



THE EAGLE'S WINGS

**A NEWSLETTER FOR CHAPTER COORDINATORS, FIELD REPRESENTATIVES
AND SUPPORTERS OF THE YOUNG EAGLES PROGRAM**



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ARE YOU AN ACTIVE CHAPTER COORDINATOR?

This Newsletter is designed to keep current Chapter Coordinators and Field Representatives up to date with information regarding the Young Eagles Program and your role in disseminating this information to the Young Eagles pilots. Please let us know if you are receiving this mailing but are no longer active in the program. It is very disheartening to prospective Young Eagles and their parents to put them in contact with a person who is no longer actively organizing Young Eagle flights.

DECEMBER 17TH 2003 AND BEYOND. . .

When we reach our 1 million Young Eagle goal this year, does that mean the program will cease to exist? No! In fact, because we have been so successful, you have helped ensure the program will continue! Young Eagles has become one of the top activities for EAA Chapters and Members. The Wright Brothers didn't stop flying on December 18, 1903, so why should we stop flying Young Eagles on December 18, 2003? We are looking at ways to keep the program growing in 2004 and beyond. In the future, we want to help you continue providing inspirational and motivational experiences for young people in your community. Your mission now is to help us complete the initial goal of the program. Please check for any Young Eagles registrations you might have waiting to be sent in. Also remind your pilots to turn in any completed forms they might still have. We want to make sure all the flights that have occurred are counted.

1,000,000TH YOUNG EAGLE SELECTION

One of the questions that remain is exactly how will that special Young Eagle be selected? First, we should point out that the flight on December 17 at Kitty Hawk will be a ceremonial flight. The projections are that if we keep flying as we have been for the past few months, the magic number will arrive in the logbook sometime in late November. That's good, because it will give us time to make arrangements for the Young Eagle to be in Kitty Hawk. That's also good news for the Young Eagles Flight Leader who flew that child. That person will also be invited to Kitty Hawk. As we have done for all our other "milestone" Young Eagles, we will simply make a random selection based on how the mail is processed in our office. We couldn't think of a better method of selecting that person. Rather than having a "celebrity" Young Eagle, we thought it much better that the 1 millionth Young Eagle is simply that – a Young Eagle – who will represent all the other Young Eagles who came before. General Yeager will fly that young person at Kitty Hawk and we anticipate it will be a very special moment for all of us who have been involved in Young Eagles. It will mark the culmination of a dream that first took flight in 1992. It will also signal the end of the first phase of Young Eagles and represent our entrance into the second century of flight.

2003 CHAPTER GOALS

If we have the card on file with your Chapter's goal for 2003, remember to let us know when your Chapter reaches that goal. Please make us aware of your accomplishment while the excitement is still fresh. We will recognize your Chapter in a future edition of Flight Leader News. If you have not sent in your goal card, or are unsure we received it, please let us know. There's still time to record your goal for 2003.

GROUND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

As many of you start planning your Holiday events, don't forget to recognize your Ground Volunteers. I would be happy to supply a personalized Certificate of Appreciation, plus a Flightline Volunteer pin, to all of your deserving ground volunteers. The recognition outline can be found in your Chapter Coordinator folder.

YOUNG EAGLE EXTRAS

Sporty's continues to offer the color posters of a Cessna 172 cockpit free of charge to any Young Eagle pilot or Chapter requesting them. Order your supply from our office and we will take care of getting them delivered to you. They can be used as a post-flight giveaway or a tool for ground school before the flight. Thanks much to Hal Shevers and the crew at Sporty's. Gleim Publications is also providing free of charge copies of "Learn to Fly" to give to your next Young Eagles. Please order your copies directly preferably by e-mail at youngeagles@gleim.com or if necessary you may call 800-874-5346 Extension 471. Please include all necessary mailing information along with how many you need when leaving your request. Thanks also to Dr. Irvin Gleim and Gleim Publications for this generous offer.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Young Eagles office recognizes former Young Eagles who have soloed or earned their Private Pilot's license. If you'll let us know about those Young Eagles who are flying on their own, we'll recognize their accomplishment. Please send the Young Eagle's name and address and the recognition level they achieved. Those Young Eagles who solo receive a customized certificate of accomplishment. Young Eagle Private Pilots receive a certificate of accomplishment and a unique set of pilot's wings. Help us congratulate your successful Young Eagles.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Definition of a volunteer: *A person who performs a service of his or her own free will. To do charitable or helpful work without pay.* I am truly thankful to have met and worked with all of you who more than exemplify the definition of a volunteer. The added component I find in so many of you is your heartfelt love of the program that impacts all those you come in contact with. When we reach Young Eagle #1,000,000, you can share the pride of a job well done.

Thanks and keep in touch mkunes@eaa.org, Telephone 877-806-8902 or via mail at: PO Box 2683, Oshkosh, WI 54903-2683.

Michelle Kunes
Young Eagles Program Administrator