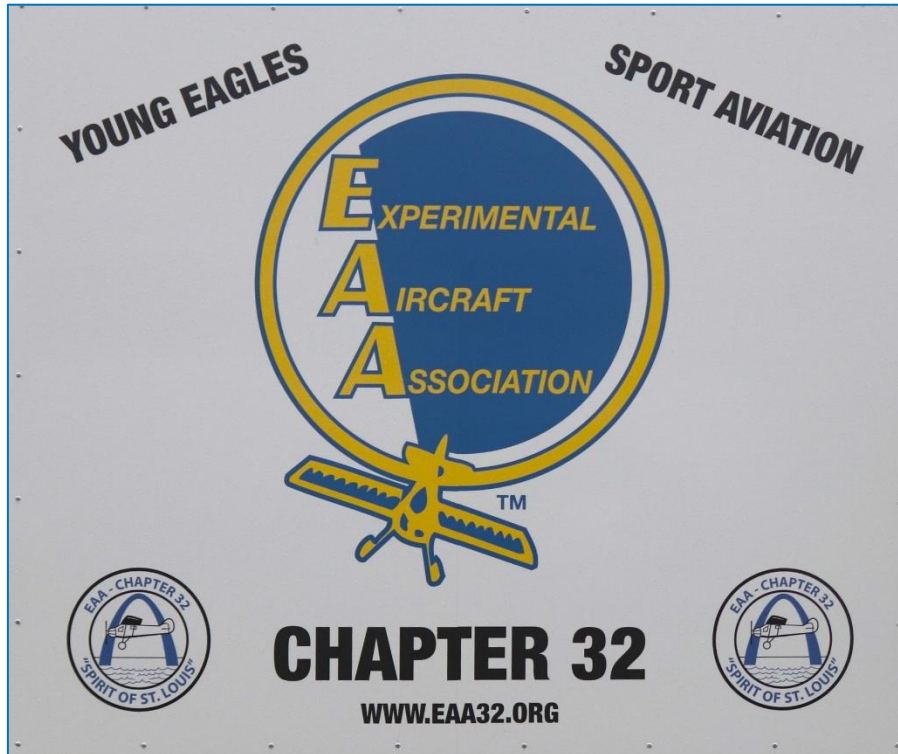


# EAA Chapter 32 News

The official publication of Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 32 - St. Louis, MO (Rebecca Kinder, Interim Editor)

**April 2025**



Our new chapter sign by the road in front of the Aviation Resource Center



Day #1 of the EAA Ford Tri-Motor at Spirit.  
The EAA 32 ground crew have the passengers loaded,  
and are retreating prior to engine start.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

May 3, 9 AM - Private Young Eagle event 'Soar into STEM', Washington, MO KFYG, for 29 students. Chapter 1387 & 32.

May 10, 9 AM - Young Eagles, KSET

May 17, 10 AM - EAA 32 Chapter Gathering, ARC, KSET

May 17, after the chapter gathering - Eagle Flights (Adults)

For the full/extended calendar, Click to go to the [Calendar of Aviation Events](#) section of this newsletter.

Website: [www.eaa32.org](http://www.eaa32.org)

Facebook:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/616737571822386>

# President's Message

Jim Hall, EAA Chapter 32 President, AE Advisor

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## About Your EAA Chapter 32 Young Eagles Rallies and Other Events That You Make Happen!

**It really is all about you – the EAA Chapter volunteers who make each of the events we host successful. It wouldn't happen without you.** Kudos to all who plan in advance, gather supplies and materials, coordinate dates, times and activities, set-up and then tear down after each event.

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*But most especially it is always a success because of the cheerful energy everyone shares during every activity we host. It's fun and engaging to all who participate.*

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**April 11-13 the EAA Tri-Motor** flew 5 flights on Friday and 11 flights on Saturday. Sunday flights were prevented by strong winds. Volunteers who signed in got a chance to take a ticket for a drawing held for both the morning and afternoon shifts. The EAA merchandise crew pulled out the winning tickets and four lucky volunteers (Bob Clarke, Jeff Stephenson, Jon Benne and Michelle Stephenson) got flights in the Tri-Motor on the two days it was able to fly.

Even though it didn't fly on Sunday, dozens of people got to walk around and go inside the aircraft and hear from all of our volunteers about the history and statistics on this historic plane. As the pilot, Taylor Oliver, told everyone; "It cruises at 80, takes off at 80 and lands at 80 mph and handles much like an old Allis-Chalmers tractor."



*Happy Aviators Bob and Jeff deplaning after riding the Tri-Motor on Friday.*



*Ken after riding in the right front seat on Saturday. Rumor was he may have been seeking logbook entries for a tri-multi-engine rating, & tail wheel endorsement.*



*Volunteers Libby, Dave, Michelle, and TK on Saturday*

Thanks to the 10 Young Eagles pilots and ground crew, the **April 12, Saturday Young Eagles event flew 48 youth, and 17 Scouts also completed their Aviation Merit Badge** requirements taught by Frank Dressel during the training class presentation held inside Signature Aviation.

The two events were a great success and participation from Chapter 32 members and Chapter 1675 volunteers helped make them run smoothly. It meant a lot to have support from so many volunteers in the EAA family.

