
Based at Pittsburgh-Butler Regional Airport, KBTP, Butler County, Pennsylvania

EAA 857 NEWSLETTER



Are you going to Sun n' Fun?

The Blue Angels will be there!



Presidents Message

EAA 857 Members. Winter is teasing us! just last week we had several warm days, even as high as 77! Then another cold front came through. I hope you were able to take advantage of those warm ones to get some hours logged! Just remember, Spring will be here per the calendar just a day or two after our March Meeting. Pretty soon Sun n' Fun will be under way and then we will be needing to prepare for our Young Eagles Day on June 8! Please mark it on your calendar.

Please note that Chapter Member 2019 Dues are due and payable as of January 1, 2019. At this point, there is only one member whose dues are yet to be paid for 2019.

Both the proposed EAA 857 Bylaws and Pennsylvania Articles of Incorporation were voted for in favor by the members present at the February Chapter Meeting on 2/19/2019, as well as by all those who submitted proxy votes. There were no negative votes. Thank you for your approval of our efforts to continue pursuit of 501C3 status!

Ted Merklin,

President EAA 857



Minutes of February 19, 2019 Meeting

Opening: President Ted Merklin called the meeting to order at 19:00 and led the members in saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance: Sixteen members and one guest were in attendance.

Secretary's Report: Everyone was asked to be sure that they had signed the sign-in sheet. A motion to accept the Secretary's report of the September Minutes was made by Larry Schaefer and seconded by Frank Szczerba.

Treasurer's Report: A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Chris McGearly and seconded by Dave Von Kaenel. Note that Dues are due!

Newsletter Report: More articles are always welcome from anyone. Notify Ted Merklin if you are not receiving the newsletter. The newsletter is also published to the chapter web site at: <http://www.857.eaachapter.org/home.htm>, which has been updated for 2019.

Young Eagles Report:

- One Air Academy camper is on the waiting list for 17 year olds. YPP will need to be renewed for the 2016 class of volunteers who were trained and background checked then. If you would like to be more involved in the Y.E. program, see Ted.
- For those interested in an aviation career, AOPA has scholarships, check their website for information.

Technical Advisors: Chuck Potts and Bob Santolla

Report: If doing owner permitted preventive maintenance, remember you need the manual and proper tools, such as a torque wrench.

Old Business:

- Articles of Incorporation and the new by-laws were voted on.
- Motion by Jim Harjer, seconded by Bill Banks, voting was extended for 5 days to allow for contact with members who could not make the meeting.
- **Edit: After a canvass of members that did not attend, the motion was approved with the required 80% majority. With the votes of members present and proxy votes, the changes were approved.**
- We have moved our equipment to the CAP side of the hanger in a renovated space .
- Hats and shirts, the order form will be sent out. Money needed at that time.

New Business:

- Remember Dues are now due.
- The Butler county pilots association is looking for pictures for a presentation. If you are a member, or just have a lot of relevant old pictures contact them.
- We need volunteers for this years programs.
- Event dates are set:

Young Eagle day:	Sunday, June 8
Fly-ins:	Saturday, August 11, and September 8
Sun & Fun	April 2-7
Sentimental Journey	June 18-22

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 20:25 was made by Chuck Potts, and seconded by Phil Kriley

Program: The program was on hiatus.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Schubert



Technical Counselor Program

By Bob Santolla

At the beginning of 2019 I renewed my association with the Technical Counselor (Tech Counselor) program to be available to help our EAA Chapter 857 with aircraft projects and restorations. So what exactly is the Technical Counselor program and why you should take advantage of this valuable resource.

The Technical Counselor program was developed to deal with the mechanical factors that can present potential issues during your first flight in a homebuilt. The saying, “**jack of all trades, but a master of none**” can describe the average homebuilder. No one knows how to do everything and everyone starts as a beginner.

A goal of the program is to utilize the Counselors in a form of an educational task force which will be ever-ready to answer questions or to teach a skill. In this way, the pool of experienced builders and restorers will be continually expanded.

The Technical Counselor program has several goals, an important one is to get a Tech Counselor involved with every airplane being restored or built. This way, regardless of the level of involvement, there would always be an expert who is bringing a fresh point of view to the project. So let us take a look at the objectives of the program.

Objective One: Increased Airframe and Power-plant Safety

A disproportionate number of serious and fatal accidents occur during first and Phase 1 flight testing, which makes good pre-first flight testing and careful inspections especially important. Most first flight failures result from a system or structural problem that was overlooked by the builder. Even the builder's inspection, taxi testing and ground run-up may have failed to reveal these problems. In many cases an in-depth inspection by a qualified Tech Counselor and a few key system tests, such as a thorough fuel system test, might have revealed these deficiencies before any flight took place. A Tech counselor with expertise in the particular model of aircraft and/or with the particular type of construction can often see things that are not obvious to less experienced individuals. Builders and restorers get so close to their projects for so many years that they don't see all the details that have come together over the life of the project. That's where an extra set of eyes can be invaluable. This concept can help to build long term safety and reliability into the aircraft and eliminate problems further down the road.

