

THE TAILDRAGGER

FEBRUARY 2025

LAKE PALESTINE EAA CHAPTER 972

Presidents Corner

Hopefully everyone has renewed their membership for 2025. We have a lot of activities happening this year.

Hangar Update:

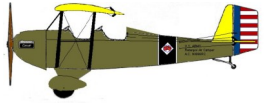
Location Discussion – Some members asked if we could move the location to the end of Four Points by the runway where the dirt piles are located now, This is not possible for three major reasons, First we can't get a ½ acre there as it is only 99 ft deep from the road to the drainage ditch across the runway and that will not allow future ability to put in a septic system. Second, I have heard from many that they do not want the hangar blocking the view from the picnic area to the runway and the rest of the park. Third, by locating the hangar on the corner of Wingover and Four Points there will be more room for parking without visitors having to come into the park. They can park in the mail center area as well as in front of the hangar.

The current plan is to raise enough funds to do the site preparation so we can pour footings around the hangar so that we can erect the hangar and enclose it. Then we can work on funding to pour the pad inside the building. If we can get the forms set we believe that the cost for rebar and concrete is about \$5,000. To that end we have been working on fundraising and so far, we have either cash or commitments for \$3,000.00. We are offering challenge coins for a \$20.00 donation to the hangar fund, we are also offering a place for businesses to advertise inside the building. Currently we have priced this advertising at \$500.00 per year for a 2 ft by 4 ft banner/ sign. If you would like to donate or know someone who would like to advertise, please contact one of the chapter officers.

As soon as I know when we need to take down the hangar from its current location, we will have to get a team together to take it down. We think it can be accomplished over a weekend.



Lake Palestine Tx



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FEBRUARY 2025

LAKE PALESTINE EAA CHAPTER 972

On a different topic, we are considering having the chapter business meeting separate from the monthly gathering. According to headquarters, this should make the gatherings more fun as we can spend more time socializing and shorten the overall length of the gathering. All members are welcome to attend the business meetings, and we will publish location as soon as we determine how often and where these meetings will take place. We will provide a quick report for the membership at gatherings, but not hold discussions.

There is also a discussion about the chapter doing a pancake breakfast at Oshkosh as a fund raiser. More on this later as plans get developed.

Blue Sky and Fair Wind



Lake Palestine Tx

Wednesday, January 16, 2025

EAA 972 meeting

Started the meeting at 6:31 pm

Project updates: Mark is working on his Fokker triplane. Early in his progress forming ribs and the frame

New business: Dennis is donating his hangar to the chapter. Discussed location - Mark Whiddon proposed to move by the dirt piles. POA wants to put it East of mailbox. Can be discussed at a later date. Main concern is taking it down first. Hopefully by May. We need volunteers to help take it down.

Maybe about 6 people working 2-3 days. Site planning - Footings first then possibly foundation.

Need a group to organize the disassembly of the hangar with one person overseeing the project.

There are no volunteers at this time.

Building is 46x50 slab cost est. -\$8.25 per sq ft Mark Carpenter . Lindy had a bid for \$7.50 per sq ft. We will get estimates.

Aiming to finish the project by the end of 2025

Slab will be approximately \$20,000

Fundraising needed - John offered challenge coins to those who donate 20 or more to the hangar fund. Discussed Pancake breakfast at Oshkosh again. Brenda will email Oshkosh. (sign up starts in March, we need to pick 2 days that work best for us. It's a lottery draw)

Secretary's report

Treasurer's report

YE report- Young Eagles day- Rusk county. Planning a workshop here or maybe at another airport.

Gayla gave out the rest of the awards from December

Jake gave an update on his training- done with night, Preparing for solo XC. Looking to do his check ride in early spring. He bought an iPad with the Dave Mason scholarship he received to use Fore-flight when flying.

