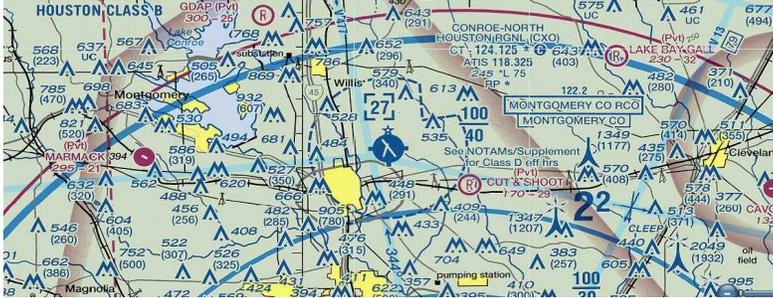


EAA Chapter 302



Volume 48-Issue2
February, 2026

Newsletter

MEETING NOTICE

February 14TH, 2025, 10:00 AM

See the last page for a map to the meeting

IMC/VMC MEETING



Thursday.
Feb. 12th
7-8:30
Galaxy



THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

News from HQ

The "Axe"

Builder hints: Splicing wire

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January 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: President Joe Waltz welcomed 93 members and guests at 10 AM in the Galaxy FBO meeting room. This is a new record attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance: Praise Popoola led the pledge.

Welcome Visitors / New Members: Visitors include Collin Masterson (Young Eagles), Darren Morris (helped rebuild Cubs), Tanner Hayden (Young Eagle), Reyes family w/ Michael (Young Eagles).

Treasurer's Report: Financial Summary Year Ending 12/31/2025: Beginning Balance January 1, 2025: \$11,170.91 + \$200 cash on hand. Ending balance December 31, 2025: \$15,757.15 - \$200 cash on hand. Highlights include: Donation Income \$3,533.82. Dues Income \$2,600. Swindle Income \$1,398. Rent Expense \$2,450. Meeting Expense \$1,150.54.

EAA 302 State of the Chapter: Joe reviewed many Chapter 302 and member accomplishments of the year. All this makes us a successful EAA Gold Chapter here in Conroe. Thanks for making our chapter a great one!

EAA Chapter Awards: Service recognition given by president Joe Waltz // Vice President Miles Demster, Secretary Jim Morrical, Treasure Bill Donahoe, Young Eagle Coordinator Dean Marcott, News Letter Editor Denny Irvine, Web Manager Darryl Foster, Tech Counselors Rich Jankowsik, Steve Lutte, Jose Ruiz, Clay Watters. Mark Haskell is the 2025 EAA Chapter MVP!

Miss Million Airess : This Douglas A-26C Invader Light Bomber/Attack had been idle for ten years before it was brought back to life. It landed at Oshkosh for AirVenture 2024. This was the final stop on a nearly two-month long journey that saw the airplane travel from Texas to Europe and back again. Search YouTube: Miss Million Airess | An unexpected journey to Normandy and beyond:

Project Updates: **Mark Haskell / Zenith 601HD** = Mounted tail light on rudder. **Tom Hammer / Highlander SuperSTOL** = Project in completed and ready for inspection. Finished weight and balance. Earth X battery installed -18 lbs saving. FAA inspections soon. **Steve Williams / Sonex Onex** = Working folding wing mechanism. **Joe Waltz / RV-10** = Briefed installing a Starlink Mini system.

News and Reports:

Rainbow Aviation will teach two Light Sport Repairman Inspection Courses here June 26-27 and 28-29 for 20 Chapter 302 members each class. Cost - \$650-675. This course allows non-builder owners to have condition inspection authority thru the MOSAIC initiative. Fill out form on our website, pay Rainbow. Contact Bill Donahoe for details.

--Expect four Young Eagle events in 2026. March 21 is the first event. Watch our website.

--We have two summer Air Academy Camps for 2026. June 19-24 / 'Horizons Camp'. July 24-Aug 1 / "Explorer Camp". Watch our newsletter for details.

--Chapter 302 has applied for a 2026 Ray Scholarship. Stay tuned.

Adjourn

--Fly out La Porte Municipal Airport (T41), TX. Garden of Eden Restaurant.

--Remember before each meeting some gather any time after 8 AM on the 3rd floor Galaxy FBO Black Walnut Cafe for breakfast. Also, after the meeting consider 12 PM lunch at McKenzie's BBQ at 1501 N. Frazier St, Conroe where some gather for BBQ.

