

## CHAPTER 613

# **July 2023**

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### Message from the Chapter President by John Fitzgerald

Greetings all.

I hope everyone is having a great summer. The good news is the Airport is paved and they are continuing to make great progress, we are all looking forward to getting back together. Chris our activities director is planning on an airport grand reopening. More information to follow on that.

Oshkosh by gosh! Shirley and I will be heading out next Saturday for Oshkosh and hope to see anyone who can make it. We will be volunteering for several events. Maybe we can meet at the Blue Barn again. Always a great time!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon at the Airport in the near future. Let's Rock and Roll again.

Thanks again to Beth and George who are keeping our youth programs flying high!

John FitzGerald

President

### Air Adventure Coming Up!! By Marge Butter-

field

For those of you who are going to Oshkosh, would you let me know what days you plan to be there and your cellphone number? I would like to coordinate a day when most of you are there at



613 Members at AirVenture 2022

the same time so we can get a group photo of all of us holding our yellow and green EAA Chapter 613 banner at some interesting outdoor location. Thanks and safe travels!

### **Upcoming Events**

7/29/23: Chapter 613 Board Meeting (6:00 PM)

7/24—7/30: AirVenture at Oshkosh!

9/16/23: Young Eagle Rally at Caledonia County Airport (KCDA)

9/23/23: Young Eagle Rally at Dean Memorial Airport, Haverhill, NH (5B9).

### Treasurer's Report for July 2023—George Coy, Treasurer

INCOME	
Hangar Rent	\$0
FTD Fees	\$0
Membership Dues	\$0
Total Income	\$0

EXPENSES	
Supplies	\$355.69
Natural Gas	\$76.01
General Scholarship	\$900.50
Electricity	\$28.58
Ray Scholarship	\$856.06
Total Expenses	\$2,216.84

Hangar Contingency Fund	\$14,690.97	
Mary McGrath Fund	\$27,396.96	
CD#1	\$10,000.00	
CD#2	\$10,000.00	

Ray Scholarship Balance	\$289.45	
General Youth Aviation Program	\$24,211.39	
Balance		
General Fund	Pending	
Checkbook Balance	\$11,083.13	

### "As the Prop Turns" by George Coy

We are in the process of moving from QuickBooks 2019 Desktop to QuickBooks online. As a result, we are cleaning up several bookkeeping issues. We are also putting the Taylor Aviation Center on the books and depreciating it. The above numbers are substantially correct.

Bethany Fronhofer has agreed to run for Treasurer this fall at the annual meeting. I plan to retire as Treasurer at that time.

Last month we had a nice donation to the chapter tool crib. Donald Thompson of Stowe built a Glasair back in 1998. He flew it for many years and sold it some time ago. He was cleaning out his hangar and He decided to donate some specialty tools and hardware. A big thank you to Don.

We had two of our high school students complete their private licenses recently. Congratulations to Brody Hammond and to Daniel Rafferty. By my count there are now 13 high school aged pilots that EAA 613 has supported since 2019 when we started with Kyra Becker. Pretty good for a small EAA chapter in Rural Vermont!

Conner Smith soloed in Plattsburg under the watchful gaze of Kyra Becker. Conner lives in the Plattsburgh area.

We have a new runway! The paving is complete and as of yesterday (8 July) the painting is complete, as well. It is now 75 feet wide. The runway numbers are now 18 & 36. It is my understanding that all the underground wiring and new block house are installed and we were just waiting for the final installation of the lighting fixtures, which happened this week! There is still a lot of sand to be moved around and the final grading and seeding is yet to be done. Hopefully the aviation department will become heroes and will work towards an early opening.

We have seen a lot of activity with local Plattsburg students. Enough that Fly Vermont is considering having an aircraft permanently in Plattsburg.







#### EAA Chapter 613

# Youth Aviator Program Corner July 2023







#### **EAA Chapter 613 Youth Aviator Program**

EAA Chapter 613 and Habitat for Aviation Summer Camp, with Missisquoi Valley Union School District (MVUSD), concluded this week and was a huge success, in large part to the number of EAA Chapter 613 volunteers we had to support and wrangle the 13-14 middle school youngsters who stormed our airport. We are grateful to partner with MVUSD to introduce our youth to the magic that is aviation and aerospace.

