



Wickenburg EAA Chapter 883

MAY 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the April meeting it was proposed that our chapter conduct a pancake breakfast at the annual Fly-In and Classic Car Show to be held in January, 2026, at the Wickenburg Airport. Although no one voted “NO”, most of you were skeptical...too much work, we don't have the equipment, we have to get permits, it's too cold, etc.



I have some new information that may help you reconsider. The Glendale EAA Chapter has a lot of experience conducting pancake breakfasts at airports. They have fine-tuned the process. They have a large grill and warming trays, they have experienced cooks and servers. They know where and how much food to purchase. They can transport their equipment, food and expertise to the Wickenburg Airport. Our job is to help them and learn in the process. This is a great opportunity for our chapter.

Over the summer, the chapter Board will be gathering information and planning for Operation Pancakes. If all the plans come together, we will need volunteers from the chapter to help us get the work done to make this a success. We will be counting on you to offer your help and support. More details will be coming, but let me know if you have any suggestions to share right now.
Phyllis Wells, President. 719-429-4999.



MAY 10th MEETING

Our last meeting for the season will be special. Returning by popular demand will be Natalie Stewart-Smith. She entertained us in October 2024 with her stories of the “History of Aviation in Arizona”. This time she will talk about the Women who served in WWII as pilots.

GLIDERS IN AGUILA by Bruce Rosenthal

Some of you living in Aguila may have noticed gliders circling or noticed a lot of radio talk on 122.9 the weekend of April 4-6. Cliff Hilty who has a hangar at Sampley (Valley of the Eagles) Airpark had a barbeque with free food. When glider pilots heard the news, there was a “gaggle” in the pattern at 28AZ. Some pilots also had annual inspections and transponder checks on their aircraft. A few curious locals came by to check things out and Dennis Huwe arranged for Nancy to go up for a ride.



PHOTOS BY CAROLE COOKE

Mark Rebholz, local DPE, A&P, and AI, has restored an LK 10, vintage 1930s and enjoys flying it whenever he can get a tow. That week end he was towed to 3000 ft AGL and spent over 2 hours flying over the mountains surrounding Aguila.

For those of you curious about gliders, but not familiar with this activity, the gliders get towed up to 2,000 or 3,000 ft AGL. Once the glider pilots release from the tow plane they try to stay aloft by using thermals and other air currents. On a good day, they can easily climb 10,000 ft, go hundreds of miles, and stay up for 5-6 hours. It all depends on the weather. Glider pilots love to see scattered cumulus clouds because that is a good indicator of lift. When it starts getting bumpy and power pilots want to land, glider pilots get ready to launch. Their objective is not to go somewhere for a purpose, but rather to savor the joy of flying. It is a sport, and some pilots are quite competitive. Others just want to stay up for a long time or get as high as they can.

Sedona Fly-out (April 22)

The Sedona fly-out was the perfect end for the fly-out program. Previously we went to Lake Havasu, Payson, and Parker. In the fall, we will go to Kingman, Seligman, and back to Parker. Originally planned for April 17, Sedona was rescheduled due to high winds. Aside from the spectacular views, excellent weather, and great food, what made this special was the opportunity for us, an electrical engineer, two airline pilots, a Wildlife Scientist and their guests to have a vibrant conversation. Although I've flown to Sedona several times before, I learn and experience something new each time. That's part of what makes these flyouts so important.

We had a small group, shown in the breakfast photo, including Tim and Kathy Hulme, Ray Lee, myself, Mike and Marcie Arensmeyer with friend Sandy. I want to thank everyone who has participated in one or more of these flyouts. I believe Mike has now completed (3) and Ray and Tim (2). Ray was determined to go even after having just returned from extensive international travels the day before. Also, Mike and Ray were gracious enough to provide transportation for me to and from Sedona. I'm including photos from Tim and Mike plus one I took when we returned to E25. Have a great summer.



-Bruce



MISCELLANEOUS NEWS ITEMS

CHAPTER 883 GOES HI TECH WITH IT'S WEB PAGE

Thanks to the perseverance of Mike Arensmeyer, we now have a web page for our chapter. It is designed to help people learn more about us. It will include our meeting place and date as well as the monthly newsletter and other timely information. Dan Mertesdorf has volunteered to add to the web page, but we must supply him with content and photos. To see what is on there now go to: [eaachapter883](#). Call me if you want to add something.

Ron Erlinger is now the proud owner of a Private Pilot License. On April 15 he flew and did his oral with Loren French at the Wickenburg Airport. Several of us were there to welcome him back from his flight and offer congratulations. When asked how he was feeling, he said, "Now I can take my wife for a ride!". (the perfect answer)

Two of our long-time members are venturing out of their comfort zone by taking helicopter lessons. Tom Nalevanko and Greg Gregory are both signed up with Zack Arvold who operates a helicopter crop dusting business in Wisconsin. He spends the winter in Arizona and enjoys sharing his passion with others.

We had our first VMC Club session at the April meeting. It was well received, and we plan to start that up again in the fall. It is a discussion of an aircraft related problem that the audience tries to solve. All ideas are welcome and everyone learns something. Videos and discussion ideas are provided by EAA staff. Thanks to Mike A. for getting us started.

Free lunches at our monthly meetings are becoming more frequent. The April newsletter had a photo of a le broussard radial engine aircraft. The first person to identify it was Tim Hulme. Also, Tim flew to the meeting (another free lunch) but could only stay long enough to tell us the name of the French plane. He should bring Kathy to the next meeting and they both could have a free lunch! Michael Juilfs flew in his gyro-plane so he got a free lunch. Anthony Burton who is planning to build a gyro-plane was happy to meet Michael and share ideas.



MAY MEETING
SATURDAY, MAY 10, 2025
EAGLE ROOST AIRPARK
FLY IN OR DRIVE
CALL FOR MORE INFO
719-429-4999

