



The Leader In Recreational Aviation

The Walston Aviator

EAA Chapter 864, East Alton, IL - KALN

January 2025

President:
Rick Farrow

Vice President:
Nicholas Hobbs

Treasurer:
Rick Huebner

Secretary:
Lou Dieu

Directors:
Mark Heckler & Bill Orrill

Young Eagles Coordinators:
Bill Orrill & Jan McKee

Newsletter:
Nicholas & Julie Hobbs

Non Member Email:
eaa864info@gmail.com

Next Meeting
ALN Admin Building

When
Thursday, January 9th
at 7:00pm

Calendar of Events

January
9 EAA Chapter 864
Meeting at 7:00pm

February
13 EAA Chapter 864
Meeting at 7:00pm

March
13 EAA Chapter 864
Meeting at 7:00pm

EAA events
www.eaa.org/eaa/events

Fun Places to Fly
www.funplacestofly.com

ALN Hangar Page on
Facebook
<https://bit.ly/aln-tenants>

Newsletter Contributions and Deadlines

- Anyone wishing to submit items to the newsletter should send them to your friendly editor by the Friday before the scheduled meeting. Please send contributions to Nicholas at eaa864info@gmail.com.

Next Chapter Meeting

- Our next meeting will be on Thursday, January 9th, at 7:00pm. Our guest speakers will be St Louis Regional Airport manager, Danny Adams, and assistant manager, Drake Blackwell.
- Many other items will be discussed that will take place throughout the year from our new president, Rick Farrow.
- Membership forms will be available at the meeting to renew your local chapter membership.
- For anyone that doesn't have a chapter nametag, a list will be available to have one made for delivery at a later meeting.
- **This newsletter serves as the 5-day written notice for a voting meeting.**

Meeting Agenda

- Call to Order
- Quorum Established
- Approval of Minutes
- Old Business
- New Business
- Vote on Corporation
- Speaker
- Adjourn

EAA Chapter 864 Meeting Minutes – December 7th, 2024

- No official meeting was held. The Chapter's annual Christmas party was held on Saturday, December 7th at Laux Brickhouse. The party was well-attended with 55 members and guests present. The menu included fried chicken, pork chops, mash potatoes, mostaccioli, green beans and salad.
- A 50/50 raffle was held to help raise money for the EAA 864 scholarship fund. Nicholas Hobbs was the lucky winner and donated the money back to the scholarship fund. The amount raised was \$245.00. Thank you to all who bought tickets to help grow the scholarship fund!
- A raffle of door prizes was won by many. Prizes ranged from coffee mugs to gift cards.
- Mr. Joe Case and Mr. Don Torrini were recognized with the Gene Helmkamp Award for their many years of dedication to aviation.



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Program

- No program was held during the Christmas party.

Treasurer's Report

- Our checking account balance is \$13,889.53, with a total of 27 paid memberships. The membership numbers will continue to increase with renewals.

Old Business

- Please be sure to write your information on the clipboard (located on the table) when checking out our chapter tools and equipment.

New Business

- None this month

News

- None this month.

Pictures From the Meeting

- None this month.

Important Notes

- Here is the link to our chapter's online resources: <https://bit.ly/eachapter864>

Announcements

- If anyone has any pictures, posters, or stories about Walston Aviation (based at ALN for many years), please email Nicholas at pilothobbs@gmail.com.
- The next ALN board meeting will be held on January 16th, at 4:30pm. The meeting will be at the airport administration building and all are welcome to attend.
- Fuel prices: West Star \$6.25, 3LF \$4.75, SET \$5.39, VLA \$4.50 (subject to change).
- Our member, Jim Kramer, lost his sister in December. Please keep him in your thoughts.
- Our member Nicholas Hobbs, lost his grandfather in December. Please keep him in your thoughts.

