



## A YOUNG EAGLE FLIES

You can't be interested in aviation and not get goosebumps when a young man or woman learns to fly. Especially when it all started as a Young Eagle at a Chapter 91 event. There's an almost parental warmth that engulfs you with pride and accomplishment. Such is the case with Tucker Thomas, whom we see a lot. Tucker and his mother, Tami, join us regularly to help out with our programs. And now, Tucker has soloed! There's more to the story, so read all about it on Page 5 of this newsletter.

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### **Special points of interest:**

- Our next gathering will be Thursday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. Tim's Pizza! IMC/VMC Clubs meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
- Our next Young Eagles rally and pancake breakfast will be Saturday, April 18, 2020. Please join us. Make plans now!
- 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**  
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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

Happy New Year! I've managed to squeeze in a few flights this year, and hope you have too!

EAA Chapter 91 and Kansas City Radio Control Club (KCRC) are launching the Young Eagle Build and Fly program. The intent is to allow youth to build and fly RC models. Supplied kits have everything we need including the airplanes, RC equipment, and simulator software. Susan Calvin will take the lead. This promises to be an exciting new youth activity and KCRC, so please let Susan know if you would like to assist! We are planning a kick-off meeting February 8 at 10 a.m. in the Eagle Hangar to gather the team and meet with interested youth and their parents. The goal is to have the first model ready to fly this spring.

Remember, ADS-B is now mandatory for certain airspace including the Mode C Veil at KLXT, so be sure you're legal. Details are in the FARs at 91.225, 91.227, and in AC 90-114B "Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast Operations." Download at [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov). Chapter members including me have installed various brands, so please ask for help if you need it!

It's chapter membership renewal time! The newsletter has the form. Sign up for another year!

January events include:

- The IMC club meeting Monday, January 13 at 7 p.m. will feature a discussion on winter flying called, "Snow In Your Future?" You can earn FAA WINGS safety credit.
- We're planning our annual night out to Tim's Pizza ([www.timspizza.com](http://www.timspizza.com)) 17201 East 40 Highway in Independence on Thursday, January 23 at 6 pm. This will replace our regular gathering night, so there will be no Monday night gathering in January. We'll pre-order pizza selections and Tim's will set the pizza out buffet style, so please request your favorite pizza by calling Rob Schmitt at 816 309-0099 or me at 816 956-1887. **Price will be \$10/person for pizza, soft drinks, and side salads; we collect money at the door and settle up with Tim's as a group. Adult beverages will be extra...Please note that Tim's does not accept credit cards, so remember to bring cash!**
- John Rice and I will host a Composites 101 workshop January 25 at 10am.
  - The workshop will provide basic instruction in working with epoxy resins and fillers, fiberglass cloth, Kevlar™ cloth, and carbon fiber cloth.
  - This will be a hands-on workshop and each attendee will also work with foam core and learn how to make simple repairs and molds for small part fabrication.
  - A modest donation of \$20 is suggested to cover all supplies.
  - Please contact John Rice at 816 927-9594 or me at 816 956-1887
- Finally, our bylaws say 2020 is an election year. If you would like to serve as an officer or board member, please contact me. And yes, that includes serving as president!

Happy aviating-see you at the Eagle Hangar,

*Note: All local events are at the Larry Young Eagle Hangar unless otherwise specified.*



# **EAA CHAPTER 91 GATHERING MEETING MINUTES**

**Monday, December 16, 2019**

## **Special Event Chapter 91 Chili Dinner**

The Meeting was called to order by Mike Dooley at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Larry Young. A Chili contest is being conducted and members are asked to vote on the chilis presented for judging. The main dinner serving line is opened; Chapter 91 is providing the chili for members and their guests.

**Old Business:** Mike Dooley noted several upcoming Chapter 91 events. The next board meeting will be January 6, 2020. The next IMC meeting is January 13, 2020. And our next gathering will be January 23, 2020. This will be a dining out at Tim's Pizza located at 17201 E. 40 Highway, Independence, MO. A sign-up sheet is being circulated for those who wish to attend. Phil Ishmael has raffle tickets still available for Phil Schmidt's F-16 Thunderbird print. The drawing was conducted later in the meeting and Rob Schmitt won the print.

**EAA Initiatives:** [EAA.org/Pathways]. Young Eagles Build & Fly RC program. Mike Dooley stated that the KCRC Club has requested to partner with EAA Chapter 91 for this program. Mike will be attending the KCRC meeting later this week to coordinate.

