

# EAA CHAPTER 66



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## KFMY-Page Field Fort Myers, FL Nov Newsletter

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EAA 66 Presidents Message

By: David Burns      November/December, 2020

Cool weather is here and hopefully our last Hurricane! We see our northern friends are returning to the south for the winter. It is great to see the faces of our friends and to get reacquainted and start talking about flying and other activities.

As the summer flying season comes to a close we are still in the grips of a national pandemic with COVID. By now we hear about someone who has had it, someone who has lost a friend or relative and we all feel for those who have been stricken by this terrible disease. We encourage everyone to follow the expert's advice and protect your selves and those around you. Wash your hands and wear a mask in crowds.

On October 3<sup>rd</sup> we have a small number of people present and cleaned up around the chapter house. The shed was emptied out and many items of no value were discarded and we organized much of the remainder. Thanks to everyone who helped! The outside of the building has been cleaned, and we fight the battle of the fireants. Steve Gagnon has purchased some ant bait/poison that appears to be very effective. Those little devils are terrible and leave welts that last for days. If you see a mound let us know where it is, the battle continues! The good news is it only takes a little, which when spread over the mound is taken in and in a short while destroys the colony. These ants are vicious and I have the scars to prove it.

Steve also worked on the lighting and our perimeter lights no longer flicker! Great Job Steve!

Ray continues to hold builders night on Thursday and we have had new young eagles join in and we encourage our experienced builders to help mentor this young interest in aviation. More builders are encouraged as we continue with our projects.

### **November**

General Meeting will be held on November 17<sup>th</sup>. With the increase of COVID in our area I ask that you please wear a mask (not required) to protect those around you. If you feel sick, please do not come.

### **December**

We are planning a Sunday Breakfast on December 6<sup>th</sup>. December 5<sup>th</sup> will be a cleanup and set up the chapter house in preparation for the breakfast. We do need volunteers! Starts at 9:00 AM and takes about an hour.

We look forward to returning to the new normal and start resuming our regular activities.

David Burns

# MY JOURNEY TO FLIGHT

## Autumn Pepper Rhodes Vol.1.1

When I was younger, I was a girly-girl. I liked playing with My Little Pony and dressing up like the Disney Princesses. Around the age of 8, these interests slowly faded. The gifted program introduced more interesting topics like engineering and science, and it was great exploring these new avenues.

Around this time, I developed an interest in owls. I thought they were so majestic, and I envied their ability to fly. That concept of flight was so interesting to me. I started collecting owl pictures, figurines, bags, and shirts – all with different types of owls. It was quite the obsession.

I wanted to be able to fly just like the creatures I adored so much. The only way to soar like an owl was to learn to fly and decided I wanted to become a pilot. The fact I had never been in any type of plane was not a deterrent. I was determined to one day be a pilot.

My mom had always wanted to go to Space Camp when she was younger, but her parents said no. She happened to be on their website one day and noticed a program called Aviation Challenge. Aviation Challenge is a branch of Space Camp in which you have the opportunity to study flight and experience an exciting week full of aviation and militaristic-style activities. All safe and kid appropriate, of course. Learning about flight and simulators and taking my first trip to Alabama sounded awesome. It was an expensive week though, plus the travel and out of our price range.

On the Aviation Challenge website, we saw a link for scholarship opportunities. I applied for the leadership scholarship and had to create a patch, write an essay and complete a science experiment. It was fun and challenging. A few months later, to my happy surprise, I was selected to receive a leadership scholarship to the Aviation Challenge. That summer I was off to Huntsville, Alabama, for one of the most memorable weeks of my life.

There were only two girls on our team. I was the only one on my team who knew how to make an emergency shelter in the wild, fold hospital corners for our rack in the barracks, and won the “build a glider”



Right Stuff and

competition. My call sign was Salsa and after you spend a little time with me, you would probably figure out why. My counselors were so inclusive and made sure that everyone felt comfortable. At the end of the week, Team Lightning won the Admiral's Cup for Mach I. To make the week even more memorable, I also won the coveted Right Stuff award for Mach I. I left Huntsville wanting to fly a real fighter jet.