Then on **April 26 St. Charles County Regional Airport hosted a ‘Celebration of Aviation’** at the airport and EAA Chapter 32 participated along with the other airport stakeholders; CAF, St. Charles Flying Service and Skylink Aviation. Even though the large crowds that could have shown for this first time event didn’t quite materialize we were ready. Thanks again to all the EAA members who brought in aircraft of all types and prepped the ARC with aviation exhibits and food. We got to visit with pilots and ground crew that came with them. Among the aircraft: Piper Tri-Pacer, Cessna 172, Rans RV-12, Volksplane, a beautiful Gyrocopter attracted a lot of attention and a Lancair that was flown by Eric Lindbergh for the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his grandfather, Charles Lindbergh’s, historic flight. This aircraft has been restored after having been in storage for years and is used to promote the AeroCareers program by Bob McDaniel and his team. For the visitors who did show, they got a treat by spending quality, unhurried time at the airport talking to pilots, asking questions, touching the airplanes and learning from the many volunteers who came to help.



*AeroCareers  
Lindbergh Lancair*



*Tandem seat  
Gyrocopter*



*TK, Dave, & mr. Bill  
celebrating at the airport’s  
party*

At every event we get a chance to talk about the EAA outreach efforts, especially the Young Eagles events. Most of us know it was launched in 1992, and **as of April 23, 2025 the total Young Eagles flown is over 2,425,000, and increasing every day.**



**EAA Chapter 32, is the oldest Missouri chapter and has flown over 9,800 youth.** The events are usually held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month (April - October) with some private Young Eagles events also being done on request. Over 116 Chapter 32 pilots have flown curious youth on Young Eagles flights since the program started. During each event an Aviation Merit Badge program is also presented for scouts.

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*It truly is all about you – the volunteers who make all our EAA events fun and meaningful!*

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Perhaps it's best to share the recognition and importance of the Young Eagles program and its accomplishments with write-ups from other sources in our aviation community.

**David Leiting, EAA Young Eagles Program Manager gave great recognition for everyone who participates in the program with his December 2024 Update.**

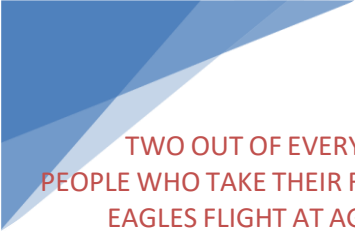
*I'd like to take the time to thank each and every volunteer that has supported Young Eagles over the course of the year. I continue to be amazed by the dedication across the program.*

*To the pilots who give so generously of their aircraft, operating expenses, and time – I wish there was more EAA could do to thank you for all you put into the program.*

*As for the Young Eagles coordinators, I know dozens of you take time out of your personal lives to plan the perfect Young Eagles rally, often at the expense of PTO at work or your precious personal time. The program would have a fraction of the impact without your efforts.*

*And to the ground volunteers, the unsung heroes of your chapter's rallies. You are simultaneously the glue that holds the events together, as well as the grease that keeps the gears in motion. You play the most important role of greeting the families as they check in, safely escorting attendees around the ramp, and educating the families in all the aviation opportunities EAA and your chapter offer.*

*It takes all kinds of kinds to keep Young Eagles as the standard for youth aviation programs, and your efforts are so greatly appreciated. EAA is working on an opportunity that will allow us to better recognize the collective efforts of Young Eagles volunteers.*



TWO OUT OF EVERY 100 YOUNG PEOPLE WHO TAKE THEIR FIRST YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHT AT AGE 17 EARN A PILOT CERTIFICATE, THE STUDY FOUND, NOTING THAT THE OLDER A CHILD IS WHEN HE OR SHE TAKES A FLIGHT, THE MORE LIKELY THAT HE OR SHE WILL BECOME A PILOT. THE MORE FLIGHTS A YOUNG PERSON TAKES, THE GREATER THE LIKELIHOOD THAT HE OR SHE WILL PURSUE A CERTIFICATE

**For anyone who wonders why we do Young Eagles events this article from AOPA March 9, 2011 By Jill W. Tallman showcases the success of the program even a few years ago.**

*The Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA's) [Young Eagles Program](#) is more successful than any other program at getting young people involved in aviation, the association announced March 2. Results of a joint EAA/FAA study of the program since its 1992 inception indicate that Young Eagles participants are 5.4 times more likely to earn a pilot certificate, EAA said.*

*The study matched the names of Young Eagles aged 15 to 34 flown since the program was launched in 1992 with names in the FAA registry. Those who took a Young Eagles flight were 5.4 times more likely to earn a certificate than individuals of the same age who had not received a flight. The study also found that 7.3 percent of all pilots who are younger than 35 are former Young Eagles. That number is projected to grow as the group reaches the age—late thirties to early fifties—when their participation in aviation accelerates, EAA said.*

*Two out of every 100 young people who take their first Young Eagles flight at age 17 earn a pilot certificate, the study found, noting that the older a child is when he or she takes a flight, the more likely that he or she will become a pilot. The more flights a young person takes, the greater the likelihood that he or she will pursue a certificate.*

*Other findings indicated that 9 percent of pilots in the study are female. By comparison, women represent 6 percent of the current U.S. pilot population.*

