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**Special points of interest:**

Our next gathering will be in person only, Saturday, February 18 at 6:00 p.m. IMC/VMC Clubs meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Young Eagles Rallies and pancake breakfasts are closed for the season. We're always looking for good ideas for programs. Please contact Larry Young with your information.



**FIRST PUBLIC DUTIES**

**Rob Schmitt, Chapter 91's newest president, made his preliminary public appearance at our January gathering, "Tim's Pizza Night." While he stands in the footsteps of giants, Rob did himself proud as he adroitly conducted the meeting and professionally officiated the details of our monthly gathering. Last November members unanimously elected Rob to replace Mike Dooley, who had served for six years. We are delighted and most fortunate to have Rob shoulder this important role.**

President: **Rob Schmitt**  
 President Emeritus: **Larry Young**  
 Vice President and Young Eagles Coordinator: **Chris St. Germain**  
 Secretary: **Becca Danik**  
 Treasurer: **Sandy Rice**  
 Board: **Jim Brady, Paul Rodriguez, Larry Rhoads, Phil Ishmael**  
 Tech Counselors: **Bill Gill, Mark Burrow, & John Rice.**  
 Flight Advisor: **Bill Gill**  
 Program Chairman: **Larry Young**  
 Maintenance: **Tom Licata**  
 Newsletter: **Bruce Hood**  
 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 Rob Schmitt

There is quite a bit going on in our EAA chapter even though it is winter. The new officers in the chapter are getting oriented and doing our best to learn our new roles. Tim's Pizza night was a huge success; much thanks to Phil Schmidt for showing off his airplane and his methods of vinyl wrapping! Our next major event is the banquet on Saturday, February 18th at 6 pm. Hopefully everyone has RSVP'd by now, but if you haven't please do so immediately. We will be setting up the hangar for the banquet at 1 pm on Saturday before the banquet -- if you can stop by and help set up, please do.

Hangar repairs have been in progress. Tom Licatta and several other members were able to replace five hangar-door cables. More cables are on order.

Big news! We have successfully set up a PayPal account that can be used online by our tech-savvy members to pay dues. That link is on the Chapter 91 website at <https://eaachapter91.org/> It is just a simple link right now -- we can only use it for dues -- but more revisions are planned to the website to make even more financial transactions available in the future.

During the chapter board meeting discussion of setting up PayPal, we decided it is probably time for an increase in our yearly member dues. I'm pretty sure it hasn't changed for a couple of decades. For the rest of this year, it will remain at \$24 per year. For use of the PayPal system we will be asking for \$26. In 2024 we will be increasing the member dues to \$36 per year. We will still prorate new members who join us during the year at \$2 per month for 2023 and \$3 per month for 2024. You can still always pay your dues by check or cash -- no problem. If you haven't had a chance to pay your membership dues for 2023, please do so as soon as possible. Finally -- How about those Chiefs! Great to see them make it to another Superbowl appearance.

Upcoming Chapter 91 highlights include:

- The VMC Club meeting is on February 13<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.
- Our Annual Banquet will be held on Saturday, February 18 at 6 pm. The meal will be catered by Nadler's Catering. Cost will be \$20 per person. Our guest speaker will be Terry Collins, who will talk about WWI Aviation History. If you have not already signed up, please RSVP to either me at [robert7721@aol.com](mailto:robert7721@aol.com) (816 309-0099) or Becca Danik at 724 316-9694 [danik.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu](mailto:danik.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu)
- Next board meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- March IMC/VMC Meeting March 13<sup>th</sup>.
- March gathering March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Go Chiefs!



# **EAA CHAPTER 91 GATHERING**

## **MINUTES**

**January 16, 2023**

NOTE: Meeting conducted face-to-face.

I. Call meeting to order at 7:04 PM (roll call)

II. Pizza.

a. Prayer before meal led by Rob.

b. Please pay at table set up (secretary). Please sign up for the banquet as well.

c. Meal

III. Announcements (after meal)

a. Welcome to all new officers!

