

# EAA® MEMBER HANDBOOK



Welcome to EAA!

We couldn't be happier you decided to join us. You're now part of the world's most passionate general aviation community.

This is **who we are** and what **defines us**:

- > EAA is a passionate, vibrant, and growing general aviation community.
- > EAA is on a mission to grow participation in aviation by promoting The Spirit of Aviation.®
- > EAA is a place for everyone — from beginners and enthusiasts to longtime pilots and expert builders.
- > EAA members enjoy living an aviation lifestyle.

You're now a part of it!

Our founder, Paul Poberezny, often said, "The airplanes bring us together – but it's the people that keep us coming back." That still holds true today, because we know it's members like you who make us great day in and day out.

Within the pages of this handbook – we'll show you how to get involved, whether that's joining a chapter, starting a project, or simply getting out and enjoying the world of flight. Whatever level you choose to participate at, we're confident you'll find benefits to enjoy year-round.

Welcome to the community.

Sincerely,

*Handwritten signature of Jack J. Pelton*

Jack J. Pelton  
CEO & Chairman of the Board



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Contact Us

Membership Support

1.800.564.6322 or membership@eaa.org

Website

EAA.org

Address

EAA Aviation Center  
3000 Poberezny Road  
Oshkosh, WI 54902



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hen you're standing there looking at this airplane, either one of those explanations seems perfectly plausible, especially when stacked up against the truth that one man built this bite-size behemoth from scratch, just because he wanted to.

#### ★ ORIGINAL INSPIRATION ★

When Jack was born, full-size B-17s had been in service for about two-and-a-half years. Built by Boeing in response to a proposal by the U.S. Army Air Corps, the B-17 was the first of a line of heavy bombers. In July of 1935, with a length of nearly 75 feet and a wingspan of more than 100 feet, it was the largest aircraft in the world. The B-17 had a top speed of 287 mph and a range of 1,400 miles. It was a flying fortress, a distinction as the largest and most powerful bomber in the world during World War II. It was in Europe, where it was dropped against German cities, that the B-17 had its greatest impact. It was a symbol of American power and a source of inspiration for many who followed.

## EAA Sport Aviation

One of EAA's most popular member benefits is *EAA Sport Aviation*, the award-winning monthly magazine featuring all things aviation. It's available in print, online, and for download on our digital app.

#### In each issue you'll find:

- > Fascinating original features covering the diverse world of general aviation
- > Thoughtful commentary from EAA experts, fellow members, and leaders in the aviation community
- > News and information, including what's new in the industry and at EAA
- > Advocacy updates and what you need to know
- > Pilot proficiency and helpful articles on how to improve your skills, no matter what your experience level
- > Whether you are a beginner or a longtime craftsman, you'll find content for all for homebuilders
- > Member Central — member and chapter updates, benefit updates, event announcements and more

#### Plus, expanded digital offerings:

- > Digital edition sent via e-mail
- > *EAA Sport Aviation* app for all your devices
- > Digital archives going back to 1953 on EAA.org

Read *EAA Sport Aviation* now or download the app by going to [EAA.org/SportAviation](http://EAA.org/SportAviation).



## Inbox (1)



## Newsletters and Online Resources

EAA *e-Hotline* is your weekly member connection. Delivered right to your e-mail inbox, *e-Hotline* contains up-to-date information about aviation, including breaking news, upcoming events, video stories, and more.

We have additional e-newsletters you can subscribe to as well:

- > **Bits and Pieces** is for builders and fliers in Canada
- > **In the Loop** showcases the world of aerobatic flying and competition
- > **Vintage AirMail** keeps Vintage Aircraft Association members informed on vintage updates
- > **ChapterGram** features information of interest and benefit to EAA chapter members
- > **Safety Wire** is for technical counselors and flight advisors
- > **IMC Advisor** is the companion newsletter for EAA's IMC and VMC clubs

To see the full list of available newsletters and opt-in to your favorites, go to [EAA.org/Subscribe](http://EAA.org/Subscribe).

Stay motivated and informed with EAA's Inspire Blog and The Green Dot podcast, produced for those who love aviation, and geared towards both pilots and non-pilots who love flight. Visit [inspire.eaa.org](http://inspire.eaa.org).

#### Social Communities

Behind-the-scenes access, real-time updates, and a unique perspective into EAA culture. Engage instantly with your community of aviation enthusiasts from around the world.

Find @EAA on all your favorite social platforms:



Facebook



Instagram



Snapchat



Twitter



YouTube



## EAA Chapters

As a member, you can enjoy the camaraderie of likeminded people who share a common bond by joining an EAA chapter. Chapter participation is a great way to get involved on the local level. Our chapter members report feeling they get the most out of their EAA membership because they are part of our greater network. They get to engage in grassroots flying and share their collective knowledge with one another.