7:05 pm Joelene Smith presented on the Air Race Classic

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm

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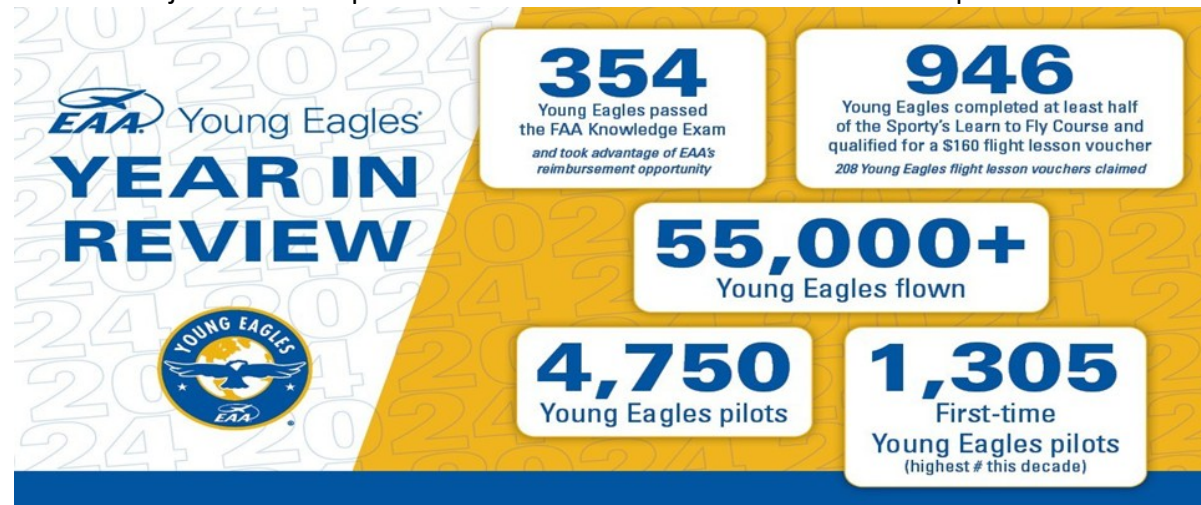


Eagle's Nest

Total Young Eagles Flown: 2,420,004 — Stats as of Jan. 28th, 2025



Hey Team, Here we are again. I feel like I just finished up with the last article. I don't have much to report at this time but will share what I do have.



Weather permitting, I will fly down to Conroe this Feb and attend the chapter boot camp there. I wish I could have gone to Oshkosh instead because this is more expensive. Anyway, this will be my 4th one that I can remember. I am hoping I can get more familiar with the new software for the new Young Eagles program. It's not too different but it's always good to go and stay in good grace's with all the leadership.

I still haven't received the total points for 2024 but I think I will know by the next meeting. See you all soon

Gayla

www.eaa.org/eea/youth/youth-protection-policy-and-program

VMC CLUB CORNER



EAA VMC Club

Question of the Month

EAA 972 VMC CLUB SCHEDULE FOR 2025

Robbie Culver

VMC Club Meeting Dates:

The next VMC club meeting will be on February 20th

March 20th

April 15th

May 15th

June 19th

July no meeting, Oshkosh

August 21st

September 18th

October 16th

November 20th.

December no meeting.

VMC CLUB CORNER



EAA VMC Club

Question of the Month

EAA 972 VMC CLUB

Robbie Culver

The next VMC club meeting will be in February 2025.

EAA 972 VMC Club coordinator Robbie Culver invites you to join us for the EAA 972 VMC Club meeting!

Culver hangar

11619 Lazy 8 Trail

Frankston TX 75763

(630) 730-7144

This Month's Question and Answer:

Question: You're on a VFR cross country flight in your VFR-equipped 1977 Cessna 172, flying by pilotage at about 3,000 AGL, on your way home with a friend. You're returning later than planned, and your friend asks if he can use his cell phone to call his wife to say he'll be late. Since you're flying VFR and not even using any onboard electronic navigation, is it legally permissible to let your friend make the call?

25 Papa

Robbie Culver

Most people involved in aviation can tell you about that special airplane or flight that truly is unforgettable. I'd like to share one with all of you. This is a bittersweet memory for me.

The story is about a Piper Tri-Pacer, N3925P, that my brother Mike owned when I was young. We lost him to cancer, some years ago. My sister Barb was also with us for this flight, and unfortunately she has also recently passed away due to complications from Parkinson's disease. The memories are mixed.

Mike was my oldest brother, and to say I looked up to him would be an understatement. He was a pilot when I was a boy wanting to be a pilot, and he owned an airplane when I was a boy dreaming of owning an airplane. You get the picture. (Though as I often say in the hopes of being accurate, I now know that it is the airplane, or airplanes, that own me, not the other way round)

While I cannot be sure, I am fairly certain the flight was also in January, as I know we cleaned snow off the wings before departing Morey's Field (C29) in Middleton, WI. The destination? The EAA Museum, then located in Hales Corners, WI. Since Hales Corners closed around August 1977, this had to be earlier than that.

According to EAA, "While our annual fly-in & convention moved to Oshkosh in 1970, our headquarters remained in Hales Corners, WI, until the opening of the EAA Aviation Center, including what was then known as the EAA Air Adventure Museum, in 1983." My guess is this was January of 1977.

N3925P was not exactly a show plane. She was old and tired, she lived outdoors at a tie-down, and she had a musty smell. But my brother owned her and cared for her and I fell in love immediately. My first flight into the EAA Convention (fondly referred to as "Oshkosh" and now named AirVenture) was in the back of that airplane.

