



FEBRUARY 2020



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Baer✈️ Mail



As I write this month's Baer Mail our February chapter gathering is still fresh in my memory. We had a fantastic evening featuring guest speaker Steven Meyers, President of DVI Aviation. DVI is a multi-disciplinary aviation company that combines scientific analysis, material science, laboratory testing, piloting expertise, aircraft maintenance, and human factors to investigate aviation accidents and promote air safety.

Steven walked us through concepts, videos and an interactive group exercise where we all assumed the role of accident investigators to analyze an accident that thankfully resulted in the three occupants walking away but less favorable results for the airplane.

We all left with a better understanding of aircraft accident investigation as well as a number of tips and techniques we can follow to improve the safety of our flights both as pilots and passengers. Additional information about Steven and DVI is included on page 8 of this month's Prop Wash.

If you were unable to make our February gathering, please be sure to mark your calendar for our March gathering on 3/26. As well as the rest of our 2020 chapter gatherings which are listed at the top of the next page.

I am looking forward to seeing you all soon at a gathering, rally or fly-out.

Blue Skies!

Mike



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CHAPTER 579
2020 MONTHLY CHAPTER GATHERING SCHEDULE

January 23

February 27

March 26

April 23

May 28

June 25



July (Gone To Oshkosh)

August 27

September 24

October 22

November 19

December 17



During our February chapter gathering, we introduced our EAA Chapters Gold recognition banner.

This banner will be proudly displayed at our chapter home, SimplyFly.

Of the nearly 1000 EAA Chapters worldwide, less than 6% achieved the Gold Recognition Level.

Chapter 579, along with Chapters 22 in Rockford and 75 in Moline were the only 3 Chapters in Illinois to achieve this level of recognition.

We are very proud of this accomplishment and plan to work hard to retain it.



Be sure to follow [EAA Chapter 579](#) on Facebook to get the latest updates on all of our activities.



Chapter 579

Sharing the Magic of Aviation
Aurora, IL - Home Airport: Aurora Municipal (KARR)

Check out our chapter website at [EAA579.org](#) for detailed information about our Chapter





CHAPTER 579 2020 YOUNG EAGLE RALLY SCHEDULE



<u>Rally Dates</u>	<u>Rain Dates</u>
May 17	May 31
Jun 28	Jul 12
Aug 23	Aug 30
Sep 27	Oct 04
Oct 25	Nov 01

Launched in 1992, the Young Eagles program has dedicated more than 25 years to giving youth ages 8–17 their first free ride in an airplane.

It's the only program of its kind, with the sole mission to introduce and inspire kids in the world of aviation.

Today, more than 2.2 million young people have enjoyed a free introductory flight through the Young Eagles program.

Join us in offering each child, tween and teen the opportunity to experience the Spirit of Aviation by becoming a Young Eagles volunteer today!



1 2 3 4 5

Young Eagles Flight
EAA Student Membership
Sporty's Learn to Fly Course
First Flight Lesson
Scholarships

The EAA Flight Plan

Your route from Young Eagle to licensed pilot.

Young Eagle Questions?

Ask our Young Eagle Coordinator Sebastian Saavedra

youngeagles579@gmail.com



How I Got Into Aviation



By Kathy Spano



My father was a naval officer on the aircraft carrier the USS Independence. He was also a graduate of Lewis University. I never had a chance - I have always been around aviation. My father would drag us to airshows during the summer months, which I loathed when I was very little. First, because they were always scorching hot and second, mom always “packed” our lunches. We were forbidden to purchase the coveted mushy hot dogs that were usually sold from a card table. My father was huge on education and projects. Magazines in our house consisted of

Popular Mechanics, Smithsonian, and National Geographic. My father always shared his knowledge of everything specifically aviation. Our projects involved not just building model airplanes but knowing everything about the specific model we were building.

When I was very young, I would always whine “daddy can’t we just *build* the plane”? But quickly my brother and I would fight over what model we would build next. My father made everything fun, he explained the “WHY” to everything. These planes came to life for me. In middle school I was the only girl to show up for the rocket club. In high school my boyfriend was in college at Embry Riddle, I think he asked me out because I knew what a Spitfire was (duh). My



parents thought nothing of dropping me off at Clow Airport to be picked up for dates in an airplane. The day after prom everyone went to Great America and I went flying. It was a decade later when I met David. David did not mention he was a pilot right away but when he said he was, I knew it was a God thing. My father passed shortly after David and I met. They always say that a girl marries a man that is like her father. Like my father, David selects engineering books for “light” reading and



like my father David constantly explains the “WHY” to everything. I believe that it is my father’s spirit that keeps me close to aviation and supports David in the aviation world.

