



The Leader In Recreational Aviation

RUNWAY 35



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CONFESSIONS OF A NOT SO YOUNG EAGLE

By Michael Landis

As a new member to EAA 35 (3months), and a low time (10.2 hours) student pilot, when the opportunity came up to help at the Hondo Boy Scout Aviation Badge Day I wasn't sure that there would be much for me that I could do. I contacted John Latour to see if there was anything that my wife Beth and I could be of help with, and he graciously responded and gave several options for areas we could help. Not knowing much about any of the areas, we asked to be a part of helping with getting the Young Eagles to the airplanes.

When we showed up to the airfield that day we were pointed in the direction of where the flights would be taking place, so we positioned ourselves there and asked the first person that looked like they were in charge how we could be of help. I knew that Jody Doppelt had probably done this many times before with Brad and so she was the one I considered knowledgeable. She made the suggestion that I could help by determining the next group of boys for the next flight. So with that we were off and running.

For the next 9 hours I was able to get experience that probably helped me more than the Young Eagles. I watched as 7 airplanes, with I believe 9 pilots, work endur-

ingly to give wings to these young boys. I watched volunteers like Jody, Beth, and Ed Seurer, work tirelessly at getting boys lined up, paper work done, and ready to go, while I got to play for 9 hours. I was able to monitor the CTAF and hear the radio calls of the pilots as they called their positions in the pattern. (A help to a student pilot that gets a brain cramp as soon as he pushes the push-to-talk button) I watched as the temperature began to warm during the day and see the effects of the lower density on the lift of the aircraft.

(Experience that backs up what the books say) I was able to do a quick guesstimate, weight and balance for each plane. (Not always successfully)

All in all it was a rewarding day. I heard many excited boys as they came off the airplanes. Awesome was used quite often. I know that there were other volunteers that worked in other areas that I didn't mention, and it was mentioned several times by Scoutmasters of their appreciation for the hard work of all involved. We have a chapter of people that we can be proud of. Thanks John, Brad and Debbie for letting me help, and thanks to the pilots for putting up with me.

THANK YOU LETTER FOR HONDO AVIATION DAY

By Brian Scheffler

Dear, MS. Cherry, Young Eagles EAA, City of Hondo, TX, airmanowhers, Pilots, Governor Rick Perry, And plane Number N6238W (Pilot)

This last week (before spring break) I attended your Aviation merit badge at the Hondo Municipal airport. I enjoyed the class a lot, I learned more than I ever did about planes, and I got to go up in a plane for the second time in my life (the first time I was a baby) This helps me a lot because in the future I'm thinking about becoming a pilot in the United States Air Force. I also liked Governor Perry's speech at lunch time. This was very fun for me, and will help me towards Eagle. Thanks!!!!!!!!!!!!

Yours Truly,

Brian Scheffler



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