



THE TAILDRAGGER

APRIL 2023

Presidents Message:By Grif Leary

Bo

Hard to believe it's already April, March was a good month for 972! To start with we had a great meeting that 30 + members and guests showed up for. After a good meal we started the meeting off with the usual routine stuff. Then things got better with Gayla announcing that the chapter had been awarded yet another Ray Scholarship! Gayla will have more details on who the chapter selected. We had very nice presentation thanks to Lindy working up a neat check to present. That's not all, the members also selected a young man to attend Oshkosh YE camp in Oshkosh this summer. 972 is really moving the needle and making a difference with East Texas youth!

Myself, John Kearny and Joe Robinson also got together on the 1st and flew 8 eagle flights from the Tyler JC Aviation program. I think we all enjoyed the day and I really appreciate John and Joe's help with it!

The Chapter also had a very successful Runway/Splash Gumbo event. I may be wrong but I think that it was a record for Gumbo as far as donations go. Great turn out and special thanks to Jeff Bowen for bringing the Float Plane down for additional entertainment. Also thanks to John and Garnet for helping with the prep work and pulling off a great fundraiser.

FYI, we will have Officers meeting next Saturday and Leisa will have the details for time and where. Any member interested is welcome to attend.



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Vice President, John Kearney

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Eagle's Nest



YE report given by Gayla Leary:

Hey Team, the last meeting was spectacular. So much fun watching the faces of the two students that we handed out the Ray Scholarship to and the Air Academy trip to. Thanks for the extra mile that Lindy and Brent went for the study material.

We finally got the last \$2000.00 from the Ray Scholar Foundation. Good thing because we were down to about \$29.00. Amie has finished up with all the dual work and her cross country. She has a call in to schedule her check ride.

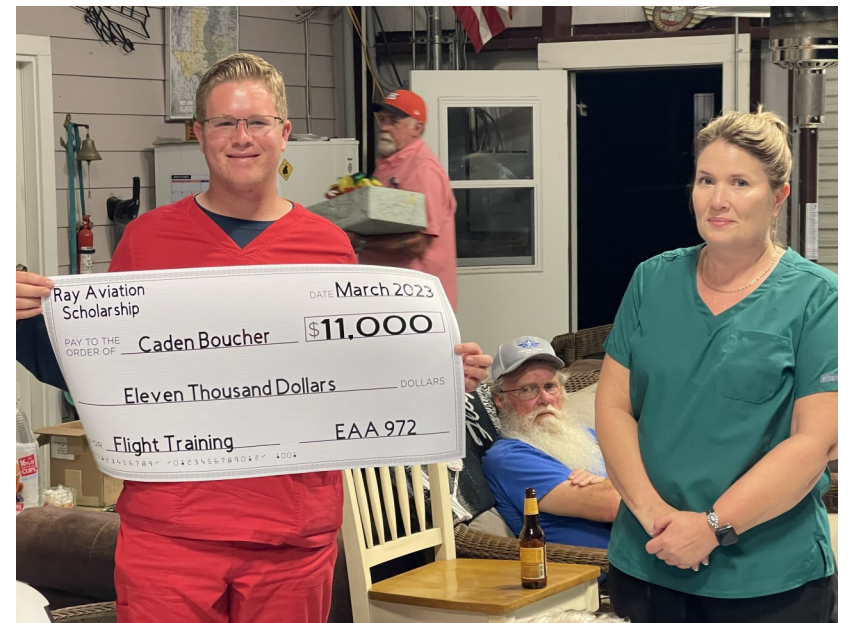
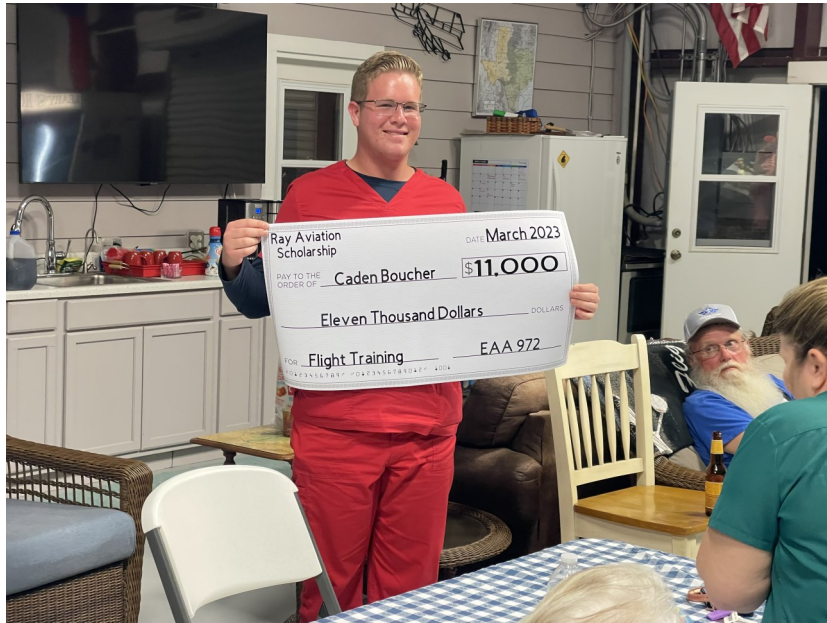
I haven't gotten Caden start his training yet. I asked if he would wait till June when school is out, and all his finals are over. This will be better to have all that out of the way. His, Mom and Dad are sooooo thankful and appreciate everything.

