

CELEBRATION OF GIVING

2018 ANNUAL REPORT FOR EAA & THE EAA FOUNDATION





Greetings!

2018 was another banner year for EAA and the EAA Foundation. In the following pages, we are proud to present some of our fiscal and programmatic achievements. We hope that you enjoy the stories of the givers and recipients. These vignettes demonstrate the spirit of the nearly 10,000 members who give each year to launch or sustain an EAA initiative.

Each year, philanthropic dollars fuel our most vital education, safety, and training programs. It allows our chapters to continue the amazing legacy of introducing more than 2 million young people to personal aviation since 1992, and now connecting adults to flight through the Eagle Flight program and Flying Club initiative. It also funds the scholarships that create pathways for aviation careers, and helps us to preserve and steward aviation history as well as to inspire the innovators of tomorrow who will carry us through the next century.

While membership dues and EAA® AirVenture® Oshkosh™ supply the basic operational support for our programs and activities, further innovation and outreach depend on two additional keystones: the tremendous commitment of our dedicated EAA-member volunteers and philanthropic support.

We are humbled and grateful for those who continue to give of their time and treasure to further our mission of growing participation in aviation. From educational programs in our museum or workshop, to summer camps and other learning activities at the Air Academy, to a ride in one of our historic aircraft, all of these things and many more rely on the support of donors.

I hope that you enjoy this look into our work and can see how your commitment to EAA directly builds the future of flight. We are inspired by your generosity!

Yours truly,

Jack J. Pelton
CEO/Chairman, Experimental Aircraft Association

PLATFORM FOR IMPACT— NATIONWIDE & BEYOND

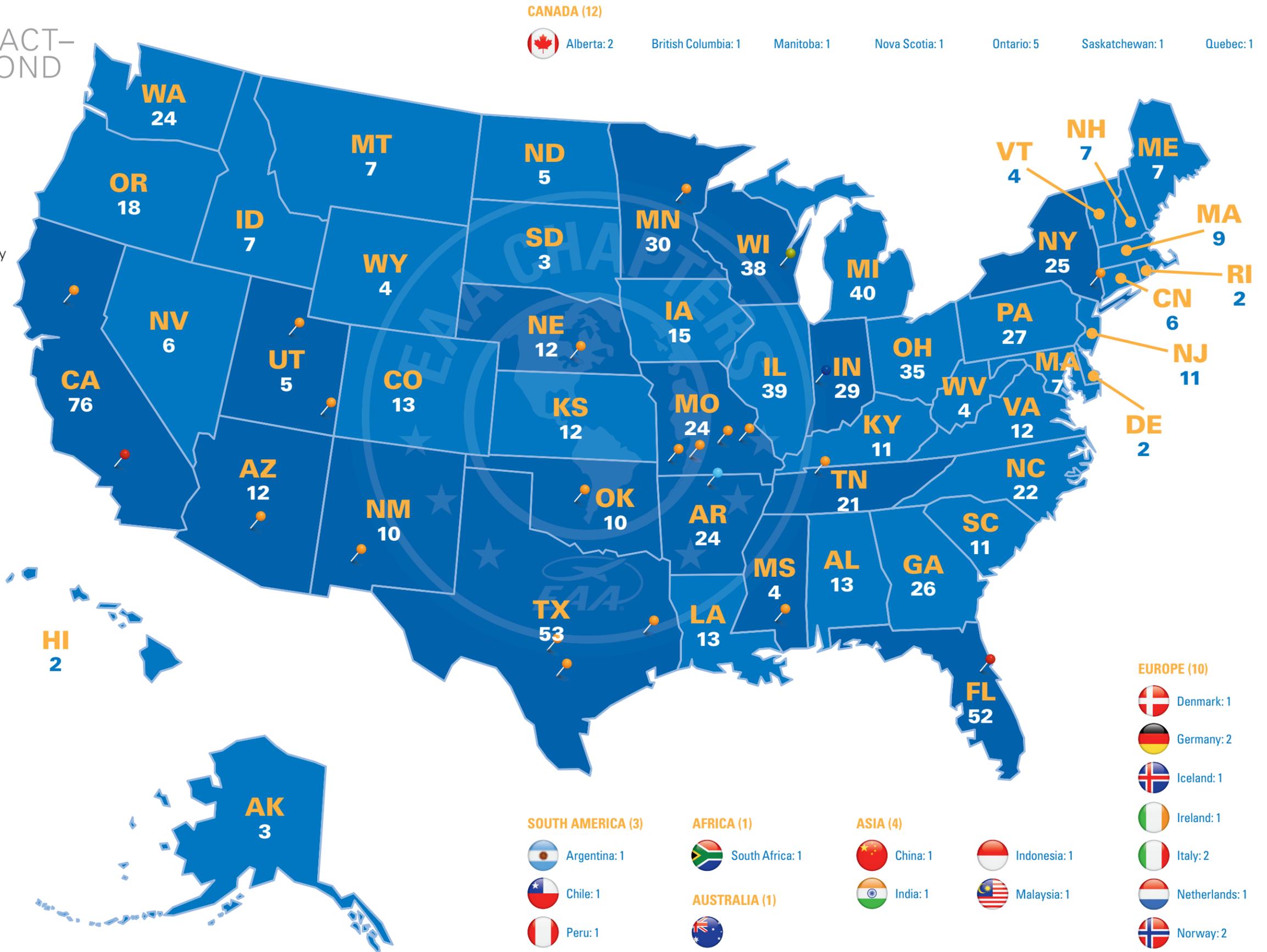
EAA's Grassroots Network

EAA's local chapters are increasingly delivering the services and experiences that introduce new people to personal aviation. We are dedicated to growing the number of chapters and their capacity through Chapter Leadership Academies and other initiatives.

