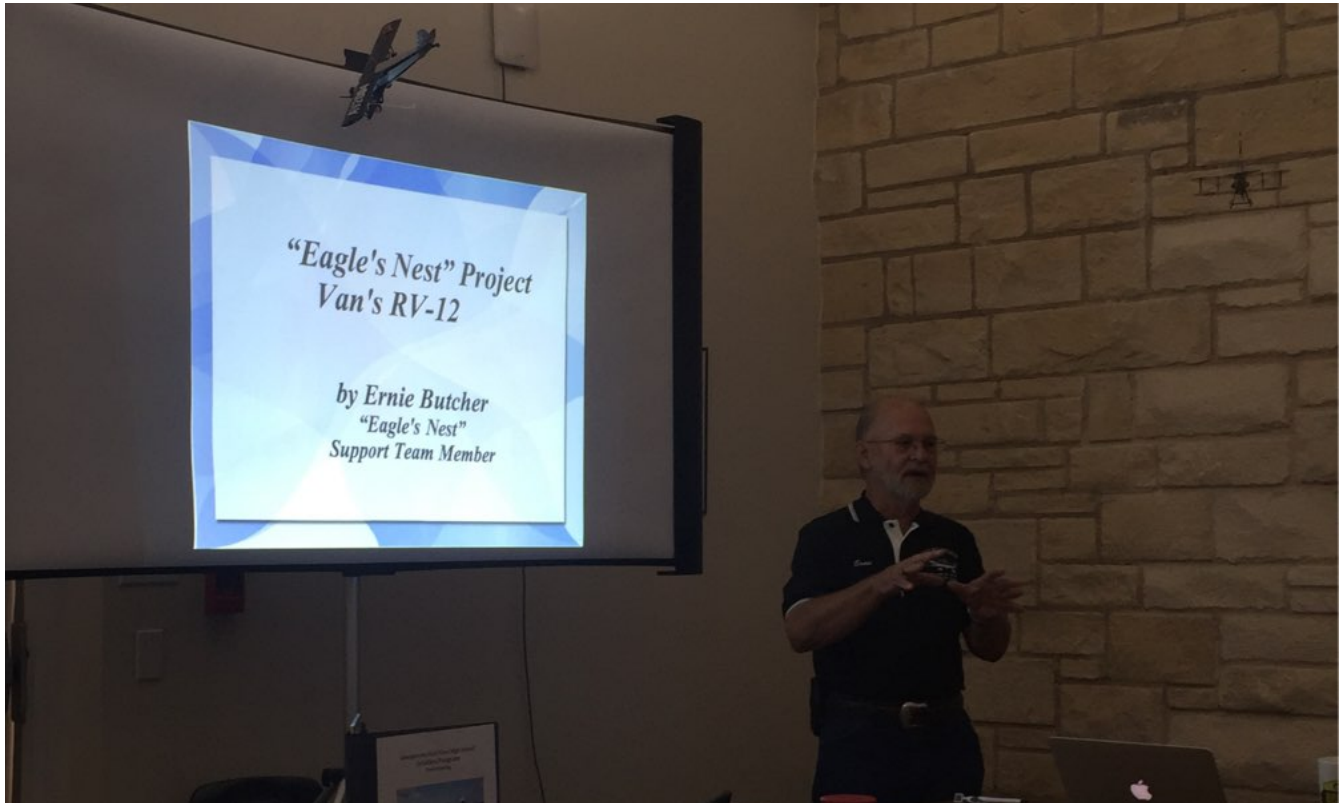


---

# TAILWINDS

---

## August Meeting Recap



The August chapter meeting was held on August 13. The presentation focused on the Georgetown Eagle's Nest project. This will be the first year for the program at Georgetown High Schools. Georgetown will be the 10th high school in the country to have the program.