IV. Old Business

Due to the increased potential of thefts at the airport, the purchase and placement of a camera system was recently discussed. Along with this, the chapter made use of its Young Eagles funds to send Stephen Owen to the Air Academy! The remainder of the money will go to upgrading the chapter's simulators along with purchasing a new printer for the Young Eagles program. We are slowly making way on hanger repairs and new tarp drains were added in the southwest corner of Hanger L. More improvements on the way this spring. The Eagle Hanger still has some donations that need to be cleared out and taken care of. The chapter is working on setting up a PayPal system such that members will be able to make payments and donations virtually. The chapter also has a Square card reader to process credit card payments. The Missouri Pilots Association spoke about an event coming up on Thursday, Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 2023 where Terry White was going to present regarding the aircraft salvage business

V. Calendar:

a. Next board meeting is Monday Feb 6<sup>th</sup> 7 pm.

b. IMC/VMC Club: Monday, Feb 13<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. In-person only.

c. Chapter banquet. Feb 18<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Catered by Nadlers. Cost \$20/person. Send reservations to Rob or Becca.

VI. Presentation – Phil Schmidt. Vinyl wrapped aircraft.

VII. Adjournment



Our next meeting of the IMC Club will be Monday, February 13th at 7:00 p.m. Central Standard Time.

So who owns the runway? All of us who have flown for a while are faced with this question when flying into untowered airports. But what happens when you are in the weather, and you need to ask the question?

Several months ago, we discussed this from a VFR pilot's point of view. This month, we are going to look at the question from point of view of an IFR pilot.

Come join us on a cold February night and share your suggestions.

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. IMC membership is free to EAA members and guests. Not an EAA member? Ask me about a free six-month EAA membership.

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

## **BANQUET SETUP HELP NEEDED**

Our annual banquet will be held on Saturday evening, February 18 starting at 6 p.m. Its venue will be the Larry Young Eagle Hangar at KLXT which means we'll need to move some airplanes out and set up tables and chairs. Rob will be on-site at 1 p.m. that day, and if you can help, he would greatly appreciate your assistance. If you can help, contact Rob at [robert7721@aol.com](mailto:robert7721@aol.com) or 816 309-0099. However, if you just showed up at the appropriate time, that would be great, too.



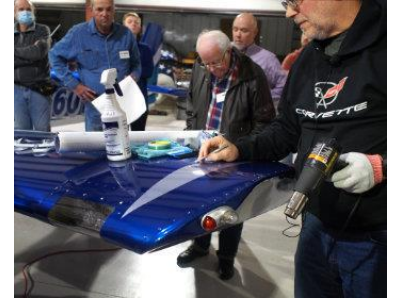
# TIM'S PIZZA NIGHT



It's really interesting: Announce you'll be serving some of the area's best pizza, schedule it on a monthly gathering night, recruit a great program and speaker, and stand back to avoid the rush. Our Tim's Pizza Night has become more popular each year, and 2023 was no exception. Chapter members and their spouses and families turned out in droves to enjoy the evening as the pictures above prove.

Tim's Pizza Company would love to have us come to their brick-and-mortar location, and once the workforce situation improves, we may return to that venue. But for now, Chapter 91 is finding holding this event at our own clubhouse seems to working just fine. If you missed it this year, start planning now for next. It appears to have a permanent place on our January calendar.

# LAST MONTH'S PROGRAM



Phil Schmid's new Zenith 601 isn't painted – it's wrapped in vinyl. The wrap materials and tools cost significantly less than a professional paint job, so he immediately had everyone's attention. Investing fewer than \$2,000 is a far cry from what a professional paint job would cost. But how all it came about and what he did to create the beautiful graphics was well worth hearing.

This gorgeous overnight success took only eighteen years to complete, thanks to several relocations, some of which lacked adequate building space. Of course, during the build process, Phil and his wife, Lynn, put a lot of thought into how the finished airplane would look. Being an artist, he created his own design and color combinations which included Lynn's favorite color, teal.

