



**February 2023**





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**Chapter 579**  
Sharing the Magic of Aviation  
Aurora, IL - Home Airport: Aurora Municipal (KARR)

Check out our chapter website at  
[EAA579.org](http://EAA579.org)  
for Chapter information

**Baer → Mail**



Last Thursday we held our February Chapter Gathering and we were joined by two incredible speakers: Gerry Molitor and Dave Kanzler.

Gerry recently retired from a 43 year career with United Airlines where he served as a Line Check Airman on the B727, B757, B767, B777 and the B787. He has been a Captain at the airline for over 31 of those 43 years and spent the last 20 years flying globally, including 1,115 North Atlantic crossings and a significant number of Eurasia, Polar, Far East, India, Pacific and South Pacific operations.

Gerry also served as the longtime Director and a President Emeritus of the International Aerobatic Club, division of the EAA. Gerry holds a number of National Titles in aerobatic competition, including the Advanced Champion 1995, 1996 and 1997. For the past 6 years, Gerry has been a member of the Phillips 66 Aerostars (see cover photo above) as Slot, Right Wing & Solo, flying an Extra 330LX in airshows in the eastern part of the country.

Gerry shared photos, videos, stories and tips on how to safely perform informal formation flying as well as tales of flying aerobatics with a premier team.

Dave Kanzler shared a very personal and touching story about one of his family members who served as a tail gunner on the B-29 - *Indian Maid* during WWII but sadly never made it home. As a tribute Dave designed and built a beautiful 1/6th scale B-29. Dave shared his family history in photos and stories helping all of us understand the deep meaning behind his B-29 build project.

A photo summary of the evening appears on pages 4 and 5 of this issue.

Blue Skies

Mike



**CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President, Newsletter Editor &  
Young Eagles Coordinator:

Mike Baer

Vice President, Scholarship Chair,  
VMC Club Coordinator & Web Editor:

Chuck Newell

Secretary:

Ed Ramos

Treasurer:

Dave Montgomery

**CHAPTER DIRECTORS**

Bill Cameron

Tim Green

Mariano Rosales

Nathan Stonehocker

## CHAPTER 579 2023 MONTHLY CHAPTER GATHERING SCHEDULE

January 26

February 23

March 23

April 27

May 25

June 22



Gone to Oshkosh

August 24

September 28

October 26

November 16

December 21\*

(\* Tentative)

## AVIATION NEWS



### Learn how NASA is transforming aviation



NASA is holding a free virtual event called imaginAviation, which will focus on how the agency transforms its research innovations “into new possibilities for aviation for the benefit of humanity,” according to NASA officials.

Sessions run from Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2023, to Thursday, March 2.

A [full agenda](#) for the workshop is available online.

Sessions will cover some of NASA’s high-priority missions and projects, including sustainable aviation and the [Quesst mission](#), which seeks to enable quiet supersonic flight over land using its experimental X-59 aircraft for testing.

The agenda also includes NASA’s Advanced Air Mobility efforts to develop new air transportation systems for people and cargo in underserved areas.

Speakers include:

- Bob Cabana, NASA Associate Administrator
- Robert Pearce, Associate Administrator, NASA’s Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD)
- Barbara Esker, Assistant Deputy Association Administrator for Missions, ARMD
- Robbie Cabral, Inventor
- Trisha Pesiri, former FAA Air Traffic Controller

For more information on the event or to register, go to: [NARI.arc.nasa.gov/imaginAviation](https://NARI.arc.nasa.gov/imaginAviation).

Source: General Aviation News

# CHAPTER 579

## 2023 YOUNG EAGLE RALLY SCHEDULE



May 21  
 Jun 25  
 Aug 27  
 Sep 24  
 Oct 15



**ONLINE  
 REGISTRATION**

We will once again be using Online Registration for our Young Eagle Rallies. Registration will open up approximately ten days before each rally. Be sure to follow our Facebook page for details!



