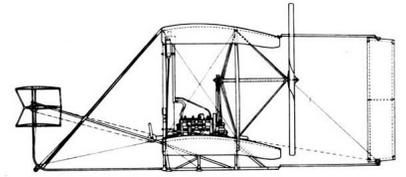




The Flyer



Volume 57, Issue 5

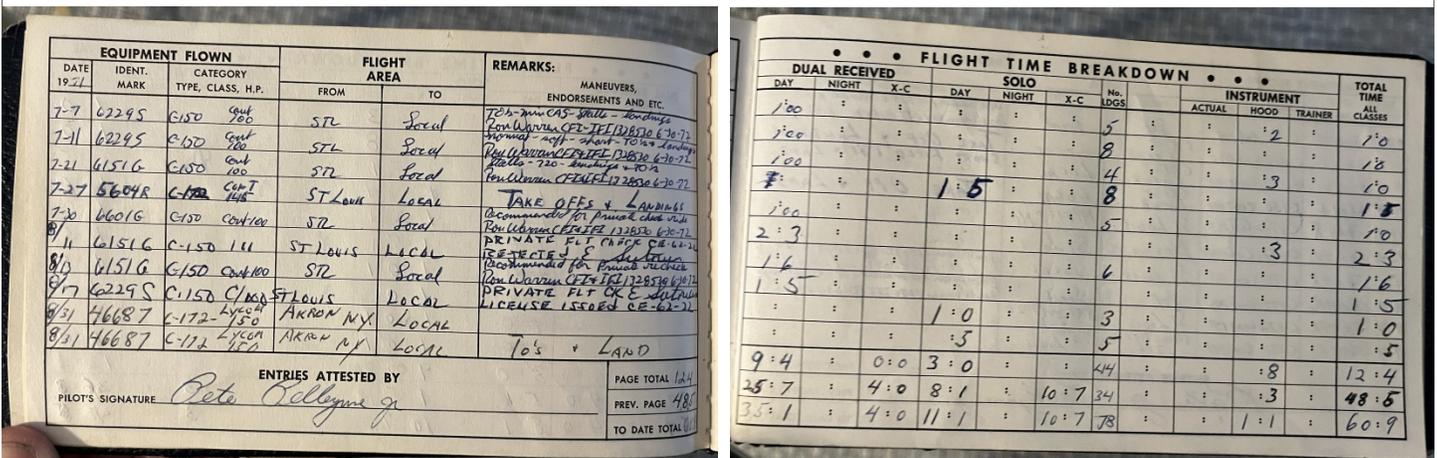
May 2025

From Chapter President Mark Scheda: Makin' memories...

My first-ever flight was sometime in the early 1970s. I remember the high points clearly, even though it happened 50+ years ago. My Uncle Pete was a private pilot, and he took my dad, my sister, and me for a ride originating from Akron (9G3). I remember flying north to the Lake Ontario shoreline where our family rented a cottage every year. We flew over the cottage and much of the shoreline where I spent every summer doing what kids do when they're out in the country, and on the water. I remember being in awe seeing the things which were so familiar at ground level, from a completely new perspective.

Fast forward to the spring of 2024: Liz and I made a midwest road trip to visit family and friends, including to St. Louis where my Uncle Pete (now well into his 80s) resides. On that visit I asked Uncle Pete whether he remembered that flight. His memory was not quite as clear as mine, but my second question truly opened a new window into that day back in 1970-something. My second question: "do you still have your pilot's logbook?". Some rummaging around in dresser drawers produced the now-treasured logbook, including some marvelous and detailed insights to my Uncle Pete's aviating, and to training and flying "back in the day".