The sounds and smells of flights in 25 Papa are etched in my mind, though the years have mixed them all up. The sight of my brother reaching over his head to adjust the trim was enough to have me mimic the behavior in the back seat of my mother's car every time we drove. His Ray Ban sunglasses and the smile on his face every time we flew are unforgettable. The sound of the engine, the wind on the fabric, my brother talking to me...

Years later, Mike owned a Luscombe, and that *was definitely* a show plane!

I cannot tell you much about the flight to Hales Corners, other than it was cold in the back of the Tri-Pacer. If I recall correctly, the runway was grass and I remember we parked across the street from the museum. (I confess to having cheated and looking this up to be sure - see [this website](#) for some history about the airport)

I can, however, tell you a lot about that museum visit! As a young boy who was enthralled with all things aviation, the museum was a magical place. At the time, the museum was a bit less “perfect” than what we see in Oshkosh. The buildings were full of aircraft and artifacts, but it



was the person that I met there that I remember most.

Mike with his Luscombe

I did not know it then, but I do now. I met EAA Founder Paul Poberezny for the first time that day (though certainly not the last). What I remember most vividly is he took the time to talk to me, ask about my interest, and had a warm smile and a spark in his eyes as we talked.

He seemed genuine and I remember him explaining something about the airplane we were looking at, although admittedly I do not remember what he said. But I definitely remember the man.

What is etched in my mind is the museum. Vividly. The aircraft seemed to have stories to tell, and each one was unique. If I recall correctly, the museum building was a pale mustard color

with sunlight filtering in among the displays. My memory may be fading and the details could be wrong...but I found images at [this link](#). It matches my memories, for what it is worth.



We spent part of the morning and into the early afternoon wandering through the exhibits. Soon enough, it was time to go, and we departed in 25 Papa. A stop for lunch on the way home (Grand Geneva or Lake Lawn Lodge probably) just added to the adventure.

I'm sure I have muddled up some of the memories I am sharing, and I am equally sure the story is neither unique nor exciting. But I hope each of you that takes time to read (which is probably 5 or 6 of you) has your own memories to lock away and share one day. Aviation does that - makes memories.

For me, writing this brought back many, some good, some more difficult. In 2015 when I made the first flight of my Sonex, I know I had a copilot in the empty right seat. I know Mike was there with me, making sure I didn't screw up...While flying my first Young Eagle of 2022, a young lady known as "M.E." was in the back of the Champ, bundled up and toughing it out. I thought back to those flights in 25 Papa, and what it meant to me. I was up front grinning like that little boy in the back of the Tri-Pacer. *Thanks Mike.*

From the Right Seat

Robbie Culver

Vice President EAA 972

February 2025

Hi everyone

In late January, I attended an EAA Chapter Leadership academy in Oshkosh. Luckily, the bitter cold eased a bit and it was tolerable weather. The event starts Friday evening and ends Sunday at lunchtime. It was interesting to meet people from other chapters and hear how things did and did not work for them.

Much of what is covered involves running a successful chapter, including some new ideas and best practices. One of the new ideas John has brought up - splitting the business meeting and member gathering. I think it's a great idea.

Saturday started with breakfast and then we headed from the Air Academy lodge over to EAA HQ right across Pioneer field. It looks a little different in January! After some initial introductions, Jack Pelton spoke and offered an honest Question and Answer session. Nothing surprising came of it.

The sessions that followed were excellent. How to use the resources HQ offers, what a chapter can and cannot do, and what each chapter officer is expected to do. It was very well presented.

Patti Arthur did an awesome presentation on the legalities of running a chapter, focused largely on being a 501(c)(3). I organized one previously and ran it successfully for a few years. This was a great refresher.

Several messages I took away from the training was "if you're not growing, you're dying" and chapters need to do things in order to flourish. Growth doesn't just happen and stagnation is easy. Made me think.

I recommend the training for anyone interested in chapter leadership!

See you on the flight line!

Robbie





A few pictures from January's meeting:



EAA Chapter 972 Store has been discussed for some time and now it is ready to live. The QR code will take you to the store. If no familiar with a QR code use you cell phone to make like you are taking a picture of the QR code and you will notice a website will come up on your screen , in this case storessimple.com by

clicking on this you will be taken to the new Chapter 972 Store. I might add if you want to go directly to the store on you computer you will need: <https://www.storessimple.com/jkspecialtyproducts/26205>

We will be adding a short cut on Chapter 972 Website that will show the product catalog and take you shopping.

sales@jkspecialtyproducts.com • (903) 630-8805

JK Specialty Products



Welcome to the EAA Lake Palestine 972 Chapter store. Here you will find all Chapter 972 merchandise.
20% of all merchandise sales and 100% of all donations go the chapter general fund.

