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Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association - Chapter 857

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## EAA 857 NEWSLETTER

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In the month of May we celebrate Memorial Day and VE Day. These men of the 15th Air Force, 301st Bomb Group, 419 Bomber Squadron shown above were members of that “Greatest Generation” who fought for our freedoms in WWII. Some of these men did not return home. This is the Jesse Coppedge crew in Foggia Italy, 1944. This editors late father in law, SSGT William W Sharpe, B-17 Ball Turret Gunner, is the gentleman in the front row, 2nd from the right.

## Presidents Message

Hello EAA 857,

I wish I could be there but during this month's meeting I will be venturing London. My mother has both Mother's Day and her birthday within days of one another, so I attempt one gift for both. This year it was this trip. I am excited to see the Royal Air Force Museum and the Concorde I will be sure to bring back pictures to share in June.

This month's meeting will feature some exciting developments as a new Ray Aviation Scholar is announced and our first Young Eagles event of the season develops further in planning. We are fast approaching the Mar's day event and an exciting new venture for the chapter. As always Young Eagles pilots are always a hot topic, if you are interested in flying please reach out and let us know.

As for personal flying, a venture I've made recently was to Wheeling Airport. They have a nifty historical display to check out and they are open relatively late. If only we could have this airport for a day to give the kiddos a full tour of the place.



Kindly  
Josselyn Slagle  
Chapter President





## **Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association—Chapter 857 Minutes of the April 15, 2025 Regular Meeting**

**Opening:** President Josselyn Slagle called to order at 7:10 P.M. and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Meeting attendees:** 8 members were present, therefore, not a quorum.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer's report submitted by email from Frank was reviewed. Motion to accept N/A seconded by N/A.

**Newsletter:** The April 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. Ted has been doing editing on the website lately. Ted added the August YE date.

**Tech Advisor:** N/A

**Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, May 20th, 2025

**IMC / VMC meeting:** VMC club presentation after closing.

### **Young Eagles:**

- First YE event scheduled Jun 14th. Rain date on the 21st.
- Second YE event August 9th.
- Event is setup for 45 kids and 3 groups of 15.
- There have been a couple YE requests, that were referred to the June 14th date.
- We received a request from the Community Empowerment program in Pittsburgh about engaging with us and 2 groups of middle and high school age youth. Perhaps a tour of the airport and introduce them to aviation.
- We need to know numbers of students involved; perhaps defer to the 8/9 YE?

### **Air Academy:**

- Carter Stroud is set up to go to Air Academy. We paid his tuition deposit to go in the Fall. Ted Merklin will prepare to apply the Air Academy credits of \$295 We will owe \$5 more for our funding..

### **Ray Aviation:**

- 15 paper applications for 2025 were received.
- All interviews are complete.

### **New Business:**

- We are going to ask the 99's club to send over a PowerPoint for their proposal.

### **Old Business:**

- The hanger keys have been turned back over to the Airport.
- There are 2 items left that Frank Szczerba has stored in his hangar.

**Closing:** The meeting was adjourned Kyle Riedel and seconded by Destinyjay Maletta at approximately 7:57 P.M.

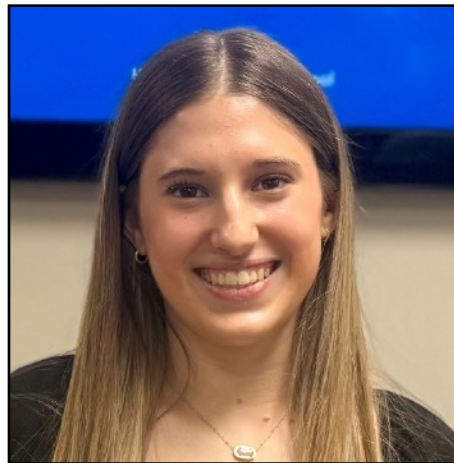
Respectfully submitted:

