

Chapter News

Pike's Peak Flyer

The Voice of EAA 72

<https://eaa72.org>

December 2022

Chapter News—Let's Get Going!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



The year is all but over. Our Christmas party is only a few days away and the raffle drawing is next Saturday! I am not ready for either one, and about worried myself sick, yet I have enjoyed these last few months more than ever. Why? Because of Ken Hendrickson. It has been so much fun and funny working with Ken on the video and the KKTV program. Watching Ken's excitement about his airplane, and the ticket sales (as of today, 1600) continuing to grow, which will allow us to help young people learn to fly. That's what Ken always wanted to do. That is what the raffle is all about; young people.

We have seventy-six members and guests signed up for the Christmas Party! It will be fun. So, bring your party hats and start rubbing your pennies together for luck, because I truly hope one of you will win Ken's airplane.

Merry Christmas and blue skies!

Your Pres.
Jim Steward

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S-19 RAFFLE AT THE SPRINGS AIRSHOW SEP 24 & 25



New Paint



Rans S-19 Raffle Ticket Sales through December 9 - 1600 tickets sold. Check out the airplane at the links below.

- Youtube: <https://youtu.be/zR2FH38ElyQ>
- <https://www.kktv.com/2022/12/06/retired-airline-pilot-hopes-inspire-new-generation-pilots-colorado-springs/>

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|-------------------------|
| • Dec. 15, 2022 | Christmas Party, Patty Jewett Golf Course | 6 pm |
| • Dec. 17, 2022 | Rans S-19 Raffle, MLAA Hangar | 10:00 am |
| • Jan. 11, 2023 | VMC/IMC club, MLAA classroom | 6-7 pm |
| • Jan. 14, 2023 | Coffee & Donuts, MLAA Hangar | 9-11 am |
| • Jan. 21, 2023 | Chapter Meeting, MLAA Hangar | 11:00 am, lunch follows |
| • Jan. 23-27, 2023 | Homebuilder's Week (EAA on-line courses) | see schedule at eaa.org |
| • Feb. 8, 2023 | VMC/IMC club, MLAA classroom | 6-7 pm |
| • Feb. 11, 2023 | Coffee & Donuts, MLAA Hangar | 9-11 am |

YOUNG EAGLES UPDATE

Thank you so much Young Eagle volunteers! We had a great turnout on Nov. 12 with 28 Young Eagle flights and one Eagle flight. Thanks Jim! I want to say special thank you to Hank Bartlett, Al Spratford, and Mark Gabriel for making this 2022 season such a success. Many children's lives were changed because of all the volunteers' generosity and willingness to serve. I just want you all to know that our community is being blessed because of your contributions. I get so many thank you emails from the parents and I think the best one was a child that DC took flying. He posted his certificate on the wall above his bed in his room and his mother said he told everyone he saw about flying for the next three days! That's what it's all about.

God bless you and I look forward to doing it again next year! I'll send out another message in February, but the next rally will not take place until March 11th. If I don't see you before then, Happy Holidays. If you have any questions about Young Eagles please let me know. Registration for the March rally will open in late December, and people may register at youngeaglesday.org.
Respectfully,

Jeff Hyatt

jeffhyatt777@gmail.com

719-649-3869



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Young Eagle Flights, Nov. 12, 2022



Photos by Steve Trolander

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Flight Simulators 2022

By Marc Bonem

EAA Chapter 691 Santa Fe/Los Alamos

The original (Microsoft) Flight Simulator came out in 1982, three years before Windows! Since then, the technology has improved by fits and starts with a big leap forward in the last 5 years. Now, simulators are quite sophisticated with astonishing graphics and realism. They include every airport and different weather environments. You can simulate all kinds of system failures. You can go online and fly with friends. You can enlist real-time air traffic control. Capabilities include IFR, GPS, and a glass cockpit. You can even integrate your electronic flight bag into the simulation. Simulators feature many different planes including general aviation, commercial, military, and antiques. Simulators can be a top-notch training tool or a game or any combination of the two. This is super enhanced chair flying.

