



## Words From the President

2024 is here, and I hope this year is very nice to everyone and brings all of us good health and happiness. The holiday season flew by very quickly for me, even though I did not get any flying in due to being on medicine for a bad chest cold. However, I did get much accomplished in building the RV-8A with my son, who was here over the Christmas holiday. He's finishing up his RV-9A out in Missouri, so I used his experience in mounting the empennage.

A few days before he arrived, my grandson, son-in-law, and I took the fuselage off the rotisserie and placed it on wood frames, so the belly is now about 1 foot off the ground. My son gave me some tall jacks for Christmas that we used to get the fuselage level for attaching the empennage to the fuselage. First came the horizontal stabilizer, then the vertical stabilizer. Lots of critical measuring using levels, tape measures, string, wire, and triple checking before drilling holes. We had the assemblies on and off several times to complete drilling and riveting for the times when you couldn't access anything but the starter holes. When finished, it came out as the plans called for. Success!

Once I'm finished setting up the elevators and rudder, it will again all come off and be hung back on the wall until final assembly in the hangar. Big step and I was glad he was home for Christmas. Next is work in the rear fuselage, wiring, and the firewall.

As a chapter, we can use this month's meeting to set the stage for the rest of the year. Liz will talk about her First Officer training experience she went through last Fall. Dow will talk about some flight scholarship ideas. We have a Young Eagles rally in February, and we will talk about future YE flying events. We also need to discuss what other activities we might consider, including arranging speakers for meetings. So, come on out and bring your ideas and thoughts - the sky's the limit.

See you at the meeting, Stay safe, John



John Stoll  
President EAA 477



## Upcoming Events

### EAA477 Chapter meeting

The January meeting will be held at the Walterboro airport conference room at 10:00 AM Speaker to be announced.

### South Carolina Breakfast Club:

Please use the following link to access the latest in scheduling:

<http://southcarolinabreakfastclub.com/2021-schedule>

## **Young Eagles Report**

*Liz Birch*

*Young Eagles Coordinator*

Happy New Year everyone! 2023 was a bit of a slower year for the Young Eagles program, but we have a plan in place for this year so that we can get more kids involved in the program. Our next rally is scheduled for Saturday, February 17<sup>th</sup> at the Waltherboro airport starting at 10am for a small group of scouts. More details for this and future rallies will be discussed/determined at the January chapter meeting. Last year we used our young eagle credits to purchase new shirts and vests. We will be looking for ideas of what we would like to do with our next year's credits once we determine how much funds we end up with. Now that I am established in my new job flying for United, I should have a slightly better ability to get the correct days off and we can hold more rallies this year. As always, please feel free to reach out to me via email or text.

Liz Birch

YE Coordinator

217-706-0148

[lizbirch2331@gmail.com](mailto:lizbirch2331@gmail.com)

## **Aviation Scholarship Program**

*Dow Sanderson*

### Scholarship Update

Happy New Year, everyone! Hope 2024 brings many good things for Chapter 477's Scholarship Program. At the January meeting, I would be eager to hear from our membership your thoughts on raising our Chapter Scholarship for 2024. In today's economy, \$500.00 will just cover two hours of aircraft rental and instruction. I believe that if we "sweetened" the pot a little, we might attract more interest. President John Stoll has also mentioned the Ray Scholarship matching program. There has always been a 50/50 opportunity, but recently the additional chance for a 70/30 match has been added. That would mean our Chapter would need to raise about \$3000 to participate at the level. Something certainly to think about in the future.

I look forward to seeing you all in Waltherboro soon!

Safe flying!

Dow Sanderson,  
Scholarship Chair

## **December Meeting Summary**

*Glen Phelps*

In terms of "getting all of the information together" for the newsletter, this is the easiest! We met for lunch at Laura's in Summerville for what might be turning out to be a regular event, as we had a chapter lunch at the same venue last year.

The menu is full of great choices for lunch. We sat in the outside room, but the weather was great, not too hot or cold. And of course, the fellowship with fellow members was excellent!

It would have been great to share with our readers some of the discussions around the table, but that is impossible. So, if you missed this year's event, we will probably do it again at the end of 2024.

Here is a group picture of us. Yes, John was there, but SOMEBODY had to shoot the picture.



## **Aviation Safety and Upcoming Events**

*Ron Malec*

### *Aviation Safety News and Updates*

*As a subscriber to the FAA Safety Team, Aviation Safety Magazine, and the NASA Aviation Reporting System 'CALLBACK' Newsletters, I will share Information and Updates that I believe will be beneficial to all members.*

#### **General Information**

- 1) **FAA Takes Actions to Address Independent Safety Review Team's Recommendations** - *FAAST Blast* — Week of November 27 – December 3, 2023

The FAA is taking immediate action to enhance air traffic controller training and safety reporting following the release of the National Airspace System Safety Review Team report.