**EAA Chapter 579's  
 18,000th Young Eagle**



Launched in 1992, the Young Eagles program has dedicated 30 years to giving youth ages 8–17 their first free flight 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, nearly 2.3 million young people have enjoyed a free introductory flight through the Young Eagles program. ***This Year Chapter 579 will be the first EAA Chapter worldwide to reach the 20,000 flight milestone! Join us and become part of EAA aviation history!***

Send your Young Eagles Questions to  
[mikebaer150@gmail.com](mailto:mikebaer150@gmail.com)



# 579 Chapter Gathering

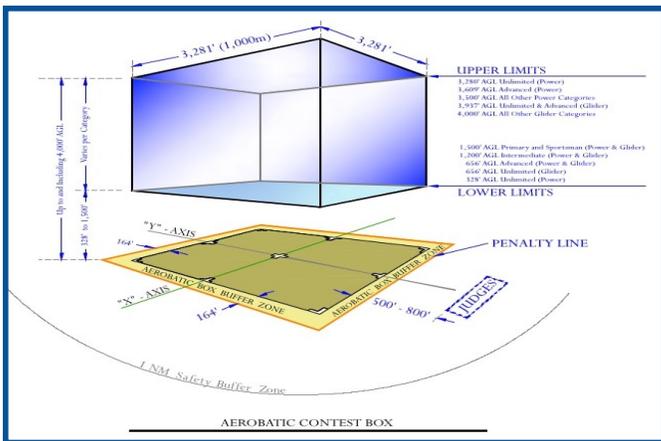
February 23, 2023



Gerry Molider describes how to fly the slot position in an aerobatic formation.



Philipps 66 Aerostars.



Gerry describes flying in "the box".



Gerry shares his Aerostars team nickname... "Fossil".



Gerry and friends.

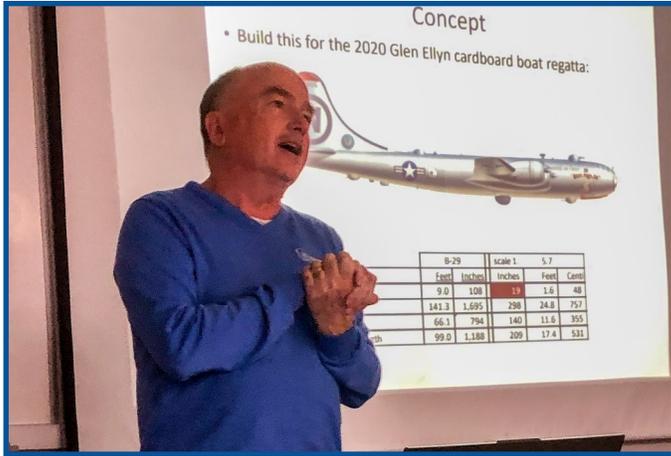


Gerry in the slot.



# 579 Chapter Gathering

February 23, 2023



Dave Kanzler describes the very personal family history behind his passion project to build a 1/6 scale B-29.



In June of 1945 Dave's father's cousin, Joseph "Bud" Kanzler, and the crew of the Indian Maid were shot down over Japan.



Having "Seabee" emblem painted on the nose of Indian Maid by painter 1/c Roscoe Saunders, at Tinian, circa late 1944.

B-29	Scale 1		5.7		
	Feet	Inches	Inches	Feet	Centi
Wing span	141.3	1,695	298	24.8	757
Wing chord	66.1	794	140	11.6	355
Wing thickness	99.0	1,188	209	17.4	531

A2	Squares	Each Square =	Inches	Centi
Wing chord	37.0	15.0	48.3	0
Wing thickness	33.0	18.0	57.3	0
Wing span	14.0	2.0	6.5	0
Wing chord	5.0	2.6	6.5	0