Destinyjay Maletta,

EAA 857 Secretary

## **Introducing our 2025 Ray Aviation Scholarship Recipient:**

### **Adeline Barrett**



Hello! My name is Adeline Barrett and I would like to thank Chapter 857 for accepting me as their scholar for the 2025 Ray Aviation Scholarship. This is a huge milestone for me as a student pilot, and I cannot express the amount of appreciation and gratitude I have for this opportunity. I am from Columbiana, Ohio and a junior at Heartland Christian School also in Columbiana. When it comes to my family, its history in aviation is strong, and I am honored to continue in it. Though it is in my family, it does not mean it is the reason why I fly. It is a journey, an adventure, and is one of the most exciting parts of my day. I have always had a spark for flying! When I was a kid, I would speed walk down the jet bridge towards the plane excitedly to sneak a peek of the cockpit. There's something about the atmosphere of the aviation world that always had me drawn to it and will continue for a long time. My dream is to fly in the airlines as a career. I realize it takes a lot of hard work and determination to achieve this dream. With this scholarship, it will put me one step closer to my dream. I again want to thank the chapter for supporting my training towards my PPL within a year.



## Air Academy Candidate Carter Stroud Goes Ballooning in New Mexico!



To update you, Carter continues to work on his Sporty's flight lessons when he's not consumed with track or school work. He should be using his flight lessons voucher soon now that the weather is warming up. He did get to help fuel the hot air balloon on our recent New Mexico trip and thought that was super cool!! (Pic attached)

Carter also joined the Civil Air Patrol at the Airforce Reserves Base in Moon. We will plan to attend your May chapter meeting for him to stay in the loop.

I cannot thank you enough for all of the support you all continue to give him in pursuing his dream.

Leslie, Cliff, and Carter Stroud



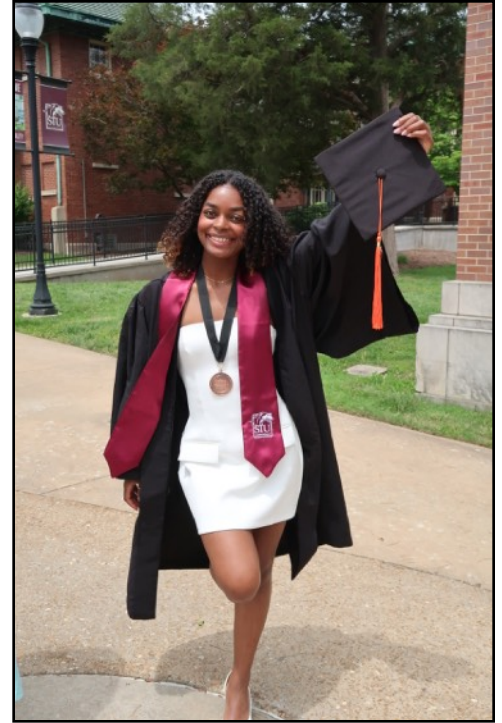
## A Member's Milestone Achievement

Dear EAA 857 Members,

I'm excited to share that I recently graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Science in Aviation Management with high honors. This is a big milestone for me, and I want to thank our EAA chapter for the support and inspiration along the way. I can't wait to put what I've learned into practice and keep exploring all the amazing opportunities in aviation.

Thanks again,

Destinyjay Maletta (Dj)





## **IMC/VMC Club Schedule**

In 2025, Kyle Riedel looks forward to serving the Chapter's pilots and aspiring pilots as a coordinator for EAA IMC/VMC Club. My goal is to offer these vignette-driven scenario discussions on an alternating schedule, so we appeal to all types of flying. Through discussion of the vignettes, we all grow as pilots, especially by viewing each scenario from our own flight experience.

The sessions will be offered after each of our regularly scheduled meetings and will last 15-25 minutes (based upon the level of pilot interaction). Like 2024, if there is an FAA Safety Seminar that occurs at the same time, we will participate in those events since they are more detailed in topics. Additionally, most of them offer Wings Credit.

Members and non-members are all invited. Chapter 857 offers the IMC/VMC as another good reason to join our Chapter and to grow as pilots.

### **IMC Club Months**

May

July

September

November

### **VMC Club Months**

June

August

October



## AirVenture Oshkosh 2025

This year's AirVenture featured performers are listed at this [link](#). One of the special appearances planned is a 100 year anniversary celebration of the Goodyear Airship. Two of them will be at AirVenture this year!