Other News at ALN

From the Tower – Joe Case

- Wow! Traffic count this month has once again been more than any month the previous 15 years. For the year, traffic count is 43,035, an increase of 39% from last year. For 2025, I anticipate continued growth thanks to Piston and the surrounding flight schools that are bringing their students over to ALN for flying.
- Thank you to the 17 that participated in the annual runway safety meeting on December 13th. Many items were discussed including national and local runway safety trends. This



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past year the tower filed 32 mandatory occurrence reports. Of those filed, only 7 were situations where the airport fire department was called out. These included 2 runway excursions, gear issues, failed radios, etc. Thankfully, everyone went home safely. Happy New Year to everyone. Looking forward to a great 2025!

ALN Director – Danny Adams

- No report this month.

Piasa Flying Club – John Hentrich

- Happy New Year! Our Cessna 150 is down due to issues we believe are related to the carburetor. We also have some other exhaust issues and minor repairs to get her flying again.

Piston Aviation – Dack Quigley (ALN manager)

- No report this month.

AeroEducate – Randy McKee

- No report this month.

Ray Scholarship – Randy McKee

- Kyra is expecting to complete her flight training this month with her final check ride. It has been scheduled. We will share the news once we hear! We are working on the application for the 2025 Ray Scholarship and will hear from EAA in March if we will be receiving one. We are applying for one full scholarship, more details to follow.

Chapter 864 Scholarship – Jan McKee

- No report this month.

Young Eagles – Jan McKee

- Thank you to all those who flew Young Eagles or helped at one of our rallies during 2024. We are looking forward to 2025 and flying more Young Eagles. As of January 1st, the website for Young Eagles rallies and flights will be EAACHapters.org. YEday.org will redirect people to the new site for a while. This new website is similar to the old one but will be supported by EAA HQ. If you signed into YEday.org, you are in the new system - use your EAA login to access.

Year in review at EAA 864:

January:

- Danny Adams, airport manager, shared a recap of the last year at ALN and provided a look ahead.

February:

- Joe Ord, Piston Aviation, shared a vision for their second location at ALN. They have been remodeling the old restaurant.

March:

- Major Jim Miller discussed flying Cobra helicopters in Vietnam with an accumulation of 1,740 combat assault hours.



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April:

- Max Langham, a CFI who does tailwheel endorsements with a fully restored 90 hp. Champ, gave a presentation on directional control takeoff and landing scenarios.

May:

- The annual Chapter BBQ was held at the chapter hangar. President John Harding presented two wooden plaques to airport director, Danny Adams, to honor the Cisco Brothers.

June:

- Tom Groppel, retired rank of Lieutenant Colonel, spoke on his 20 years of service.
- A Young Eagle rally was held at Litchfield and was well-attended.

July:

- Daniel Yates spoke on the rebuild of his AT-6

August:

- Ryan Carmicheal, career Navy pilot, discussed flying Prowlers, Growlers and the Super Hornet.

September:

- The chapter took a month off from speakers and began watching VMC/IMC club videos. A lot of discussion was held.
- The annual Wings and Wheels event was held. The weather was poor with little turn out.
- Our Young Eagles event was held. The weather was poor and no flights were given.

October:

- VMC/IMC club videos were played again with discussion on the upcoming fly-in breakfast.
- An EAA pancake fly-in breakfast was held with a great turn out!

November:

- Micheal Ahern, helicopter pilot, discussed his time in Vietnam and on a fire suppression crew.

December:

- The annual Christmas party was held at Laux Brickhouse.



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Meet our new board members:

A couple of questions were asked to each board member, their answers are in red. Let's welcome our new board members!

Rick Farrow: President

- When did you get your pilot's license?
1977/1978
- What got you started in aviation?
My dad flew in the military and a local school teacher, Pinky Opp, was giving lessons at ALN.
- Where is your go-to flying spot to eat?
My ultimate spot is Bob Chinn's Crab House, Wheeling, IL., Jubelt's in Litchfield, Mt Vernon for the buffet at Bonnie Café is always good, Richard's Farm Restaurant is great in Casey, IL, and of course, Jefferson City, MO. Is great with free ice cream!
- If money was no object, what aircraft would you like to fly?
F-22 would be awesome!
- As a chapter leader, what would you like to change/do to better our 864 Chapter?
We need to define our purpose and have goals to reach out and grow as a chapter.



