

The Observer

April 2024

*THE OBSERVER IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF
THE GETTYSBURG BARNSTORMERS, EAA CHAPTER 1041, GETTYSBURG PA.*



*Inside This Month
W05 is 96 Years Old!*

On The Cover:

A historic look back at Gettysburg Airport! The airport turned 96 back in February, and a lot of changes are coming! This month's preview highlights Jamie Sides from SARAA and the updates on the construction going on at Gettysburg Airport and what we have to look forward to.

A Sneak Peek at the Next "On The Cover"

Katarina "Kat" Richardson and her sister Madison, will take front and center at the May meeting to tell us the differences in training between private aircraft and helicopters. As you know, Kat is one of our Ray Scholars, and is the first Scholar to get a helicopter license!

Do you have an aviation-related photo that you would like to share and perhaps be on the cover of an upcoming issue of *The Observer*? If so, please email your picture and a summary of the picture to our newsletter editor, Dianna Moy, at dianna.nicole.moy@comcast.net. Please note that *The Observer* is mailed/ emailed to EAA 1041 members, posted on the Chapter website (www.1041.eaachapter.org), and is available to the general public.



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Any questions, comments, or suggestions, please contact the Newsletter Editor via email at:

dianna.nicole.moy@comcast.net

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AVIATION LINKS

Have an aviation related link? Let us know so that we can include it!

www.eaa.org www.aopa.org www.1041.eaachapter.org www.intrepidmuseum.org www.york-aviation.com www.airfactsjournal.com www.jerryandersonart.com

You can find us on Facebook as well!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1101406127018136>



Our Chapter Officers and Board of Directors

President

Henry Hartman, 717-632-0833
keystonesnowmobiler@comcast.net

Vice President

Sam Kistler, 443-695-5433
csamkistler@gmail.com

Secretary

Wendi Clark, 717-634-4922
wendi.clark@hotmail.com

Treasurer

Karen Radzai, 717-253-3310
kradzai@comcast.net

Membership

Andy Toussaint, 267-625-5167
abtcbt@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor & Webmaster

Dianna Moy N.P., 301-717-7412
dianna.nicole.moy@comcast.net

Young Eagles Coordinator

Jason Pape, 410-552-5129
youngeagles1041@outlook.com

Board of Directors

- Savy Maranto, 443-918-8082
- Gary Mathna, 717-609-5295
- Randy Kalp, 724-875-8899
- Art Shaw, 717-338-0745
- Dave Speranza, 717-873-3308
- Jeff Beard, 717-479-0796

Technical Counselor

Richard Horigan, 717-642-9042
workplanes@gmail.com



The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)

...is not just Experimental Aircraft!

This organization is for everyone that has an interest in aviation. Whether you're an experienced pilot, or just someone who loves aircraft, EAA Chapter 1041 welcomes you!

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Henry's Hangar

"I'll never forget the thrill (and the bit of a scary feeling) as I ran up the engine, checked the mags, and turned the airplane so I could see the base leg and final approach..." Paul's first solo powered flight on May 13, 1939, at age 17

From the book: Poberezny: The Story Begins

**Paul Poberezny,
EAA Founder, 1921-2013**

Hello Barnstormers! Spring has arrived on the calendar but March didn't get the message. At least one Saturday had nice weather that allowed the Fly-Out group to get to Blairstown, NJ for lunch! It took 3 tries but it finally worked out.

Have you been by the airport lately? There is new hangar construction taking place on the area prepared last summer on the east side of the runway. This is exciting to see, we are watching the airport come alive with positive developments. Want to learn more? Come to our April 1st Chapter gathering and hear Jamie Sides, SARAA engineer, bring us up to date with what is going on around our home base.

Our most recent Ray Aviation Scholarship student pilots, Adrian Garcia and Domenic Dirienzo, are studying for their Check Rides. Jason Pape has spent several evenings with them, prepping for the questions and tasks the ex-

aminer will present to the students. We thank Jason for his wonderful EAA Volunteer Spirit and the hours he has devoted to helping our scholars be successful. The search is on for our 2024 Ray Scholars, our Chapter 1041 has been awarded two (2) scholarships with a 75/25 split. Our group will contribute 25% of the scholarship totals so that we can have a pair of students.

And, speaking of our Ray Scholars, we have been asked to submit an article to EAA for their Sport Aviation magazine detailing the RAS successes we have had. Of particular note is the very first helicopter RAS licensee, not to mention the first female helicopter scholar. And that is our own Katarina Richardson. Kat was our Fall 2023 RAS candidate, her twin sister Maddy was the Chapter 36 (Hagerstown) RAS recipient, and mother Tina earned her Private Pilot Certificate a few years earlier. So Mom and two daughters now all have their tickets! Chapter Reporter Michael Cooper-White is writing the article and we'll hopefully see it in print later this year on the pages of Sport Aviation. Thanks in advance to Mike for his writing abilities and volunteer spirit.