**Ernie Butcher, President of Eagle's Nest Projects speaks about the educational mission of the project.**

---

Chapter member Dan Weyant is the instructor of the Georgetown Aerospace Engineering project and will be leading the classroom portion of the project. To supplement the classroom portion, the class will also feature a lab portion where the students will build an RV-12. The goal is to have the airplane fly before the end of the school year. Dan was joined by Randy Rossi in bringing the project to Georgetown. Randy's dad was a chief engineer for Boeing and Randy believes his participation in introducing high schoolers to science, technology, engineering, and math is a great way to honor his father. Funding for the project is being coordinated by Sam Smith, President of the Aviation Club at

Sun City. Sam has been relentless in pursuing funding for the project and the community has really stepped up to make sure the project succeeds.

Many students and parents also joined the meeting and their passion for the project and the opportunity was communicated loud and clear. In order to make the project a success, Dan and Randy are looking for mentors to volunteer to guide the students during the lab portion of the class. If you are interested, please reach out to Dan or Randy. No previous mentoring experience is necessary. They will provide mentor training.



Chapter breakfast before the August meeting.

---

## September Chapter Meeting

On September 10, we will be joined by Michael R. Jordan of San Antonio FSDO with his presentation on Drones in Austin Area and a Q & A about light sport aircraft. This presentation will qualify for [WINGS](#) credit.

This time, we're meeting at the **GTU Jet Center**, located at [160 Terminal Drive, Georgetown, Texas 78628](#). The meeting will begin at 10 am. **Early Bird breakfast at 9:30 am!**

## Update on the Rockdale Tiger Flight Project

Rockdale Tiger Flight members have been hard at work on their Zenith 601 HDS. They have a goal of flying the plane to Oshkosh next year for presentation in the Teen build plaza! Each Saturday, kids from all over the area including Rockdale, South Austin, Cedar Park, and Pflugerville join to help. The group is also planning to build an air conditioned shop soon.

Keep up with the project on Facebook (search Rockdale Tiger Flight)!

## Upcoming Events

### Rockdale Tiger Flight: Help us Build an RV-6!

Rockdale Tiger Flight is a group organized by several EAA 187 members in Rockdale, TX. The group is focused on teaching mid- and high-schoolers airplane building skills. Our current projects are an RV-6 and a Zenith CH-601. We get together **every Saturday at 10 AM**, and focus on building those airplanes. We also offer **weekly Young Eagles rides** to kids, subject to weather and aircraft availability.



This weekly event is free to participants, and we are looking for help! Both kids and adults are welcome! For more information, log on to [rockdaletigerflight.org](http://rockdaletigerflight.org).

### Under the Wire Fly-In

Flying V Ranch (T26) will host the Under the Wire Fly-In on September 23-25. The event will feature World Famous BBQ, a Flour Bombing contest, Hangar Party, and Live Entertainment. Monitor 122.8 when arriving. The field is a 3000' x 120' grass runway.

Please bring tie-downs and ropes. RV parking is available and tent camping is welcome. Alternatively, rooms are available at the Best Western (979-543-7033), Shoney's Inn (979-543-1666), El Campo Inn (979-543-1110) or Lone Star Inn (979-543-7833). For more information contact Robbie Vajdos at 979-541-3321 or [rvajdos@gmail.com](mailto:rvajdos@gmail.com).



## Ranger Airfield's Old School Fly-in and Airshow

On September 30 through October 2, Ranger Airfield will be hosting their 10th annual fly-in and airshow. The event features Cessna 195s, 1927 biplane rides, and over 70 Ford Model T's. For more information, visit [www.rangerairfield.org](http://www.rangerairfield.org).

Special room rates are available at the La Quinta (254.629.1414) at \$81 for a King room. Use code Ranger Airshow.

## Critter's Lodge Fly-In

The Critter's Lodge fall fly-in will be November 4-6. Bring your tent and enjoy the fun. The field has great camping facilities and our own Pete Christensen brags about how much fun he always has at this event. More information is available at [www.critterslodge.com](http://www.critterslodge.com).



## ICAO Flight Plans - Are You Ready?

*Courtesy of Pete Christensen, we are featuring an article from ATC controller, Rose Marie Kern. Republished with permission.*

In 1983 I began working as an ATC control trainee at Albuquerque Center. The computer in use at the time was the IBM9020 – a monster that took up a whole room. A friend of mine, a true computer geek, (and proud of it!) came to visit and I gave him a tour. As we walked into the

computer room he exclaimed in awe – “A 9020...in working condition!”



