

October, 2025

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EAA Chapter 569 Newsletter

Lincoln, NE



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Meeting Announcement

Date: Tuesday, October 7th **Time:** 7:00pm

Program: University of Nebraska Omaha Aviation Flight Team

Place: Duncan Aviation, Hangar I

3831 N Park Rd, Lincoln NE 68524

Parking is west and south adjacent to Hangar I.

Enter the building at the southwest corner. Click [here](#) for a map



**Greetings
from
President
Tom Trumble**

September was an active month.

Sunday, September 7th was a great day for a picnic. Holly and Jon Dixon again hosted our fly-in/drive in picnic. Having a runway to land on in front of our picnic area, along with an open hangar door, is as good as life gets for airplane nuts. The fly-in traffic was amazing.

Got [a couple shots of Mark Gaffney taking off](#). I spared everyone by not photographing landings.

Harold Bickford gave a short talk on the FAA's adoption of the Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certification rule (MOSAIC). There is a detailed article in the September Sport Aviation magazine. Dennis Crispin presented a slideshow of AirVenture.

The monthly fly-in breakfast is going well at Wahoo on the 3rd Saturday of the month. On Saturday September 20th, the Nebraska Corvette Association caravanned to Wahoo so we had Corvettes and airplanes on the ramp in front of the hangar.

Pictures of the aforementioned events are elsewhere in this newsletter.

Our chapter held a Young Eagle event on Sunday September 21st at the Lincoln Airport in support of the Women in Aviation Open House at Duncan Aviation. 20 Young Eagles were flown. Thanks to chapter members Cristi and Paige Higgins, Tiffany Thompson and Pilots Jerry Clinch, and Colin McWilliams.

Cristi and Paige Higgins have a Young Eagle event planned on November 8th (9:00 – noon) at Seward (KSWT). We are now using the EAA web-based program for YE sign up. <https://events.eaachapters.org>. This Young Eagle Event link has also been added to the top of our www.eaa569.org home page.

We will be opening nominations for Board of Directors/Officers at the October 7 meeting. The current board members have agreed to be on the ballot. Anyone who would like to participate is welcome. We would also welcome volunteers for Young Eagles and the breakfast crew. The election for the 2026 Board/Officers will be at the November 4th meeting.

Chapter 569 Picnic

By Doug Volkmer

I think if we are ever in a rut of crummy weather, we just need to schedule a picnic at Shoemaker Airfield. We are always blessed with nice weather and this year was no exception, with sunny skies, temps in the 70s and light winds.

A good group made their way to Shoemaker Airfield on Sunday, September 7th. Festivities kicked off at 5:30pm with grace given by Edi Bickford, followed by picnic goers making their way through the buffet line. A good variety of main dishes and desserts were on hand to satisfy the heartiest of appetites.

Harold Bickford presented to the group an update on MOSAIC, pulling out the key nuggets from the 717 page document that was released during AirVenture this year. [Here is his handout](#) from the picnic.

Dennis Crispin recapped AirVenture 2025 with a very nice slide show. Dennis always does a fantastic job with this and something I always look forward to.

A big thanks to Jon and Holly Dixon for hosting this event. Their airfield / acreage makes for an awesome setting for our picnic and we're lucky to have them as members of our Chapter.



Planes departing Shoemaker field as the sun begins to set.

Among the fly-ins were –



Jerry Clinch and son Jer (Cessna 172).



Mark Gaffney and Anne Schutte (Cessna 172).



Jerry and Sharon Mulliken (Cessna 177).



Lyle Eisenhower (Cessna 172).



Doug Volkmer (RV-7).



Paul Selivanoff (Kolb Mark III).

September fly-in breakfast

By Doug Volkmer

Airplanes shared the ramp with Corvettes at the Chapter 569 September fly-in breakfast. Thanks to President Trumble for sharing his photos. A reminder, the October breakfast will be our last of the season. We'll put our grills through an annual inspection and then pull them back out in April, 2026.



NDOT Division of Aeronautics Invites Nebraska Youth to Participate in the 2026 Aviation Art Contest: “Fly to Save Lives”

The Nebraska Department of Transportation’s Division of Aeronautics is proud to announce the 2026 FAI International Aviation Art Contest, a global competition that invites youth ages 6–17 to explore the world of aviation through art. This year’s inspiring theme is: “Fly to Save Lives.”

We encourage Nebraska’s youth to showcase their artistic talents by depicting the brave aviators who come to the rescue when disaster strikes. From pilots delivering life-saving supplies and battling wildfires from above to search-and-rescue crews navigating the skies to reach those in need, aviation plays a heroic role in emergency response. Grab your pencils and show us how flight brings hope, help, and heroism to the world!

Artists compete locally, nationally, and internationally. At the state level, which has been sponsored by NDOT's Division of Aeronautics since 1986, winners are selected in three age categories: Junior (6–9), Intermediate (10–13), and Senior (14–17).