**Another article just a couple of years ago highlights the successes: [EAA Young Eagles Program Encourages Kids to Soar](#) by [Lightspeed Aviation](#) 2 October, 2023**

*There's a common misconception that eagles teach their young to fly by pushing them out of the nest. In fact, eagles introduce their offspring into the air through a careful process of training and mentoring that starts with a short flight. For young eagles, the motivation for that first flight is typically hunger: the parent lands on a branch near the nest holding food, and the fledglings must spread their wings to get it.*

*For young humans, a first flight alone often sparks that hunger to take to the air. The [EAA Young Eagles program](#) provides the flights that will inspire many youngsters to become the pilots and aviation leaders of tomorrow. **In its 31 years of operation, the program has flown nearly 2.3 million young people, and 20,000 of today's aviation professionals credit Young Eagles (YE) with inspiring their careers.** The program is a great opportunity for kids longing to fly, families hoping to encourage them, and pilots and other people looking to give back.*

*According to David Leiting, Young Eagles Program Manager, the program offers not only those all-important first flights, but education, mentoring, and resources to help launch them into aviation careers. Flights are available to young people ages 8 through 17. Inquiries for flights come from scout or church groups, from people attending air shows or YE rallies at local airports, or [through the EEA website](#). Kids can register for a free flight online. On the day of the flight, they show up at a local airport to meet a volunteer pilot who will teach them a bit about the aircraft, explain the flight plan, and take them through a preflight inspection of the aircraft. During the flight, the pilot will demonstrate how to do gentle climbs, turns, and descents. After the flight, the young person will get a certificate and the chance to take pictures with their volunteer pilot and plane.*

*The EAA website offers a rich set of resources for Young Eagles who want to learn more about aviation. There are aviation camps, including GirlVenture, a camp experience aimed specifically at introducing girls to aviation careers. There are resources for [learning to fly](#), including online education, information on aviation careers, and a sport pilot academy. For younger students, their families, and teachers, there's the AeroEducate program, with learning materials to introduce kids to the fun and science of flight. There's even a comic book series in which the*

young pilot hero battles villains such as Turbulence and Drag. Young Eagles going on to aviation careers can apply for [EAA Ray Aviation Scholarships](#).

Leiting says Young Eagles is always in need of more volunteer pilots. Leiting also emphasizes that not all volunteers have to be pilots. For example, every EAA chapter has a YE coordinator who handles planning and coordination of events and flights, insurance, etc. Volunteers also give their time to go to shows, museums, air show events, and classrooms, and ground volunteers check in and escort families of the young fliers, answer questions, and print certificates for them. The program is also supported through donations and corporate sponsorships.

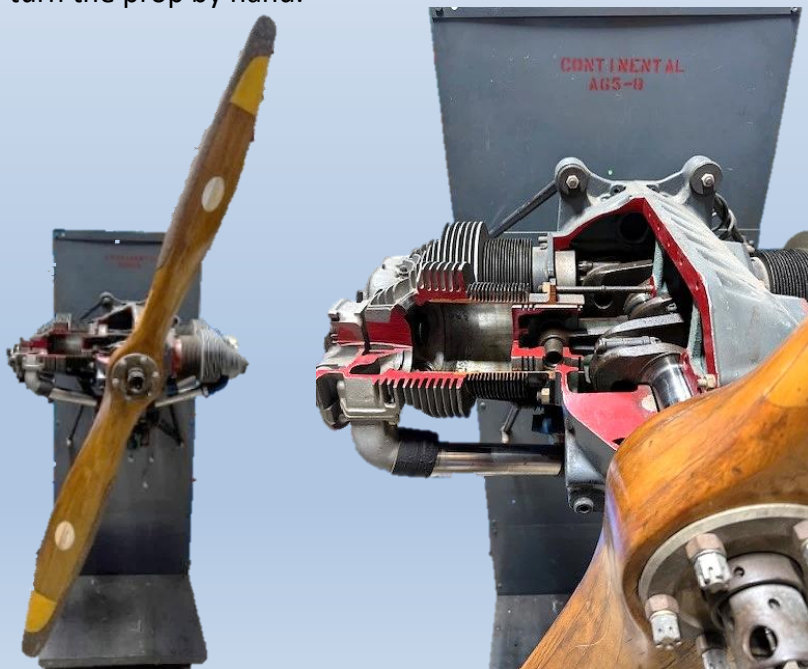
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*As they say at EAA in Oshkosh, "Chapters are like a three-legged stool, having a social leg, an aviation leg, and an educational leg. All three legs make the stool stand."*

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## Continental A65-8 Cutaway Engine

Now on display in the ARC is a four-cylinder Continental A65-8 aircraft engine, precisely cut/machined to reveal its inner workings. The exposed cross sections are painted red to highlight the cuts. The donated engine and stand will be very useful showing young eagles (or anyone!) the inner workings of an internal combustion engine, and how the parts interact during a rotation of the crankshaft/propeller. Though the engine no longer produces 65 HP @2,300 RPM, the impulse coupling on the magneto still emits its distinctive click as you turn the prop by hand.



## Conference Room Entrance

Check out the new "Electric Blue" EAA sign over the double doors to the conference room/library. In addition, the doors now have windows in them thanks to VP Ken. No more opening a door into someone you didn't know was standing on the other side.