The date was 8/31/1971, so my "early 1970s" memory was indeed correct - I was 10 at the time. The aircraft was (N)46687, a 150 HP Cessna 172. Interesting that engine HP was recorded along with the Type. The amazing part to me is that the flight (with brother-in-law, niece, and nephew on board!) was Uncle Pete's VERY FIRST flight after passing his PPL check ride in a C150 two weeks prior (and after a half-hour checkout in the unfamiliar rental 172). It was also his first flight in Western NY, having earned his certificate in St. Louis. It may just be me, but I accumulated about 20 hours solo prior to having the confidence to take my first passenger. Maybe a younger version of me would have been as gung ho as my Uncle Pete... Having all of this new detail about that very fond memory has been a wonderful gift. (continued next page)



Mission: EAA Chapter 44 is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization of aircraft builders and aviation enthusiasts in the Western New York region dedicated to promoting aviation and encouraging participation in aviation-related activities. These include designing, building and restoring aircraft, education, advocacy, and youth outreach programs. We promote flying with high standards of safety in an environment that supports freedom, family, and personal fulfillment.

(Mark's memories...continued)

Weeks after Liz and I returned from St. Louis, she was in our attic in search of some unrelated object. She opened a box, and right on top was an envelope containing some black-and-white 35mm negatives. Curious, she examined the negatives to determine the subject matter. In one frame, she could clearly see the outline of an airplane with some people. Could it be? She verified the tail number on the negative matched the tail number in Uncle Pete's logbook, so unbeknownst to me she took the negative to Scott's Photo to have a print made. Sure enough, the photo is of that day in 1971, and of that flight. My Uncle Pete is sporting classic 1970s stripes and white jacket, my dad is the tall guy, my older sister in the flowered pants, my little cousin Tony on the ground, and me standing on the gear leg.



Fairly bursting with excited anticipation, Liz concealed the whole goings-on from me until Father's Day, when she presented me with the framed print. Needless to say I was stunned and so happy to have one of my favorite and most formative personal memories resurrected and so well-documented

I also marvel at the discovery of that negative - neither Liz nor I even knew it existed, and for her to find it by accident, only weeks after a visit to Uncle Pete is some kind of a miracle.

What brings all of this to mind is that we are entering the season of Makin' Memories. Our first Young Eagles event is this Saturday, and we will have LOTS of other opportunities to make aviation-related memories with friends, family, and new acquaintances over this coming flying season. The last photo (at right - Editor) is just me making a memory for my California-based daughter a few weeks ago. Here's hoping that we'll ALL take advantage of those opportunities to make an indelible and treasured memory for someone.



Go Flying!

Mark

EAA Chapter 44 Aviation Summer Camp

EAA Chapter 44 Members: Any Chapter 44 members who would like to volunteer to help with this year's Aviation Camp please contact Norm Isler: NormIsler@aol.com ASAP, Volunteers will be needed to supervise and assist with our planned activities. No special training required! **Please share the following information with anyone you think may be interested in participating.**

EAA 44 Aviation Camp

Ages 11 – 17

August 2 & 3 2025

9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Cost: \$99.00

EAA Chapter 44 Sport Aviation Center
Ledgedale Airpark (5G0)
44 Eisenhower Drive
Brockport NY 14420

Pre-registration is required. Please contact Elise Isler : AviationCamp@eaa44.org for information and a registration form.

Registration closes July 15, 2025

The camp includes 2 days of fun-filled activities all about aviation. Students will be introduced to basic aerodynamics, airplane construction, weather, navigation, instrumentation, different kinds of aircraft, and aviation related career opportunities as well as hands-on experience working with wood and metal and various tools related to building aircraft.

