



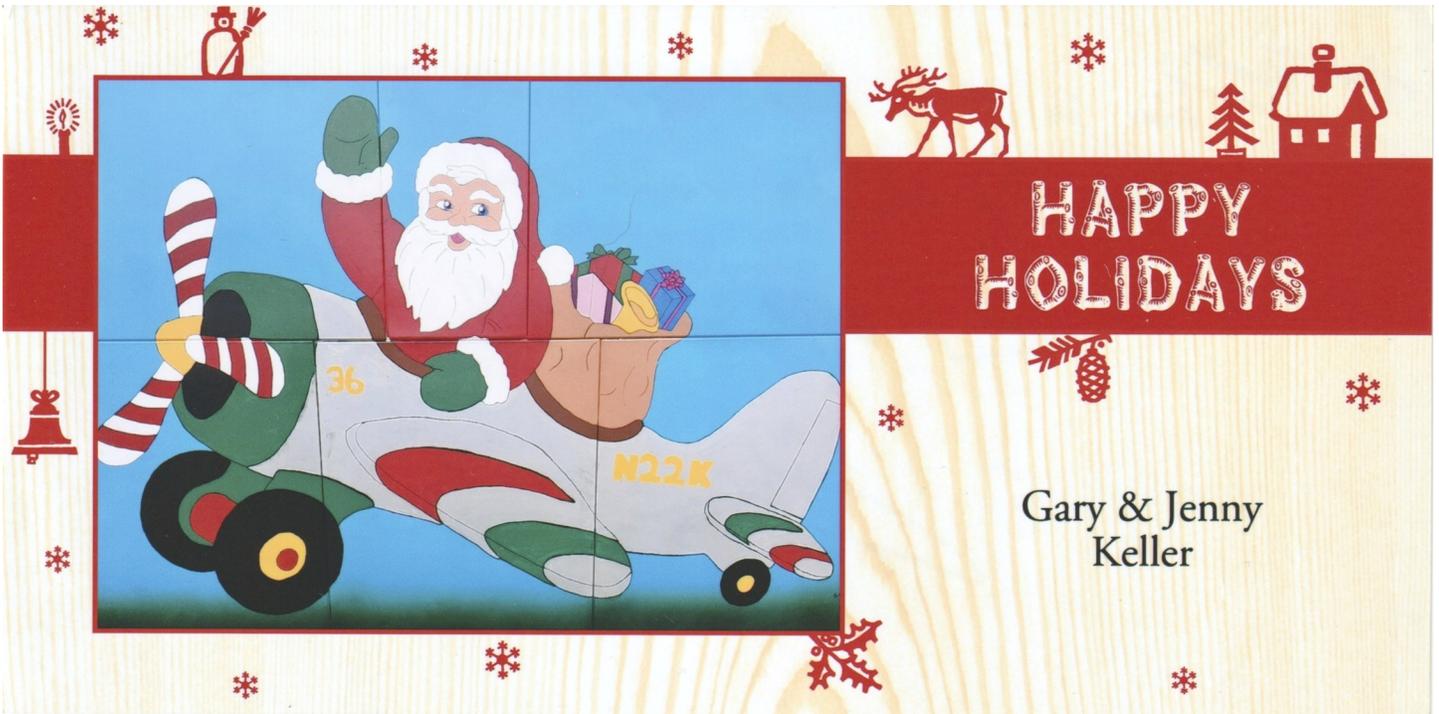
The Hagerstown Homebuilder

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EAA CHAPTER 36

December 2023

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2023-24 OFFICERS AND SUPPORT STAFF	
President: Ray Franze	Vice-President: Gary Keller
Secretary: Dean Popio	Treasurer: Dean Popio
Young Eagles Coordinator: Curtis Berry	Tech Counselor - Flight Advisor: Gary Hartle
Webmaster: Carl Thornwall	Newsletter Editors: The Thornwall Family
Board of Directors:	Joe Boyle
Jim Marsden	Austin Colby
Elizabeth Thornwall	Dave Anderson

→→→ **Our next general membership meeting will be held December 5th** →→→

The President's Corner



Welcome to the final countdown of 2023. If you're not quite finished with leftovers from your Thanksgiving Day feasts, it's probably time to throw 'em out as they're a week old now. As I reflect on the past year as a Chapter with 2023 reaching its conclusion, I don't lose sight of the countless, and selfless, contributions from our members in a myriad of ways that continue to make this chapter what it is—an organization that shares its passion for aviation with others and increases its impact on the community. Thank you! Whether you have contributed just once, or time and again, we love you! And to anyone who hasn't yet volunteered in some capacity—a simple, “How can I help?” will be greatly appreciated.