Contest Details:

- Deadline: All entries must be submitted by January 16, 2026
- Artists are encouraged to [review the contest brochure](#) for artwork size and format requirements before submitting. Rules, guidelines, the brochure, and entry forms are available at: <https://dot.nebraska.gov/aeronautics/art-contest/>
- Participants should mail their completed artwork to:

Mark Langrud, Educational Outreach Coordinator
NDOT Division of Aeronautics
1600 Nebraska Parkway
Lincoln, NE 68502

The NDOT Division of Aeronautics will announce Nebraska’s state-level winners in late January. Cash prizes for the winners are generously sponsored by the Nebraska Aviation Council.

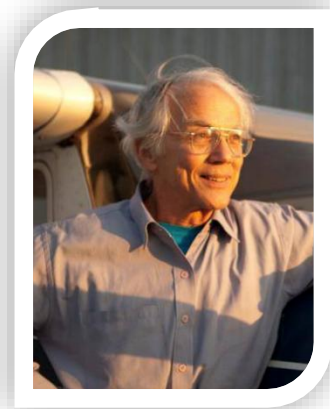
Winning entries from Nebraska will advance to the national competition, organized by the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) and the National Aeronautic Association (NAA) in Washington, D.C. The top three winners in each age group at the national level will move on to compete in the FAI International Aviation Art Contest, which typically draws participants from 20–40 countries worldwide.

For never was a tale of greater woe

By Tom Winter

August 4, a day that will live in horror, I broke my airplane.

Counting on the forecast from the night before, I set out to deliver The Bluebird of Happiness for its annual, while Joanna drove to SWT. Preflighted, pulled the plane out, closed the hangar door, and heard thunder in the west. Looked. The western sky was trying to look black. Prudent thing was plain: taxi to Silverhawk and use their phone to ask about the sky over Seward. Thunderstorm was the reply. Joanna was already there. Terri checked the radar: there was nothing behind it: sky would be clear once it passed, so I settled in at the Silverhawk pilot lounge watching radar.



And here it comes! Rather than leave my bird out in a storm, I taxied back and pulled the plane back into the hangar. Drove back to Silverhawk and watched radar till 12:30. Clear sky, so back to the hangar, pulled out the plane, angling it to the south, checked to be sure the plane was clear of the threshold of the hangar door, and went inside and closed the hangar door.

Crunch!

I stepped out and saw the wingtip broken and hanging down: The descending fold of the big door had caught the wing.

Now, of course, the fix is simplicity itself. Just finish work on my time machine, set the dial to 12:30 p.m. August 4, and pull the plane two feet farther away from the hangar. Now of course this fix has universal application, and I stand to make a huge fortune renting out the time machine for accident preventals, but darn it all, it never works, except inside my head.

I held back my tears, horsed the broken Royalite fairing back nearly into place, got my clearance and launched for Seward. Took a close look once I landed: the Royalite fairing was not alone: the end rib was wrinkled.

Other complication: the grand windstorms of August 8 bent the Whisler Aviation hangar door in and for days on end, it could not be opened.

The replacement end rib finally arrived, with a new wingtip fairing. Greg called. He convinced me the right wingtip fairing is cracked far enough that it should be replaced. No surprise, as I'd been repeatedly doing stop-drills at the end of the cracks. Okay, good. A new wingtip fairing, each side.

Also the fairings come in primer and will have to be painted. Greg was concerned that the white paint

would be hard to match: it would be easier to match the blue of the fuselage. Could he have the wingtips painted blue?

I broke out laughing somehow. "Straight ahead, Greg!"

I can hardly wait. The Bluebird of Happiness is going to have blue flight feathers.

Young Eagle Event

By Tom Trumble

Friday, September 26th was one of Ken Siemek's Top 10 weather days. Cristi and Paige Higgin's hosted a Young Eagle Event for the St. Patrick's 8th grade class at the Lincoln Airport, Duncan Aviation Flight Department. Educator Lyndsay Hartman provided a field trip to remember.

13 kids received a Young Eagle airplane ride from Derek Whisler and Jerry Clinch. A good many commented it was their very first airplane adventure.

Andy Bajc and Larry Bartlett of Duncan Aviation provided some close-up maintenance education on Duncan's Cessna 172 and a tour of the cabin of a Cessna Citation Mustang.

After the rides and lunch, Duncan veteran employee, Howard Nitzel led a tour of 7 Duncan Maintenance hangars. The group observed maintenance on smaller aircraft such as Lear Jets then progressively worked up to larger aircraft such as the Bombardier CRJ.

Garrett Jacobs (my grandson) explained to the group that he was removing corrosion from the structure on a Bombardier business jet. Garrett displayed a variety of small, specialized sanding and grinding tools, the smallest being a dental drill.

The tour ended in the lobby of Duncan's newest Hangar I. A group picture with a 1956 Chevrolet Belair that was restored for the commemoration of Duncan Aviation's first year in business, 1956.