SUMMARY OF THE “STATE OF THE CHAPTER”

First Chapter 302 Meeting: Feb 15, 1968

We are an EAA Gold Chapter

Total Chapter Membership: 180

Total Visitors attending meetings: 68

Total Project Updates given at meetings: 22

EAA Builders Log from 302: 33

Young Eagles flown: 125

Fly Outs: 7

Burger Burns: 3

Chapter 302: Sponsored EAA Leadership Boot Camp....Feb 22-23, 2025. 45 attended

Highlight of Personal Accomplishments of Chapter 302 Members:

Becky Lutte - NAA Distinguished Stateswomen of Aviation, completed Sea Plane rating

Denny Irvine - EAA National Chapter News Letter Editor Award and the prestigious Chapter 302 Edition award.

Tim Grassman - EAA Oshkosh recognition the Outstanding Workmanship Award

Bryan Weinzettle - Wins the AirVenture Cup

Darryl Foster - adds a Twin Comanche to his hangars and completes his A&P

Tod Johnson - Completed his RV-10

Darlele Woelfel - Completed CFI and CFII practical, completed Tail Wheel Endorsement and flew Pawnee tow plane for gliders at Soaring Club of Houston, towed her grandfather in a glider.

Mason Engels - Completed his Instrument Rating and Commercial at college.

Chris Bronikowski - Completed his Instrument Rating and Mountain Training in Colorado

Christian Wolbright - Passed his PPL check ride

Matthias Bell - took a trip to Italy to complete a factory build session for his Risen aircraft

Cody Liondakis - Completed AirVenture Summer Camp representing EAA 302



RAY AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP



EAA 302 HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR ANOTHER RAY AVIATION SCHOLARSHIP FOR 2026

Applications are now open
This will be a 25% 302—75% National for \$12,000

Deadline for Applications is April 15th, 2026

To qualify for consideration, a Chapter 302 candidate must meet the following criteria:

- Age 16-19
- Hold an FAA Medical Certificate (minimum 3rd Class)
- Hold an FAA Student Pilot Certificate
- Have passed the FAA Private Pilot Airplane Airman Knowledge Test (written exam) with a minimum score of 80%
- Be able to begin training within 60 days of accepting the award
- Be able to solo within 3 months
- Be able to complete training within 12 months of accepting the award
- Submit a letter of recommendation from an adult who can attest to their abilities and commitment
- Submit a self-written 150-250 personal statement explaining why they should be selected

Please go to our website—EAA302.org and click on “Ray Scholarship” to learn more



Home

Our Chapter

Ray Scholarship

Young Eagles

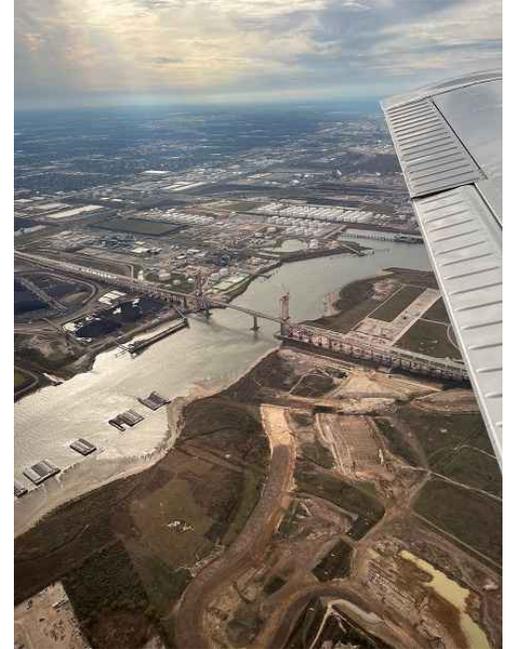
AirVenture

Store



JANUARY FLYOUT TO THE “GARDEN OF EDEN”

Two planes and 9 people tried out the LaPorte Restaurant in spite of the gusty winds. Looks like a place we need to add to our Flyout List. Can you tell where they are from the inflight picture?



ANOTHER RATING ADDED TO THE LIST



Remember Mason Engels? He was attending our meetings from age 10 and grabbing every Young Eagle flight he could get at our rallies. He soloed on his 16th birthday and got his Private Pilot Certificate at 17.