ONE WEEK  
**ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES**

July 21-27 [EAA.org/Tickets](https://EAA.org/Tickets)

EAA AIRVENTURE  
**OSHKOSH**  
2025

**FREE YOUTH ADMISSION** Free youth admission ages 19 and under is supported in part by

**BOEING**





Annual Oshkosh AirVenture Bus Trip

July 22 – 26, 2025



**When:** Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> to Saturday, July 26.

**Trip includes:** Transportation on coach bus (Campbell Bus Company), 4 nights lodging at Ripon College in Ripon, WI, breakfast each morning, and the opportunity to travel with aviation minded folks.

**Cost:** Double Occupancy/person: **\$440.00**

Private Room / person: **\$550.00**

This is the 35<sup>th</sup> Bus Trip to Oshkosh. We leave from the Butler Farm Show grounds on Route 68 at 7:00 a.m. on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and return on July 26<sup>th</sup> around 10 p.m. Cars are parked within the fenced area. We spend three great days at the air show and arrangements will be made for those who want to see the night show on Wednesday. Participants are responsible for purchasing entry tickets to the Airshow.

If you would like to be a part of this wonderful adventure, then a \$100/ person deposit is needed along with the completed registration form below. Checks should be made out to **Kent L. Shoemaker** and sent to: **Kent L Shoemaker 225 Glade Run Rd. Renfrew, PA 16053** If you have questions or need additional information, please call, text or email me at: 724-766-5847 or [kentlshoemaker@gmail.com](mailto:kentlshoemaker@gmail.com). Go to EAA AirVenture for entry prices.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle your choice:     Pvt. Room             Double Occupancy

Roommate (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Deposit Amt. \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Balance due \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Pd. In Full \$ \_\_\_\_\_

T shsirt size:    You             S    M    L    XL    XXL    XXXLL    (circle size needed)

Roommate:    S    M    L    XL    XXL    XXXL    (circle size needed)



## SPECIAL INVITE TO ALL ROTORCRAFT PILOTS

FREE BREAKFAST



PLEASE  
COPY  
AND  
POST

PLEASE HELP US SPONSOR STUDENT PILOT GRANTS

Breakfast is **FREE** for  
ALL **VETERANS!!**

EAA Chapter 1077  
Pancake Breakfast

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

SUNDAY ,MAY 25 7:30am – 1:30pm

330-204-7689  
Harry Clever Airport - KPHD  
New Philadelphia, Ohio  
1834 E High Ave, New Philadelphia, OH 44663

The Best Pancakes, Fresh Eggs, Sausage, Juice and Coffee



Good People Airplanes Delicious Breakfast Fun For All



FLY OR DRIVE IN!

AIRPLANES  
★ & ★  
AUTOMOBILES

EST. 2024

FREE  
ENTRY!

AUGUST 23, 2025

★ 10am-4pm ★

SCAN ME



AIRPLANE RIDES

HELICOPTER RIDES

UNIQUE FOOD TRUCKS

New Castle Airport 406 Frank Farone Drive, New Castle, PA 16101



## EAA 857 - Chapter Meetings and Events for 2025

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 21 February 18 March 18 April 15 May 20 June 17 July 15 August 19 September 16 October 21 November 18
<b>IMC / VMCClub -</b>		Alternating Chapter Meetings
<b>International Young Eagles Day -</b>		June 14, 2025
<b>EAA 857 YE Rally -</b>		August 9, 2025

## 2025 National Events

<b>Sun 'n Fun -</b>	<b>April 1-6, 2025</b>
<b>Sentimental Journey -</b>	<b>June 17 - 21, 2025</b>
<b>AirVenture Oshkosh 2025 -</b>	<b>July 21 - 27, 2025</b>

## EAA 857 Chapter Officers for 2025

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>Mario Dandrea</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Frank Szczerba</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>DestinyJay Maletta</b>
<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Chuck Warren      2025-2027</b> <b>Danny Michaels    2025-2026</b> <b>Dan Hood            2025</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>