With nearly 900 chapters worldwide, there is likely one near you. They're a place for you to learn, grow, and experience aviation year-round.

Chapters engage in a variety of programming, including the IMC and VMC Clubs, designed to help pilots improve their safety and proficiency by working through real-world scenarios. See [EAA.org/IMC](http://EAA.org/IMC) or [EAA.org/VMCclub](http://EAA.org/VMCclub) for more information on these offerings.

Visit [EAA.org/FindAChapter](http://EAA.org/FindAChapter) to explore what chapters have to offer you.

**Can't find one close by?** Call us at 800.564.6322 or e-mail [chapters@eaa.org](mailto:chapters@eaa.org) and we can help you start a chapter!



EAA IMC Club is presented  
by Bose Corporation  
and supported by Jeppesen



EAA VMC Club is supported  
by Jeppesen.

## EAA Advocacy

You now have a dedicated government advocacy team working for you to keep flying affordable and accessible.

Our key accomplishments include working alongside the Federal Aviation Administration to develop a supplemental type certificates (STCs) that help pilots fly cheaper and safer.

Aeromedical reform has also been a top advocacy priority of EAA members for a number of years. The goal was to reduce the unnecessary regulatory and financial barriers that pushed aviators out of recreational flying and kept potential pilots from engaging in aviation. In July of 2016, we met this goal with support of members like you.

These accomplishments prove that we're on the front lines working to protect and enhance the rights of our members.

Stay up to date on our advocacy efforts through *e-Hotline* and [EAA.org/Advocacy](http://EAA.org/Advocacy).





## EAA Aviation Museum

As an EAA member, you receive free, unlimited admission to one of the world's most extensive aviation collections. And with a family membership, your spouse and dependent children under 18 can also experience the EAA Aviation Museum free of charge year-round!

Established in 1962, the museum is part of EAA's efforts to preserve and share aviation history. It's located in Oshkosh as part of EAA Headquarters, and features a collection of more than 250 historic and replica aircraft representing the full spectrum of flight. Get hands-on in the KidVenture Gallery, an exciting and interactive area for kids of all ages. Watch, listen, learn, and interact with a variety of aviation exhibits and attractions. Visit [EAA.org/Museum](http://EAA.org/Museum) for more information.

### Free Access to over 400 Museums

EAA members enjoy all kinds of museums, from aviation and space to science, history, and more. Just show your EAA membership card at the museum entrance and pay zero admission costs! To find participating museums and exclusions, visit [EAA.org/Passport](http://EAA.org/Passport).

## EAA Flight Experiences

We're keeping aviation history alive with Flight Experiences. You can take a ride in EAA's B-17 *Aluminum Overcast* and experience what it was like to be aboard a bomber during WWII. Or relive the golden age of aviation with a flight in EAA's 1929 Ford Tri-Motor, the world's first mass-produced airliner.

Our aircraft tour the United States and Canada to give aviation and history enthusiasts the chance to remember the incredible history of aviation.

Visit [FlyTheFord.org](http://FlyTheFord.org) and [B17.org](http://B17.org) for tour schedules.



The 1944 P-51D Mustang known as Paul I was flown by Paul Poberezny in air shows after being donated to EAA in 1977. It is now on display in the Eagle Hangar.

**MUSEUM FUN FACT**





## EAA® AirVenture® Oshkosh™

What's EAA AirVenture Oshkosh?  
The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration®!

No matter what aircraft you fancy, there's something at AirVenture for everyone. From ultralight aircraft and WWII bombers, to aerobatic and vintage aircraft, the sky and flightline are full of planes for seven straight days every summer. But AirVenture brings together more than just amazing aircraft; it also brings together our EAA family, friends, and enthusiasts. Attendees use this week to learn as well as connect with a large variety of forums, workshops and hands-on activities to improve the knowledge of pilots, builders and enthusiasts. Nowhere else will you find so many people laughing, talking, and sharing their love of aviation all in one place.

As a member, you **save big** at AirVenture! You'll receive discounts on admission, camping, merchandise, food, and many other things around the grounds.

### AIRVENTURE STATS:

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| > 10,000 aircraft                       | > 40,000 campers |
| > 500,000 attendees                     | > 800 exhibitors |
| > 1,000 forums, workshops, and sessions |                  |





## Knowledge and Information

### EAA Technical Counselors

EAA Technical Counselors are experienced airplane builders, restorers, and mechanics who volunteer their time to assist EAA members who are in the process of building or restoring their own aircraft. The goal of the Technical Counselor program is to help members present a “zero defect” aircraft at final inspection by the FAA. Visit [EAA.org/TechCounselors](https://www.eaa.org/TechCounselors).