Chapter members are passionate about aviation and have dedicated their time and talents to providing countless hours on such projects as the B-25 restoration, youth builds, and supporting youth through the Young Eagles program.

New Chapters in 2018

- EAA 1594..... Hattiesburg, MS
- EAA 1607..... Lago Vista, TX
- EAA 544..... Hastings, NE
- EAA 1606..... Monticello, UT
- EAA 366..... North Bay, Ontario
- EAA 1608..... Castroville, TX
- EAA 1605..... Clarksville, TN
- EAA 1592..... Jacksonville, TX
- EAA 1593..... Yuba City, CA
- EAA 1610..... Brainerd, MN
- EAA 1402..... Sullivan, MO
- EAA 1611..... Newburgh, NY
- EAA 1614..... Chandler, AZ
- EAA 1615..... Truth or Consequences, NM
- EAA 1609..... Bolivar, MO
- EAA 1612..... Tuttle, OK
- EAA 1613..... Lebanon, MO
- EAA 1616..... Vichy, MO
- EAA 753..... Provo, UT
- IAC 132..... Oslo, Norway
- IAC 131P..... Redlands, CA
- IAC 288..... Deland, FL
- UL115..... Calico Rock, AR
- VAA 41..... Tere Haute, IN
- WBA 32..... Oshkosh, WI



NEXT GENERATION

Leaving A Legacy Through Aviation

The gift that keeps on giving

They say that all good things must come to an end, but that is not the case for a special Sonex Waix aircraft that will continue Doug De Loach's legacy and passion for aviation.

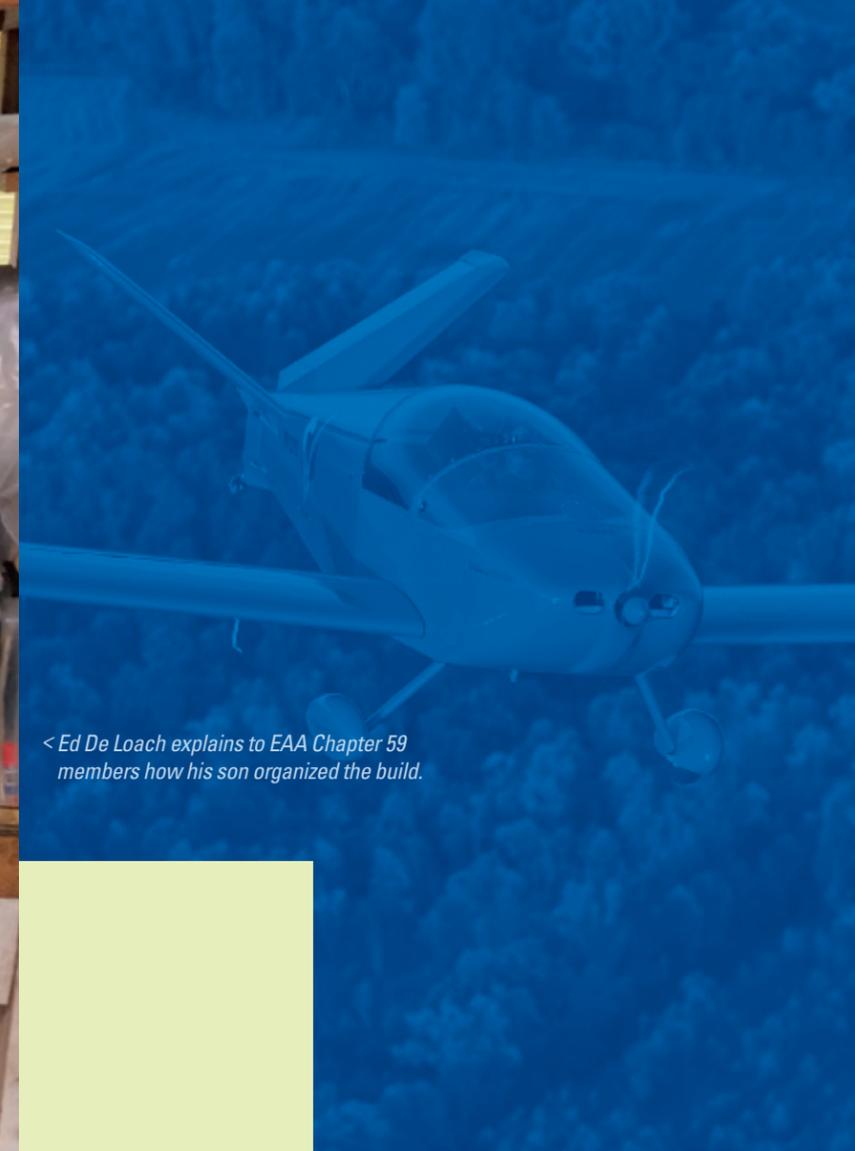
Doug, and his father Ed, were building a Waix aircraft when Doug's life ended much too soon. In an effort to carry on his memory and passion for flying, Ed contacted the EAA Philanthropy team. The Philanthropy and Chapter Services teams put out a request for proposals from chapters in Texas with an interest in completing the homebuilt and, most importantly, engaging youth in the build.

Chapter 59 located in McGregor, Texas, met all of the requirements and then some. When reviewing Chapter 59's proposal, Ed noted, "I don't think I could have come up with a better plan if I'd written it myself."