Rick Farrow – President



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Nicholas Hobbs: Vice President

- When did you get your pilot's license?
January 2009
- What got you started in aviation?
I took my first plane ride when I was very young. I was hooked ever since. I worked at my local airport during high school for the local crop duster. I also helped plan and run the annual fly-in breakfast for many years during the town celebration.
- Where is your go-to flying spot to eat?
Lots of good places to fly and eat. My top 3 would have to be Mattoon for an elephant ear, Sikeston for Lamberts and Mt. Vernon for Bonnie Café.
- If money was no object, what aircraft would you like to fly?
The P-51 is my favorite airplane! I would also love to fly the B747 and the A380!
- As a chapter leader, what would you like to change/do to better our 864 Chapter?
I would like to grow our chapter and get more young people involved in aviation. I think it would be great, not only for our chapter, but also for ALN to host more flying events and get the public out to the airport.



Nicholas Hobbs - Vice President



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Lou Due: Secretary

- When did you get your pilot's license?
I earned my pilot's license on June 28, 1981
- What got you started in aviation?
My dad was a pilot as I was growing up, so I became interested in all things aviation very young.
- Where is your go-to flying spot to eat?
Mt. Vernon is my favorite place to fly and eat.
- If money was no object, what aircraft would you like to fly?
I love to fly airplanes, but the P-51D Mustang has the top spot of airplanes I would love to fly.
- As a chapter leader, what would you like to change/do to better our 864 Chapter?
I hear a lot of great comments about our chapter. The most important thing we can do is recruit and engage young people.



Lou Due – Secretary



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Rick Huebner: Treasure

- When did you get your pilot's license?
1977
- What got you started in aviation?
I took a ride at Walston Aviation and started working on my license a month later.
- Where is your go-to flying spot to eat?
I don't really have a favorite place.
- If money was no object, what aircraft would you like to fly?
I'm happy flying pretty much anything.
- As a chapter leader what would you like to change/do to better our 864 Chapter?
Recruit many new younger people because most of us are getting old.



Rick Huebner – Treasure



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EAA Questions of the Month



EAA VMC Club

Question of the Month

This Month's Question and Answer:

Question: You're planning a VFR cross country flight in your 1977 Cessna Cardinal RG, which does not have a Minimum Equipment List (MEL). As you're taxiing out for departure, you notice that the turn coordinator is inoperative (red flag showing). Can you legally fly the airplane on this flight with the turn coordinator inoperative?

Answer: Yes, but you need to stop and do your homework first. The turn coordinator is not required as part of the VFR-day type certification instruments and equipment (§ 91.205), is not listed in the Kinds of Operations Equipment List for the aircraft (POH), and does not pose a hazard for this flight (your determination). It is not required by any airworthiness directive (this might be harder to determine). However, per § 91.213, it must be deactivated and placarded "Inoperative" prior to flight. Since the instrument is on a separate circuit, it can likely be deactivated without assistance from a mechanic. It will need to be repaired no later than at the next aircraft inspection.

The one question to ask yourself is whether in an emergency (low visibility, or inadvertent continued VFR into IMC), would it be safe to be flying the airplane without this instrument.

References: § 91.205 Powered civil aircraft with standard category U.S. airworthiness certificates: Instrument and equipment requirements; § 91.213 Inoperative Instruments and Equipment



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EAA IMC Club

Question of the Month

Question: You're flying in IMC, nearing the airport where you plan to enter a hold and then complete an instrument approach when your vacuum system fails, causing your gyro-powered instruments to falter. What ATC services can you implement in this scenario?