Since that time, the equipment has undergone improvements, and in 2009 began the implementation of a new computer system in the nation's Air Route Traffic Control Centers (ARTCCs). The ERAM, or En Route Automation Modernization, system was developed by Lockheed Martin.

With ERAM, ARTCC controllers are able to track 1,900 aircraft at a time, an increase of 800 over the old systems. Because the ERAM is designed to process data from almost three times as many

radar sites, coverage extends beyond facility boundaries, enabling controllers to handle additional traffic more efficiently. Eventually the greater coverage will allow controllers to make use of a three-mile, rather than the current 5 mile, separation. ERAM also increases flexibility in routing around congested airspace, weather and other restrictions.

According to the FAA, the ERAM was designed with NextGen in mind. It will support satellite-based systems, such as Automatic Dependent Surveillance – Broadcast (ADS-B), and data communication technologies. This, in turn, will clear the way for future gains in efficiency and safety.

This next generation technology has the capability to determine exactly how closely an aircraft is following its flight plan, which will improve the efficiency of the ATC system. To do this, the system needs to know the sophistication level of each aircraft and the capabilities of the pilots using it.

Conventional domestic flight plans do not have the extra fields that communicate this data to the ERAM, hence the use of the ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization) flight plan. The equipment portion of the ICAO flight plan, plus the data entered in the “other information” field, identify the technological abilities of both the aircraft and the pilot.



At this time ICAO flight plans are required for aircraft crossing the ADIZ, even if it is from and to a point in U.S. airspace. It is also necessary if IFR aircraft are requesting to use certain types of approaches into busy airports. Pilots can begin using ICAO flight plans whenever they like.

Many pilots are struggling with the new format, and so the FAA pushed the target date to have all domestic flights using the ICAO form back from October 2016 to late January 2017 – giving everyone a little more time to get used to it.

ICAO flight plans have more fields than a standard domestic flight plan, which intimidates many pilots initially. However, not every field needs to have data entered in order for it to work, and the ones that do have data entered are very similar to the domestic flight plan. The biggest difference is in the details required for your navigational equipment. The FAA has a great tutorial on their website at this link: [http://www.faa.gov/about/office\\_org/headquarters\\_offices/ato/service\\_units/systemops/fs/res\\_links/media/icao\\_flight\\_plan\\_filing.pdf](http://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/headquarters_offices/ato/service_units/systemops/fs/res_links/media/icao_flight_plan_filing.pdf)

If you don't remember the link, just go to [www.faa.gov](http://www.faa.gov) and search ICAO Flight Plans. You can also call Flight Service now and begin using the ICAO flight plan. You may want to research the website given above first so you are ready to answer questions about your type of navigational equipment that are different from the current form.

*Rose Marie Kern has worked in ATC since 1983. Questions or comments may be sent to [author@rosemariekern.com](mailto:author@rosemariekern.com).*

#### **Chapter Officers**

President - Haruko Reese  
Vice President - Pete Christensen  
Secretary - Valerie Barker  
Treasurer - Rob Reese

#### **Young Eagles Coordinators**

Jimmy Cox  
Fi Dot Fomichev

#### **Chapter Flight Advisor**

Deene Ogden

#### **Chapter Technology Counselors**

Seth Hancock  
William Bennett  
Deene Ogden

#### **Webmaster**

Fedor "Fidot" Fomichev

#### **Newsletter**

Valerie Barker

Send submissions to:  
[valeriebarker@mac.com](mailto:valeriebarker@mac.com)

#### **Tool Chest**

John Nunn  
[beej@65degrees.net](mailto:beej@65degrees.net)

#### **Chapter Board Members**

John Nunn (2015-2016)  
Deene Ogden (2016-2017)

#### **Meetings**

Georgetown Municipal Airport (KGTU)  
Terminal  
2nd Saturday each mont at 10 AM

[eaa187.org](http://eaa187.org)