The donated WagAero Sport Trainer aircraft project has been looked at by Terry Lamb. Per Terry, it is most likely a Super Cub fuselage. His estimation is that the fuselage is in better shape than originally thought and could be completed from its current state.

Winner of the chili Contest was Charlie Moore.

**Program:** Hayden White. The Chapter 91 Ray Scholarship winner presented a slide show program. The program included his experiences learning to fly from childhood to the recent completion of his private pilot's license.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



Our first meeting of the new year of the IMC Club will be **Monday, January 13th at 7:00 p.m.**

We all know that snow looks great on the ground, when you are snug in the house. And we all know that we shouldn't be flying in snow. But what do you do when you are not snug in the house and you are, in fact, accidentally flying in the snow? Come on out and share your experiences, and learn from others who have been there. Make yourself a New Year's Resolution to improve your piloting.

We meet at the Chapter 91 EAA hangar at the Lee's Summit Airport. Driving directions - take I-470 to Exit 9, Douglas Drive / Lee's Summit Drive, and turn north. At the bottom of the hill, turn right and follow the road to the end. The Larry Young Eagle hangar is on the west side of the parking lot next to the Cessna on a Post.

There is no cost to sit in on our monthly meetings. And there is no cost to check out the IMC website [www.eaa.org/imcclub](http://www.eaa.org/imcclub). IMC membership is free to EAA members. Not an EAA member? Ask me about a free six-month EAA membership.

Bring a flying friend.

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

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

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



# TUCKER THOMAS SOLOS!



Let's say your 16th birthday was approaching quickly, and you and your instructor have agreed you could solo on that day. But then the weather gives a thumbs-down. Well, that's what happened to Tucker Thomas on December 16. Now, it just so happens that evening was our annual chili dinner and Tucker and his mother, Tami, had hoped to make a thrilling announcement. But, of course, it couldn't happen.

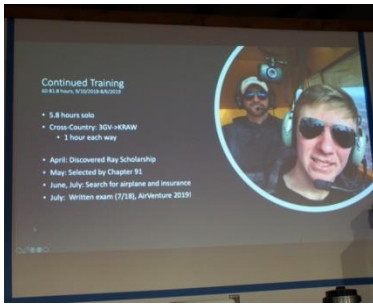
Tucker tried again the next day, but after the fog ultimately lifted, the airplane wouldn't start. Arrggh! Now, fast forward to Saturday, December 21. The weather is finally decent and the airplane is airworthy, so it's time to make history. Tucker and CFI Travis Templeton headed for Ottawa only to be foiled by 700 foot ceilings. Change of plans? Hey, he's getting good at that! A turn toward We-Be-Smokin' International saved the day. While he'd never been to K81 and the lunchtime crowd filled the pattern, Tucker managed to arrive safely and take a couple of practice circuits before Mr. Templeton confidently exited the airplane. Then, Tucker completed his uneventful three takeoffs and landings, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Tucker had just shy of 16 hours of powered flight leading up to his solo, but he had also logged 20.6 hours of soaring time including 6.8 solo. Tami chuckles about dragging her reluctant son to a Chapter 91 Young Eagles event in May, 2016. But he got to ride shotgun with Chris Hope who allowed him to fly the airplane. The bug bit hard. The initial lessons were at Air Associates and additional flights with his Aviation Explorer's post added up. And thanks to the CFI-Gs from Midwestern Soaring Association, Ron Leonard and Bruce Meachum, success arrived.

Tucker gives a lot of credit to his instructors and to Chapter 91. But you can't discount the wisdom and guidance of a great and supportive mom. What will his 17th birthday bring? Anybody want to take bets?

Tucker and Tami are almost always at our Chapter 91 events, so be sure to congratulate both of them. Well done, Thomases! And welcome to our flying community. We're very proud of you both.

# DECEMBER'S PROGRAM – HAYDEN WHITE



The highlight of our December gathering was not the wonderful chili dinner, wonderful though it was. Instead, it was the program presented by Hayden White, who described his experiences learning to fly. Exuding the confidence, poise, and polish of a seasoned speaker, Hayden took us along for a fun ride through his young history. Hayden recently earned his private pilot's license with the help of EAA's Ray Scholarship program.

As a third generation pilot, flying is in his DNA. He began taxiing his grandfather's J-3 Cub at Grain Valley Airport in 2015. Over the next two years he logged some 14 hours but got serious in 2017 and soloed the next year with approximately 52 hours. At somewhere around 60 to 80 hours, Hayden applied for and won the EAA Ray Scholarship, so he was committed.

