
Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association - Chapter 857

EAA 857 NEWSLETTER



This pair of Young Eagles enjoyed their flight at EAA 857's June Rally

Presidents Message

Hello again EAA 857,

Well, it's Oshkosh month, finally! Personally, I have been counting the days and the emails, so many different events and presentations are going on in such a short amount of time. We also have our own amount of education going on with our upcoming wings credit applicable seminar. I am super excited to be having Mr. Steve Steel as our guest speaker for a presentation on surviving the ramp check. I, personally, have never been ramp checked. I was told by instructors along the way that you must present certain documents, but I am excited to learn what is myth and what is truth.

The wings program is great for keeping the flight review date out in front of you. This seminar completes a portion of what replaces the flight review. Ultimately, as a chapter I would like to plan it out so that we are having at least 3 of these seminars that provide wings credit for the ground portion each year and ultimately continuing to push the flight review out each time. Of course, a flight review also consists of flying and that portion will need to be completed to meet the requirements, but this is a great step in the correct direction. If you have any questions on the wings program and its potential use to you or others, please reach out to me.

As some of us may have seen on the news and social media, Ross Edmondson completed his round the world voyage. Many of you have reached out and requested that we have Ross come back and speak with us about his trip again. I am hoping to get that accomplished at a future meeting as well.

This month has been rather exciting flying wise for me. I finished my CFI-I add on for the last day of June. I am currently writing this from Talkeetna, Alaska where I am completing my float rating add on and vacationing. I am looking forward to coming home for a short week then departing to Oshkosh. My family has decided that I am the family member who "we never know where she is in the world." Here are some pictures:



BeaverAircraft



Piper Tri-Pacer



Christiansen Lake-Glassy

(DPE's plane: costs \$1,200 per hour to rent)

Cheers to Oshkosh and Adventures to Come,

Joss Slagle

Chapter President



Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association–Chapter 857 Minutes of June 20th, 2023 Regular Meeting

Opening: Vice President Kyle Riedel called the meeting to order at 07:03 P.M. and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting attendees: 11 members were present.

Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the prior meeting are in the newsletter. Motion to accept the minutes put forth by Ted Merklin and seconded by Phil Kriley and Dan Hood.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report submitted by email from Frank Szczerba was reviewed. Motion to accept put forth by Phil Kriley and Kyle Riedel. It In the discussion it was noted that our YE expenses exceeded the income from the June 10 YE Rally.

Newsletter: The June 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. Plans are to update the Ray Aviation Scholarship Page and other minor corrections.

Tech Advisor: No report

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday July 18, 2023

IMC meeting: A FFAST seminar is planned for the 7/18 prior to the chapter meeting. (see Page 11 of this newsletter)

Air Academy: We have 2 candidates for the air academy; Lindsay Lipp and Thomas Edwards. Their paperwork and tuition funds were submitted in May. They will be attending Young Eagles Camp July 5-9.

Young Eagles: Post Event Review. As noted above expenses exceeded our income although there are leftover supplies available for use at the August event. We wonder if the split sessions impacted early attendance and number of people waiting to fly and available for breakfast sales. We also reduced allowed attendance due to apparent limits on Pilot resources. Thanks to Duane Clawson from EAA 68 lending a hand to fly YE in his RV-10.



Kyle Riedel reports 25 Flyers were printed and a portion distributed promoting the Ray Aviation Scholarship and Air Academy opportunities. Event Parking was used in the field across the street and the airport management covered the Porta Potties, donated in response to our planned assistance for a Boy Scout Aviation Merit Badge event scheduled for June 28 at KBTP. Ben Wahl will be leading a portion of the presentation, as well as AirQuest and High Flight.

The next Young Eagle events are scheduled for 8/12 and 9/9. It has been recommended by several pilots that we begin flights about 9am so that smoother air might prevail.

Ray Aviation Scholarship: Colin Daniello noted he has begun flight training with several hours accumulated and expects to fly 5 days a week. Will also be beginning ground school.

Old Business: N/A

New Business: It was noted that our member Ted Willke had “flown West” very recently. Arrangements will be announced when we receive them.

Closing: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 P.M. by a motion made by Phil Kriley and seconded by Marsha Hood.

