





January 2025





Chapter 579
Young Eagles Flown:


20,371





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

Check out our chapter website at
chapters.eaa.org/ea579
for Chapter information

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President, Scholarship Chair,
VMC Club Coordinator &
Young Eagles Coordinator:
Chuck Newell

Vice President:
Ed Ramos

Secretary:
Jenna Rosales

Treasurer:
Rick Schell

CHAPTER DIRECTORS

Mike Baer
Roberto Beltramelli
Eric Carson
Tim Green
Bob Langys
Mariano Rosales
Nathan Stonehocker

Hello,

If you missed the first meeting of the year, we had a little surprise party to thank Mike and Tena for their hard work and dedication to Chapter 579. Tena was not so surprised in that I had to make sure she was there. We got them a new banner to hang with the flags in his hangar, and we are getting them a Brown Arch Half Block that will be Mike's own sentiment to whatever he wants. I will guess it might have something to do with aviation. It should be in place by AirVenture 2025. We will get you the details.

We also discussed what you as chapter members want out of the chapter. I am asking everyone to send us your thoughts. Resources will always be needed taking on new events to what we support today, but without your ideas and help, we will not grow as a chapter in aviation.

Ed, Rick, Jenna, and Mariano attended the Chapter Leadership weekend at EAA Headquarters this last January 26th and 27th. We will be having our first board meeting this Wednesday night to discuss what they learned. Myself and Eric Carson will be attending the April 12 and 13. I highly recommend anyone interested in chapter leadership to go. It is free of charge, just get yourself there. I attended in 2019 and technology and EAA support has changed. It is best to keep up with them. We will give you an update at the February meeting.

Safe Flying and Have Fun,

Chuck

Flying cost the same today as it did when the Wright Brothers invented it...
Everything you got! It only takes Flyers, Builders, and Dreamers!

Gone West



Larry Vern Wright

Beloved Chapter Member Larry Wright has gone west.

Tena Baer learned of some sad news. Last year, when Larry Wright stopped coming to Young Eagle rallies, Mike emailed him several times to see if he was doing ok, but he never received a response. It turns out Larry took ill and passed away in late August. Here is a link to his obituary:

<https://westsuburbanfh.com/obituary/larry-vern-wright/>



Larry was a very kind soul. I always appreciated his perspectives on things and I know Tena was very fond of Larry working side by side at the Young Eagles registration table with him for years.

He will be greatly missed. Mike

Larry just wanted to help in anyway after he stopped flying. Never complained working the registration table. It was his aviation time. After reading his memorial, I was amazed by how many interest he had and never discussed. We always discussed flying.

God bless you Larry. Chuck



CHAPTER 579 2025 CHAPTER GATHERING SCHEDULE

January 23
February 27
March 27
April 24
May 22
June 26



July 17*
August 28
September 25
October 23
November 20
Happy Holidays

* Oshkosh 7/21-7/27

CHAPTER 579 2025 YOUNG EAGLE RALLY SCHEDULE



May 18
Jun 22
Aug 24
Sep 28
Oct 26



CHAPTER 579 2025 IMC/VMC CLUB SCHEDULE

January 9
February 13
March 13
April 10
May 8
June 12



July 10
August 14
September 11
October 9
November 13
December 11



Your 2025 Membership Dues are due.

Please print and complete the Membership Application / Renewal form from the last page of this month's Propwash and mail it along with your check to our Chapter Treasurer at the address listed on the form. If you are planning to attend the February IMC/VMC club meeting and/or the February Chapter Gathering you can drop off your completed renewal form and check there. If you are unable to attend either of these events, please send your dues by mail.

Thanks 😊



STEAM Night

Brookdale Elementary School

1200 Redfield Rd. Naperville

Lauren Romero is the parent coordinator of Brookdale Elementary school's STEAM night. She invited EAA Chapter 579 to participate. It is a night where they promote Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. EAA Chapter 579 will be having a table at the after school STEAM night event at the grade school. This will be our first STEAM participation of this kind. Jim White is leading the effort with, Ed Ramos, and Tad Pierski helping. They will have about 25 STEAM presentations set up on tables in the gym. It is a popular open house event at the school where elementary students come through with their parents.

AVIATION NEWS



I thought this would be interesting to look at.

Go behind the scenes at EAA AirVenture with the FAA's Aviation Safety organization. Meet the people who help ensure safety at this event and provide essential information resources to the general aviation community.



