



Winds Aloft

EAA Chapter 790

Lake in the Hills, Illinois

790.eaachapter.org

February 2024

From Matt Van Bergen, Chapter 790 President

We had our annual banquet on Saturday, Feb 10 at the Cary Country Club. The Cary CC did another fine job hosting us. We all shared a drink and a cheers prior to getting started with dinner, the awards festivities and our featured presentation by Dan Johnson.

First, a big thank you and applause for our chapter in making 2023 another great year. We want to share a special thank you to those members that go the extra mile volunteering their time for chapter related administration things. Here are the 2023 award recipients:

Dave Stokes - Vice President (and filling in for Matt when he is out traveling!)

Paul Ranieri - Treasurer and Young Eagles Coordinator

Randy Sweet - Secretary (he did a nice job keeping us organized!)

Tom LeGates - Board Member and Website Administrator

Lon Danek - Board Member

Pat Crawford - Board Member and Shop Visit Coordinator

Pete and Lynn Thompson - Newsletter Editors

Tom Solar - Ray Aviation Scholarship Coordinator

Ron Liebmann - Technical Counselor and Flight Advisor

Ole Sindberg - Technical Counselor and Flight Advisor

Mike Perkins - Technical Counselor and Flight Advisor

Matt Van Bergen - President and VMC/IMC Coordinator

Mick Petrie - our MVP for 2023 for Mick's commitment to running the ramp for us in support of our Young Eagles events. Mick never misses a rally and is on the ramp non-stop from start to finish, rain or shine, hot or cold. We congratulate Mick for his service to Chapter 790 as well as the greater Young Eagles community.



Our featured presenter was Dan Johnson, a professional pilot and author of the book "DUSTER, A Collection Of One Pilot's Adventures Over 50 Years In The Air" by A. Dan Johnson. Dan shared the ups and downs of flying an LSA BushCat on amphibious floats 7,000+ miles from Galt Airport (10C) to Valdez, Alaska where he competed in the Valdez STOL competition. I might add that he competed in the competition at or near gross weight which gave everyone a good laugh. Dan's wife gave some nice color commentary as she provided Dan and his co-pilot logistical support during the adventure. It was quite an adventure and everyone at the banquet enjoyed the presentation.