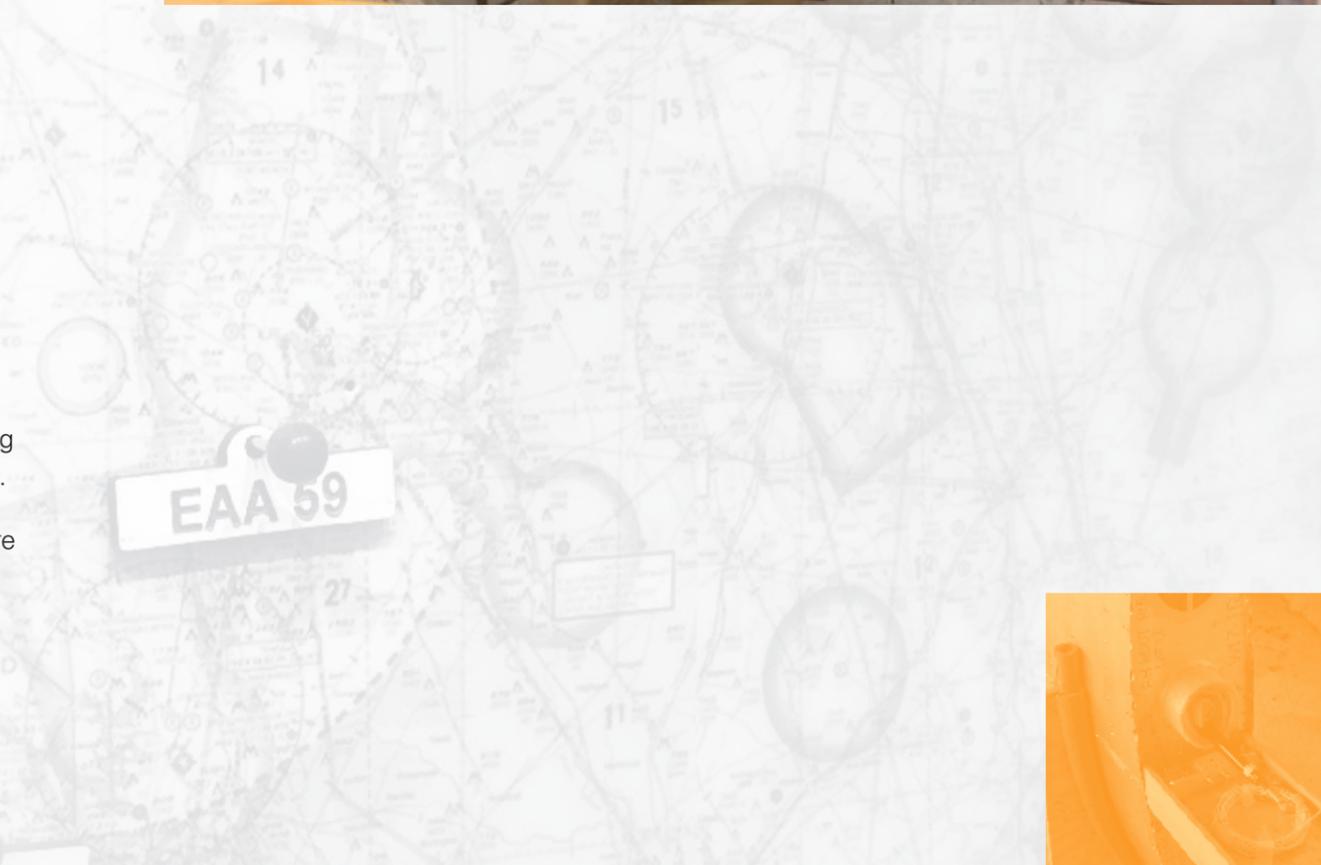
Founded by 20 charter members on April 1, 1959, EAA Chapter 59 has been in continual operation for nearly 60 years and has grown to more than 75 members. Collaboratively, the membership has built or restored several aircraft, including a Wag-Aero, two RV-10s, one Velocity XL, and one turbine-powered RotorWay Exec helicopter. The chapter owns and operates its own hangar, which will house the Waix aircraft.

Upon completion of the Waix, EAA Chapter 59 members will form a flying club that will own the aircraft and use it to introduce youth and adults to aviation through the Young Eagles and Eagle Flights programs. Doug and Ed's names will be placed on the aircraft to ensure that their vision lives on with the plane. Chapter 59's pay it forward plan will help us engage more youth and promote aviation. "Our vision for engaging the next generations of aviators is something we are very excited about," noted Phil Perry, president of Chapter 59.

EAA Chapter 59 intends to fly the completed Waix aircraft to a future EAA AirVenture Oshkosh to honor Doug and Ed's legacy.



< Ed De Loach explains to EAA Chapter 59 members how his son organized the build.



Chapter 59 member, Ken Beene, wraps up control surfaces before packaging them for transport.

DONOR SPOTLIGHT
DAVE LAU

Dave Lau became a member of EAA in the mid-1960s after a chance meeting with founder, Paul Poberezny, on the south side of Milwaukee. That meeting has led to a life-long connection and service to EAA as a Foundation Trustee, EAA Corporate Board Member, and donor.

Dave learned to fly in a J3 Cub, had a North American T-6 Texan (that he has subsequently donated to EAA), and for many years flew a Beechcraft Bonanza and a Daher TBM for corporate and leisure travel. "I've seen all of the United States and Central America. I had the opportunity to fly to Europe and spent several weeks flying around Australia," said Dave. In addition to his passion for flying, he is also passionate about making a difference through his giving. Over the past fifty years, Dave has built an impressive legacy of supporting EAA and its programs

When he reflects on his giving to EAA, he says, "I don't feel like I'm just giving money – I feel like I am making a difference by introducing the next generations to aviation. Aviation is something that I love and has impacted my life greatly. I want my contributions to be used for something, so over the years I have given for flight simulators, exhibit areas in the museum, the development of Compass Hill, and for the Young Eagles program." Dave feels that it's particularly important to support youth related programs. "Kids need some direction and EAA can provide that for them. Aviation gives them a sense of purpose and teaches them good habits that can last a life," said Dave.

