th</sup> Chapter Meeting, Al was recognized for his accomplishment.



Elizabeth, Al's Flight Instructor at Griffith Airport 05C.



Al being congratulated by his examiner.



Dan Simanaitis and Al. Dan was one of Al's mentors.



Al with his Mother-Esther.

***Al's comments:***  
*Currently, I'm studying for my Instrument Rating knowledge test. I'm grateful for the support my family, friends and of course, Chapter 260 have given me. I could not have done it without you all.*



Jerry Pearson with Al after he passed his check ride. Jerry worked with Al on various aspects of the scholarship.

### THE RAY AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP

In 2022, Isabella Smith was our first Ray Scholarship Recipient who successfully earned her Private Pilot License. As indicated above, Al Jacome also achieved this same accomplishment.

**Chapter 260 will be seeking out individuals for consideration as 2024 applicants. If you know of someone who might qualify, contact Jerry Pearson or Dan Simanaitis for further information.**

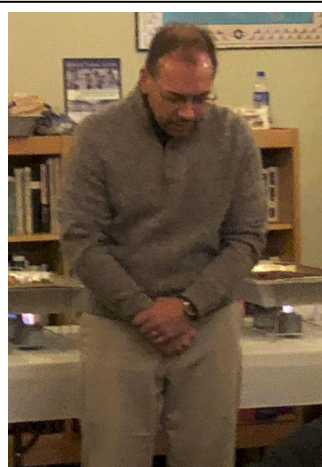


## A RE-CAP of the 2023 CHRISTMAS PARTY

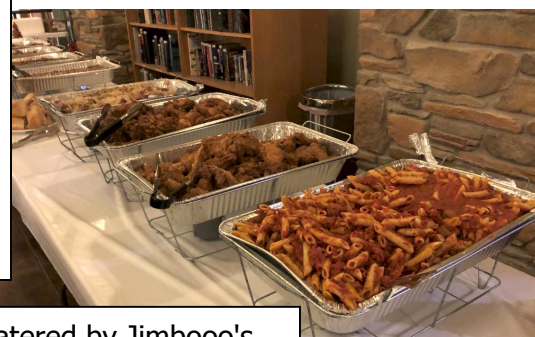
On Friday December 1st, the Chapter Christmas Holiday Party was held at Bult Field. It was a success! All in attendance enjoyed a buffet dinner and an evening of socializing and conversation.



The party was held in the main "fireplace" room at Bult.



Dave Vancina gave an opening prayer for the evening.



The meal was catered by Jimbooo's Catering of Thornton, Illinois.

More Christmas Party photos on page 5



## MORE RE-CAP OF THE CHRISTMAS PARTY



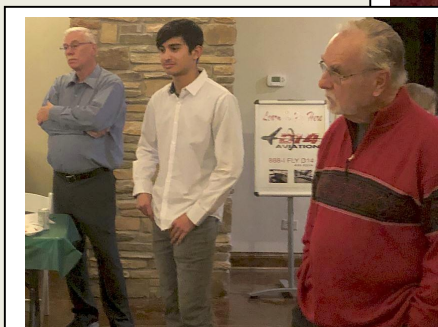
Jerry Pearson gave an update on the Young Eagles Rallies held in 2023 along with the Ray Scholarship program.



Joe Cirelli and Steve Sikorski welcome those in attendance.

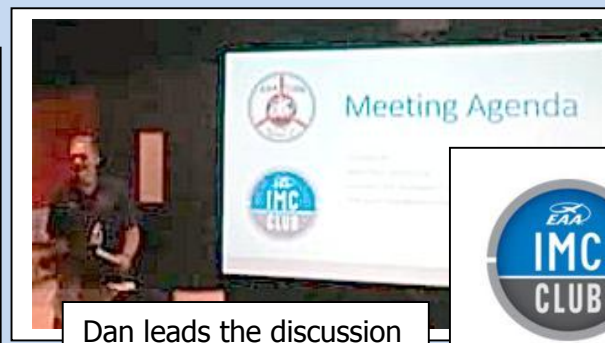


Thanks to Pamela Rose for doing "Christmas themed" Trivia at the party. This time, Krystel McKean was a participant.



## CHAPTER 260 IMC CLUB

The most recent IMC Club meeting was held on Monday, December 11, 2023. The meeting agenda included EAA's monthly content in the form of question of the month and a discussion scenario "Stop or Go" which challenged meeting participants to either continue a takeoff or abort the takeoff in a light twin aircraft near decision speed due to a perceived traffic conflict.



Lots of good discussion and hangar flying stories mixed in. Happy to say the consensus was to abort the takeoff and validate the perceived traffic conflict. The final topic of the evening was a discussion on Skew-T diagrams and how they help us general aviation pilots determine the cloud layers – ceilings & tops along with the freezing.