But I have my own identity in that world because of my father. In Oshkosh, I always have my own agenda and I am not my husband’s tag along. It was my idea to go to Oshkosh when David and I first started dating and it was my idea to build an

airplane – a real live model of my own! Every year my brother always joins us the last weekend of Oshkosh. It has been a tradition of ours for just the two of us to walk the warbirds. It is there that I feel my father’s essence of his time on earth and like the airshows when we were little it is always scorching hot and I always have a lunch that I packed from camp in my backpack. Funny how that comes full circle, *but I do spring for an ice-cold bottle of pop.*



News From HQ



Young Eagles program surpassed 2.2 million kids flown

The biggest youth aviation education program hit another milestone this month, as the Young Eagles program surpassed 2.2 million kids flown since the first flights took place at the 1992 EAA Fly-In Convention at Oshkosh.

In 2019, EAA chapters held more than 1,400 rallies, and 4,611 EAA member pilots flew more than 59,000 Young Eagles flights. "As we reach each of these milestones, it's a further credit to the dedication of the EAA-member pilots and volunteers who have committed their time and aircraft to bringing young people into aviation," said Jack Pelton, EAA's CEO and chairman of the board. "The success of Young Eagles means thousands of today's under-40 pilots — both professional and recreational — can trace their personal journey back to that first flight with a Young Eagles pilot."



Free youth admission to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2020

Young people ages 18 and under will be admitted free to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2020, as a way to introduce more youth to the possibilities in the world of flight.

The Boeing Company is financially supporting this effort for the next two years to encourage more aviation-minded families and their children to attend the event that brings more than 10,000 aircraft from around the world to Oshkosh each year.

The 68th annual Experimental Aircraft Association fly-in convention will be July 20-26 at Wittman Regional Airport.



Air Force Special Operations to be highlighted at Oshkosh

The aircraft and personnel of the U.S. Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) will be among the highlighted programs at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2020.

AFSOC is comprised of highly trained, rapidly deployable Airmen, who conduct special operations missions worldwide. Airmen who undertake Special Operations careers specialize in unique skills such as parachuting, scuba diving, rappelling, motorcycling, survival skills, and more. Aircraft in the command include specialized mobility aircraft such as the MC-130, CV-22 and C-146, Close Air Support aircraft such as the AC-130 gunship, and Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) aircraft such as the MQ-9 and U-28.

Trivia Time Answers!

Last month we introduced an aviation trivia contest...
The Questions and now the **Answers** are listed below.

1. Who was older Orville or Wilbur Wright?
Wilbur was the elder Wright by 4 years
2. What year was the EAA founded?
1953
3. In 1927 Charles Lindbergh becoming the first person to complete a solo and nonstop transatlantic flight. How many hours did this flight take?
33 and 1/2 hours
4. ICAO airport codes are the four-letter codes designating airports around the world (e.g. KARR). What words make up the acronym "ICAO"?
International Civil Aviation Organization
5. With over 44,000 units made, what is the most produced aircraft of all time?
Cessna 172
6. Approximately how fast is the speed of sound in mph (in dry air at 20 °C)?
768 mph
7. Who was the first US President to fly in an aircraft while still in office?
Franklin D. Roosevelt
8. What is the name or model # of this aircraft?
XF-85 Goblin



9. Who is this aviation pioneer?
Glenn Curtiss



10. What year did this aircraft retire?
2003



Congratulations!

January's trivia contest was a two way tie
Both of our winners scored a perfect 10 out of 10!



Angelique Johnson



Phil Toleikis

There's another chance this month to add your name
to the 579 Hall of Fame.

Try your hand at **Beat Billy** on the next page!

Beat Billy

By: Bill Cameron



Dear fellow 57Niners - Beat Billy is back!

Longtime chapter members might remember when as editor of the Propwash I also tried to make you think by presenting a variety of aviation questions. Each month I will take you along with me on voyages in my "way-back machine." Get ready to be stumped. The questions may not be Google friendly, so buckle up, it might be a bumpy ride!

For this month's inaugural voyage, I will make it easy.

What is it? What is it on? Where can you see it?

Send your best guesses to mikebaer150@gmail.com and we will announce the winners (or some of the best guesses) next month.

Till next month, Beat Billy!



CHAPTER INFORMATION

EAA Chapter 579 is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization formed for educational purposes and is incorporated in accordance with the State of Illinois Not For Profit Corporation Act.

MONTHLY MEETINGS

The Chapter meets on the fourth Thursday of the month, January through October and the third Thursday in November and December at the Chapter's headquarters at SimplyFly at the Aurora Municipal Airport, starting at 7:30 pm. Please check our Facebook page for schedule updates. Family members and guests are always welcome.

MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION

Membership dues for EAA Chapter 579 are only \$20 per year and are due on the first of January for the upcoming year.

579 Chapter members are to be current members of the EAA, Oshkosh, WI.

Individual membership to the EAA is \$40 per year. Family memberships are available for an additional \$10 per year. Both include a twelve month subscription to *Sport Aviation* magazine.

A 579 Chapter Membership Form is included as the last page of this newsletter.