### Flight Advisors

Flight Advisors take new and experienced pilots of homebuilt aircraft through a formal evaluation process that will focus on their aircraft and the skills required to operate it, as well as their skills as a pilot. The ultimate goal of the evaluation process is a “go/no-go” decision. Visit [EAA.org/FlightAdvisors](https://www.eaa.org/FlightAdvisors).


### EAA’s Aeromedical Advisory Program

Medical requirements for pilots can be tricky. You can now consult with an FAA-qualified medical professional, who’ll answer questions and guide you through the process to keep your credentials current.

**For more information about these benefits call 1-800-564-6322.**

### Hints for Homebuilders

Watch the weekly video published to the EAA website that’ll give you quick tips for homebuilding and restoring. You can also review the archive of topics to get ready for your project. Visit [EAA.org/Video](https://www.eaa.org/Video) to watch now.



### Webinars

Never stop expanding your aviation expertise with EAA’s regular series of web-based seminars and live multimedia presentations. Online audience members can ask questions, chat, and contribute to the information, all for free. See the upcoming events or view the archive at [EAA.org/Webinars](https://www.eaa.org/Webinars).

### SportAir Workshops

EAA’s highly interactive, hands-on workshops are the perfect place for do-it-yourself aviators to learn about aircraft building and restoring. Courses are held around the country and include: Fundamentals of Aircraft Construction, Sheet Metal Basics, Electrical Systems, Fabric Covering, Composite Construction, TIG Welding, Gas Welding, and What’s Involved in Kit Building. Visit [EAA.org/SportAir](https://www.eaa.org/SportAir) for all course offerings near you and to get an EAA member discount.

### EAA Library

Part of the museum’s efforts to preserve history, composed of member donations and ongoing efforts to catalog important books, photographs, journals, manuals, and more. A portion of the books are available through interlibrary loan and EAA staff is available for research assistance in person or remotely. To learn more visit [EAA.org/Library](https://www.eaa.org/Library).

### Online Store of How-To and Technical Manuals

Check out the EAA online shop for an excellent assortment of how-to books, technical manuals, logbooks, and more. Visit [EAA.org/Shop](https://www.eaa.org/Shop) to browse the available selection.





## EAA Young Eagles®

Since launching in 1992, EAA Young Eagles has given more than 2 million youth ages 8 to 17 an opportunity to go flying in a general aviation airplane. These flights are offered free of charge and are made possible by the generosity of EAA member volunteers.

The Young Eagles Flight Plan, launched in 2010, is a five-step journey designed to inspire young people and keep them actively engaged after their Young Eagles flight. In addition to a free introductory flight, the steps include free EAA student membership, free access to Sporty's Learn to Fly Ground School, a first flight lesson, and flight training scholarships.

Visit [EAA.org/YoungEagles](http://EAA.org/YoungEagles) or contact your local chapter to learn how to become a Young Eagles volunteer or sign up a youth as a Young Eagle.

**sporty's**  
pilot shop  
Learn to fly here.



## EAA Eagle Flights®

EAA's Eagle Flights program is a free introductory flight experience and informal mentoring program designed to welcome and encourage adults who want to discover flying, but don't know how or where to take that first step.

Visit [EAA.org/EagleFlights](http://EAA.org/EagleFlights) to learn how to become an Eagle Flights mentor pilot or to connect with a participating pilot in your area.



## Become an EAA Donor

Donations to EAA make it possible to carry out our mission: to grow participation in aviation. Gifts also help us keep annual dues low and open to everyone.

There are many ways to become an EAA donor, from one-time gifts, online auctions, planned giving or participating in the annual Gathering of Eagles event during EAA AirVenture Oshkosh.

Consider becoming an EAA donor today. The future of aviation is bright, and you can help keep it that way.

Visit [EAA.org/Donor](http://EAA.org/Donor) to learn about the ways you can contribute and what you can receive in return.

## Volunteer

Volunteers are the heart and soul of EAA. They make AirVenture possible every year, have flown more than 2 million Young Eagles, and have served countless pancakes at fly-ins.

In fact, the success of EAA Young Eagles, EAA Eagle Flights, AirVenture, KidVenture, the EAA Aviation Museum, Pioneer Airport, and many other programs are almost fully supported by the hundreds of thousands of volunteer hours contributed each year.

In short, our volunteers mean everything to us. Visit [EAA.org/Volunteer](http://EAA.org/Volunteer) to learn about ways you can get involved, and provide meaning beyond belief.







# SHOW YOUR **EAA PRIDE** WITH LOGOED GEAR!

Members save on EAA merchandise.  
Visit **EAA.org/Shop** to get yours today!

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Your EAA merchandise purchase supports EAA programs that grow participation in aviation.