Respectfully submitted:

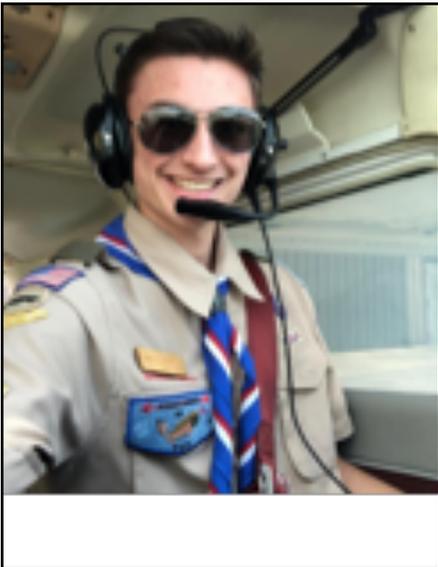
Theodore Merklin, EAA 857 Board Member

KBTP Community Service Event

On behalf of the board and all members of Chapter 857, I'd like to extend a huge thank you to Ben Wahl (Chapter 857 member) for representing us for the Boy Scouts visiting KBTP on 28 June. This event allowed 14 scouts from Moraine Trails Council Area to earn the Aviation Merit Badge and, just as significant, get exposed to all the opportunities within aviation. EAA Chapter 857 also wants to thank Chris Hayden, Chief Flight Instructor at High Flight Academy, for stepping as the event planner after the hasty departure of the Airport Manager.

Event Timeline

- 9:00-10:30: Welcome to KBTP, About EAA, Intro to Flying, Flight Certificates (EAA)
- 10:30-11:30: Flight Instruments (EAA)
- 11:30-12:00: Lunch with the Scouts
- 12:00-13:30: Intro to Maintenance, Fixed-Base Ops, and Pre-Flight Inspection (AirQuest)
- 13:30-3:00: Careers in Aviation (High Flight)



About Ben Wahl

Ben stepped forward to represent the chapter for this event since he was active in scouting and achieved the rigorous requirements needed to become an Eagle Scout. Additionally, Ben just graduated from Southern Illinois University with a Bachelor's of Science in Aviation Management. He holds all the FAA Flight Certificates to land his first paying job within aviation. He is on an active job hunt right now.

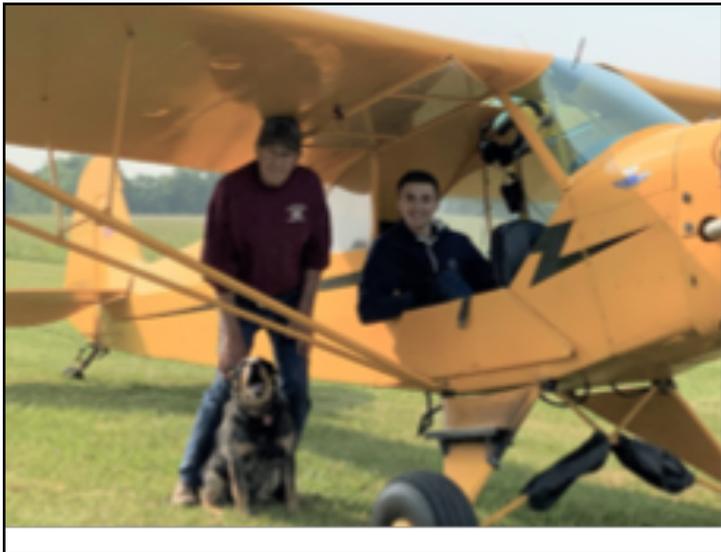
About the Event

Ben's interactive method of teaching the material was perfect for this setting of students eager to learn about aviation and having a young pro-pilot in the making standing before impressionable minds was really appreciated. He allowed them the opportunity to ask questions after every instructional slide which kept the audience engaged.

Questions ranged from: "Does the smoke affect your flying," "Is this your real pilot's license," "When the airplane turns, does the directional gyro turn the other way because of the gyroscope," and "How are the engines on a 737 different from these smaller airplanes?" One scout was also fascinated by the height of each briefer (not sure why) and they asked every volunteer "How tall are you?" This was amusing, to say the least.

As is frequently the case in Aviation, Ben demonstrated how "small" the aviation community is since he knows all the people over at AirQuest and those pilots flying in and out of KBTP. This included John Urling, previous Chief Flight Instructor at HFA who now is a First Officer for Private Jet Center at KPJC) and Mike Collins who works maintenance at Air Quest. I, also, am impressed that Ben not only knows all the folks on the north side of the airfield, but he knows most all of us on the south side of KBTP as well.

In closing, the Chapter appreciated the opportunity to provide insight into the aviation industry and to help them achieve their Aviation Merit Badge. Without the next generation of pilots and aviation professionals, EAA would cease to exist. It's the next generation of inspired youth that will pursue the profession we love, keep our skies safe, and build our nation's aviation infrastructure. Thanks for all you do Ben!



