The Official Newsletter of
EAA Chapter 2
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President's Corner

70th Anniversary

The countdown was on for our major milestone celebration. Everyone was dressed up, and we were less than 60 minutes away from toasting 70 incredible years.

Then, the lights went out.

Total electrical failure. IMC conditions inside the Lucky Turtle Restaurant, the clock ticking down, the scramble was officially on. But if there is one thing aviation enthusiasts know how to handle, it's a sudden change in the flight plan. When an emergency strikes, pilots don't panic—we fall back on our training. Immediate corrective action was needed, and the Chapter Senior Staff immediately transitioned into emergency procedures.

Making the best decision: do we find an alternative, reschedule, or scrub the entire event?

At the moment, rescheduling or possibly scrubbing the event seemed like the best option, as other area restaurants were also out of power. The forecast looked bleak, but just as the Chapter Senior Staff were about to make a go-no-go decision, electrical power was restored- but was it in time to save the dinner?

The short answer is yes, and no.

The manager of the Lucky Turtle was uncomfortable trying to ready his kitchen in time to serve our dinner party and canceled our reservation. Could we find an alternative in the same general area so that dinner guests could be redirected and one that could handle a large last-minute reservation?

Laramie and David Resler saved the day. A quick phone call revealed the Casa Grille restaurant just a few hundred yards away would be happy to accept our dinner group. The menu was different from what we had originally planned but was diverse enough to satisfy our needs. What could have been an event that failed miserably turned into one of success. Unfortunately, several planned presentations were canceled; however, good food and camaraderie prevailed.

Fly safe, keep the ball centered, and enjoy the cooler Fall weather.

Paul Camp, President

EAA Chapter 2



Coming Events:

Thursday, November 12. Join us for the November Chapter 2 gathering at the Ivy Tech Aviation Center at Smith Field, 7:00! Chapter elections will be held. Chapter member Craig Brown will present a hypothetical VFR flight from Fort Wayne (FWA) to Goshen (GSH). Along the way, we will review many applicable procedures, definitions, rules, and advisories that apply.

Saturday, December 5. EAA Chapter 2 Christmas Part at Pat Garvey's Hangar, 6:00. Annual Chapter 2 Christmas Party Pot -Luck Dinner. Please bring a dish to share. Ham, table service and beverages will be provided by the Chapter.

EAA 2 celebrates 70 years at the Casa Grille.





2027 Membership Renewal

Your support of and participation in EAA Chapter 2 can enrich your aviation interest and understanding, as well as that of aviation enthusiasts of all ages.

Your support and participation also helps promote aviation throughout the broader community.

Membership renewal is easy, using the interactive form on the EAA 2 website. Dues can be paid online via credit card / PayPal. If you are new to EAA 2, dues can be pro-rated for the year.

Alternately, you can mail your printed form and check to:

David Resler
4719 S. 300 E
Churubusco IN 46723

Individual memberships are **$20**.

Family memberships are **$30**. This covers two adults and all children in a family.

Student memberships are **FREE** to those under 19 who are EAA members, which is free to them. See www.eaa.org/membership for details on how to join the EAA as a student.

Newsletter options. Emailed newsletters are **FREE**. If you want a printed newsletter, please add **$12** to your membership dues to cover the costs of printing and postage.

CHAPTER 2 HISTORY

Compiled by Laramie Resler

Here are some statistics about Young Eagles (YE) and EAA2:

- In 1992, the Chapter flew 6 YE.
- In 2012, the Chapter flew 1,037 YE, which is the most we flew in one year. We held six rallies with 15 to 20 planes at each one.
- In 2026, the Chapter flew 503 YE.
- The total YE flown since 1992 is 13,038.
- Since 1992, 143 pilots have flown YE for EAA2.
- We average 25 ground volunteers at each of our rallies.
- Our Chapter has the distinction of having the pilot, David Resler, who is #4 world wide for flying the most kids, over 3300. Only two out of the top five are still actively flying YE.
- EAA2 has had three different YE Coordinators, Scott & Ann Noble, Brad Hartz, and David & Laramie Resler who have held that position since 2005.
- We hold at least 11 YE rallies each year at various airports.
- Our Chapter has held rallies at these airports: SMD, GWB, C62, PLD, ANQ, CQA, ASW, RCR, HHG, VMW, OKK, C03, I22.

Chapter awards presented by EAA at AirVenture:

- Kevin Stahl for webmaster
- Pam Zepp for newsletter editor
- David & Laramie Resler for YE Coordinators (Phillips 66 Leadership Award)

Interesting facts from the minutes and other records:

- EAA Chapter 2 was started in Illinois and went dormant for two to three years. Marion Cole brought it to Fort Wayne in 1956.
- The Chapter was incorporated on April 13, 1966 as a 501(c)3.
- National EAA dues in 1976 were $20 for individuals.
- Chapter dues in 1976 were $5 for individuals.
- The letter to EAA to obtain information to organize the chapter was sent in the summer of 1956.
- The first meeting was held in the Essex Wire Hangar at Baer Field Airport with "15 people in attendance of which all were licensed private or commercial pilots".
- Of the many YE flown by EAA2 members, it's hard to know how many YE have obtained a pilot certificate or are working in aviation, but we do know of at least 30 former YE who have become pilots or are working in aviation. They have done everything from private pilot to corporate pilot to flight instructor to maintenance to engineer working with the military to aviation business owner.

The YE program is more than getting individuals into aviation. There are many kids who come to fly who would not have had the opportunity to fly without YE. Also, they learn how an airplane flies. We have even had some parents who have started flight training because they brought their kids to YE.

Are you a pilot? Are you building an aircraft? Are you an aircraft owner?
Are you just "plane nuts" about aviation?

2026 CHILI LUNCH



Thank you to all who helped with the Annual Chili Lunch Drive In/Fly-In on October 10. David Ressler reported close to 70 cars, 11 aircraft, and 186 guest for lunch. We were forced to be creative in parking all the cars that participated!

The Chapter raised over $1400 for youth scholarships.





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