The Push Is on for 2.5 Million Young Eagles!

By EAA Staff (EAA HQ)

EAA's Young Eagles program, which over three decades has become the largest youth aviation education program ever created, is focusing its efforts on reaching 2.5 million Young Eagles flown by EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2026.

"From those first Young Eagles flights at Oshkosh in July 1992 to today, more than 50,000 EAA-member pilots have shared their time, aircraft, and knowledge to open the world of flight to young people," said Jack J. Pelton, EAA CEO and Chairman of the Board. "We now see its effect in developing two generations of pilots. We are now calling upon EAA members to reach the next big milestone of 2.5 million Young Eagles flown in the next 10 months and to celebrate this achievement with us at Oshkosh next July."

As of September 24, 2025, there have been 2,453,776 Young Eagles flown. Those Young Eagles have been flown in aircraft ranging from hot air balloons to corporate jets on every continent except Antarctica. The success of the Young Eagles program is also the foundation of EAA's expanding youth aviation education resources, which now include AeroEducate, Sporty's Learn-To-Fly course and Young Eagles Connect, the EAA Air Academy, and chapter-based Ray Aviation Scholarships.

“As I visit Young Eagles rallies, the volunteer leaders often tell me the same thing — there are plenty of eager kids ready to go flying, but more pilots are needed and always welcome,” said Jimmy Graham, Young Eagles chairman and retired NFL All-Pro tight end. “We aviators all have had that one flight that sparked our love of aviation, so it’s time to get involved and sign up to fly Young Eagles. You can make a difference — who knows where that young person could go because of your willingness to take them flying?”

EAA is offering recognition for Young Eagles pilots who join the “25 for 2.5” campaign to reach 2.5 million Young Eagles in the coming months. In addition, participating EAA chapters that assist in new volunteer pilot recruitment will be eligible for extra Young Eagles credits that can be used to obtain further resources for Young Eagles rallies or cover tuition fees of deserving youths for the EAA Air Academy residence camp held each summer in Oshkosh.

More information regarding these recognition levels and incentives is available at EAA.org/Fly25YE.

100LL prices as reported by Airnav FBO on 9-19-25				
Prices subject to change without notice				
		Dist (NM) from KLNK	/Gal.	Service
Lnk	Duncan	0	\$ 6.49	FS
Lnk	Atlantic	0	\$ 6.73	FS
KSWT	Seward	16	\$ 5.50	SS
KAHQ	Wahoo	24	\$ 5.75	SS
KBIE	Beatrice	33	nl	SS
KFBY	Fairbury	44	\$ 4.85	SS
KAFK	Nebraska City	43	\$ 4.96	SS
KVMP	Plattsmouth	39	nl	SS
KJYR	York	39	\$ 5.00	FS
KAUH	Aurora	56	\$ 5.00	SS
KFMZ	Fairmont	40	\$ 5.10	SS
KOLU	Columbus	45	\$ 5.51	FS
KFET	Fremont	38	\$ 5.40	ss
OG3	Tecumseh	44	\$ 5.80	SS
93Y	David City	29	\$ 4.70	SS

(Thanks Jon! – Ed)

EAA 569 Annual CHRISTMAS PARTY

We invite you to join us for an evening of fellowship, great food, and festive holiday spirit!

DATE: Friday, December 12, 2025

TIME: 6:00 p.m. (Dinner served at 6:30 p.m.)

LOCATION: St. Patrick's Church, Finnigan Hall
6120 Morrill Avenue, Lincoln, NE 68507

RSVP: by **DECEMBER 1ST**
\$25 Per Person

MEAL CATERED BY:
Ricky's Café of Hanover, Kansas

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY:
St. Patrick's Children's Choir

Pay online at (eaa569.org) or mail check to:
Mark Gaffney
7415 N 49th St.
Lincoln, NE 68514



Month		EAA Chapter 569 Calendar
Oct	4	Young Eagles Rally - Seward, NE - 9:00am – noon
	7	7:00pm General Meeting - Duncan Aviation Hangar I
	18	8:00am - 10:00am Wahoo Fly-in Breakfast, EAA 569 - KAHQ (last one of the season)
	25	11:30am - 1:30pm Hastings Hamburger Fly-in Lunch (rain or shine) (last one of the season)
Nov	4	7:00pm General Meeting
	8	Young Eagles Rally - Seward, NE - 9:00am - noon



And finally ...

Girls in Aviation



As President Trumble mentioned in his message, Chapter 569 had a presence at the Girls in Aviation Day held at LNK on September 21st. The Cornhusker Chapter of Women in Aviation hosted the event. A few members had their planes on display and 20 Young Eagles were given rides. Click the picture to view Channel 8's coverage of the event.

John Cox
2279 County Road 2425
DeWitt, Nebraska 68541-2518



See President
Trumble if you're
interested in a
2026 EAA
Calendar!!