Like many, Dave recognizes that it's the people that have kept him connected to the EAA community over the years. "I came to Oshkosh in the early years to see things, but it soon became about the people. You develop deep friendships with people from around the world and then realize that you can only see them once a year at AirVenture. You need to keep coming back!"



President Circle (January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2018)

EAA's President's Circle recognizes individuals who give annual leadership gifts of \$10,000 or more to support EAA's mission of growing participation in aviation.

Platinum

Gary Ackerman
Estate of John Burnham*
Ron and Diane Fagen
James Hagedorn
Clarence Schreiber*
Scotts Miracle-Gro Company (The)
Hal and Sandy Shevers

Gold

Foster Bachschmidt
Tom and Hetty Ball
Joe Brown
Joe Clark
Michael Hare
Donald and Nieves Jones
Keith Kocourek
Clay Lacy
John and Adrienne Mars
John and Kay McCann
Hank Menke and Corky Dugan
Ed and Pat Noel
Richard Swenson*
Jon Vesely
Steuart Walton

Silver

Stuart Auerbach and Marilyn O'Reagan
JoAnn Bachhuber
Ted & Grace Bachhuber Foundation, Inc. (The)
Charles R. Behnke Irrevocable Trust*
Blue Sky Educational Foundation
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Peter Burgher
James Cavanaugh
Joe Fisher
Steven Foote
Harrison Ford
GE Aviation Matching Gifts
James Gorman
Ned Greenop
Buck Hilbert*
Adam and April Jones
David Lau
Andrew McKenna
Ray Foundation (The)
Dale and Kathy Schneider
Frank and Joy Smith
James Thompson
James and Shelley Tobul

Robert and Susan Wilson
Robert A. and Susan C. Wilson Foundation
Todd Winter

Bronze

John and Deborah Baugh
Richard and Adrienne Beattie
Eileen Bjorkman
Brent Blue
Marc Bourdon
Beau and Debra Bradley
Joe Budd
William Buerschinger
Ernie Butcher
Jon and Christie Callaghan
James Cavanaugh
Mark Clark
John David Crow
Terry Cunningham
Norman DeWitt
Paul Ehlen
Stephen Elop
Sharon Elske
Alan Eustace
Tracy Forrest
Randy Foutch
Thomas Frasca
Marie Fraser
Harry and Shelia Fruehauf
Robert and Diane Gingell
Michael and Wendy Graham
Richard Green
William and Gerry Griffith
Tom Haas
Robert Hagedorn
James Harker
Gretchen Harper
Richard R. and Gretchen E. Harper Fund
Thomas Hartness
James Hefelfinger
Heritage Mark Foundation
Doreen Hillard
Ken Hoffman
Nathan and Christa Houser
Herb Jorgensen
Ed and Nancy Karrels
Karrels Foundation
David and Florence Kleine
Austin E. Knowlton Foundation
Monte Koch

Ben and Audra Lee
Eric Lindberg
John Lindberg
Charlie Lyons
Daniel and Cate Majka
David Marco
Marco Family Foundation (The)
Phil and Stephanie Martineau
Joseph Masessa
Bradley Mottier
Jim and Miriam Mulva
Michael Murdock
John O'Connor
Jack and Rose Pelton
Neil Perkins*
William Penn Foundation (The)
Darren and Lisa Pleasance
Charles and Lynne Precourt
Clay and Carol Presley
Jim and Cathy Read
David and Andrea Robertson
Robert Ruckman
Dan and Keena Schwinn
Elizabeth Seibold
Scott Seibold
Louis and Christine Seno
Donald Smith
Phil Soucy
Rachelle Spector
David and Jan Stadt
Robert and Wendy Stallings
Ken Strmiska and Sabina Singh
Ronald Tarrson and Camille Canzone
Tinker Murdock Family Fund
Tom and Carol Turner
Richard and Diane VanGrunsven
Richard and Diane VanGrunsven Family Foundation
John and Suzy Vette
Joe and Connie Whisenhunt
Wells Fargo Philanthropy Fund
Craig and Betty Willan
James Wilson
Paul Wood
Chuck Yanke
Jon Yarbrough
James and Alison Zimmerman

*Denotes estate gifts

CONNECTING TOMORROW WITH TODAY

A Desire to Fly

Lydia Kamps grew up fascinated by airplanes and anything related to aviation. Although she wasn't raised in a household that had a connection to aviation, that didn't diminish her desire to get into the sky.

"Ever since I was little, I've always loved airplanes," Lydia explained. "I don't have any ties to aviation – I don't have family or friends that are pilots but for some reason I always had a desire to get my pilot certificate."

While Lydia was aware of AirVenture, she never thought about attending until she received a flyer in the mail about the four-day Women Soar *You Soar* program for girls grades 9-12 at AirVenture 2015. Lydia jumped at the chance to apply.

Over the four days of Women Soar *You Soar*, Lydia and other attendees had a jam-packed schedule that connected them to people in the aviation industry. "We had lectures on leadership and learned about scholarship opportunities. We got to watch the air show and I was able to take a welding class. We even had the opportunity to hear from a Boeing test pilot." Looking back, Lydia realizes how much this experience was an inspiration for her, "I had wanted to pursue aviation before but the Woman Soar *You Soar* experience just amplified it up."

Fast forward to today. Lydia is an Airman First Class in the U.S. Air Force, has her private pilot certificate, and is working on her instrument rating. She hopes to one day be a fighter pilot. "Right after high school I started as an electrician and I did that for a couple years. It was alright, but I had this desire to get into aviation," she said. "It just kept pulling at me and I looked at the Air Force. I started talking to a recruiter and she introduced me to all of the jobs on the enlisted side."