The couple did lots of research and found great help from contributors from YouTube and other online resources. During that time they discovered that Jeff Schulz's son had used a vinyl wrap on his new Sonex, so consultations ensued and the ultimate plan began to take shape. Phil said it was quite a learning experience including how nearly all of the absolutely mandatory tools and devices required for successful completion were not absolutely mandatory after all. In fact, almost none were ever used. But that's what makes it a learning experience. He advised which tools and vinyl brands worked best, and which would help manage costs.

But vinyl isn't paint, so new points needed to be considered. Like how to prevent high airflow from peeling the vinyl away. Paint doesn't have that problem, but it underscored the need to start at the back, work one area at a time, and move forward. It's a meticulous process: each of the wheel pants took some three hours to complete. Using that artist's eye, Phil designed a flowing, multi-color scheme that required special cutting tape to make those curves possible. That was the crux of Phil's demonstration, and it was fascinating.

If you are building or considering building your own aircraft, vinyl wrapping should be considered for your project. Phil offered to help where he could, and would even create a design for a reasonable price. Better give it some thought.

# THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM



This month's annual banquet will undoubtedly serve as the most enjoyable gathering of the year. It's a time for Chapter 91 members and their spouses and/or family members to get together for a nice catered meal, awards program, and a highly interesting program. This year's event will kick off at 6 p.m. on Saturday, February 18 at the Larry Young Eagle Hangar, strategically placed

on the Lee's Summit Municipal Airport right behind the elevated Cessna 150 that has become the default symbol for the chapter. Since it is a catered event, you will want to contact either Rob Schmitt, 816 309-0099, [robert7721@aol.com](mailto:robert7721@aol.com) or Becca Danik, 724 316-9694, [danik.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu](mailto:danik.4@buckeyemail.osu.edu) to guarantee your reservations. Those will have to be cut off on Monday, February 13 in order for the caterers to secure the proper components.

The program will be a continuation of a presentation from our April, 2022 gathering explaining WW-I aviation. Our speaker, Terry Collins, is a retired engineer with a lifelong interest in the evolution and tactics of the aircraft from the Great War era. As such, Terry has developed an exceptional expertise and is a featured volunteer at Kansas City's WW-I museum. The last time Terry was with us, he provided a deep insight into a number of the airplanes used in that war and even displayed them in exact scale proportions using special models mounted on extended stands to illustrate their altitude ceilings. At the completion of that presentation we asked, and he agreed to return sometime in the future to tell us even more. That time has come and we are looking forward to hearing the rest of the story. Even if you missed that initial talk, you will still gain a great deal from hearing Terry's outstanding presentation.

This banquet is shaping up to be another successful evening, and we certainly hope you have made your advanced reservations. Remember, even though it's on a Saturday, it will serve as our February meeting so we will not congregate on the usual third Monday of the month. This is the one exception to our regular schedule.

Dinner and dessert are always great, thanks to the talented folks at Nadler's Catering, and the social time preceding the event helps establish the genial atmosphere. You may BYOB, of course, and if you have not yet paid the very reasonable \$20 each dinner tab, we promise to have our trusted money takers at the door to make that happen. Cash, check, or a swipe of your credit card to our Square account will handle that with ease. We're looking forward to seeing you!

# NOW YOU CAN PAY DUES BY PAYPAL


Chapter 91 can now accept dues payments using PayPal. This will make that annual transaction easier and more convenient. Since fewer checks are used and postage costs have skyrocketed, we hope that this option will make your dues-paying with the chapter simpler. Not long ago we created a merchant account that has proven valuable for our Young Eagles breakfasts, but the credit card must be swiped. That means you need to be present to use it. What was lacking was the ability for members to pay their dues other than in person or through the mail. Our PayPal account will correct that.