# Chapter Gathering Minutes

Jennifer Skikas, EAA Chapter 32 Secretary, Young Eagles Coordinator

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## EAA 32 Chapter Gathering Minutes March 15, 2025

- Call to Order 10:10am
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Welcome visitors & guests
- Speaker: Pete Seddon of St. Louis Terminal radar approach control (TRACON)-Has been a controller for 29 years. 15 years in StL, 9 years at LaGuardia, also worked a couple years at O'Hare.
- Old business:
  - EAA Chapter Leadership Boot Camp co-hosted with Chapter 1675 at Wings of Hope
    - Information presented by Charlie Becker & Chris Gauger
    - 46 EAA members attended, over 20 different chapters, 10 Chapter 32 members
    - Lisa Miano came & took photos
- Treasurer Report: Bob Murray
  - Bob pointed out that Brian Peetz emailed chapter members about door code for the ARC.
- Ray Foundation: Ken Derks-Motioned for Justus Solomon to have a 6-month membership for the chapter, Jim Hann 2nd, all approved.
- Aviation Explorer Post 9032: Jim Hall- next week touring SLU aviation department. Still need another advisor. They are in the process of planning their AirVenture experience.
- New Business – EAA Ford Tri-Motor Tour at SUS hosted by Chapter 32 (co-hosted by 1675)
  - April 11-13 EAA Ford Tri-Motor Tour at Spirit of St Louis Airport
  - Hanger & ramp space at Signature Aviation arranged by Bill Doherty
  - Volunteers sign up for ground crew for Friday, Saturday, Sunday (morning and afternoon shifts each day) minimum 4 people per shift; more is better-signup sheets were available at the meeting. \$105 per flight, 10 people per flight.
  - Tri-Motor arrives SUS April 7, departs April 14
    - Media rides will be Friday morning
- New Business - Young Eagles events in April: Jon Crackel
  - April 5<sup>th</sup> Private YE Washington, MO Soar into STEM, cancelled due to weather and has been rescheduled for Saturday, May 3.
    - 3 pilots signed up already
  - April 12<sup>th</sup> at Spirit of St Louis Airport (during the Tri-Motor event)-
    - Not cooking food, will have prepackaged snacks and drinks available for purchase.
    - Assisted by EAA Chapter 1675
    - Limit of 40 youth, pre-registered only, no walk ups
    - Scouting Merit Badge in Signature Aviation meeting room
    - Jim Hall has ordered restaurant style pagers to help with alerting scouts to check in for the flights
- Logan Hanquet presented his Eagle Scout project: He took his first YE flight in first grade and has been inspired by what the chapter offered him so would like to give back. He wants to build a table to

provide seating for YE rallies and other events. Waiting for okay from the Scouts board. Logan has already presented to Jim Hall, Ken Dirks and Jon Crackel. Paul Smith suggested giving him information he could use for funding for 501c3.

- Adjourn: 12:45pm

## **EAA Chapter 32 Gathering Minutes**

### **April 19, 2025**

- Call to Order: 10:05am
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Welcome visitors & guests
  - Brian T. new to EAA but has been in aviation for a long time, has a Saratoga.
- Speaker: Frank Dressel, EAA member, will share his experience and lessons learned "Building the Van's RV-14A". Frank spent a little over four years on the build and is now doing his initial flight tests. Hear the story he presented at the Light Sport Safety Symposium a few weeks ago. It's fascinating to learn what building an aircraft involves. We'll get the chance to ask questions and share thoughts about choosing the right build for 'your' mission and the timeline to accomplish your goal.

Frank shared a slideshow with photos and information well documenting his journey building 'Pop's Dream'. He spent 21 years in the AF and 20+ years teaching at Gateway High School. Started going to AirVenture in the 90's and loved the historical aircraft but homebuilts caught his eye.
- Old business:
  - EAA Ford Tri-Motor Tour at SUS hosted by Chapter 32 w/ assistance from 1675 April 11-13 at Spirit of St Louis Airport using a hanger & ramp space at Signature Aviation
  - 80 Volunteers signed in for Friday, Saturday, Sunday; 2 shifts each day; ticket drawings let 4 volunteer winners fly on the Tri-Motor; too windy on Sunday
  - Tri-Motor flew 5 flights on Friday & 11 flights on Saturday; 0 on Sunday, 7-8 passengers per flight.
  - Friday morning ceiling prevented flying until later in the day. Saturday engine three initially would not start, Bill D. was able to get a starter from Spirit to get it going. Sunday winds were too strong to fly. Those that had tickets for Sunday will be refunded or could try for rescheduling on upcoming dates in Springfield, MO but were still given a tour inside and out and were very appreciative.
  - Thanks to John Kinder for giving passengers good detailed information of safety precautions.
  - EAA gave us two large banners for the event. One will be hung in the ARC the other will be given to chapter 1675.
  - The event was very well received. It reminded some attendees of Indiana Jones movies, one elderly gentleman came to see it after hearing flying around, it reminded him of when he was a little boy and his dad took him to a nearby airport where he saw Tri-Motors flying.