After basic training, Lydia was stationed at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas, training as an avionics technician. Now she's at Luke AFB in Arizona, working primarily on F-16s. "Our base is mainly for training pilots. I am part of the team that makes sure that the jets are ready to go, that everything is fully functional."

Eventually, Lydia hopes to get in the cockpit of an Air Force jet, not as a technician, but as a pilot. "Right now I still need to get through the process of learning my job and getting proficient at that and then pursue that dream." But according to Lydia, "without Women Soar *You Soar*, I would not be on the path that I am today. That experience was definitely a turning point."





Future A&P Inspired at EAA Air Academy

Susanne Stalker grew up near Oshkosh where a hands-on experience caused her to pursue aviation. "I was in a club in high school where we were building a Zenith aircraft," she said. "That's what sparked [my interest in aviation]."

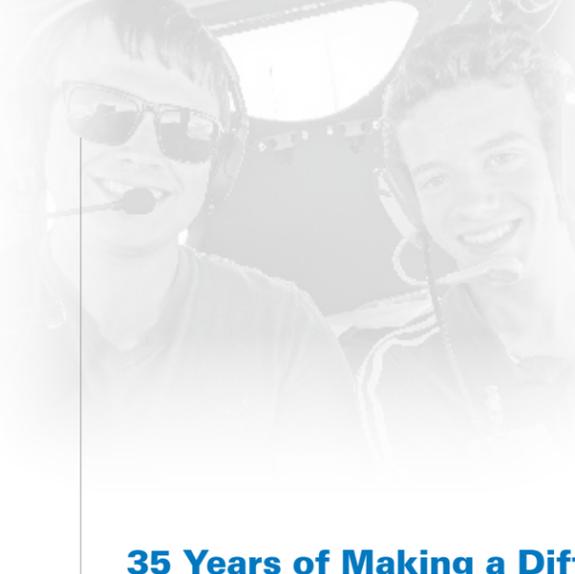
Susanne then attended the EAA Advanced SportAir Academy in 2013, a program of the Air Academy. At the camp she was surrounded by people with the same interest in aviation.

"It was comforting to see other students driven in the same direction in aviation that I was and to see they were interested in the same things." Susanne's dream aviation career is ensuring that airplanes fly like they should rather than flying them.

She's currently studying aeronautical engineering and technology, with plans to attend graduate school to study manufacturing engineering. Susanne anticipates getting her A&P certificate in December 2018.

"I have lab every day where I get covered in oil, and it's a lot of fun to get in there," she said. "What I really enjoy is riveting. You get to put something together, see your progress, and accomplish something."

Susanne said it's fun explaining what is happening mechanically in an aircraft. "There was one flight where it was a little girl's first flight, and I could tell her all the different parts and what they did. It was really cool."



35 Years of Making a Difference

The vision of the EAA Air Academy was simple – share the skills of E-AB homebuilding and the love of aviation with young people. Thirty-five years later, that same concept has been bringing youth ages 12 to 18 faithfully to the EAA campus each summer for camps since 1983. Over that time, more than 6,500 kids and 200 adult counselors have made memories, created life-long friendships, and some have found careers.

The core elements of the Academy are:

- Classroom experiences where campers learn about weather, aviation technology, fundamentals of navigation, and the history of aviation.
- Workshop where they learn hands-on skills such as riveting and sheet metal working.
- Flight experiences that include the use of desktop simulators to plan and conduct flights and 30 to 40 minute flights in an EAA fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter.

EAA staff member, Scott Cameron, has been with the program from nearly the beginning and admits that they did not dream of how successful or long-lasting the Air Academy program would become. "That first year, we had one camp that lasted for three-weeks and involved 32 kids. We thought that we could build an aircraft! We got pretty far but nowhere near completing it. Although we didn't accomplish that goal, we learned a lot about running a residential aviation camp," Scott said.

The program really began to grow when James Ray built the Air Academy Lodge in 1998. This allowed 56 campers to have an immersive aviation experience on the EAA campus. Bob Campbell who joined EAA in 2005 and who comes out of the YMCA camping tradition said, "residential summer camps are

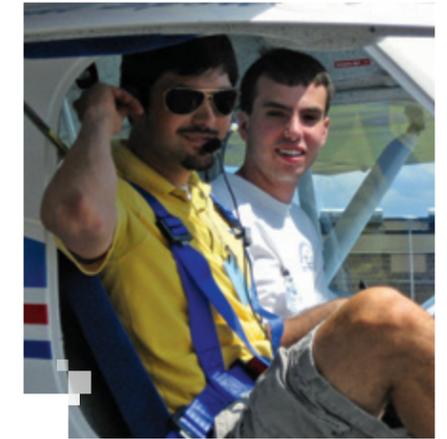
so critical for the development of young people. This is where they learn how to navigate the world without their parents, make new friends and to be independent." For many it is also the first time that they are surrounded by a peer group that is as passionate about aviation as they are. "They no longer feel like they are the odd one," said Bob. As for the motivations of James to build the Lodge and donate it to EAA, Bob recalls that James wanted to inspire kids to do positive things and he saw aviation as a great way to do it. "James credited aviation with giving him the skills and dedication to make him successful in business. That's what he wanted for the kids. I think that he would be proud of what we have accomplished over the past 35 years," said Bob.

Another important part of the experience that happens outside of the classroom is the campers' participation in EAA's high and low ropes courses. "It helps them bond, to overcome fears, to rely on others, to understand team work, and to learn to trust. These are the same skills that are needed to be successful aviators," Scott said.