For this little article, my focus is on flight simulators primarily as a training/proficiency tool for students, though the technology is just as equally good for all kinds of gaming. I'm looking at "home" systems that would be affordable for most of us. There are semi-professional and professional quality systems as well, but of course you pay for what you get.

A home flight simulator can be great for practicing:

- Mental memory/proficiency/procedures;
- Navigation, maneuvers, drills;
- EFB and GPS integration;
- ATC/Radio communications;
- Anything IFR; and
- Route, airspace and airport familiarization prior to an actual flight.

. Other advantages of a home simulator are:

- Simulators will save you money. Flight time is free, once you've bought the system.
- Simulators will "Fly" no matter what the weather is like outside. However, you can simulate any type of weather within the system, including the actual weather; and
- Simulators are always available (if it's your system). You don't have schedule weeks in advance or even schedule at all. Also, there is no commute.

Flight simulators are not perfect. Obviously, they don't simulate inertial forces, changes of attitude, or the thrill and chill of looking out the window and seeing the ground way down below. There is no smell of avgas (yet).

Simulators won't match your aircraft perfectly, and if you fly experimental, it may not represent your aircraft at all. They won't provide perfect simulation for all situations (such as cross-wind landings). They won't count for the log book, unless you go fairly high end and work with a CFI. One local school even prohibits students from using a simulator to practice landings.

Lets' say you want to do this. How do you get set up? Though slightly older software, such as MS Flight Simulator X, will run on a recently manufactured laptop, it doesn't provide the modern features and sophistication. The newer high-tech software requires high-tech hardware. It's just like you need a decent Wi-Fi speed to watch Netflix. There was a time (remember disco) when you could just buy a disk and load it into your PC and start flying. Not anymore. The day of build-your-own is over, unless you are an IT/gaming enthusiast. Nowadays, you should buy a manufactured CPU. Locally your only choice seems to be Best Buy. Capital Computer and GameStop didn't seem to be interested. (Was it my breath?) Remember that adage that nothing about flying is cheap? For all of the components, there are price/quality levels of adequate, good and very good.

BestBuy offered two baseline CPUs: the Acer Predator Orion 500 for \$1,750 or the CyberPower PC Supreme for \$1,680. There are also companies that custom build CPUs specifically for flight simulators: two are Jetline Systems, (the Gravity GT2 for \$2,700) and X Force (the Budget Flight Sim Gaming System for \$1,370). If you are on a strict budget, there may be sales or you can try buying a used one on Craig's List or E-Bay.

The exception to the pricing rule is the software, which is quite reasonably priced. There are three main suppliers.

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The first two are recommended for beginners. The new (2020) version of MS Flight Simulator is famous for its great graphics. Then there is X Plane 12, which is expandable and is good for general aviation. Finally, Prepared3D is known for high fidelity airliners, military and commercial planes. The basic packages all cost around \$60.00. Some people buy all three. You can preview these on line. The Flight Simulator Association's Beginners Guide has a side-by-side comparison. I suspect all three have owner's groups that provide support and opinions.

You will also need pedals, a yoke/joystick, and a throttle. You can buy them individually or in a combination package. (Can you say K.I.S.S.?) One yoke, throttle, and pedals bundle from My Pilot Store lists for \$329. Sporty's has one for \$360 but the \$600 package may be worth it. I have to admit, the Honeycomb Alpha Yoke looks pretty nice. Be sure to check to make sure what you buy will work with Microsoft, Apple, Xbox or whatever hardware/software you happen to be running.

You should buy a good display screen with high resolution and refresh rate. The LG Ultra HD 27" (\$300 at BestBuy) will work. Some people get one for the front and two for side views for greater realism.

At this point you might want to think about a one-year membership in BestBuy's Geek Squad for support and debugging for \$200. (Who knows, it may all work right out of the box.....Wanna bet?) On the other hand, you might have access to one of those 12-year-old geniuses, that will make it all work for Cheetos.