We kicked off the week with model rocket building, sponsored in part by MVUSD and in part by the donations from our EAA Chapter 613 members. We had all hands on deck on day one, with special appreciation for Andrea Clark and Bethany Fronhofer who helped us kick off the week with success.

We could not have pulled off Tuesday's programming without the generous hearts of Andrea Clark and Ishir Agarwal, who at the last minute jumped in to share their love of drones with our youth campers when our original drone pilot from VTRANS got pulled away to help our flooded neighbors and friends. Thanks to Travis Clark and Arianna Bhalla for the support before and after camp to ensure we were ready to go and had everything we needed, including sustenance for the adults! Special thanks to Cliff Coy, from Border Air, who took the youth on a special tour of the maintenance facility and shared with them his love for all things aviation. He is an engaging and passionate member of our aviation family.

We couldn't have pulled Wednesday's hands-on riveting and soldering day of activities without the help of Mark Fronhofer, who, every year without fail, manages to make us the base parts for some fun riveting project. This year we utilized the EAA Young Eagles Workshop Kits to fabricate cell phone stands, which introduced both metal bending and riveting. Mark generously cut all of the sheet metal for these ahead of time and George made a jig so we could pre-drill all of the holes in advance of the day. As always, George Coy was instrumental in leading the riveting station and coaching the youth through reaming the holes and pulling and pinching rivets. This day was a huge success, even the most hesitant youngsters busied their hands and produced a cell phone stand to take home, complete with an EAA wings emblem on the front. To introduce soldering, Bethany Fronhofer helped put together a station where the youth were able to make necklaces and bracelets, there were beads available to personalize their

wares, and Bethany and Miranda supported the youth as they stripped wires, soldered on clasps, and encased the solder in shrink sleeve – all important aircraft construction skills that the youth had never before been exposed to prior to coming to our camp.

We had a wonderful crew from Engineers Construction (ECI) spend the afternoon with our youth on Thursday, to share the many aspects that go into building a runway. Using their impressive drone footage and 3-D modeling, Mark, Richard, and Ben Dow virtually took us out and above the runway as it was constructed. At each step of the process, the campers had the opportunity to construct their own runways using baked goods to represent the various layers of the process (e.g. coarsely chopped Chips Ahoy cookies for the subgrade layer and finely chopped Oreo cookies for the asphalt topper). The youth had fun constructing and "painting" their runways and learned about the engineering process at the same time.



The EAA Chapter 613 Taylor Aviation Center never looked so beautiful with its new paint and shiny clean floor. John and Marge's generous work in there to rally us all in making these seemingly minor upgrades has made all the difference in the world. When people walk into our space, their shoulders visibly drop and they take a deep



breath. It feels welcoming, like being at home. And I think Don and Earl Taylor smiled upon us this week as they looked down at all of these young people learning and exploring aerospace in the beautiful space that is our Aviation Center.

Special thanks to Mike Maskell who is always willing to share with our youngsters about the important work he does keeping things going at Franklin County State Airport. We were thankful that he was able to talk about the multifaceted nature of his role in a way that was accessible and inspiring to the youth. They asked him a lot of great questions and were quite engaged during this lunchtime chat.

A special appreciation for EAA Chapter 613's Youth Aviators and Mechanics-in-Training, Miranda Gallagher and Ian Bradette, for donating their time and for being positive youth role models for our campers. They can be seen in the photos leading the campers in a lesson on how to find the apogee of their model rockets using a homemade altitude tracker that was designed by NASA (a fun application of geometry, graphing, averages, etc.). Special thanks to Liam Gallagher who provided leadership and maturity this week and helped out in any way that was asked of him, from being a role model for good listening to helping sweep the aviation center, he always jumped in with a smile and great attitude. And we couldn't have had these Youth Aviation Ambassadors without the support of their parents who drove them to Franklin County State Airport nearly every day and picked them up – Serina, Genevieve, and Joby, thanks for being such awesome parents.

