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Photo by Mike Dooley

## ODE TO SARAH

The world lost a wonderful citizen. So did the aviation community. Sarah Ratley was that rare lady whose self-effacing attitude never failed to impress those she tried not to impress. A pilot from her teens, Sarah went on to earn a degree in science and mathematics then to fly many times in the National Women's Air Race (Powder Puff Derby) and ultimately be named as one of the prestigious Mercury 13: women who should go into space. Sarah's brick will help us hold her memory. Rest in peace, Sarah. We already miss you.

**Special points of interest:**

- Our next gathering will be online, Monday, April 20 at 7:00 p.m. IMC/VMC Clubs meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. once the bug is gone.
- Our next Young Eagles rally and pancake breakfast will be announced.
- We're always looking for good ideas for programs. Please contact Larry Young with your information.

President: **Mike Dooley**  
 President Emeritus: **Larry Young**  
 Vice President and Young Eagles Coordinator: **Chris St. Germain**  
 Secretary: **Rob Schmitt**  
 Treasurer: **Phil Ishmael**  
 Board: **Mark Burrow, Jim Brady, Paul Rodriguez, Larry Rhoads**  
 Tech Staff: **Dave Jobe, Mark Burrow, & John Rice.**  
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 Web Editor: **James Perkins**  
 Eagle Flight Coordinator: **Mitch Stafford**

EAA Chapter 91, Lee's Summit Municipal Airport (KLXT)  
Lee's Summit, Missouri

# President's Corner

EAA Chapter 91 president, Mike Dooley

I just took a look at my column from last month's newsletter and realized there's not a single reference to the novel corona virus disease (COVID-19). How quickly our world has changed!

I hope all of you are well and are coping with "cabin fever" as best you're able under the circumstances!

Missouri Governor Mike Parson issued a Stay-At-Home order, effective through April 24. At this writing we're also under a Jackson County order that also runs until April 24. Needless to say, EAA Chapter 91 meetings/gatherings are cancelled . . . at least all of them that involve people getting together in the real world.

But that doesn't mean that we'll be idle. We have already had an online board meeting, and will have our first online chapter meeting on April 20. Jim Brady will discuss the aerospace program at our next-door neighbor, St. Michael the Archangel High School.

We haven't made any decisions yet for May and will sent out updates as decisions are made.

As I mentioned last month, our chapter has been fortunate to receive a Ray Scholarship again this year. Scholarship Coordinator Jim Brady, assisted by Griff Pickett, will collect applications with the goal of selecting the best possible candidate for this exciting opportunity. We will hold our nominee until EAA is ready since the one year completion timeline will start ticking as soon as the scholarship is awarded, and we want our candidate to have a full year -- not one interrupted with stay-at-home orders, etc.

We did manage to squeeze in a few events in early March:

- The Young Eagle Build and Fly team began building the first RC model and the wing, tail, and fuselage sides are coming together.
- I also taught a one-on-one riveting class just before the stay-at-home order went into effect.

When we are free to gather again, I anticipate a "slow restart." By that I mean we should be prepared to start with one-on-one activities such as individual Young Eagle flights, Eagle flights, and small team events such as the Young Eagle Build and Fly program.

Pilots interested in flying an adult neighbor or friend on an introductory flight are encouraged to register as an Eagle Flights Mentor Pilot as part of EAA's Eagle Flights program. The program is intended to provide a free introductory flight to adults interested in flight training. To learn more and register as an Eagle Flights Mentor Pilot go to <https://www.eaa.org/eaal/learn-to-fly/introductory-flights-for-free/eaal-eagle-flights-program/become-a-mentor-pilot> Click on the Order Supplies link and EAA will send you a mentor pilot kit. You will receive a mentor pilot guide, shoulder patch, folders with logbooks for your guest, release forms, prepaid return envelopes, etc. free of charge.

See you at the Eagle Hangar (soon, I hope)!



