



## January 2025 Newsletter

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Well, let me start the year by thanking all the supporters of our Chapter and everyone who came out for our (windy) Annual Christmas Breakfast and Awards Meeting. Even though the County gave away our room reservation without telling us, Stan and the Aviator restaurant staff scrambled, and we had our meeting and breakfast, albeit a little more crowded than we wanted it to be. Despite the snafu, it was a roaring, and noisy, success.

And let me also give a special shout-out to Red Hamilton and his lovely wife, Marilyn Boese, who drive down every year for the meeting and breakfast. Red and Marilyn are based out of Little River Airport in Mendocino County (KLLR) and are two of the

founding members of VAA 25. We are talking about a small group of aviators who started the Chapter in 1993 and look at how it has grown and prospered since then. But more about that later. As Red said at the Breakfast, he was motivated by EAA's Young Eagles Program, and at last count has flown over 850 Young Eagles. That's a lot of kids he has introduced to aviation. He has since turned the program and materials over to the new pilot at Little River Airport. Great work, Red and Marylin, and thank you!

Not only was Breakfast a success, the members present also confirmed the Chapter's officers for 2025. As I said at the meeting, I will stay on as President for one more year before turning the reigns over to a new president at the end of 2025. In addition to myself, we have the following Officers approved by acclamation at the meeting:

Vice President (and Eagle Flight Leader) - Tenley Ong  
Secretary – Scott Pierson  
Treasurer – Stan “Sparky” Lawrence  
Newsletter Editor – Jim “Husky” Jordan  
Web Editor – Tyler Pierson  
Ray Scholar and Y.E. Coordinator – Kim Owen  
VMC Coordinator – Steve Lightstone

And in addition to these officers, let me also give a shout-out to Earl Johnson, who sits with future aviators every week teaching them the nuances of flight on our multi-screen simulator, as well as Kyle Rodriguez, who acted as our Events Coordinator for our “Beer and Brats” fundraiser last year. Kyle, together with Tyler Pierson, will be applying for certification as Technical Counselors in 2025. Strong work fellows. And speaking of the future, think about how you would like to help this year.

Now, back to our successes and accomplishments this past year. We increased our membership last year to 54 members and have a vibrant and supportive group of members and volunteers. We were awarded Silver Chapter status last year (shooting for Gold this year) and were a featured Chapter in the EAA *Sport Aviation* magazine as well. Not bad. And a gentle request to all our members. Our

Chapter gets points toward Gold status when 20% of our members complete the Annual Chapter Member survey, which only takes a few minutes. So, when the survey is available, I will mention it in the Newsletter (as I did in the December Newsletter) and include a link to it and ask that you do the Chapter a “solid” by taking the time to complete it. Thanks.

And now on to flying, since we are an Aviation Chapter. Led by our V.P., CFII instructor pilot, and Eagle Flight Leader Tenley Ong, we had fly-outs last year to Oceania and Alta Sierra, and also participated in the fall Poker Run out of Lincoln Airport. And if that’s not enough, VAA 25 hosted, with help from Chapter 52, both the Spring and Fall Young Eagle Rally out at Yolo Airport. That’s a lot of flying! Last year, the Young Eagle Rallies alone flew well over 160 kids. A special thank you to all the pilots and volunteers who donated their time, flying ability and efforts to support and fly these Young Eagles. We could not have done it without our many pilots, volunteers, and supporters.

In addition to all this local flying, Stan, Tenley, Tyler, and Kyle took 4 planes, including one owned by Bill La Grassa (thank you Bill) cross country to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh with 4 Young Eagles for their first taste of this airshow extravaganza. And the plane flown by Kyle was a C-150! That’s a lot of low and slow, or slightly higher and slow flying!

And VAA 25 had its fair share of social and training events too, including the Spring BBQ at the south hangars and our Fall Beer and Brats fundraiser at the VAA 25 hangar, both of which were well attended. As for flight training, our Chapter successfully “landed” 2 Ray Scholarship last year, which are being used to train two Young Eagles for their private’s license. And in addition to flight training, Earl “the stick” Johnson provided weekly simulator training to future aviators as part of our weekly Build and Maintain Program at the VAA 25 hangar, and these Young Eagles there were also taught the basics of aircraft maintenance and repair during these Saturday sessions. And a serious shout out at this time to Angelina Angrisani, a newly minted CFII, Rachel Long, a former Ray Scholar and private pilot, Tyler Pierson, newly minted instrument

and commercial pilot (and soon to be CFI), and Kyle Rodriguez, another private pilot, who were frequently at the hangar mentoring and supporting these future aviators. And finally, a big shout out to Steve “Mr. F-18” Lightstone for heading up our VMC Club and all the timely safety training.

