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Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association - Chapter 857

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# EAA 857 NEWSLETTER

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As part of the EAA recognition of the RCAF Centennial, the only flying AVRO Lancaster in North America was featured at AirVenture in 2024. Like our B-29's FIFI and DOC there are only two that remain airworthy. The other example of this WWII bomber aircraft is based in England.

## Presidents Message

Hello EAA 857,

Turkey time is just around the corner! I wish you and your families a happy and safe holiday season! During this month's meeting we will vote on our officer's slate for the 2025 season. Many of us will continue in the same roles as last year with only a few changes (see the \*'s)



President: Joss Slagle

Vice President: Mario Dandrea \*

Treasurer: Frank Szczerba

Secretary: DestinyJay Maletta

Board Member 1: Chuck Warren \* (3 year term)

Board Member 2: Danny Michaels (2 year balance of term)

Board Member 3: Dan Hood (1 year balance of term)

The business portion of our meeting will begin at 8PM approximately. We will collectively attend the online FAA Safety Team Seminar on Vestibular Illusions presented by Natalie Campana. This seminar is eligible for basic level wings credit. Please use this link to register individually for the seminar so that we can get you credit for attending:

[https://faavideo.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_kZM9e\\_dFQQi4O3zoXsHS\\_g#/registration](https://faavideo.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_kZM9e_dFQQi4O3zoXsHS_g#/registration).

Lately, my flying has taken me on some nighttime adventures with interesting views. We know this city well.

In other news, the Grove City EAA Chapter 161 has officially voted to move to New Castle. I attended their most recent chapter meeting, and they will be welcomed to New Castle Airport starting next year!

Kindly,

Joss Slagle

Chapter President





## Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association—Chapter 857 Minutes of the October 15, 2024 Regular Meeting

**Opening:** President Josselyn Slagle called to order at 7:05 P.M. and led the members in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Meeting attendees:** 15 members were present with 1 guest, Karen Grabbe-Listisen .

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

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

**Newsletter:** The October 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. The website was updated with respect to the Air Academy program modifications.

**Tech Advisor:** N/A

**Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, November 19th, 2024

**IMC meeting:** Kyle Presented a case study of pilot error to prepare for unexpected conditions.

**Young Eagles:** EAAYoung Eagles office released the new software for the YE Registration. The old registration system will be retired at the end of the year.

**Air Academy:** Ted Merklin communicated with the EAA office to let them know Carter Straub's application was coming in and we would sponsor, beginning with the down payment of \$200 followed by use of YE credits.

### Ray Aviation:

- Sam Burke passed her written exam, she got a 87%
- EAA will decide if we will hold money in account, and board will decide if she can keep the remaining \$1,500.
- Collin's dad Jim will come to the upcoming meeting in November to show his respect and give a pledge.
- Collin sent \$18,000 for his private pilot's license.



**New Business:**

- Brief the BCCA Manager on queries for KBTP hangers.
- Created “Hanger utilization Agreement” request.
- If you are using your hanger for a non-flying us, there will be a separate space.
- Karen Grabbe-Listisen made a donation.
- Chuck Warren will be the first to reassemble his restored Tri Pacer in the chapter hangar.
- Phil Kriley still assessing timeline to complete the Cozy.
- Danny Michaels. is on the Mars Committee and wants the EAA chapter to join and participate. Event is schedule June 2025.
- 40 members and 3 who have not paid dues.

**Old Business:**

**Closing:** The meeting was adjourned by Frank and seconded by Dan Hood at approximately 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Destinyjay Maletta,


EAA 857 Secretary





## AGC FAAST Safety Seminar Presentation

On Tuesday November 19th the FAA safety team has a zoom Wings credit presentation scheduled for 7pm, taught by Natalie Campagna. We will begin our November Chapter meeting with this presentation and will transition to chapter business at 8pm.

AGC FAASTeam presents:	
Vestibular Illusions - Topic of the Month	
<p>Humans' perception of their relationship to the flight environment can lead to inappropriate control inputs, particularly due to in-flight illusions. These vestibular illusions are especially dangerous as they can result in a loss of aircraft control. However, education and training on coping with these illusions can enhance pilot responses and mitigate risks.</p> <p>Please register using the link provided to join the webinar online.</p> <p><a href="#">REGISTER</a></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Event Details</u></b></p> <p><b>Tue, Nov 19, 2024 at 19:00 EST</b></p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>-</p> <p>Foreign, FN</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p><b>Contact: NATALIE MARIE CAMPANA</b> (740) 317-5598 natalie_campana@yahoo.com Select #: EA03133477 Lead Representative NATALIE MARIE CAMPANA n/a</p> </div>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>A message from the National FAASTeam Manager</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Earn your WINGS to get a chance to win a prize. Go to <a href="https://www.wingsindustry.com/WINGS-Sweepstakes">https://www.wingsindustry.com/WINGS-Sweepstakes</a> for more info. Join us on Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/GASafety/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/GASafety/</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Join us on Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/GASafety/">https://www.facebook.com/groups/GASafety/</a> Sign up for the FAA's safety services at <a href="http://www.faasafety.gov">www.faasafety.gov</a>!</p>	
<p>The FAA Safety Team (FAASTeam) is committed to providing equal access to this meeting/event for all</p>	

Attendees will need to register using this link:  
[https://faavideo.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN\\_kZM9e\\_dFQQi4O3zoXsHS\\_g](https://faavideo.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_kZM9e_dFQQi4O3zoXsHS_g)