As we start to enjoy warmer temperatures, I hope to see you at our upcoming events. Please pick up a 2024 Barnstormers Calendar at the airport if you don't have one already.



UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS FOR APRIL 2024

- April 1st - Chapter Monthly meeting, 7PM at the airport
- April 13th - IMC/ VMC gathering 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM at the airport
 - April 20th - Chapter Fly-Out

A LOOK AHEAD TO MAY 2024

- May 6th - Chapter Monthly meeting, 7PM at the airport
- May 11th - IMC/ VMC gathering 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM at the airport
 - May 18th - Chapter Fly-Out
- May 20th - Board meeting- Breakfast Planning session

JUNE 1 and 2, 2024 - Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast!!!

Last Month's Program Review

Jana gave an interesting history of Wing Walking and explained how she became a Wing Walker. With audio-visual assistance by husband Doug, she showed videos of her performing in the air and photos of herself with numerous aviation notables, such as R.A. "Bob" Hoover, Patty Wagstaff, Sean D. Tucker, Michael Goulian, and many others. She also mentioned the "Old Crow" biplane and displayed a children's book she wrote about the plane and a Wing Walker.



April's Program Preview

In April 2023, Jamie Sides from SARAA showed engineering drawings explaining the 20-year plan for the airport. He will be back to give us an update on how things are progressing here at W05 as it celebrates its 96th birthday.

We see many improvements already, with the construction of a new hangar on the opposite side of the airport.

Photo (right) from last year when the 20-year plan was shown





Good As Gold Again!

For the third time in three years, Chapter 1041 has achieved GOLD status! Henry received the following a couple weeks ago:

Dear Henry, Congratulations to your chapter in successfully reaching the GOLD level status recognition level for the 2023 year. EAA is happy to present you with a chapter recognition banner to proudly display where your chapter meets. Your level also will be displayed online at EAA.org/FindAChapter with a specially designed emblem. You are encouraged to use your emblem on your website, newsletter, and other promotional materials; your chapter emblem is attached in this email.

This program was developed and measured in partnership with EAA's Chapter Advisory Council and is based on 10 criteria that are consistently found in active and highly engaged chapters. An additional 11th criteria point was included to enable chapters to bring forward a chapter event or program which enhances their chapter by bringing more people to engage with their chapter. Each is worth a point, and there are three levels of recognition: bronze (7 out of 11), silver (8 out of 11), and gold (at least 9 out of 11).

Below are the qualifying Chapter Recognition criteria, along with your chapter's points. A one (1) indicates that your chapter earned credit for the associated crite-

ria. Note: All points based on calendar year 2023.

- Attends a chapter leadership training session: 1
- Growing or steady membership: 1
- Offers IMC or VMC Club programs: 0
- Participates in Young Eagle or Flying Start programs: 1
- Has EAA-approved Flight Advisor or Technical Counselor: 1
- Participates in EAA's Annual Chapter Member survey: 1
- Participates in Young Eagles Build and Fly, Young Eagles Workshops, Ray Aviation Scholarship program, or sends a youth to EAA's Air Academy: 1
- Requests an EAA ChapterBlast email: 1
- Hosts at least two public events each year: 1
- Owns/leases a facility: 0
- Extra credit activity, such as a chapter build project, youth build project, chapter scholarship, a chapter tool crib, IAC competition, etc.: 1

EAA Chapter 1041, Inc.'s 2023 Chapter Recognition total is 9 out of 11.

(We did send a query to EAA as to why we didn't get a point for our IMC/VMC club to give us 10 of 11 points.)

March Fly-Out - Finally!

The weather finally cooperated to let the fly-out to Blirstown go forward!



It Takes A Chapter! *By Michael Cooper-White CFI, March 27, 2024*

This article was written by our in-house correspondent, Michael Cooper-White, and currently appears on the *EAA HangarFlying Blog* at: <https://inspire.eaa.org>.

We have been told that it will also appear in several other EAA publications including the *eHotline* newsletter, and then in a future issue of *Sport Aviation* in the Members/Chapters in Action section.

Many thanks to Michael for writing this article, and congratulations to our Ray Scholars. You've made Chapter 1041 proud!

Aware of the nationwide pilot shortage, and eager to support young people interested in aviation, EAA Chapter 1041 has redoubled educational and training efforts in recent years.

Known as the "Gettysburg Barnstormers," the chapter's investment in aspiring young aviators is supported primarily by hosting fly- and drive-in breakfasts at its home airport in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (W05.) Prior to and following the pandemic, more than 1,000 attendees have enjoyed hearty Barnstormer breakfasts at each two-day event held every spring and fall.

