





**September 2024**




Chapter 579  
Young Eagles Flown:

# 20,301



Follow us on  
**Facebook**

Follow [EAA Chapter 579](#) on Facebook to get the latest updates on all of our events and activities.



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

Check out our chapter website at  
[chapters.eaa.org/ea579](http://chapters.eaa.org/ea579)  
for Chapter information

**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**

**Baer → Mail**




This has been a rough year for our Young Eagles program. September's rally was cancelled due to poor weather conditions making this the second of four rallies we have had to cancel this year due to weather. We are all sending positive vibes into the universe (or at least the Aurora airspace) hoping that we will have good weather for our last rally of 2024, scheduled for October 13th. Online registration for our last rally will open on October 3rd at 8:00 am. Please follow our [Facebook](#) page for details. I hope to see everyone there.

The cover image of this month's Propwash is the 14,179' peak of Mount Shasta in California. This shot was taken by our own Dave Montgomery from his Cessna Cardinal B model known affectionately as CardiB. On September 26th, we held our monthly Chapter Gathering where Dave shared his most recent cross-continent adventure: ***Flying Towards Alaska - Prep, Stops, and Challenges***. Dave discussed the extensive planning process he went through to take his single engine Cessna from Aurora, Illinois, North to Alaska. He shared images and stories from his stops along the way and explained how he handled situations that didn't go exactly as planned. It was a wonderful study in long distance flight planning, risk management, flexibility and making the best out of a less than ideal situation. Pages 4 and 5 include a few images from Dave's presentation.

If you love aviation, I hope to see you at one of our October events.

Blue Skies,

Mike



# CHAPTER 579 2024 YOUNG EAGLE RALLY SCHEDULE



May-19  
Jun-23  
Aug-25  
Sep-22  
Oct 13



ONLINE  
REGISTRATION

We will once again be using Online Registration for our Young Eagle Rallies. Registration will open up at 8:00 a.m. ten days before each rally. Be sure to follow our [Facebook](#) page for details!



**EAA Chapter 579**  
Aurora, IL

**20,000**  
**Young Eagles Flown**  
September 2023

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. **On September 24, 2023, Chapter 579 became the first EAA Chapter worldwide to have flown 20,000 Young Eagles!**

The EAA Flight Plan  
Your route from Young Eagle to licensed pilot.

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

## CHAPTER 579 2024 MONTHLY CHAPTER GATHERING SCHEDULE

January 25

February 15

March 28

April 25

May 23

June 27



~~Gone to Oshkosh~~

August 22

September 26

October 24

November 21

December 19\*

(\* Tentative)

## AVIATION NEWS



### New AOPA president named

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) has named Darren Pleasance to serve as its new president and chief executive officer, beginning Jan. 1, 2025.

"I'm honored with the opportunity I'm being given to help steward AOPA forward into the future, and I'm inspired by the role AOPA will continue to play in protecting our freedom to fly," said Pleasance, whose aviation journey began when he was just a teenager, first when he got involved in flying model aircraft and later doing chores around the airport in exchange for flying lessons.

Pleasance has since gone on to fly over 8,000 hours in more than 50 different types of aircraft, ranging from trainers to business jets to vintage warbirds, including a P-51 Mustang.

Early in his career he flew as a corporate pilot, working for celebrities such as John Travolta before going on to fly charters in the Alaskan bush. He left professional aviation to pursue a career in business, but he never stopped flying.

Today he owns a Piper Meridian, a Van's RV-6, and a SeaRey floatplane while maintaining currency as a certificated flight instructor.

Most recently, Pleasance led Cisco's Acceleration Center, an organization formed to accelerate the success of mission-critical aspects of Cisco's business transformation. Prior to joining Cisco, he led global customer acquisitions for Google and served as a partner in consulting firm McKinsey & Co.'s high tech sector and marketing and sales practice.

Throughout his business career, Pleasance has remained active in aviation, serving for many years on the board of the EAA.

Pleasance succeeds Mark Baker, who has served more than 11 years in the top spot at AOPA. Baker announced his intention to retire earlier this year, but committed to remain in the job and assist in the search until the right leader could be found. "I'm confident that Darren is the right person to lead AOPA into its next chapter," said Baker. "He is a pilot's pilot with a genuine passion for flying. He combines that excitement about aviation with leadership experience at some of this country's top consulting and tech firms, giving him the right balance of business skills and kinship with our members."