Seminar details can be found here:  
[https://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event\\_details.aspx?eid=133477&caller=/SPANS/events/EventList.aspx](https://www.faasafety.gov/SPANS/event_details.aspx?eid=133477&caller=/SPANS/events/EventList.aspx)

## A Note from DJ Maletta!

I'm thrilled to share an unforgettable experience that three of my classmates from the aviation management program at Southern Illinois University recently had at Fort Lauderdale International Airport (FLL). This unique opportunity allowed us to gain firsthand insights into the operations that keep an airport running smoothly. Our day began with an exclusive tour of the FLL control tower, where we met the Air Traffic Control team. Watching how they coordinate the flow of air traffic was truly enlightening. The precision and teamwork required for their roles are remarkable, and it gave us a new appreciation for the critical work they do every day. Next, we had a chance to engage with ground transportation operations. We participated in ticketing, and believe it or not, we generated an impressive \$15,000 in just 15 minutes! This experience highlighted the financial dynamics of airport operations and showed us how various services contribute to the airport's overall revenue. One of the most memorable moments of our visit occurred when a JetBlue flight experienced a bird strike upon landing.

We witnessed the rapid response from the airport wildlife department team, who sprang into action by swabbing the aircraft and searching for the bird. We collected feathers from the wings to send to the lab for testing to ensure there were no health risks associated with the bird. This real-life scenario demonstrated the challenges airports face and the protocols in place to address them. An exciting part of our day included driving around the airport to observe any unusual activity. We even had the chance to use bird-dispersal guns, which are aimed at keeping the runways clear of wildlife. This hands-on experience was thrilling and emphasized the importance of safety in airport operations.

Overall, this visit was not just educational; it was an amazing experience that deepened our understanding of airport management. I left feeling inspired and eager to apply what I learned as I continue my studies in aviation management.





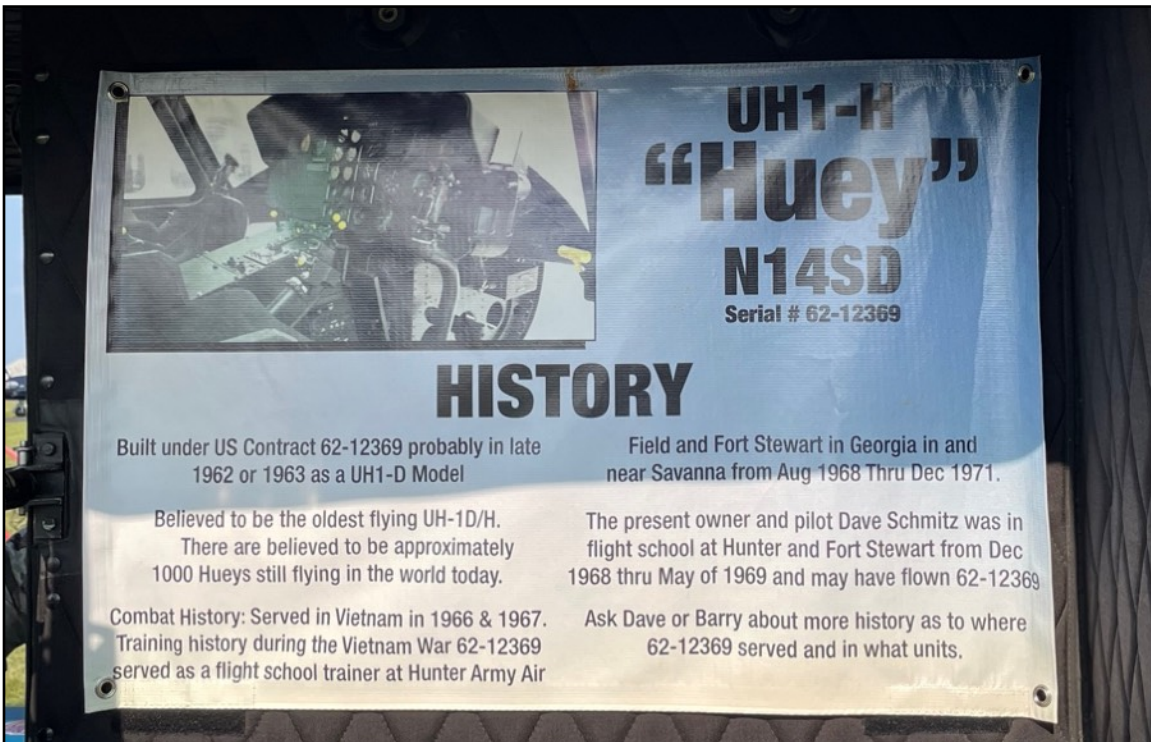






Chuck Warren submitted these images for our members:

Still more photos from Air Venture 2024...especially for the rotary wing members:







## A donation has been made to our new and developing tool crib

The Chapter thanks George and BJ Gregg for their donation of a 36" Bending Brake (Central Machinery). The brake comes with a stand and is in great condition. It is capable of angles up to 120.°

We also are offering a final call for a well-used wet saw and a slightly used drafting table. If no one accepts these two items by the 1st of December, we will dispose of them.

Thanks,  
Kyle Riedel





## 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>		TBD
<b>International Young Eagles Day -</b>		June 14, 2025
<b>EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -</b>		TBD

### 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 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>