Objective Two: Builder / Restorer Education

The global base of experience from which Technical Counselors are selected, represents an enormous pool of knowledge. Under the Tech Counselor program the cycle of having to learn then re-learn a skill will be less of a hinderance.

Objective Three: Increased Completion Rate

The completion rate of aircraft projects has always been challenging. The advent of kit aircraft has greatly increased the success rate, look at Van's RV aircraft flying today! But there are still a number of projects that do not come to fruition.

Although money and available leisure time are undoubtedly at the top of the list when it comes to the decision to sell an incomplete project, there are other issues at hand as well. Some projects are not completed simply because the builder/restorer became bogged down by problems that didn't know how to solve efficiently. If there were a Counselor whom the builder could turn to with questions, the chances of completion would increase significantly. Ideally, the individual will contact the Counselor long before he or she actually starts the project. That way the potential builder / restorer can sit down face to face and discuss the project in realistic terms. By meeting with a counselor ahead of time, they can evaluate their own ability to dedicate time and rise to the many challenges which building an airplane represents.



The Technical Counselor program is available to EAA Chapter 857 members. We have two Counselors and we are ready to help you with your project. Keep on building and "keep'm flying!"



Buzz Warning

By Bob Santolla

I stopped by our friendly FSDO to turn in my IA renewal documents and spent time with one of the Inspectors in the office. Our FSDO office is there to help you with both flight and aircraft maintenance issues.

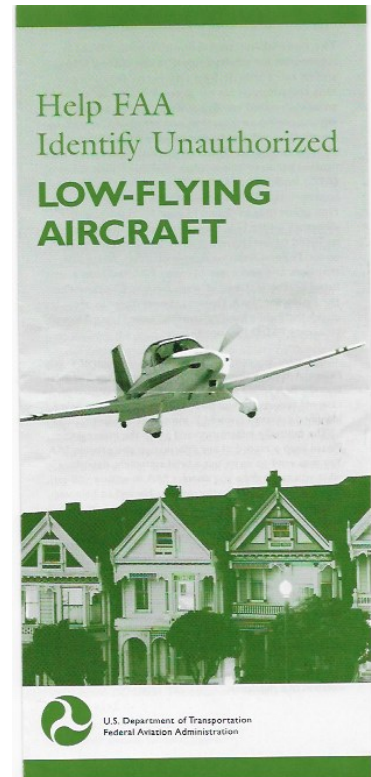
While waiting for visitor credentials to be processed I noticed this pamphlet in the waiting area. I read through it and realized that the non flying public has at their disposal ways to identify low fly airplanes that maybe on a “buzzing mission” over friends houses or gatherings.

The FAA takes any complaint of an alleged violation of a FAR seriously! A violation case will be assigned to a safety inspector and he will be asking questions. A lot of questions.

So let us review FAR 91.119. It says, “Sec. 91.119 Minimum safe altitudes: General. Except when necessary for takeoff or landing, no person may operate an aircraft below the following altitudes: (a) Anywhere. An altitude allowing, if a power unit fails, an emergency landing without undue hazard to persons or property on the surface. (b) Over congested areas. Over any congested area of a city, town, or settlement, or over any open air assembly of persons, an altitude of 1,000 feet above the highest obstacle within a horizontal radius of 2,000 feet of the aircraft. (c) Over other than congested areas. An altitude of 500 feet above the surface, except over open water or sparsely populated areas. In those cases, the aircraft may not be operated closer than 500 feet to any person, vessel, vehicle, or structure. (d) Helicopters. Helicopters may be operated at less than the minimums prescribed in paragraph (b) or (c) of this section if the operation is conducted without hazard to persons or property on the surface. In addition, each person operating a helicopter shall comply with any routes or altitudes specifically prescribed for helicopters by the Administrator.

Bottom line is, people are watching and with smartphones you could be recorded and now you have the “carpet dance” with the FAA safety inspector.

You worked hard to get your pilots license so don't do something to jeopardize loosing it. Enough said. Stay safe.





Bus Trip to Oshkosh for AirVenture!

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Kent Shoemaker** <kentlshoemaker@gmail.com>

Date: Sat, Mar 16, 2019 at 2:02 PM

Subject: Oshkosh Bus Trip to EAA AirVenture

Hello,

I am putting together a Bus Trip to Oshkosh for AirVenture. In fact, this is the 30th year for this trip and it keeps getting better. If you can pass on the attached, that would be greatly appreciated.

The trip really is a lot of fun and I have had the opportunity to meet a lot of nice people. Not only do pilots join us, but aviation enthusiasts of all kind including RC flyers, history buffs, and spouses of pilots. My wife is not into airplanes at all, but she enjoys Oshkosh.

