



Hangar 13 News

Chattahoochee Valley EAA Chapter 677
Columbus, Georgia

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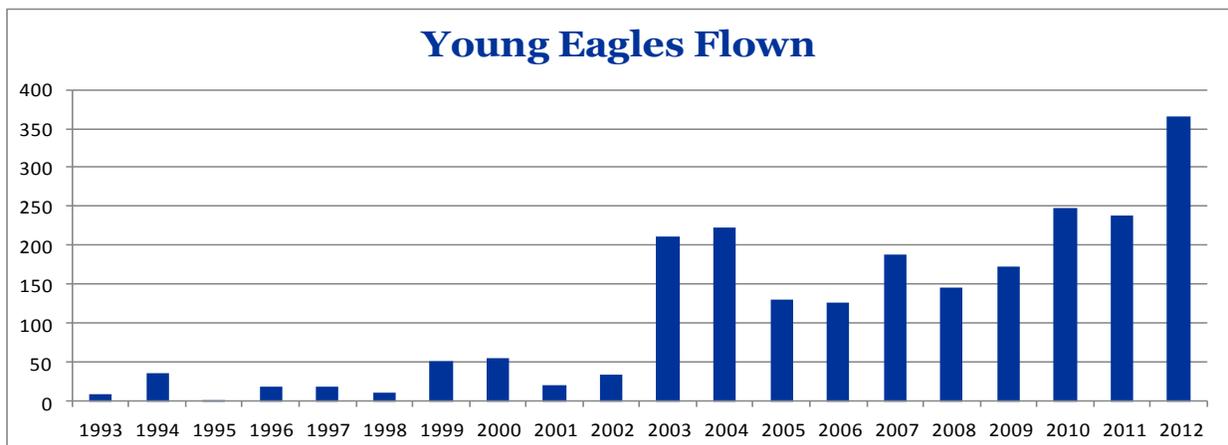
When the October 1992 issue of Sport Aviation arrived in our mailboxes, the Young Eagles Program was only a few months old. In the issue, Young Eagles Coordinator Ed Lachendro reported 1100 young people had been flown, which was quite an achievement early in the program.

Our September Young Eagles Rally was another for the chapter record book, if we kept one (guess this newsletter is the closest to a record book we have). So far this year we have shattered our single event record in February, April, May, June, and September. In June we actually exceeded our previous annual record set in 2010.

Also in September, Debbie Morris and Thomas Moore joined the elite group of Young Eagle Flight Leaders in achieving “10 for 12,” which happens to be yet another record. We now have 11 members that have achieved “10 for 12,” so all of their flights accrue credits for our chapter’s annual scholarship program.

Michelle Kunes, EAA National Young Eagles Program Administrator, prepared a report from the EAA database of our chapter history from the past 20 years (see chart below). Members of our chapter have introduced 2397 Young Eagles to the thrill of flight since the program began in 1992.

It has been an exciting year for our chapter’s Young Eagle Program. We could not have achieved what we have so far without the continuing support of Flightways Columbus, Waffle House, Skyline Columbus and all our volunteers. Thank you to all the pilots, aircraft owners, ground volunteers and Flightways staff that make it happen each month.





Get-there-itis

Our newest grandchild – third grandson, fifth overall – arrived in Tifton more than a week early, and I was assigned the privilege of entertaining his eight-year-old brother while mom and dad recovered and adjusted to the newest addition. Chris Cook volunteered to fly me down, and we planned a crack-o-dawn takeoff so I could get there before the

elder of the two grandsons would be able to work up enough momentum to become a distraction.

I didn't expect the fog.

We delayed 90 minutes based on forecast clearing in Tifton; but when I arrived at Chris' hangar, it was still 600' overcast in mist with $\frac{3}{4}$ mile visibility. Fortunately, "Rocket" Rick Payne showed up and distracted me with a tour of the Carmike Learjet. But after an hour, I had a bad case of "get-there-itis."

I tried to fight it. I tried to hide it. But I was a mess. Even though I've read hundreds, and maybe thousands, of stories about pilots whose lives ended badly because they succumbed to the pressure to be somewhere instead of waiting for the weather to clear, I was itching to get there. I had a grandson, no, TWO grandsons, who needed me and I was diddling around in a multi-million-dollar jet instead of rushing down to help them.

At that moment, I realized the power of "get-there-itis" to treat sound reasoning like South Carolina treated Georgia, and I became very glad I was not the PIC. I could have

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Ernie's msg cont—

made a disastrous decision.