*** Students are asked to bring their own snacks and picnic lunch including a beverage. Water will be provided.

EAA Chapter 44 Young Eagles Schedule for 2025

Founded in 1992, the Young Eagles program is dedicated to giving youth ages 8–17, an opportunity to go flying in a general aviation airplane. These flights are offered free of charge and are made possible through the generosity of EAA member volunteers. The Young Eagles program has flown over 2.2 million kids

May 27, 2025 : 4 PM

June 14, 2025 : 5 PM

August 23, 2025 : 10 AM

September 20, 2025 : 10 AM

Please pre-register to reserve your child's aviation adventure! For registration and questions, please contact Rick Tandy at rltandy23@gmail.com

For more information from EAA headquarters about the Young Eagles program, visit www.youngeagles.org

May 20, 2025 Chapter Meeting Presentation by:

Author/Illustrator/Aviation Photographer Sheila M. Young

Sheila M. Young, EAA44 member, has recently written, illustrated and self-published a children's aviation book, that's not just for kids! It's also meant for pilots of all ages and adults who've not yet achieved their BIG DREAMS!

I SEE AN AIRPLANE UP IN THE SKY just launched on April 25, 2025 after many challenges and setbacks. Appropriately, the initial launch took place at the National Soaring Museum in Elmira, NY with fellow aviatrixes of The Ninety-Nines. The museum's gift store is one of the first local places that will carry Sheila's book for sale, although she's hopeful that the EAA Aviation Museum in Oshkosh, WI will also carry it soon. Sheila will have books available for purchase and to sign after her presentation and will be donating a portion of the proceeds back to EAA44. Please be sure to attend this inspiring presentation that addresses the importance of mentorship, and perseverance in the face of adversity. She hopes to inspire all EAA members (whether still flying or not) to be the spark in fueling the next generation of aviators!

A DREAM TO BECOME A PILOT, 50 YEARS IN THE MAKING,

LEADS TO EAA MEMBER SHEILA M. YOUNG'S NEW CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOK,

I SEE AN AIRPLANE UP IN THE SKY

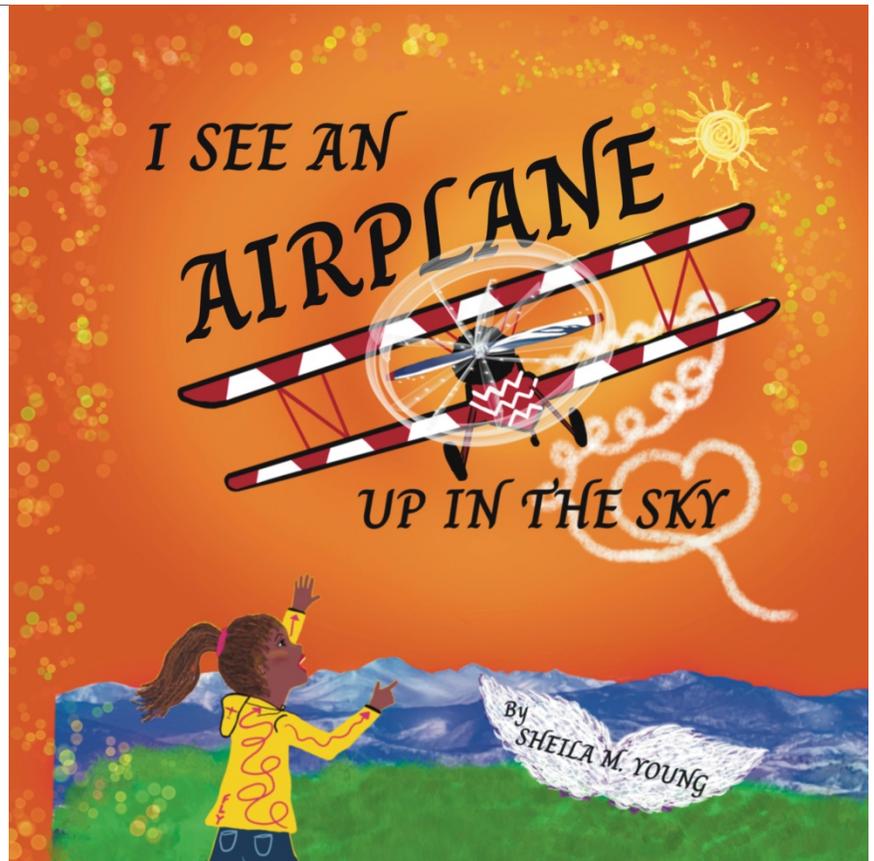
Although Sheila M. Young wanted to fly since she was 5 years old, she didn't know any pilots and had no role models or mentors in aviation. She'd chase crop dusters as a tween in Western N.Y., hoping they'd land to take her flying. They never did! In middle school when Sheila told her guidance counselor that she wanted to become a pilot, he said, "You should consider becoming a flight attendant" even though she was at the top of her class. Upon graduating from college with a Pre-Law degree, after studying abroad in England and travelling throughout Europe, Sheila wanted to serve in the military. However, to her surprise, the recruiting officer said, "As a female, you should probably find another way to fly." True story! Again discouraged, she went on to earn a Masters degree in Higher Education, worked for universities around the U.S., taught English in Japan, but always yearned to fly!