Total cost: \$2,660 plus or minus. By all means check the reviews, check your mission requirements, and shop around.

For greater realism and capabilities, there are lots of add-ons. According to the Flight Simulator Association, the most critical is on-line ATC. The FSA holds that this is key for the total immersion effect. These services are often staffed by actual retired and working controllers, so they are pretty accurate. There are two choices. Pilotedge has a subscription price of \$35/month, and is available 15 hrs./day, 7 days/week and covers the Western US. Vatsim is free, but is staffed by volunteers, so it is available on an Ad Hoc basis. However, it also covers the entire globe. Other add-ons include a headset adaptor for the computer (\$100), training courses, Nav/Com stacks, joysticks, and almost anything you can imagine or make.

Though the software packages may include their own tutorials, and training courses are available from vendors, the EAA offers its own Virtual Flight Academy flight training course. This is a free course for EAA members. The course looks pretty sophisticated. The EAA version can only run on the older MS Flight Simulator X (which runs on cheap PCs), but newer versions are available from Take Flight Interactive. The EAA is in the process of updating its offerings. There is a (slightly dated) webinar on it at: [EAA Virtual Flight Academy Resource Center](#). I highly recommend viewing this.

Flight simulators are another aspect to aviation that are probably here to stay. They can provide an outstanding training or proficiency tool. And if you look, you'll see they're a whole universe unto themselves.

References:

EAA: [Webinar- Home Flight Simulation for Private Pilot Training and Proficiency Webinar- Home Flight Simulation for Private Pilot Training and Proficiency \(eaa.org\)](#)

[Flight Simulation Association \(Look for Beginner's Guides\)](#)

Sporty's Flight Sim Update: [Flight Simulator Buyers Guide 2022: Flight Sim Update](#)

Sporty's Flight Sim Update: [Comparing Microsoft Flight Simulator and X-Plane \(part 1\): Flight Sim Update](#)

Yoke comparisons: [Honeycomb Alpha Yoke, Logitech Yoke, CH Yoke, and Logitech Extreme 3D Joystick Review and Comparison - YouTube](#)

[Microsoft Flight Simulator https://www.flightsimulator.com/](https://www.flightsimulator.com/)

[Flight courses: TakeFlightInteractive.com](#)

Chapter Financials

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

EAA BRUCE MCCOMBS CHAPTER 72 TREASURER'S REPORT

As of 11/30/2022

<u>Date</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11/01/2022	Beginning Balance	\$8,189.21
11/30/2022	Ending Balance	\$10,259.42

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garyrloyd@outlook.com

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Next Meeting Dec. 15, 2022

Randy Loyd
Newsletter Publisher
17435 Caribou Dr. E
Monument, CO 80132



Visit our website: <https://eaa72.org>

Chapter 72 Officers

President:	Jim Steward	719-352-1608	jdsteward75@gmail.com
Vice President:	Bill Epperson		billmeister69@gmail.com
Secretary:	Esther Smith	719-637-0876	esthersmith@juno.com
Treasurer:	Mark Gabriel	719-440-3913	hm45273@msn.com
Directors, Members at Large	Steve Allen Shinn	719-339-5581	steve.allenshinn@gmail.com
	George Sciss		george.sciss@q.com
	Greg Wolfe		glwolfie@gmail.com
Young Eagle Coordinator:	Jeff Hyatt	719-649-3869	jeffhyatt777@gmail.com
Young Eagle Pilot Coordinator:	Hank Bartlett	719-594-9524	bartirm@comcast.net
IMC/VMC Coordinator:	Richard Martin	719-238-9700	richard.e.martin@att.net
Newsletter Editor:	Randy Loyd	719-331-2169	garyloyd@avsource.com
Webmaster:	Patty Martin	719-238-9700	pjmartin1121@gmail.com
S-19 Raffle Committee Chairman:	Robert Latham		robert.latham@gmail.com
Technical Counselors/Advisors:	Fred Carter	719-291-0815	

About our Chapter

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.

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.