EAA Air Academy 2023: Lindsay Lipp

Ed. I recently received this email text and photo from our Air Academy attendee, Lindsay Lipp's mother, addressed to the EAA 857 chapter members. This is why we do the Young Eagles and Air Academy Programs!

Dear members of EAA Chapter 857,

We want to express our gratitude for sponsoring our daughter, Lindsay Lipp, to attend the Young Eagles camp last week. Everything about the camp was exceptional - from the friendly staff to all the well-planned out events. Some of Lindsay's favorite activities included: using the RedBird Flight Simulator, building air compressed rockets, and her flights in the Bell 47 helicopter and airplane. She loved being able to make new friends with other kids who have similar interests as well. When we picked her up on Sunday morning (see attached photo), she was all smiles. The first thing she said was, "I loved it!" and "I want to come back again!" This experience not only helped her confirm that she wants to pursue a career in aviation, but also sparked a passion for science and experimentation.



While Lindsay was at camp, our family stayed nearby and visited the EAA Aviation Museum. Our sons, Joshua (8) and Evan (4), absolutely loved it! There was so much for children to do, learn, and see there. We were also very impressed by the volunteers at the Pioneer Airport who were so thoughtful and knowledgeable. It was a great trip for our whole family.

This priceless experience was made possible by the generous sponsorship of your group. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you so much to EAA Chapter 857 for your support!

Sincerely,

Steven, Heather, and Lindsay Lipp

Ray Scholar Monthly Report

Colin Daniello finished his first month of flying after attending a charitable work retreat in West Virginia. Even with the Canadian smoke and Haze, Colin logged 3.8 hours and is off to a good start at High Flight Academy. Next up is his pre-solo written exam and first solo by 31 July. Kyle

Parapente

by Chris McGeary

Parapente (or paragliding, as it's called in the US) involves using a one or two person parachute set up specifically for soaring, and generally some kind of hill for launching. The glide ratio for the chutes we were using were ~9.5 to 1, and the top of the hill was at about 9600 ft, with a steady breeze blowing up it from the east. Optimal wind strength was between 18 and 22 kts, and unfortunately, when we arrived onsite mid afternoon, it was blowing about 25. After waiting about an hour, the winds steadied and eased off to about 21 kts, and we launched, spending about 30 minutes gliding above some small towns in central Ecuador.



A little information about Parapente at this site: The winds blow up a fairly steep hill, providing good lift, more than enough to counteract the descent rate of the chutes. This means the same field is normally used for both takeoff and landing. The field has wind socks in opposite corners for more accurate wind information. The takeoff procedure consists of spreading the chute out behind (uphill) of the pilot and passenger who shuffle forward until the lines are tight. Then, 3 firm steps forward to inflate the chute, 3 steps back to pivot the chute up from behind you to overhead. A few steps forward and you're flying!

With few exceptions you're always pointed more or less downhill to take advantage of the rising air. If you need to lose altitude quickly, you can spiral down (carefully). The pilot has an audio variometer for ascent/descent indication and comms with the ground. They also have a waterproof bag on a cord for your cell phone so you can take pictures and video.