50 years later, Sheila finally found the mentor that was the missing piece to the pursuit of her BIG DREAM. Her mentor, in his 80's, was no longer flying but was passionate about aviation and gave her the inspiration and guidance necessary to take a discovery flight and begin flight training. The obstacles that she'd encounter were relentless, but she finally earned her private pilot's license. As a student pilot in Colorado, Sheila joined EAA, the Ninety-Nines and Women in Aviation. She met a wonderful female mentor in EAA515 who introduced her to the Young Eagles program. Sheila began to volunteer with Young Eagles and became passionate about introducing kids to aviation. Young Eagles was exactly what Sheila wished she had as a kid to get started sooner. Sadly, it didn't exist back then, in the dark ages. Hoping to find a way to share her love of aviation and to inspire kids (especially girls) to fly, on a much larger scale than she could with Young Eagles, Sheila decided to write a book.

Knowing nothing about the publishing industry and having no previous illustration experience, Sheila wrote her children's aviation book in Colorado and illustrated it in New York State where she recently returned after 28 years. Sheila is now a member of EAA44 and the Finger Lakes Chapter of the 99's. She's very grateful to Frances Englund, for welcoming her into both organizations with open arms, which has sadly been a rarity on her aviation journey. (continued next page)

(May Presentation continued)

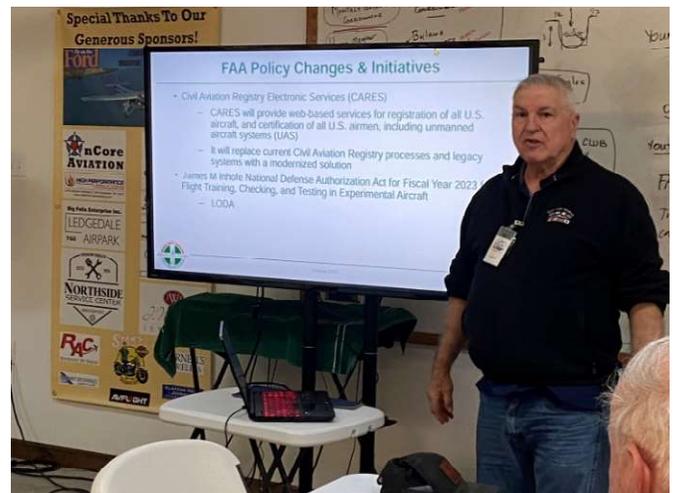
So, how does someone illustrate a book without A.I. nor art school background? Find out in her presentation. CO, NY, FL and HI are represented in Sheila's illustrations, which are a combination of her aviation and nature photography and digital artwork. Her book, based on her own story and dreams, was written to sow seeds of aviation aspirations amongst children and adults. At the end of her book, she has included questions to encourage conversations between generations to go back in the book and find together, hidden things related to WWI and WWII aircraft, famous landmarks, etc. Sheila also hopes to inspire those who have BIG DREAMS unrelated to aviation, who have been told their dreams are impossible, to keep persevering!



