
Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association - Chapter 857

EAA 857 NEWSLETTER



YOUNG EAGLES TO RETURN

On June 12, 2021 EAA Chapter 857 will conduct our first Young Eagles Event of the year.

The photo above was taken at a YE Fly-In event in August 2018.

Let's make this restart equally a success!

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

EAA 857 Members,

The **May** 18 meeting will be in the KBTP conference room at 7pm. We will conduct this via a Zoom Meeting live stream for those of you who may not wish to attend in person at the airport. I will send you the meeting link to use prior to the meeting. Please follow the current Pennsylvania guidelines relative to your vaccination status in regard to the use of face masks if you are **not** vaccinated.



FAA representative Henrik Vejstrup will present to our own Charles “Chuck” Potts their Charles Taylor Master Mechanic Award at Tuesday’s meeting. The FAA will do this remotely from their office via the Zoom meeting link mentioned due to their travel restrictions. Please come on out and support Chuck in the presentation of this award.

Young Eagle activities will start with the International Young Eagle Day on Saturday June 12. We will need many volunteers from the chapter ranks to set up and run this event, so I hope many of you can join for this first event of 2021. As previously noted, **All** pilots will need to be current on their Youth Protection Program certification as will several lead people on the hangar floor during the event to monitor ground activities. If you are willing to participate as a Young Eagle Pilot please let Phil Kriley or myself know soon of your intention. We will also need to implement current best practices for Covid-19 protection. The Board met yesterday to continue to discuss preparations. Our plan is to use the EAA online registration program so we are testing that process. We will also plan to have a simplified food service and streamlined ground school.

After a lot of rain early in May, the weather is improving, go out and fly! Take care and be safe!

Ted Merklin,

President, EAA Chapter 857

PS: Check out the newly installed signage on our Chapter Room Door at KBTP!





APRIL 20 2021 MINUTES: REGULAR MEETING OF EAA CHAPTER 857

Opening: President Ted Merklin called the meeting to order at 07:10 P.M. and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting attendees: 10 members were present. 4 members were viewing from live stream on Google Meet and 2 visitors were present.

Presentation: The meeting began with a presentation from Ross Edmondson about his “Round the World” flight in a Cessna 182.

Previous Meeting Minutes: The minutes of the prior meeting taking place on March 16th, 2021 were reviewed by all members. Motion to accept minutes was put forth by Bob Tedesco. Seconded by Josselyn Slagle.

Treasurer’s Report: Reviewed and approved the current bank balance, income, and expenditures. Motion put forth by Chris McGeary to accept. Seconded by Phil Kriley.

Newsletter: The newsletter will be distributed and uploaded to the chapter website. Contributions from Gary Marsico and Larry Schaefer.

Website: Enter <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea857> in your browser to view the site.

Tech Advisor: No report

Young Eagles: Nothing new.

Air Academy: Cancelled for 2021. Candidate Zach Jordan is on the wait list.

Business: The following items were discussed:

- **Membership status:** Current roster = 33. 1 member has yet to pay dues. Unpaid shall be contacted.
- **Chapter Storage Room:** Transport cart for tables and chairs has been completed by Dan Hood.
- **Door Signage:** IBIS, after recommendation, is being contacted on printing high resolution EAA Logo Art. Waiting for a phone call to be returned
- **Young Eagles Event (Saturday June 12th, 10:00 A.M.-02:00 P.M.):** Needed volunteers in departments are as follows:
 - Pilots: minimum of 3; all must be YPP (Youth Protection Program) current
 - Chief pilot: pilot briefing on route and procedures
 - Registration desk: Minimum of 2 should be YPP current and compatible to printer and PC or paper forms and certificates depending on method chosen.
 - Ground school: no longer required possibly omitting
 - Aircraft marshal: with radio for monitoring
 - Young Eagles Marshalls: escort for Young Eagles and parents
 - Kitchen Staff: Grill needs to be cleaned if being used and preparations made for operation
 - Food Server: Food safety recommendations
 - Groceries: purchase supplies after we inventory, condiment packets and no self-serve
 - Cash Box: safe handling
 - Set up and Cleaning: Disinfect all chairs and tables, periodic wipe down, must start 07:30 A.M.
 - Tear Down and Cleaning: Disinfect all chairs, tables and equipment prior to storage
 - **If you are able and willing to help, please reach out to Phil Kriley or Ted Merklin**

Closing: The meeting was adjourned at 08:15 P.M. after motion to do so was put forth by Bob Tedesco and seconded by Chris McGeary.