Over the past two decades, the chapter has sent three dozen youths to Oshkosh for the annual Air Academy camp held in conjunction with AirVenture. A number of those attendees have gone on to receive their pilot certificates.

Inspired by his Air Academy attendance in 2014, Evan Kerr trained for his private pilot certificate with a Barnstormer member CFI (the author), earning it while still in high school. Today, Evan flies the right seat in Boeing 767s for Delta Air Lines on domestic and international flights. Evan said that since his first instructional flight, "I've known that this was going to be a lifelong adventure." Crediting the Barnstormers for their support, he said, "It all began there."



Above: Evan Kerr's first solo in 2017.
Below: Today Evan flies right seat in widebody jets for Delta
Photos Courtesy of Michael Cooper-White



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When the chapter learned of the Ray Aviation Scholarship program, members were eager to support pilot trainees selected from multiple applicants. First to receive his private certificate was Nathan Hawkins, who has gone on to earn commercial, instrument, instructor, and multi-engine ratings as he prepares for a professional flying career.



Above: Ray Aviation scholars Nathan Hawkins (left) and Ross Clements (center) with Liam Dwyer (right) whose PPC training was supported by Chapter 1041 funds. All three are pursuing additional ratings in preparation for professional flying careers. Courtesy of Michael Cooper-White

Following Nathan's success, the chapter has been gratified to be awarded additional Ray scholarships for pilot training for Domenic DeRienzo, Adrian Garcia, Katarina Richardson, and Ross Clements. Already having soloed in gliders when he began his "power" training, Ross received both private certificates within months of each other.



Ray scholar Ross Clements awaits the scissors wielded by his instructor (the author) upon completion of his first solo in a powered aircraft. Courtesy of Michael Cooper-White

Chapter Support Critical

Not content to rely solely on funds from the Ray Aviation program, the Barnstormers provided partial flight training costs from the chapter's own resources for Liam Dwyer, who also passed his flight test while still in high school. In a note to his Barnstormer instructor after his first solo, Liam described flying as, "a lifelong dream of mine and you've made it a reality." Like Nathan, Ross, and Katarina, Liam is currently pursuing additional ratings and hopes to fly professionally.

Chairing the chapter's Ray awards committee during its early years, Carolyn Van Newkirk spearheaded efforts to support 1041's student pilots. Carolyn is widely known as a competitor and record-holder in the women's Air Race Classic, descended from the cross-country Powder Puff Derby made famous by Amelia Earhart in 1929. Frequently at monthly Barnstormer meetings, Carolyn offered updates on each student's progress. "The whole chapter was interested," she said, "and really supported our efforts."

Active in the International Organization of Women Pilot (or 99's as they are often called), Carolyn found it especially gratifying to watch Katarina and her sister proceed through their Ray-supported training.

Madison Richardson, supported by Chapter 36 at nearby Hagerstown, Maryland, earned her single-engine private pilot certificate on her 17th birthday. The following year, sponsored by 1041,



Above: Madison Richardson (left) and her sister Katarina flank their mother, Tina, at the 2021 Air Academy. Within two years, both joined their mother in holding private pilot certificates, each receiving Ray Aviation Scholarships. Courtesy of Michael Cooper-White

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Katarina became the first Ray scholar nationwide to complete helicopter training, earning the private certificate in December 2023. “Kat” received permission from her high school to leave early, drive 90 miles one way, and train in Smoketown, Pennsylvania. “I’m proud to be the first and only female helicopter pilot through the EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship program,” Katarina said. “My goal is to break barriers and show that women belong in aviation, especially helicopters.”



Above: Katarina Richardson, the first Ray scholar nationwide to complete helicopter training. Courtesy of Michael Cooper-White

Both young women aspire to aviation careers, Madison with the airlines and Katarina as a designated pilot examiner (DPE). Their aspirations receive strong support from their mother, Tina Richardson, who realized a long-deferred dream by earning her own private pilot certificate at age 50. Tina said that, given the high cost of flight training, the Ray scholarships were “a real blessing” that “helped me make their dreams happen.”



Madison Richardson, supported by EAA Chapter 36 in Hagerstown, Maryland, received her private pilot certificate on her 17th birthday. “Maddy” aspires to have an airline pilot career. Courtesy of Michael Cooper-White.

While Carolyn continues serving on the RAS committee, she recently passed the left seat to current chair, Jason Pape. Jason, a CFI, is offering additional ground instruction as Domenic and Adrian prepare for their flight tests.

Another champion for young aviators is chapter president Henry Hartman, who has led the Barnstormers for more than two decades. Henry, who is among the 1041 members offering Young Eagles flights, invites Ray scholars to speak of their training experiences at Barnstormer meetings. “It gives the whole chapter such ‘lift’ to see these young folks coming up in aviation. We’ll keep supporting as many as we can,” Henry said.

