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Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association - Chapter 857

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# EAA 857 NEWSLETTER

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A Beech Staggerwing such as this, seen in 2019 at AirVenture, will lead a parade of GA Aircraft down the Potomac and along the National Mall in a Flyover celebrating AOPA's 85th Anniversary. All manner of GA aircraft in 15 Categories will be participating. Do you plan to go see the show on Saturday May 11, 2024?

## Presidents Message



Hello EAA 857,

What an eclipsing month! I watched the eclipse with two of my students at Northeast Ohio Regional airport (HZY). 100% totality was very worthwhile. The traffic in the sky wasn't as bad as it was predicted to be. We left 38D around 1100 AM and were able to pick up flight following from Youngstown up to HZY. We got spooked by the lack of traffic as we progressed through the trip. The rain that morning seemed to scare those intending on flying away for the most part. Several chapter members turned up at HZY. The airport prepared burgers and hot dogs for guests and had a beautiful heated hangar, simulator, corn hole boards and free eclipse viewing glasses.

The venture back from HZY was equally uneventful. We returned to 38D and departed. Driving was the more challenging part of the trip the traffic was incredible. I had a stage check at 6pm where we headed to DUJ the highways were jam packed on both legs of the trip! I am so grateful to be able to fly and miss the traffic as we did.

I am excited to hear about all your adventures over this past month at our meeting next Tuesday. We will begin to make plans for International Young Eagles Day on June 8th.

See you soon!

Joss Slagle

Chapter President

*ps: 2024 chapter dues are now due and payable.  
see Frank Szczerba, 857 Treasurer  
\$25 per individual, \$35 per family.*





## Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association—Chapter 857 Minutes of March 19, 2024 Regular Meeting

**Opening:** President Josselyn Slagle called to order at 7:03 P.M. and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Meeting attendees:** 12 members were present.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the prior meeting are in the newsletter. Motion to accept the minutes put forth Kyle Riedel and seconded by Destinyjay Maletta.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report submitted by email from Frank Szczerba was reviewed. Motion to accept put forth by Ted Merklin and seconded by Kyle Riedel.

**Newsletter:** The March newsletter was distributed and uploaded to the chapter website. Newsletter contributions are always welcome!

**Website:** Enter <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea857> in your browser to view the site. (Plan to do maintenance on the website)

**Tech Advisor:** Presentation about projects. Did get Chuck to do a presentation on his online team. Christine St. Onge has a blue airplane {Beech Staggering}... Joss is going to talk to her about using her plane.

**Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024

**IMC meeting:** IMC discussion on Weather in IMC

**Young Eagles:** First international event is June 8th.

- Sending a request out to ask who is available to fly this year.
- Look at your background check credentials.
- If the scouts volunteer to work at the New Castle event, we could help them by open the registration up to the scouts only.
- Propose the scouts receiving service hours.
- Keep the primary dates as they are.

**Air Academy:** Ian Geikowsky has received the paperwork to move forward with the medical. Scheduled for the Second session. Attendee didn't realize they didn't had received the documents to be filed. Coming up in May, payment due for their tuition. Use credit from 2023 tbd..

**Ray Aviation:** The Ray Aviation Scholarship Coordinator provided a brief update on the Chapter's involvement with this scholarship. For the 2023 Ray Scholar, is working on his January and February Flying reports. Due to weather, he has flown very little, but that is to be expected. High Flight Academy has received the last installment of the scholarship funding--\$2,200.

Doesn't think Colin Daniello ready to take the check-ride, due to weather. 2024 candidate notification went out last weekend. Kyle is supposed to meet up with the candidate.

**Old Business:** IMC club representative is changing from Josselyn Slagle to Kyle.

Bob wants to drop his membership and still be in the loop.

Board can determine from time to time the signatures. Motion to accept Ted Merklin second by Chuck.

**New Business:** If a plane owner passing away and trying to look for new hangers, contact Kyle before doing anything.

**Closing:** The meeting was adjourned by Marsha Hood and seconded by Bill Banks at approximately 7:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Destinyjay Maletta,  
EAA 857 Secretary

## 2024 Ray Aviation Scholarship



My name is Jackson Murray, and I am writing to express my great appreciation and enthusiasm for being awarded this year's Ray Aviation Scholarship. This is an honor, and I am excited to be given the opportunity to start my flying career.

