



Home of Squadron 534 Youth Aviation Program

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

12/03 – **Christmas Party, Admin building**
 5:30, \$30 ea. BBQ ----- pay Greg
 BYOB Beer or wine
 Bring wrapped gift for exchange



12/17 – Young Eagles

01/28 – Radio Control flying
 at Southern Eagle Squadron
 For our Youth program



New Officers & Directors (starting Dec)

- President-Mike Hage
- VP-John Weber
- Treasurer-Greg Nilsen
- Secretary-Judie Betz

- Directors- Paul Adrien
 Marty Harris
 Ted Luebbers.

PRESIDENT: Steve Tilford skyguy@stc-inc.net
VP: John Weber ransfly@aol.com
 + VMC ZOOM (Visual Meteorological Conditions)
SECRETARY: Joan Luebbers joanluebbers@gmail.com
TREASURER: Greg Nilsen teg1mi@yahoo.com

DIRECTORS: Jim Goodspeed jimgoodspeed@gmail.com
 + PR Ted Luebbers floxin64@gmail.com
 + Activities Paul Adrien ezalpha@aol.com
 + Young Eagles Jodie Soule j.soule@ix.netcom.com
 + Newsletter Marty Harris mh5474566@gmail.com
 + Youth steering committee Dale Cornelius jdcornelius@live.com
 + PR-city affairs Joel Hargis jhargis@parksite.com
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WEBSITE: Laura Vaughn lju3660@hotmail.com
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 Ray Scholarships Gretchen Crecelius gcrecelius@cfl.rr.com

President's "last" Message



November showed up this year with a lot of fanfare in the form of Hurricanes Ian and Nichole. Our Chapter and the Leesburg area, though not affected as heavily as some to our south, still have to clean up and recover from the effects of both. It's unusual to have back-to-back storms like these, but I'm encouraged by the resilience of the people of Florida. God bless you all.

On a more positive note, the Chapter voted at the Chapter meeting held on 11/12 for Officers and Directors for the next two years. These Members will take office in December, and it will be their job to lead, protect and support the Chapter in meeting EAA National's goals and Chapter goals, going forward.

I want to wish all of our new officers, and the ones returning for another term the best possible results.

I also wish to thank the previous Officers and Directors, Members and volunteers who have helped shape and define Chapter 534, how it works and what it does. I am proud of you all and thank you for your hard work and support. The Chapter will be in good hands.

Chapters flourish from the participation of its members, and I encourage every member to seek out a place where you can help the Chapter and make it known to those in charge that you're willing to take on a job, task or position to help move the Chapter forward. You will be welcomed.

It's been an honor to be your President for the past two years.

Happy Thanksgiving to all!

Clear skies and tailwinds,
 Steve



David Hopkins warming up the grill!



Inspirational Quotes:

"Flying is learning how to throw yourself at the ground and miss." - Douglas Adams



SQUADRON 534 Youth Aviation Program updates!

I am pleased to report that the steering committee which includes our Ray Scholars, has made great progress refreshing the wonderful legacy of our youth group.

Unique Identification: New logo, shirts, hats and name badges with new colors. *(Shirts have arrived!)*

Recruiting: Focused on Lake County schools and existing youth organizations. *Recruiting & info fliers are printed with copies on 534 website*

Workshops: We all agree that aviation is a collection of disciplines for future aviators to absorb, including systems, assembly and building, tools and techniques. Youth will have planned presentations and hands-on workshops.

Simulator: Formal flight planning and pilot instructor communications with headsets with potential for flying the flight-plans in a real plane.



Maria DeStafano one of our future SIM instructors getting the hang of it!

Food service: committed crew for preparation, cooking and clean-up headed up by David Hopkins.

Young Eagles: First-time YE will get priority front seat flying A non-flying plane will position in front for hangar for sample pre-flight demo for kids and parents! Our Youth group and members will engage visitors, kids and adults.

Ray Scholarships: Hoping to pick-up more qualified youth as we grow the Youth population back next cycle.

Admin: Need help with keeping Youth member's attendance and logbooks.

Funding: We have monies in our treasury previously donated for Youth group. This will be earmarked for activities and materials needed for the above.

A debt of gratitude to John Weber and all the volunteers who will turn these words and ideas into reality. A special thanks to our **Ray Scholars** who bring brilliant ideas to the table with the important insight of their youth and experience.

Marty Harris
Steering committee chairman



Young Eagles – NOV 19 & DEC 17!