*You were expecting the minutes from last month's meeting?  
Yes, here they are. Read on.*

**EAA CHAPTER 91**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
March 16, 2020

- I. Meeting was called to order by President Mike Dooly at 6:58 pm. Present: Mike Dooley, President; Chris St. Germain, Vice-President; Phil Ishmael, Treasurer; Robert Schmitt, Secretary; Larry Young, Pres. Emeritus; Larry Rhoads, Jim Brady, Paul Rodriguez, Bruce Hood, newsletter editor.
- II. This special board meeting on 16 March replaces the regularly scheduled monthly gathering. The monthly gathering was cancelled due to corona virus notification issues. Local and state governments have imposed a general requirement for no meetings of persons greater than 10. This guidance is for 15 days beginning 16 March. This notice affects all Chapter 91 events in near future. The Purpose of the board meeting is to evaluate our current calendar and determine a path forward. All events till end of April are to be reviewed.
- III. Planning Calendar review: The board discussed what events are impacted by recent announcements and guidance.
  - a. March 20 Social/Potluck cancelled.
  - b. March 21 Flying Start Program – postponed to later date.
  - c. YE Build and Fly program. These events have less than 10 people total. These events will be reviewed by YE leadership with youth involved. vThe decision will be made based on these discussions at a later time.
  - d. April 6 board meeting. Keep as scheduled.
  - e. April 13 IMC/VMC meeting cancelled.
  - f. April 17 Social/Potluck cancelled.
  - g. April 18 Young Eagles cancelled.
  - h. April 20 monthly gathering cancelled.
  - i. All May events to be determined at April 6 board meeting.
- IV. Website: The Chapter 91 website will be updated by Chris St. Germain to indicate updated status and cancelled events.
- V. Hangar waiting list updates: Three openings coming available in near future. Waiting list will be used to fill vacant spaces.
- VI. The WagAero classic trainer project has an interested party. Pick up will be coordinated as soon as weather is acceptable.
- VII. Other business
  - a. Date for next board meeting: April 6 at 7pm

Meeting was Adjourned at 7:43 pm.

Robert F. Schmitt  
EAA 91 Secretary



Our next meeting of the VMC Club will be Monday, April 13th at 7:00 p.m.

I can tell that we are all getting bored – I have had several requests for some type of online IMC or VMC meeting. Up until now I have ignored that, feeling that I did not have anything to say. But a couple of rants on various Face Book pages, some pilot-oriented pages, some not, have caused me to change my mind.

There are two problems with ranting in the social media world. First, the person who irritates you often is not part of that group, so will never see the rant, so will never change his behavior. And second, it just makes the ranter look like a whiner.

It the flying world, at least, I think we need a forum to rant a little bit, in a constructive manner, in hopes that we might better keep ourselves friendly and safe. So, I offer our next VMC meeting for that purpose.

This will be online, next Monday April 13, at 7:00 pm. I am going to limit this to 25 people, as this is the first of these sessions. (Hopefully we will not need many more.) If you are interested in participating, please send a note to me at [thehopeschris@gmail.com](mailto:thehopeschris@gmail.com). I will give you instructions about joining us at that time. Please put in your subject line "Online VMC-April" so that I don't miss it. And if you have a particular peeve, add it in and I will make sure that we discuss it.

And for those of you looking for something else to read, here a couple of my new musings. Click on "[airspeeds](#)" in the lower right. Also I have learned some new tricks with ForeFlight, the Garmin 650/750 and the Garmin 400 series. Look for those in the weeks ahead.

Stay safe. We will be back in the air soon.

Chris Hope, CFI-I, VMC Club Facilitator  
2018 FAA Flight Instructor of the Year, Central Region

More info about VMC Clubs at: [www.eaa.org/vmcclub](http://www.eaa.org/vmcclub)

(This invitation is extended to all pilots who are serious about flying.)



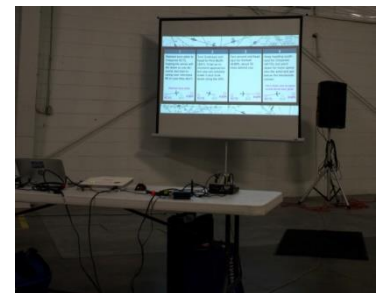
# EAA LEADERSHIP BOOTCAMP



Saturday, March 7 brought an unusually large crowd of EAA members from various chapters to the Larry Young Eagle Hangar. Those attending included not only from local chapters but also a goodly number from various states surrounding the area. The reason was to attend the EAA Leadership Bootcamp, a program designed to help educate and inspire chapter leaders on how to build their organizations and make them successful. EAA started bringing this one-day course to the field to aid local leaders in getting the information they needed.

