



Vol. 42, No. 5, May 2025

From Mike Monreal, Chapter 790 President

The nice weather has finally arrived and starting with our next gathering in May we will be holding it at Ted's hangar, P-60. Starting at 6 pm, our chief cook Dave Stokes will be at the BBQ.

With the nice weather comes dusting off the cobwebs from not flying much during the winter. Try and get a CFI to fly with if you think you need it.

We had to cancel the Young Eagles rally in May due to only having 2 seats from two airplanes available. One of those aircraft, our [J-3 Cub](#) that Andrew was going to fly, is now not available for the summer because floats have been installed and will spend the summer on the water. Matt's plane was the other aircraft. We will have to take a closer look at the program and discuss it at our board meeting to see if the Young Eagles program is feasible to continue this year as is currently configured. Paul has worked tirelessly to get this event together and it is frustrating to all of us, especially the kids, when it has to be canceled. I believe in the future we will need planes and pilots committed ahead of time before registration opens.

We are still looking for a May speaker (in person or Zoom). If you have a suggestion *please reach out!*

Leadership Opportunities

Many hands make [ultra]light work. Could you bring yours to one of these positions?

- **Director/Board member at large** – help steer the airship
- **Safety Officer** – ensure safety at Young Eagles events, promote safety awareness
- **Young Eagles pilot or ground crew** (see article below)

Volunteers make our chapter *fly*! Please [contact me](#) for more info. Thanks!

mike

April 19 Fly-Out Recap: Lansing ([IGQ](#))

Weather conditions were poor, so the trip to Linnie Ques Airport Bar & Grill, the historic Ford Hangar, and the [Lansing Veterans Memorial](#) has been **rescheduled for Saturday, June 21st at 11:00**. More details next month.

April 22 Gathering Recap: Safety Meeting

Sid coordinated the presentation of the recorded EAA webinar “Bravo Buster: Adventures In and Around the National Airspace System”, in which Laura Herrmann discussed (barely) violating O’hare Class B airspace east of Schaumburg. EAA members may [watch the webinar replay here](#).



May 17 Fly-Out to Peru ([KVYS](#))

Illinois Valley Regional Airport will host the 10th Annual TBM Reunion ([tbmreunion.org](#)). **We’ll meet at 11:00** on the 2nd day of this event, **Saturday, May 17**. The website home page states that there will be limited space in the (grass) GA parking area, and that the FAA will be performing [ramp checks](#).



The program begins with a [veterans parade](#) at noon, featuring veterans and the flags of deceased veterans carried by family members, followed by a missing man formation (with the flags on board a [TBM Avenger](#)).

The [airshow](#), from 13:00-16:00 includes TBM Avengers, an F-16 Fighting Falcon, a P-51 Mustang, and the TITAN Aerobatic Team (four T-6s). Bring your veteran's flag to be included in the Honor Walk and missing man formation (check in at registration before 11:00). Admission is free and [donations](#) are encouraged. Monitor email for updates, and please reply-all to say you are going or to offer or request a ride. See you there!

May 27 Chapter Gathering & BBQ

Join us at **18:00 Tuesday, May 27 at 3CK [hangar P-60](#)** for hamburgers, cheeseburgers, brats, condiments, water, and soft drinks. **The program will begin at 18:45.**

2025 Young Eagles Rallies

Our remaining 2025 rally dates and locations are:

- Saturday, June 7, 08:30 at Schaumburg Airport (*youth registration is full - NEED PILOTS!*)
- Saturday, August 2, 08:30 at Lake in the Hills Airport
- Saturday, October 4, 08:30 at Schaumburg Airport