I first heard about this opportunity after completing an adventure flight at Butler Airport's Young Eagles Day. It was an amazing way to discover if flying is for you, and after my flight I knew I loved it. After this day I learned more about the Ray Aviation Scholarship and applied in hopes that I would be able to start my flying career.

I am currently a junior attending North Catholic High School and am eager to use the knowledge I will learn to help my classmates if they are interested in anyway. I also have been looking at flight schools for college to advance my knowledge and further me in my aviation career.

Once again, I would like to thank you for this once in a lifetime opportunity. I am truly ecstatic to see how this process turns out and hopefully have I will have a great aviation career ahead of me.

## Final Flight: Remembering John Listisen

By Kyle Riedel

With great sadness I'd like to share that both I and Butler Regional Airport pilots will miss John Listisen who passed away on the 9th of February. John was an EAA member and frequently brought his grandchildren to our Young Eagle Rallies so they could experience aviation and understand why he enjoyed flying so much.

I had the opportunity to fly with John upon multiple occasions. He may have taken a few minutes to get into the back seat of a Cub (who doesn't), but his stick and rudder skills remained solid all the way into his '80s. He always showed up with an amazing attitude toward flying and wore "Lift" aviation footwear to ensure he could feel and anticipate every rudder input. Ground looping was not in John's vernacular.

Ben Wahl and I have had the opportunity to volunteer our time to help his family list his two experimental aircraft (Loehle 5151 and Starduster Too) so they could find homes with deserving pilots. We will miss John's presence on the south-side of KBTP.

Obituary [Link](#)



## Vintage Clean-Out Lakehill Airport (P09)

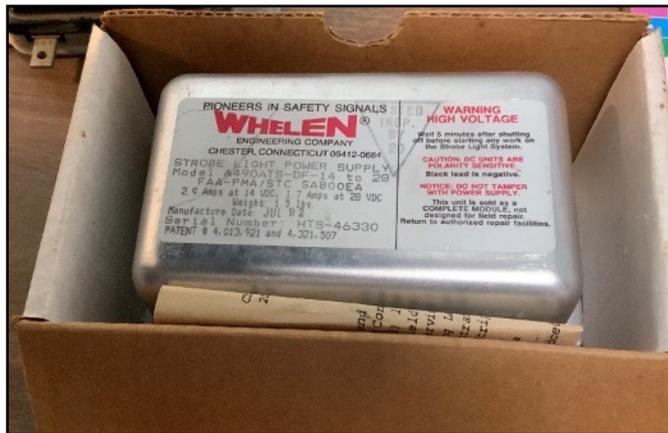
by Kyle Riedel

Chapter members, Chuck Lotz (ed. former EAA 857 President) just recently assisted an older pilot, in his 90s, in quickly cleaning out his residence near Lakehill Airport (now closed) in Mars. The clean out consisted of many vintage items aviation items including: gauges, dials, flight instruments (turn coordinator still in packaging), magnetic compasses, switches, circuit breakers, fiberglass fabric, Loran Navigation System (complete), Narco Omnigator MK II, tail wheel tow bars (x2), voltage regulators, navigation light lenses, narrow gauge SKAT Tubing (~1"~1 ¼"), as well as vintage EAA and Cessna flight manuals. There were also a few non-aviation items like carpet and brown leather (whole hide role). Here are a few pictures of the items.

Finding the correct home for these items will be challenging, but please contact Chuck Lotz at (412) 759-2938 if you are interested or know of people interested in any of these items. Be sure to leave a voicemail. Finding homes for some of these items will be difficult. Chuck did compensate the owner for his collection, but everything will be modestly priced to ensure these items find new homes quickly.









## TECHNICAL FOCUS:

### IF ANYONE IS INTERESTED IN EARNING AN EXPERIMENTAL LIGHT SPORT (INSPECTION ONLY) REPAIRMAN CERTIFICATION:

Please send me an email or a note that you would like us to sponsor a weekend class (a fee will be charged). We need a firmer idea of the interest level within our Chapter and other nearby chapters.