Through her book and speaking engagements, Sheila hopes to help change the unfortunate statistics that only 8% of all pilots are women and only 1% of them, women of color! Follow Sheila on Instagram @ Sheila.M.Young for flying inspiration and news about her book including an Author Reading and Book Signing on Wednesday, May 21st, at 6:30PM at Hipocampo Children's Books, 638 South Ave, Rochester, N.Y. Her website, SheilaMYoung.com, will be launching in May 2025.



Last month's presenter was our own Jim Martin, who gave a presentation on *many, many* updates from the FAA! Thank you, Jim!



Help Start The Chapter 44 Explorer Post!



We're looking for a few motivated people!

- The chapter survey makes engaging youth in aviation a key priority.
- Starting an Explorer Post may allow us to connect with more youth through Scouting America (formerly Boy Scouts of America).
- Exploring a vocationally oriented Scouting program.
 - <https://www.exploring.org/aviation>
- 4 adults are required to set up the initial leadership of the post. We have 2 and need at least 2 more.
- The anticipated commitment is 1-2 days a month.



Jeremy Wyatt

Cell: 585-410-3943

Email: jpywatt@pm.me

Address:

390 Reeves Road

Henrietta, NY 14467

What's in it for the youth?

- **Flying Knowledge**
- **Aviation Protocols**
- **Leadership methods**
- **Teamwork**

They will have an opportunity to participate in

- **Flight scenarios**
- **Flight simulator lessons**
- **Tours of airports and aviation facilities**

They will have an opportunity to network with

- **Pilots**
- **Aircraft maintenance technicians**
- **Air traffic controllers**
- **Flight attendants**
- **Airport managers**

They will learn about the educational requirements for a career in Aviation and receive tangible advice on steps they could take now to prepare and position themselves for a successful career in the field of Aviation.

Being associated with Chapter 44, they can learn about building and maintaining aircraft. With the acquisition of the Kitfox 3, they could help restore the plane and learn about what goes into making aircraft airworthy.

Of course, we hope that some of these youth will become regular members of the chapter to help ensure the future of Chapter 44!

Please consider volunteering to be a leader in the new post or helping out at one or two events.

THANK YOU!

Stop Dreaming! Start Flying!

Aviation for young people and adults



SPORT AVIATION CENTER OPEN HOUSE FLY-IN

Saturday June 21 10 AM - 4 PM

Free and open to the Aviation Community & General Public

Aircraft & activities will show the fun of building, restoring, & flying airplanes for their recreational and educational value.

**Baby Ace Restoration, Homebuilt, Restored,
& Production Aircraft on Static Display or Fly-by's,
Classic Car Cruise-In Parking, Grill Food (\$), FAMILY FRIENDLY**

**Sport Aviation Center of Western New York
44 Eisenhower Dr., Brockport NY 14420
Brockport Airport/Ledgedale Airpark (7G0)
15 minutes west of Rochester**



Sponsored by Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 44

EAA Learn to Fly Week Returns May 13-17, 2025

There is no doubt, whether it was at the barbershop or doctor's office, when you've talked about your love for aviation, you've been met with this response: "I have always wanted to learn to fly, but..." Or "I started my ground school years ago and took a few lessons, but..."

It is a story as old as time: Aspiring aviators have the desire, but there are extenuating circumstances that are preventing them from pursuing their dream of flight. Here at EAA, we know there is an opportunity to turn these dreamers into doers.

EAA's mission is to "grow participation in aviation by sharing The Spirit of Aviation." This mission is fully embraced by EAA's 300,000-plus members and 900 local chapters. Though we can't break down every barrier, it is hard to find an organization and group of members more well-equipped to help aspiring aviators find their place in the sky.

Through EAA's vast library of educational materials and local chapter advocates, the organization is perfectly placed to help grow the pilot population.

To further the efforts of growing the aviation community, **EAA Learn to Fly Week, supported by Sporty's Pilot Shop, is returning on May 13-17, 2025!**

The week will consist of three straight days of educational and interactive webinars. Topics will range from how to get started in flight training to tips for passing the FAA written exam, how to save time and money in flight training, strategies for the checkride, pinch-hitter presentations, and so much more!