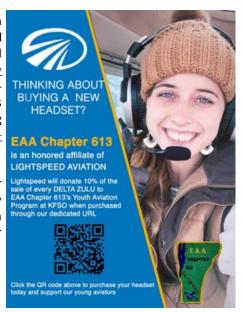
Friday was rocket launch day, and we couldn't have our ambassadors from the Champlain Region Model Rocket Club, Howard Druckerman, Kevin Kittinger, and John Andersen who not only brought their own rockets to demonstrate, with much fanfare, light, and sound, but also helped each youth pack their rocket, understand how the motors worked, and had a state-of-the-art launch platform that was 50 feet away from the launch pad, ensuring the safety of all. We were delighted to have Ellen Brennan, Program Administrator with the Vermont Space Grant Consortium/NASA EPSCOR as a special guest to guide youth individually in preparing the final steps to their rockets and also who generously gifted each youngster a NASA bag filled with goodies.

#### **EAA Chapter 613 Youth in the News**

Two of our EAA Chapter 613 Youth Aviators made the news this month. We had an inspiring story of Miranda Gallagher - in her own words - about how mentorship and career exploration opportunities provided early in her education experience have led her on a path toward aviation: How my middle school career exploration helped my passion for aviation take flight, which was published in Medium blog by American Student Assistance. Days later, right in time for the July 4th celebration, we received this beautiful and touching article by Adel Medic, which appeared in EAA's Hangar Flying Blog last week and will be featured soon in Sport Aviation: Perspective to Legacy: Navigating a Dream in the Sky.

Are you thinking about purchasing a new headset? EAA Chapter 613 Youth Aviator Program is honored to be an affiliate of Lightspeed Aviation. This means, with every Delta Zulu sold through our dedicated URL or QR code, EAA Chapter 613 will receive a donation of 10% of the headset value for our youth programming. Please share this far and wide and help our youth access opportunities to fly!

(https://tinyurl.com/EAA613Lightspeed)



#### **EAA Chapter 613 Youth Flyers: Reflections from Flight Training**

#### Meet our Newest Aviator, Abby Demar

I'm Abby from St. Albans, Vermont. I come from a very loving and supportive family. My mom and dad separated a few years ago and I spend my time split between my two great new families. I am 16 and currently a junior at BFA and very recently discovered that it's possible for me to start learning how to fly!

I've always loved the experience of flying, with takeoffs, landings, and (surprisingly) turbulence being what I love most about it. I'm not sure what sparked my interest in aviation, but it's always been there. Almost every year for as long as I know, my family and I have taken a trip down to Florida to visit my grandparents. I was always excited to hop on the plane, except for on the way home, where just about every time I would have terrible ear infections because I refused to get out of the pool all vacation. It was just something about getting on the plane and knowing that when you would go to step out you would be someplace better that made it such a fun experience.

I think the reason why I want to be a pilot now is so I can make sure that others can experience that while knowing they are safe. My family has some history with piloting, my great-grandfather flew during WWII and my mom's cousin was a fighter pilot in the Navy and even went to Top Gun! Now I don't know if I will be able to fly as high as they have (pun intended), realistically I hope to fly for a company one day and make a career out of it. But in order to get there, I have to know if that's really something I can and want to achieve, which is why I am here. Starting my journey as a pilot as early as I can! I have a few other hobbies and such, I play volleyball both for school and on a traveling club team, I work a part-time job at Hannaford's, and I try to always have a book going, as well.

Another thing about me is that I love to travel, which is the perfect reason to become a pilot. I'm so excited to experience the freedom and knowledge flying can give you. I don't know much about how these crazy planes can stay in the air, but I plan to learn all that and more!

#### Ishir Agarwal, Ray Scholar

These past few months have been extremely busy for me, but in a really good way! At the end of May, I finished up my last math assignment in high school and the next day, I graduated from Vermont Technical College's VAST program with a high school diploma and 30 college credits! I am so grateful to have undertaken all of those classes and made good memories along the way. Moving into June, everyone was in the mindset of high school graduation and I got to participate in some highly memorable senior activities right before we walked at graduation and received our diplomas.

It still feels weird to me to not go into school during the week anymore, but this summer has given way to new opportunities for me! Since I started my path in aviation, I've always wanted to become a ramp agent at BTV in order to get a better understanding of what happens on the ground, and this month I finally completed the training and am working as a ramp agent at United Airlines. I'm so fortunate to be able to work in such an amazing environment, and the ability to explore the world on standby is something I will never take for granted.

I also have been vigorously planning my move to North Dakota to attend UND's commercial aviation program! Although it's far from home, I believe in UND's program and am excited to start a new experience! Additionally, I will be driving all the way, and will get to see the sights that the Eastern and Midwestern states boast along the way!