Learning to fly became my new focus. Yes, I was only ten years old. My friends thought I was crazy. Three months after returning from Aviation Challenge, we found a local EAA chapter. My mom contacted their Young Eagle Coordinator to arrange a visit and flight. In October of 2015, I headed to Page Field in Fort Myers FL for my first Young Eagles flight.



Excited about my first Flight!

I was given a short class on the basics of aviation, which I found fascinating, and then did a walk around of a small aircraft. When my mom realized that Experimental (the E in EAA) meant self-built, I was worried she would not let me go up. But she did. Mr. Rich Zeidman was my pilot and my very first flight was in his RV-7.

From the moment I hopped into the cockpit until the

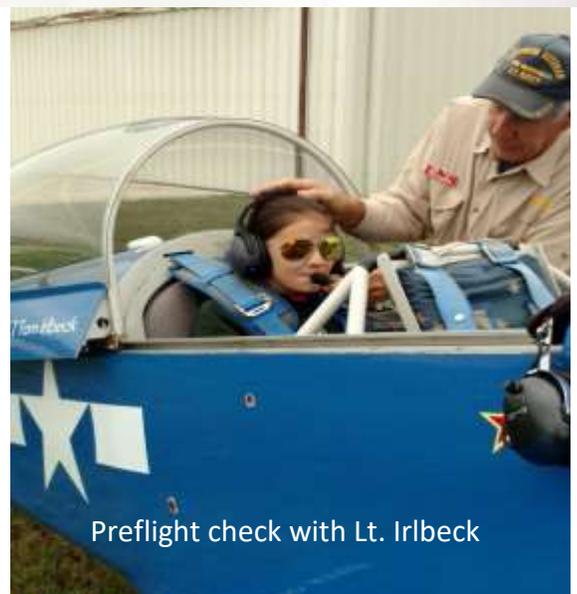
moment we touched back down, I knew I had found my passion. It was the most exhilarating feeling, better than Space Mountain at Disney!! We flew over my neighborhood, along the river, and went cloud dancing. I was even able to handle the controls. I was so happy. The EAA pilots were all so nice and all they saw that day was an excited little girl. They didn't know how long I would be sticking around.



First Flight with Mr. Rich, October 2015

A few weeks later, we took a Girl Scout camping trip to Lakeland FL to participate in Aviation Discovery Weekend on the Sun-n-Fun campus. They were doing flights there as well and I had my second flight in three weeks!! I was hooked! This was my future.

I used my early birthday money and the next month, I came back and paid the local chapter dues and became a member of EAA Chapter 66. From that point forward, I was like a little puppy. I would follow our pilots around when they were done flying the new Young Eagles hoping for a flight. I would do any chore they asked if it meant a flight. I



Preflight check with Lt. Irlbeck

loved flying with Lt. Tom Irlbeck and probably bugged him the most during my first year. He was a former Top Gun instructor. He would do Navy take-offs and take me cloud dancing. I loved it when he allowed me to fly the airplane and being able to handle the controls.

I was interested in the Air Force Academy and Lt. Tom would always tell me to apply to the Naval Academy instead. I started playing simulator games at home and started reading about aviation. Within a few months, I was helping with Young Eagle tasks at our monthly pancake breakfasts and attending build night. I was only 11 years old, but I was making a plan for my future.

### **THE NEXT BIG EVENTS COMING UP ARE:**

- - Slowly starting to get everything off HOLD due to the Covid 19, without risk to members

#### **Regular Meetings**

- **Next Breakfast: Current planning is for resuming on Dec 6**

-**Saturday Coffee & Doughnuts: Still Suspended (for now)**

- **Board Meeting 2nd Thursday of every Month. Next meeting is Nov 12, at the Chapter House**

- **General Meeting 3rd Tuesday of every month at Chapter Building. Next meeting is...**

**Nov 17, at 7:30. Burgers & hotdogs served at 6:30**

- **Builders Night is every Thursday 7:00 – 9:00PM, starting on Oct 8**

**Page Field Aviation Day** has officially been cancelled for this fall season due to the Covid 19.

#### **Builders Nite Participants & Young Eagle Youth Protection Policy & Program (YPP)**

With Builders Nite restarting, we have been working to include High School Aviation students into the mix. The goal is to augment/expand into a STEM program. Todd Callahan, the Aviation Program Instructor at the Estero High School, has been working with the EAA 66 Board to accomplish this. With the introduction of Young Aviators (under 18 years of age), EAA 66 assumes the responsibility to protect those minors who are attending builders nite. This is the same policy that EAA mandates for Young Eagles pilots and volunteers.