The independent safety review team completed a thorough assessment and presented its recommendations on enhancing safety and reliability in the nation's air traffic system. The team examined the FAA's internal safety processes, staffing levels and practices, as well as needs for facilities and equipment and how the agency's air traffic budget is funded. The FAA commissioned the panel of aviation experts following the agency's Safety Summit in March.

The FAA is taking immediate action on the following items:

- Provide additional support to colleges and universities in the Air Traffic-Collegiate Training Initiative (AT-CTI) Program. The FAA will work with AT-CTI programs to ensure that graduates from these programs have the necessary skills to begin on-the-job training at a facility. Graduates must still pass the Air Traffic Skills Assessment (ATSA) exam and meet medical and security requirements. Previously, these graduates were required to attend the FAA Air Traffic Controller Academy prior to being assigned to a facility.
- Announced a year-round hiring track for experienced controllers from the military and private industry.
- Keep filling every seat at the FAA Academy and increase classroom capacity beyond current limits.
- Expand the use of advanced training across the country. The agency has new facilities in Chicago and San Diego and will be adding them in Nashua and Phoenix in the spring.
- Finish deploying tower simulator systems in 95 facilities by December 2025. The FAA will deploy the first system in Austin by January 2024.
- To strengthen our safety culture, provide reports from the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service to the FAA Administrator and Aviation Safety Associate Administrator.

View the full report and get additional information at [faa.gov/newsroom/faa-takes-actions-address-independent-safety-review-teams-recommendations](https://www.faa.gov/newsroom/faa-takes-actions-address-independent-safety-review-teams-recommendations).

2) **From the Flight Deck Publishes Additional “Pilot Handbook” Content - FAAST Blast** — Week of October 30-November 5, 2023

New safety information products for pilots are now available online. The FAA’s *From the Flight Deck* video series has published “Pilot Handbooks” for 40 airports across the U.S., with new locations added regularly. The handbooks were developed specifically for pilots to both highlight and supplement airport diagrams, hot spots, and other potential surface safety issues. Each pilot handbook contains information local controllers want pilots to know, airport communications, airspace details, general best practices, lost communications tips, and other preflight planning resources.

Use the interactive map at [www.faa.gov/flight\\_deck](http://www.faa.gov/flight_deck) to find the Pilot Handbooks currently available.

3) **New Pilot Minute Covers Prostate Cancer Diagnosis** - FAAST Blast — Week of December 25 - 31, 2023

In the latest episode of the Pilot Minute video series, Federal Air Surgeon Dr. Susan Northrup explains how pilots with non-metastatic prostate cancer may be issued a medical certificate by their AME. The video also mentions special issuance considerations for metastatic disease or cancer recurrence. See this and past Pilot Minute videos here: [Pilot Minute: What happens when I get diagnosed with prostate cancer? - YouTube](#)

**EAA Webinars - Nothing to Report**

**Airshow and Fly-in Schedule**

4) **2024 Airshows / Fly-ins**

- o **03-Feb-2024** – Chili Chilly Fly-in, Triple Tree Aerodrome (SC00), Woodruff, SC
- o **05-07 Apr 2024** - Uncle John's Fly-In, Triple Tree Aerodrome (SC00), Woodruff, SC
- o **09-14 Apr 2024** – Sun 'n Fun Aerospace Expo, Lakeland Linder Regional Airport (KLAL)
- o **20-21 Apr 2024** - JB Charleston Airshow 2024, Joint Base Charleston (KCHS), Charleston, SC
- o **23-29 Sep 2024** - 17th Annual Triple Tree Fly-In, Triple Tree Aerodrome (SC00), Woodruff, SC

**Photos**

o **Low Country Regional (KRBW) Tuskegee Airmen Park Memorial Dedication** (14-Oct-2023)



**Until next month – Blue Skies - Stay Safe and Fly Safe**

## Treasurer's Report

**Aimee Pereira**

(Members: Please note there was a typo in the October newsletter that had the ending balance as \$4,791.98 instead of \$4,721.98).

Beginning Balance for November:	<b>\$4,721.98</b>	
Expenses	\$422.00	#1096, to Glen Phelps, Chapter Renewal fee
Deposits:	\$530.00	EAA clearing items
	\$ 35.00	Dues Payment
Ending Balance for November:	<b>\$4,864.98</b>	

Note: Total Earmarked for Young Eagles = \$200.00

**Dues for 2024 will be \$35.00 and payments may be paid in person at a meeting or sent to the following address:**

Aimee Pereira  
107 Timberlake Ct  
Summerville, SC 29485

If you are not sure if your dues are paid for 2022 or have any questions, I can be reached via email at: [aaa477.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:aaa477.treasurer@gmail.com).