

# Chapter 526

## SpotLight

EAA Air Academy 2023

*Mason McNeilly*



Mason McNeilly on his way to the EAA Air Academy

### Introduction:

Each year the Chapter 526 does our best to send one or two young people ages 12-18 to the EAA Air Academy located in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. For the 2023 summer camps we had funds for one recipient to attend Basic Camp, and another the Advanced Camp. At these one-week camps students are engaged through a variety of hands-on activities while staying at the EAA Air Academy Lodge where experienced aviation instructors help them delve into flight through studies, hands-on demonstrations, flight simulation, and other exciting activities.

Ten applications were reviewed by the Chapter selection committee, four applicants were interviewed and Mason was selected to attend the EAA Basic Camp.

### A few words from Mason:

First, I am honored to have been chosen to represent Chapter 526 at the Basic Air Academy this year, and it was truly an amazing and memorable experience.

During my week at the Academy, I learned so much, met so many amazing people, and had such a wonderful time, I will never forget my time there.

I took my first Young Eagles flight with Chapter 526 and Aviation has been my passion for many years.

When I heard the Chapter was providing a scholarship for the aviation summer camp I thought, "why not go for it?"

I was extremely nervous going into my interview, but by the end, I realized that there was nothing to worry about. I would like to thank all of the members of Chapter 526 who provided me with this amazing opportunity and I wish you all happy flying.



Wing Rib Construction



Compass Hill Sculpture



EAA Aviation Museum

*Sincerely, Mason McNeilly*