B2	Squares	Each Square =	Inches	Centi
Vertical stabilizer height	26.0	2.4	6.2	0
Horizontal stabilizer height	10.0	6.2	16.0	0
Wing chord	65.0	10.0	25.4	0
Wing thickness	37.0	18.0	45.7	0
Wing span	39.0	46.0	116.8	0
Wing chord	34.0	84.1	213.0	0
Wing thickness	42.0	100.1	254.3	0
Wing span	44.0	100.9	257.0	0

C2	Squares	Each Square =	Inches	Centi
Wing span	13.0	3.2	8.1	0
Wing chord	43.0	13.6	34.6	0
Wing thickness	3.0	15.0	38.1	0
Wing span	22.0	93.0	236.2	0
Wing chord	12.0	39.0	99.1	0
Wing thickness	13.0	9.8	24.8	0
Wing span	17.0	66.1	167.9	0
Wing chord	4.0	12.8	32.6	0
Wing thickness	3.0	11.2	28.4	0
Wing span	7.0	22.4	56.9	0
Wing chord	22.0	70.5	179.2	0
Wing thickness	3.0	18.0	45.7	0
Wing span	31.8	100.1	254.3	0
Wing thickness	31.8	100.1	254.3	0
Wing span	23.0	73.7	187.3	0

D2	Squares	Inches	Centi
Vertical stabilizer height	42.0	6.2	16.0
Horizontal stabilizer height	42.5	34.0	86.0
Wing span	12.5	9.8	24.8

Scaling a B-29 using a spreadsheet and graph paper.

## Build: Fuselage



Built to compete in the Glen Ellyn Cardboard Regatta the entire aircraft had to be made from corrugated cardboard.



Indian Maid was no small undertaking.



# Fly-Out Report

By: John Robbins



## Ski and Chili Fly-In

On Saturday, February 25th, Peter Taylor and John Robbins flew up to Waupaca, WI (KPCZ) to participate in Chapter 444's Ski and Chili Fly-In. We departed Du Page Airport a little after 11AM in the Vagabond Club's Skyhawk. Peter filed an IFR flight plan and once airborne, we penetrated through a thin layer of clouds on departure. About 15 miles out, clouds began to give way to clearer views of the ground. We flew at 4000 feet, northbound, under the watchful eye of controllers. We flew directly over Ripon, but opted to stay on track instead of following the railroad tracks into Oshkosh. About 20 miles out from Waupaca, Peter canceled the IFR flight, overflying the airport and entering downwind, for a right traffic pattern.



Fly-over pass of Waupaca Airport. Arrow indicates where the Chili lunch was served.



At the moment of landing, a ski plane had just taken off.



Fly-in lineup on the ramp in Waupaca.

As we were approaching on final we were treated to a ski plane departure. Once on the ground, around 12:30 PM, we met up with a Quicksilver Ultralight friend of Peter's, David Henmen, who lives nearby. We found the Chapter 444 building where lunch was being served. There had to be nearly two-dozen different recipes of chili, and we each sampled a couple. The lunch was well attended by many locals, including club members and a few from further away. Really a friendly and welcoming crowd. John met Mike Ryszkiewicz, Chapter 444's president.



A well attended Chili lunch was being served in Chapter 444's hangar.



# Fly-Out Report



By: **John Robbins**  
(...Continued)



David Henmen (Quicksilver friend of Peter's), John Robbins and Peter Taylor.

After lunch, we walked around the ski planes and watched as one made it's departure. Around 3PM, full of chili and desserts, we departed to make our return home. The morning clouds were long gone, and we enjoyed VFR conditions all the way southbound, cruising at 3500 feet. We tried to take advantage of a slight tailwind up north, then had crosswinds further south. Du Page controller set us up for a straight-in approach on 20R. Peter nailed the landing to end a really fantastic day!



Ski plane line-up.



A Cessna 170B departs after a happy Chili lunch, heading back to Clintonville, WI, NE of Waupaca.