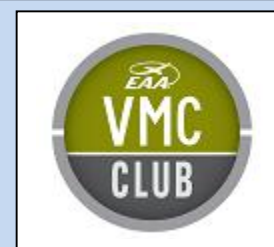
Unfortunately, the IMC Club meeting for January 2024 was cancelled due to a scheduling conflict. The next IMC Club meeting will be **Monday, February 12, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** at Bult Field. The meeting agenda is being finalized but will be sent out to the IMC Club email distribution list and posted to the Chapter 260 Facebook page when available.

Finally, I'm pleased to announce that Jim Orange will be helping me with the IMC Club meetings going forward. Jim brings a wealth of aviation experiences and stories that we all can benefit and learn from. Stay tuned for details but in the meantime – please help me welcome Jim to the IMC Club team.

Please contact Dan Simanaitis if you have questions, want to be added to the email list, or have topics of interest you'd like to incorporate into a future meeting. *Fly Safely..... Dan*

## CHAPTER 260 VMC CLUB

The most recent VMC Club meeting was held on Monday, January 15, 2024. The meeting agenda included EAA's monthly content in the form of question of the month and a discussion scenario "Bounced Landing" which challenged meeting participants to either continue a landing or abort and go around with rising terrain.



The scenario discussion was followed by a presentation on how to start flight training and finding funding to help defray costs. The final topic of the evening was presented by Karl Henning – regarding side slips vs. forward slips and knowing the difference.

The next VMC Club meeting will be **Monday, February 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** at Bult Field. The meeting agenda is being finalized but will be sent out to the VMC Club email distribution list and posted to the Chapter 260 Facebook page when available.

Finally, I'm pleased to announce that Karl Henning will be helping me with the VMC Club meetings going forward. Karl brings a wealth of aviation experiences and stories that we all can benefit and learn from. Stay tuned for details but in the meantime – please help me welcome Karl to the VMC Club team.

Please contact Dan Simanaitis if you have questions, want to be added to the email list, or have topics of interest you'd like to incorporate into a future meeting. *Fly Safely..... Dan*



## THE FRED BOOS MEMORIAL TOOL CRIB

The tool crib has been established in the Chapter hangar at Bult Field. Chapter President Joe Cirelli is the current coordinator. A new coordinator is being sought to take over this position.

The Tool Crib is named to honor Fred Boos. The Tool Crib will include various tools that Chapter Members can borrow for a short period of time in order to maintain their aircraft.

Several donations to date to the Tool crib include a Tig Welder have been made so far.

The Tool Crib is looking for additional donations of tools! We'd like to begin assembling a cache of aircraft tools for the tool crib. We have a nice space in the Chapter 260 hangar, we just need some tools to fill it. If anyone has spare clecos, rivet sets, or anything else that they'd like to donate.. **please contact Joe at:**

[joecirelli66@yahoo.com](mailto:joecirelli66@yahoo.com)

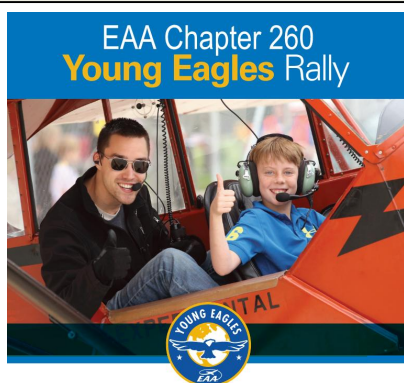


**FRED BOOS**  
FIRST EAA 260 CHAPTER  
PRESIDENT

EAA Chapter 260 was initially formed in 1966 in Dolton, Illinois at the home of Fred Boos. Our Chapter has come a long way over the years to its present form.



## YOUNG EAGLES UPDATE



At the Directors Meeting held on January 11<sup>th</sup>, Young Eagles Coordinator Jerry Pearson indicated that the Chapter has purchased two I-pads. These will be used for Young Eagle on-site registration and processing. These I-pads were purchased from a credit fund that the Chapter received from National EAA in recognition for the amount of Young Eagles flown in 2023.

Our next Young Eagles Rally will take place on Saturday June 15<sup>th</sup>. This will be held in conjunction with the Chapter pancake breakfast. More details to follow.

## BREEZY CELEBRATES 60 YEARS!

Can you believe it...it has been 60 years since the Breezy made its debut.

Charley Roloff, Carl Unger, and Bob Liposky designed and constructed the Breezy in 1964.

To commemorate this milestone, a celebration will be held at Oshkosh AirVenture this summer. Details to follow. Make plans to attend!



Carl Unger



## THE BUILDER'S CORNER

### JOE'S CIRELLI'S RV PROJECT UPDATE:

Things got complicated at the end of November... Van's declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy, which allows them time to reorganize. They have replaced the C-suite with an interim team and have engaged a team of consultants who specialize in turning around companies in financial trouble. While the future of Vans is still uncertain, it is likely product sales and support will continue (they are still selling, shipping and supporting their products at this time).

Fortunately (for me, at least) I had already received the fuselage kit in September. There are very few laser cut parts in the fuselage kit. I've finished the tail cone, and the empennage is now complete and in storage. I'm beginning work on the forward fuselage, which will take a year or two. By then, I'm confident that there will be a path moving forward with Van's. If not, I'll have a heck of a yard decoration.