Also, please share other ideas about what we could be doing to broaden the activities our Chapter, with more “hands-on” work on airplanes of all kinds.

Chuck Warren email: [charleswarren@zoominternet.net](mailto:charleswarren@zoominternet.net)

Cell phone: 724-422-7213

### REBUILDING THE MOST FIDDLED-WITH TRIPACER IN THE WORLD: SOME RECENT PHOTOS...



## UKRANIANS DEVELOP UNMANNED, INEXPENSIVE, LONG RANGE, MILITARY DRONES

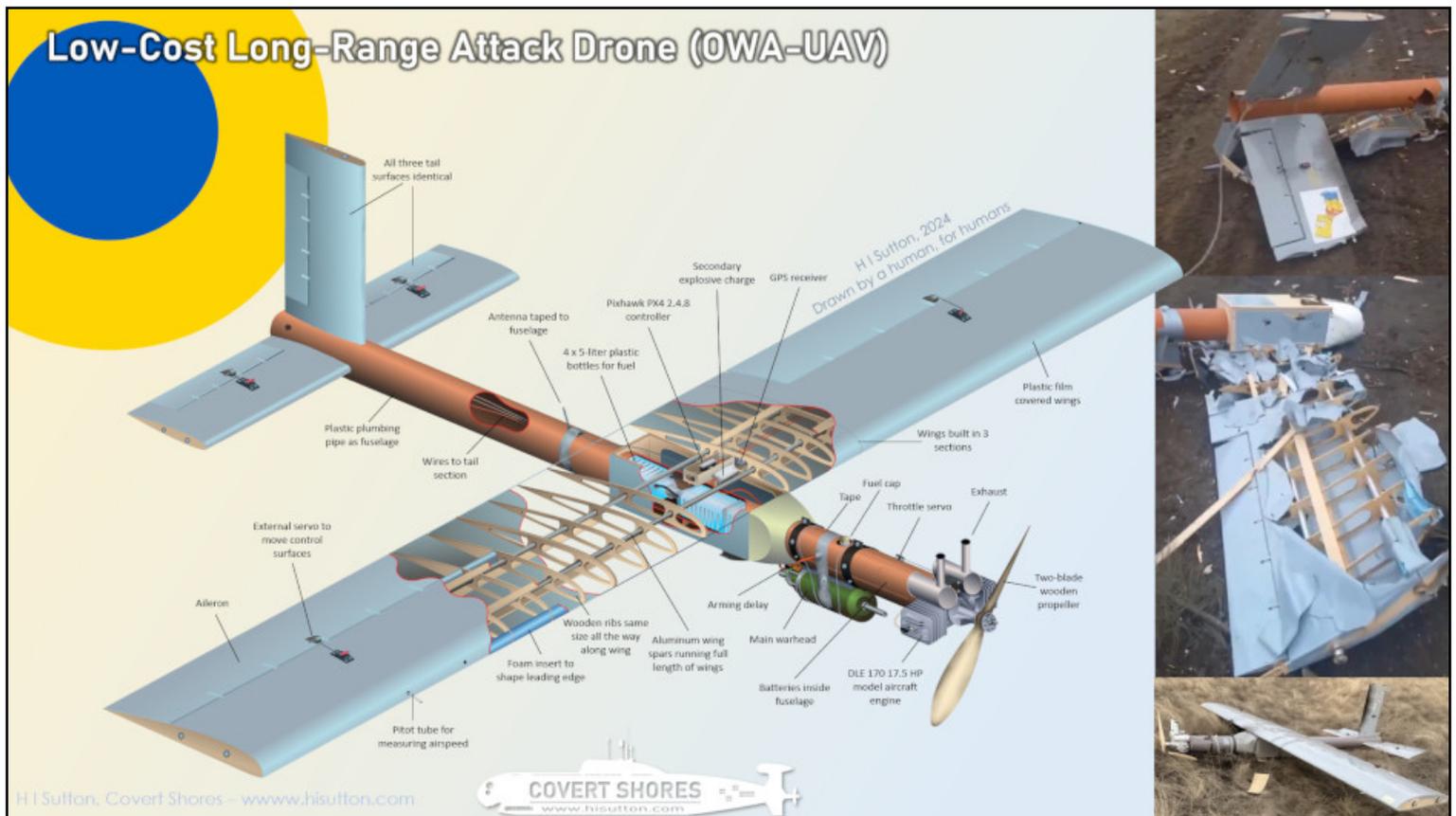
by Chuck Warren

While looking for something else on the internet, I happened upon an article by a blogger named H. I. Sutton, which I've reproduced, below. <http://www.hisutton.com/Trends-In-Ukraines-Attack-Drones.html>

It looks like an adaptation of R/C model and ultralight homebuilt airplane techniques by the Ukrainians to make inexpensive, mass produced, GPS guided cruise missile drones. Basic features and the aftermath of a drone hit are shown in his images, below... Anybody know if the Ukrainians are EAA members?

### Maximizing Bang For Bucks: Ukraine's New Low-Cost Strike Drones

How do you turn a length of plastic plumbing pipe, some wood, plastic wrapping and some water bottles into a strategic weapon? Ukraine's growing array of long-range attack drones are evolving to be much cheaper to build. This may allow much larger and more frequent strikes.





### **This Month's Question and Answer:**

**Question:** VMC- What is the difference between torque and P-factor?

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Dan Hood recently informed me of an upcoming aviation celebration event in Washington DC:

There is a GA fly over planned for Saturday May 11 commemorating the history and contributions of General Aviation. They will proceed from Frederick MD. and fly down the Potomac and parallel the National Mall. I believe this is similar to a military history flyover performed there several years ago. Here is the [link](#) to the AOPA page promoting the event which is in conjunction with their 85th anniversary. The webpage describes the 15 GA eras and the participating aircraft that will represent the history of civil aviation in the United States.

