

# AVIATION EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF COLORADO, INC.

*Progress Report*



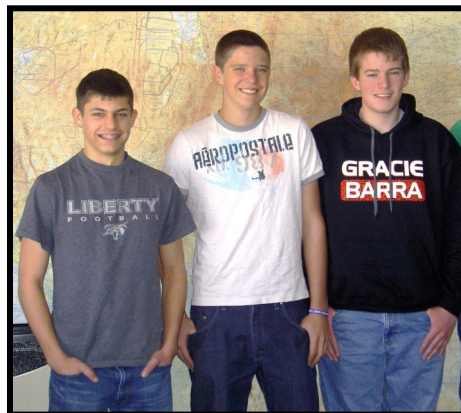
Collin Landwehr—July 24, 2014



Cole Martin—March 23, 2015



Loagyn Guill—November 23, 2014  
(Left) Jean Tucker  
Designated Pilot Examiner



Brett Bixler—July 3, 2014  
Kevin Baker— August 1, 2014  
Grant Sedgwick—June 18, 2014

## *Private Pilots—All Smiles, Big Plans!*

*These AEFCO students and 6 others became private pilots this past year. Your generous contributions made it possible for them to receive AEFCO Matching Scholarships to help offset the cost of flight training.*

*They'll be heading off to college now. While many will be going elsewhere, those staying in Colorado are **Brett Bixler** who received early appointment to the Air Force Academy, **Grant Sedgwick** who will attend Colorado School of Mines, and **Cole Martin** who will attend UCCS. They are all planning careers in aviation as military pilots, commercial pilots, engineers & more.*

*Thank you for your support!*

**Upcoming: Aviation Summer Flight Experience—June 17—June 26, 2015**

## Bobby Hosmer—AWESOME!



Donors are the heart of AEFco. Without you we would not be able to fulfill our mission of providing a pathway for young people to reach their aviation goals, like becoming private pilots.

We'd like to introduce you to Bobby Hosmer, owner Springs Aviation, who has been a consistent supporter of our organization, our programs, and our students.

For the past 3 years, Bobby has donated airplanes for flight training during the Aviation Summer Flight Experience in June.

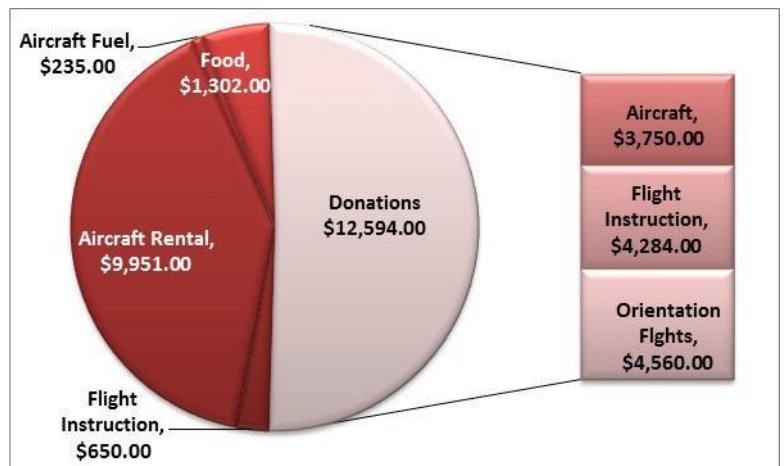


In addition, Bobby and Certified Flight Instructors (CFI's) working for him have donated the full cost of their flight training or reduced their rates significantly during the summer program and beyond.

That support effectively accelerates the time it takes for students to complete their flight training for lower costs.

That support further reduces expenses during the summer, leaving funds for flight training scholarships throughout the year as students become eligible.

Thanks for being our community partner!



**FY2014—Summer Program 51% of expenses were covered by donations from Springs Aviation and others**



## Where I Am Now

*By Jeremy Bushnell*

From the moment I could walk, I have looked skyward and dreamed of one day becoming a pilot. My father introduced me to aviation at an early age; so early in fact that one of my earliest memories involved me getting to go flying with my Dad. From then on, I had caught the “airplane bug”.

With the help of the Aviation Education Foundation of Colorado, I was able to start pursuing my dreams at the early age of 14 when I attended one of the first summer camps the foundation had put on. The program did (and still does) a wonderful job of inundating young kids to the world of aviation and really expanding the realm of opportunity.

Anyone who knows me would tell you that I didn’t need much convincing to pursue a career in aviation; I was always the kid who was too distracted with my head turned towards the sky looking at every plane that flew over. I decided to make a career of my passion.

Following my dreams, I attended Kansas State University – Salina pursuing a degree to become a professional pilot. I obtained all of my ratings and certificates including Commercial, Instrument Airplane and Certified Flight Instructor (CFI). Shortly after my sophomore year, K-State began to offer a B.S. in unmanned aviation and it really caught my eye. I transferred degree programs and made a choice to become a leader in the exciting new field of unmanned aviation.

The experience of flying airplanes really came to a culminating experience for me when I had the opportunity to instruct AEFCE students this past summer. Talk about an incredible experience!



There aren’t words to describe how awesome passing the love and passion for this industry on to the future aviators of tomorrow is.



I recently graduated with my B.S. in Unmanned Aircraft Systems. I have been formally offered a position as a Predator B pilot for General Atomics based in Palmdale, CA. I will have several opportunities to deploy overseas to provide mission support for our troops in support of our missions in the Middle East and across the globe.