To that end, the EAA Chapter 66 Board is recommending that all participants in Builders Nite complete the EAA's Youth Protection Policy. It is a relatively easy process and is good for several years. The process is to;

- 1) On your computer, Search for EAA Young Eagles Volunteers, and click on the "Youth Protection Policy & Program" link
- 2) There you should find the following information that explains why and how this process works...

EAA's Youth Protection Policy and Program sets basic requirements for EAA staff and volunteers who work with children under age 18. It includes online best-practices training and,

for certain categories of volunteers, a basic background check (**U.S. and Canadian residents only**).

All of the following persons are required to complete both the online training and background check. Both steps are necessary and the cost is covered by EAA.

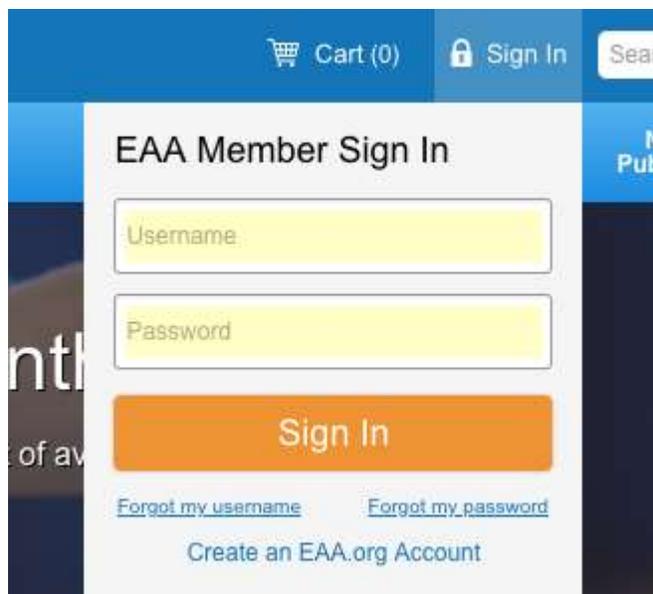
- All Young Eagles pilots
- All Chapter Young Eagles Coordinators and Field Representatives
- Two-deep leadership supervisors
- Volunteers who will work with youth in ongoing programs other than Young Eagles
- EAA staff

**Note:** While not all volunteers who will work in some capacity with youth in an EAA-related program or event are required to complete training and basic background checks, we *strongly encourage* them to complete both steps.

If you're wondering whether your volunteer activities should comply with the training and background check, please review the [policy](#) and the [frequently asked questions](#) pages on this website.

## Training Access Instructions:

1. In order to access the Youth Protection Training you will need to [sign in to your account](#) at EAA.org. If you do not have an online account, simply go to the sign in area at the top of page and create a username and password.



2. Once you are logged in at EAA.org, go to your Account Profile page by clicking “My Account” at the top of the page.



3. At the bottom of your Account Profile, click “Go to Training” then select "Training Information" and "Go to course" for the course you're looking to take.

# My Account

Welcome, [Redacted]

## Personal Information [edit](#)

Name

Member number

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## Contact Information [edit](#)

Email Address

Primary Address

Main Phone number

**Not Disclosed**

Cell Phone number

**Not Disclosed**

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## Order History

[Go to Order History](#)

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## Training Information

[Go to Training](#)



Personal Information

Password

**Training Information**

**Training**

Course	Completed
<b>Available Training Courses</b>	
<b>Background Check</b>	
<i>Processing takes 7-10 days.</i>	
<b>Youth Protection Training</b>	
<i>You may also need to complete the background check at the end of the course in order to participate in some youth programming.</i>	

Order History

The online training and background check review will typically take about 20-25 minutes. After information is submitted for the background check, we expect verification to take no more than 10 business days.