- Initially built in 1929, EAA has done extensive renovations over the years. At one point it had been totaled in a storm.
- Young Eagles: April 12<sup>th</sup> at SUS w/ Chapter 1675; had 10 pilots/ planes flew 48 youth
  - Scouting Merit Badge for 17 youth in Signature Aviation meeting room by Frank Dressel.
  - Used numbers and texting to quickly locate Young Eagles for flights.
- Treasurer Report: Bob Murray
  - More than likely did not make money on the Tri-Motor YE event but the marketing was really good. Bob just got the cashbox today to count.
  - Even for the year. Dues have mostly paid regular expenses.
- Ray Foundation: Ken Derks
  - Anna is taking her written exam this week.
  - Caleb is still studying for his written
  - Marco will be taking his check ride soon
  - Lauren will be taking flight lessons after school is out. She will be teaching aviation as a camp counselor this summer. Hoping to have a check ride pre AirVenture.
- Aviation Explorer Post 9032: on May 7th @ 6pm the Student Officer Elections and also FAA Safety Team Speaker- Randy Ottinger in the Signature Aviation meeting room.
  - Toured SLU recently
  - Student elections coming up, and planning for AirVenture
  - Still need some more advisors, particularly a lead advisor and may lose Boeing connections. Recent meetings have been held at Spirit.
- New Business:
  - Chapter 32 Digital Roster is ready - Thanks to Bob Murray [sites.google.com/view/ea32roster](https://sites.google.com/view/ea32roster)
    - This link is not password protected. Home addresses are not included. Contains the following info if applicable: spouse name, phone number, email, ratings, member type, aircraft ratings, aircraft built.
  - April 26<sup>th</sup> St. Charles County Regional Airport 'Celebration of Aviation History'
    - This is not an EAA event but 32 will be participating. Being owned by the parks department, they are opening to the general public.
    - Ramp will be closed from 10:00am-2:00pm for foot traffic.
    - Food will be provided but premade/prepackaged, 32 will not be preparing food.
    - 32 will help as needed. As of now attendance numbers are not known. More toilet facilities will be brought in.
  - Saturday May 03, 2025 Private Young Eagles event; SOAR to STEM 29 students of Washington High School District at Washington Airport, Marthasville, MO
  - Interim Newsletter Editor: Rebecca Kinder send articles by April 22 to: [rebe2cak@gmail.com](mailto:rebe2cak@gmail.com)
  - May 17 EAA Flying Start Event at the ARC – Ken Derks Coordinator
    - For people over 18 who are interested in learning how to fly. Like YE for adults but matched with a mentor pilot.
    - One pilot so far, but more are needed. As of today, 8 people interested in learning have signed up.

- We are getting a cutaway aircraft engine from St. Louis Gateway STEM High School this week to use for education.
- Brian Letendre has approached 32 about the possibility of some pilots being available for a Trail Life USA scouting event in Decatur, IL on June 16-17 a Monday and Tuesday. 12 kids per day ages 9-14. Jon Crackel will email 32 pilots about it.
- Saturday, 5/17, 7:30am-11:30am Pancake Breakfast hosted by Chapter 864 at St. Louis Regional Airport. \$10/adult, \$5/kids 4-12 years, kids under 3 free. All you can eat pancakes, scrambled eggs, sausage, coffee, and juice. 8 Terminal Dr., East Alton, IL.
- Asked to do a private YE event the last Saturday in June with the Organization of Black Aerospace Professionals (OBAP).
- Guest: Crystal Marshall has 2 daughters, works at Boeing, girls are interested in flying and have been to YE events.
- Adjourned at 12:47pm



# Learners as We Go

mr. bill, EAA Chapter 32 Director, Flight Advisor

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## Three Days with the EAA 1929 Ford Tri-Motor



Aaron Derosier (Gale's son) towed over the Ford Tri-Motor for Captain Taylor. Gale Derosier was EAA 32's Treasurer for many years and was an Aircraft Mechanic for 39 years at TWA/American Airlines.

Friday's visit from the Ford Motor Auto Club.



Ford Cars 1928, 1928, 1931 and the 1929 Ford Tri-Motor Airplane. It would have been cooler if we could have taken these pictures up against the old "T" hangars out there at Spirit of Saint Louis airport but.....



The "Right Seat"

How to start and fly the Ford Tri-Motor:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6Y5aepI4f3I>

On Saturday I flew with Mr. Macklen. He was AWESOME!



The Young Eagle Flight on Saturday with Mr. Macklen, who could fly on Instruments better than me.

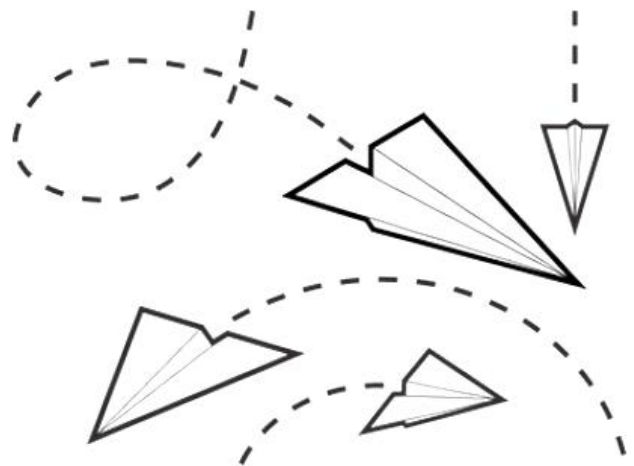
**Q:** How much fuel does the Ford Tri-Motor burn per minute?