My success in this industry would have never been possible without the Aviation Education Foundation of Colorado. I am eternally grateful for the organization, as the volunteers and supporters have opened doors that we wouldn’t have known existed otherwise.

## AEFCO Stands Out At 21st Century



“FREE Ground School for Teens” - that’s what parents and students saw entering or leaving the 21st Century Library, Pikes Peak District.

**Jake Arradondo**, student pilot, put AEFCO front and center with the *Spotlight on Aviation* display that will be up for April - May. We’ve already received lots of inquiries from very interested young people and parents.

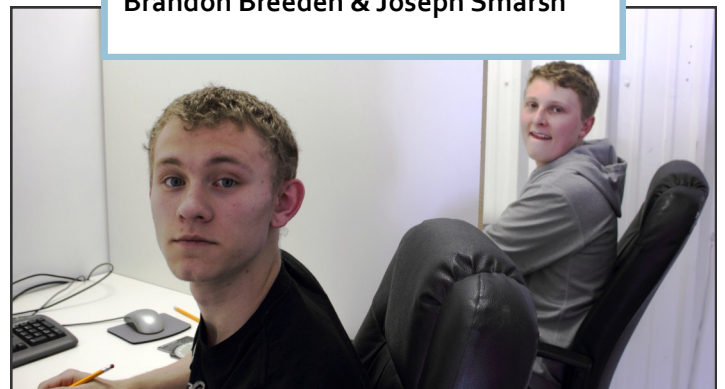
## AEFCO Students Forego Spring Break For Boot Camp

While spring break for many students is a time of vacation and relaxation, some AEFCO students were found attending “boot camp”—*a short, intensive, and rigorous course of training*—preparing to take the FAA Knowledge Exam for Private Pilot. Those who scored 95 on 3 consecutive practice tests that week were endorsed to take the Exam.

Congratulations to these students who successfully completed boot camp and passed the exam: **Danielle Aulino, Brandon Breeden, Andrew Bomberg, Aitana Elder, and Joe Smarsh!**



**Brandon Breeden & Joseph Smarsh**





## AEFCO Student Shares The Dream

By Josiah Bookman

**Luke Billingsley** is an F-16 Crew Chief at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado, with the Air National Guard and attends college. His interest in aviation began in 2008 when he flew with Bob Hall in his RV-6 during a Young Eagle Rally.<sup>1</sup>

Through the Young Eagles, Luke met Vann Norred, AEFCO Program Director, and he enrolled in the Private Pilot Prep Course—all at the ripe old age of 15!

“Without AEFCO I couldn’t have done what I have, they were a huge help. On my 16th birthday, I soloed and then passed my Private Pilot check ride on my 17th birthday.”

Luke has been a regular returning alumni teacher but in March 2015, he came back to where it all started for him in 2008. He flew Young Eagles himself. “It’s great to be able to introduce kids to aviation and open that door that was opened to me.”

Luke just acquired the tail section for an RV-4 and plans to complete the airplane in a few years. After college he plans to move up from crew chief to F-16 pilot. It’s only a matter of time.

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<sup>1</sup>Young Eagles is a national program administered by EAA Chapter 72 locally. EAA Chapter 72 pilots provide FREE airplane rides to young people ages 8-17.



## Success Story

A big round of applause for **Nathan Hawkins**. Nathan became a Private Pilot on August 9, 2013. On March 13, 2015, Nathan added Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic Certification to his list of achievements. He’s attending Pikes Peak Community College but will be available for some work this summer.

## AEFCO Student Accomplishments — May, 2014 through April, 2015

Student	FAA Exams Passed
Andrew Abbink	12/4/2014-I 4/23/2014 -C
Danielle Aulino	4/9/2015
Andrew Bomberg	3/30/2015-P
Benjamin Bookman	8/2/2014-I 1/22/2015-C
Brandon Breeden	3/30/2015-P
Andy DeNicola	6/3/2014-P
Aitana Elder	4/3/2015-P
Nathan Hawkins	7/20/2014-AG 8/22/214-AP 1/20/2015-AA
Cole Martin	6/2/2014-P
Lucas Mills	6/3/2014-P
Brett Oppedal	6/2/2014-P
Bobby Pascale	6/3/2014-P
Adam Rush	7/31/2014-P
Joseph Smarsh	3/30/2015-P

Student	Solo	Private Pilot	Instrument Rating	A&P Mechanic
Andrew Abbink		6/12/2014	3/10/2015	
Kevin Baker		8/1/2014		
Brett Bixler		7/3/2014		
Benjamin Bookman			12/22/2014	
Josiah Bookman		7/26/2014 Glider		
Rachel Dines	7/26/3014			
Loagyn Guill		11/29/2014		
Brianna Hardy	7/1/2014	4/30/2015		
Nathan Hawkins				3/30/2015
Anne Hanselman		7/18/2014		
Collin Landwehr		7/24/2014		
Cole Martin	6/24/2014	3/23/2015		
Lucas Mills	11/9/2014			
Adam Rush	9/7/2014			
Grant Sedgwick		6/18/2014		
Jackson Weiland	6/16/2014	10/5/2014		

I-Instrument, C-Commercial, P-Private Pilot, **AG**-A&P Mechanic General, **AP**-A&P Mechanic Powerplant, **AA**-A&P Mechanic Airframe



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*The Aviation Education Foundation of Colorado, Inc. (AEFCO) is dedicated to introducing High School students to Professional Aviation as a potential career after college.*

Learn more about AEFCO  
Film Produced by Paul Drexler, 4D Solutions: [aefco.org](http://aefco.org)