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**Special points of interest:**

- Our next gathering will be Monday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.
- Young Eagles Rally & breakfast Saturday, May 19.
- IMC / VMC Clubs meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each moth at 7:00 p.m.
- Tell Chris St. Germain of any interested groups for Young Eagles. You can fly individuals also.
- We're always looking for good ideas for programs. Please contact Larry Young with your information.



## SUCCEEDING

**Why do people love to fly? Maybe it's the view of seeing the toy-like towns, cars, and people below. Or maybe it has something to do with conquering a fear – doing something they've never done before. This is Lena Nachtmann and she's totally blind. So how come Lena came to fly with us? Because she's learning to face life on her own terms. She and her sister are two of the luckiest kids in the world. Learn why in the article on Page 6 of this issue. Like me, you'll be impressed.**

President: **Mike Dooley**  
 President Emeritus: **Larry Young**  
 Vice President and Young Eagles Coordinator: **Chris St. Germain**  
 Secretary: **Pam Ratliff**  
 Treasurer: **Phil Ishmael**  
 Board: **Mark Burrow (and tech advisor), Bob Gurski, Paul Rodriguez, Wayne Moore**  
 Tech counselor & resident DAR: **Dave Jobe**  
 Program Chairman: **Larry Young**  
 Maintenance: **Mike Nault**  
 Newsletter: **Bruce Hood**  
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**EAA Chapter 91, Lee's Summit Municipal Airport (KLXT)**  
**Lee's Summit, Missouri**

# President's Corner

EAA Chapter 91 president, Mike Dooley

Our first pancake breakfast of the year was a great success, with nearly 200 attendees and 74 Young Eagles taking to the air, many for the first time. We also experimented a bit by adding some new menu items including fresh fruit, yogurt, and biscuits and gravy. Only the early birds were able to sample the biscuits and gravy since they sold out in 45 minutes. So we plan to make a bigger batch for our May 19 breakfast. Thanks again to our volunteers for making it all come together!

We also have some great presentations and workshops planned for this year, but are always looking for fresh ideas. Let us know what you'd like to see or do.

We're eagerly looking forward to hosting EAA's 1929 Ford Tri-Motor May 331 through June 3. I encourage all of you to volunteer with us at this special event, even if your time is limited. The Tri-Motor is a special aircraft and you'll have a great time working with her crew and support team. Sign up at our next gathering on May 21, or contact Wayne Moore at 816 582-9663, or me at 816 956-1887.

As mentioned last month, we will also host an evening with the Tri-Motor on Saturday, June 2 so please mark your calendars for this special event at the Eagle Hangar beginning at 5:30 p.m. with a hamburger and brat cookout followed by a presentation by the Tri-Motor crew at 6. The cookout and presentation will be open to the public, so please make reservations by signing up at our website, [eaachapter91.org](http://eaachapter91.org), and clicking on the contact link to send me an email.

Chapter camping at AirVenture 2018 is rapidly filling up. Space is limited so be sure to sign up when we pass the clipboard May 21.

See you at the Eagle Hangar!



**EAA CHAPTER 91**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING**  
**April 16, 2018**

The meeting of EAA Chapter 91 was called to order by President Mike Dooley at 7:00 P.M. in the chapter meeting room at Lee's Summit Airport. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Rob Schmitt. Greetings were extended to members and guests. Guests were asked to introduce themselves.

The minutes of the March 19, 2018 meeting were approved as printed in the April newsletter. Treasurer Phil Ishmael presented a first quarter financial report.

A VMC Club meeting was scheduled May 14. The EAA's Ford Tri-Motor would be hosted by the chapter May 31 to June 4. The tour-stop coordinator was Wayne Moore with Phil Ishmael marketing coordinator. Volunteers were needed and a sign-up sheet was available.

Young Eagle Coordinator Chris St. Germain said the first pancake breakfast and Young Eagles event was scheduled April 21. As of the date of the meeting, the forecast was not promising. Chris expected youth and adults with the Wright Flight group as well as a Cub scout group. He encouraged members to sign up to help either with the breakfast or Young Eagles. Hangar setup for April 21 was scheduled Friday afternoon, April 20, with a pot luck/cookout that evening beginning 5 P.M.

Mike Dooley passed a sign-up sheet for anyone interested in camping in the Chapter 91 area during AirVenture. Payment was due June 18. The next chapter meeting would be May 21. Lee's Summit Airport would host an open house June 23 at Hangar One. Volunteers would be needed.

Chapter member Chris Hope was interested in possibly establishing a "Tiny Library." Anyone interested in helping with such a project should get in touch with him.