The well-paced curriculum was very interesting and ably led by Charlie Becker, EAA's Director of Chapters; Megan Hart, and David Leiting, both Chapter Field Reps. The attendees got to network with other chapter leaders and came away with specific, pertinent information to help them perform their new duties. It was well worth our time to attend and we would highly recommend this program.

## AIR SAFETY INSTITUTE PRESENTATION



Local instructor and well known speaker Jeanné Willerth used a scenario-based approach to present the latest Air Safety Institute seminar, "More Difficult Decisions: Choices and Consequences as Pilot in Command." The evening of March 9 found a nice sized crowd forming at Air Associates' facility at OJC. Jeanné gave two scenarios – one IFR and the other VFR – then asked us to offer suggestions to handle the situations. We broke into groups of five or six to discuss our thoughts, then presented them back before hearing the most likely correct answers. As always, the seminar offered Wings credit and was highly valuable. Improving flight safety is always worthwhile. Great job, Jeanné.

# MARCH'S PROGRAM – THE ONE THAT WASN'T

Thanks to the Covid-19 debacle, Chapter 91 members and guests were unable to meet for the normal March monthly gathering. Governmental mandates concerning how many people could be occupy the same space at any one time or place trumped that event. Consequently, we had to punt. Which materialized as a board meeting where we had to make and release plans about all the chapter's previously scheduled events. So the program was kinda boring; you should be glad you didn't have to endure it.

Originally, the no-meeting rules restricted gathering sizes to ten or fewer participants, but as you know by now, that was ultimately extended to the number zero – as in nobody was allowed to peaceably assemble. (Hmmm. That sounds like a line from something – I wish I could remember what.)

Everyone was caught unaware, and these things tend to happen from time to time, so we just had to grin and bear it. But the old mainstays like the IMC/VMC Club, Young Eagles rallies and pancake breakfasts, social Fridays, the Built and Fly group and, of course, the previously mentioned monthly gathering were all kicked under the bus.

So last month's program turned out to be a dud, along with its never-happened chapter gathering. It was a bit difficult to photograph which is why you see no pictures. Dull, huh?

We anticipate the big Covid cootie will ultimately go away and leave us alone. When it does, we will joyously announce the chapter's amended schedule. By the way, if you're curious, so far, EAA has deferred the final decision on AirVenture, but I'm crossing my fingers that it will proceed as usual. I'll bet your fingers are crossed as well. Yep! That should do it.

Our next program, impressively enough, will actually occur. Read all about it and how that miracle will transpire on Page 7. But here's a hint – it's based on technology. You're gonna love it!

# APRIL'S PROGRAM AND GATHERING

We have decided, as a chapter, to spit in the eye of the Covid-19 virus. It just thinks it can control our lives, but it's about to find out it's just not that big. Sweet revenge, is what it is, and will get that revenge on Monday evening, April 20 starting at 7 p.m. The program will be presented by our own Jim Brady, honcho extraordinaire of our very successful Ray Scholarship program. Jim will talk about the very impressive and forward thinking aviation program at our neighbor, St. Michael the Archangel High School. This unique program is proving effective for a number of SMA students, and Chapter 91 is a partner. Frankly, we couldn't have chosen anyone better for the job and Jim always has interesting presentations. You'll definitely want to hear this one.

Now, you may be asking how we're going to do this. I mean, we can't assemble, right? Right. Instead, we're going to handle the entire thing online. Our problem solver in chief, Mike (not the archangel) Dooley has it figured out and ready to go.

Here's the info directly from Mike:

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.**

<https://www.gotomeet.me/MichaelDooley1/ea-chapter-91> You can also dial in from a regular land line phone.