This July, I had the opportunity to supervise and educate kids from the aviation summer camp EAA Chapter 613 hosted. I was able to share my passion for Aviation to kids through drones, and they were able to fly and learn about how drones work and why we use them in different settings. I want to commend Beth and all of her teammates for running this summer camp, as it is an extremely fun and youthful way for kids to get into aviation based on their interests for it. For me, it felt so good to have helped introduce a potential interest and light a spark for kids, and I hope I can continue with it!

#### Adel Medic, Ray Scholar

For the past several weeks my instructor Kyra and I have continued practicing touch and go's where I can definitely see myself improving. Just a few days ago we had an interesting lesson where we flew with semi-low ceilings where I was challenged with flying with low visibility. It was a fun learning experience that required a lot more focus. The week prior to that my instructor and I flew in similar conditions with thick haze caused by the wildfires in Canada, another major learning experience that I had to perform a go around because of another plane that began taxing onto the runway while we were about to land. So far the past few lessons at the start of summer have been the most interesting and I have learned so much and I hope we continue to have scenarios such as the ones I mentioned.

#### Ian Bradette, High School Aviator

Hello wonderful aviation community! I don't have too much to share this month, but I have a few things to say regarding the EAA summer camp, and speaking to potential funders from the Vermont Community Foundation for Habitat for Aviation.

To start, speaking to Andy and Evelyn about Habitat for Aviation was a very positive experience as it provided Beth, Miranda, and me with a platform to articulate our vision of what Habitat for Aviation will become. I was also able to voice my own passion for aviation, how I got into aviation, and my personal experiences with Beth, George, and the Franklin County Airport community. The support and enthusiasm we were met with when sharing our vision to Andy and Evelyn was truly inspiring and heartwarming.

Volunteering at the aviation summer camp was equally fulfilling, albeit in a different way. One of the best things to me was being able to see myself in some of the kids at the camp as I had also participated in an aviation camp very similar roughly 5 years ago. Overall, it was a great chance to give back to the aviation community and inspire young aviation enthusiasts the same way I had been.

Despite not actively flying or engaging in extensive aviation maintenance this month, primarily due to the runway closure, it was still another great month on the calendar that I'll remember.

#### Calla Senesac, High School Aviator

This month I haven't done much flying. I did some ground school with Ryan and got the rundown on airspaces. I've been working at a summer camp and one day when I was coming home the muffler on the car I usually drive fell off while I was driving it! Luckily we ordered a new one and put it on and it's as good as it was before. I've been trying to put some time aside each day to study using trusty old YouTube and Sportys, and I'm very excited for what this month will bring.

#### Kyra Becker, Ray Scholar, Instructor

It's been quite a busy month for me. I finally hit 1000 hours total time. Since then I'm now at 1030 hrs. TT. I have already started applying to new flying jobs. I have one job offer that I am planning on accepting. I'll leave it at that because I don't want to say too much too soon.

As for flight instruction, it's not something I want to ever give up. I'm not sure what my schedule will allow for yet but if I take

some time off from instructing I'll definitely be back one way or another. My hope is that once everything with this new job/training workout I'll have some time on the side. I love working with all my students. I really have been super lucky to have worked with so many amazing people.

This past month my student Daniel received a well deserved Private Pilots License. Just in time to enjoy some summer flying. I also soloed a new student of mine, Conner. It's great to see such progression in my students.

I am currently on a long cross country trip. I am flying a Mooney from KPBG-KISO-F45-KMLU-KAPA-KDPA-KPBG. I am really excited to have this opportunity and to fly out West for the first time. I'll update more about my trip in the next newsletter as it has just begun! Safe flying and stay healthy everyone. (Note: the photo are sail-boats from The Mayor Cup in Plattsburgh),



#### Gabe Merrill, High School Aviator

In the month of June, I flew a few times over the State of Vermont and I was able to land at Montpelier. I had a very interesting flight over the Green Mountains as I did some of my first random unannounced engine failures where my instructor cut the fuel from the engine and I used my ABCs to recover and continue the flight. From take off and landing it was a good time and my stall horn only came on once. The lesson I have learned from the last month is that when in the air you must constantly be thinking "what would I do if an emergency were to occur now" that way when your engine fails, which it will eventually, I have the mental understanding of what to do.

