



## PILOT PROFILE

### Bo Kalabus

**Q. How did you get started in aerobatics?**

A. I attended Curt Richmond's aerobatic camp geared toward primary/sportsman competitors in March of this year and it was very helpful. IAC 24 also had 3 or 4 very productive fly days up in the Box at Sherman that I attended.

**Q. Do you have a coach or coaches (formal or informal)? And/or who has been your mentor or biggest cheerleader?**

A. With me it has taken a village! Curt Richmond, Mike "Spanky" Gallaway, David Valaer, and Tom Rhodes have coached and critiqued me over the past few weeks leading up to this competition. (Early Bird) They have all been very generous with their time and very supportive. My biggest cheerleads have been my wife Kory and my dad.



**Q. Do you own or rent an airplane?**

A. I own a 1986 Christen Eagle II that my dad started building in 1977, the first year Eagle kits were available. My dad flew the Eagle from its first flight in January 1987 until I bought the airplane from him in 2016. I was Eagle's first passenger at age 13, so it is really cool to still be able to fly the same airplane--lots of family history with it.

To this day, my dad and I are the only pilots who have flown our Eagle solo. In 2019/2020, I completely went through the airframe and installed a new 210 HP Thunderbolt AEYIO390 in place of the original 360, so the machine is ready for competition.

**Q. What "big picture" goals do you have in aerobatics?**

A. I want to be consistently improving and growing in the sport. I really enjoy flying aerobatics and I want to keep that level of enthusiasm.

Q. What is your favorite maneuver? and why.

A. I really enjoy flying a 45 line up to a hammerhead because that figure taught me how to fly the hammerhead well and it's always fun going around the pivot point.

Q. Do you plan on attending any other contests this year? If so, what ones?

A. Yes : Lonestar at Sherman, Texas; Nationals at Salina, Kansas and, Hammerfest in Llano, Texas.