



The Leader In Recreational Aviation

The Walston Aviator

EAA Chapter 864, East Alton, IL - KALN

March 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, March 13th
at 7:00pm

Calendar of Events

March
13 EAA Chapter 864
Meeting at 7:00pm

April
10 EAA Chapter 864
Meeting at 7:00pm

May
8 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, March 13th, at 7:00pm.
- Our speaker for March is Mr. Bill Weder. Bill was the first pilot trained at Shafer/Metro East Airport, outside of Troy, IL. Bill was an instructor, a corporate pilot, and also flew charter. His topic for our meeting will be engine failure and forced landings.
- Membership forms will be available at the meeting to renew your local chapter membership.
- **This newsletter serves as the 5-day written notice for a voting meeting.**

Meeting Agenda

- Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
- Quorum Established
- Approval of Minutes
- Old Business
- New Business
- Officer Reports
- Committee & Other Reports
- Speaker/Program
- Adjourn

EAA Chapter 864 Meeting Minutes – February 13th, 2025

President Rick Farrow called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

- There were 22 members and 1 guest in attendance.
- The meeting was held at Piston Aviation instead of the Airport Administration building due to ongoing maintenance work.
- Minutes from the last meeting were approved by members.

Program

- Vice President Nicholas Hobbs began the meeting by presenting the EAA board's planned events for the year:
 - Hosting an AOPA Rusty Pilot program with Piston in late fall/early winter.
 - Hosting two fly-in breakfasts. Our first one will be on Saturday, May 17th. The second one will be in late fall.
 - We are still trying to get in touch with National about hosting the Ford Tri Motor.
 - Hosting a Young Eagle event at ALN on National Young Eagle day, Saturday, June 7th.



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- Membership dues were discussed. Our bylaws spell out that membership dues must be paid by April 1st to maintain good standing and receive our monthly newsletter. Non-members will still receive important event notifications and news about the chapter.

Guest Speakers

- President Rick Farrow presented a 20-year-old newspaper he found in his basement that advertised the St. Louis Regional Airport open house and fly-in. He also presented old aviation magazines and navigation charts (sectionals). He highlighted the changes in aviation and how it has evolved in the past 50 years, especially with how we navigate; from paper maps (sectionals) and “seat of pants” flying, to plotting a course with flight applications on electronic devices.
- Nels Ostrom presented an idea for pilots wanting to sharpen instrument flying skill (IFR), or for anyone interested in getting an instrument rating. Nels is going to send more details in our chapter email, more to come.

Treasurer’s Report

- Our chapter’s treasurer’s report was reported and will continue to be reported at the monthly meetings.

Old Business

- Randy McKee reported the progress of our very own Ray Scholar recipient, Kyra Gallagher, as she prepares for private pilot finals.
- A membership renewal form reminder was discussed. If you have not filled out a membership renewal form, please see Rick Huebner or Nicholas Hobbs. We are trying to update our chapter’s database that has not been updated in a few years.

New Business

- Jan McKee reported on our Young Eagles program and how we are moving to incorporate a new online system, specifically for Young Eagles. We are also considering hosting an event in June for National Young Eagles Day. There will be more to come on this topic.
- Steve Selby reported our 501C3 status and documentation is available to our members.
- Randy McKee reported on bootcamp training available to members, provided through the EAA International.
- Steve Selby tried his hand at the simulator (picture below), donated to Piston for the EAA to use. Let’s just say that we all hope Steve flies better in the airplane than he does on the simulator!

News

- An idea was brought up to have an airport BBQ this summer that would include all airport tenants. Our airport directors reported that there are 119 tenants. There will be more to come on this topic.
- The possibility of self-serve fuel coming to ALN was discussed. Stay tuned for more information as it becomes available.

Pictures From the Meeting

- **Left:** President Rick Farrow giving a presentation on using paper chart for cross country.
- **Right:** Members attending the meeting at Piston.
- **Bottom:** Steve Sleby trying his hand at the simulator.