Pilots at 8:30

Ray scholarship – Nick Hopkins chosen for Sailplane / glider rating

Treasurer



Greg reports:

We now have **98 members in the Chapter**. We welcome the financial support and we hope that more people could come out on Thursdays and Saturdays to help on our projects.

If you need to send in your dues you can do that on our

website www.EAChapter534.org and click in the membership button and pay by PayPal. You can also send a check made out to EAA Chapter 534 for \$20 to:

Greg Nilsen
2856 Apache Ct
The Villages, FL 32163

Young Turkey SAFETY-lol

Beware of turkeys trying to exit the Thanksgiving table any way possible.

Trying to hitch a ride at KLEE



Calculated Risk/Mitigated Risk

John H. Weber

Every time we go flying it is a calculated risk. Have we checked the weather conditions? Have we checked the aircraft? Is it airworthy? Do we have the familiarity with the plane to fly it safely? Are we familiar with the airports we will be using? Am I in a safe physical/mental state to fly? Even if we check all the boxes to the best of our knowledge, we can still have emergency situations arise. **Sadly we lost a chapter member**, a very accomplished pilot, **Tony Yen** due to an engine failure last month.

I was asked by a friend of the family to help ferry Tony's Searey from Mid-Florida (X55) to Umatilla (X23). This was a whopping 6-mile flight. The first day that we had scheduled, we canceled due to weather. We set a "rain date" for Sunday, October 30th.

On the **negative side** of the equation were several factors:

- 1) *Ideally, the plane would be moved before the end of the month.*
- 2) *Problem "Get-there-itis" and time constraints.*
- 3) *Another time constraint, as my flight review would run out on October 31, and I legally couldn't fly after that.*
- 4) *I have about 8 hours of Searey PIC, but it has been a couple years since I have flown one.*
- 5) *I thought I was going to be a right-seater trying to keep another pilot out of trouble. Nope, when we got there my friend said, "I will meet you back at Umatilla."*
- 6) *No written checklist in the plane.*

On the **positive side** of the equation were several factors as well:

- 1) *It turned out to be a beautiful morning during the time we were to move the aircraft. The winds were light with only about a 6-knot crosswind.*
- 2) *I was very current in tail wheel aircraft as I had probably done about 20 landings in the last month.*
- 3) *It had a Rotax engine which is a type I am familiar with and have flown with for many hours.*
- 4) *I have had training by Steve Wolf in the Pitts S-2B, where a written checklist wasn't used - the CIGAR TIP acronym was used.*
- 5) *I wasn't even going to raise the gear, which is a standard practice among amphibian pilots. This was one less thing that could go wrong.*
- 6) *I was not going to be going over much of a populated area with many emergency landing sites available.*
- 7) *I was ready to cancel the flight if I felt there was ANYTHING I couldn't handle or could be a safety issue.*
- 8) *I knew the plane had been flying quite a bit in the previous month, so I didn't feel that there would be any problems due to inactivity.*
- 9) *I had the opportunity to do a thorough preflight without interruption.*

Overall, I felt the positives outweighed the negatives, so I chose to do the flight. The flight went well, and the plane was ferried uneventfully and was even reusable!

Every flight that we make involves decisions that we make to reach the go/no go decision. Sometimes, when it comes to flying my own plane, perhaps I don't examine the aircraft quite as closely as I should. If we are just going to go around the pattern a few times, is there a tendency to not get a weather briefing and just look out the window? Paying attention to the details can sometimes make a big difference in making it a good day or a bad day.

Please think about your "preflight" details before your next flight.



Project Updates

Pietenpol - Ted

Center section for wings
Working on fuel tank



Murphy Rebel - Mark

On hold



SeaRey - Dale



New logo

Cessna 150 - Steve



150 work team includes Steve, Wayne and Mark



New Youth member **Mason** teaching Wayne a few tricks



November 19 Young Eagles Rally
Flew 14 in Fixed-Wing / 12 in Helicopter



Chapter 534 Young Eagles

Our next Young Eagle rally will be Dec 17, 2022



- We will continue with our great **sign-up team** led by our chairman Jodie Soule.
- We will have **"Name tag stickers"** for all who are without our 534 tags. All members "adult and youth" will now help host and engage our Eagles and their families showing them the planes we are working on as well as flight SIM and chatting about the Youth Program.
- Our existing youth members will be wearing the new **"Squadron 534" T-Shirts**.
- Judie Betz and others will walk families around an **exhibition plane in front of hangar**, demonstrating a traditional walk-around and safety checks. This should save time for YE pilots.
- Starting Sept all **first time YE get front seat** for first flight.

We look forward to a great new season and many new youth members!