# 579 Chapter Gathering

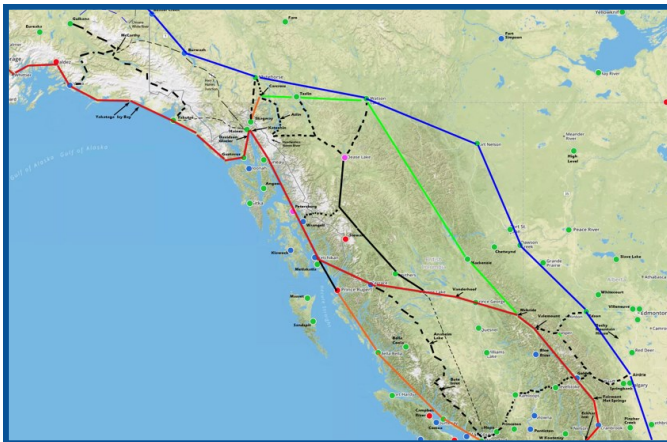
September 26, 2024



Dave Montgomery takes us on a journey from idea to execution of his trip "toward" Alaska.



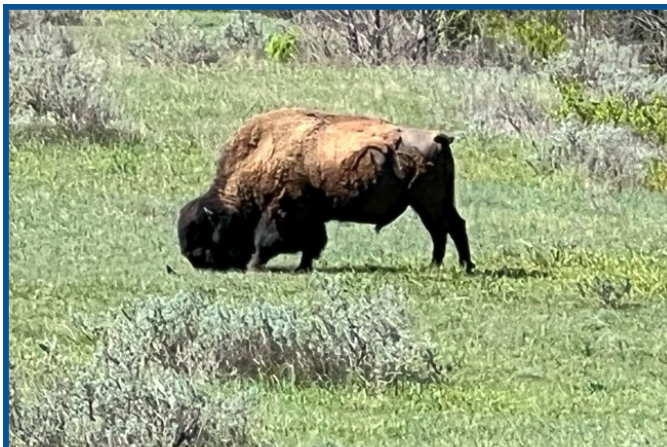
Flying Towards Alaska - Prep, Stops and Challenges along the way.



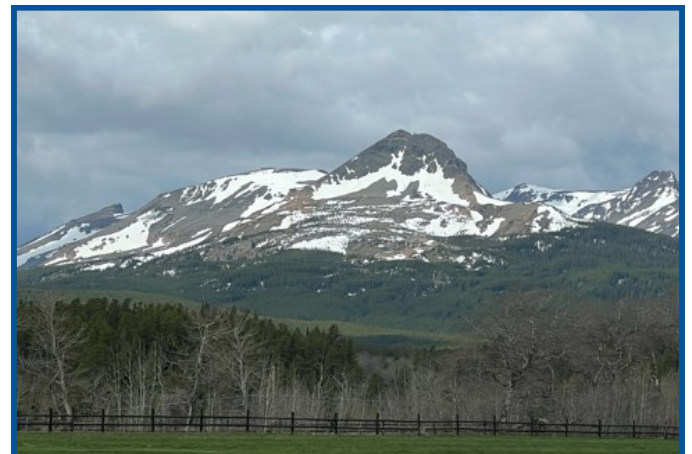
Choosing the best route:  
1) Alcan Highway, 2) The Trench, or 3) The Coast



Should have requested a non-smoking flight. Ran into poor visibility crossing the Mississippi near Prairie du Chien, WI.



Sightseeing in North Dakota



Sightseeing near Glacier National Park.



# 579 Chapter Gathering

September 26, 2024

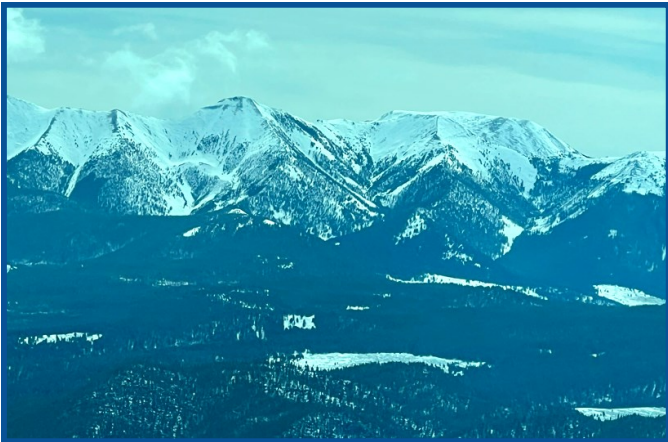


Taxiing out at Cut Bank, MT to fly through the mountains to Sandpoint, ID. Moments later the attitude indicator (AI) failed on takeoff. Kicking off an unplanned adventure.

## GREAT FALLS, MONTANA- SPENDING A WEEK

- Car and hotel
- Saturday- Lewis and Clark Museum
- Sunday- Drove to Bozeman
- Monday- Hike/ Buffalo Jump State Park
- Tuesday- Hike/Explore Missouri River
- Wednesday- Scene from THE UNTOUCHABLES- Airplane is ready
- Thursday- Art Museum- bad weather

Spent the week in and around Great Falls, MT while the AI was being replaced.