He built flying time with a partnership in a Cherokee 140. In a pay-back move, he even gave rides at later YE Rallies.

Now at Oklahoma State University, he just received his Commercial Pilot's Ticket. Mason's on his way.

NEW ARRIVAL AT KCXO

Matthias Bell's brand new "Risen" aircraft arrived this February 2nd, crammed into a twenty foot shipping crate from Italy. You can see the unloading process below. The aircraft was completely reassembled in less than 2 days and signed off by DPE Brian Inghram. By the time you read this, the 20 hour Phase I will have been finished.

Powered by a turbocharged Rotax 916 engine and constant speed prop, the airplane will do over 200 knots with a beautiful side by side glass panel.



Pictures by Bill Donoho



YOUNG EAGLE RALLY

Saturday March 21st

(Rain Date March 28th)

Please consider
volunteering
For a Young Eagle Event



SPRING IS COMING!
Should be warmer Flying Weather
It's time for another Young Eagle Rally

We will have approximately 30 kids. It is currently a "Private Event" with invitations. Kids will arrive at 9:00, 10:00 and 11:00. Location will be at the Airport Office Building. Members can volunteer for ground or flight positions. **We especially need pilots/airplanes.** Please use the checklist on the following page. (Reference only, you don't need to turn in) If you need to be qualified for the Youth Protection Program, (YPP) please go to:

<https://www.eaa.org/eaayouth/youth-protection-policy-and-program>.

Volunteers need to show up at 8:00 for setup with plans to start flying at 9:00. Please contact Dean Marcott, text or email at 815-382-2220 or deanmarcott@yahoo.com.



EAA 302 Young Eagles Pilot/Aircraft Qualifications - Self Verification

rev 8

Pilot Name: _____

Aircraft Type: _____ Tail Number: _____

EAA Membership Number: _____

Pilot Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Item	Requirement	Expiration / Next Due Date	Self Verification Initials
Current EAA National Member	Member of EAA (Chapter membership not req.)		
Aircraft Passenger Liability Insurance	\$100,000 per seat - minimum		
Pilot License	Sport Pilot or Better	N/A	
Medical or D.L. (Sport)	Current		
Currency	3 Take Off and Landings in 90 days (add 90 days to last 3)		
Flight Review	Within 24 months (add 24 months to last)		
Aircraft Airworthiness Cert	On Board	N/A	
Pitot Static / Transponder Check	Current – every 2 years		
Aircraft Registration	Current and On Board (Expires every 7 years)		
POH / Operating Limitations	On Board	N/A	
Annual or Condition Inspection	Within 12 Months (add 12 months to last)		
EAA Youth Protection Certification (video training)	Required every 3 Years https://www.eaa.org/en/eea/account/account_login#/login / My Account / scroll down to Go to Training		

IMC/VMC Club

(2nd Thursday each month)

Please join us 7:00pm Thursday, February 12th (Galaxy FBO Conference Room) to discuss the answers to these questions and video scenarios. Bring questions of your own, because we always save time for a little organized hangar flying!!

VMC Question of the Month: Finding our way around an unfamiliar airport can be stressful and intimidating. What tools, resources, and strategies can we employ to make the process easier?

Video Scenario:

Following an uneventful run-up, you receive a taxi clearance from Ground Control and taxi to the active runway.

Ground control first tells you conditions are IFR with an 800-foot ceiling but soon updates that to marginal VFR with few clouds at 800 feet AGL. You interpret that as rapidly improving conditions and decide to continue.



Flight



4:21

VMC February 2026 - Upside Down

IMC Question of the Month: You've recently had a cold and were taking a twice daily over-the-counter (OTC) medication to relieve sinus congestion that could cause drowsiness. How long should you wait after taking this medication before flying?

Video Scenario:

Throughout the flight, you check the instruments and see that the engine, electrical, and vacuum systems are all operating within limits, and the fuel burn appears normal.



Flight



5:49

IMC February 2026 - Last Chance for Landing



EVENTS COMMITTEE UPDATE

Keith Pache

- 1) 7:00-8:45pm Thu. February 12th IMC/VMC Club Meeting at Galaxy FBO
- 2) 10:00-11:15am Sat. February 14th Chapter Meeting (Galaxy FBO).
- 3) 11:15am-?? Sat. February 14th Fly-Out to Gate 12 at College Station KCLL
See Newsletter for Details.