#### Maxwell Hochschild, Aviator

My instructor, Ed, and I have been taking a break due to complications with the FAA medical certification.

For other activities, I'm doing some work with Blender in 3D modeling, finishing up the summer baseball season, and preparing for a couple Civil Air Patrol-related trips coming up later this month.

#### Brody Hammond, High School Aviator, AOPA Ray Scholarship Recipient

Effective July 6th, 2023, I'm a Private Pilot! Becoming a licensed pilot has been a dream of mine for six years, since I was 11, and I'm excited for my future in aviation. I'm going to be furthering my ratings through the Professional Pilot Technology program at Vermont State University, and pursue a career as an Airline Transport Pilot.

My last month of flying was difficult, and it proves Murphy's Law, "Anything that can go wrong, will go wrong." Despite various repetitive mechanical,



meteorological, physiological, and circumstantial setbacks, I still nailed my Private Pilot Checkride thanks to the everlasting support I have received from this community.

I'd like to thank all of my instructors, especially Ryan and Kyra for getting me to the finish line. I also appreciate the flexibility of my fellow pilots for doing their best to accommodate me as my checkride was approaching, as well as the consistent support of Beth and George over the years. I probably wouldn't be licensed today without all of your help. The checkride itself went very well, I aced the ground portion and had a very brief debrief! I'm looking forward to finally being able to invite my friends and family to come flying with me!

#### Memphis Everest, High School Aviator

This month has been a very busy month for flying! I have been up in the air every day that has allowed it, although because of the weather that has been less than anticipated! Another big thing happened, which was the fact that I was accepted into the VAST program at Vermont State University for their Professional Pilot Technologies program! That is why I have been flying so much; I need to have my PPL by August Tenth, though it was supposed to be August first... they moved it because of the crazy weather we've been having! It feels so much better about my piloting skills now that I am working on them so frequently. I am almost ready to do my written, and I am also very close to soloing! I am nearly getting it and it's been wonderful flying with the EAA!

#### **Spencer Levi**

June was a good month for me. School was finished and that meant a lot more flying! I have had some longer lessons which gave me time to go and visit some other airports. Towards the end of the month one of the weeks my instructor, Ryan, went on vacation and the other week I was away. Unfortunately I haven't been able to fly all that much in the past two weeks, but I have, however, made lots of progress on my Eagle Scout Project. June was a very productive month and a great start to my summer break!

#### Joseph Mensah, Aviator

So far this summer, I've been getting lots of valuable experience as a new CFI. While I've been working on my CFII, I've been able to start instructing private pilot students over the last weeks. A challenge with this though is that the thermals and winds during the summer rapidly rise across the day, so many morning flights to distant outlying airports are the best way to get stuff done with checkrides taking priority in the Prescott pattern. Additionally, I've been able to keep learning from each of my teaching experiences, from my coworkers, and from my managers thus far. Until the fall comes and I'll finally have a full load of students, I'll enjoy the ones I have now, and hopefully get them far to make their summer stays worth it.

### Mara Stephens' World Tour by Ed Scott

Mara Stephens, who was sponsored by Chapter 613 for her Private Pilot License, is now on a solo, three-month world tour. She took a break from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute where she was majoring in aeronautical engineering, worked in a bakery in Montpelier to save enough for the trip, and took off five weeks ago with the first stop in London.

Mara is fluent in French, and she knows some Arabic that she learned as a recipient of a US State Department study-abroad program to Morocco. It was the trip to Morocco last summer that inspired her to take this trip.



So far, she's been to Germany and Poland, where she visited WW 2 Holocaust sites, and Italy where she stayed with a friend. She's been traveling on a Eurail pass and staying in hostels. She is currently in Lebanon, next stop, Ankara, Turkey. Her final destination is Morocco where she plans to stay for a month.

Her trip is inspirational. For a nineteen-year-old to undertake such an adventure on her own shows qualities that I can only imagine. Our Chapter and its support for teenagers like her has been the catalyst that brought her to this point in her life. Her father said her involvement with Chapter 613 was "transformative."

Mara will move on, maybe in aviation, or not, but Chapter 613 can be proud of her, as it can of Kyra, who's moving on shortly, and Ishir who's heading to college next month, and the current teenagers who are in the pipeline to get their licenses through the generosity of its members. Learning to fly is not just a skill development; for teenagers, it's life changing.

