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

EAA 857 NEWSLETTER



**Nearly the first photo of AirVenture 2019!
Displayed on the front lawn of Vintage Aircraft
was this 1928 DeHavilland Moth**



Presidents Message

EAA 857 Members,

It is September 15th as I write this, we have a meeting this week on Tuesday in our usual location and at our usual time. Bob Santolla, fresh from his western tour of the USA, will present a program on “Conditional Inspections for Experimental Aircraft”.

Also, there is an upcoming celebration for the 90th Anniversary for the founding of the the Pittsburgh-Butler Regional Airport in just two weeks, on Saturday, September 28th. As has been noted in previous chapter meetings this anniversary event has replaced the usual September Fly-in that we hold every year. We plan to do some fund raising by serving hamburger and hot dog lunches to the guests who attend the celebration. Please, we will need volunteers for set up, cooking, and clean up of our tables, chairs and cooking facilities in our usual location in the community hangar.

I would like to inform you that the Pennsylvania Department of State has accepted and filed our new Articles of Incorporation pursuant to the chapter seeking 501(c)(3) status with IRS. We will next be issuing legal notifications to two publications in Butler County, filing for a new federal ID number, and submitting the 1023EZ application to the IRS for 501(c)(3) recognition.

Finally, we will in October take nominations for 2020 chapter officer positions, and for 1 of our 3 Board Members; the election will as usual be held at the November Chapter Meeting. Please consider offering a nomination or volunteering yourself for a position on the ballot.

Remember, our next meeting is Tuesday at the normal time, 7pm, and place in the KBTP conference room. See you there!

Ted Merklin,
President EAA 857



Minutes of August 20, 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: thirteen members and 2 guests 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 August Minutes was made by Phil Kriley and seconded by Larry Schaefer.

Treasurer's Report: A motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Ted Willke and seconded by Dan Pappert.

Newsletter Report: Thanks to Ted Willke for his Cub project move photos to KBTP and to the airport staff for their assistance to him. 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:

- Nick Peltz attended the Advanced Air Academy during AirVenture this year as our camper.
- We flew 25 kids at our event, Thanks to High Flight Academy for the use of their classroom.
- There will be no more official chapter Young Eagle events this year.
- Phil Kriley has volunteered to be the Young Eagles Coordinator for 2020, Thanks Phil!

Technical Advisors: Chuck Potts and Bob Santolla

Report: Reminder: ADSB will be required January 1st; There will be no extensions. This is pertinent to aircraft with engine driven electrical systems.

Old Business:

- The chapter reorganization is proceeding with paperwork preparation. Ted anticipates the process to be complete by October 1st.
- The board is looking into getting some shelves for the storage room to allow better organization there.

New Business:

- We have moved our September Event from 9/8 to 9/28 so it coincides with the KBTP 90th birthday celebration currently being planned by the airport Board of Directors. We will not conduct Young Eagle Flights at this event. The airport has asked us to cook a lunch menu and we will also have a table to promote the EAA and our chapter.
- Program: Adjournment: Adjournment: A motion to adjourn at 20:10 was made by Phil Kriley, and seconded by Larry Schaefer.

Program: The program was a pictorial presentation by Ted from AirVenture 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Schubert

AirVenture 2019: selected photos

It was a normal summer day as I headed from Moon Township to AirVenture 2019 on the Saturday before the show. It was dry in western PA, but in the middle of Ohio there were rain showers, not too bad but a portent of things to come.

Heading west and then north through the Chicago area the temperatures were climbing and the sun was blazing. Maybe this year it will be dry and clear when I get to Oshkosh. Not!

Heading up 94 and after crossing the Wisconsin border, the temperatures had been in the upper 90's. Then the horizon began to darken as Milwaukee lay ahead. I think it was blacker than I have ever seen a daytime sky. Rolling into Milwaukee, I encountered a heavier rain storm than I have seen in a long time. This will not be good for pitching my tent if Oshkosh is experiencing a similar deluge. As it turned out, they had, Friday night and Saturday morning amounting to 4 or more inches of rain. Perhaps a repeat of Sploshkosh 2011?