The trip down was a delight – easy IFR with Chris and Rocket up front – but I would have struggled to make it VFR with ceilings at 1,500 or so. I will always be grateful to Chris and Rocket for accommodating me and not giving in to an antsy passenger.

As a chapter, we are on the verge of something historic – our 500th Young Eagle. Achieving that would more than double the number of Young Eagle flights we provided last year and would set a milestone for us and the region. We now have 457 official Young Eagle flights and, at our current pace, we could very well break the 500 barrier in October or November, weather permitting.

As noble as that goal is, we must avoid “get-there-itis.” In addition to being recognized nationally for our productive Young Eagles program, EAA 677 has never had an accident during a Young Eagles flight. That is a record even more important than presenting some youngster our 500th Young Eagle certificate.

Let's stay focused on safety, and let the other records come when they may. We'll all be proud of that.

PS: Don't forget Boy Scout Merit Badge Day will be Friday, November 23! If you can be there, we can use you!

Ernie




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2013 AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH EAA

Young Eagles Gallery– Sep 29



-----Original Message-----
From: Mbonya Myers
[mailto:Myers.Mbonya@muscogee.k12.ga.us]
Sent: Monday, October 01, 2012 7:14 AM
To: brosettg
Cc: Michael R. Forte
Subject: RE: Young Eagles rally

Thank you for the experience of flight! We really appreciate all your group does to make this possible for so many young people. My students were very excited and expressed their desire to fly again. You guys are AWESOME!

- 10 for 2012**
- Chris Cook
 - George Wade
 - Jack Bartholet
 - Ernie Kelly
 - Mac Molnar
 - David Hall
 - Ken Sines
 - Phil Johnson
 - John Walden
 - Thomas Moore
 - Debbie Morris



Mrs. Myers and her students from Marshall Middle School



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Flight Reviews

Scenic Flights



Thunder in the Valley Update

Sponsorship committee — had their kick-off meeting October 4. The committee created a list of 80 new leads. Committee chair, Don Sharitt, asked the committee to confirm 2012 sponsors for the 2013 show by November 1.



- *Major sponsors* – received confirmation from Pratt & Whitney and WC Bradley.
- *Hotel Sponsors* - Country Inn and Suites will donate 20-25 room nights. Hilton Garden Inn and Homewood Suites will donate 35 room nights.
- *VIP Sponsors* – received confirmation from Waffle House and B. Merrell's
- *Media Partners* – WTVM-Channel 9, Ledger-Enquirer, Davis Broadcasting, PMB Broadcasting, Stand and Stretch Social Media, Money Mailer and TracSoft.

Working towards a final draft for the consignment contract with MWR Travel and Tickets at Ft. Benning, GA. Military discount tickets will only be sold at Ft. Benning, GA for \$8 each.

The Thunder in the Valley Air Show was awarded an advertising grant of \$1,000 from the Columbus Convention and Visitors Bureau. The grant is to be used for targeted marketing campaigns 60 miles outside of the Columbus, GA market.

Acts and statics committee — has been meeting bi-weekly to review acts and statics for the upcoming show. The Florida International Air Show contacted Greg Russell, committee chair because their show is the following weekend – March 23 and 24. He has asked that we consider looking into booking the same acts to share some of the in-bound and outbound expenses.

- *Military Aerial Support* – approval for the Thunder in the Valley Air Show has been issued from the Army, Navy and Air Force. The Navy has our request, but is back logged for 2012. They will review it soon and call if more information is needed.
- The Maneuver Center of Excellence Band from Ft. Benning, GA has confirmed participation.
- The Silver Wings Jump Team from Ft. Benning, GA has confirmed participation.
- The P-3 Orion from NAS Jacksonville, FL has placed the Air Show dates on their calendar.

Phaedra Childers, event coordinator, and Don Sharitt, logistics chairperson, will meet with all City department heads Monday, October 15 to discuss equipment, law enforcement, recycle collection and traffic patterns needed for the 2013 air show.

Around the State

1st Annual Open House and Fly-In Reidsville Airport - KRVJ

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**Atlanta Center
Air Traffic Controller Presentation**

October 18, 2012, 7pm

Our local EAA Chapter 1211 is hosting a presentation by **Joey Medders**, a former ZTL/Atlanta ARTCC/Center Line Manager and Certified Professional Controller (CPC).

The topic is VFR Flight Following, Phraseology and common mistakes, hot topics, followed by Q & A.



We plan on using Hanger 1 on the front row. Come on out and join us for this informative presentation.

For further information, contact:
Caleb G. 706-897-1713

<http://www.airnav.com/airport/KDZJ>

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Around the State cont...

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