Answer: In general, you can (and should!) declare an emergency, which gives you priority handling with ATC. In particular, you might also request delaying vectors (rather than attempt a partial panel hold) while you sort out the situation and prepare for an instrument approach. Among the various services available, ATC can also provide no-gyro vectors for an approach, or in some cases, provide an Approach Surveillance Radar (ASR) or Precision Approach Radar (PAR) approach.

Reference: AIM 6-1-2

Announcement: EAA Chapter Leadership Training Boot Camp will be co-hosted by Greater St. Louis area EAA Chapters on March 8th, 2025

The EAA Chapter Leadership Training Boot Camp is coming to St. Louis on March 8th, 2025. EAA Chapters 32 and 1675 will co-host the event which will be held at the Wings of Hope Facility at Spirit of St. Louis Airport. EAA Chapters 64, 864 & 1387 have also expressed interest in helping to partner for the EAA training event. After discussions with EAA's Christopher Gauger (Chapter Field Representative) and local STL chapters, March 8th, 2025 is the best fit for the greater St. Louis area EAA Chapters to have a Leadership Boot camp. In addition, EAA Director of Chapters, Charlie Becker, is a native of St. Louis and will be available to attend the boot camp on this date. Thanks to John Heilmann, President of Chapter 1675, who confirmed that we can use the Wings of Hope facility at the Spirit of St. Louis Airport for the Saturday leadership boot camp. We'll likely have a catered dinner and speaker on Friday night in the Wings of Hope facility. EAA Chapters 32, 64, 864, 1387 & 1675 have let us know that there are no other scheduling conflicts on that date. Thanks for working with us to select the best date. We're all looking forward to the leadership camp!

If interested, please visit [Chapter Leadership Boot Camp | EAA](#) The boot camp is FREE but registration is required!



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Homebuilders Week – Online Event Starts January 27th

30 online sessions to expand your knowledge of building your own aircraft

By Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager

Homebuilders Week is an online opportunity to carry on the founding mission of EAA by sharing as much knowledge and information about building your own aircraft as possible in five days. We start on Monday, January 27th, 2025, and end on Friday, January 31st, 2025. Each day, we offer six live webinars running back-to-back, starting at 11:30 am central time and running every hour and a half until the last session at 7pm central. The sessions are live and allow time for questions. To sign up for the sessions, visit www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek

The topics cover something for everyone, whether you are just considering the idea of building an aircraft, are knee deep in a project or getting ready for test flying. We even have EAA president Jack Pelton lined up on, January 30th, to talk about EAA's Advocacy efforts on behalf of the homebuilt members.

EAA Homebuilders Week follows immediately after the anniversary of the founding of the Experimental Aircraft Association on January 26th, 1953. I can't think of a better way to recognize our organization's founding than to spend 5 straight days learning about homebuilding.

EAA Homebuilders Week is made possible through the generous sponsorships of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co., Dynon, Scheme Designers, and Van's Aircraft.

Visit www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek to sign up.