### VERIFY YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION

Keeping Chapter Members informed is a priority of our Board. HOWEVER, this cannot be done effectively if we do not have updated accurate contact information. Newsletters, event announcements and other items are conveyed by email.

Without current email addresses and phone numbers, this cannot occur. It is understandable that email addresses are sometimes changed. So, *PLEASE*, at the next Chapter meeting, there will be email change sheets for this purpose.

**STAY IN THE LOOP!**

### CONTRIBUTIONS NEEDED!!

If you have items for future newsletters, please let me know. These can include:

- An aviation project you are working on.
- If you flew to somewhere of interest; know of a good restaurant, let us know.
- Building an airplane? Share your progress!
- Have something to sell? List it for FREE!
- Write a story..share your expertise!

Contact: Wayne Babiak, Newsletter Editor:  
[web44aia@comcast.net](mailto:web44aia@comcast.net)

### AN INVITATION.....

*If other Chapter Members are engaged in aircraft projects, please email information and photos to the newsletter editor.*



## JOIN EAA CHAPTER 260

Chapter Members who have paid their Chapter dues are considered to be in good standing and will be allowed to participate in Chapter Meetings and other Chapter events. ALSO...they may partake in the delicious lunches at our Chapter meetings. *A great deal for the price!*

### CHAPTER 260 DUES STRUCTURE

**One Year = \$30.00 Three Years = \$75.00 Five Years = \$120.00**

**Save by joining or renewing for more than one year!**

**Note: For new members joining the Chapter, an additional \$10.00 is required to cover the cost of an engraved plastic magnetic nametag.**

**Note that National Membership in EAA is also required in order to be a Member of EAA Chapter 260.**

National Dues are \$48.00 per year for Individual membership; \$60.00 for Family.

**Chapter membership expires in December of each year.**

**EAA Chapter dues are indicated above.**

**2024 CHAPTER DUES ARE DUE**

**Dues statements were emailed out. If you did not pay as of yet, please pay at the next Chapter Meeting.**

Support your Chapter so programs, food and other benefits can continue to be provided.

**Detach and submit the form below**

## EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION

## CHAPTER 260

### Membership Application



#### Personal Information

Full Name :

Street  
Address :

City :

Zip Code :

Home  
Phone :

Cell Phone :

E-Mail :

E.A.A.  
National  
Membership  
Number :

Want to fill  
form online?



For Information about EAA Chapter 260 contact:

Joe Cirelli at: [joecirelli66@yahoo.com](mailto:joecirelli66@yahoo.com)

***If not already a member...consider becoming one!***

E.A.A. Chapter 260  
28261 S. Kedzie Ave  
Monee, IL 60449

## EAA CHAPTER 260

Bult Field  
28261 S. Kedzie Avenue  
Monee, IL 60449



EAA Chapter 260 Website: [www.eaachapter260.org](http://www.eaachapter260.org)

EAA Chapter 260 Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/EAA260/>

EAA National Website: [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org)



### WINTER 2024 NEWSLETTER



EAA Chapter 260 meets generally on the third Saturday of the month at 10:00 A.M. at Bult Field (C56) in Monee, Illinois



### MIDWEST AIRCRAFT DETAILERS

QUALITY - RELIABILITY - PROFESSIONALISM

Located at Bult Field in Hangar J-06, Midwest Aircraft Detailers is a budget friendly aircraft detailing service. Will Graves is a member of EAA Chapter 260 and is one of the owners.

For more information regarding their services, go to: <https://www.madetailers.com>.  
Phone number 708.251.1045. Check them out!

### 2024 EAA CHAPTER 260 OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

|                                 |                |              |
|---------------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| <b>President/Director:</b>      | Joe Cirelli    | 708.932.3889 |
| <b>Vice President/Director:</b> | Jay Vieaux     | 708.465.8168 |
| <b>Treasurer:</b>               | Mark Wiater    |              |
| <b>Secretary:</b>               | Dave Vancina   | 815.715.1955 |
| <b>Director:</b>                | Wayne Babiak   | 708.989.6214 |
| <b>Director:</b>                | Tim Bryan      | 312.403.0847 |
| <b>Director:</b>                | Jim Orange     | 708.903.4947 |
| <b>Director:</b>                | Jerry Pearson  | 219.923.1938 |
| <b>Director:</b>                | Steve Sikorski | 708.862.8722 |
| <b>Director:</b>                | Dan Simanaitis | 630.386.0330 |
| <b>Director:</b>                | Rob Unger      | 708.288.7525 |

Welcome to the Board,  
Chapter Member Mark Wiater  
as our new Treasurer!

### YOUNG EAGLES COORDINATORS

Jerry Pearson Dave Vancina Dan Simanaitis

#### DISCLAIMER

This publication is distributed with the understanding that it does not constitute aviation legal, medical, financial, or professional advice. While this publication is intended to be timely and accurate, neither the EAA nor Chapter 260, newsletter editor, nor any Officer, Director or Member will assume any liability as a result of reliance on information contained in this publication.