Representatives from EAA, Sporty's Pilot Shop, Redbird, TakeFlight Interactive, and designated pilot examiners from across the country will be presenting this wide range of webinars. Following each presentation, attendees will have time for Q&A with the presenters.

The final day of Learn to Fly Week, May 17, 2025, will play host to chapter Flying Start events across the country. Flying Start events are open house-style activities that introduce local aspiring pilots to the local knowledge, tools, and connections that they need to accomplish their goal of becoming a pilot.

During the Flying Start event, chapter members will break down the perceived barriers common to the nonaviation community that prevent people from pursuing their pilot certificate.

Following a short presentation from the chapter and local flight instructors about learning to fly, Flying Start attendees are paired with an Eagle Flight mentor pilot for a free introductory flight. At the conclusion of the flight, the attendee will be provided with a free six-month trial EAA membership!

Flying Start participants will walk away from the event with an "I can do this" point of view, and a clear understanding of "how flying can fit into my life," and "what I can do with this hobby."

Whether you're in the midst of your flight training journey, or just thinking about getting started, we know you'll value in EAA Learn to Fly Week

You can learn more and register at www.EAA.org/LTFWeek

Next General Gathering

May 20, 2025 Dinner @ 6:30, Gathering @ 7:30

Dinner will a Pot Luck Supper! Please bring a dish of your choosing to share. Instead of one main course, we can have many to sample! Thank you!

This month's presenter will be Chapter member Sheila Young (see Pages 4 & 5 for more details!)

SAC Work Day - Saturday before Gen. Gathering, 10 am.

All activities take place at the Sport Aviation Center of Western New York, and are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

Sport Aviation Center, EAA Chapter 44
44 Eisenhower Drive, Brockport, NY 14420 Brockport Airport / Ledgesdale Airpark (7G0)
43° 10' 56" N, 77° 55' 1" W

Board Meetings - 2nd Tuesday of the month

General Gatherings - 3rd Tuesday of the month
\$5 Dinner 6:30 pm, Meeting 7:30 pm

BART (Baby Ace Restoration Team) - Every Wednesday 6pm to 9pm, everyone welcome!

VMC/IMC Club (Visual/Instrument Meteorological Conditions) - 2nd Thursday of the month, 7:00 pm

Newsletter Submission Deadline! I like to publish the newsletter on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Please submit pictures and articles by the Saturday preceding that date. Thank you! - The Editor

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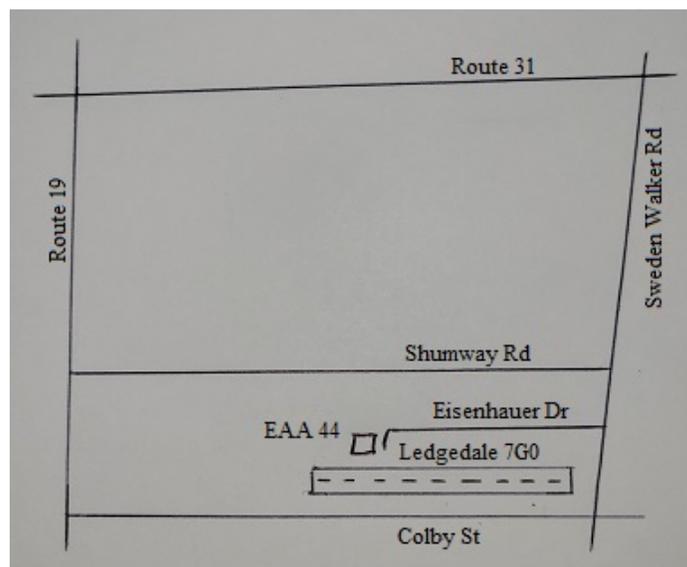
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