Now, the Cub's strong points are not speed or avionics, so Hayden sought a more modern airplane. Cross country flying would come much easier with contemporary equipment. And since all his time was in a tailwheel airplane, an interesting transition loomed. Thanks to Cessna 172 owner Donna Burrows, Hayden was able to move on.

Hayden's presentation took us through a history that included preparing for the written exam using Sporty's free ground school, compliments of the Young Eagles program. It culminated with his oral exam and checkride. The fun part of that story was that it was getting late and the checkride wasn't completed. Hayden and his father, Kyle, had flown to Sky Harbor Airport in Clinton, and if Hayden had not earned his ticket, Dad, who was not current for night flight, would have to fly them back. So depending on the outcome, it promised to be an interesting evening. But Hayden did pass, and he flew his proud father home.

Hayden has big plans for the future. A junior in high school, he's currently taking online classes with Embry Riddle. He wants to fly Young Eagles but must wait until he's 18. He thanked Ray Scholarship Coordinator Jim Brady and Chapter 91 for our help and encouragement. Congratulations, Hayden! We are always thrilled to see a Young Eagle take wing.

# JANUARY'S PROGRAM & GATHERING

We're planning our annual night out to Tim's Pizza ([www.timspizza.com](http://www.timspizza.com)) 17201 East 40 Highway in Independence) on Thursday, January 23 at 6:00 p.m. This event will be our gathering for January, so please don't get confused. Like last year, we will pre-order our pizza selections, so please request your favorites by calling Rob Schmitt, 816 309-0099 or Mike Dooley 816 956-1887. Please note that **Tim's does not accept credit cards, so bring cash!** Price: \$10 a head.

**PLEASE NOTE:** To reiterate, this evening at Tim's Pizza will replace our typical third Monday meeting, so **PLEASE do not come to the Larry Young Eagle Hangar. We will return to our normal monthly gathering schedule in February. CASH ONLY!**

## RAY SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE

We had a very successful year with the Ray Scholarship, especially since our applicant acquired a private pilot certificate. Chapter 91 has applied to be a scholarship chapter for 2020. We should be notified in February or March whether we will be accepted or not. If we are awarded a scholarship, we would like to have our potential candidate in place early. Therefore we are starting our application process now.

We would like to solicit candidates for the scholarship prior to being awarded a scholarship slot. Applicants should contact Griff Pickett, Mike Dooley, or me, Jim Brady, to obtain an application form.

The Ray Scholar applicant must meet the following criteria:

- Minimum age of 15 for glider training.
- Age 16-19 for powered flight training.
- Possess a student pilot certificate.
- Possess an FAA medical certificate - private pilot students.
- Able to begin flight training within 60 days of receiving the award.

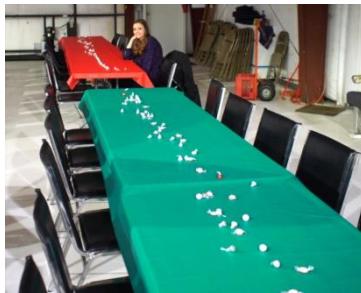
Applicants do not need to be a member of the chapter, however additional consideration will be given to candidates who are former Young Eagles; EAA student members and actively participating in the EAA Flight Plan, specifically the Sporty's Learn to Fly Course.

Please feel free to share this with potential applicants.

Jim Brady, Chapter 91 Ray Scholarship Coordinator  
[brady13381@aol.com](mailto:brady13381@aol.com)



# LAST MONTH'S CHILI DINNER



## THE CHILI CONTEST AND THE CHAMP



2020 Chili Champ, member Charlie Wayne ("Cowboy") Moore, takes Chapter 91's prestigious recognition for the second year in a row. The Royal Buddha award is proof.



## AND THE PRINT WINNER IS ....



Artist Phil Schmidt presents luck winner, Rob Schmitt, with the gorgeous print of the Thunderbird F-16. The raffle precedes will help the chapter achieve some important financial goals.





# ANOTHER RENEWAL REMINDER

The Chapter 91 fiscal year is over. That means your chapter membership has lapsed and needs to be renewed. There seems to be a bit of confusion about when this is supposed to happen, so maybe this explanation will help make a little more sense of it all.

To make things easier, you'll find a downloadable PDF file containing the 2020 membership application attached to the email message that brought you this newsletter. If you have not already done so, please open it, fill it out, and bring it with you to the next chapter gathering at Tim's Pizza on Thursday, January 23 (See Page 7). The PDF file can be opened in your computer so you can fill out the information using your keyboard. That will allow us to read the information more easily without having to try to discern what can sometimes be confusing handwriting. Not that your handwriting is bad, but mistakes are far fewer if the information is entered using print like this.