So, what’s on the schedule for 2025? For Tyler, it’s completing his CFI as he advances his flying career. We also hope to see the addition of 2 new Technical Counselors to the ranks of VAA 25 in the person of Tyler and Kyle. And of course, we plan to continue our fly-outs this year as well as our annual trip to Oshkosh, and, of course, our weekly Build and Maintain Program at the hangar and monthly VMC Club meetings. Also on our radar for 2025 are two more Ray Scholarships. Based on our track record, we have a high confidence of being awarded them and in turn helping two more Young Eagles join the ranks of private pilots. That’s a lot on our plate for this year.

So that is the plan for 2025. And as we start the New Year off, we invite all our members to volunteer their time to support these worthwhile projects, especially the Spring and Fall Young Eagle Rallies, and to come out for our monthly VMC meetings at the airport. Just a reminder, things kick off with our first VMC Club meeting on Saturday, January 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. in the airport terminal meeting room. Remember, safety in flying comes from experience and knowledge.

Well, that’s it for this month. Best Wishes for the New Year. And, as always, fly safely, and keep the greasy side down!

Jim Sobolewski  
President

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

No Report this Month.

Scott Pierson  
Secretary

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

I changed the format of my Treasure's Report with the help of my computer whiz son Patrick. It's more like a "General Ledger" than a "Bank Statement". I am starting the new format with the December Report, which follows.

I am going to use a similar format to track each Ray Scholars accounts. Since Kim Own monitors the Ray Scholars accounts. I think it might be best if she generates the report. I will get with her to coordinate the process. My goal is to keep the membership apprised of the actual Chapter account balance.

### **December 2024**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Account</b>	<b>Individual</b>	<b>Checking Balance</b>	<b>Savings Balance</b>
<b>1-Dec</b>		<b>Total in account</b>	<b>\$59,000.57</b>			
1-Dec		Beginning Balance			\$ 2,654.68	\$56,345.89
2-Dec	\$ (469.15)	Reimbursement for AirAcademy Camp airfare - Teddy Reynolds	Checking	Stan Lawrence	\$ 2,185.53	\$56,345.89
5-Dec	\$ 20.00	Mobile Deposit	Checking	Bob Angrisani	\$ 2,205.53	\$56,345.89
5-Dec	\$ 100.00	Mobile Deposit	Checking		\$ 2,305.53	\$56,345.89
10-Dec	\$(3,000.00)	Transfer to Checking	Savings		\$ 2,305.53	\$53,345.89
10-Dec	\$ 3,000.00	Transfer from Savings	Checking		\$ 5,305.53	\$53,345.89
10-Dec	\$(3,072.00)	Paid for flight instruction	Checking	Tenley Ong	\$ 2,233.53	\$53,345.89
12-Dec	\$ 25.00	Dues	Checking	Steve McKibben	\$ 2,258.53	\$53,345.89
12-Dec	\$ (226.00)	Gift to EAA HQ Staff	Checking	Stan Lawrence	\$ 2,032.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ 25.00	Dues	Checking	Jim Sobolewski	\$ 2,057.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ 25.00	Dues	Checking	Bill LaGrassa	\$ 2,082.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ 109.00	Dues	Checking		\$ 2,191.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ 25.00	Dues	Checking	Kim Owen	\$ 2,216.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ 200.00	Donation	Checking	Kim Owen	\$ 2,416.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ 25.00	Dues	Checking	Jim Jordan	\$ 2,441.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ 200.00	Donation	Checking	Jim Jordan	\$ 2,641.53	\$53,345.89
16-Dec	\$ (631.00)	Chapter Renewal Reimbursement	Checking	Jim Sobolewski	\$ 2,010.53	\$53,345.89
17-Dec	\$ 4,950.00	Ray Foundation Scholarship	Checking	Matthew Howell	\$ 6,960.53	\$53,345.89
17-Dec	\$ (107.00)	Gift Card	Checking	Jim Sobolewski	\$ 6,853.53	\$53,345.89
17-Dec	\$ (207.00)	Gift Card	Checking	Red & Marilyn Hamilton	\$ 6,646.53	\$53,345.89

27-Dec	\$ 25.00	Dues	Checking	Brett Robinson	\$ 6,671.53	\$53,345.89
27-Dec	\$ 200.00	Donation	Checking	Brett Robinson	\$ 6,871.53	\$53,345.89
27-Dec	\$ 20.00	Donation	Checking	Bob Angrisani	\$ 6,891.53	\$53,345.89
29-Dec	\$ 880.00	Donation	Checking	Bob Angrisani	\$ 7,771.53	\$53,345.89
<b>29Dec</b>		<b>Total in account</b>			<b>\$61,117.42</b>	

Respectfully submitted,

Stan Lawrence  
Treasurer

## **SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE**

So... the end of 2024 comes to a close and we set our sights on goals and dreams in 2025. We have an exciting beginning to the New Year. We have at least two Ray Scholars anticipating completing their check rides in the first quarter. We have also identified a qualified candidate for our first Ray Scholar for 2025. Our CFII, along with a host of mentors, are spending a mountain of hours flying and training with our Ray Scholars and we are thrilled to see their progress.