4) 8:00am-?? Sat. February 21st Young Eagles Rally (Administration Bldg.) Dean Marcott 815-382-2220 deanmarcott@yahoo.com

5) 4:30-5:30pm Mon. February 23rd Airport Advisory Board Meeting (Lone Star Convention Center).

6) Flying Event Links:

- a) Fun Places to Fly = <https://www.funplacestofly.com/funflyeventbyzip.asp>
- b) Social Flight = <http://www.socialflight.com/search.php>
- c) EAA Webinars = <https://www.eaa.org/ea/news-and-publications/ea-webinars>
- d) FAA Safety Webinars = <https://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/events/EventList.aspx>

7) Events Calendar: Here's a partial list of upcoming events. You'll find many more (with working hyperlinks) by going to our website and clicking on Flying Events under Our Chapter:

<https://eaa302.org/flying-events/>

3/7/26	8:00-10:00am CAF Pancake Breakfast Fly-In	KTFP Ingleside Regional Airport Ingleside, Texas, USA	174 nm	https://thirdcoastcaf.org/wordpress/calendar/	3rd Coast Staff Member 361-356-4918 3rdcoastcaf@gmail.com
3/7/26	9:00am-2:00pm Texas Independence Day Wings, Wheels, and Wonders!	KSEP Stephenville Clark Regional Airport Stephenville, Texas, USA	181 nm	https://www.funplacestofly.com/aviation-event-details.asp?EventID=28003	Sean Clemmons 254-552-1224 sclemmons@stephenvilletx.gov
3/7/26	8:30am-12:30pm Airplanes and Coffee - Drones and Paramotors	KDUA Durant Regional Airport - Eaker Field Durant, Oklahoma, USA	221 nm	https://airplanesandcoffee.com/events/	214-817-4367 info@airplanesandcoffee.com
3/12/26	7:00-8:45pm EAA 302 IMC/VMC Club Meeting (Galaxy FBO)	KCXO Conroe North-Houston Regional Airport	0 nm	https://eaa302.org/imc-vmc-club/	Keith Pache 713-412-7010 pilotpache@aol.com
3/14/26	10:00-11:15am EAA Chapter 302 Meeting (Galaxy FBO)	KCXO Conroe North-Houston Regional Airport	0 nm	https://eaa302.org/	Joe Waltz 832-515-1008 joeawaltz@yahoo.com
3/14/26	11:15am - ?? After Meeting Flyout to TBD (see Newsletter flyer for details)	TBD	TBD	None	Keith Pache 713-412-7010 pilotpache@aol.com
3/21/26	8:00am-?? EAA 302 - Young Eagles Rally	KCXO Conroe North-Houston Regional Airport	0 nm	https://eaa302.org/young-eagles/	Dean Marcott 815-382-2220 deanmarcott@yahoo.com
3/21/26	10:00am-2:00pm Wings and Wheels Open Ramp Day	KHOU William P Hobby Airport Houston, Texas, USA	43 nm	https://www.1940airterminal.org/3rd-saturdays-at-the-museum	Rich Simental 713-454-1940 rich.simental@1940airterminal.org
4/4/26	3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt/Fly-In	KASL Harrison County Airport Marshall, Texas, USA	142 nm	https://www.funplacestofly.com/aviation-event-details.asp?EventID=28006	Ric Petit 9039266787 ricpetit@gmail.com
4/4/26	8:00-10:00am CAF Pancake Breakfast Fly-In	KTFP Ingleside Regional Airport Ingleside, Texas, USA	174 nm	https://thirdcoastcaf.org/wordpress/calendar/	3rd Coast Staff Member 361-356-4918 3rdcoastcaf@gmail.com
4/10-12/26	2nd Annual River Bend Fly-In and Campout	Plane Crazy USA at River Bend Aero Ranch 228 River Bend Lane Mena, Arkansas 71953 N34 34.430, W94 01.398	259 nm	https://plane crazyusa.com/index.html	Todd Spink 479-243-8100
	8:30am-12:30pm Airplanes	KTRL Terrell Municipal		https://airplanesandcoffee.com/	214-817-4367

Commissioner Robert C. Walker, Precinct One
936-539-7815



Spring 2026 Heavy Trash Event Precinct 1



PAINT RECYCLING

DRY PAINT AND EMPTY CANS
CAN GO IN THE TRASH!