Tail wheel up on a departing Aeronca 15AC Sedan on skis.



# Know Your Chapter Members



## Mariano Rosales



Mariano Rosales is one of our newest Chapter Directors, joining the 579 Board on January 1, 2023.

Mariano is an active Young Eagles pilot flying his beautiful Cessna 170B.

This month we are getting to know Mariano a little better by asking him 10 questions:

1. Where were you born & raised  
**Waupun, WI**
2. What is your (non-aviation) background?  
**Studied journalism and worked for various newspapers and other media outlets**
3. What is one thing you would like to accomplish in the next year?  
**Have more mini fly-in events at the house**
4. What would you do if you won the lottery?  
**Never fly commercial airlines ever again**
5. What is your dream vacation spot?  
**Cruise. Any cruise. Also Australia. And Japan.**
6. Do you have any hobbies (other than aviation)?  
**Photography, music**
7. How did you get interested in aviation?  
**Flying R/C models as a teen**
8. What is your favorite aviation memory?  
**After buying my airplane, flying it home solo for the first time**
9. If you could fly any aircraft what would it be?  
**Grumman Albatross**
10. If you could have dinner with any aviator past or present who would it be?  
**Retired NASA Flight Director Gene Kranz**





# News From HQ

## EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship Program Reaches 300 Pilots



More than 300 young people have reached their dream of earning their pilot certificate with support from the EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship program.

The scholarship program is funded by the [Ray Foundation](#), managed by EAA, and administered through the EAA chapter network. Through the program, EAA is able to provide deserving youths up to \$11,000 to help cover flight training expenses. EAA is receiving \$1.8 million from the Ray Foundation for 2023.

“The cost of flight training can be a barrier for many aspiring pilots, so EAA working with the Ray Foundation helps break down the barrier and make the goal of becoming a pilot even more attainable for future generations,” said Rick Larsen, EAA’s vice president of communities and member programming. “We’ve found that more than 80 percent of Ray Aviation scholars are completing their pilot training, which is the complete opposite ratio of those who would start flight training on their own, so this program’s outcomes are having a direct, significant effect on the pilot population.”

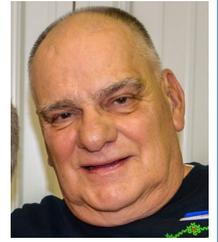
There are EAA chapter and scholar eligibility requirements for the Ray Aviation Scholarship that indicate a commitment to success. Once a chapter is approved for the program, it nominates the chosen scholar for EAA’s final review. Many chapters are granted the full \$11,000 for their selected scholar, but some chapters have committed 25 percent of the award to secure their slot in the program. All EAA and divisional chapters in the United States and Canada are eligible for a grant up to \$11,000.

Through the Ray Scholarship Program Chapter 579 has helped two recipients attain their private pilot’s license with a third to take his check ride in the coming weeks.



# Beat Billy

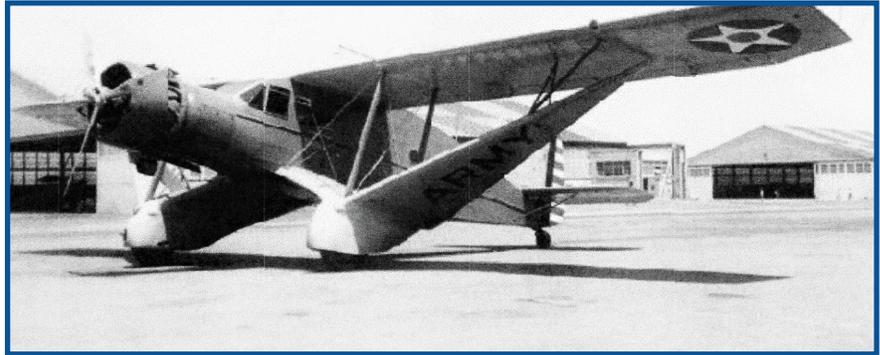
By: Bill Cameron



## January Answer:

Name this plane, that shouldn't be too hard. Next tell me what childhood television hero flew one.