Today, the Air Academy is the longest running residential aviation camp in the United States and has been named a top 10 summer camp by MSN. It operates from early June through August and features three programs:

- Young Eagles (ages 12 – 13) four nights and five days
- Basic Air Academy (ages 14 – 15) five nights and five days
- Advanced Air Academy (ages 16 – 18) eight nights and five days

When asked why they stay with the program Scott and Bob say in unison, "it's the kids!"



EAA Air Academy Grad Follows in Father's Footsteps

Patrick Frye has been immersed in aviation since age 3, so he came to the EAA Air Academy with big expectations.

"I loved everything about the Air Academy," he said. "I met a lot of new people that I'm still friends with today. I learned about building aircraft in the workshop, and about different airplanes through the flights that we took."

Patrick's father ran Southwest Airport Services in Houston, where Patrick learned the business. "My father ran a successful FBO in Houston for about 15 years," Patrick said. "He passed away a few years ago, and then I took over the business. I learned a lot about aviation, the aviation field, and how to run a business from him."

Since 2014, Patrick said his experience heading up the FBO has been great. "I love meeting new people every day and making sure our customer's are 100 percent satisfied and that their experience is great," Patrick said.

Running an FBO is hard work, but Patrick said he still gets back to Oshkosh whenever he can for AirVenture. He struggles to pick out his favorite Air Academy memory. "I loved everything about it, and I loved being there," Patrick said.

RE-BUILDING CHARACTER

Mission Accomplished: Restoring the *Berlin Express*

Everyone seemed to know that EAA's B-25, *Berlin Express*, would fly again one day, but nobody knew how or when.

Best as anyone can recall, the restoration conversation began when John Hopkins, EAA's aircraft maintenance manager, was towing the B-25 out of the EAA Aviation Museum's Eagle Hangar for outside display during EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2014. Kirk Fjetland, president of EAA Chapter 237 in Blaine, Minnesota, asked if EAA had ever thought about restoring the aircraft. "It is something that we have been considering, but it will require external financial support and significant volunteer labor," said John. Without missing a beat, Kirk replied, "Chapter 235 will supply the labor!"

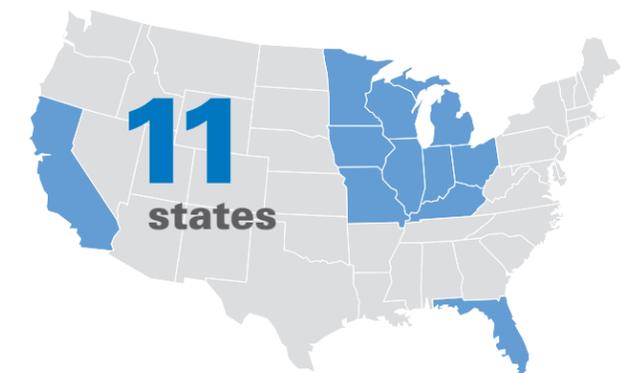
In January 2015, Chapter 235 members began making regular visits to EAA's Kermit Weeks Flight Operations Center to work on the B-25. By spring 2017, it became evident that although the volunteer labor was important to the restoration, some things — like landing gear, avionics, and engines — would require cash. Thus at AirVenture 2017, EAA launched a \$400,000 fundraising campaign to put the B-25 back in operation.

"The fundraising campaign really came together at the end 2017, when it surpassed its \$400,000 goal," said Ken Strmiska, EAA's vice president of philanthropy and donor stewardship. "This gave EAA the confidence and financial resources to begin the more complicated and expensive aspects of the restoration."

Volunteers have worked on all aspects of the airplane. They have fabricated new parts when needed and reconstructed the aircraft's "greenhouse" nose section. Thanks to a cabinetmaker in the group, the bombardier/navigator's station also got an all-new seat made from laminated oak.



80 
volunteers from



have worked more than
11,000 
hours on the B-25



As the project progressed, other chapters heard about it and asked to get involved. Kirk obliged and put together the first of a series of multi-chapter work parties. In March 2017, volunteers from nine chapters from around the region spent the weekend chipping in. By the end of the weekend, hands were dirty and arms tired from scrubbing engine cowlings. The task wasn't glamorous, but the meaning wasn't lost on anyone.

"It feels like going back in time," said George Crabtree of Three Lakes, Wisconsin.

"There are so many stories with this aircraft. Everybody that's touched it, flown it, been a part of it, and just the privilege of being part of that story is too good to pass up. This was a no-brainer for me," said Mark Vander Bloomen of Eagle River, Wisconsin.

As the restoration project nears completion over the next few months, EAA is indebted to the numerous volunteers and donors who have contributed to the projects' success.

"These things don't come together without a thousand hands doing a little bit here and there to make it work. That's the beauty of this project, and, frankly, that's the beauty of EAA," said Ken.

For the first time in decades, *Berlin Express* will once again be airborne this fall. After several weeks of flight testing and pilot training, the aircraft will join the EAA Flight Experiences program beginning in 2019 and tour the country bringing history to life.

Champions in Flight (March 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018)

EAA's Champion in Flight recognizes those who give \$1,000-\$9,999 in annual gifts to support EAA's mission of growing participation in aviation.

