



December 2023

From the Prez:

I am fervently wishing ya'll to be enjoying a nice Holiday Season. Every year during this period I become reflective and give thanks for the blessings and associations that Carole and I have experienced during our four score plus of years. To be specific, some of these blessings have come from our



Cliff and Carole VanVleet

membership in and friendships with all present and past EAA Chapter 776 members. Thank You All!

Back to business. The next Chapter meeting will be conducted in the terminal in the baggage claim area Tuesday, Dec 12, 2023, at 6 PM. We will start with a potluck social half-hour with paper plates, plastic tableware and cups provided. Bring your own drinks if you desire something more substantial than water.

The first item of business will be conducting the annual election. Please re-read my story



EAA Chapter 776

[\(Email chapter officers\)](#)

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Upcoming Events

**EAA Ch 776 meeting December 12th, 6pm
at the Terminal Building**

[Buckeye Air Fair](#) 16-18 Feb 2024

[Cactus Fly-in](#) 1-3 March 2024

Army-Navy Game, Saturday 9 December.

Go ARMY! BEAT Navy!

[Arizona Pilot's Association \(APA\) Calendar](#)

[APA Newsletter](#)

[New Mexico Pilot's Association Calendar](#)

[This Day in Aviation](#)



in the [November Newsletter](#). Immediately after the election and before the end of the calendar year, I will fill out and file the annual Chapter report to EAA HQ. So far, we have two members, Jon Nelson and Larry Portouw, volunteering to continue in their present positions. That leaves all the other positions open for candidates. With no substantial feedback as of this writing, volunteers are again very sparse leaving the job of carrying on in the hands of the same old cadre. Please, allow yourselves to see fit to volunteer in some, if not all, of the chapter's administration. I've got my fingers crossed!

The program this month will be a power point presentation by George Clarke on the latest FAA AC 90-66C, Non-Towered Airport Flight Operations circular. George hopes there will be good discussion at the end and opines it should not take longer than 30 minutes total.

George also reports that at his speculative expense he ordered several 2024 EAA calendars of which he has a few in-hand and available for the bargain price of \$9 each. In times past, Leo Scherping handled this annual calendar promotion, now George is picking up the task.

And, treasurer Jon is collecting annual dues; \$10 per person. If you haven't paid your chapter dues, now is the last opportunity this year to do it, but Jon will receive them at any time throughout the year.

Another reminder that the [Buckeye Air Fair](#) February 16-18 is getting very close.

And the [Cactus State Fly-In](#) and Hot Rod show will follow closely on March 1-3.

I fell in love with aviation, as well as with people. Paul Poberezny

Fly Safe,
Cliff



Young Eagles

Nothing new to report on the Young Eagles front. Please reach out if you identify any kids that would benefit from a flight.

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EAA CHAPTER 776 THE SKY ISLAND EAGLES

Minutes

November 14th 2023

6:45 PM Pledge of Allegiance

Eleven Attendees: Cliff and Carole Van Vleet, Joe Spurgeon, Marvin Hurd, Ben Middleton, Jon Nelson, Paul Brick, Michelle Snodgrass +3, Vince Pujalte, Chris Daley, Larry Portouw.

No introductions needed since everyone knows everyone.

Last month's meeting minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: Jon Nelson reports \$1,235.14 in main account. \$22,800.72 in Young Eagles account.

Elections should be done at the December meeting. There are no candidates yet. We need someone to step up to relieve previous members in all offices. President Cliff reminded everyone that Charlie Harris' long time EAA Vintage Chapter One in Tulsa,

Oklahoma folded recently because no one would step up to relieve him.

Young Eagles: The October 28 event had 20 Young Eagles flown. They were from Veritas School and Calvary Chapel plus CAP kids. Numbers for pilots were reported in November Newsletter.

Cliff was asked by George Pohlman (not present due to health issue) to give flights for 2 neighbor kids. Chris Daley volunteered to do it. No date set yet until further contact with George.

