



February 2025 Newsletter

From the President

A New Year – New Things, New Ways

For those of you who were at our last regular meeting, thank you!! My goal was to build a schedule for the year, of meetings that were useful, or fun, or both!! Thanks to all of you who attended, and bigger thank yous to those who have taken on a task, a topic or whatever, to meet wants and needs that were communicated during the last meeting.



The overall result was a listing, by month, of programs, and one or more members who will be the primary drivers of those programs.

Accomplished Initial Scheduling of Meetings/Gatherings (per Margie F.)

- February: **Movie Night** – (Ileana & Jill) (2/21)
- March: **Buying and Selling Aircraft** (John C.)
- April: **Rusty Pilots** (Barbara P.)
- May: **Learn to Fly – adults** (Margie F. & Arkady) (5/17, 9 am to noon)
- June: **Surviving CO Poisoning** (Peyton M.) AND **Fly Out to EAA Museum** (Don & Arlene)
- July: **Hangar BBQ & Airventure** (Don/Jeff)
- August: **Northern Illinois Airshow** (Margie & Peyton)
- September: **Instructors** (Beth R.)
- October: **Aircraft Owner Maintenance/Oil & Spark Plugs** (Andrew)
- November: **Airplane Builders** (Matt K.)
- December: **Holiday Party**

Possible additional gatherings – another tower tour, United Airlines suburban operations center (per Mike Rogers).

Also, will need dates for Young Eagles soon, and some looks and practice with the updated YE scheduling software. If you have done the Youth Protection Training for Young Eagles, look up (under Youth Protection Training) and make sure you are not due for a renewal, for doing the training again. It lasts for 3 years, and many of our YE volunteers' trainings are expiring early this year, or have already expired.

Membership & Chapter Dues

So, with the outline of activities for 2025, this brings up the next very necessary topic, membership and chapter dues. Individual dues are \$25. Family dues, for either a couple, or a family with YE members under the age of 18, are \$35. As I write this, 46 members have paid their 2025 chapter dues. **If you are not certain whether you have paid or not, contact Arkady Spevak, our membership coordinator**, at arkady.spevak@gmail.com.

Still listed as active members, but yet to pay their 2025 chapter dues are 51 members. Left over from last year are still 11 members whose dues were last paid in 2023, but were still considered active. If you are one of those, and wish to be active and participate, paying 2025 dues will keep you active. Otherwise, you will be changed to inactive in the roster, and eventually removed from the mailing/e-mail list.

Dues paying is easier, with our **Clover direct link for payment**. These are the links:

- Family dues: <https://link.clover.com/urlshortener/HwYmgd>
- Individual dues: <https://link.clover.com/urlshortener/tBdYNB>

If you have trouble with either, contact our treasurer, Matt Koschak, 847 630-8281, or send your payment as a check made out to EAA Chapter 414 to Matt at 23391 Birchwood Lane, Deerfield, IL 60015-1256.

As mentioned earlier, if perhaps you were a member whose membership expired in 2023, you are still in the system, and paying the 2025 dues will reactivate your membership!

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/ea414/vmc-club or email Sam Battaglia imc-vmc@ea414.org



Other significant changes/issues/programs

Youth programs

Tim & Janet Buckley, along with yours truly, completed and filed the initial application for the chapter to be approved for the possibility of awarding a Ray Scholarship. Honestly, I am not sure this will be approved, as we have not as a chapter focused much energy on expanding our youth programs beyond the initial flying of Young Eagles.

Communications

A number of you have experienced challenges with our e-mails, for both general information and for IMC/VMC Zoom meetings. Both are currently driven by Google Groups. Unfortunately, the special list for IMC/VMC was constructed by the late Sam Battaglia, and there is no clean way for additions or changes to be made. That is not true of our larger main mailing list, yet it has become more difficult to use, especially for new members who have non-Gmail addresses. Effort is being put into a possible change in a system, currently focused on what other chapters are using, and the pros and cons of same.

Membership focus

Stuart Feen, a senior member of the chapter, has for a number of years been concerned with the aging of our overall membership, and what he sees as a lack of success in attracting young adults who are interested in learning to fly, and the ins and outs of general aviation. Money has been given to help pay people's dues, programs exist with EAA to extend free 6 month EAA dues, etc. Yet we don't seem to attract many younger adults interested in flying as members.

There will be a Learn to Fly day, in mid-May, focused on adults. Anyone who understands the importance of this group of possible members would be welcome to work with Margie Freeman on that program, and with Stuart and Arkady Spevak, our Membership Coordinator, to improve our attracting and retaining younger adults as members.

As always, comments or suggestions on anything are always welcome.

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Upcoming Events

See chapters.eaa.org/aaa414/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!

IMC/VMC Meeting

Wed 02/19, 7pm - 9pm

Chapter meeting

Thu 02/21, 7pm

Board of directors meeting

Thu 02/27, 7:30pm

From the Web

[EAA - Cessna 195 Businessliner 70 year anniversary](#). "Cessna's 195 Businessliner turned 70 years old this year, and we joined the fly-in celebration at Stearman Field (1K1) in Benton, Kansas





DUES & MEMBERSHIP

[Pay online](#) or send dues to

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

Make checks payable to
EAA Chapter 414