FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Prepare for Take Off! Join Us at Eastern Slope Aviation Academy's Second Annual Aviation Day Saturday, August 27th, 2022 from 8:00am-2:00pm Eastern Slope Regional Airport, Fryeburg, Maine

Fryeburg, ME – The Eastern Slope Aviation Academy (ESAvAC) announces its second annual Aviation Day. It will take place at the Eastern Slope Regional Airport in Fryeburg, Maine on Saturday August 27th, 2022 from 8:00am-2:00pm. (Rain date is Sunday, August 28th.) Building on last year's successful event, this year will feature free discovery flights over the White Mountains, the opportunity to use the Red Bird Flight Simulator, a pilot Spot Landing Competition, an aviation-themed flea market, a candy drop by drone for kids, a paper/balsa wood airplane contest, ESAvAc merchandise for sale, morning coffee and donuts, an ice cream truck and a barbeque lunch, 50/50 raffles and prizes. WMWV (93.5 FM) will be broadcasting live throughout the day.

Event admission is free, but donations are greatly appreciated. Due to increased student pilot demand, the Academy is currently fundraising for a second training aircraft, a <u>Vashon Ranger</u>, which is scheduled to arrive in December. "We have grown so much and with many students planning cross country flights we now need a second aircraft," states Aviation Academy President Ed Bergeron.

One of the highlights of this year's event will be the SPOT LANDING COMPETITION starting at 8:00am. Prizes will be awarded to the pilots landing closest to the designated landing spot. A cash prize of \$300 and trophy will be awarded for first place. Second and third place prizes will be \$200 and \$100 respectively with trophies. Participating pilots must register in advance and plan to arrive no later than 7:00am for a pilot briefing and practice landing. A registration fee of \$50 per participating aircraft will help the Academy with the purchase of the new Vashon Ranger.

The Eastern Slope Aviation Academy is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit founded in September 2020 to fill a need in the Mount Washington Valley and Western Maine for focused, affordable education and guidance for students and residents seeking career opportunities in the field of aviation. Programs include flight training, aviation mechanic/technician, air traffic control, aeronautical engineering and the business of aviation. The Academy partners with Kennett High School offering the first high school aviation program in the state of New Hampshire.

Thanks to generous sponsors, the Academy has raised over \$100,000 in grants and gifts. Major accomplishments this year include: purchase of a Cessna 150 training aircraft; operation of two private pilot ground schools for students preparing for their private pilot exams; seventeen student pilots currently flying, with several either completing solo flights or being almost ready; development of an aviation mechanic program for the Grumman AA1A restoration project; and coordination with the FAA to start a program for students interested in a career as an air traffic controller. The Grumman aircraft restoration project will be on display in the Airport's new Transient Hangar.

"Please come and join us on August 27th," Bergeron says. "We are excited to show off the accomplishments of the last year and help the community better understand opportunities offered by the flight academy and the Eastern Slope Regional Airport."

The Eastern Slope Regional Airport (IZG) is located at 210 Lyman Drive, Fryeburg, Maine 04037. For press contact or further information, please contact Academy President Ed Bergeron (603) 387-5883 or email fly@easternslopeaviationacademy.org.

The Eastern Slope Aviation Academy is organized and registered as a 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit. For more information, please visit <u>https://www.easternslopeaviationacademy.org/</u>