[FAA Aviation Safety at Oshkosh](#)

Source

FAA Safety Briefing

Aviation Website of the Month



THIS DAY IN AVIATION

IMPORTANT DATES IN AVIATION HISTORY

<https://www.thisdayinaviation.com/>

1 January 1965: The 4200th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing was activated at Beale Air Force Base, California. The wing operated the Lockheed SR-71A. On 25 January 1966, it was redesignated the 9th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing.

A flock of Blackbirds. Lockheed SR-71As at Beale AFB.
(U.S. Air Force)



Jackie Cochran's North American Aviation, Inc., P-51 Mustang racers, NX28388, NX4845N and NX5528N

Jackie Cochran with her "Lucky Strike Green" North American Aviation P-51B-15-NA Mustang, NX28388, circa 1948.
(Library of Congress)

In the years following World War II, Jacqueline Cochran, WASP organizer and director, test pilot, racer, record-setter, adviser to generals and presidents, owned three North American Aviation, Inc., P-51 Mustang fighters which had been modified for racing.

Send me your suggestions for a website.



Suggested Article by Tim Green



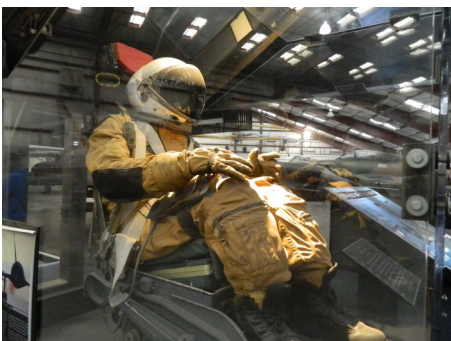
When an SR-71 Blackbird is fueled up on the ground, the fuel often leaks right onto the tarmac. This isn't a myth; it's true. The SR-71's fuel tanks were designed to expand and seal only once the aircraft was at its high cruising speed, so leaks on the ground were part of the design.

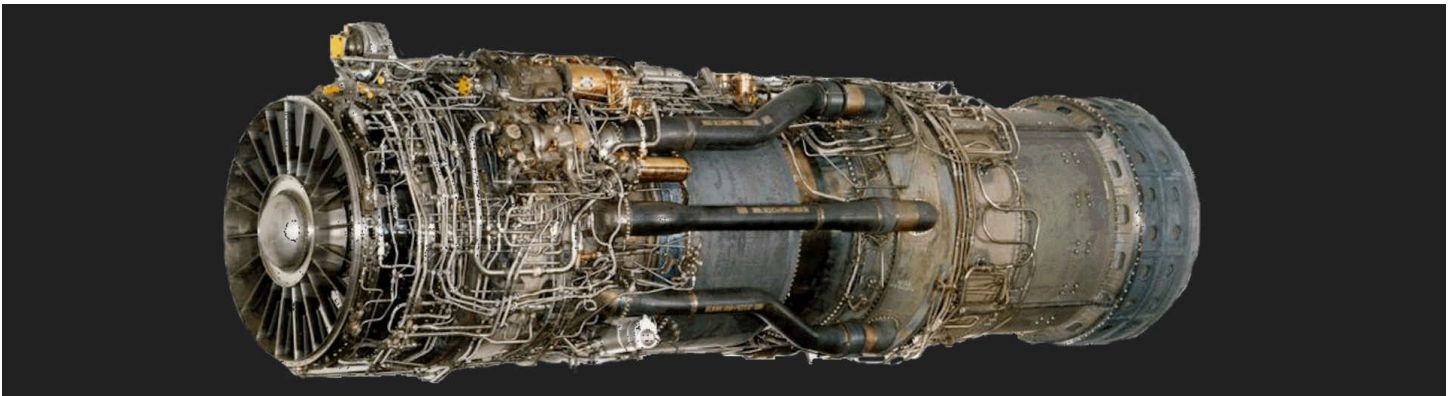
To start the SR-71's engines, standard airport equipment wouldn't do. Instead, each engine required a pair of large V8 car engines to bring it to life. Then, to ignite the fuel, a special, high-temperature chemical mixture, similar to rocket propellant, was injected—a powerful and precise process.

Because the SR-71 couldn't take off with full tanks due to weight constraints, a refueling tanker would await it in the air shortly after takeoff. After refueling, the plane would accelerate to cruising speed, which allowed the tanks to heat up and expand, sealing any remaining leaks. During a typical mission, the SR-71 required multiple refueling, often flying over hostile territories where the high-speed, high-altitude capabilities of the Blackbird were essential for survival.

