



EAA CHAPTER 808

January Newsletter 2018

A Word from the President

January 2018

Happy New Year to everyone and we hope you had a safe holiday season. We look forward to the new year and we are off to a great start. Ron updated everyone on the Nitro Burn Chili RC Fly. We had a wonderful time and look forward to next year's. Our first chapter meeting was held January 13th and we discussed several items we plan to implement this year. John will provide them in the minutes but a few items deserve mentioning:

1. A Young Eagles Scholarship for an introductory instructional flight for a deserving young eagle age to be determined.
2. Several members will participate in the EAA Chapter Leaders Boot Camp January 27th to providing many more ideas in increasing members and activities.
3. A group e-mail alert for spur of the moment activities that members can ride along or participate in.

We will travel to La Junta for our February Meeting to meet with our La Junta members and have our monthly meeting.

There was an article Sunday in the Pueblo Chieftain by the Greeley-Weld Airport Manager Gary Cyr. The article demonstrated the services that a GA airport provides (sounds familiar to all of our local airports) and denounces the privatization of the Air Traffic Control system. Please see next column.

The President, **Terrence Terrill**

CYR: Congress should maintain oversight of air traffic control

Gary Cyr



The Greeley-Weld County Airport plays an important role in our local community. Local doctors fly from our airport to eastern Colorado, southern Nebraska and western Kansas to provide medical services to these rural communities. Three days a week, cardiologists and other specialists use small aircraft travel to provide services in the rural communities where they are needed, which would otherwise be lacking. Without these small aircraft, patients would be forced to drive hours to see a specialist.

What's more, our airport is a lifeline for patients in these rural areas who need critical medical treatment that is not provided in their local communities. With a population base of about 450,000 people within 35 miles, Northern Colorado Medical Center offers a wide range of services and specialty practices that are not available in outlying areas. It has an award-winning cardiac program, a highly-rated cancer institute and serves as a level II trauma center. Our airport is also used for a number of med flight transports, with aerial ambulance services flying out to car crashes and other accidents to pro-

vide lifesaving services on an emergency basis. (We can add in firefighting, law enforcement, Department of Corrections, etc.,)

Beyond saving lives, our airport also serves agricultural aerial applicators. During peak season, these aircraft can be seen making pass after pass over our farmland, overseeing and treating our crops. In addition, companies like JBS Swift & Company, the largest employer in town, as well as Hensel Phelps Construction Co. and Norfolk Iron & Metal, rely on the airport to transport personnel, visit job sites and increase efficiency.

All of these services fall under the umbrella of general aviation and, as you can see, they play a very important role in the fabric of our society. In fact, across Colorado, general aviation airports account for \$2.4 billion in economic activity each year and aviation in the state supports more than 256,000 jobs. This is the best part about our American aviation system; it is the most diverse system in the world. We have many different types of airports, aircraft and our system serves communities of all sizes, not just our largest cities.

That's why it defies reason to me why we would try to follow countries that don't have this type of diversity and privatize our air traffic control system in favor of a system that really only caters to the biggest airlines, airports and communities.

Under this type of system, oversight over our national air traffic control system would be dominated by private interests, which would be more interested in concentrating resources into areas where it benefits them. The ripple effect would be felt almost immediately and would be devastating to businesses and all the services that depend on our airport and our system as a whole.

As it stands now, our airspace operates for the sake of all Americans -- we should keep it that way.

Gary Cyr is the airport manager for the Greeley-Weld County Airport.

Secretary's Report:

The EAA 808 Chapter, met at Pete's landing at 8:00. After a good breakfast, we met in the airport conference room for a business meeting.

Meeting opened at 09:30

John Davolt gave the secretary's report. It was moved and seconded, and passed that the report be approved.

Dave Springer gave the Treasurers Report. It was moved and seconded, and passed that the report be approved. \$200 was paid to the senior center in Penrose for the use of the facility for the Christmas party. We will no longer put any figures as to balances in our account in the newsletter, as it is too available on the internet.

The EAA.808.org website is up and running. We are no longer doing much of anything with the Flight Squid website, so do not look for articles there.

We will have a fly out to LaJunta on February the 10th. We would like to try and make it easier for someone to ride if a seat is available in your aircraft. Dave Myhre is going to see if we can set up something such as Group Me to make known if anyone is going somewhere and has a seat available.

On Wednesday March the 14th, we are going to be meeting at Fremont County Airport at 6:30, for a presentation from Hal Ellis on Basic Med.

First official flight for the Young eagles is scheduled for June 9th. Discussed a scholarship to older young eagles to take some flight lessons and have access to Sporty's Ground School. Also discussed needing to get some Eagles flying too. Susan Myhre is going to look into that.

Jon Frederick and Grant Schimmer volunteered to be board members. They were nominated for those positions and will be voted on next meeting month.

The EAA chapter leaders' boot camp is going to be held at Rocky Mountain Metro on Jan 27th and the 28th. Ron Davidson, Dave and Sue Myhres have already registered. Anyone interested is invited. You can contact one of these three mentioned or president Terrill for more information.

Discussion was made about having a STOL event, by Ron Davidson, this will be looked into further. Also about maybe hosting a stop here for the women's air races. AOPA will be in Santa Fe this year; we encouraged anyone to go that can.

Meeting Adjourned.

John E. Davolt

From the Editor

Just a word, it has been an awesome two weeks; the weather though cold has been great for flying. I had the privilege to day to see a couple of our members take off from LaJunta. I was downwind when N3DR the bright yellow bird of our vice president, Ron Davidson took off, good to see it in the air again, and after a couple more landings of a couple Katanas, the all red bird of our Chapter President took to the skies. Flying toward Lake Meredith I got a beautiful view of N3DR, but couldn't get my phone out fast enough to take a picture. Then as I approached the lake, I looked down at there was the bright red 182 doing some low level fun flying. What a beautiful day it was, after about 49 years of flying, and thousands of hours and landings. I still find it a great joy to take to the blue skies, there is nothing like it.

I am going to be flying to Kansas on the 27th to pick up a new bird for me. I have bought a Cessna 172, and older one, but in

Time to pay your Dues

If you have not paid your dues, they are now past due. They can be sent to: 1608 N. Amache, Pueblo West, CO 81001

It was voted to raise the dues this year to \$20 for singles and \$25 for family memberships.

Classifieds:

Anyone have anything to sell or any wanted items? Go to Eaa808.org, or email me at testpiloted@gmail.com.

great shape and am looking forward to be able to do some traveling in it. I hope to be able to fly it to LaJunta on the 10th of Feb on our fly out.

Winter is a great time to fly. When I had my flight school, I flew with almost more students in the winter than in the summer, the only thing I could figure out was the didn't have to mow the lawn, couldn't go boating and it was too cold to ride their cycles. So what better time to go flying.

Hope everyone has a great New Year.

John E. Davolt, Editor