I wanted to take a moment to send a special shout out to Adam, one of our 2024 Ray Scholars. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the plane Adam was using for training has been down for an extended period of time. Instead of getting frustrated and upset, Adam has chosen to take this time to do what he can to learn more about aviation and continue working toward his check ride, even without having opportunities to fly. He has been taking courses and expanding his aviation knowledge. The good news for Adam is that it looks like our hard-working crew has found an airplane in which Adam can resume his flight training and start preparing for his check ride. It's not always a straight line to reach our goals, but Adam has reminded us that patience is a virtue and while you're waiting... there are ways to stay involved and improve your

knowledge! Way to go Adam, can't wait to see you climb back in the plane and finish what you started!

*I was finally able to get a government issued ID right at the end of November. My first solo flight was on December 3rd, and it was awesome! (= I've soloed a couple times since then, including my first towered solo. This week, if the weather is good, the plan is to get my night flying time in. With my check-ride coming up in the beginning of February, I've become increasingly busy trying to be totally ready in time.*

- Matthew

*My flight training is going well, I'm about to start training at skyrise at KMHR and will start in January. I am also actively planning to retake my written for a better score.*

- Adam

Sending wishes for blue skies and tail winds!

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Owen  
Ray Scholarship Coordinator

## **YOUNG EAGLES – COAST**

No Report this Month.

## **YOUNG EAGLES - SACRAMENTO REPORT**

What a year it has been! Our chapter has been very active with our young eagles Build and Maintain program and Fly program. The young eagles have been building the Sonex kit, cleaning airplanes and the hangar, flying the sim, studying, and celebrating successes.

We finished 2024 strong with a wonderful holiday brunch at Aviator's, multiple passed checkrides, and many more scheduled for early 2025.

### EAA VINTAGE CHAPTER 25 ANNUAL HOLIDAY BRUNCH

On December 14, we had a lovely holiday brunch at Aviator's. We had a great turnout and filled up the entire room. Thank you to everyone who joined! And thank you to Stan for covering breakfast!



*1. Red Hamilton and Marilyn Boese gave a lovely speech about the young eagles and history of the chapter. Thank you for everything you have done!*





*2. Stan Lawrence recapped the year for us and talked about the successes we've had. Thank you for everything you have done for our young eagles and this program.*



*3. Many program participants joined, including Adam Kennedy, Emilio Martinez, Teddy Reynolds, Kyle Rodriguez, Angelina Angrisani, Tyler Pierson, Jessie Davison, Austin Thomas, Liam Robinson, Rachel Long, Ethan Truong, Matthew Howell. Also (not pictured) Elena Contreras, Marcus King, Claire Nordstrom, and Leilany Martinez.*

## NEW SOLO PILOT: MATTHEW HOWELL!

**Matthew Howell** soloed at KEDU on December 3, 2024! He did 3 beautiful laps in the pattern before sunset on Runway 35 in the Cessna 150-150 “Mellow Yellow”. He has been working very hard towards his private pilot checkride in February 2025.

In addition to soloing, Matthew completed his night cross country to KCIC and KMYV. We had a great time listening to ATC, snacking on oreos, and introducing night and cross country flying. Great landings and awesome navigation!



*4 .Tenley Ong, CFI, and Matthew Howell, new solo pilot, celebrate at the hangar with some Martinelli's Apple Cider!*



*5. Tenley and Matthew fly his night cross country to KCIC and KMYV!*

### MORE PRIVATE PILOT UPDATES

**Emilio Martinez** has his private pilot retest on January 22, 2025. We have been video calling to study and will resume flying in early January. In addition to studying, flying and regularly attending the Saturday Build and Maintain program, he has been going to school and will be graduating soon. After earning his private pilot certificate, he intends to work on his instrument rating and join the Air Force!

I'm pleased to share that we found a solution for **Adam Kennedy**, 2024 Ray Scholar, due to the kindness of the Alex Erdman and Marc Houston over at Skyrise Aviation at KMHR. He will begin

training with Tenley in the DA40 starting in January 2025. His checkride will be in February or March. We have been calling each other and studying the POH, as the DA40 will be a new plane for both of us!



