

## “LEARNING TO FLY” TELEVISION SERIES

NAFI has partnered with EAA in producing a cable television series on learning to fly and the fine art of flight instruction. The program features NAFI Master Instructor Dave Lammers working with a pre-solo student all the way to the point of solo in a C-172. NAFI and EAA developed the series to ultimately bolster your industry and promote learning-to-fly to the masses well into the future.

Airing April 28, television viewers can discover the joy and accomplishment of becoming a pilot through the new “Learning to Fly” series created for the Discovery Wings Channel by the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and its affiliate, the National Association of Flight Instructors (NAFI).

The 13-part series, produced by EAA Television, is the first program dedicated to showcasing the steps in earning a pilot’s certificate. Each half-hour episode follows the challenges and achievements of one student through each level of training with her flight instructor. The series also shows viewers what is involved in flight training and how they can also take their first steps toward reaching their personal dreams of flight.

“We know that millions of people have considered learning to fly but have hesitated because they don’t know what’s necessary to reach that goal,” said EAA President Tom Poberezny. “EAA saw this series as essential to reaching those people with solid information and encouragement. We hope through the series, EAA can welcome many new people to the very fulfilling world of flight.”

The “Learning to Fly” series is the latest from EAA Television, which has regularly produced programming for such outlets as Discovery, ESPN, and Speed Channel for more than a decade. EAA TV has also created dozens of home video and instructional productions, including an annual production highlighting the EAA AirVenture fly-in convention in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. EAA’s productions have won nearly 20 “Telly” awards honoring non-network programming, as well as other awards.

Taping and production of the “Learning to Fly” series was based at the EAA Aviation Center in Oshkosh and the adjacent Wittman Regional Airport, home of EAA AirVenture Oshkosh. Actual flight instructors and students were featured to maintain the integrity of the flight training curriculum.

“The current trend and demand by TV audiences and cable outlets are for programs that feature real people meeting challenges and accomplishing goals,” said series director Scott Guyette. “The popularity of such programs makes us very enthusiastic that viewers will find the ‘Learning to Fly’ series extremely interesting and entertaining. This is not a commercial ‘reality’ show, but instead a series that shows difficulties and achievements with everyday people along with expert guidance, similar to popular shows such as ‘Junkyard Wars’ or ‘Trading Spaces.’”

Five original episodes will premiere April 28-May 2, with one new episode aired each evening at 8 p.m. (EDT). Each episode will then be repeated at 11 p.m., 4 a.m., 7 a.m., noon, and 3 p.m. during the next 24 hours.

Additional air dates include (all times EDT):

Episode 1: May 11—9 p.m., midnight. May 12—5 a.m., 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m.  
Episode 2: May 25—9 p.m., midnight. May 26—5 a.m., 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m.  
Episode 3: June 8—9 p.m., midnight. June 9—5 a.m., 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m.  
Episode 4: June 15—9 p.m., midnight. June 16—5 a.m., 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m.  
Episode 5: June 22—9 p.m., midnight. June 23—5 a.m., 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m.  
Episode 6: June 29—9 p.m., midnight. June 30—5 a.m., 8 a.m., 1 p.m., 4 p.m.

Discovery Wings Channel was launched in 1998 as a digital all-aviation channel of Discovery Communications Inc. (DCI), which is the leading global real-world media and entertainment company. DCI has grown from its core property, the Discovery Channel, first launched in the United States in 1985, to current global operations in 152 countries with 180 million total subscribers. DCI’s programming is tailored to the specific needs of viewers around the globe, and distributed through 77 separate feeds in 33 languages. DCI’s 33 networks of distinctive programming represent 14 entertainment brands including TLC, Animal Planet, Travel Channel, Discovery Health Channel, Discovery Kids, and a family of digital channels. DCI’s other properties consist of Discovery.com and 165 Discovery Channel retail stores. DCI also distributes BBC America in the United States.