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Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm
Minutes taken and reported by Secretary Lou Dieu

Announcements

- The next ALN board meeting will be held on March 20th, at 4:30pm. The meeting will be at the airport administration building and all are welcome to attend.
- Fuel prices: West Star \$6.13, 3LF \$4.75, SET \$5.79, VLA \$4.50 (subject to change).
- EAA 864 will have a business board meeting on Saturday, April 5th, at 9:00am. The meeting will be at Piston Aviation. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend.
- AirVenture Chapter Camping - Some members have expressed an interest in doing chapter camping at Oshkosh again! We can reserve up to six sites. In order to camp, you must be an EAA national



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and chapter member. The cost is \$351 per site, allowing you to camp for 2 weeks and have a reserved spot to camp (no utilities included). This is payable ASAP and reservations need to be made soon. If interested, contact Jan McKee.

- Please watch your email for a spring cleaning of our chapter hangar.
- New for 2025, we are passing around a clipboard for members and guests to sign in at meetings. Please sign in, this will help us keep track of a voting quorum.

Important Notes

- Here is the link to our chapter's online resources: <https://bit.ly/eaachapter864>.
- Please be sure to write your information on the clipboard (located on the table) when checking out our chapter tools and equipment.

Other News at ALN

From the Tower – Joe Case

- I keep sounding like a broken record, but once again, traffic count was higher for February than the last 15 years at 3,122 operations. This is in spite of the bitter cold and snow we had during the middle of the month. Thank you for your continued flying and airport operations.
- The new tower has not been cut by DOGE just yet. The FAA came by and surveyed the equipment for transfer to the new tower when complete.

ALN Director – Danny Adams

- After 33 years of exhausting service to the St. Louis Regional Airport, we are officially retiring our 1992 Ford F-350. In that time, countless jobs were completed with this truck, while being kept in tip-top running condition. However, as our needs have changed to hauling larger equipment and supplies, so have our needs for more capable trucks. Keep an eye out for the new airport maintenance trucks driving around the property, as we accepted delivery of two new Ford trucks in late February.

Piasa Flying Club – John Hentrich

- No report this month.

Piston Aviation – ALN

- Piston will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day Open House on March 22nd, 10:00am – 6:00pm. They will have discounted introduction flights, treats and drinks, and CFIs to answer any questions. Four airplanes will be on display: Piper Cherokee, Tomark Viper, Diamond DA20, and a Bristell. Stop on by and say "HI!"

AeroEducate – Randy McKee

- No report this month.

Ray Scholarship – Randy McKee

- Congratulations to Kyra Gallagher on completing her DPE check ride on Saturday, March 8th, and becoming a Private Pilot (see picture below). We are so proud of you!!!
- We have been approved for a 2025 Ray Scholarship; more details will follow. If you know of anyone interested in the scholarship, please let the scholarship committee know.

Chapter 864 Scholarship – Jan McKee

- No report this month.



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March Birthdays

- Dale Rust – 3/15
- Jan McKee – 3/26

Happy Birthday!

If you are not listed, please contact Nicholas Hobbs to fill out a membership form.

EAA Questions of the Month



EAA VMC Club

Question of the Month

Question: Pyrotechnic Signaling Devices (e.g., flares, flare guns) are often carried on general aviation aircraft to be used in emergencies. However, these can also pose a hazard when the aircraft is in flight. Does the FAA provide guidance regarding precautions to be taken to reduce the safety risks?

Answer: Yes. According to AC 91.58A, *Use of Pyrotechnic Visual Distress Signaling Devices in Aviation*, paragraph 7, "HANDLING AND STORAGE. a. If young children are carried on board your aircraft, careful stowage of visual distress signals becomes especially important. Projected devices, such as pistol-launched and hand-held parachute flares and meteors, have many of the characteristics of a firearm and should be handled with the same caution.

b. Pyrotechnic devices should be stored in a cool, dry location and be readily accessible in case of an emergency. Care should be taken to prevent puncturing or damaging of the device's covering. It is recommended that pyrotechnic devices be stored in a watertight container and prominently marked "DISTRESS SIGNALS."

c. U.S. Coast Guard approved pyrotechnic devices carry a service life expiration date. Currently, this date may not exceed 42 months from the date of manufacture. The U.S. Coast Guard indicates that it is acceptable to keep recently expired signals as extra equipment, although they gradually lose their effectiveness with age.