*6. Tenley and Adam fly over to KMHR in the RV-14 to check out Skyrise Aviation*

**Amanda Hicks, Claire Nordstrom, Sam Murray, Leilany Martinez, and Teddy Reynolds** are all still preparing for their written tests to be eligible for the Ray Scholarship.

New additions to the program include **Marcus King, Ethan Truong, Elena Contreras, and Kelvin Gellenbeck**. Ethan has already

passed his private pilot written test with a 92% and will be our first applicant for the 2025 Ray Scholarship.

### TAILWHEEL

**Liam Robinson** is working on his tailwheel endorsement, including practicing wheel landings and polishing up crosswind landings.

### INSTRUMENT

**Rachel Long** has been attending school at UC Davis, working part time, and plans to work on her instrument rating soon. She recently became current in the RV-14 and is stoked to continue her flight training, including working towards her instrument rating.

**Jessie Davision** has begun her instrument training and is studying hard to pass her instrument written. We recently flew her instrument cross country, filing multiple instrument flight plans and getting to fly in actual IMC! We flew to KMOD, KFAT, KMER, and 1O3, leaving the plane in 1O3 for it's 100-hr inspection. It was a fantastic learning experience and really helped create a big picture view of what instrument flying is all about. Great job, Jessie! Her instrument checkride will be in February 2025.



*7. The view over the clouds on the way into KFAT. Bases 1000, tops 2200. Perfect!*

**Kyle Rodrigues** has been continuing his hard work at Precision Flight Controls while teaching at Sac State. He is studying for the instrument written and is training for his instrument checkride at the end of January. In his free time, he is helping with chapter events, flying, tutoring the young eagles, doing contract work, building his Piper Cub or pursuing one of his many other hobbies!



*8. Tenley Ong and Kyle Rodrigues fly the 152 at Flying Panthers, working on approaches and practicing holds. Great job, Kyle!*

#### OTHERS (GRADUATES/MENTORS)

**Tyler Stump** is at school at Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo and **Justin Kaysinger** moved to Tennessee. **Dylan Fricke** moved to Texas. **Hayden Schaufel** is working for the police department. Our three most recent graduates have gone on pursue their passions by attending universities with aviation-focused programs and coursework. **May Conlin** is currently attending the Naval Academy! **Austin Thomas** is attending California Baptist University! **Nick Theodorovic** is attending Middle Tennessee State University for school! We miss our graduates very much!

**Angelina Angrisani** earned her CFI Certificate in October and is beginning to put it to use! She will be providing tailwheel endorsements in her Cessna 170B while also giving instruction at Flying Panthers Flight School and Skyrise Aviation. She already has a list of students and is excited to get started instructing.

**Tyler Pierson** started his final year at Sac City College, in addition to helping Stan with projects around the airport, attending chapter events, and flying whenever he can. He is planning to take the FIA and FOI written tests over winter break in preparation for his CFI checkride. He and Tenley also recently went flying and got some actual IMC time heading down to KSCK and back to KMCC.



*9. Tyler Pierson sharpening his instrument skills in the 152 on the way out of KSCK. Yay, Tyler!*



**Tenley Ong** has been focused on checkrides lately. She is also helping with chapter events, restoring her RV-6, ski instructing and studying for her MEI. Her next batch of private students include Emilio Martinez, Greg Young, Adam Kennedy and Matthew Howell. Her instrument students include Kyle Rodrigues and Jessie Davison.

Also, **Zach Lauzon**, Tenley's most recent student and better half, passed his private pilot checkride with DPE Carol Zerbe at KGOO on December 9, 2024! He did an awesome job, studying lots, asking questions, and putting up with Tenley being mean to him. He officially has the "flying bug" and is looking forward to working on his tailwheel endorsement and instrument rating!



*10. Carol Zerbe, DPE, and Zach Lauzon, private pilot, at KGOO after his checkride in N3062S "Mellow Yellow".*



*11. Zach Lauzon and his brand new temporary Private Pilot Certificate!*

Tenley Ong  
Vice President, CFI/CFII

## **FLY OUT REPORT**

No Report this Month.

Tenley Ong  
Vice President, CFI/CFII

## **VMC CLUB REPORT**

I would like to thank everyone for coming to the VMC Club meetings held this year. The next VMC club meeting will be **January 18th at 9 a.m.** The meeting will be held in the KSAC terminal second floor conference room.

I am Looking forward to seeing you in the New Year.

Steve Lightstone  
VMC Program Coordinator

## **WEBMASTER REPORT**

No Report this Month.

Tyler Pierson  
Webmaster

## **CALENDAR - DATES AND EVENTS**

**January Saturday, Jan 18**, at 9:00 a.m. VMC Club Meeting. See details in VMC Club Report.

### **EAA-VAA CHAPTER 25 OFFICERS**

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