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Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association - Chapter 857

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# EAA 857 NEWSLETTER

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## **YOUNG EAGLES RETURN**

On June 12, 2021 EAA Chapter 857 conducted our first Young Eagles Event of the year on EAA's International Young Eagles Day. Mark Beighey and one of his Young Eagle passengers are seen above near the conclusion of the days flights. Mark premiered his AR1 autogyro for YE flights at this event at KBTP

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

EAA 857 Members,

The June 15 meeting will be in the KBTP conference room at 7pm. We will conduct this via a Google Meet 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.



This weekend we successfully resumed Young Eagle activities on International Young Eagle Day, June 12. We had 36 registered and flew 33 youth. Remember, we receive double credits from EAA for the June, July, and August YE. I want to thank our many volunteers from the chapter ranks who helped set up and run this event. We were hampered a bit by the weather with only a 300 foot ceiling early in the morning. Pilots were waiting for VFR conditions at their home airports and it was near to noon before we had that at KBTP. We also struggled a bit with our first use of the EAA online registration program, but Chris McGeary and I ultimately got that worked out and developed a routine. On Friday evening we had 12 pre-registered. By morning their were 25 and during the day there were probably 4-5 walk in families that we registered on the spot. One big issue was getting printers to print the paperwork...due to connection issues and then with that solved we ran out of ink which Phil Kriley hustled out to replenish! Highlights guest wifi supported our internet connection and generously allowed us to use their training room for a Ground School by Phil. Thanks to Robin and Phil for bringing their printer and laptop to support the effort, and also to Mark Beighey for his laptop and sound system. Thanks also to Robin Kriley and Margot McGeary and Marsha Hood for their food shopping, preparation and serving of our guests. Especially, I want to thank the pilots, Bill, Banks, Frank Szczerba, Dan Hood, Dave von Kaenel, and Mark Beighey for flying our Young Eagles.

Take care and be safe!

Ted Merklin,

President, EAA Chapter 857



## Pittsburgh-Butler Region Experimental Aircraft Association—Chapter 857 Minutes, 7:00 P.M., May 18th, 2021 Regular Meeting

**Opening:** President Ted Merklin called the meeting taking place at KBTP Airport Board Room to order at 7:01 P.M.

**Meeting attendees:** 10 members and 7 visitors were present. 2 FAA visitors were viewing present via Zoom.

**Presentation:** Jacqueline Fair (Westinghouse Flying Club) received the Wright Brothers Master Pilot award and Charles Potts (EAA 857) received the Charles E Taylor Master Mechanic Award from local FSDO representatives.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** The minutes of the prior boarding meetings taking place on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2021 were reviewed by all members. Motion to accept minutes was put forth by Dan Hood. Seconded Todd Springer.

**Treasurer's Report:** The following report of chapter finances was presented. Motion to accept was put forth by Phil Kriley and seconded by Josselyn Slagle.

**Newsletter:** The newsletter will be distributed and uploaded to the chapter website. Contributions from Charles Pott's award ceremony and Dan Hood.

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

**Tech report:** no report

**Business:** The following items were discussed:

- Congratulations: Charles Potts on your Charles E. Taylor award.
- Dues: all members are paid.
- Young Eagles: Double credit for young eagle flights taking place in June, July and August.
- Air Academy: The \$200 deposit we paid to hold the Air Academy spot was returned to us. Air Academy will be accepting 1 person for each chapter for each age group for summer 2022. If Mr. Jordan is going, we will need to reapply as soon as the application opens and consider others for sending as well.
- Chapter Storage Room: Transport cart for tables and chairs has been completed. Bins will need to be reconciled, organized and labeled in May/ June.
- Door Signage: Received from IBIS: 2 at \$50 T. Merklin donation. This sign has been placed in the storeroom.
- Boy Scout Event: Event on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Boy Scouts have asked for 2-3 chapter pilots and planes to be present for scouts during a weekend camping expedition at the airport.
- Young Eagles Event (Saturday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 A.M.-02:00 P.M.):
  - Pilots: insurance certificate has been received; we have 5 pilots going forward
  - Event health and safety: prepackaged breakfast and lunch type snacks, hot dogs, coffee and drinks
  - Use of hangar: coordinating with high flight, KBTP for Porta Johns, etc
  - Chief pilot: will be Frank Szczerba
  - Registration desk: Minimum of 2 should be YPP current and compatible to printer and PC or paper forms and certificates depending on method chosen. We will be using both online and paper forms for the process.
  - Gate Manager: needed still
  - Registration software: Both methods will be used paper and online software
  - Advertise: With butler eagles, EAA event calendar, chapter blast, Facebook, and flyers will be distributed via email soon to put at local airports
  - Ground school: toning back but not eliminating completely will be done by Phil Kriley
  - Aircraft marshal: will be Josselyn Slagle
  - Young Eagles Marshalls: escort for Young Eagles and parents (crowd control)
  - Groceries: purchase supplies after we inventory, condiment packets and no self-serve
  - Cash Box: safe money 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
- June 15th or July 20th Regular Meeting: Ross Edmondson presentation part 2.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Made by Bob Tedesco and seconded by Marsha Hood.