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EAA IMC Club

Question of the Month

Question: You typically fly a Cirrus 22, and bring your iPad which you use as an electronic flight bag, replacing the paper charts and plates one would normally need for flight, and which you also use for flight planning and navigation. Today you're flying a Cessna 177, which you haven't flown before. Are you required to take any steps or precautions before using your iPad in this aircraft?

Answer: According to AC 91-78A, *Use of Electronic Flight Bags*, "The use of any PED in an aircraft is subject to compliance with PED regulations (§ 91.21) and must be evaluated by the user or operator prior to use to ensure the PED will not interfere in any way with the operation of aircraft."

FAR 91.21 requires that **for an IFR flight**, the "pilot in command or other operator of the aircraft" determine that the device "will not cause interference with the navigation or communication system of the aircraft on which it is to be used." In addition, AC 20-173, *Installation of Electronic Flight Bag Components*, provides complete details for installation of EFB components.

Kyra Gallagher pictured with her newly acquired private pilot certificate.





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Local Events:

**PANCAKE
BREAKFAST
FLY-IN**

2ND ANNUAL EAA CHAPTER 814 "MAYDAY" FLY-IN
WHERE: SHELBY COUNTY AIRPORT (2H0)
WHEN: MAY 3RD (RAIN DATE MAY 4TH)
TIME: 8AM-11AM

CONTACT RYAN AT
MOTOFLIGHTGUY@GMAIL.COM





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EAA Chapter 864 Fly-In Pancake Breakfast



**All you can eat pancake breakfast. Fly in or drive in,
enjoy the food, check out airplanes, meet new friends,
and have great family fun!**

Saturday, May 17th, 2025

7:30 - 11:30 a.m.

St. Louis Regional Airport - KALN

Adults: \$10 Kids (ages 4-12): \$5

Contact

Nicholas @ eaa864info@gmail.com

We hope to see you there!





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**SCOTT AFB, IL
OPEN HOUSE
& STEM EXPO**

**JUNE 14
2025**

.....

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

GATES OPEN 9-4

.....

COME EXPLORE!

**WE'RE OPENING OUR DOORS FOR
YOU TO COME SEE YOUR AIR FORCE
& MILITARY SERVICES AT WORK!**

The Open House will feature static aircraft and a variety of military equipment, assets and exhibits! It will also feature a STEM Expo, perfect for families or anyone interested in aviation or the military.

COME CELEBRATE!

SCOTT FIELD & THE ARMY'S BIRTHDAY & FLAG DAY!

FOR UPDATES, VISIT WWW.SCOTT.AF.MIL/OPENHOUSE

FREE PARKING * LOCATED OFF HWY 64, EXIT 19A

 @SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE



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History of Civic Memorial Airport (Better Known Now as St. Louis Regional Airport – ALN)

- Let's take a look back with some old newspaper clippings from the area newspapers. The article below is from Saturday, October 20, 1945.

Newspapers.com
by Ancestry

<https://www.newspapers.com/image/17154608>

Alton Evening Telegraph (Alton, Illinois) · Sat, Oct 20, 1945 · Page 3

Printed on May 11, 2024

and Miss Catherine Shallue. Use Only as Directed

LEARN TO FLY

In response to numerous requests flight instruction and passenger rides will be available at the new

CIVIC MEMORIAL AIRPORT SITE

EFFECTIVE SUNDAY, OCT. 21ST

No buildings as yet, so watch for the planes on the Frank Johnson farm, 1½ mile south of Bethalto, where the East Alton-Bethalto road joins the Hamel Road, Route 140.