Matt



Matt VanBergen



Dave Stokes



Paul Ranieri



Randy Sweet



Tom Solar



Mick Petrie



Pat Crawford



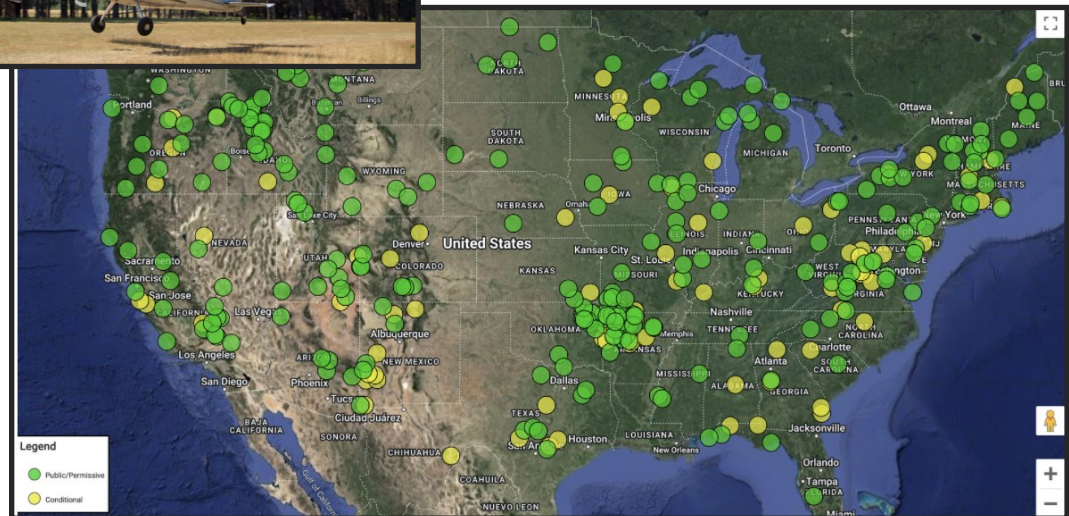
Ron Liebmann

Upcoming Chapter Meeting

The guest speaker for next month's chapter meeting on March 26 will be Mike Purpura. Mike is the Illinois liaison for the Recreational Aviation Foundation. The RAF's mission statement is, "The Recreational Aviation Foundation preserves, improves, and creates airstrips for recreational access." One example of the efforts accomplished by this passionate group is the refurbishment of the abandoned Red Pine airport in northern Maine. Recently the FAA allowed the strip to be reopened with a new airport ID of 82ME. They have a great website to learn all about the RAF: theraf.org. Located there is an interactive map of the airports they are involved in, and what is available if you fly-in.



Sounds like a great presentation you won't want to miss!



Interactive Map from theraf.org website

SLSA and MOSAIC

The FAA is currently assessing its MOSAIC Rule Proposal. MOSAIC (Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certification) will significantly benefit general aviation by expanding standards and aircraft parameters that can be flown under Sport Pilot privileges. One of the biggest changes would be to raise the weight limit of light sport category aircraft from 1,320 lbs. to 3000 lbs. max gross weight. This will allow for a four seat aircraft to qualify in the category. Also, more complex aircraft would be allowed, such as aircraft with retractable gear and variable pitch props. Language in the rule making would change “engine driven” to “powered aircraft” which would open the door to electric propulsion.

Textron-owned Pipistrel has already been looking at the opening up of the electric aircraft training market. This could potentially help reduce costs of pilot training. A front runner for electric powered training aircraft has been New Vision Aviation in Fresno, CA. They currently have a fleet of four Pipistrel Alpha Electro trainers. After submitting a petition in 2019 to the FAA, they received the news last month that their exemption had been granted. Training in electric aircraft looks like a reality!



The FAA is expected to issue a final rule later this year or early 2025. The future of general aviation looks a little brighter! A beneficiary to the changes will be Van's Aircraft. As of today, there are over 11,000 of the various models being flown. Under MOSAIC, presumably all the Van's aircraft fleet would qualify for the Light Sport category.

For a neat overview of the Van's company, take a look at the YouTube video, “The Most Popular Homebuilt Airplane in the World.”

Chapter Meetings

Chapter 790 meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month. The meetings are generally held at the Lake in the Hills Airport Office lounge at 6:30 pm. From May until October, the meetings also consist of a cookout to enjoy the nice weather. Matt will keep everyone posted via email of exact times, location, guest speakers, etc.

Fly-Out Scheduling

A great way to enjoy a Saturday morning and some camaraderie are the fly-out events. They are held the third Saturday of the month at 9am. If the weather isn't satisfactory, it will be rescheduled to the following Saturday. Paul Ranieri will keep everyone posted as to the destination and time via email. If you are interested in going and need a seat, you can respond to Paul's group email prior to the upcoming fly-out.



Young Eagles

Beginning in May and running through October are the Young Eagle events. They are held the first Saturday of the month at either Schaumburg Airport or Lake in the Hills Airport. There is no better way for kids to get some flying experience. Before each event, chapter members will receive an email outlining the various volunteer opportunities. These consist of the registration area for kids and their parents, being on the ramp to park airplanes, and flying the kids of course!



Chapter 790 Contacts

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RV-14A Ready for Shipment to Aurora Airport

EAA Chapter 790 Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 16	Flyout	TBD
March 26	Chapter Meeting	LITH Airport Office
April 2	Board Meeting	Barrington Library
April 20	Flyout	TBD
April 23	Chapter Meeting	LITH Airport Office
May 4	Young Eagles Event	Schaumburg Airport
May 28	Chapter Meeting	Location TBD
June 4	Board Meeting	Barrington Library



Beech Staggerwing Refurbishment