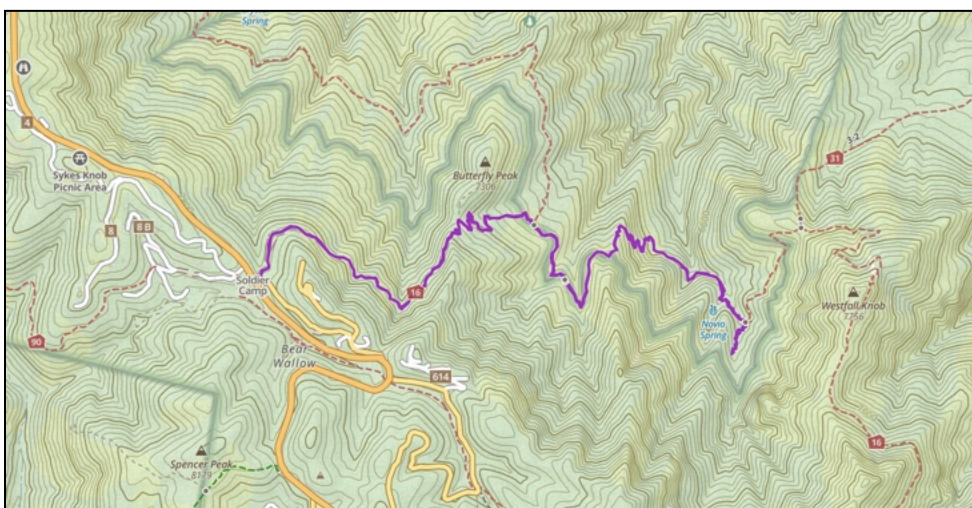
We meet at the airport at 08:00 to set up, and then welcome our guests 08:30-12:30. There's more on [our Young Eagles page](#) and the [EAA Young Eagles page](#).



We're expecting 95 youths (and their parents/guardians) at the June 7th rally, and need pilots and ground crew to help with registration, ramp safety, and [aircraft marshaling](#). Young Eagles Coordinator Paul Ranieri asks you to [review the volunteer requirements](#) and [confirm that you will help](#) at one or more rallies. It's a rewarding experience to introduce kids to flying and inspire them to consider careers in aviation. Join us in helping youth ages 8-17 experience The Spirit of Aviation®!

When Adventure Meets Aviation History: The 1957 F-86 Crash – *Matt Van Bergen*

It was time to hit the road again in late March. As in the past two years, the goal was to drive to Tempe, Arizona, to spend Easter with our daughter, now a junior at Arizona State University. My wife takes the “easy” route and flies commercial, while I prefer to drive my camper van, take my time, and explore new biking and hiking spots along the way.



This year’s route included stops in Bentonville, Arkansas; [Big Bend National Park](#) in West Texas; Las Cruces, New Mexico; several days at [Chiricahua National Monument](#) in southern Arizona (a must-see!); Tucson and finally Tempe. It was in Tucson that I took an interesting hike—one I’d like to share with you. Don’t worry...it’s aviation related!

It was stinking hot down at Catalina State Park, too hot to hike or bike during the day. So, I packed up the van and we (my little Cavapoo furry friend is my travel partner) headed up to [Mount Lemmon](#) to seek higher (cooler) ground. Mount Lemmon, standing tall at 9,159’, is a really cool spot as it sits just to the north of downtown Tucson and is a great place to go when it’s hot in the valley. I drove up to the small parking lot to access the Butterfly Trail.

The trail started at about 7,000 feet, so the cool air was a welcome relief. It was an out-and-back route—about six miles with 2,200 feet of elevation gain—which felt like a good challenge for the day. As I made my way along, I passed a couple of hikers, but no one seemed to be doing the full route. While taking a break, I decided to do a quick Google search to see what others had said about the trail. That’s when something caught my eye—“F-86”—mentioned in connection with the Butterfly Trail.

Wait...what? Could this hike actually lead to a piece of aviation history?

I have to admit, at this point in the trip, I was really starting to miss aviation. According to what I read, the trail leads to the crash site of an [F-86 Sabre](#) from 1957. Well, if I needed any more motivation to keep going, that sealed it. The trail turned rugged in the last mile or two, but eventually, I reached the site—and there it was.



What's the story? Well, after I finished up the hike, I drove back down into Tucson, found a local micro brewery, had a nice cool IPA and of course started researching the story. Per a document I came across...

Late in the afternoon of 8 July 1957, two F-86 Sabrejet fighter aircraft from Davis-Monthan Air Force Base met in a midair collision over Mount Bigelow. The two aircraft, piloted by 1st Lt. G. H. Van Vliet and 1st Lt. Joseph J. Onate, were on a routine training mission when for some unknown reason they collided. The tail section broke away from one of the jets. The other apparently lost a wing and the two aircraft plummeted out of control. Both pilots, with just seconds to spare, ejected, yanked their ripcords before their parachutes could open automatically, and floated through monsoon clouds to safety and rescue in the forest below.