New AI and New Plan! Over the Rockies to Klamath Falls, OR



Flaying near Mt. Shasta, CA



Flying over Crater Lake, OR



Flying over Yellowstone National Park, WY

# Aviation Website of the Month

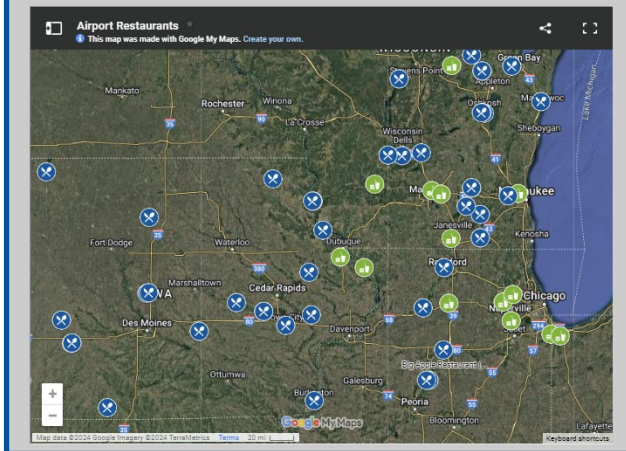
[AV8MAPS.com](http://AV8MAPS.com)



## Airport Based Restaurants

On-Airport Based Restaurants are indicated with a green icon.

Off-Airport restaurants, within 15 miles from an airport, are indicated with a blue icon.



AV8MAPS.com is a website to help general aviation pilots plan their next local or cross-country flight by providing an easy to use visual, resource to find airport-based restaurants, vacation rentals, hotels, courtesy cars, and camping with your plane locations.

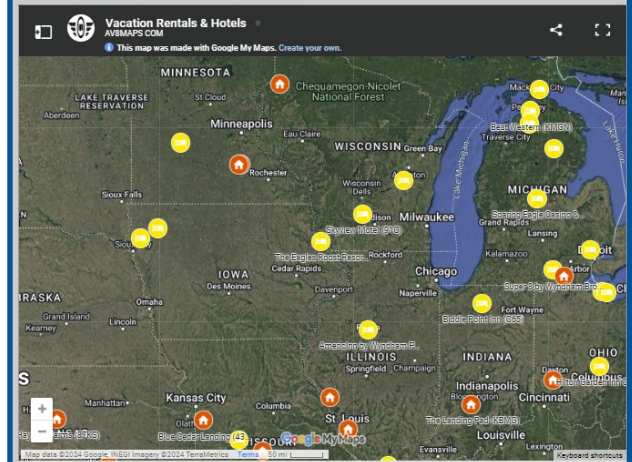
The Airport Based Restaurants map includes 398 on-airport restaurants and 528 within one-and-one-half miles of an airport.

The Vacation Rentals & Hotels Map includes 128 hotels and 106 rental properties on or adjacent to airports.

The Camping with your Plane Map includes 366 airports, public and private, that allow camping on site.

## Vacation Rentals & Hotels Map

Vacation Rentals are indicated with a Red Icon  
Hotels are indicated with a Yellow Icon.



AV8MAPS.com accepts suggestions of locations not already included as well as donations.

# CHAPTER 579



# WANTS YOU!!

Have you ever considered taking on a new role within the Chapter? Now is the time to speak up!

Every 2 years we hold elections for Officers and Directors. Nominations are made during our October Chapter Gathering and Elections are held during our November Gathering.

Mike announced that after serving 5 terms, he is looking to hand over the roles of President, Newsletter Editor and Young Eagles Coordinator. Chuck is looking to hand over the role of Web Editor and Dave is looking to hand over the role of Treasurer.

Please consider taking on one of the Chapter's Leadership Roles. Chuck, David and I aren't going anywhere and would be happy to assist with getting anyone up to speed.

Here's a list of all of our current (and desired) leadership positions. If you would like more information on any of these roles, please feel free to reach out to Mike ([mikebaer150@gmail.com](mailto:mikebaer150@gmail.com)).

- ◆ President
- ◆ Vice President
- ◆ Secretary
- ◆ Treasurer
- ◆ Young Eagles Coordinator
- ◆ Newsletter Editor
- ◆ Web Editor
- ◆ Social Media Lead
- ◆ Scholarship Chair
- ◆ Membership Chair
- ◆ Media/Publicity Lead
- ◆ Hospitality Chair



# Chapter Member Adventure

09/21/24 - Bult Field (C56) - Pancake Breakfast

Mike Baer



Blue skies and the promise of pancakes!



Me and my shadow arriving at Bult Field



Baer Force One on the ground at Bult Field



Worth the trip! 😊



Over Meadow Creek Airpark - Monee



Over Chicagoland Speedway - Joliet





# News From HQ

## Young Eagles Sporty's Learn to Fly Course

The Sporty's Learn to Fly course is one of the biggest benefits provided to Young Eagles following their flight experience. Sporty's has been a longtime partner with EAA and the Young Eagles program and has offered the Learn to Fly course to Young Eagles free of charge for more than 15 years.