Dan and Marsha are planning to go to DC that weekend and he asked if any one in the chapter would like to join them in a group trip to watch this event? If you are interested, please let Dan know.

# **WARNING TO PILOTS**

The Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, Bureau of Forestry, will be conducting low level aerial spraying throughout portions of Pennsylvania this spring. The anticipated period of operation will be from April 25 until June 7 daily, weather permitting, between the hours of 0500 and 2100 local time. The Bureau of Forestry has arranged with the FAA to post, on a daily basis, NOTAMs that define the specific areas of operation. All pilots are urged to check their NOTAMs before conducting any low level flight during this time frame. If you encounter spray aircraft during your flights, please remain clear. Pilots working on the spongy moth (formerly gypsy moth) spray program will be monitoring radio frequency 122.925. Spray aircraft make abrupt turns and altitude changes that make it difficult to predict their flight path.



**Your cooperation will make the skies safer for all concerned.**

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Bureau of Forestry - Division of Forest Health  
(Rev. 3/3/2022)

## What do you do with those one time use Solar Eclipse Glasses



**FAST FACT FRIDAY**

### SOLAR ECLIPSE THIS MONDAY!

**WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR GLASSES AFTER**

Solar eclipse glasses can be sent to Latin America for children to enjoy the August 2024 eclipse!

Send them to Eclipse Glasses USA. Make sure to ship your glasses by August 1st so they can be sent to kids before the eclipse! Their address is below.

**Ship by August 1st.**  
Eclipse Glasses USA, LLC  
**TO: PO Box 50571  
Provo, UT 84605**

SAINT LOUIS  
**CITY**   
**RECYCLES**

EAA 857 President Joss Slagle adds this event in our planning for August!