Respectfully submitted:

Josselyn Slagle, Secretary EAA 857

**WESTMORELAND COUNTY AIRSHOW**



On a dreary Memorial Day Weekend, the Westmoreland County Airshow returned to the Arnold Palmer Regional Airport in Latrobe PA. The US Navy's Blue Angels were the featured attraction. Seen at the left are the Blue Angels in Diamond formation immediately after takeoff as they came around from the left to cross the runway at midfield. This was directly over our heads!

My Grandson Ben and I had gone to the show on Sunday, after the performance had been canceled on Saturday due to weather.

At the right is the Solo aircraft #6 accelerating down the runway centerline after his takeoff roll. In just a moment he will pitch up to climb into that overcast.

The show format had the public attend and stay with their vehicles, so there was little



if any static display to see. Cars were parked facing the flight line. We were the second row back from the fence with pickups and SUVs in front of us, so some images are heavily cropped to eliminate offending hatch covers and rooflines! At right is the Dirty Diamond formation with gear and tail-



hooks down.

With the humidity in the air there were some great displays of vapor to be seen such as with this solo Blue Angel in a banana pass in front of our location. This was one of the Blue Angels first performances in their new F-18E Super Hornets. I had hoped to see the new C-130 Hercules fly but they did not perform.

Towards the end of the Blue Angels display routine the two solo pilots form up on the four other aircraft into a delta formation for the final passes in front of the crowd. Ultimately the lead #1 Boss will pull up in a break followed by the others in turn to land at the airport





Other performers included this classic P51D “Quicksilver” which flew with the F4U Corsair “Korean War Hero”, flown by Jim Tobul.

The F-22 Raptor Demo Team also were present representing our current military aircraft. Again, checkout the vapor condensation during this pass at the right.



A C-17 also represented the Air Force and made this pass of the field prior to the Blue Angel’s performance.

**INTERNATIONAL YOUNG EAGLES DAY**



EAA 857 held their first Young Eagle Rally for EAA's International Young Eagle Day on June 12, 2021. Parents and Kids began to arrive before 10 but the ceiling at KBTP was well below minimums at 300 feet. Gradually over the next two hours the fog burned off and the clouds began to lift!

The day gradually brightened, the kids attended a Ground School session with Phil Kriley, and folks enjoyed pastries hot dogs and snacks while we waited for the weather.



Our pilots from Zelig had arrived, and our fleet for the day consisted of a PA-32, 2 PA-28s, a 172 and for the first time an AR-1 Autogyro! Frank Szczerba conducted the pilot briefing and flights began shortly after noon.



**As the ceiling lifted and the clouds broke to reveal blue sky, our contingent of parents and prospective Young Eagles who had waited patiently looked forward to their flights lined up anxious to take to the air! All told we had 36 registrations, and flew 33 kids and several parents for their Young Eagle rides towards Lake Arthur.**



**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.

|                         |          |   |
|-------------------------|----------|---|
| <b>Chapter Meetings</b> | Tuesdays | January 19<br>February 16<br>March 16<br>April 20<br>May 18<br>June 15<br>July 20<br>August 17<br>September 21<br>October 19<br>November 16 |
|-------------------------|----------|---|

|   |  |              |
|---|--|--------------|
| <b>IMC Club -</b>                       | <b>3rd Wednesdays, Cancelled until further notice.</b> |              |
| <b>EAA 857 Chili Cook Off -</b>         | <b>Cancelled</b>                                       |              |
| <b>International Young Eagles Day -</b> | Saturday,  | June 12      |
| <b>EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -</b>          | Sunday,  | August 15    |
| <b>EAA 857 Fly-In and YE -</b>          | 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](mailto:contact@eaa857.org) to email the Chapter President. Your request will be forwarded to the appropriate individual.

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