



April 2026, Volume 71 Issue 4

President's Corner

NOTAMs: Love Them or Hate Them?

If you've spent any time in aviation, you've likely had a complicated relationship with NOTAMs (Notices to Airmen). For some, they're an essential safety tool—packed with critical, real-time information. For others, they're a dense wall of text that feels more like a test of patience than a helpful briefing. So, which is it?

The Case for Loving NOTAMs

At their core, NOTAMs exist for one reason: safety. They alert pilots and operators to changes that could affect a flight—runway closures, lighting outages, navigation aid disruptions, airspace restrictions, and more. Without NOTAMs, pilots would be flying blind to last-minute or temporary hazards. They provide:

- Real-time updates that aren't published elsewhere
- Operational awareness for changing conditions
- Critical alerts that can prevent incidents

The Case for... Frustration

Let's be honest—NOTAMs aren't exactly known for being user-friendly.

- Volume overload: Pages upon pages of notices, many irrelevant
- Cryptic formatting: Abbreviations and codes that feel outdated
- Poor prioritization: Critical items buried among minor ones.

It's not uncommon to miss something important simply because it's hidden in a sea of less relevant information.

The Real Issue: Not the "What," but the "How"

Most aviation professionals agree that the concept of NOTAMs is solid. The challenge lies in their presentation.

Until usability catches up with necessity, frustration will likely remain part of the experience.

Finding a Middle Ground

Whether you love them or hate them, NOTAMs aren't going anywhere. The key is learning how to work with them effectively:

- Use tools that filter and highlight relevant notices
- Develop a system to scan for high-risk items first
- Stay current with formatting and abbreviations

Final Thoughts

NOTAMs are a bit like checklists—sometimes tedious, often frustrating, but absolutely essential. They may not be perfect, but they play a critical role in keeping aviation safe.

Love them or hate them, one thing is certain: ignoring them isn't an option.

Stay safe, warm, and fly frequently!

Paul Camp

President, EAA Chapter 2

Are you a pilot? Are you building an aircraft? Are you an aircraft owner?
Are you just "plane nuts" about aviation?

Coming Events:

Thursday, April 9. Join us for the March Chapter 2 gathering at the Ivy Tech Aviation Center at Smith Field, 7:00 pm. We will discuss "Blind Faith in Aviation will Kill You", from Jeff Simons' SocialFlight YouTube channel . VMC club meets at 6:30.

Saturday, May 2. First Young Eagles Rally of the 2026 season! DeKalb County Airport (GWB). Kids will be flying from 9:00-1:00, weather permitting.

VMC CLUB

All members and friends are invited to the VMC Club meeting at 6:30, 4/9 before the chapter meeting.

Question 1 – Best Glide Speed – Simplified

I just read that best glide speed varies with aircraft weight. How am I supposed to calculate that in an emergency, especially when I have to find a place to land without delay?

Question 2 – Plan a Fuel Alternative

I landed at my fuel stop only to discover they were completely out of 100 LL. I was lucky I had enough gas to reach another airport – barely.

How do I factor in that fuel might not be available?

Courtesy of Pilot Workshops



2026 Membership Renewal

Your support of and participation in EAA Chapter 2 can enrich your aviation interest and understanding, as well as that of aviation enthusiasts of all ages.

Your support and participation also helps promote aviation throughout the broader community.

Membership renewal is easy, using the interactive form on the EAA 2 [website](#). Dues can be paid online via credit card / PayPal. If you are new to EAA 2, dues can be pro-rated for the year.

Alternately, you can mail your printed form and check to:

David Resler
4719 S. 300 E
Churubusco IN 46723

Individual memberships are **\$20**.

Family memberships are **\$30**. This covers two adults and all children in a family.

Student memberships are **FREE** to those under 19 who are EAA members, which is free to them. See www.eaa.org/membership for details on how to join the EAA as a student.

Newsletter options. Emailed newsletters are **FREE**. If you want a printed newsletter, please add **\$12** to your membership dues to cover the costs of printing and postage.

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YOUNG EAGLES 2026!

Young Eagle Rallies start next month. The first two will be held at the Auburn DeKalb Executive Airport in the Vintage 37 hangar. We can use your assistance at the rallies, both to fly and on the ground. As the time gets closer, please let me know if you will be able to volunteer at a rally.

Here is our 2026 Young Eagles rally schedule:

- May 2—DeKalb County (GWB)
- May 16—DeKalb County (GWB)
- June 13—Angola/Tri-State (ANQ)
- June 20—DeKalb County (GWB)
- August 8—Smith Field (SMD)
- August 15—DeKalb County (GWB)
- September 12—Smith Field (SMD)
- September 19—Kendallville (C62)

Volunteers and pilots always welcome!

David and Laramie Resler
Young Eagle Coordinators

AirVenture 2025



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