Now, back to the confusion. The chapter's year is the same as your calendar – January 1 through December 31. Some misunderstanding has probably come from the chapter's reluctance to be overly pushy about getting you to re-up by the first of January. Traditionally, we have granted a generous grace period which has undoubtedly contributed to the puzzlement. We still plan to allow some time to reapply before removing names from the old roster, but the sooner you can get the information back, the easier it will be for everyone. Records have to be updated, including the details used to update our mailing list. I know it doesn't seem like a big deal, but really, we all volunteer our time so we appreciate being able to complete needed tasks quickly rather than having to drag them out over several months. (I know – tears are rolling down your cheeks. But returning your new information quickly really would help.)

There have also been some complaints about having to fill out that application every year. I used to think it was silly, too. But having to keep track of some of that data has convinced me of its value. For example, we have to send our roster information to EAA and they check to be sure you're a valid member – which changes every year, too. When they find a conflict, it's just more work that could have been handled more easily by having a new application completed. (I know – sniffle, sniffle.)

But the bottom line is your membership needs to be updated for the new year, so if you could handle that early – rather than later – we would very much appreciate it. Since the new year encourages resolutions, how about making one that says you'll fill out the attached 2020 membership application today?

# 2020 IS A CHAPTER ELECTION YEAR

The bylaws of Chapter 91 stipulate the need for an election of officers and board members in even-numbered years. By relying on my three years in the fourth grade and counting specific digits on my left hand, it appears that this year, 2020, is an election year. That means two things: First, we need a nominating committee to help with the heavy lifting – finding and getting the agreement from qualified chapter members who would like to run for office. And second, a recap of what's involved.

If you would be willing to help serve on the nominating committee, please contact Mike Dooley or any officer or board member to volunteer. In return for your service, we promise that Santa will treat you with fairness and respect come next Christmas. (How can you beat that?)

As to the offices, there are four officers and four board members. The officers are president, vice president, secretary, and treasurer. So far, the current officers have indicated they are willing to serve another term, but any member in good standing may run for a specific office regardless. The duties of these officers is generally well known but if you ask, we will be happy to present further specifics. The current officers are Mike Dooley, president; Chris St. Germain, VP, Rob Schmitt, secretary, and Phil Ishmael, treasurer. Please note these are non-paid positions.

The board members back up and assist the officers with the day-to-day running of the chapter. They advise and consult with the officers to provide sage counsel. The board meets once per month for an hour or two. The current elected board members are Mark Burrow, Paul Rodriguez, Larry Rhoads, and Jim Brady. Larry Young, President Emeritus, serves in an honorary position and is totally irreplaceable, so don't even try. Like the officers, these board positions are, likewise, not paid.

If you would be interested in running for any office or board position, or would like to learn more about any position, please contact any of these people mentioned and discuss it with them. They will be more than happy to answer your questions.

The election will take place at the October chapter gathering, so we'll need to have our candidates prior to that. Serving the chapter is an honor, and we have many well qualified members whose contributions would be worthwhile. Please consider tossing your hat into the ring.

# **BUILD AND FLY PROGRAM IS READY TO GO**

EAA's Young Eagles' program has set the standard for introducing young people to aviation. Not many years ago, that was accomplished through building models – both plastic for static display and wooden for flying. With the technological advances in radio control equipment that surged in the mid- to late 70s, things got better and better. Now, R/C pilots could achieve lifelike control of their models and come one step closer to attaining the goal of human flight.

But that same technological advancement that boosted the radio equipment also served to provide kids with other, more diverse forms of entertainment. So while airplanes and flying were still very much of interest, they didn't hold the same attraction to the newer generations as they did ours. Fighting realistic war games on a high-definition screen has admittedly overpowered the more common and accepted interest of flight.

With that as the background, EAA's innovators decided to step up the ability for some young folks to catch the flying bug by partnering with the AMA (Academy of Model Aeronautics) to develop a program to do just that. This partnership, in turn, joined hands with Sig Manufacturing in Montezuma, Iowa, a well-known model airplane kit developer, and the result is the Young Eagles Build and Fly program. Chapter 91 is all in! Susan Calvin and John Ford, who are members of both Kansas City Radio Control Club (KCRC) and Chapter 91 have volunteered to head the program. With their participation, we have ordered and received the airplane kit, and everything needed to build and fly it, from Sig. Now, all we need is 6 to 10 interested kids and a few adults to make their dreams come true.