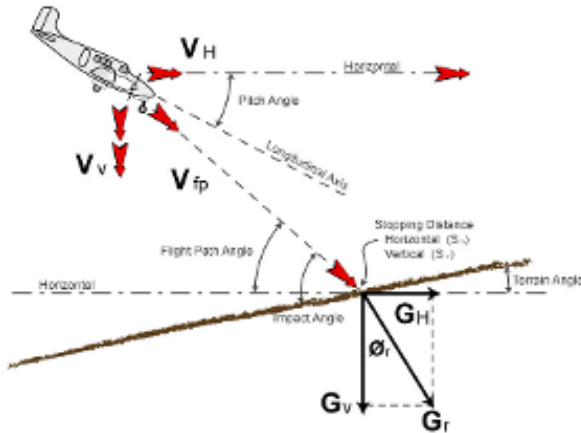




AVIATION SAFETY EXPERTS

Aviation Accidents Explained

(888) 570-5594



Mr. Steven J. Meyers President & CTO

DVI Aviation is a global consulting firm specializing in the investigation of aircraft accidents and the failure analysis of aerospace components. Our Air Safety Investigators are best-in-class, and include highly-degreed scientists, pilots, and aircraft mechanics. We have investigated hundreds of accidents, ranging from the in-flight failure of composite structures, to mid-air collisions, to wake turbulence encounters, to engine failures, to the use of unapproved parts, and to incidents involving ground operations. In all instances, our Air Safety Consultants combine scientific analysis, material science, laboratory testing, piloting expertise, aircraft maintenance, and human factors to investigate aircraft accidents and promote aviation safety.

We are also the only organization in the United States that provides customized education and training workshops based on the postmortem analysis of real world aviation accident and failures. Our aircraft accident investigation courses have been taught at major universities and professional associations. Such clients as Boeing, Garmin, the Federal Aviation Administration, and a multitude of global insurers have attended courses taught by our Aircraft Accident Investigators. When you have critical decisions to make, DVI can help you gain the focus you need in all facets of the aviation industry.

Academic Qualifications

- Master of Aeronautical Science
- Bachelor of Science in Engineering Physics
- Associates of Applied Science in Manufacturing Engineering Technology
- Extension Diploma Applied General Metallurgy
- USAF Intelligence School
- Trained Accident Reconstructionist and Failure Analyst (19+ years)
- Aviation Instructor at Lewis University
- US DOT Certified Aviation Safety Investigator

Flight and Maintenance Qualifications

- National Test Pilot School: Technical Pilot Course, Upset Prevention and Recovery Course, Flight Test Performance and Flying Qualities for ICAO Accident Investigations Course
- Piloted / Instructed in 64 Different Aircraft: 26+ years, Turboprops to Gliders
- FAA Commercial Pilot: Instrument, SEL, SES, MEL, Glider
- FAA Certified Flight Instructor: CFI-A, MEI, AGI
- FAA Flight Endorsements: Complex, High Performance, Tailwheel
- FAA Aeromedical Institute (CAMI): Specialized High-Altitude Physiological Education & Training
- FAA/EASA Approved Systems Ground School: Boeing B737-800 NG
- FAA Airframe and Power Plant (A&P) Mechanic: 26+ years as an Aircraft Mechanic
- FAA Inspection Authorization (IA)
- FAA Designated Mechanic Examiner (DME)
- Safety Management System (SMS) Training

Gone West

Russ Danwin



In late January we lost Russ Danwin. Russ was a captain with American Airlines for over 34 years. In that time he flew everything from the 737, FK-100 and MD-80, to the 757, 767 and ultimately the 787 Dreamliner.

Russ spent six years with the APA as the Chairman of the National Safety and Training committee and wrote the first Safety Committee Manual for the APA.

Russ joined our chapter last year and immediately became an enthusiastic Young Eagle pilot.

Russ truly embodied the spirit of aviation, was a good man and will be greatly missed.

John St. Clair



In mid February John St. Clair passed away after a long brave battle with cancer.

John was a long term and valued member of Chapter 579. He served on our Board of Directors, managed our finances as our Treasurer, was a devoted Young Eagles Pilot and volunteer.

John was always willing to step up and help the Chapter wherever and whenever needed and he will be sorely missed.

John's aviation legacy will continue through the John St. Clair Aviation Scholarship Fund that John set up to provide financial awards to a number of newly minted young pilots, keeping John's spirit flying long into the future.



EAA Chapter 579 Membership Application

Today's Date: ____/____/____ EAA Member #: _____ New Applicant: ____ Renewal: ____

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ Cell Phone: (____) _____

Email Address: _____ Birthday (MM/DD): ____/____

Emergency Contact Name: _____ Phone: (____) _____

I would be able to help in the following area(s):

Advertising ____ Chapter Meeting Presentation ____ Finance ____ Fund Raising ____

Hospitality ____ Membership ____ Newsletter ____ Photography ____ Scholarships ____

Social Media ____ Speakers ____ Videography ____ Web Site ____ Young Eagle Rallies ____

Other _____

<u>Membership Category</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>
Regular (Individual)	\$20
Regular (Family)	\$35
Youth (Under 18)	\$15
Life	\$500

Please complete this form, attach check payable to EAA Chapter 579 and mail to:

EAA Chapter 579
422 Clinton Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302