



Vol 12, No. 3

THE EAGLE'S WINGS

A NEWSLETTER FOR CHAPTER COORDINATORS AND FIELD REPRESENTATIVES OF EAA'S YOUNG EAGLES PROGRAM

GREETINGS

Fall is my favorite time of year and for many of you it's a great time to fly Young Eagles. Now is also the time for pilots to check to see if they have reached their "10 for 2008". Pilots who fly 10 or more Young Eagles in a calendar year earn credits that can be used to help off-set the cost of sending a Young Eagle to one of the Air Academy sessions next summer. Each year, many pilots fall just a few Young Eagles short of earning credits. Last year, 35% of Air Academy participants benefited from the credit program, many supported by EAA Chapters. The credit program is a great way to continue to support a young person's interest aviation.

YOUNG EAGLES PAPERWORK

After the last child is flown and the last airplane is pushed into the hangar, your next thought is probably not about sending in your Young Eagle Registration forms. But it should be. Timely processing of the forms has a dual positive affect. First, your new Young Eagles receive a post card from Harrison Ford congratulating them on entering the world of aviation and directing them to the Young Eagles website. Of equal importance, our volunteer pilots receive the recognition they deserve for flying kids. It's important to have that acknowledgement as soon as possible after the flights to keep the interest high. So please, don't delay the paperwork.

CHAPTER GOALS

We have been pleased to receive notification from many Chapters that they have reached their Young Eagle goal for 2008. Remember, if your Chapter set and matched a goal for this year, please let me know. We enjoy acknowledging and rewarding those Chapters that set and reach a goal for flying Young Eagles – you may call or send an e-mail to inform our office of your goal status.

GROUND VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Remember all volunteers should be "recognized" for their efforts, especially your all-important ground support team. We can easily provide certificates of appreciation and Volunteer pins for the year. Please send me an e-mail with your Volunteer's names and let me know when you need them. Many Chapters plan recognition for an annual banquet or holiday party, so please plan ahead so I can have the items to you in advance of your event.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Thanks to the anywhere/anytime nature of the Internet, it is easier than ever to share your Young Eagles success story with the world. However, there are a few things to keep in mind that will increase the possibility of your story making it to the Young Eagles web site or even into one of the magazines.

- Please include your name, address and EAA number with your submission. Also let us know if you're willing to have other EAA members contact you.
- Most web stories range from 400 – 800 words – or roughly a one page document.
- Don't think you have the talent to write a story? Think again! Describe the event in your own words. The excitement and highlights of the day will come through. We'll take care of the editing part.
- Photos should be of the highest resolution possible. Check your camera's setting and use the highest quality available. This is especially important for any photos that may be published in the magazines, where full-resolution images from a 2-megapixel camera or better are required.
- Identify people in any photos whenever possible.
- Don't send computer print-outs or Polaroids.
- Send as a JPG or TIFF (not Word.doc) file.
- Photos should be in focus and properly exposed. Watch shadows from high wing aircraft. Faces often get lost in the shadows.
- Propellers and photos don't mix. Photos of children (or adults) hanging on or near propellers as a rule, are not published.
- Submissions are published at the sole discretion of the publisher and may appear in any of EAA's publications or our websites. We reserve the right to edit your description and photos will not be returned.

Send electronic descriptions to youngeagles@eaa.org. Written articles should be mailed to EAA Young Eagles, P. O. Box 2683, Oshkosh, WI 54903-2683. We look forward to sharing your stories with the world!

MICHELLE'S THOUGHTS

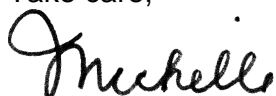
Thanks for all the notes regarding my last Newsletter story in this section. I have decided that we all send a better message when we relate a story. Someday, I may run out of stories, but for now I will share a few. In May, I was attending my son's Master's Degree graduation near Chicago. I was a little nervous about "fitting in" as he told me that most of his fellow students come from prestigious families of lawyers and doctors. "I'm a single parent and I 'just' work at EAA were my thoughts. What will we ever have in common?"

I was introduced at his table to a couple from New Jersey, (mom is a lawyer and dad is in publishing) and the conversation began. When I said I worked at EAA, dad's eyes lit up and he said he was a pilot a long time ago and had been to Oshkosh in the late 1980s. I was instantly accepted as working at a really cool place that dealt with pilots and airplanes! His wife leaned over and said, "He loves to meet someone he can talk aviation with."

Once again, I was proud and grateful to be an EAA employee and realized the ties people make with aviation never leave them. Remember that each time you fly a Young Eagle – you have a chance to make a lasting, positive impression!

If I can be of any assistance, please contact me: mkunes@eaa.org, 877-806-8902 or P.O. Box 2683, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Take care,



Michelle Kunes
Young Eagles Program Administrator