



March 2024 Newsletter

From the President

It has been several weeks since my last attempt at a newsletter. And in that time, much can change.

Gone west

The very first thing to relate to all members is something sad; Felix Flok (Sr.), an original member of 414 at the very beginning, has Gone West. His son, Felix Flok Jr., continues as a member of the chapter, yet is interested in selling his 75 percent completed Zenith 360 (the low wing Zenith), if anyone is interested.



Dues & membership

As for overall membership, we currently have 79 paid-up members, 20 whose membership expired December 31 or either last year or 2022, and 21 individuals classified as new members from late last year or early this year. In particular, everyone welcome Joe Damore as a new member!

Our treasurer Matt Koschak has now implemented our on-line Clover connection for payments, so those still needing to become current with their dues should contact Arkady Spevak, our membership chair, or Matt if you want to become current and choose not to write a check.

The issue of dues and whether they should be raised a bit was an unresolved issue at our last board meeting. More to come, as we examine the need and our ability to raise money in various ways. Our Young Eagles credits, approximately \$1500 earned last year, will find their way to our account this month. Although a significant amount, we are restricted in how we spend it, only for the YE program in some form, perhaps by expanding into the ground-based, year-long programs. Anyone interested in participating in bringing those on board should contact me or Patty Ramsdell, our Young Eagles coordinator.

Gatherings & programs

Our February gathering at "Kathy's Kitchen" appeared to be a highly popular event. Thirty-five members and friends gathered for food and friendship, without any planned program. Our host Brad Shafer was very pleased, and offered to repeat whenever we are interested. All of the feedback I received was very positive, causing me to believe we need more "social" in our activities. Comments, suggestions and volunteers encouraged.

Our March program, currently planned at Warbird Heritage Foundation for Thursday, March 14th, is a presentation by Rachel Tracey, a tower controller at KORD, who also has experience at Airventure. She will discuss, along with some colleagues, what they see and do in the tower, some of the new and continuing challenges around staffing and training for tower personnel, and some helpful information for those of us who fly near or under KORD's Bravo airspace. Thanks to retired president Jeff Schreiber for making the connection to this. Doors will open approximately 6:30 PM, and the program will begin at 7:30.

If any of you reading this know of an interesting possible subject for a gathering, and are willing to help bring it to the chapter, let me or Sam Battaglia know. It often takes a significant amount of time for these to be arranged, and more than just a few of us to find what people would be interested in enough to come to an event. And, if you are really interested in helping find programs for us on a more regular basis, I would like to talk with you at length.



A possible late summer event may be a visit on a weekend by one of EAA's flying legends, either the B-25 or the Ford Tri-Motor. Chapter member Richard Katz has been able to get our chapter on the list of possibles, yet no specific schedule has been completed. So we won't know if or when for some time. But thanks to Richard for making the effort.

Vice President Sam Battaglia and I spent Sunday afternoon, February 25th at the 12th Annual Chicago Area Chapter Leaders Conference, at Schaumburg Airport. A primary purpose of this now-annual event is to combine schedules so events are not all planned for the same day(s). Roughly 25 individuals from 11 area chapters gathered to also discuss and share ideas on membership growth, handling newsletters, chapter websites, and a huge chunk of time around many issues affecting Young Eagles. Beth Rehm, member of Chapters 932 and 414 was again the

organizer and moderator. Anyone wishing more details about any of the discussions, please respond to Sam or to me.

Member satisfaction survey

I only recently received our chapter results from EAA's Chapter Member Satisfaction Survey. My corporate friends tell me 20% to 25% response is good for such surveys, yet somehow I feel disappointed that only 24 members participated (out of almost 90), knowing that I was one of them, and that quite a bit revealed that we may possibly be putting emphasis in the wrong places. I would really like a broader base upon which to build our schedule of gatherings and activities, along with assistance and energy from that same broader base. More to come.

John L. Cecilia, Chapter 414 President
jlcecilia96@gmail.com

EAA 414 VMC/IMC CLUB



Chapter 414 VMC/IMC clubs are monthly meetings where real scenarios are presented followed by group discussion, with the goal of promoting safety by sharing knowledge and experience.

Meetings held **third Wednesday of the month**. All skill levels welcome. For information, visit chapters.eaa.org/eaa414/vmc-club or email Sam Battaglia jmc-vmc@eaa414.org



Upcoming Events

See chapters.eaa.org/ea414/event-calendar for event details. All are welcome at our chapter meeting and IMC/VMC Club events regardless of skill level. New or prospective chapter members are especially encouraged to attend!

Chapter meeting

Thu 03/14, 7pm

IMC/VMC Club meeting

Wed 03/20, 7pm

Board of directors meeting

Thu 03/28, 7:30pm

From the Web

[Citation V - ILS approach in heavy rain](#). *"Follow us on an ILS approach in heavy rain and low clouds into Smyrna, TN."*





DUES & MEMBERSHIP

Send dues to

Matt Koschak
23391 N. Birchwood Lane
Deerfield, IL 60015-1256

Make checks payable to

Lake County Chapter, EAA 414