The next board meeting was scheduled May 7. Another Young Eagles rally and pancake breakfast would be May 19. David Heiman had an RV7 for sale, John Ziefle still had his MIG welder for sale, and Larry Young said his RV-9A was for sale. Bob Gurski volunteered to get the meeting room ready before the May 21 meeting. Dennis Davis was seeking a roommate at the dorm during AirVenture. Anyone with questions about attending or volunteering at AirVenture could check with Mike.

Larry Young, as program chairman, introduced the evening speaker, Ed Gabriel, who presented a video on "The Fighter Pilot."

The meeting adjourned, 8:55 P.M.

## **APRIL'S PROGRAM – FIGHTER PILOT**



Occasionally a video serves as our monthly program. They're usually okay, but it's not often one of them gets applause at the end. However, Ed Gabriel's I-Max video presentation, "Fighter Pilot" did. It was one of the best we've seen and worked beautifully for April's presentation. The short production featured a visual excursion into Operation Red Flag, the international, two-week long military exercise where fighting forces from 123 countries train for air combat. Based on the tenant that surviving the first ten missions greatly increases the odds of success, Red Flag effectively delivers those first ten missions.

The opening narration featured a young navy pilot's inspiration from his grandfather, a WW-II F-4U Corsair pilot, then continued through Red Flag's opening days at Nellis Air Force Base on the northeast edge of Las Vegas, where the exercises take place. Sophisticated electronics permit meaningful combat simulations without the resultant bloodshed. There are not winners or losers – it's not a competition; just training. F-14s, F-15s, and F-16s A-10s, Harriers, Viggens, Tornados and more came from all over the world. And it included air-to-air refueling, SAM simulations, ground crew operations permitted air combat teams to mimic crucial exercises to prepare for the real thing. It's the best way to gain combat experience without actually being at risk, and we were there.

The program was riveting and chapter members were spellbound by what unfolded on the screen. It was a night well spent, and one we will remember for a long time. Our thanks once again to Ed Gabriel for bringing us such worthwhile education and entertainment.

## **WHAT'S COMING FOR MAY'S PROGRAM**

Ever hear of Tony Monetti? If not, you need to. Tony heads UCM's aviation program, is a graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, and has flown B-52s, B-1s, B-2s and just about everything in between. Tony surprised us with a brief but powerful talk a few months ago, and if you didn't get to meet him then, now's your chance. We guarantee he'll hold your attention! Join us at the Larry Young Eagle Hangar Monday, May 19 at 7:00 p.m. for our next exciting gathering and program.



# SOME OF APRIL'S YOUNG EAGLES



## WRIGHT FLIGHT KIDS



Each year, kids from the Hardin-Central C-2 School District participate in the Wright Flight program, where they learn about aviation. The program, ably headed by Claudia Spooner, focuses on the inner workings of aviation in general and seems to be popular with the student body. Those who complete the program successfully earn airplane rides, and Chapter 91 proudly provides them. But successful completion isn't as easy as just passing a test. Students also have to stay off drugs, avoid disciplinary problems, and abide by other strict guidelines. It's a big deal! Graduates joined us in April and included 6th grader Drew Hawkins and 5th grader Kalel Bowman, who won the Top Gun awards for the group. Congratulation so all these Wright Flight youngsters. We look forward to the next class in 2019. Photo courtesy of Hannah Hamm

# FLYING BLIND



At May's Young Eagles rally, we flew our first blind child. But the story doesn't stop there. Believe me, a couple of very lucky young orphans from Ukraine were adopted by the right American parents, and you're going to meet all of them right here.

Amanda and Chet Nachtmann of Hardin, MO, wanted to adopt, and when they saw Vika (pronounced Vicka) on a video, knew she was the one. But right behind her was Lena, singing up a storm, unknowingly auditioning for her most important audience. Chet and Amanda decided they had to have both girls. Chet works for the Job Corps training center in Excelsior Springs and Amanda, a skilled Brailleist with the local school district, saw no problem with blind children. So in early 2013, after excruciating dealings with international bureaucracy, the couple traveled to Ukraine and returned with Lena, now 13 and Vika, now 12. The girls were not related biologically but both lived in an orphanage where special needs children were sent.

Lena and Vika had no schooling and spoke little English, so integrating them into an American family had its challenges. In the orphanage, one or both of the girls spent time in straightjackets, been drugged, suffered from PTSD and showed varying degrees of autism.

But under the strong and loving care of Amanda and Chet, the girls are thriving and learning to stand on their own two feet. They have to get themselves up in the morning, dress, and prepare for school. Lena especially has become very independent. The girls are being raised to be self-sufficient, preparing to face life head-on and to live on their own.