Respectfully submitted:

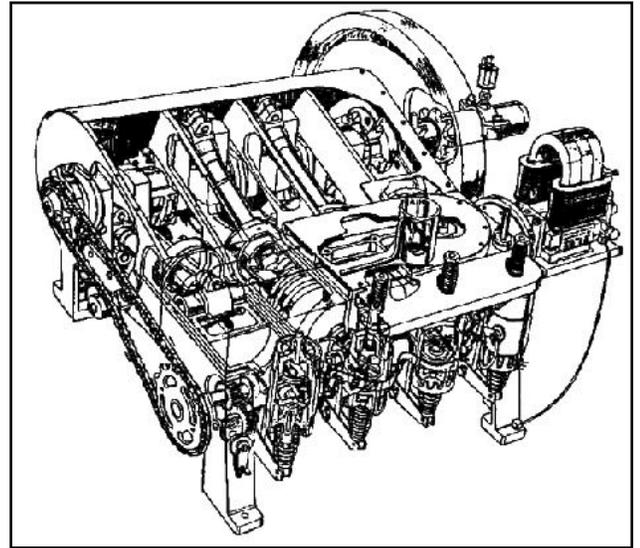
Josselyn Slagle, Secretary EAA 857

CHARLES POTTS

THE CHARLES TAYLOR MASTER MECHANIC AWARD

Last fall Bob Santolla proposed that we submit a nomination for Chuck Potts to receive the Charles Taylor “Master Mechanic” Award presented by the FAAST Team for a in lifetime career of accomplishment as a senior mechanic.

Charles E Taylor was the Wright Brothers bicycle machine shop mechanic instrumental in executing the Wright Brothers concepts and producing the their experimental gear, gliders and the 1903 Wright Flyer. As the brothers pursued their aviation experiments in North Carolina, Charles worked from the bicycle shop in Dayton Ohio and was instrumental in the design and build of the 1903 Wright Flyer Engine, the first to power an aircraft in controlled flight. This aluminum-copper, water-cooled, aircraft engine was produced in only six weeks, based in part on design concepts of the Wright Brothers. The Wrights wanted an engine with at least 8 horsepower. The engine that Charles Taylor built produced 12 horsepower. Several years later he also helped Orville Wright produce the 1908 Military Flyer for demonstration to the US Army.



According to the FAAST awards website, “The Charles Taylor "Master Mechanic" Award recognizes the lifetime accomplishments of senior mechanics.” The site states that to be eligible a candidate must:

- *Hold a U.S. Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) or Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) mechanic or repairman certificate.*
- *Have 50 or more years of civil and military maintenance experience.*
 - *Up to 20 years of the required 50 years may be U.S. military experience; or worked as an uncertified person in a U.S. aviation maintenance facility that maintained U.S. registered aircraft, either domestic or overseas; or worked as an uncertified person in the aircraft manufacturing industry in the United States, producing U.S. type-certificated or U.S. military aircraft.*
 - *The 50 years may be computed consecutively or non-consecutively.*
- *Be a U.S. citizen.*
- *Have NOT had any airman certificate revoked. Revocation of any airman certificate will disqualify a nominee for this award.*



Chuck Potts is a charter member of EAA Chapter 857 established in October 2000 and serves the chapter as a Technical Advisor. Many of our members who have been active in building or restoring light general aviation aircraft have consulted with Chuck for his understanding of best practices in both airframe and engine builds and maintenance. He has also been a dedicated Young Eagles Pilot, volunteering to provide introductory rides in his WWII Taylorcraft L-2 Grasshopper seen above.

Chuck has spent much of his life in aviation in the USAF, the FAA, and other aviation entities. He has been a member of accident investigation teams and consults internationally on aviation maintenance depot quality control procedures and systems. In general aviation Chuck has restored and maintained multiple aircraft including several of the classic Army Air Force Liaison-Birds collectively known as Grasshoppers. These include the Aeronca L-3 and L-16, the Piper L-4 and his own Taylorcraft L-2. He is always ready to tell a story of some experience he has had in his long career as an aviation mechanic and enthusiast.

DAN HOOD HAS DECIDED TO SELL HIS MUSTANG II PROJECT

“I have decided to sell my Mustang II project.
Anyone interested can call and get all the info and lots of pix!”

Dan Hood
412-952-4230





EAA 857 - Chapter Meetings and Events for 2021

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 19 February 16 March 16 April 20 May 18 June 15 July 20 August 17 September 21 October 19 November 16
-------------------------	----------	---

IMC Club -

EAA 857 Chili Cook Off -

International Young Eagles Day -

EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -

EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -

3rd Wednesdays, Cancelled until further notice.

Cancelled

Saturday,	June 12
Sunday,	August 15
Saturday,	September 12

2020 National Events

Sun 'n Fun -	April 13-18
Sentimental Journey -	June 22 - 26
AirVenture Oshkosh 2020 -	July 26 - August 1

EAA 857 Chapter Officers for 2020

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

President	Ted Merklin
Vice President	Phil Kriley
Treasurer	Frank Szczerba
Secretary	Josselyn Slagle
Board Members	Gary Marsico 2021
	Dan Hood 2021-2022
	Mark Beighey 2021-2023
Newsletter	Ted Merklin
Website	Ted Merklin