Fortunately it had stopped and the sky was clearing as Fond du Lac rolled by and Camp Scholler lay ahead. Then the impact of the storms on campground registration became apparent. Traffic stopped and inched slowly if at all towards the entry lanes to the grounds. The guys with the big rigs weren't moving at all, but ultimately my compact



SUV was allowed in and my tent was successfully pitched next to Chuck Potts trailer just west of the reeds and stream bisecting the campgrounds. It was damp there but not the lake that some folks had woken up to that morning.

Sunday had dawned clear but for a time, arrivals were delayed as the fields were rather soggy but later in the day I managed to get out as I usually do and photograph the arrivals that the controllers were beginning to let into Wittman Regional Airport. This included the classic Stinson Tri-Motor seen above in American Airlines livery.

Monday, opening day, was a beautiful day after the early weekend heat and rains. The campgrounds and aircraft parking were still hampered by soggy ground conditions so there were still long lines into Scholler, and many were diverted to parking lots around Oshkosh, or simply set up along the road until things dried out.



My usual approach to the show is to go see what is on display at the Vintage Red Barn. That's where the DeHavilland Moth seen on the first page of this newsletter was found. It was featured there all week along with a 1934 Stinson Straight wing Reliant. Also found there was Jim Savage's mid 30's Spartan Executive, highly polished as usual ready for its time up in the Vintage in Review Circle. Jim presented his aircraft noting that it had served in the RAF in a training capacity as a ferry aircraft KD102 during WWII.

The Monday airshow which opened the 50th Anniversary of the event in Oshkosh included a tribute to Paul Poberezny with a showcase of his North American P-64. Later in the show Julie Clark gave the first of her farewell performances at AirVenture in her Beechcraft T-34 Mentor.



Several Northrup T-38 Talons arrived at Oshkosh and later one of the latest in the Air Force Inventory, an F-35 Lightning II departed as part of the Heritage Flight formation display.



There are always rare birds to see at Oshkosh and this one, the XP-82 Twin Mustang flew for the first time at the show. These unique aircraft features are what makes the show so attractive for me as an aviation photographer enthusiast.

This aircraft restored by Tom Reilly won the Post WWII Grand Champion Warbirds award at AirVenture 2019. The 10 year effort at restoration was described by Mr. Reilly in a Warbirds in Review. It is an interesting story and I encourage you to look online for the details, which are far too extensive for me to relate here. So just enjoy the photos!



I will relate a couple details though, this airframe, the second prototype was first to actually fly in 1945, the design was intended for use as a long range escort for B-29 Super Fortress bombers in the Pacific. Its interesting to note that there are less than a half dozen components on the aircraft's airframe that are common with the P-51.

The restoration team had hoped to have the plane for last years show, but its first flight in its restored state took place on December 31, 2018. I saw it first at Sun n'Fun this last April. It drew substantial crowds there as well as at Oshkosh.



One of the this years themes at the show was the Aviation Firefighting Community. This was represented on several days by the Viking Air water bomber display seen below. Several years ago we saw the Martin Mars and the Ericsson SkyCrane perform in a similar role at the show. This year there were several aircraft that performed water drops including this Bombardier CL-215, an Air Force Reserves Lockheed C-130 Hercules, and a small Air Tractor AT-802.





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"

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



EAA 857 Chapter Officers for 2019

President	Ted Merklin
Vice President	Phil Kriley
Treasurer	Frank Szczerba
Secretary	Rick Schubert
Newsletter	Ted Merklin, Ed.
Web Page	Ted Merklin, Ed.
Young Eagles	Bob Santolla
Technical Advisors	Chuck Potts Bob Santolla
Board Members	Bob Santolla 2019-2021 Gary Marsico 2019-2020

Use contact@eaa857.org to email the Chapter President. Your request will be forwarded to the appropriate individual.

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
KBTP 90th Anniversary -	Saturday,	September 28

2019 National Events

Sun 'n Fun -	April 2-7
Sentimental Journey -	June 18-22
AirVenture Oshkosh 2019 -	July 22-28