

TAILWINDS



**EAA CHAPTER
974
NEWSLETTER
FEBRUARY 2023**



Butler County Regional Airport
Hamilton, Ohio



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS PARTY EDITION FEATURING:

- THE PREZ SEZ**
- MEMBERS, FRIENDS AND SPOUSES**
- SERVICE AWARDS**
- GIFT EXCHANGE**
- GROUP PORTRAIT**



Winter.... A time to plan, a time to look ahead

Hi everyone,

How is it possible that February is already here!?! It seems like January flew by in a blink of an eye. Well, I certainly won't complain about that!



If you haven't realized it yet, I am NOT a fan of cold weather. It seems like the older I get I dread each winter season more and more. Even if the heat is on in the garage or the hangar, it seems like the cold concrete seeps into your bones through your feet, and the feel of cold tools in the hands just seems to make me dread the task at hand.

This year I've been taking a different approach. Instead of drudging through, I'm trying to mentally take in and appreciate the little joys of each day. Taking time to enjoy the warmth of the sun on the skin even when it's cold around me, celebrating getting to add 3-4 total minutes of daylight each day as we head for spring, (Did you know that in February, we'll add a full hour of sunlight to the day?) and I'm taking time to plan the year ahead to make the most of each day that I have. One of the surprising benefits that I have found in this, is that by having future milestones to look forward to I'm enjoying each day as it comes, cold or not.

This has also meant spending time planning the year and activities for our Chapter. I am super excited about our year ahead! Back in the [December Chapter Newsletter](#), I introduced everyone to Keilah Gill. She completed her individual application for the Ray Scholarship fund, and as a Chapter, we submitted our application on January 30th. We'll know by the end of February if we have been selected to receive one of the annual scholarships, and I'm very hopeful that we do! It will take each of us as Chapter members to mentor and guide Keilah through the program. The milestone timing of the program are strict... The Scholarship recipient must fly their first solo within 3 months after receiving the scholarship, pass their written exam within 6 months, and have completed their PPL check-ride within 12 months. I know Keilah is up for the challenge, but it will take volunteer hours from us, careful planning, lots of mentorship, and measuring progress to make sure we help her realize her dream of becoming a pilot, and our first Young Eagle ambassador champion!

A few key reminders:

- Our first **Chapter Gathering** for 2023 will be held on **Sunday February 12th at 2:00PM**. Email reminder to follow shortly.
- If not already checked off the list, please settle up your 2023 Chapter Dues with Roger as soon as possible.

All for now... I can't wait to see everyone at the upcoming gathering! Be sure to come out and introduce yourself to Keilah.

Blue skies! Tom

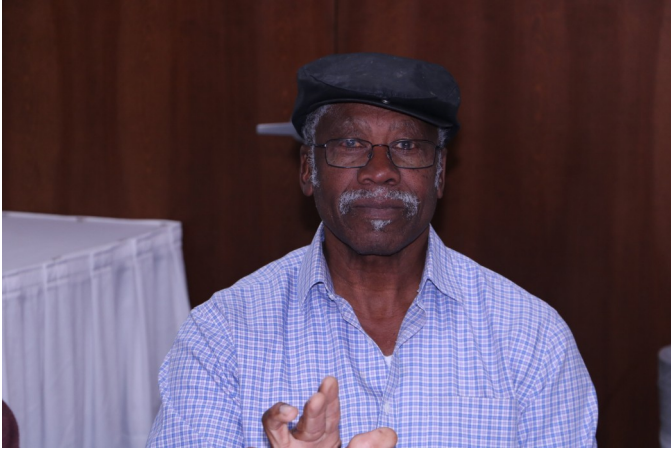


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CHAPTER SERVICE AWARDS



PRESIDENT, TOM MARTIN



VICE PRESIDENT JOEY SHREVE



YOUNG EAGLES SCOTT BALMOS



TREASURER, ROGER MCCLURE



TECH COUNSELOR RAY PARKER



NEWSLETTER, BOB DOMBEK



SECRETARY BRANDI BREWER



FLIGHT ADVISOR, SCOTT HERSHA



THE INFAMOUS WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT EXCHANGE!





A CHRISTMAS BLESSING

WHILE WE KNOW WE HAVE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE GIFT OF FLIGHT, IT'S EASY FOR US TO FORGET THE BLESSINGS OF ACCEPTANCE, SUPPORT, AND FRIENDSHIP. IT MAKES OUR CHAPTER COMMUNITY SPECIAL. LET'S NEVER FORGET THE UNIQUE BLESSINGS WE SHARE!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!