Upon successful completion of the online training and review, and the background check, each volunteer will receive an e-mail confirming he or she has successfully met the basic requirements of the Youth Protection Program and a printable wallet-sized card.

For complete information about EAA's Youth Protection Policy and Program, please review the Policy and the program FAQs on this website.

If you have further questions and would like to contact someone at EAA Headquarters, please call our membership services office at 800-564-6322 or e-mail [membership@eaa.org](mailto:membership@eaa.org).

Any Chapter member who attends any activity with minors for more than 4 hours (day camp, YE rally, build night) per YEAR should complete the Youth Protection Policy and Background Check.

AS USUAL, if you should have any questions regarding this request, please feel free to ask.

Steve G. ed

**IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A DAR**

I'm including this e-mail I received.

Hello Joe and Steve,

I am writing this to let you and your Chapter know that I am available in your area should you need a DAR. I am attaching a brief add if you want to put in your web info or news letter for your members information.

I am also trying to get a certification in the next couple of months for the FAA Orlando MIDO to do an over the shoulder on me since most of my DAR work has been to far for them to travel. If someone has an aircraft ready and were interested I would reduce my fee 50%. If so I would appreciate if you could let them know and they can call me for information at 216-233-0613.

Thanks and best regards,

Pete Udem

216-233-0613

**For Your Convenience...**here's a EAA Chapter 66 application Form in case you need it for a new member. It's also available on the EAA Chapter 66 web site.



**EAA CHAPTER 66 APPLICATION**

Please give Application to Treasurer or a Board Member. Checks payable to "EAA Chapter 66"

Chapter Yearly Dues \$25.00, Renewed Beginning of Year Mail To: EAA 66 PO Box 60204 Ft Myers, FL 33903

		Official Use Only	<u>Treasurer's</u>
<u>Initials</u>			
Date of Application _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Joined in Jan. 1 to Sept 30 = \$25.00	
Date Paid _____		<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cash (circle)      Ck# _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Joined in Oct. 1 to Dec. 31 = \$25.00, includes next year	

National EAA # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

We strongly suggest for you to join National EAA to get all of its benefits. Ask for an application.

Male Applicants First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Mi \_\_\_\_\_

Female

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name \_\_\_\_\_

Local Address Street \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ Fl. Zip \_\_\_\_\_

**Please notify Newsletter Editor of change of address & e-mail so you can get your newsletter**

Local phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

These numbers will not be listed and only used by members for official business

Airman Ratings \_\_\_\_\_ Current Y\_\_ N\_\_

Repairman Ratings \_\_\_\_\_ Current Y\_\_ N\_\_

Present Aircraft Owned or Building \_\_\_\_\_

Aviation or EAA Experience \_\_\_\_\_

i.e. Builder, Sport, Warbird, Antique, Aerobatic, Military, Instructor, Advisor, etc.

Do you have any subjects you could give a program on? Y \_\_\_ N \_\_\_

What? \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to participate on a committee or the board in the future? Y \_\_\_ N \_\_\_ Maybe \_\_\_

Occupation or experience \_\_\_\_\_

The chapter may need your expertise at some point. **Retired is not an answer.**

We can always use your help somewhere. If you see somewhere you could help i.e. Monthly breakfast, Young Eagles, dinners, or you have an idea for a new position we could use, just jump in. Your input or help will be appreciated.

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Revised December 2019

Entered in Database \_\_\_\_\_

Initials

### **YOUR OFFICERS & BOARD of DIRECTORS**

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Vice-President – Steve Gagnon [Steve.gagnon@eaachapter66.org](mailto:Steve.gagnon@eaachapter66.org)

Secretary - Ruth Ann Worman [ruthann.worman@eaachapter66.org](mailto:ruthann.worman@eaachapter66.org)

Treasurer - Kevin Eisenbath [kevin.eisenbath@eaachapter66.org](mailto:kevin.eisenbath@eaachapter66.org)

Membership Chair - John Coleman [john.coleman@eaachapter66.org](mailto:john.coleman@eaachapter66.org)

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