Cliff asked that we donate \$1,000.00 again to the Air Academy candidates recommended by Cheri McGonagle and her Phoenix Chapter. Donation Approved.

Larry Portouw reported that he still needs someone to do the groundwork currently being done by Carole Van Vleet at YE rallies. He will continue as YE Coordinator, newsletter editor and as a Director.

Feb. 16-18: Buckeye Air Affair. It will be about the same as last year with a big presence by AOPA. Get hotels early. They are pricey and scarce.

City Transportation Meeting: Joe was unable to attend so no report available. Next meeting on Monday, December 4, in City Hall Council chambers. Notification will be provided by City. Major topic will be City's pursuance of contract to update the Airport Master Plan.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday December 12th. at 6pm in the KFHu terminal building. Potluck.

Gossip: Copperstate's divisive president is no longer in office, but his wife is still involved. Aviation writer Zoom Campbell is working on an expose of what transpired with the intent of getting the organization back into the old guard's hands. Stay tuned.

The Cactus Fly-in will be March 2. Smaller show but still worth attending.

Larry: Upcoming Thanksgiving Fly-in at Grapevine Airport. Larry asks for feedback on the Newsletter and reasons why the emails are not being opened. Complaints or additions recommended. He asks for safety column help, want-ads for items for sale. Some talk about emails going to spam folders. Chris Daley offered some advice that Larry said might be helpful.

Evening's Entertainment: Cliff's selection of airplane pictures shown on Chapter TV.



Education Corner

- 1) During operations outside controlled airspace at altitudes of more than 1,200 feet AGL, but less than 10,000 feet MSL, the minimum flight visibility for VFR flight at night is
 - a. 5 miles.
 - b. 1 mile.
 - c. 3 miles.
- 2) An electrical system failure (battery and alternator) occurs during flight. In this situation, you would (assume Lycoming or Continental)
 - a. probably experience failure of the engine ignition system, fuel gauges, aircraft lighting system, and avionics equipment.
 - b. experience avionics equipment failure.
 - c. probably experience engine failure due to the loss of the engine-driven fuel pump and also experience failure of the

radio equipment, lights, and all instruments that require alternating current.

3) The angular difference between true north and magnetic north is

- a. compass acceleration error.
- b. magnetic variation.
- c. magnetic deviation.

4) Which incident requires an immediate notification to the nearest NTSB field office?

- a. A forced landing due to engine failure.
- b. Landing gear damage, due to a hard landing.
- c. Flight control system malfunction or failure.

5) An airport's rotating beacon operated during daylight hours indicates

- a. that weather at the airport located in Class D airspace is below basic VFR weather minimums.
- b. the Air Traffic Control tower is not in operation.
- c. there are obstructions on the airport.

6) Except in Alaska, during what time period should lighted position lights be displayed on an aircraft?

- a. 1 hour after sunset to 1 hour before sunrise.
- b. Sunset to sunrise.
- c. End of evening civil twilight to the beginning of morning civil twilight.

-Answers: 1) c, 2) b, 3) b, 4) c, 5) a, & 6) b.

[IFR Holding Quiz.](#)

[Minimum VFR Altitudes](#) on Bold Method



Safety Corner

We are looking for a regular contributor for this section. Your edition has occasionally had items for here, but not this month.



News and Links



[Vans Files for Chapter 11](#)
[Piper Ruder AD Comment Period Extended](#)
[Annual EAA Chapter Survey](#)
[EAA 776 Web Page](#) at EAA. You can also go to the website by clicking on the eagle at the top of page 1.

For SALE



Nothing to list this month.



Editor's notes:

Click on the Eagle logo at the top of page one to go to the chapters site on EAA.org.

Please submit input, to include articles, pictures, and upcoming events before the end of the month to [Larry Portouw](#). We would also like to identify an author for a Safety Corner submission each month.