You will find the payment buttons on our website, [eachapter91.org](http://eachapter91.org). Scroll down about 2/3 of the page and you'll see this:

## PayPal Member Dues

Member Dues \$26

**PayPal**

 Debit or Credit Card

Powered by **PayPal**

## How To Join EAA Chapter 91

Just click on the blue PayPal button and you'll be guided through the easy and probably recognizable steps to complete your transaction. Yes, you will need a PayPal account, but that can be established as a one-time-only event when you use the above app. It's super easy, and there are no extra charges to set up your account. Of course, if you already have one, you're good. Or, if you prefer, use your credit or debit card on the second button.

As you probably know, the chapter pays a fee for each transaction, so we have adjusted our dues structure to accommodate. Our \$24 annual dues have been around since dinosaurs roamed the Earth, so it just makes sense to bring them into the modern age. Here's the deal: For the rest of 2023, your dues will be \$26 if pay via PayPal, but only \$24 by check or cash. So there is a neat little discount if you have not yet paid your dues. Of course if you already have paid, you're completely off the hook; just file this information away for next year's dues.

We want to update your financial resources even further, but costs must be considered. Ultimately, we will accept credit and debit cards for other transactions, but for now, it's just dues. In the meantime, feel free to access our new capability. Yes, we still accept cash and checks, but now you have a choice.



# **YOUNG EAGLES ADJUSTED FOR JULY**

July is AirVenture month. The sirens of Oshkosh beckon a number of Chapter 91's renowned volunteers who will exit the area and travel to Wisconsin right about the time a flock of Young Eagles descends on KLXT. While we will certainly host the youngsters with those exciting and inspirational airplane flights, we will not be feeding them our typical pancake breakfast.

You see, a significant number of Chapter 91 members who volunteer at AirVenture serve on the production end of that breakfast, so their absence will create a major void in our efforts. Consequently, breakfast will not be served. So please make a note that while we will hold Young Eagles' flights in July, we will not serve breakfast. We wanted to start that notification early because old habits die hard. We will see you on July 15, but you'll want to find breakfast somewhere else.

## **AUGUST YOUNG EAGLES AND THE KC AIRSHOW**

The Kansas City Air Show is coming back to New Century Airport, August 19 and 20. This is the one airshow all the performers really like to attend, so it's very special. The featured act will be the Navy's Blue Angels precision demonstration team, and you can see it all for free -- up close and personal --by volunteering to help Chapter 91 at the show. But details will follow.

Unfortunately, the Saturday, August 19, conflicts with our normal Young Eagles schedule, so rather than confusing everyone, we've decided just to bite the bullet and skip it for August. That will allow more chapter members to participate in the air show.

As in past years, we expect to provide the smoke-oil team as well as a number of helpers for the show's various concessions. This event earns the chapter a very nice commission each year, so your participation would certainly be very much appreciated. Plus, you will get to see one the country's premier airshow performances for free! Can you say, "Blue Angels"?

We'll be providing more information later in the year, but we wanted to advise everyone of the August Young Eagles cancellation. Please note your calendar accordingly.

## **DO YOU NEED A GOOD WORKBENCH?**

Could you use a good workbench? We have one at the Larry Young Eagle Hangar. Stout, sturdy and looking for a good home, this workbench has been in our custody for a while but it's time to let it go. If you could use it or would like to find out more, call or text Rob Schmitt at 816 309-0099, or by email at robert7721@aol.com. The price is certainly right. You might ask Rob what else we're willing to part with. For example, there's a gently used Dragon Heater which runs on kerosene or jet fuel. That'll keep you toasty. Ask for details or check things out for yourself at the banquet, Saturday, February 18 at 6 p.m.

## **CHAPTER DUES ARE CHANGING**

Over the years, Chapter 91's board of directors has kicked around the idea of increasing our annual dues. While it was mentioned on many occasions, nothing ever happened. Our financial status has always been (and still is) very solid, so no action was taken. Our \$24 dues, which you have to admit is more than reasonable, have been around for a long time. But now that we are accepting PayPal and other fee-based methods of payment (see Page 8) for our dues, plus the explosive increase in inflation, the need to increase them became clear.