- latex & oil base paint accepted
- solvents/minerals accepted
- labels must be legible
- 1 or 5 gallon cans accepted
- 10 gallon limit per vehicle



PAPER SHREDDING

Available at both locations



ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

- household trash
- hazardous waste
- fire extinguishers
- cylinders/tanks of any kind
- barrels or drums
- shingles, concrete, granite
- tires, oil, antifreeze, appliances with freon, and electronics (These items are accepted weekdays at the Conroe/North Montgomery County Recycle Center from 8am-4:30pm located at 142 W. Wally Wilkerson Pkwy 936-539-7911)

Saturday, March 28, 2026

**New Hours:
From 7am - 2pm**

2 LOCATIONS:



WEST PARK
16716 FM 149
MONTGOMERY, TX 77356



WILLIS BALLPARK
13551 ROGERS RD
WILLIS, TX 77378

The Heavy Trash Event is a free service offered to the residents of Montgomery County Precinct One in an effort to keep our county roads free of illegal dumping.

**TIRE RECYCLING IS NO LONGER AVAILABLE AT THIS EVENT.
FOR EASIER REMOVAL, PLEASE NO BOX OR ENCLOSED TRAILERS.
RESIDENTIAL CLEAN UP ONLY - NO COMMERCIAL BUSINESSES.**



SUN 'n FUN

AEROSPACE EXPO



APRIL 14-19, 2026

LAKELAND, FL

RED, WHITE & BLUE

52

250TH ANNIVERSARY

MERICA!

GET TICKETS!



FLYSNF.ORG

Event Proceeds Fuel Education Programs at
AEROSPACE
Center For Excellence



FUN

**IS CLEARED
FOR TAKEOFF!**



SPRING BREAK

MARCH 7-15



LONE STAR
FLIGHT MUSEUM
HOUSTON, TEXAS

lonestarflight.org



DON'T MISS:

- ▶ **HELICOPTER DAY**
- ▶ **SPRING BREAK CAMPS**
- ▶ **DAILY HANDS-ON DEMONSTRATIONS**
- ▶ **WOMEN IN AVIATION HISTORY**
- ▶ **TECHNOLOGY IN AVIATION & SPACE**
- ▶ **REAL PLANES. FUN EXPERIENCES!**



FREE ADMISSION ON TUESDAY!
REGISTER @ LONESTARFLIGHT.ORG

THIS WEEK'S FLYOUT—GATE 12 CLL



What-a-Burger!!

Fly in, and park at Astin Aviation FBO on the east side. Entry from the airfield is through Astin FBO's lobby, and it's just a short walk to the restaurant. There are tables with an airfield view, more tables inside, and a small patio outside under a sun shade. Gate 12 is associated with a steak house downtown, and has an upscale menu and prices.

Be sure to save your receipt as you leave. You'll return through Astin's lobby again. They have a \$10 ramp fee which they will waive with a receipt. 100LL fuel is \$7.24/gal, but you can get a \$10 reduction if you fuel for 10 or more gallons.