If you are new to GoToMeeting and you want to use your computer, tablet, or smart phone, then you can download an app now and be ready when the meeting starts. Click on this link to get the app:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/559943509>

If you want to call in using a regular phone (or audio only on your smart phone) then you can dial in using the following number: [+1 \(571\) 317-3112](tel:+15713173112) when it's time for the meeting to start. You will then be prompted to enter an **Access Code**: 559-943-509

Questions? Call or text me at 216 956-1887.

GoToMeeting.com has lots of help available online or you can call me...just do it before Monday!

Go ahead and download that app while you're thinking about it. That way you'll be ready when 7 p.m. on April 20 rolls around. The board used a similar program to conduct our last meeting, and it worked like a charm. This is going to be fun! I mean, how often do you get to spit in a virus' eye? Take that, you goofy bug!

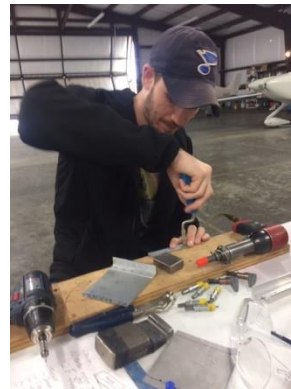
# BUILD AND FLY BUILDING SESSION A SUCCESS



Chapter 91 project leader Susan Calvin headed the recent Build and Fly building session on Saturday, March 7. Susan provided the following details:

There were four youths and at least that many adults present. Jimmy Cianciolo and Phil Lucido were among the building instructors. It was a very busy day and the kids seemed to have a good time. We started the project by framing up the wings, and both wing panels are almost complete. We should be able to finish the wings this coming Saturday, and then begin the fuselage. The following week is not on the schedule, but the subsequent week we will continue the building process. Some of the parents stayed to help us and we had a good time visiting and observing.

## MIKE DOOLEY HOLDS RIVETING WORKSHOP



New Chapter 91 member Corey Hovis wants to build an RV and Mike Dooley was offering a riveting class. So Corey attended, and made a couple of riveting projects as used in the Sheetmetal Forum at AirVenture, then moved on to a Van's toolbox project. Corey was able to finish all sessions before the stay-at-home order. It was a great start to his new membership, and to his dream building project. **Photos courtesy of Mike Dooley**



# HOW DID CHAPTER 91 FARE AGAINST COVID-19?

With the recent stay-at-home order from various governmental ivory towers, we were impressed and pleased when Nancy Inderwiesen offered to deliver food or other necessities to any Chapter 91 member who would be unable to get out. We understand several others contacted Nancy and offered to assist where necessary. What a heartwarming offer from all these people. That's the kind of spirit we've seen in Chapter 91 for many years. Helpful, selfless, generous. As the media reports continued tumbling in sounding worse and worse every day, we wondered how Nancy and her gang were holding up under what must have been quite a strain.

While I haven't spoken with Nancy directly, that question was asked at our recent online board meeting, and the report was that there were no calls. Apparently no one needed those services – thank heaven for that! But it struck a note with me because I'm in contact with a goodly number of people, yet not one indicated he or she had been affected directly by the Covid-19 virus. I believe one guy mentioned a distant relative had something, but that was about it.

So I did a little checking with a few chapter members, and again, the results indicated nobody had come down with anything related to the ever-present disease. No one mentioned a spouse or close family member having any Covid-19-related problems. Wow! Now, that's about as close to miraculous as you can get. Of course, I didn't check with *everyone*, so my little poll is certainly not complete or authoritative. But it still sounds like we lucked out. After all, our organization is top heavy with geezers (yeah, me too), and we're the ones most at-risk. So sidestepping the problem was significant.

Those massive estimate numbers – like 2,500,000 – are scary, that's for sure. We're certain only the most knowledgeable experts would dare offer those kinds of stats. But against all odds, those numbers began to fall, hinting that the original models may have been somewhat overstated. Again, a big sigh because deaths for any reason are not something we want to encounter.

What was great about this whole thing was the offerings of help and assistance that came from others. People like Nancy Inderwiesen have polished a bright spot in this dull landscape, and we are most grateful for her and people like her who stepped up to help. Yes, maybe Chapter 91 dodged a big bullet, but knowing these kinds of people stood ready to serve, made it just a bit more bearable. No, it's not over, but I believe we're going to make it.