So here is the schedule. For the rest of 2023, the dues will remain at \$24 if paid by check, money order, or cash. If payment is by PayPal, debit card, or credit card, the rate is now \$26. If you have already paid your 2023 dues, this will not affect you one bit. But if you have not yet paid them, it does.

The big change will take place for 2024 when our dues will increase to \$36 per year. While nobody enjoys raising rates, we hope you'll recognize the necessity to do so. Frankly, it shows solid fiscal responsibility, which you should expect and demand from this organization. If you have any questions, feel free to ask any officer or board member. They will be glad to address your inquiries.

## **NO FEBRUARY SOCIAL**

Because of the timing for our annual banquet, which will be on Saturday, February 18 starting at 6 p.m., we will not be holding our regular monthly social potluck dinner for the month of February. Yes, we hear the sad sighs, but really, we're trying to help with that expanding waistline issue. We don't want to contribute to the problem. While the social is on hiatus for the month, you can expect it to return in March, so your withdrawal symptoms should recede very quickly. We'll see you at the banquet.

# **RAY SCHOLARSHIP PAYOUT INCREASED**

The cost to earn a pilot's license is already so high that fewer aspiring candidates will be able to make the leap. Thanks to some forward-thinking benefactors such as those from the Ray Scholarship, a few lucky hopefuls have improved their odds of reaching the dream.

When inflation rears its nasty head, squeezing more from what's available can be tricky. But the Ray Scholarship people recognized the need for increased funds, and have announced that the next scholarship awards will be for a maximum of \$11,000, up from the earlier \$10,000 – a solid 10% increase.

That kind of foresight and concern is impressive, and while unexpected, will certainly be appreciated by the applicants. Being more able to afford the high costs of flight instruction means a greater number of seekers will win. Clearly that is good for GA and every other aspect of aviation.

As you probably know, Chapter 91 is bidding to host another Ray Scholar this year, and we expect to be appointed very soon. That, of course, means we will begin the selection process for choosing our next candidate very soon. If you know of a young person sixteen to nineteen (fifteen for a glider rating) who dreams of flying, please contact Jim Brady, Griff Pickett, or any officer or board member. We want to help another budding flyer win that prize.

## **HEDRICK SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN**

Chapter 91, using seed funds provided from the estate of the late Phil Hedrick, created the eponymous scholarship which is available to any aviator or pilot candidate regardless of age. While it's qualifications are less restrictive than the Ray Scholarship, it's also for a much smaller amount – \$1,500. But successful candidates can use the money for almost any aviation-related purpose, like helping pay for another rating. Or even to help to get the initial license.

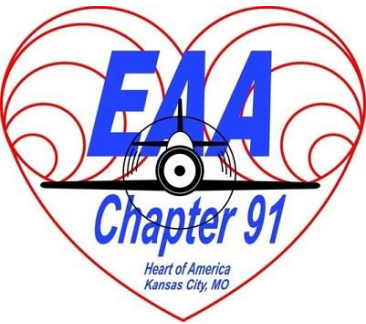
With the Hedrick Scholarship's success in the recent past, the board has authorized the opening of our first scholarships for 2023. Since it is chapter-related and funded, we would love to award the funds to a chapter member or someone with ties to the chapter. But we are flexible and would consider any legitimate proposal.

If you would be interested in putting your hat in the ring, or if you know of someone who would be interested, please contact Rob Schmitt or any officer or board member. Details of this year's procedures and timelines will be presented at the annual banquet, Saturday, February 18. We hope you've made your reservations because this is the time to learn the details. Good luck!

2750 NE Douglas St.  
Lee's Summit, MO  
64064



THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
EAA CHAPTER 91  
February 12, 2023



**TIM'S PIZZA**  
In The Country Meadow's Center  
17201 E. 40 Highway  
Independence, MO  
**816-478-0777**  
Dine In or Carry Out

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