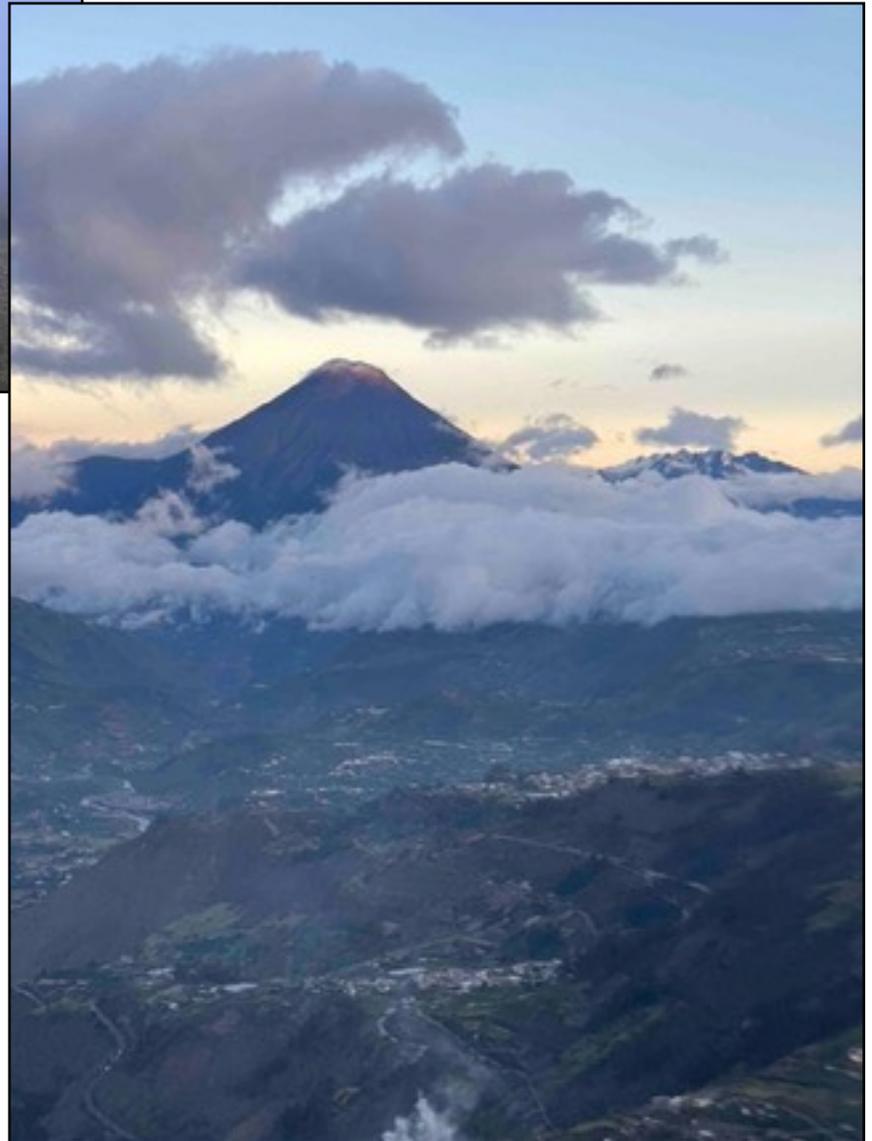


It's cold at 10,000 ft, no matter where you are, especially with a continuous 20 kt wind in your face.

Dress warm!

As the temperatures dropped close to dusk, so did the dew point spread, and the warm moist air blowing up the valley started turning to cloud at the crest of the hill. Margot and her pilot Edgar landed with no issues, but by the time the landing field was ready for us the clouds had moved in and we couldn't see the field.

We headed toward the alternative field to find that it was also clouded in. I wasn't particularly concerned, as Daria (my pilot) had 10 years of experience doing this, the valley 1200 ft below and ahead of us was still quite clear with plenty of open fields, and we were under a parachute! Eventually, we found a hole in the clouds and timed a respectable landing at the primary field right at dusk. All in all, a fun ride with great views of the surrounding volcanos.





FAAST Seminar at KBTP 7/18/2023

"How to Survive a Ramp Check"

Topic: Surviving an FAA Ramp Check as you arrive at an airport.

On Tuesday, July 18, 2023 at 18:00 Eastern Daylight Time

Location:

Pittsburgh/Butler Regional Airport

473 Airport Rd #2

Butler, PA 16002

Select Number: EA03122602

Description:

You will learn the ins and outs of an FAA Ramp Check. This presentation will introduce you to the different types of ramp checks and the reasons one may be conducted. To view further details and registration information for this seminar, click here:

http://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=122602

The sponsor for this seminar is: FAASTeam

The FAA Safety Team (FAASTeam) is committed to providing equal access to this meeting/event for all participants. If you need alternative formats or services because of a disability, please communicate your request as soon as possible with the person in the 'Contact Information' area of the meeting/event notice. Note that two weeks is usually required to arrange services.

The following credit(s) are available for the WINGS/AMT Programs:

Basic Knowledge 3 - 1 Credit

AMT: 1.00

Click here to view the WINGS help page: <https://www.FAASafety.gov/OnlineHelp/Default.aspx?page=/WINGS/pub/default.aspx>

Home Page: <https://www.FAASafety.gov>



EAA 857 - Chapter Meetings and Events for 2023

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

Chapter Meetings	Tuesdays	January 17 February 21 March 21 April 18 May 16 June 20 July 18 August 15 September 19 October 17 November 21	
IMC / VMCClub -		TBD	
International Young Eagles Day -		Saturday,	June 10
EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -		Saturday,	August 12
EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -		Saturday,	September 9

2023 National Events

Sun 'n Fun -	March 28 - April 2
Sentimental Journey -	June 20 - 24
AirVenture Oshkosh 2023 -	July 24 - 30

EAA 857 Chapter Officers for 2023

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

President	Josselyn Slagle
Vice President	Kyle Riedel
Treasurer	Frank Szczerba
Secretary	DestinyJay Maletta
Board Members	Dan Hood 2023-2025
	Ted Merklin 2023-2024
	Danny Michaels 2023
Website / Newsletter	Ted Merklin