The Sporty's Learn to Fly course is a key component in the five-step Young Eagles Flight Plan.

1. Young Eagles flight
2. EAA student membership (free)
3. EAA AeroEducate enrollment
4. Free access to Sporty's Learn to Fly course (\$299 value)
5. Free flight lesson voucher and reimbursement of the FAA Knowledge Exam (\$335 value)



The free flight lesson voucher is made available to Young Eagles after they complete the first three modules of the Sporty's Learn to Fly course.

Sporty's has recently made some major enhancements to the Young Eagles version of the course to provide an even more beneficial resource. The key additions are aimed at making it a more immersive experience, with the goal of improving the student's success rate at completing flight training.

**Interactive Exercises** — Sporty's has taken the course beyond just video content. Young Eagles can now take advantage of instrument simulators allowing users to twist knobs and watch the needle swing on the panel, chart quizzes to help learn complicated symbols, and detailed systems diagrams that simulate failure modes of the pitot tube or static port.

**SmartNotes** — Sporty's course is loaded with information, but Young Eagles users have a centralized tool to help you organize your key takeaways, easily accessible no matter where you are in the course. Simply click or tap the floating "New Note" button at the bottom right of the screen and the Smart Notes interface will appear.

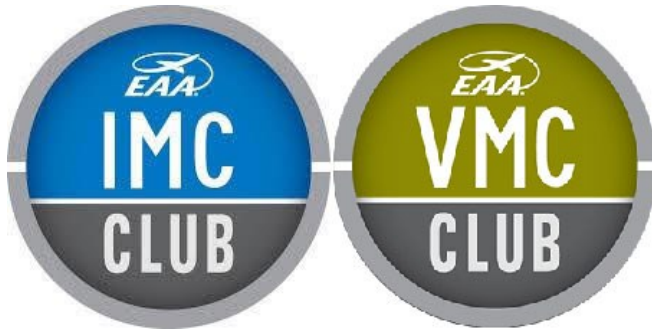
**FAR Study Guides** — Sporty's powerful FAR feature gives you instant access to the complete Federal Aviation Regulations, packed with essential information for any pilot. It's fast and searchable to streamline your studying, and it's always up to date. Young Eagles can now view which FARs are applicable to each certificate level, so they can focus on what matters.

**Interactive Airman Certification Standards** — In May 2024, the FAA released a new version of the Private Pilot Airman Certification Standards (ACS). This document outlines the subjects and maneuvers you'll encounter on both the knowledge and practical tests. Sporty's has incorporated an interactive version of the ACS into the Young Eagles course.

**Video Updates** — Sporty's has always been known for dynamic video segments. To ensure Young Eagles users have access to the latest and greatest content, the team at Sporty's is continuously updating and expanding these videos to keep up with both changing technology and the latest training techniques.

**Test Prep Updates** — Young Eagles users often use the Sporty's course as the primary study tool for the FAA Knowledge Exam. The Young Eagles version of the Learn to Fly Course has beefed up test prep features including more than 50 new questions based on recent FAA updates to the test, three new student modes, and question search.

More information about the entire Sporty's benefit to Young Eagles is available at [EAA.org/YoungEagles](https://EAA.org/YoungEagles).



## IMC / VMC Club Meeting

Mark you calendar for our next meeting:

October 10, 2024

6:30 pm at REVV Aviation Training Room  
at the Aurora Municipal Airport

Our IMC/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 IMC/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 IMC/VMC Club Questions to:  
Chuck Newell (cmnewell@sbcglobal.net) and  
Nate Johns (beaconslash@gmail)

### 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**

<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	



# **Cottonwood Airport's Annual Fall Fly-In/Drive-In Lunch**

## **Saturday, October 5, 11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

5105 Auburn Street, Rockford IL.  
(Across from Auburn High School)

### **Chili, Hotdogs and Sloppy Joes**

**\$10 adults, \$8 children-11 & under,  
Age 2 and under is Free**

EAA Chapter 22 is a 501(c)(3) If flying in, please note that Runway 18 uses a right-hand pattern, while Runway 36 uses a standard left-hand pattern. Check NOTAMS and Facebook page for field conditions. CTAF 122.8

Info: [www.eaa22.org](http://www.eaa22.org)

**ENJOY A DAY AT THE AIRPORT**

**Free Airplane Rides for kids ages 8-17**





[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/Renewal

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:
Regular (Individual)	\$20	
Regular (Family)	\$35	
Youth (Under 18)	\$12	
Life	\$400	
<p>*Annual chapter dues are due on January 1st. New members joining after June 30th receive a 50% discount for first year dues</p>		