



Spring Clean-Up

The cold weather seems to be slowly getting warmer and now we look to doing the spring cleaning on our airplanes. Over the winter it's not exactly conducive to spending a nice afternoon cleaning up the old bird and shine it up! Now that the weather with more sunshine is around a good time to catch up on the maintenance!

Wash and Shine

A good wash and a good belly scrub is a great place to start. With the usual enthusiasm to get all that 50W oil out of the way and off of the belly sometimes a solvent based cleaner (wax & grease remover not gasoline) on some disposable rags will make things go quicker. If your bird isn't a "Cloud Oiler" you might be able to skip this step but food for thought. Just remember don't leave oily rags around they might just start a fire! Most car wash soaps work well for clean up on painted surfaces. Where we could have a concern is down in seams and riveted areas where some cleaners

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might react with some aluminum alloys and magnesium skins. A product designed for “Aircraft” usage would be the better choice. Most piston aircraft are painted with automotive refinish paints. If you are thinking about pressure washing we have to be careful about not forcing too much pressure or water into areas that they don’t belong. Also remember that some paint systems don’t have the best grip on aluminum and with enough concentrated pressure you might just blow the paint off of your airplane, use a “Washing” tip to keep the pressure down.

Water is another concern that is sometimes overlooked. Does your water have a “High Iron Content”? How about a water softener that uses “Salt” to “Soften” it salt isn’t the best thing to pour over aluminum or even steel. Knowing what’s in your water is important and if in doubt wait till you have good filtration to keep from causing more problems. Ounce of prevention...

For those of you with “Polished” airplanes you already know the joys and heartaches of a polished aluminum airplane is! I too have a soft spot in my heart for a polished V tail! But I know it would be like taking on a second job to keep it all shined up!

**Interior**

Cleaning up plexiglass is usually an easy job on the inside on the outside the usual sampling of bugs leaves a fun challenge particularly if you leave it on there for a week or two! There are a variety of plexiglass cleaners out there some their manufacturer was very proud of!! I found a product called “Array Plexiglass Cleaner” that is a real value. With all the Plexiglass shields installed in checkout areas of many merchants this cleaner became real popular and for less than \$10 it beats some

products in containers 1/4 the size priced around ~\$34! It’s available at Gordon Food Service and others. PN 571504 Array Glass and Plastic Cleaner. I tried a side by side comparison and the performance was equal to or better than the competition. The main difference is the cost for the product and being in a pump spray bottle you get more and spend less.

Polish and Wax

Fortunately many of the newer systems available are easier to use years ago the “Paste Wax” systems available would take a fair amount of elbow grease to apply. Today the “Ceramic Waxes” are easy and quick to apply. “Microfiber” cloths are the best tool for application and removal. Hint, a spray bottle of distilled water misted onto the surface helps in the finishing touches. If you want to polish the paint finish on your plane use the least invasive process you can. An orbital polisher will work in slower and finer steps vs a direct drive polishing wheel that also has a fair amount of weight which in some cases where the weight helps. But, unless you have a poor finish that needs heavy compounding you can run the risk of wearing too much material off the surface which may result in decreasing the life of the finish you are trying to polish. There is also the risk of wearing the paint down to the rivets on aluminum airplanes I know it sounds crazy but when the polishing wheel

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particularly the direct driven polishing wheels can wear through the paint on the rivets. Stay off the seams and rivets with power tools to avoid trouble. This would then require an application of paint to repair the surface.

When it's all said and done you will see ~2 to 3 mph increase in speed which is a bonus and also gain some ease of cleaning down the road when your next session of smashed bug removal needs to be done on your bird!

Extended Preflight

Time to take some extra time to check the systems, such as...

Fluid levels, GPS Database update / expired, battery water level (distilled water only please), backup or emergency batteries condition or are they expired? Fire extinguisher expiration date, tire psi check / set, charts up to date? A.R.R.O.W. all current? Lighting / flash light/s, all working, spare batteries?

April Speaker

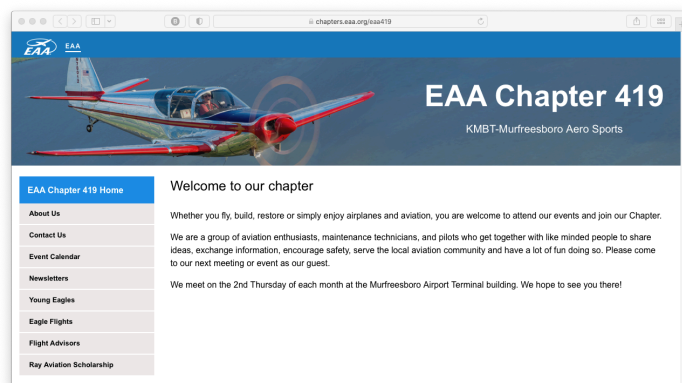
Our speaker this month is Mayor Shane McFarlane.

Young Eagles

The next Young Eagles flight will be April 16, 2022 make sure you mark your calendar!

Officer 2022-2023 Term

President.....	Chris Hardee	615 482 1592
Vice-President.....	Adam Palermo	615 934 2867
Treasurer.....	Dan Perkey	615 556 7149
Secretary.....	Clifford Richeson	615 631 8953
Eagle/Young Eagle Coordinator	Chris Hardee	615 482 1592
Membership /Board.....	Earl Grace	615 315 8811
Board (one year) Web / Social.....	Jerry Swick	615 779 8373
Board (one year).....	Robbie Mackie	615 705 1395
Board.....	Chuck Williams	615 519 3680
Board / Newsletter Editor.....	Joe Blanton	586 215 7886



New Chapter 419 Website

The new website for the chapter is almost ready to launch. Our thanks should go to Jerry Swick for his efforts to update our website. If you have some website skills and would be willing to help.

Have a look at <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea419>

Young Eagles

The schedule for Young eagles is as follows for 2022 [Weather Permitting].

April-9 May-14 June-11 August-13 September-10 October-8

Second Saturday each month April through October excluding July due to Airventure 2022.
Time is 10:00 to 1:30.

2020 Meeting Calendar Month-Club Mtg / Board Mtg

January 13th / 27th

July 14th / 28th

February 10th / 24th

August 11th / 25th

March 10th / 24th

September 8th / 22nd

April 14th / 28th

October 13th / 27th

May 12th / 26th

November 10th / 24th

June 9th / 23rd

December 3rd Christmas Party