



Home of Squadron 534 Youth Aviation Program

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

- 02/18/23 – Young Eagles
- 02/25/23 – Monthly meeting Admin 9:00
- 03/11/23 – Villages flying club luncheon
- 03/18/23 – Young Eagles

New date

03/25 – Radio Control flying at Southern Eagle Squadron
For our Youth program



ATTN URGENT :

Need volunteer for Treasurer!

(See Tres report)

OFFICERS

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President's Message

There is a famous quote from the movie Field of Dreams, "If you build it, they will come". Hopefully that holds true with airplane builds and youth program participation. Youth program participation is still trending behind our pre-pandemic numbers, but hopefully with the arrival of the remaining **BD6 kits**, interest levels will peak. Nothing will make a few of us happier than to see a hangar full of kids working on it with the dream of someday piloting it. We will be needing volunteers to help so don't be shy and reach out to a member of the youth program to express your interest.

Speaking of volunteers, we are still looking for a candidate to take over Greg's role as Treasurer. If anyone has any interest, please contact one of the board members. I haven't heard any updates lately on the sale of their house, but it's inevitable that it will sell and we will have a huge hole to fill. The sooner we find a replacement, the more knowledge transfer will take place which will allow for a smoother transition.

Just a reminder that our **guest speaker** this month is Kerry McCauley. International ferry pilot, accomplished author and star of tv show 'Dangerous Flights', he will tell us stories of misadventure, not sitting safely on the tarmac but rather 1000 miles past the point of no return. Learn more at <https://kerrymccauley.com/>

Mike Hage

Inspirational Quotes:

I always wonder why birds choose to stay in the same place when they can fly anywhere. As a pilot, I ask myself the same question.



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 workshops include 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 of 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 – Feb 18, 2023

Pilots at 8:30

Ray scholarship –

Congratulations are in order!
Chloe, our Ray Scholar Zoomer has passed her Instrument check ride!



Treasurer Report -

As we start a new year, chapter dues need to be sent in. We show only 50 members have paid their 2023 dues which is about 50% of 2022

We also have 8 new members! WELCOME!
If you see a new member always say hi

Three ways to pay your dues - pay with PayPal on our website under the membership link, pay in person at a Chapter meeting or at the hanger on Thursdays or Saturdays, or send a check in the mail made out to EAA Chapter 534 to my address below.

>>>> URGENT <<<<<

The chapter is still looking for a new treasurer as my replacement, as Theresa and I are planning to put our house on the market sometime this month and move back to Michigan (Yes I know it is cold up there). If interested please let one of the officers know \$20 to:

Greg Nilsen
2856 Apache Ct
The Villages, FL 32163

FUN



Christmas in February

John Weber February 13, 2023

I didn't know that Santa Claus can come in February. I recently found this out after an email from the Bede Family Foundation! The gist of the email was that they apologized for leaving our BD-6 project high and dry and that they would be sending the rest of the kit to enable us to finish the plane. Needless to say, I was quite excited about this. The BD-6 was a great learning experience for our early Youth Program members and now it looks that it will be more in the future. This also solves part of the problem of not having something for the kids to work on directly in the hangar.

So far, I have received 6 boxes of hardware from Aircraft Spruce last week. We were able to get the inventory done on Saturday with the help of Chloe and Alex, a new member. I received another box today and have notice of another delivery tomorrow! I hope that we will soon receive the rest of the kit and can start the kids building again.



The Goal:



Project Updates

Pietenpol - Ted

Greg attaching recently welded landing gear (TNX Weber)



Murphy Rebel - Mark

Back to work on the Rebel



SeaRey - Dale



New logo

Cessna 150 - Steve



150 work team includes Steve, Wayne and Mark. Great progress being made!

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





Chapter 534 Young Eagles



Our next Young Eagle rally will be February 18th, 2023
March will be the 18th

- 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!