**A:** One gallon per minute for all 3 engines.

**Q:** Top speed of the Ford Tri-Motor?

**A:** Per the pilot, "Take off at 80 mph. Cruise at 80 mph. Land at 80 miles per hour!"

A special THANK YOU to Bill Doherty who worked his magic and was the SAFETY OFFICER for the Tri-Motor Event



The Ford Tri-Motor History  
(Plaque on inside of cabin door)



# Aviation Explorer Post 9032 Activities

Jim Hall, EAA Chapter 32 President, AE Advisor

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**Note: Chrissy Kujawa, the Lead Advisor of Aviation Explorers Post 9032, will be stepping down as lead post advisor at the start of summer. She has excelled in her leadership position as the AE lead advisor and will be wrapping up through July by coordinating the AirVenture AE Post 9032 attendance for all youth members going to the EAA event.**

– Chrissy Kujawa      Email: [ckujawa@aepost9032.org](mailto:ckujawa@aepost9032.org)



**“Aviation Exploration Base camp registration at AirVenture. We do need a female and male adult to attend, so if you are a parent interested in going, please let us know!”**

## **A quick summary:**

- July 19<sup>th</sup> – July 27<sup>th</sup> Aviation Exploration Base camp at AirVenture
  - Registration is OPEN – if you for sure are attending you can start signing up.
  - We have 30 slots – we need at least 3 adult advisors (age 21+) and one needs to be a woman.
  - Most of the registration info is due May 15<sup>th</sup> – please let me know when you sign up!
  - You must have a physical with your doctor and turned in by June 30<sup>th</sup> – the form is on the website
- Chrissy Kujawa, Lead Advisor

## **Upcoming Activities:**

May 3	Soar into STEM Career Fair at Wings of Hope at SUS
May 7	Guest Speaker Randy Ottinger of FAAST + AE Officers Elections (+ Aviation Jeopardy) to be held in Signature Aviation meeting room at Spirit of St. Louis Airport
May 10	EAA Chapter 32 Young Eagles event at St. Charles County Regional Airport
May 21	Activity - TBD
June 7	Youth in Aviation Event at Creve Coeur Airport; sponsored by GYAF
June 14	Scott Air Force Base STEM Expo being held at Scott AFB – open attendance
July 21-27	EAA AirVenture – Aviation Explorer Posts Camp

## **Completed activities in the last few months:**

April 16	No Meeting or event
April 11-13	EAA Ford Tri-Motor! At Spirit of St. Louis Airport
April 12	Young Eagles Rally – 9am with Chapter 32 at Spirit Airport
April 2	Boeing Augmented/Virtual Reality Lab Tour
March 19	SLU McDonnell Douglas Hall – flight sciences & mechanical/aerospace engineering
March 12	Virtual planning session for AirVenture. Officers & Advisors virtual meetings
March 8	Visit postponed by Florissant Valley Community College new date TBD
March 5	Visit to EAA 32 Aviation Resource Center at Smartt Field - Vans RV 12 upgrade
February 22	Ultralight and Light Sport Safety Symposium @ SWIC Granite City
February 5	Cathy Babbis – guest speaker SUS held in the Signature Aviation Meeting room
January 15	Visit to Elite Aviation Flight School at Spirit of St Louis Airport (SUS)

**(Note: see previous EAA Chapter 32 archived monthly Newsletters for detailed past AE activities)**

## ABOUT POST 9032

Aviation Explorer Post 9032 is an established career exploration program based in St. Louis, MO. Part of the Greater St. Louis Area Council, 'Learning for Life' program. AE Post 9032 is a chartered youth group with advisors and support from Chapter 32 of the Experimental Aircraft Association and additional advisors with aviation related interests. Virtual Advisor and Post Officer Meetings each month go over event planning.

**General Meetings are held in the Signature Aviation FBO (Fixed Base Operator) facility at Sprit of St. Louis Airport (SUS) 18250 Edison Avenue; Chesterfield, MO. 63005**

Additional links to AE Post activities are listed below:

<https://www.facebook.com/aepost9032/>

<https://www.instagram.com/aepost9032/>

**Tentative dates for Aviation Explorer Post 9032 meetings and activities are on the website calendar:**

<https://www.aepost9032.org/>

The AE post officers once again have a lot of great ideas and activities lined up for the future.