This rather strange looking bird is none other than a 1929 Bellanca C-27 Airbus. Although the bird in this shot is in Air Corps livery the C-27 was used extensively in the 1959-1960 television cartoon series 'CLUTCH CARGO' as Clutch's main form of transportation.



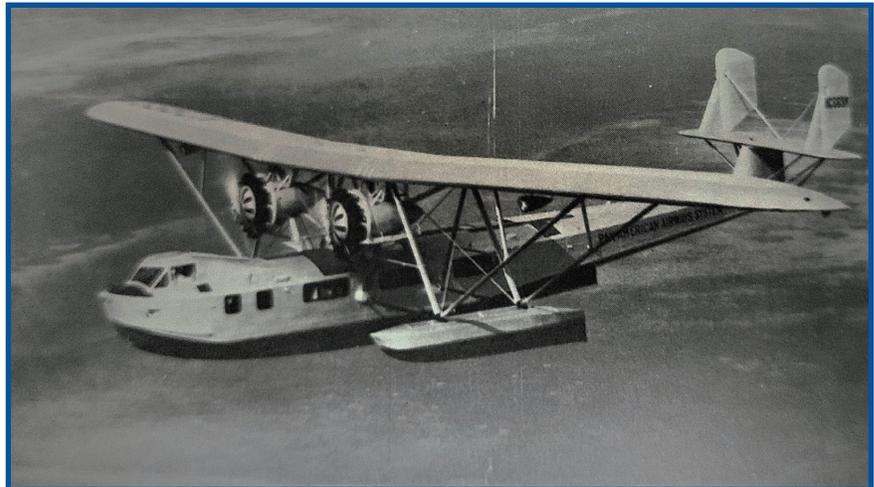
In the real world the Airbus could carry 12 to 15 people and had baggage storage in the bottom stub wings as well as in the fuselage ahead of the cockpit in back of the engine. This model first flew in 1930. A total of 23 different models were built. The last flying Bellanca Aircruiser, "CF-BTW", a 1938 model is in the Erickson Aircraft Collection. A 1935 model, "CF-AWR" named the "Eldorado Radium Silver Express" is under restoration at the Western Canada Aviation Museum in Winnipeg Canada.

## February Question:

Here is your stumper for February, Name this plane. If you can name it, can you tell me some of what it helped to pioneer, aeronautically speaking?

Until next month stay warm and safe

BILLY, out.



Send your guesses to [mikebaer150@gmail.com](mailto:mikebaer150@gmail.com) for your opportunity to be added to our list of trivia experts who have Beat Billy.

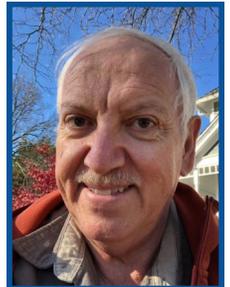
We will reveal the correct answers in the next issue of Propwash.





# IFR/VFR & Flying Companion Seminars and Aviation Expo

By: Roberto Beltramelli



On January 28th I attended the Aviation Expo sponsored by the Chicago Area Chapter of the Ninety-Nines. The Expo was held at the Renaissance Glenview Hotel and it was my fifth 99's, Women in Aviation sponsored event. I joined the VFR Classroom and learned about avoiding Hazardous Attitudes by Tim Miller. He gave a number of examples of occurrences that could be avoided by proper preflight checklist use and not becoming complacent when you are in a hurry to depart.

During the break we met flight school and special service to the disabled groups at their tables in the media room. Lots of handouts and friendly representatives.

Tom DeJan presented Everything about Systems which was very informative.

We then caught Jennifer Settle of the FAA who reviewed Runway Safety and quizzed the group on airport signage and markings. Her daughters handed out treats to those who gave correct answers. Jennifer is a great speaker and I have heard her speak on several occasions in the past.