# AIRPLANE RIDES

**FREE TO ATTEND!**



**LOCAL FOOD TRUCKS**

**FEATURING**

- DEMONSTRATION FLIGHTS
- SAFETY SEMINAR



**HELICOPTER RIDES**



**VINTAGE CARS**

DASH PLAQUES FOR A LIMITED # OF VINTAGE CARS



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**ONE DAY ONLY!**

SATURDAY AUGUST 24TH • 10AM TO 4PM

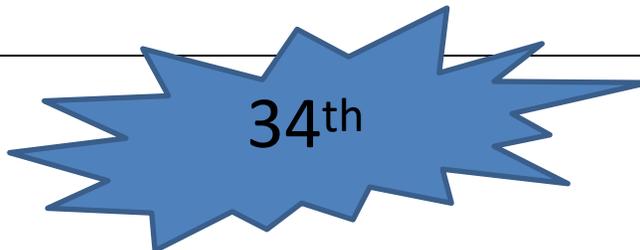
**NEW CASTLE AIRPORT**

406 Frank Farone Drive New Castle, PA 16101



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK

**Oshkosh Bus Trip 2024**  
**EAA AirVenture – July 23<sup>rd</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>**



This year we will leave from the Butler Farm Show Airport (3G9) on Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> and return on Saturday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. We'll spend three full days at the air show, stay at Ripon College, and travel on an air conditioned coach bus. The cost of the trip includes 4 nights lodging, breakfast each morning, transportation, and the opportunity to travel with wonderful people. The cost of the trip is:

**Double Occupancy:** \$395.00/per person

**Private Room:** \$495.00/ per person

If you are interested in joining us this year, then I will need a deposit check in the amount of **\$100.00** made out to **Kent L. Shoemaker**. I will send additional trip information to participants in May and that's when final payments will be due. Complete the registration form below and send it, along with the deposit check, to: **Kent L. Shoemaker 225 Glade Run Road Renfrew, PA 16053**

If you have any questions about this year's Oshkosh Bus Trip, please give me a call, text or Email.. **724-766-5847** or [kentLshoemaker@gmail.com](mailto:kentLshoemaker@gmail.com).

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**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Telephone #:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate your lodging choice: \_\_\_\_\_ Double Occupancy \_\_\_\_\_ Private Room

Roommate if applicable: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Paid: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE- POST + SHARE- FACEBOOK

# 1942 Douglas C-53 Skytrooper Flying BEACH CITY BABY Museum



WWII veteran of operations -TORCH(Vichy French)-HUSKY(Sicily)-North African & Mediterranean Theaters of Operation

AIRCRAFT TOURS WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR A DONATION AT AIRCRAFT

Stop in and see the plane SATURDAY MAY 25 AND SUNDAY MAY 26

**Sunday Breakfast only May 26 7:30 AM to 1:30 PM**

**EAA CHAPTER 1077 MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND**

**PANCAKES, SAUSAGE, & EGGS BREAKFAST**



**WHERE:HARRY CLEVER FIELD (KPHD) UNICOM 122.8**

**NEW PHILADELPHIA,OHIO INFO:330-987-9877**



**“Fun for the entire family”**

**Wear Your Khaki clothes. Let’s turn the airport into a WW II airbase.**



## EAA 857 - Chapter Meetings and Events for 2024

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

<b>Chapter Meetings</b>	Tuesdays	January 16 February 20 March 19 April 16 May 21 June 18 July 16 August 20 September 17 October 15 November 19
<b>IMC / VMCClub -</b>		TBD
<b>International Young Eagles Day -</b>		Saturday, June 8, (rain date 15)
<b>EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -</b>		Saturday, August 10 (rain date 17)

### 2024 National Events

<b>Sun 'n Fun -</b>	<b>April 9 - 14</b>
<b>Sentimental Journey -</b>	<b>June 18 - 22</b>
<b>AirVenture Oshkosh 2023 -</b>	<b>July 22 - 28</b>

### EAA 857 Chapter Officers for 2024

Use [contact@eaa857.org](mailto:contact@eaa857.org) to email the Chapter President.  
Your request will be forwarded to the appropriate individual.

<b>President</b>	<b>Josselyn Slagle</b>
<b>Vice President</b>	<b>Kyle Riedel</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Frank Szczerba</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>DestinyJay Maletta</b>
<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Danny Michaels 2024-2026</b>
	<b>Dan Hood 2024-2025</b>
	<b>Ted Merklin 2024</b>
<b>Website / Newsletter</b>	<b>Ted Merklin</b>
<b>Young Eagles Coord</b>	<b>Ted Merklin</b>
<b>Ray Aviation Scholarship</b>	<b>Kyle Riedel</b>