### The History of EAA's AirVenture

The Experimental Aircraft Association's Fly-In Convention, now known as EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, has been in existence nearly as long as the association itself.

The first gathering was in September 1953 as a small part of the Milwaukee (Wis.) Air Pageant. That original EAA fly-in at Curtiss-Wright (now Timmerman) Field was attended by a handful of airplanes, mostly homebuilt and modified aircraft. Fewer than 150 people registered as visitors. The larger Milwaukee Air Pageant has faded away but the EAA gathering has become the world's premier aviation event.

EAA's fly-in grew quickly in its first few years and by the late 1950s it had outgrown the area of the Milwaukee airport it was allowed to use. In 1959, the event moved to Rockford (III.) Municipal Airport, where it would stay for the next decade.

The "Rockford Years" were where the EAA Fly-In Convention established both its prominence as a homebuilders' event and its friendly feeling that is retained to this day. By 1969, it was apparent that the EAA Fly-In Convention had simply become too large for the Rockford facility.

Aviation legend Steve Wittman, who had been an EAA member since the association's founding in 1953, suggested the airport in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. EAA AirVenture Oshkosh (as of 1998, the new name for the Fly-In Convention) now serves as one of the world's premier aviation events, attracting top government officials, corporate leaders and hundreds of thousands of aviation enthusiasts.

### Georgy Coy Receives EAA's 2023 Major Achievement Award

Congratulations to **George Coy** for Receiving EAA's 2023 Major Achievement Award. George has been "Mister Aviation" in the State of Vermont for as long as we can remember. Most of us in Chapter 613 owe our involvement in aviation to George's mentoring, teaching, support and generosity. Congratulations George, we can't think of a better person to receive this well-earned award! We wouldn't have got where we are today in aviation without you! The following is an excerpt from EAA's announcement.

#### George,

It is my sincere pleasure to announce that you have been chosen as a 2023 EAA Chapter Major Achievement Award winner. Your years of hard work to contribute



to the success of your area chapters, your commitment to the local aviation community, and your personal achievements are recognized. You are truly deserving of this award. As a recipient of this award, you have exhibited the dedication to EAA, to your chapters, to your community, and to the aviation community as a whole.

You and other worthy award recipients will be honored at the 2023 EAA AirVenture Oshkosh Chapter Leaders Breakfast on Saturday, July 29, beginning at 8:00 a.m. in the Founders Wing at the EAA Aviation Museum. I encourage you to attend this event, as we will reserve a seat at a table for you and a guest of your choosing. Please confirm your availability.

If you are unable to attend, please let me know who can be available to accept this award in your name. You will receive an EAA award plaque to take home and be a keepsake for your effort, dedication, and personal accomplishments.

On behalf of the entire Chapters' team here at EAA in Oshkosh, I congratulate you. Please feel free to contact me by phone or email with any questions. I would like to ask if you would provide a photo of yourself, preferably a head shot or a close up so we may incorporate a photo during our awards presentation.

Thank you,

Tim Dahnke, Chapter Field Rep

### Instructor's Corner—"Maddy Takes Flight" by Ed Scott

Maddy got an introductory flight lesson with me in my C 150 thanks to Beth, who flew with her at the Plattsburg Young Eagle rally. Beth had been impressed with her, so we set it up, and went flying. Unfortunately, Maddy is only fourteen and can't really start serious flying lessons, though she showed she had the potential to start right now.

With Young Eagles and kids like Maddy, they're on the controls right at the start. I have them taxi to the hold-short line, I talk them through the pre-takeoff checklist, and have them do the takeoff. They say, as Maddy did, "I don't know how to fly!" No, but the plane does, just do what I say.

How well they follow directions shows how they'll do as a student pilot, and Maddy did great. Without really knowing the "why" of everything beyond what I'd taught her before the flight, she moved the controls as I directed her with a light touch on the yoke. We took off on runway 17 out of MPV, headed northeast to the practice area, and



climbed to 4000 MSL where it was a little cooler. We flew around, kind of lazily, straight and level and gentle turns, and took in the sights. She did all the flying right up to downwind leg.

As Beth predicted, Maddy is a natural. She had a great time, and gained a lot of confidence. I can't wait until she's a little older.

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July 2023