I feel like we struggled to get into a groove this past year. We scrubbed our first two Young Eagles/Pancake Breakfast events of the season; and other times due to weather we still flew Young Eagles but didn't host a Pancake Breakfast. Additionally, the turnout for “Wings & Wheels” appeared to be a little lighter compared to previous years—in part to competing against several aviation events throughout the region that day. We intentionally didn't schedule a monthly chapter gathering for July because the first Tuesday fell on July 4th, and excessive winds necessitated canceling June's monthly gathering at Pegasus' field for an R/C demonstration. And weather interfered with several planned flyouts. Oh yea, the Poker Run—the weather poo-pooed on that too! Guest speakers providing feature presentations during monthly chapter gatherings were at a minimum as well. Lastly, sadly, we lost some cherished members who passed away this year.

The above may sound like 2023 was all “doom and gloom,” but it wasn't. Despite the obstacles, 2023 was a success for the chapter. Our fourth Ray Aviation Scholar, Madison, successfully became a private pilot when she passed her checkride near the end of October; and our fifth Ray Aviation Scholar, Landry, completed his “First Solo” flight in early November. We still managed to fly over 300 Young Eagles in spite of two scrubbed events and questionable weather forecasts for others. The few flyout events we had saw new faces join in the fun; and even with a lack of flyouts members got together to fly on their own throughout the year. Definitely worth highlighting as well was the return of the Green Landings fly-in/drive-in. And both, our financial position and membership roster, are strong and trending in a positive direction.

You read that correctly. “Congratulations!” are in order for Landry, our current Ray Aviation Scholar, having completed his “First Solo” flight—a huge milestone along his journey toward becoming a private pilot. This feat was accomplished just two days after he briefed the chapter at our monthly chapter gathering about hitting a training plateau with his landings. I saw both Landry and the aircraft shortly after and both appeared safe and in good working order.

Chapter Dues—it's that time of year again. For those who took advantage of the 3-year membership option the first year it was offered—that membership coverage ends at the end of this month. Now is a great time to persuade any friends, family, colleagues, or acquaintances to join our chapter. Growth is the key to fresh ideas, new chapter initiatives, additional volunteer manpower, and sustained success for our chapter.

Also, this is the time of year I send out links for various surveys for the membership to complete. The survey regarding Chapter Awards is time-sensitive so I can order the winners' awards in time for the annual banquet. Please respond to that survey no later than the end of January. The other is an admittedly lengthy survey that covers a multitude of items from understanding the demographics of the membership to taking the pulse of the chapter. My deal with you is, the sooner many of you complete the surveys, the less I'll harass the chapter about it via emails and/or mentions in future newsletters and at chapter

gatherings. The links can be found in an Inbox registered to you, and further down in the newsletter.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for our annual Christmas party at Curtis' and Kate's residence on Saturday, December 16. Great camaraderie, great food, great fun! If you would like to participate in the gift exchange, be sure to bring a gift for each participant—just you participating in the gift exchange, or one for both you and your spouse. The value of gifts brought in the past ranged from restaurant gift cards worth ~ \$25 down to whatever someone probably didn't sell at their last yard sale. And the gifts range from practical to absurd. All of which makes the gift exchange a lot of fun. We hope to see you there. But ... RSVP (to Curtis and Kate)!

We are in need of a Banquet Coordinator. The annual awards banquet is right around the corner as the annual banquet tends to be the next big meal following the holiday season. This is a powerful position. The incumbent gets to select the location, menu, and time of the event (date is usually mid-March). Choose wisely, or you'll catch flack from the membership. Based on the costs involved, we'll come up with the guest price for the event. Don't leave this task to me—I don't have the time or energy to travel around and see which McDonald's still have a PlayPlace.

Lastly, a reminder that—for January 2024—we DO NOT have a monthly chapter gathering scheduled for the first Tuesday of the month. The Board agreed not to schedule a monthly chapter gathering in January, unless necessary, going forward due to it immediately following the holidays. You're welcome!

Until next time

Safe skies!

Chapter 36

News and Events

Chapter Survey Links

Chapter 36 Survey:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1eV4VYwE5DUeEngjSIZwrc36UCGTLDaptmLe7W1FTKIo>

Awards Survey:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1xLvcWEht7E_zvwFIUMzD90bnAVJaH5OYh1AYiBNes8

National EAA Survey:

<https://go.eaa.org/OTewLVNFVS0wNzMAAAGPTxBRCe-MjyMI58xAVCPz0MgaMXHRLxkJf4tyoIotNM2jjFCJ1eiv3orZ-UZc4Sjbsq2ui7s=>

Current Fuel Prices		
as of November 30, 2023		
Airport	SS	FS
Hagerstown	\$6.65	\$7.50
Frederick	\$6.85	\$7.60
Martinsburg	\$6.59	\$6.99
Winchester	\$5.94	\$6.34
Cumberland		\$6.70
Carroll County	\$6.49	\$6.89
www.airnav.com		



Weekly Build Nights at the Chapter 36 Hangar,
Monday nights at 7 p.m.