I need about 40 people to make the trip possible, so if you can help by passing the attachment on, that would be great. I've been flying for over 35 years and been to Oshkosh about the same number of times, and I still look forward to it. Every year brings new.

If you have any questions, please give me a call, text, or email. Hope you and your friends can join us.

Sincerely,

Kent L. Shoemaker

Oshkosh Bus Trip 2019 / 30th Anniversary



It's hard to believe that this will be the **30th** year for the Oshkosh Bus Trip. I hope you can join us for this anniversary trip to the greatest airshow / convention in the world.

This year we will leave from the Butler Farm Show Airport, located on Rt. 68 west of Butler, at 7a.m. on July 24th and we'll return on Sunday, July 28th around 10 p.m. We'll be traveling on a coach bus with air conditioning, restroom, and closed circuit television. Lodging will be at the Ripon College dorms in Ripon, Wisconsin. We'll spend three days at the airshow. Most important, we'll be traveling with a great bunch of people.

The cost of the trip this year will be **\$325.00 per person for double occupancy**. If you would like a **private room**, the cost of the trip will be **\$380.00**. This includes transportation, four nights of lodging, and breakfast each morning. Participants need to buy their passes either online or at the entrance gate. The bus conveniently parks at the EAA Bus Terminal on the field, which gives us a great central location. The trip is filled on a first come basis. So, if you want to guarantee yourself a spot, or if you want to bring a group of people, then register early. To register, complete the form below, include a check deposit of \$100 per person. The balance will not be due until June 1st. Make the check out to "**Kent L. Shoemaker**" and send it to:

Kent L. Shoemaker

225 Glade Run Rd.

Renfrew, PA 16053

If you have any questions, give me a call: 724-766-5847 or kentlshoemaker@gmail.com

Name: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Pvt. Room: _____ or Double Occupancy: _____

If Double Occupancy, your roommate is? _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____ Balance due: \$ _____

Chapter Shirt and Cap Orders

to be taken at the March Meeting! See Chuck Potts.



HATS \$15

First color is hat color, second color is color in bill

Black/ Khaki	Black/ Red	Black/ White	Khaki/ Black	Khaki/ Navy	Navy/ Khaki	Navy/ Red
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- 65/35 polyester/cotton twill
 - Structured, six-panel, mid-profile
 - Pre-curved sandwich visor with matching undervisor
 - Sewn eyelets
 - Hook-and-loop closure
- top button can be removed

POLOS with pocket



- 5-ounce, 65/35 poly/cotton
- Flat knit collar and cuffs
- Metal buttons with dyed-to-match plastic rims
- Double-needle armhole seams and hem
- Side vents

CARE INSTRUCTIONS

Machine wash cold with like colors. Do not bleach. Tumble dry low. Warm iron if necessary.

S-XL \$26
2xl \$28
3xl \$30

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Chapter 857 Members

See your chapter's Website at:

<http://eaa857.org>

Take a look today!

Newly Updated with **This Newsletter!**

Prior Issues for 2019 will appear in our newsletter archive.

Please submit your project updates, photos, articles, thoughts, technical tips

to contact@eaa857.org

ALSO, Monitor our Facebook Group Page:

Search for "EAA Chapter 857"

or Friend "Theodore Merklin" and I will add you.

Websites of Interest to EAA 857 Members

<http://www.butlercountyairport.org>

<http://www.eaa.org/>

<http://www.airventure.org/>

<http://www.aopa.org/>

<http://www.faa.gov/>

<http://faasafety.gov>

<http://www.condoraero.com>

www.draggintailpilots.weebly.com

<http://aviation.alltop.com/>



EAA 857 Chapter Officers for 2019

President

Ted Merklin

Vice President

Phil Kriley

Treasurer

Frank Szczerba

Secretary

Rick Schubert

Newsletter Ed.

Ted Merklin

Web Page Ed.

Ted Merklin

Young Eagles

Larry Gaichas

Eagles

Dan Hood

Technical Advisors

Chuck Potts, Ch.

Bob Santolla

Board Members

Bob Santolla, 2019-2021

Gary Marsico, 2019-2020

Larry Gaichas, 2019

EAA 857 - Calendar for 2019

Chapter Meetings

Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM in the Conference Room at the Pittsburgh-Butler Regional Airport.

January 15

February 19

March 19

April 16

May 21

June 18

July 16

August 20

September 17

October 15

November 19

Chapter Events

EAA 857 First Flight - Tuesday, January 1

EAA 857 Chili Cook Off - Sunday, February 10

International Young Eagles Day - Saturday, June 8

EAA 857 Fly-In and YE - Sunday, August 11

EAA 857 Fly-In and YE - Sunday, September 8

2019 National Events

Sun 'n Fun - April 2-7

Sentimental Journey - June 18-22

AirVenture Oshkosh 2019 - July 22-28

Use contact@eaa857.org to email the Chapter President.

Your request will be forwarded to the appropriate individual.