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Home Builders Week



Homebuilders Week Schedule January 27 - 31, 2025

To sign up: EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek

Time CST	Monday 1/27/25	Tuesday 1/28/25	Wednesday 1/29/25	Thursday 1/30/25	Friday 1/31/25
11:30-12:45	Building an Aircraft: What You Need to Know - Charlie Becker	Wiring Basics - Dick Koehler	Flight Testing 101 - Paul Dye	EAA Advocacy Update: Top Homebuilding Issues and the Impact of MOSAIC - Sean Elliott, Rob Hackman, & Jack J. Pelton	Staying Alive: Analysis of Homebuilt Fatal Accidents - Dave Nelson
1:00-2:15	Sheet Metal Basics - Mike Dooley	TIG Welding - Charlie Becker & Shaun Walker	Composite Construction - Mark Forss	Amateur-Built Aircraft Certification Process - Joe Norris	Liability of Selling Your Homebuilt - Kathy Yodice
2:30-3:45	Fabric-Covering Basics - Nate Hammond	Getting Your Project Finished and Flying - Vic Syracuse	Buying a Used Homebuilt - Vic Syracuse	Sonex Highwing Update - Mark Schaible	Zenith Aircraft Kits & Plans - Sebastien Heintz & Roger Dubbert
4:00-5:15	The Need for Speed: Kitbuilt Options - Dave Forster	Hardware for Homebuilts - John Cox	Advanced Flight Systems - Rob Hickman	Garmin Experimental Avionics Solutions - Brad Breising	Weight and Balance - Joe Norris
5:30-6:45	Panel Planning and Wiring - Marc Ausman	Dynon Avionics - Michael Schofield	Engine Selection Basics - Dick Koehler	Gas Welding - Budd Davisson	Working With Wood 101 - John Egan
7:00-8:15	Rotax 9 Series Installation & Operation - Phil Lockwood	Designing the Perfect Paint Scheme and Its Impact on Budget - Craig Barnett	Data-Driven Diagnosis of Engine Issues - Mike Busch	Van's RV Aircraft Kits - Greg Hughes	Common Builder & Maintenance Errors - Vic Syracuse

Sponsored by





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History of Civic Memorial Airport, better known now as St. Louis Regional Airport – ALN

- Hope everyone has enjoyed seeing pictures over the last year of ALN back when. Starting in February, a new “Look Back When” will start looking back at old newspaper clippings going back to the start of ALN! Stay tuned!





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Did you know?

U.S. Busiest Routes in 2024:

According to data from OAG, the top five busiest U.S. domestic airline routes in 2024, based on scheduled seat capacity, are:

- Atlanta (ATL) – Orlando (MCO): 3.47 million seats
- Honolulu (HNL) – Kahului (OGG): Nearly 3.37 million seats
- Los Angeles (LAX) – San Francisco (SFO): 3.27 million seats
- Las Vegas (LAS) – Los Angeles (LAX): 3.25 million seats
- New York LaGuardia (LGA) – Chicago O'Hare (ORD): 3.19 million seats





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Old magazine clippings/ads, courtesy of EAA Vintage Aircraft Association

Now costs less per mile than your Automobile!

1¢
 $\frac{1}{3}$ ¢ PER MILE pays for your fuel and oil

with

The Luxurious 90 H. P.
STINSON VOYAGER

Now you can fly a quality Stinson with slots, flaps, hydraulic brakes, electric starter, generator and brilliant performance for actually less cost per mile than your car. Freed from the shackles of winding roads and creeping traffic you save time, money and 18% in distance, to say nothing of gaining the matchless joy of flight. The luxurious new 90-horsepower Voyager delivers 20 miles to the gallon. And there are other great advantages. Write today for the fascinating story.


STINSON AIRCRAFT
 Division of Vultee Aircraft, Inc.
 Wayne, Mich.

I am interested in buying a plane this year. Please have a representative contact me.

Inclosed is \$1.50 for large Stinson Voyager flying model kit.

ADDRESS: _____
 BUSINESS: _____
 NAME: _____

I am interested in airplane pictures and data only. Please send me free copy of Stinson Plane News.


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MOONEY MARK 21 FOR '62 **10** new features . . .

EXTRA comfort·safety·economy·performance

—**new** . . . more pay load. —**new** pilot-planned instrument panel. —**new** flap system. —**new** exhaust system for whisper-quiet cabin. —**new** sophisticated interior with contour seats. —**new** cabin heater. —**new** automatic pilot. —**new** rudder pedal. —**new** trim system. —**new** propeller.

Add these to the Mark 21's proven supremacy in high speed performance and economy and you'll discover that the all-metal Mooney Mark 21 for '62

has **all** of the qualities which herald the out-flyingest, out-sellingest plane on the market.

Never has a new airplane been such a rewarding investment: in pleasure, comfort and safety. The Mark 21 will pamper your pride and your pocketbook. See your Mooney dealer today or write for an illustrated brochure on the "world's most efficient airplane."

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