December



Chapter Meeting

Monthly chapter meeting on Tuesday, December 5th, 7:00 p.m. at the Hagerstown Aviation Museum hangar.

\$ Chapter Membership Dues \$

Current:

Individual - \$30	Family - \$40
Individual (3) - \$75*	Family (3) - \$105*
Lifetime (I) - \$350	Lifetime (F) - \$500

Honorary - Free

*(3) = *three-year membership*

What does local chapter membership support?

- PIA scholarship fund
 - Youth flight training scholarship
 - Youth RC project
 - Young Eagles events
 - Pancake breakfasts
 - EAA national chapter dues & insurance
 - Young Eagles Workshops
 - Movie Nights
 - Technical Counselor access for member build projects
 - Flight Advisor access for member build projects
 - Flyouts and other social events
 - Online seminars
 - Speaker presentations
 - Volunteer opportunities
 - Member accomplishment celebrations
 - Host inaugural/annual Poker Run
 - Marketing / Promotional activities
 - Pedal Plane projects
 - EAA youth camp sponsorships
 - Banquet Awards
 - VMC/IMC Club events
 - Build project aircraft and supplies
 - Hangar rent and utilities to support activities
 - Tools and Accessories
 - Machinery
- List may include activities that are proposed but not presently active

Upcoming EAA Webinars

Full list: <https://www.eaa.org/ea/news-and-publications/ea-webinars>

[Deadly Switches](#) | **Qualifies for FAA WINGS and AMT Credit**

Wednesday, December 6, 7 p.m. CST with Mike Busch

That ubiquitous key-operated ignition switch in most single-engine piston airplanes is fraught with peril. There are two different designs that have different failure modes and are subject to different airworthiness directives. Yet one critical failure mode is unaddressed by any of these ADs and has resulted in death, serious injury, and costly property damage. Maintenance expert Mike Busch discusses how and why these switches fail and what you can do to protect yourself from the deadly consequences. If you own or fly an aircraft with a key-operated ignition switch, this webinar is a must-see.

[The Clyde Lee and Earl Iverson Story](#) | **Museum Webinars Series**

Tuesday, December 12, 7 p.m. CST with Amelia Anderson and Chris Henry

In a time when flying the Atlantic was only for the daring, one team with an Oshkosh tie decided to give it a try. Let's talk about this footstep in aviation history.

[Starting a Flying Club](#)

Wednesday, December 20, 7 p.m. CST with Timm Bogenhagen

EAA's initiative to support the formation of flying clubs by the members of EAA's chapter network continues to grow, and Timm Bogenhagen from the EAA will help you learn the basics of forming a separate nonprofit flying club at your local airport!

[Time & Materials Maintenance](#) | **Qualifies for FAA WINGS and AMT Credit**

Wednesday, January 3, 7 p.m. CST with Mike Busch

In this webinar, GA maintenance advocate Mike Busch A&P/IA discusses this issue, and suggests some better ways to deal with aircraft maintenance pricing.

[The Van's RV](#)

Tuesday, January 9, 7 p.m. CST with Chris Henry & Dick VanGrunsvan

The Van's RV series is one of the designs that changed the landscape of homebuilt aircraft. Tonight we will talk about the examples in the EAA Aviation Museum collection, as well as the history of the type.

Ray Aviation Scholarship Update: Landry Kaufmann

On Wednesday, November 8th, 2023, I met with Joshua Upmeyer to practice landings, which I had previously mentioned to EAA chapter 36 was the reason I extended my first solo date. Josh and I flew the traffic pattern at KMRB 14 times to improve my approach and landing skills. While not perfect, I was told that if I repeated the last few landings, I'd be ready to solo the next day! On Thursday, November 9th, I met Alex Miller (my initial instructor) at KMRB to confirm more landings and potentially solo. Upon arrival, Alex asked if I was ready, and we made 3-4 laps in the pattern before taxiing back to the school, where he turned me loose! I was super excited! Since then, I've practiced unusual attitudes, basic IFR, short and soft field takeoffs and landings. A planned cross-country flight to Newmarket, Virginia was delayed due to smoke and Thanksgiving.



November Flyouts

A chapter that flies together, stays together.

Pictures include a few shots from the flyout to MRB's Crosswinds Cafe at the beginning of November (Landing at MRB, shadow of aircraft on approach, occupants – Marshall Martin, Dave Anderson, Pete & Karen Walters). Also attending the flyout were Curtis & Kalyn Berry (possibly others?).



Random flights together this month: Dave Anderson and Jim Hauber, Dave Anderson and Austin Colby, Ray Franze and Matt Wood. Other member combinations flew together this past month, but no known pictures exist.