Inside, the SR-71's cockpit was so hot from the friction of the air at extreme speeds that touching the windshield without gloves would result in burns. Each engine restart was risky, too; the plane could only carry a limited amount of the special hypergolic mixture needed to restart in-flight, allowing three attempts per engine.

Flying the SR-71 Blackbird was both dangerous and extremely costly, and it was eventually retired as military priorities shifted. Despite its challenges, the SR-71 remains one of the most incredible aircraft ever built, achieving speeds and altitudes so extreme that it was as close as we've come to a "space plane" in the realm of atmospheric flight.





<https://www.thesr71blackbird.com/Aircraft/Engines/starting-the-sr-71-blackbirds-j58-engines-ag330-start-cart>

Starting the SR-71 Blackbird's J58 Engines - AG330 Start Cart



The AG-330 Start Cart originally were Buick wildcat 401 cubic inch V-8 engines developing 400 horsepower. There were two Buick engines mounted tandem side by side with automatic transmissions. They were coupled together with a steel woven drive belt to drive a vertical shaft that was inserted into the starter mechanism on the bottom of the SR-71's engine.

On engine launch there was one AG-330 Buick for each SR engine. For the first time observer of an SR-71 launch, the engine starts in themselves were almost indescribable. For one thing there was no mufflers on the Buick engines. As the Buick RPM was advanced, flames almost three feet long erupted from the side of the start cart. It truly sounded like the beginning of the Indianapolis 500. Combine that sound with the steady increase of SR-71 RPM to engine TEB ignition at 3,200 RPM and then idle aircraft engine speed as the Blackbird comes to life.



A view of the drive belt connecting the two engines

A Bit of History

The original design was conceived by two Lockheed Skunk Works engineers who had prior race car engine knowledge. In the mid-1970's, the engines of the start carts was changed to Chevrolet LS-7 454's. The Chevrolet big block engines developed 465 horsepower each. Even so, for many years they were still referred to as the Buick's.

In the '80's the AG-330 Start Carts were mothballed and in there place came a Pneumatic Air starting system for the SR-71's. It is true that the start carts were hard to maneuver around. Logistically, a recovery of a Blackbird at another base could be done easier with Pneumatic Air. Garrett Air Research installed the Pneumatic Air starting system in each of the hangers at Beale AFB to accommodate the SR-71 engine starts. The launches were never quite the same without the Buick's or the 454's.

Credit should be given to those people that maintained the AG-330's in the 9th SRW Aerospace Ground Support Section. Along with maintaining all support equipment, they took great pride in maintaining the Start Carts tuned and in tip top condition. A job well done.

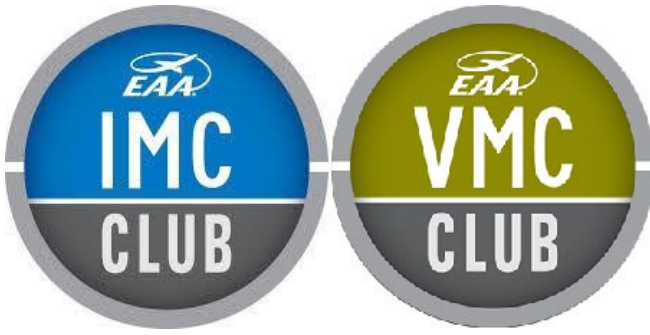


Probe Retracted



J58 Starting Gear





IMC / VMC Club Meeting

Mark you calendar for our next meeting:

February 13, 2025

7:00 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	



Editor Needed!

We have an immediate opening for someone who is passionate about aviation and looking for a way to contribute to the Chapter.

As Propwash editor, you will be responsible for compiling and editing content for our monthly newsletter. This includes gathering updates from Chapter events, reporting on member milestones, and sharing important EAA and aviation industry news. Propwash serves as a key communication tool for our members, and your efforts will play an essential role in keeping everyone up to date with Chapter activities and the latest aviation trends.

Experience with newsletter design or editing is not required. This is a fantastic opportunity to make a meaningful impact on the Chapter, expand your network, and contribute to the growth of our aviation community.

If you are interested in taking on this exciting challenge to help shape the future of Propwash, please let me know. I will just keep following Mike's lead for now.

~~Mike~~—Chuck

If I could have written it better, ... Yeah, Not likely.





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: EAA Chapter 579 917 Edgewood Drive Sugar Grove, IL 60554
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 remainder of their first year dues		