# **ACCEPTING RAY SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

Since Chapter 91 achieved success with our Ray Scholarship applicant last year, we have once again been invited to submit another candidate to participate in this amazing opportunity to earn a pilot's license. Last year, Hayden White used the scholarship's funds to reach his private pilot goal, and that accomplishment helped us earn our current year's slot. So we need candidates. They need to be well qualified since this fund is incredibly popular and its proceeds are obviously in demand.

The nominated candidates will need to be interviewed by our selection committee, and that may have to be handled via an online capability this year. The program will once again be ably shepherded by Jim Brady and Griff Pickett. Please contact either of them for more details, or check the attachments to the newsletter email announcement to locate a copy of the application. We need to get started with this process as soon as possible, so please encourage your candidates to jump in with both feet and get going. Or, if you know of someone you think would be right for this opportunity, then the encouragement is for you to jump into action and get the process started.

We know there are qualified kids out there who would dearly love to get the chance to grab this golden plum, so please get with Jim or Griff, or contact a board member for further assistance.

## **NOMINATING COMMITTEE NEEDED**

Since 2020 is an election year – for the chapter, that is – we are looking for honest, hard-working members with unquestionable integrity to help us locate and bring forward well-qualified candidates for the chapter's various offices. Each of the four offices – president, vice president, secretary, & treasurer – are up for grabs, as are the four board member slots. While some of the existing office holders may be willing to remain, they are nonetheless replaceable by your nominations and votes. If you would be willing to serve in this thankless position, please contact any officer or board member. Thank you for your help.

# Airlines Offer Signing Bonuses To Tech Students -- Reprinted from *AvWeb Flash*

**Russ Niles**

February 23, 2020 *AvWeb Flash*



Airlines are employing tactics used by professional sports teams to find and attract new talent for their businesses, according to a South Carolina technical college. While the pilot shortage tends to hog the headlines, an equally crippling deficit of maintenance techs is forcing airlines to be much more proactive in keeping their hangars humming, according to the Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics. "Employers are traveling to PIA to begin the recruiting process as early as first semester and even partnering to raise career awareness prior to enrollment which is indicative of high demand," PIA's Myrtle Beach Campus Director Peg Skalican said. "Once enrolled, employers are more frequently following students' progress to graduation, and it's becoming more common for a student to receive an employment offer prior to graduation contingent on successfully completing the federal exam often with signing bonuses ranging from \$2,500 to as high as \$18,000."

The Myrtle Beach campus held a public open house last Saturday to attract potential students to its programs and a full slate of future employers were also on hand. The school said 97 percent of graduates of its 16-month A&P program got jobs in the industry last year. Endeavor Air, the regional subsidiary of Delta, conducted interviews with prospective students at the open house.

# FAA Stops Medical Enforcement Until June 30

-- Reprinted from AvWeb *Flash*

Russ Niles

March 28, 2020



Any pilot whose medical expires after March 30 can continue to fly until June 30 without renewing in light of the novel coronavirus crisis. The FAA announced on Friday it will not be enforcing medical expirations during that period so that medical personnel can focus on dealing with the pandemic. "The Notice states that from March 31, 2020 to June 30, 2020, the FAA will not take legal enforcement action against any person serving as a required pilot flight crew member or flight engineer who holds a medical certificate that expires within this time period," AOPA quoted an email from FAA staff as reporting.

The announcement came after AOPA and other aviation groups called on the FAA to relax deadline-sensitive pilot qualifications, which in addition to medicals include checkrides and knowledge tests. "The FAA is meeting the moment by finding the quickest and most effective path to address an urgent need and we deeply appreciate the creative thinking and recognition that keeping general aviation operational serves a greater good," said AOPA President Mark Baker. National Air Transportation Association Senior Vice President Ryan Waguespack also commended the action, saying it was necessary to keep Part 135 carriers operational. "NATA is grateful the FAA is continuing to listen to our requests to support the 135 industry during this critical time," he said.



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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
EAA CHAPTER 91  
April 12, 2020



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