ONLY THE FINEST EQUIPMENT USED
Fairchilds—Stearmans—Wacos—Cubs—Porter Fields

UNDER DIRECTION OF AIRLINE PILOTS

WALSTON AVIATION

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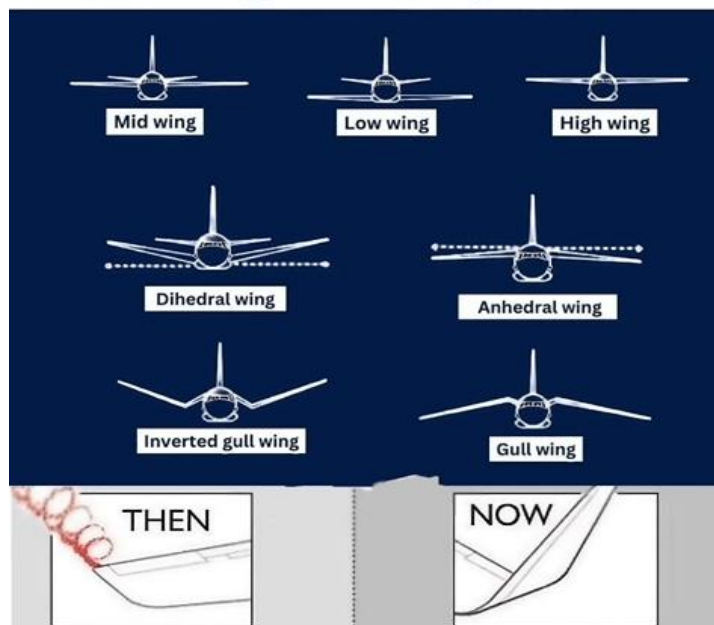
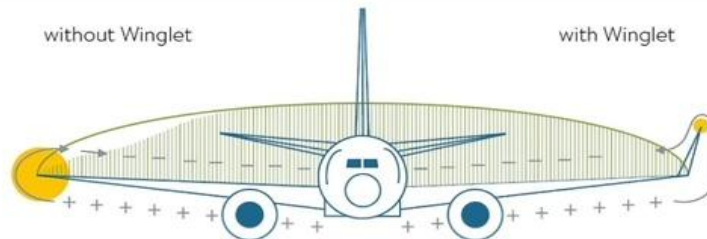
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Did You Know?

In 1964 a trial TV instal was launched onboard KLM Douglas DC-8
Note the seat with rear vented airduct





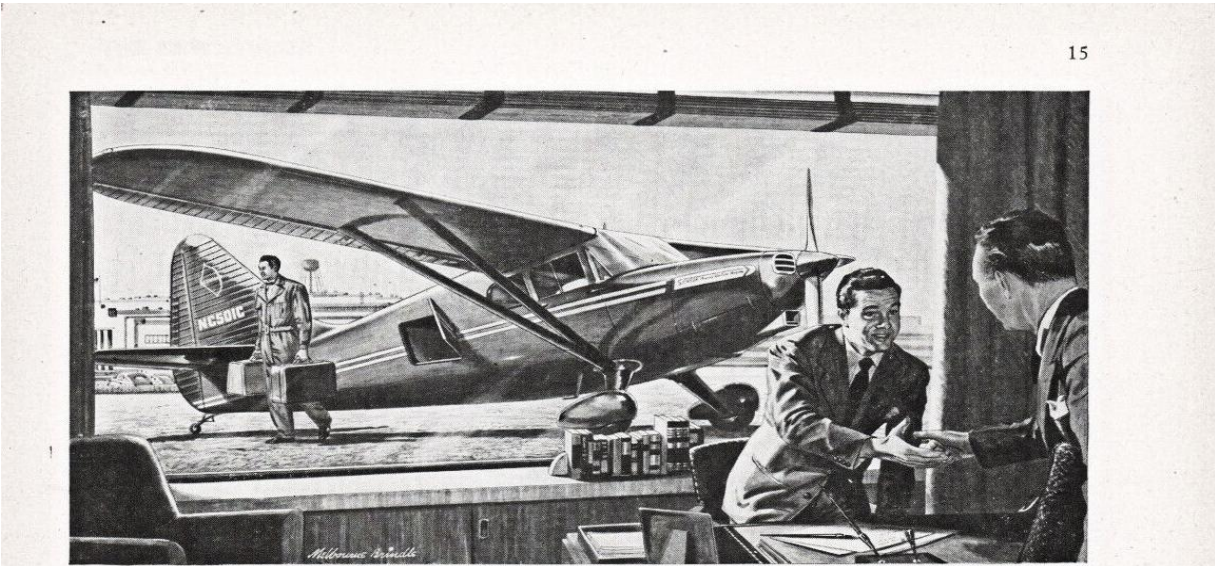
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Old Magazine Clippings/Ads, Courtesy of EAA Vintage Aircraft Association