Easterwood Field
KCLL

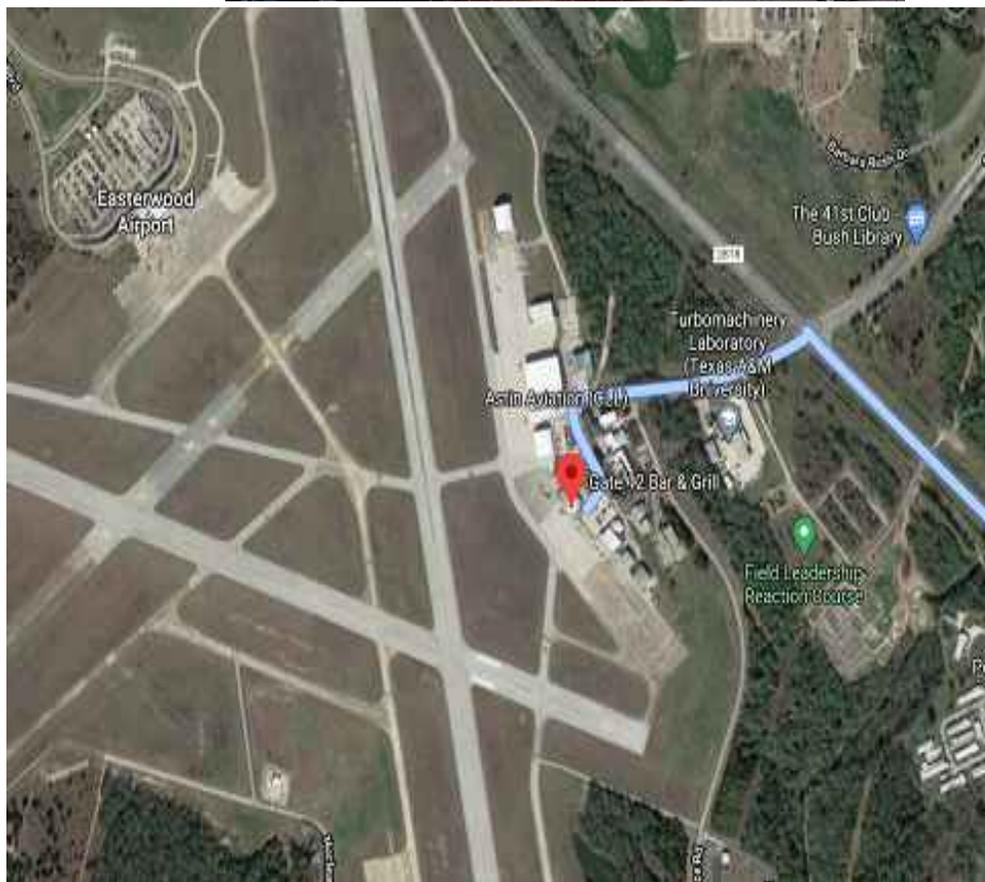
Elevation 319

Runways
11/29 and 17/35

ATIS 126.85

GROUND 128.7

TOWER 118.5



CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads are free to any EAA member. They will run for 6 months, or until you pull them out of classified. Text or Email to dirvine1945@gmail.com



For Sale—Sigtronics Sport 200S intercom. Working when removed. Includes an installation guide. \$99

This is a donated item that will fund Chapter 302 activities.

Contact Denny Irvine
936-827-0091 dirvine1945@gmail.com



FOR SALE—TruTrak API Pilot 1 Autopilot control head. Installation manual included. (Roll only) Good to have if yours craters, or find a servo and put an autopilot in your ride. \$295

This is a donated item that will fund Chapter 302 activities.

Contact Denny Irvine
936-827-0091 dirvine1945@gmail.com



FREE—Rotisserie for a RV-14, but could be modified for any kit. Available for pickup at KCXO.

Call, text or email:

David Hlebichuk
281-450-3817
dhleb@consolidated.net

CLASSIFIED ADS

Ads are free to any EAA member. They will run for 6 months, or until you pull them out of classified. Text or Email to dirvine1945@gmail.com



2013 RV-8A FOR SALE: \$210,000.00 Hangered KDWH, Hobbs 650, Tach 592, Lycoming IO-360EXP by Ly-Con with numerous performance upgrades, Whirlwind 200RV constant speed prop, new Dynon/Garmin custom IFR panel in 2024, custom paint and scheme in 2024, built by A&P/IA with incredible attention to detail, all logs, no known damage history, condition inspection 2-25, IFR cert 7-24, many extras included in sale, full spec sheet available on request. Bill Whitefield 713-705-3725 or 19whw55@gmail.com 11/25



Hangar for Lease

43' X 36' rectangular hangar with new Epoxy flooring. Shared, \$400/month-1 spot available.
For 1 year, 1.5 or 2 years.

Amit Kulkarni 713-724-7721
amit77us@gmail.com

8/25

Contact Info—go to Home/contact us

EAA 302 Officers

President

Joe Waltz

VicePresident

Miles Demster

Secretary

Jim Morrical

Treasurer

Bill Donahoe

IMC/VMC Club

Keith Pache

Young Eagles/Eagles

Dean Marcott

Property

Denny Irvine

Website

Darryl Foster

Membership & Communications

Rick Oliver

Newsletter

Denny Irvine

Events

Keith Pache

We now meet in Galaxy FBO's building on the South Side of the Conroe-North Houston Airport. Use the South Entrance, 1st floor. Meetings start at 10:00 AM.

You cannot access the FBO by the old Airport Parkway. You need to use Loop 336 and turn at Hawthorne Drive. This road has an Airport Entrance sign which mentions Galaxy FBO and the Black Walnut Restaurant. This is just southeast of the Roller Skating Rink.

See you there.