We stayed at the hotel for lunch and visited with several pilots that I have known for years.

In the afternoon we joined a session lead by Marc Epner who discussed situational awareness and described how SA saved him during an engine failure.

We wrapped up the day by attending the weather program.

There was a Companion program for those who fly in the co-pilot seat to familiarize non-pilot companions with what to do in a medical emergency.

Wings Credit was available for most forums. If you can attend next year, please do. As an added bonus, ABT is next door to the hotel and you can reward yourself for attending training with something special.

## For Sale

New altimeter, never installed. \$250.

FALCON 3-1/8 INCH SENSITIVE ALTIMETER ALT20INF-3

Three Pointer Altimeter with Barometric Window and Low Altitude Warning Stripes is a modern type. The easy to read striped sector will show while flying below 16,000 ft.

Range: 20,000 ft. in.

Size: 3 1/8"

Weight: 1.4 Lbs. or 592G



If you are interested, please contact Roberto Beltramelli ([wa9e.roberto@gmail.com](mailto:wa9e.roberto@gmail.com))

\* The EAA, Chapter 579, it's officers, directors and members are not affiliated with nor liable for any items listed for sale or rent in Propwash



## VMC Club Meeting

Mark your calendar for

March 9, 2023

SimplyFly @ 6:30 pm

Our VMC Club offers monthly meetings in which pilots and non-pilots can network and share knowledge and experience.

The meetings use real-world scenarios to engage members, and allow a free exchange of information that improves awareness and skills. The intent is to create a community of pilots willing to share information, foster communication, promote safety, and build proficiency.

The VMC Club monthly programming is developed and produced by EAA, but it does not use a lecture or presentation format. Instead, an actual scenario is presented and is followed by a group discussion – so audience participation is encouraged! Since everyone has a different experience level and different airplane capabilities, we can all benefit from the discussion.

Send your VMC Club Questions to Chuck Newell at [cmnewell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cmnewell@sbcglobal.net)

The plan is to fly direct from Ogle County Airport (C55) in Oregon, Illinois, approximately 19 miles to Rockford Cottonwood Airport (1C8) at approximately 2,500 feet on a heading of 040.



Scenario

You often take that route to Cottonwood and come close to, but do not normally enter, the Class D airspace. However, much of the route is well within the RFD TRSA optional advisory area. If there is much traffic noted in the area, you would sometimes request traffic advisories as you approached the TRSA area, but mostly trusted the ADS-B traffic shown on your iPad screen.



Scenario



### 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 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.

### ADVERTISING IN PROPWASH

If you would like to support Chapter 579's educational mission by advertising in Propwash, please contact:

[mikebaer150@gmail.com](mailto:mikebaer150@gmail.com)

<u>Size (Page %)</u>	<u>Monthly</u>	<u>Annually</u>
10% (business card)		\$50
25%	\$10	\$110
50%	\$20	\$200
100%	\$30	\$275
Classified Ads	Free for members	



[planeperfect.us](http://planeperfect.us)

At Plane Perfect we have a passion for airplanes and couldn't find products to suit our detailing needs. Everything on the market either didn't work very well or was decades old formulas that could be improved for higher polish and more durability. We created a catalog of modern, safe products that work on metal, fiberglass or fabric and provide a level of quality just not achievable with older formulas. They are superior on cars, boats and RV's too!



**Use offer code EAA579 at checkout and get 10% off your entire order!**



# 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>	Please complete this form, attach check payable to EAA Chapter 579 and mail to:  EAA Chapter 579 422 Clinton Ave. Oak Park, IL 60302
Regular (Individual)	\$20	
Regular (Family)	\$35	
Youth (Under 18)	\$12	
Life	\$400	
*Annual chapter dues are due on January 1st. New members joining after June 30th receive a 50% discount for first year dues		