Gold

Jim Allmon
 Steve and Cindy Aughinbaugh
 Paul Branham
 Tim Callahan
 Walter Extra
 Bruce and Nanette Fine
 Rudy Frasca
 Charles Fullgraf
 Fullgraf Foundation
 Alan and Yuni Gaudenti
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 Swayne Martin
 Malcolm McClung
 Steven Mungle
 Fred Phillips
 James Phillips
 Gordon Rock
 Myrt Rose
 Fred and Carol Stadler
 Don Tharp
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 Lillian Wreyford
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Silver

Jim Anderson
 Gary and Mary Baker
 Andrew Bishop
 James and Ann Cooling
 Shawn and Lori Crosgrave
 John Dunham
 Kevin Egan
 Paul Floreck
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 George Gould
 Jonathan Halkyard
 Mark and Diane Holt
 Dale Klapmeier
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 Jason and Tina Kreidler
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Jolie Lucas
 Elaine Luedke
 John O'Leary
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 Lewis Shaw
 Daniel Shewmaker
 C. Dan Smith
 Herb Spenner
 Chuck Taylor
 Pat Tracy
 Mark and Trish Van Tine
 Shane and Ginny Vanderwaal
 Tyson Weihs
 Anne Wright
 Scott Yoak

Bronze

Charles Ahearn
 Anthony Anderson
 Louis and Sue Andrew
 Kathy Arkwell
 Mikel Atkins
 Tom Ausburne
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 Aylward Family Foundation, Inc.
 Michael Baldwin
 Shawn Barker
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 Raymond Bottom
 Rob Broin
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 Scott Bruns
 Pamela Bullers
 Marion Burton
 Steven Busch
 Robert Busey
 Manley Butler
 Javier Camba

Karen Carlomano
 Robert Carmean
 John Carr
 Donald Chappel
 Robert Charles
 Mark Ciaglia
 Natalie Cobb
 Marvin Cole
 Michael Cole
 Wes Collier
 Timothy Craft
 John Cronin
 Chris D'Acosta
 Lauren Dalzell-Settles
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 Delaware Aviation
 Museum Foundation
 Eric Donofrio
 Charles Drake
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 Kenneth Schmetter
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 John Stahr
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 Swift Museum Foundation
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 Sean D. Tucker
 Bryce Ulmer
 Constantine Vlahakis
 Pat and Barbara Walters
 John Watkins
 WE Energies Foundation
 Randall Wegner
 Leonard Weiser
 James Wheaton
 Rhon Williams
 Robert Williams
 Larry Wixom
 Michael Wotherspoon
 Joshua Wreyford
 Nick Xamis
 Peter Zajkowski
 David and Eloise Zeller

*Denotes estate gifts

YOUR IMPACT. YOUR DIFFERENCE.

The Gathering Raises Nearly \$2.4 Million for EAA Initiatives

Your Finest Hour was reflected in this year's Gathering event held on Thursday during AirVenture. This evening captured the essence of EAA and our members, supporters, and volunteers who believe in the vision and mission of growing The Spirit of Aviation®.

Proceeds from The Gathering support EAA's most vital education, safety, and outreach initiatives. In one night, guests provide over 42 percent of the yearly charitable dollars needed to launch new programs, respond to industry threats and opportunities, and improve existing programs and strategies that directly impact the overall vitality of personal aviation.

The Gathering, held in the EAA Aviation Museum's Eagle Hangar, celebrated the importance of personal aviation. Four EAA members were also honored for their generous donations of their time, talents, and charitable support to some of EAA's most notable programs.

Sean D. Tucker, became the sixth chairman of the EAA Young Eagles program in 2013. He has routinely flown a Young Eagle and a volunteer Young Eagles pilot before each of his air show performances across the country and is a tireless promoter of the Young Eagles program, helping to raise thousands of dollars for it along the way.

James C. Ray regularly supported many aviation organizations, including EAA. The construction of the Air Academy Lodge and the success of the Air Academy program were both propelled by James' contributions.

Clay Lacy, has supported EAA and its education programs since the late 1980s, including a scholarship program that allows University of North Dakota students to spend a summer in Oshkosh gaining flight experience and serving as Air Academy counselors.





DONOR SPOTLIGHT TOM AND HETTY BALL

For many years, Tom and Hetty Ball have experienced the joy and fulfillment that an aviation-centric lifestyle can bring. Both are avid pilots and today, they own several aircraft including a Piper M600 and as Tom likes to say, “they are the current stewards of a P-51 Mustang.” For Tom and Hetty, personal aviation it is not just a way to get from one place to another but rather a way to enjoy getting to their destination and then making new friends and staying in touch with others through aviation.

As part of their regular aviation related travel, they fly to Wisconsin from Texas for EAA’s annual family reunion - EAA® AirVenture® Oshkosh™. For Hetty, her first AirVenture was a real eye-opener. “It wasn’t until I attended Oshkosh that I saw the diversity in the types of pilots and planes,” Hetty admitted. “I was awed by everything.”

Because Tom and Hetty have experienced how rewarding aviation can be, they want to make sure that younger generations have the same opportunity as they did. Their decision to financially support EAA’s Young Eagles and scholarship programs reflects that desire. “We’re very fortunate and blessed to be able to give,” Hetty explained. “From my perspective, it’s so difficult for young people to learn how to fly, both financially and having access to quality instruction. Anything that we can do to encourage young people to look at becoming pilots or having a career related to aviation is important. It is up to the current generation of pilots to keep the enthusiasm for aviation going and to excite young people. I think we need to have an emphasis on STEM education and this is another way to do it.”

As Tom and Hetty considered how they wanted to go about getting young people into aviation, giving to EAA quickly became the right solution. They knew their funds would support programs that would make a difference.

“We don’t have to do all the groundwork as far as the infrastructure for getting the funds to where it will do some good,” Tom said. “EAA has that in place. It was a logical step for us to donate to EAA.”



Dave Lau, has supported EAA through contributions to the development of Compass Hill, the EAA Young Eagles® program, exhibit areas in the museum, and flight simulators.

This year, The Gathering debuted mobile bidding that gave access to everyone on the AirVenture grounds and beyond to donate or bid on auction lots with their mobile phone and provide support to EAA’s programs. The Gathering has raised more than \$20 million in two decades – providing memorable experiences that are the heart and soul of general aviation – to support youth who get to experience the magic of aviation.