Rachel, Les Homens wife had donated yet another 150.00 from a yard sale towards the Air Academy in Oshkosh. Thanks so much Rachel for your loving heart.

Thank you, Bo, John, and Joe, for flying the Apache Aero students on Saturday. I hate I had to miss it. Amie said it went great and everyone had a blast.

I need to know where everyone wants to have the June 10th YE Flight. You all have flown in the area and I would like your input as to which airport. KJSO, KRFI or RFI. I will have to start planning soon.

Gayla





Piney Woods Chapter 972
Meeting Minutes
9 March 2023

Those in attendance:

Margo & Alan Lansdale
Sue & Walt Eastland
Pat Rhoads
Les Homan
Mark Carpenter
Taryn & John Hope
Gayla & Bo Leary
Jill Shockley
Sandra Boucher
Lindy & Brent Willits
Lucas Wagenaar

Garnett McClure
Joy Meadows
Jean & John Kearney
Frances & Patrick Moseley
Eddie, & James Moseley
Hudson Hope
Leisa & Doug Robertson
Joe Farmer
Caden Boucher
Dana & Jim Jepson

Bo Leary, President, called the meeting to order at 6:35pm.

Old Business:

Chapter members who attended the Leadership Bootcamp at McGregor Field, in Waco, shared about the experience, and how they, and our chapter will benefit.

Jean Kearney, Treasurer, presented the treasury report. All is well.

Reminder of the season's first Runway Gumbo, 25th of March, 11am - 1pm. We're hoping for a great time for everyone!

February Minutes were approved by John Kearney, and seconded by Walt Eastland.

New Business:

Gayla Leary, Young Eagles Coordinator, talked about our involvement with the Young Eagles Program, and how well our chapter members pull together to work events. "We aren't just a chapter, we are a *TEAM*!" (She's very grateful for all that everyone does to keep things running smoothly at our events. 😊)

Hudson Hope was awarded an aviation camp scholarship at this year's AirVenture at OSH.

And...

Caden Boucher is our next \$11,000 Ray Scholarship Award winner!! Woohoo!!

Congratulations to both Hudson, and Caden!! We are so proud of you both, and looking forward to being part of your future careers' "taking off". 😊

While we are on the subject of advancing flight training...

🎉 CONGRATULATIONS 🎉 going out to Lucas Wagenaar on his Seaplane Rating, and another big 🎉 CONGRATULATIONS 🎉 going out to Marcy Boothe for her Tailwheel Endorsement!

John Kearney, Vice President, presented for group discussion, "Close Quarters at Hayward."

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm.

Our next EAA chapter meeting will be at the Robertson's hangar, on the 13th of April, where the meal will be Taco Stacks. (Mexican stacks, Hay stacks... whatever they're being called these days. 😊)

The Robertson's will supply the taco meat, & corn chips, and asking for others to bring shredded cheese, lettuce, tomatoes, beans, salsa, guacamole, sour cream, tea & ice, and dessert(s).

Minutes respectfully submitted by Leisa K Robertson, Secretary.

2023 UP COMING EVENTS

Here is a Calendar so far.

April 8th, Saturday Officers meeting at 2:00 pm at the Robertsons hanger (or patio)

April 13th, Meeting , at Robertsons Hanger (24576 Chandelle Lane) at 5:30 pm.

April 22nd Runway Gumbo 11:00 to 1:00

April 9th 3:00 to 4:00 leadership team meeting.

May – 2023 – Meeting – Runway Gumbo

June – 2023 – Meeting – Runway Gumbo & Aircamp YE Flight

July—2023— Oshkosh EAA fly-inn

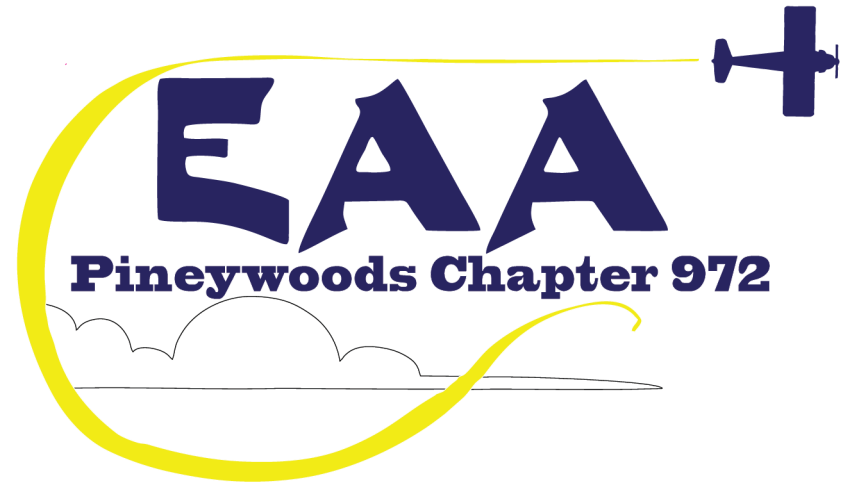
August – 2023 – Meeting

Sept – 2023 – Meeting – Runway Gumbo – Tentative YE Rally

October 2023 – Reklaw

November - 2023 – Meeting – Tentative YE Rally

December – 2023 – Christmas again



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 get it to me and I can add to website so all can see out past chapter happenings.

MEAL will be Taco Stacks

The Robertsons will be supplying the taco meat and corn chips.

We need beans, shredded cheese, lettuce, diced to-matoes, diced avocado or guacamole, sliced black olives, salsa, ice and iced teas, and desert(s).

THURSDAY, APRIL 13th AT 5:30