The program candidates (kids) should be at or very close to Young Eagle's ages since we hope to introduce them to want to try full scale flying. As for the adults, KCRC has some ready to go, and Chapter 91 needs a few more to fill out the cadre. Past experience building flyable model airplanes is, of course, very helpful, and your willingness to work with young people is mandatory. The building sessions will be at the Chapter 91 clubhouse, and the flight portion will occur at the KCRC model flying field at Lake Jacomo. Anyone interested in joining this group of volunteers is encouraged to contact Susan or John who will gladly share all the details with you. If you have not already done so, you will need to get a free background check through EAA since you will be working with kids.

This program is a very solid approach to stimulating interest in aviation, and we anticipate great results from it. Building sessions should start soon, so make those contacts as soon as possible. You'll have a ball!



## **ANNUAL BANQUET SPEAKER REVEALED**

The speaker for our annual banquet will be Louise “Lou” Eisenbrandt, RN. Lou was an army nurse in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. She served at the 91st Evacuation Hospital in Chu Lai and has authored several books recounting her experiences. As a legitimate war veteran, I’m sure Lou’s story will hit close to home for many of our members. But non-veterans will still find the evening well spent since this lady is the real thing and her story will be fascinating. The banquet will be February 15 with social hour at 6:00 p.m. and the catered dinners at 6:30 in the Larry Young Eagle Hangar at KLXT. The price will be \$20 each.

## **A PRO’S TAKE ON THE WAG AERO PROJECT**

As you probably know, the chapter was given a partially constructed Wag Aero project to do with as we saw fit. There are several options including having an interested builder complete the airplane. Originally, there were some concerns about the condition of the fuselage, but a recognized expert A&P IA commented on two things recently: First, it’s probably a Super Cub fuselage, and second, he thinks the condition is far better than we thought. So if you’re interested in taking this project and completing it, there’s your justification. Please contact an officer or board member if you’d like to discuss it further.

## **COMPOSITE WORKSHOP SCHEDULED**

John Rice and Mike Dooley have scheduled a hands-on workshop called “Composites 101.” It will be held at the Larry Young Eagle Hangar at KLXT on Saturday, January 25 beginning at 10:00 a.m. The workshop will provide basic instruction on working with epoxy resins and fillers, fiberglass cloth, Kevlar cloth, and carbon fiber cloth. In addition, attendees will get experience with foam core and learn how to make simple molds for small part fabrication. A modest donation of \$20 is requested to help cover the cost of materials and supplies. If you’d like to learn how to work with composites, please contact John at 816 927-9594 or Mike at 816 956-1887. Seating is limited so be sure to hold your place to avoid being over booked.

This is another in the increasing line of classes and workshops designed to help builders – or builder-hopefuls – become more comfortable working with the various construction materials and systems involved in building your own aircraft. Of special note is that these are local and presented by experienced builders, so what you learn is the real thing. If you would like information on other workshops or classes, please ask Mike or John. They’re the guys who make all this happen.

# Homebuilt Registrations Grew In 2019

Marc Cook



The Van's Aircraft RV-6 is the most numerous homebuilt on the current FAA registration rolls. (Image: Van's Aircraft)

With nearly 1200 experimental/amateur-built aircraft newly registered in 2019, the fleet has seen its largest growth in a decade. The 2019 figure is up from 888 the prior year, while last year 916 aircraft were removed or "de-registered," for a net gain of 270 registrations. All told, the FAA shows 26,842 aircraft registered as experimental/amateur-built; this figure does not include aircraft registered as light sport or where the type data field is blank.

Leaders by manufacturer include Van's Aircraft (249 newly registered in '19), Zenith Aircraft (65), CarbonCub (62), RANS (45), Kitfox (40), Sonex (31), Glasair Aviation Sportsman/older GlaStar (26) and Lancair (23). According to Ron Wanttaja's compilation, the most numerous single design is the Van's RV-6/A, with 1742 on the books, followed by the RV-7 (1285), and RV-8 (1252).

Overall, though, the number of registered homebuilts is lower today than in 2010, when there were almost 33,000 on the list, largely because the FAA began a mandatory registration renewal process in 2010; prior to this, many non-flying aircraft were still shown as registered. In 2013, the first year this policy change would affect the data, some 5000 homebuilts were removed from the rolls.

The data was compiled by [KITPLANES](#) contributor Ron Wanttaja and posted to an [EAA forum page](#).

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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
EAA CHAPTER 91  
January 12, 2020



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