### Proposed Agenda:

**Each month the usual schedule (flexible around other activities with some events being held on another day or in a different location):**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday; 6-7pm **General Meeting in the Signature Aviation FBO (Fixed Base Operator) facility at Sprit of St. Louis Airport (SUS) 18250 Edison Avenue; Chesterfield, MO. 63005**
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday; 6:30 & 7pm Post Officers and Advisors Virtual Online Meetings
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday; 6-7pm Guest Speaker or offsite Activity (day/ date subject to changes)



# Calendar of Aviation Events

**Black** = EAA 32 hosted and/or participating-in events

**Blue** = Other aviation related events

## May

- 3 Private Young Eagle event 'Soar into STEM', Washington, MO, KFYG, for 29 students. 9am. Chapter 1387 & 32.
- 10 EAA 32 Young Eagles, 9am, KSET
- 17 EAA 864 pancake breakfast, 7:30 – 11:30am, St. Louis Regional (Alton), KALN
- 17 EAA 32 gathering/meeting, 10am, Smartt Field Aviation Resource Center (ARC) – speaker will be Lauren Peca, Ray Scholarship Recipient
- 17 EAA 32 Flying Start event (for adults), after chapter meeting, during EAA Learn to Fly Week (May 13-18) at Smartt Field in the Aviation Resource Center
- 24-26 CAF Wings Over St. Louis, @Signature, KSUS <https://commemorativeairforce.org/events/449>

## June

- 7 Gateway Youth Aeronautical Foundation event at Creve Coeur Airport. EAA 32 invited to participate with YE information booth.
- 14 EAA 32 Young Eagles, 9am, KSET (EAA International Young Eagles Day)
- 14 Scott Air Force Base Open House & STEM Expo 9am – 4pm (Static aircraft displays only, no flight demonstrations) <https://www.scott.af.mil/OpenHouse/>
- 15 CAF Father's Day Rides, Smart Field
- 16-17 Request to provide pilots for Trail Life USA scouting event in Decatur, IL June 16-17 (Note: this is a Mon & Tues). 12 kids per day ages 9-14 <https://troop0412.com/illinois-summer-camp/>
- 21 EAA 32 gathering/meeting, 10am, Smartt Field, Aviation Resource Center (ARC)
- 28 OBAP request for Private Young Eagles event (Approx. 30) at Smartt Field

## July

- 12 EAA 32 Young Eagles, 9am, KSET
- 19 EAA 32 gathering/meeting, 10am at Smartt Field in the Aviation Resource Center (ARC) \*  
note: Date is TBD because of proximity to AirVenture
- 21-27 \* EAA AirVenture; Oshkosh, WI (chapter campsite reserved; limit of 6 sites)

## August

- 9 EAA 32 Young Eagles, 9am, KSET
- 13-17 B-29 Superfortress "Fifi" @ Spirit KSUS. <https://www.airpowersquadron.org/st-louis-mo>, Cockpit tours as well as flights. Also, P-51, PT-13, T-6, RC-45J aircraft, \$20 adult admission
- 16 EAA 32 gathering/meeting, 10am, Smartt Field, Aviation Resource Center (ARC)
- 30-31 Wings of Pride Airshow w/ Blue Angels; Branson, MO <https://bransonwingsofpride.com/>

## September

- 4-6 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Midwest Aviation Expo; Mt. Vernon, IL <https://www.midwestaviationexpo.com/>
- 13 EAA 32 Young Eagles, 9am, KSET
- 10-14 National Championship Air Races & Air Show; Roswell, New Mexico <https://airrace.org/>

20 EAA 32 gathering/ meeting, 10am, Smartt Field, Aviation Resource Center (ARC)

27 CAF Hangar Dance; Smartt Field <https://www.cafmo.org/hangar-dance>

## October

11 EAA 32 Young Eagles, 9am, KSET

18 EAA 32 gathering/meeting, 10am, Smartt Field, Aviation Resource Center (ARC)

25 St. Charles County Regional Airport Open House & Pumpkin Drop. EAA32 open house.

## November

15 EAA 32 gathering/meeting, 10am, Smartt Field, Aviation Resource Center (ARC)

## December

6 EAA 32 Holiday Banquet – TBD

- No Chapter gathering/meeting in December

## Monthly Recurring Events

1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday IMC Club: Monthly, Every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday @6:30pm, Creve Coeur Airport (1H0) FBO Lobby  
<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea32/imc-club>; <https://www.stlaviationmeetup.org/>



3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday VMC Club: Monthly, Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday @6:30pm, Creve Coeur Airport (1H0) FBO Lobby  
<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea32/vmc-club>; <https://www.stlaviationmeetup.org/>



3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday EAA 32 gathering/meeting, Every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday @10am, KSET, Aviation Resource Center (ARC)

## This Month in Aviation History

**April 1, 1918:** The British Royal Air Force (RAF) was established.

**April 13, 1925:** Henry Ford's Air Transport Service started the first regular air-freight service, between Detroit and Chicago.

**April 15, 1952:** The first flight of the Boeing B-52 Stratofortress. This iconic bomber, designed during the Cold War, has been a cornerstone of the U.S. Air Force and is still in service today.

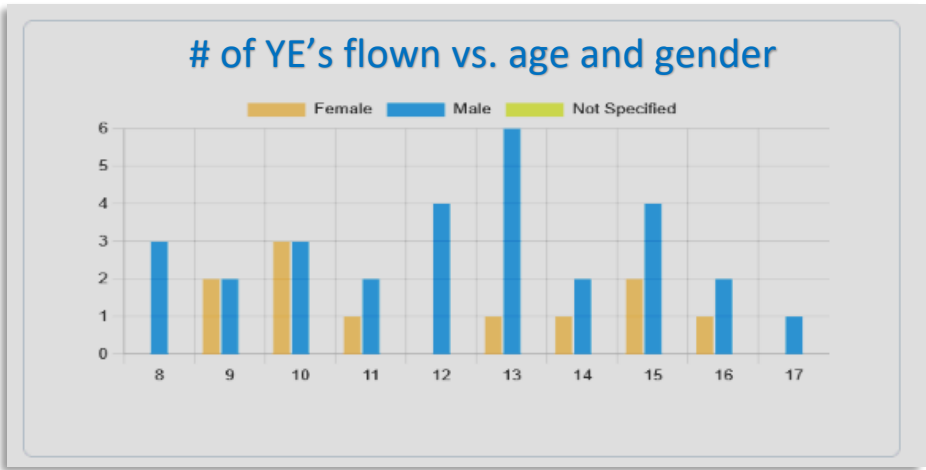
**April 12, 1961:** Russian Cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human to orbit Earth.