15

The great new '48 Stinson. Cruising speed: 130 m.p.h. at 5000 feet. Non-stop flying range, 554 miles.

How a famous personal plane became America's No. 1 Business Plane

WE LIKE IT when people ask us, "Why does Stinson outsell all other 4-place planes combined?" The answer is so simple: The great new Stinson for '48 is America's most useful personal plane.

Day in, day out, more and more men—especially in the "over 40" group—are using this dependable, easy-to-fly plane to save valuable time and help them carry on their business activities more efficiently and more profitably.

It's such a *practical plane!* On family or business trips, 4 people fly in deep-cushioned, roomy comfort, with 100 pounds of luggage. With pilot, and full fuel tanks, Stinson will carry 640 pounds of cargo.

Above all, the Stinson is an extraordinarily *safe* plane, designed so that anyone can learn to fly it—quickly and easily.

So, see your Stinson dealer today for a demonstration flight in the new Stinson

Voyager or the Flying Station Wagon.

For literature, write Stinson Division, Dept. Y, Consolidated Vultee Aircraft Corp., Wayne, Mich.

Stinson

For 22 years, builders of America's most useful personal planes



"Using my one Stinson convinced me we needed two"



Frank Querry, 44-year-old manufacturer of chain link fencing, bought a Stinson and learned to fly it for pleasure and relaxation. He soon discovered it had *business* value, too.



"I fly my installation crews to location in a hurry," he says. "What used to be a full day's trip now takes only a couple of hours. Jobs 500 miles away are now as profitable as jobs 100 miles away used to be."



"I soon decided that a second Stinson, flown by my sales manager, would easily pay for itself. And it did—by saving time and transportation costs, and by expanding the territory we could serve."

FREE FLIGHT INSTRUCTION

IF you are a business or professional man interested in learning to fly, we invite you to inquire about your Stinson dealer's free flight instruction plan. Write W. H. Klenke, General Sales Manager, Stinson, Wayne, Michigan. No obligation.



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12 FLYING May, 1949

proven in '48 improved for '49 the luxuriously new

AERONCA SEDAN for hundreds of dollars less!

new CHROME TRIM—a generous sprinkling of sparkling chrome complementing the eye, pleasing interior splendor.

new INSTRUMENT PANEL—beautifully appointed—functionally grouped instrument panel—additional instruments easily installed.

new CONTROL WHEELS—safety engineered—durably finished in harmonizing colors.

new NAUGAHYDE PANELS—providing an eye pleasing yet durable interior treatment.

new DOOR PULL—door latch—New heavy duty door and hinges—flush type door latch—handy door pull.

new SIDE PANELS—top grade woolen fabrics skillfully tailored adding a new note of luxury.

new SEATS—the correct combination of airfoam rubber and Nu-craft bonded together to provide the utmost in seating comfort.

new STEP—stirrup safety step providing sure-footed cabin entry.

new SCUFF PADS—heavy—long-wearing—easy to clean carpeting extending several inches upward on all side panels.

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STYLED BY GRAINER

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Chief Seaplane	Chief Skiplane	Champ Seaplane	Champ Skiplane
Champ Sprayer	Champ Farmwagon	Sedan Seaplane	Sedan Skiplane
Sedan Cargo	Crosswind Gear	Sedan Ambulance	

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