

Chapter News

Pike's Peak Flyer

The Voice of EAA 72

<https://eaa72.org>

February 2023

Chapter News—Let's Get Going!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



(Photo by Steve Trolander)

George Sciss's talk about TFR's and NORAD was very interesting and eye opening. It really puts an emphasis on checking NOTAMS, even if you are only going a short distance. Hope you didn't miss it.

Richard Martin has been in touch with RedBird about the simulator we want to purchase. A RedBird representative will be with us via cyberspace for our February meeting to discuss pilot ability and using the simulator to maintain proficiency. This should be very interesting especially if you don't get to fly as much as you would like and feel a little rusty.

When I first joined the chapter in 1972, I was well into the process of building a Skybolt. In those days most of the members were in the middle of their own projects or already had a plane in the air. The reason I joined the chapter was to get some help from these builders and get some questions answered. We had a chapter meeting at my house and my questions were answered with so much insight. Surprisingly, the members were impressed by my work, work that I thought was very marginal and it really increased my enthusiasm. I was very discouraged before that meeting and considering scrapping the project. Chapter support is so very important when you feel like you are in over your head. Today, the chapter is still incredibly supportive. But in those days the chapter was all about building airplanes and not so much about helping young high school students learn and fly.

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Today the chapter has become more interested into helping students to fly as well as building airplanes. The simulator will become a big part of this. But what if we went a little farther? What if we started showing students how to build an airplane or what if we were doing more to educate our own chapter members? Maybe some of the members who have talked about starting a project would go ahead and do so. What if we started a chapter build project? Would you help? What if after a Young Eagle flight we let a student practice what he/she learned in the RedBird? What if we could show that student an airplane under construction that he/she could help build, and later fly in that very airplane? Do you think this might encourage some students to join the chapter? More about this next month so stay tuned!

There is a young student who has a Capstone project at Colorado Springs School. I have agreed to mentor this student and George Sciss has agreed to help. His name is River, and in his Capstone Proposal to the school these are the essential questions he asked that will define his experience:

1. What type of training do pilots need?
2. Do I have what it takes to be a pilot?
3. What type of people fit the characteristics of pilots?
4. What are the engineering requirements for flight?
5. How do people build experimental aircraft?

These are the kind of students we need and hopefully after the project is over, he will remain a member of the chapter.

I hope to see you all at the February 18th meeting to learn about the RedBird and staying proficient.
Blue Skies,

Jim Steward

President, EAA Bruce McCombs Chapter 72

UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|--------------------------|
| • Feb, 18,2023 | Chapter Meeting, MLAA Hangar | 11:00 am, lunch follows. |
| • Mar. 8, 2023 | VMC/IMC club, MLAA classroom | 6-7 pm |
| • Mar. 11, 2023 | Coffee & Donuts, MLAA Hangar | 9-11 am |
| • Mar. 11, 2023 | Young Eagles Rally, MLAA Ramp | 9 am – 12 pm |
| • Mar. 16, 2023 | Anniversary Dinner, Old Spaghetti Factory | 6-8 pm |
| • Mar. 28 – Apr. 2 | SUN n FUN, Lakeland, FL | all week event |

ANNUAL CHAPTER DUES are \$25.00.

There are still 58 members who have NOT paid their 2023 annual dues. Support your Chapter!

This is also a good time to mention that food costs are rapidly rising as we all know. Please take this into consideration when making your meal donations at our meetings. If not, then we may have to forego the meals or begin charging a minimum of \$10.00. So take the hint... We know that ALL pilots have money.

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Vice President's introduction, Bill Epperson

If I haven't met you already, I'm your new Vice President for Chapter 72. I was elected to replace Steve Allen Shinn at the end of 2022. He's graciously agreed to stay on as a Chapter Director.

I've loved airplanes ever since I was a child and remember reading and buying Kitplanes magazines in High School. I joined the Air Force right out of High School and was stationed in Minot North Dakota, where I worked on B52's for 2.5 years as an Offensive Avionics Technician. That's also where I met my wife of 31 years. I then cross trained to be a TACP forward air controller, working with the US Army. I was stationed at Ft Stewart GA, Camp Casey & Camp RedCloud Korea, and then finally at Ft Carson CO. I did that for 11+ years until I separated in the Fall of 2002. During that time, I completed 2 Associate's, 1 Bachelor's, and started a Master's degree. Once I separated from the USAF, I began work at Cheyenne Mountain for 5 years in the electronics, maintenance, and systems administration areas. I left Norad and started work at Memorial Hospital as a Systems Communications Analyst, where I worked on anything I could get involved with. Memorial was picked up by UHealth in 2012, and I've been with them ever since. My roles have adjusted over the years. I have two kids that are now grown and becoming self-sufficient. I'm finding that I now have a few funds at the end of the month, and I really want to get back into Aviation; which is where I really belong.