Lena was our Young Eagle for the day, and we hope Vika will decide to follow in her footsteps. But it's these kinds of activities, encouraged by two determined and loving parents, that will make Lena and Vika productive members of American society, and their Young Eagles experience will be a nurturing part of their future lives. We hope they will come see us again soon.

# WOMEN NOT IN SPACE

Recently an article in the *Wall Street Journal* caught my attention. A picture's caption showed a familiar name, plus a Cessna 180 sat in the background, so obviously it required further reading. Here's what's described.

Beginning in the late 1950s, NASA developed the Mercury Project which focused on putting humans in space. Seven men were selected to participate and became known as the Mercury 7. You may remember names like John Glenn, Alan Shepard, Gus Grissom, and Scott Carpenter as being involved with that program.

What we didn't know was that women were also being considered. There were thirteen ultimately selected, and became known as the Mercury 13, which is also the title of the Netflix documentary.

Extensive physical, psychological and emotional testing proved, in some areas, women were better suited to the rigors of space flight than men. So it was logical to pursue the subject. Eventually that part of the program was scuttled on quasi-political grounds (I'm trying to be delicate here) that effectively removed the women from participation.

What makes this topic interesting to Chapter 91 members is that one of us, Sarah Ratley, was among that group of thirteen women. Sarah's story is featured prominently in the Netflix program.

I will not review the show here, but I will tell you I have watched it and would strongly encourage you to do the same. It is well worth your time. Masterfully shot, extremely interesting, and refreshingly objective are just a few of the descriptive phrases that best describe the documentary. But I'm not a movie critic so you'll just have to judge for yourself.

After watching the program, I'm most impressed with the ladies and how they handled such extreme disappointment. They were all made of pretty stern stuff, and I can only wish they had been allowed to move forward in that program.

Of course, women have since flown in space, but the originals should have been given that chance. They earned it. My respect for Sarah and what she did has grown substantially. After you watch *Mercury 13*, introduce yourself and visit with Sarah at one of our upcoming chapter meetings. She's frequently there.





Our next meeting of the IMC Club will be Monday, May 14th at 7:00 p.m.

We had an IMC meeting last month, so this should be a VMC meeting. But it is not.

So, Instrument Pilots, what is a VOCA? Do you have one? Do you need one? Come chat with us and share experiences.

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.)



## **EAA PUSHES FLYING CLUBS**

In the current (May 2018) issue of *Sport Aviation*, EAA CEO and Chairman Jack Pelton promoted a formerly verboten position of chapter support for flying clubs. Jack's article explains it well and if you haven't already, please go read it. With the high costs of access to airplanes, a flying club offers another alternative to help bring hopeful pilots closer to their dreams. Pelton cautions that these flying clubs must not be a part of the chapter itself, but can be established in ways that can help promote EAA's building and restoration philosophies and build chapter awareness and even membership. This is a topic open for discussion at our upcoming chapter gathering, Monday, May 21, so join us to learn more.

## **TRI-STAR EXPERIENCE**

Not long ago, Chapter 91 had a speaker from the TriStar Experience, a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Math) program that uses a refurbished Lockheed L-1011 TriStar for its classroom. Chapter 91 Young Eagles Coordinator Chris St. Germain was approached recently by the group for assistance in creating a Young Eagles-like event for select participants. Chris is looking for up to five 4-place airplanes and pilots to help. The program will be a bit different from ours in that the kids will have a parent/advisor flying with them in the back seat. This event will take place over 2 and one half days, the 21 through 23 of June at Downtown Airport (KMKC). Chris will provide more information at our gathering, Monday, May 21, so if you're interested, please join us. He will be glad to answer your questions.

## **KLXT OPEN HOUSE**

With summer and great flying weather, also comes the annual open house at Lee's Summit Airport. Again this year the event will not interfere with a Young Eagles day, so we can relax and enjoy the event. Well, sort of. As you might imagine, Chapter 91 members have been asked to participate, and Mike will explain the how's, whys, when's, where's and how-comes at our next chapter gathering, Monday, May 21 starting at 7:00 p.m. These open houses are fun and have proven successful introducing several interested prospects to EAA and our chapter. To learn more, plan to join us on May 21.

## **THE TRI-MOTOR IS COMING**

Just in case you were under a rock for the last few months, please note that EAA's Ford Tri-Motor is coming to KLXT May 31 through June 3. Volunteers will earn extra brownie points and Attaboys, so please consider participating. Learn more at our next chapter gathering, Monday, May 21 at 7:00 p.m.

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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
EAA CHAPTER 91  
May 13, 2018



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