A one-of-a-kind Ford Mustang GT was also auctioned off Thursday evening for more than \$400,000. The vehicle, specially designed and built by Ford Motor Company for The Gathering, was inspired by the British Spitfire fighter planes that flew during Operation Goodwood nearly 80 years ago. The high bidder for the vehicle will also receive an all-inclusive package for two to attend the 2018 Ford Woodward Dream Cruise in Detroit, Michigan, in August.

Over 1,000 people participated in the evening and made a difference!

Experimental Aircraft Association Inc. and EAA Aviation Foundation Inc.



Statement of Financial Activities

Year ended February 28, 2018

	EAA	EAA Aviation Foundation
Revenues, Gains, and Other Support		
Admissions and Registrations:	\$13,336,814	
Membership Dues and Subscriptions:	\$5,932,962	
Donations (Cash and Pledges):	\$4,095,739	\$2,318,365
Donated Services and Property:	\$1,563,856	\$143,000
EAA Foundation Program Support:	\$1,027,443	
Investment Income/(Loss):	\$1,436,474	\$2,644,269
Change in Beneficial Interests:		\$163,134
Merchandise Sales and Rentals:	\$8,551,268	\$1,009,703
Advertising and Sponsorship:	\$4,851,787	
Other:	\$4,255,652	\$13,645
Total Revenues, Gains, and Other Support:	\$45,051,995	\$6,292,116
Expenses		
Program Related:	\$11,596,314	
EAA® AirVenture® Oshkosh™:	\$14,824,227	
Membership Services:	\$6,229,942	
Management and General:	\$5,277,001	\$1,772,100
Fundraising:	\$1,842,560	\$50,948
EAA Foundation Transfer to EAA®:		\$1,027,443
Cost of Merchandise:	\$2,428,289	
Total Expenses:	\$42,198,333	\$2,850,491
Change in Net Assets:	\$2,853,662	3,441,625
Net Assets at End of Fiscal Year:	\$32,501,738	\$45,812,959

A full audited financial report can be found for Experimental Aircraft Association Inc. (EAA) and the EAA Aviation Foundation online at www.EAA.org.



Partners in Flight (March 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018)

EAA's Partner in Flight recognizes those who give \$100-\$999 in annual gifts to support EAA's mission of growing participation in aviation.

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**Denotes estate gifts*

**Denotes estate gifts*

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EAA's First Wing recognizes those who have made a planned or estate gift of at least \$5,000 to the EAA Foundation. You can either designate a planned gift through your will, living trust, annuity, or naming EAA as a beneficiary.

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Corporate and Foundation Giving (March 1, 2017 – February 28, 2018)

EAA recognizes the following companies and foundations that have given philanthropic dollars to further EAA's programs.

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The following EAA members were honored by memorial gifts from friends and family.

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THE LAST WORD BY KEN STRMISKA

This column is dedicated to my father, Dale Strmiska, and my dear friend, J. Garland Schilcutt. Both men lived long, productive lives of service to others and died within hours of each other on March 16, 2018. Over the last 15 years, I had the privilege of flying them in the A-36 Beechcraft Bonanza that I flew for several years. The plane took us to destinations throughout the country for work and play.

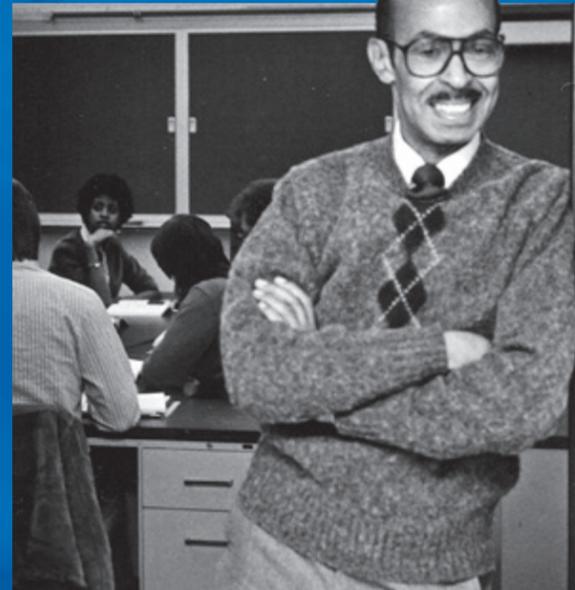
As a fellow aviator, you understand more than most when I say that it is through flight in a personal aircraft that we create deeper and in many cases incredibly meaningful relationships. In my case, these relationships taught me important lessons about giving back.

When I think about my father and J., I immediately think of the saying, "It is our obligation to leave the park better than how we found it." Dale and J. embodied this philosophy completely. They had a conscious understanding and appreciation for the impact that those who came before them had on their lives and understood that it was their obligation to not only maintain but to make things better for those who followed.

If there is a secret to this great country, it is everyday Americans thinking and acting beyond their self-interests and becoming stewards for communities, organizations, and programs. My father and J. had the wisdom and foresight to understand that if they could create a better community, everyone in the long run, including their descendants, would benefit. They also learned, over time, that you never give up and never pass up an opportunity to improve the community.

Thankfully my father and J. are not rarities. I suspect that if you take a moment, you can identify the Dale's and J's in your community. They are the ones who provided that scholarship, that community amenity, that service, or that educational program that you benefitted from at some time in your life. They did something that made the park a little bit better for you.

Now, it is up to us to carry on the tradition of making the future better for others. When you are ready to engage in that conversation, please reach out to us at the EAA Foundation. I can be reached at kstrmiska@eaa.org or (920) 426-5901.



J. Garland Schilcutt >

*"It is our obligation
to leave the park better
than how we found it."*



Dale Strmiska >





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