One of the jets crashed near an access road. This made removal of the wreckage relatively easy and the crash site was cleaned up shortly after the crash. The aircraft I saw on my hike slammed into the earth near the Butterfly Trail about 3 miles from Soldier Camp. The site is at an elevation of about 7,000 feet. Officials determined that the removal of the wreckage of that aircraft would be expensive and require the use of helicopters so a decision was made to leave the remains where they landed. So there it lies, an enduring backwoods reminder of the sometimes abrupt enforcement of the law of gravity.

I think over time people have started taking pieces of the airplane because all I could make out was the remains of the engine and a few pieces of the surrounding fuselage.

This was a fun day. I like hiking new trails because you really never know what you'll see along the way. This is the first for me and I didn't even know about it until I was well into the hike. – Matt



CELEBRATE: Serve passengers tiered cakes shaped like the airspace class diagram
xkcd.com/2675 ([explanation](#))

Events Calendar Improvements

Like many other chapters, we are now using Google Calendar as the focal point of chapter events. You can view up-to-date event listings and details on our website (chapters.eaa.org/ea790/chapter-790-event-calendar). There is an option to select Schedule, Week, or Month view. If you are a Google Calendar user, you can [subscribe to the chapter calendar](#) and see the events alongside your own. You may want to create your own “travel time” event (with reminder) ahead of the chapter events you will be participating in. Please send event updates to eaachapter790@gmail.com.

Chapter 790 Calendar

Sat, May 3	08:00	Young Eagles at Lake in the Hills (3CK)	Watch for emails
Sat, May 17	TBD	Fly-out to TBM Avenger Reunion (KVYS)	Watch for emails
Sat, May 17	All day	Chicago Area 99s' Aviation Day for Girls	3CK (more: chicagoarea99s.org)
Tue, May 27	18:00-21:00	Chapter gathering and BBQ	3CK hangar P-60
Sat, Jun 7	08:00	Young Eagles at Schaumburg (06C)	Watch for emails
Sat, Jun 21	11:00	Lunch fly-out to Lansing (IGQ)	Watch for emails
Tue, Jun 24	18:00-21:00	Chapter gathering and BBQ	3CK hangar P-60
Mon, Jul 21 – Sun Jul 27		AirVenture 2025 “Endless Possibilities”	(no chapter events in July)
Sat, Aug 2	08:00	Young Eagles at Lake in the Hills (3CK)	Watch for emails
Sat, Aug 16	09:00	Breakfast fly-out	Watch for emails
Tue, Aug 26	18:00-21:00	Chapter gathering and BBQ	3CK hangar P-60
Sat, Sep 20	09:00	Breakfast fly-out	Watch for emails
Tue, Sep 23	18:00-21:00	Chapter gathering and BBQ	3CK hangar P-60

[See the Chapter 790 events page](#)

[See 790 events in your own Google Calendar](#)

EAA's calendar of events is at [eaa.org/eaa/events](#). You can search by event categories, by the distance from a location, by state, or by a date range. Events you add to your EAA itinerary are at [eaa.org/eaa/myitinerary](#).

Chapter 790 gatherings are held the fourth Tuesday of every month. The gatherings are generally held at the Lake in the Hills Airport Office at 18:45. From May until October, the gatherings begin with a cookout at 18:00 in [hangar P-60](#). Mike will keep everyone posted via email of exact times, location, guest speakers, etc. The Board meets the 2nd half of each month. Contact [Mike Monreal](#) if you have business for the Board.

Fly-outs are a great way to enjoy a Saturday morning and some camaraderie. They are the third Saturday of the month, usually at 09:00. Andrew Monreal will keep everyone posted as to the destination and time via email. If you are going, have an extra seat, or want to go and need a seat, please respond to Andrew's group email.

Young Eagle events are held the first Saturday of May, June, August, and October 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!

Volunteers Make Our Chapter *Fly!*

BOARD MEMBERS

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Chapter 790 members are a group of aviation enthusiasts, aircraft builders, and pilots who get together with like minded people to share ideas, exchange information, encourage safety, serve the local aviation community and have a lot of fun doing so. Whether you fly, build, restore or simply enjoy airplanes and aviation, you are welcome to attend our events and join our chapter. Recent newsletters: chapters.eaa.org/ea790/newsletters.