**April 12, 1981:** The Space Shuttle Columbia launched, marking the first flight of a reusable spacecraft.



# Young Eagles

Date	Location	# YE Flown	# Pilots	# Flights	# Non-flying Volunteers	# Scouts Aviation Merit Badge
4/12/25	KSUS	48	10	28	16	17
5/10/25	KSET					
6/14/25	KSET					
7/12/25	KSET					
8/9/25	KSET					
9/13/25	KSET					
10/11/25	KSET					



YE April 12 event photos courtesy of Lisa Miano





Pilot and ground crew pre-flight briefing



# Notes From the Field: EAA Ford Tri-Motor Visit

John Kinder

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Notes and impressions from the EAA's 1929 Ford Tri-Motor (a.k.a. "Tin Goose"), model 4-AT-E, registration #[NC8407](#) (which showed up on ADS-B as [N8407](#)) visit to Sprit of St. Louis Airport (KSUS), on April 11-13, 2025.

The **C** in "**NC**" stands for "**C**ommercial" (passenger/cargo). NX=Experimental; NR=Restricted (crop dusting); NL=Limited (vintage); NS=State-Owned (law enforcement, emergency services). Nx prefixes were dropped in 1948, in favor of using just November for all US aircraft registrations going forward.



The planned start time was 9 AM on a surprisingly cold Friday. Weather was IMC. We *impatiently* waited for the overcast clouds to lift.

Around 1:30 PM, the ceiling finally had lifted enough for the pilot to say "Let's go". The EAA 32 ground crew briefed the passengers, loaded them up, closed the cabin door, hauled the yellow wood passenger door access step away, pulled the wheel chocks, and signaled the pilot it was OK to begin engine starts.



There was an unplanned demo of how (tri-)propwash can adversely affect nearby awnings... The first flight passengers were treated to bonus in-cabin time as a result of a (planned) 15-minute engine warm-up on the tarmac before taxiing out. The first flight *finally* lifted off at 2:05 PM. Friday had four total flights.



Saturday began with a two-hour delay getting a *very stubborn* engine #3 to start. The ground crew - which now had a considerable Chapter 1675 presence (as a lot of Chapter 32 talent was busy with young eagles) - sent a new flight out on average every 25 mins. Actual time in the air for a flight was 12+/- mins., not including taxiing time. The turnaround time for the ground crew to get each subsequent flight out was about 10 minutes. Southwest Air would be proud! Eleven flights were completed on Saturday.

No flights on Sunday due to high winds.

Inside, leather seats and real wood trim with brass accents. The aisle is quite narrow, and headroom is low where the huge wing spar traverses the cabin.

Every seat is a good seat. Every seat is a window seat. Every seat is an aisle seat. No scheming is needed on how to get the armrest, because, besides not having a seatmate immediately next to you, there are no armrests.



The primary flight control cables for the elevator and rudder attach to bellcrank arms on the left and right sides of the nose. The cables enter the *enormous* wings under the leading edge, and exit on the topside of the trailing edge, where they once again travel on the plane's exterior aft. Pure functionality, and ease of preflight inspection at its best! Aileron control cables are (mostly) internal. There are no flaps, so no cables for them.



3 round gauges on the struts supporting the outboard #1 and #3 engines are oil temp, oil pressure, and tachometer. Binoculars might be helpful to read those from the cockpit...

450 HP 9-cylinder Pratt & Whitney radial engines installed in the 1950's replaced the original 290 HP Wright radials. Nacelles were clean/oil free inside.

The 2-bladed props are fixed pitch, but are "*ground adjustable*" (i.e., need a wrench to adjust pitch)





To refuel (capacity ~230 gallons of 100LL avgas), the pilot climbed up the in-cabin emergency escape ladder (located just behind the flight deck), opened the ceiling escape hatch, and climbed out on top of the plane, 12' above ground. The pilot then lowered a thick rope down to line service personnel, who tied the rope to the refueling nozzle. The nozzle was carefully hoisted up by the rope, keeping it clear of the fuselage to prevent damage to the corrugated aluminum skin. A long broomstick was used as a dipstick to measure fuel level.

This plane is a beautifully restored working/flying museum. It preserves the technology and flying experience of the early days of aviation passenger transportation – nearly 96 years ago.

**“ Why don't we just buy one airplane and let the pilots take turns flying it. ”**

**President Calvin Coolidge**

*Complaining about a War Department request to buy more aircraft. Cited in Developing Space Power, in the USAF flagship publication Air and Space Power Journal, Spring 2003.*

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Aviation Merit Badge Workshop