I have many hobbies that take advantage of my membership with the local Pikes Peak Makerspace. If you're unfamiliar with that organization, then take a look at their website: <https://pikespeakmakerspace.org/>. I joined the local EAA Chapter 72 in January of 2022. I then attended the Light Sport Repairman Maintenance course (LSRM) at a school in Missouri; <https://rainbowaviation.com/> in April-May 2022. I'm now certified to do any maintenance on SLSA and ELSA aircraft and I'm working my way towards an eventual A&P certification. Very recently I attended several classes from the "EAA - Homebuilders Week 2023" online seminars. If you missed attending those live presentations, then don't fret, you can watch them any time by following this link:

<https://content.eaa.org/videos/homebuilders-week/homebuilders-week-2023>. They also have the videos from 2022 and 2021 available from their home page. I encourage you to reach out and explore all of the information they provide for us.

Right now I'm gathering information on any home flight simulator setups. If you have any interest in home flight simulation, then I'd like to talk to you and get a master list built. If you already have a flight simulator or are using one actively, then I'd especially love to pick your brain on what you find beneficial from the setups you've used. I want to do a presentation later this year on home flight simulators and I'd appreciate any help you can give me that

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could complement our push in training for flight simulation. I've built my own simulator based around the Honeycomb Alpha and Bravo modules. The computer I built consists mostly of used components that I scrounged

off Facebook Marketplace.

I'll be taking my PPL written in the very near future and once I have that completed, I'll resume my flight training once again at Springs Aviation. If anyone has an electronic flight computer I could borrow to take the written, then I'd appreciate it. Right now I'm searching for a small side by side light sport aircraft that sips fuel. I know I'm asking for a unicorn with that request, but we all have dreams. Let me know if I can be of any help to you on your own aircraft project. I look forward to meeting and learning about each and every one of you and I can't wait to see the projects everyone is working on this spring; I missed the tour last year.

Thank you,

Bill Epperson Jr,
Vice President, EAA Bruce McCombs Chapter 72

Air-to-Air Kill Scores in combat:



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ANNUAL FOUNDER'S DAY DINNER

When: Thursday, March 16, 2023

Time: 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Cost: \$35.00 per person

Will accept Cash, Checks or Credit Card

Where: Old Spaghetti Factory
First and Main (Old Fox and Hound Restaurant)

You will be able to choose from 3 Entrees:

Baked Lasagna
Spaghetti with Marinara Sauce
Spaghetti with Meat Sauce

All members, their family, and guests are invited. Come join us for an evening of great conversation and fun! See you there!

RSVP no later than Sunday, March 12 to Esther Smith

Email: esthersmith@juno.com

Phone: (719) 637-0876 (after 6 PM)

Must pay no later than March 12. If using Credit Card, call Esther for phone payment. Checks must be received no later than March 10. Mail checks to Esther Smith, 1303 Fosdick Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. We cannot accept payment at the door.

Chapter Financials

*Thank you for supporting
these EAA Chapter 72
members!*

EAA BRUCE MCCOMBS CHAPTER 72 TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 01/31/2023

<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
01/01/2023	Beginning Balance	\$5,649.22
01/31/2023	Ending Balance	\$6,621.59

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Chapter Meeting

Date: Saturday, Feb. 18, 2023

Time: 11:00 AM

Place: MLAA Hangar Upstairs

Program: RedBird, Richard Martin

Randy's Flying, LLC
Will certify airplanes for food
Gary R. (Randy) Loyd
FAA Designated Airworthiness Representative
17435 Caribou Dr. E Monument, CO 80132
719-331-2169 mobile
garyloyd@outlook.com

Next Meeting Feb. 18, 2023

Randy Loyd
Newsletter Publisher
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Visit our website: <https://eaa72.org>

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Technical Counselors/Advisors:	Fred Carter	719-291-0815			
About our Chapter					
<p>The Bruce McCombs EAA Chapter 72 meets at Meadow Lake Airport. Meetings are held on 3rd Saturday of each month with a breakfast or lunch. Look for the calendar of events to highlight special chapter activities like Young Eagle Rallies, fly-outs, and other chapter sponsored events. The Chapter Newsletter is published monthly, normally emailed, and available on the website a few days before each meeting. Readers are encouraged to contribute articles, photos, etc. by submitting them to the Newsletter Editor by the first Saturday of each month.</p>					
<p>Annual membership is \$25. Send to: Secretary Esther Smith, 1303 Fosdick Circle, Colorado Springs, CO 80909. Make check payable to EAA Chapter 72 or pay on-line at https://chapters.eaa.org/eaa72. Be informed, attend the meetings, and have a great time with sport aviation.</p>					