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All Drinkables Headwear Ladies Mens Polos Polos/Knits T-Shirts T-Shirts - Premium
Tall Woven Shirts

Enter a keyword Search



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Combed Ring Spun...**

Port & Company Ladies Combed Ring
Spun Pique Polo...



\$35.00

**Softstyle Adult Pique
Polo**



\$35.00

**Port & Company Tall Core
Blend Jersey...**

50/50 Tall Core Blend Jersey Knit Polo.



\$20.00

Softstyle T-Shirt

Gildan Softstyle T-Shirt. 64000

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\$20.00

Softstyle? Women's T-Shirt



\$45.00

Ladies Short Sleeve Denim Shirt

LSP11 Port & Company - Ladies Short Sleeve Denim Shirt.



\$45.00

Ladies Long Sleeve Denim Shirt

LSP10 Port & Company - Ladies Long Sleeve Denim Shirt.



\$45.00

Long Sleeve Denim Shirt

SP10 Port & Company - Long Sleeve Denim Shirt.



\$20.00

Five-Panel Trucker Cap



\$20.00

Zkapz Unstructured 6 Panel Cap

Zkapz Cap



\$10.00

Premium 11 or 15 oz Combo Colored Mugs

Interior and Handle Color Match

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INTERESTED IN THE HISTORY OF AERO ESTATES T25:

Thanks to Tommy Boudreau we have some events from Aero Estates back in 1987. Hard to believe no trees, a fly inn and air races here. Additional videos have been added showing events from 2006 and 2012 and flights of various aircraft.

I copied the DVD to computer and the parts that had to do with Aero Estates have been added to You Tube:

Here is the You Tube link. I also added the long URL location below.

YouTube URL: <https://youtu.be/jPtaytmtBzs>

<https://youtu.be/2sxi8Oekt2Q>

<https://youtu.be/oBl9pw-XXE>

1987 air show and air races here at Aero Estates, entire event

<https://youtu.be/f7GAxUrx9Aw>

<https://youtu.be/A8uSpakZyMo>

https://youtu.be/Ms4bJ_NRHdg

https://youtu.be/qOo_QQU8Q0k

<https://youtu.be/98uiwmjkBDI>

<https://youtu.be/PMjUGCURAGs>

<https://youtu.be/nctNh01JdKg>

Glenn and Fly Baby Biplane

<https://youtu.be/kBdIBNPcu6g>

https://youtu.be/_AI_Z06mDcE

<https://youtu.be/ehm7utzXOOU>

https://youtu.be/n_HjJZWk0aI

YOUR Articles needed

This Newsletter is YOUR Newsletter. I put the articles in it, but you have to write them. Your Chapter needs your Contributions. Please share your experiences, skills, wisdoms, photos, humor and announcements with our membership. What may be common knowledge to you, may be priceless for a new pilot or builder. Even if you are not a Pulitzer level author — send me your words. Robbie or I will buff up the grammar if needed. Send input to homanles@yahoo.com.

NEXT Meeting will be at the Leary's hanger

Food will be

Brenda has put a link to the sign-up in the email
that contains this newsletter

Program will be.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH at 5:30



Lake Palestine Tx

*We have a
Chapter Website: The URL is:*

<https://chapters.eaa.org/ea972>

We are working on updating and modifying the website to meet our chapter needs and persona. We need to add pictures of members projects, and projects they are working on, building and or flying as well as the aircraft we fly. The EAA makes this available to all EAA chapters and each chapter can then modify to make it what they need. We can use this to help announce YE flights, runway Gumbo, Poker run, Events and past news letters. By the way, if you have any old information, newsletters, ETC involving the chapter please

2025 UP COMING EVENTS

Meeting Dates

January 9th Locations to be determined

February 13th

March 13th

April 10th

May 8th

June 11th

June 21st, Ultralight Fly-in

July 10th

August 14th

September 11th

October 9th

November 13th

December 13th Christmas party will be held Saturday, December 13th starting at 4:30 PM.

It will be held at the Leary's House. The Address is:

11722 Pilot Point Lane

Frankston Texas, 75763

Please Bring a white Elephant Gift!

Food is pot luck. Gayla is making a large pan of dressing. I will

2025 RUNWAY GUMBO DATES

This year it will go back to 3rd Saturday of the month.

March 15th

April 19th

May 17th

June 21st and Ultralight Fly-in

September 20th

October 18th