In the EAA world, the adage “It takes a village to raise a child” might be rendered, “It takes a chapter to train a pilot.” The enthusiastic 100 or so members of a chapter based in a town known best for its role in a 19th-century pivotal Civil War battle are doing their part to meet the needs of aviation in the 21st century.

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About The Author:

Michael, a Chapter 1041 member since 2001, has been a freelance CFI for more than 30 years. After retiring as a Lutheran minister and Gettysburg Seminary president, he earned his glider rating and has also been a tow pilot at the Mid-Atlantic Soaring Association. Author of five books, including *On A Wing and A Prayer: Faithful Leadership for the 21st Century*, he writes frequently for *The Gettysburg Times* daily newspaper and other publications.

Photo Right: Author Michael Cooper-White



Again, many thanks to Michael for this beautiful article. As EAA beat us to the punch in publishing this article (they posted it literally the next day after receiving it), it shows the importance and impact the support of a chapter has in sponsoring youth. –Dianna

IMC/VMC Club Pictures

Along with the monthly meeting, the IMC/VMC Club had a chance to celebrate a birthday! Happy Birthday, Art!



The Spring 2024 FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN “WINGS, WHEELS, & PANCAKES”

BREAKFAST * 8 AM – Noon * RAIN OR SHINE!

Saturday and Sunday * JUNE 1st AND 2nd, 2024

*Sponsored by Chapter 1041 of the Experimental Aircraft Association
(the Gettysburg Barnstormers) at: GETTYSBURG REGIONAL AIRPORT (W05)
Route 30 West, 1130 Chambersburg Road, Gettysburg PA 17325*

ALL YOU CAN EAT!!!

Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Home Fries, Coffee, Tea, and Juice!

***Cash: \$10 Adult/ \$4 Youth (12 & under), *Credit: \$10.50 Adult, \$4.50 Youth**

*Prices may be subject to change due to fluctuating food costs.

A portion of the proceeds benefit Aviation Programs for Youth

Join us for Planes of all types, Antique and Classic Cars, and even flying model planes!

Also, come see “Floyd’s Fabulous Flying Flapjack Machine”!



Above pictures from our last breakfast! On left, Floyd’s Fabulous Flying Flapjack Machine was designed by Floyd Armstrong (1944–2014)

Check us out on the Web at: WWW.1041.EAACHAPTER.ORG, or contact: Henry Hartman, Chapter President, at 717-637-3741 or (cell) 717-465-5952



It's Only 61 Days Away!

The Spring 2024 Fly-In/Drive-In “Wings, Wheels, & Pancakes” is only 61 days away! If we start getting the word out now, there’s a good chance we can beat our record of 1,016 breakfasts set just last year.

Please start planning—we always need help—cooking, cleaning, crowd control, parking cars, planes... you get the idea. Even if it’s for just a couple of hours, it is greatly appreciated!

As in prior years, we will be accepting cash, check, and credit cards. While at present, the cost is listed at \$10

adult/\$4 youth, this price may change as we get closer to the event as costs for the food and supplies fluctuate.

The flyer appears on the opposite page, and copies for distribution are available by contacting Dianna by phone or email. Her email address is:

dianna.nicole.moy@comcast.net,

and her phone number is 301-717-7412. If she doesn’t answer, please leave her a message. Make sure to let her know how many copies you need.

March’s Soup-er-Sundae!

Ten (10) Barnstormers enjoyed the final Soup-er-Sundae event of 2024 on Sunday, March 24th at the airport. The soup was once again a complete success, very tasty and flavorful. A wide variety of other delicious food choices were shared by those attending. Dave Speranza brought a broad selection of ice cream flavors

that complimented the many desserts on hand. Two videos were viewed, the 1987 Oshkosh Convention video and the movie "Living In The Age Of Airplanes". All in all, a great afternoon at the airport with good food, good company, and fine entertainment.



Gettysburg Airport Hits 96 - Some History

Back in 2018, when Gettysburg Airport was turning 90, Michael Cooper-White wrote an article in the Gettysburg Times about the history of the Barnstormers current home. Did you know:

- In February of 1928, Charles Francis Doersom purchased 20 acres in Cumberland Township with the intention of founding a commercial airport.
- In 1938, Doersom expanded the airport by additional 200 acres, and expanded the already 1000-foot long sod runway (that ran southwest/northeast), and added a perpendicular crossing runway to allow aircraft to take off and land as directly into the wind as possible.
- In 1959, the original SW/NE runway (or "24/6" as it is known in aviation lingo) was paved.
- In the 1990's, the airport was sold to a Harrisburg entrepreneur who had no background in aviation. While he had plans to establish a flight school and services at the airport, they were not to be as he encountered challenges during an era when general aviation found itself in a nosedive. The escalating costs and lack of opportunities for new pilots caused the owner to find ways of generating additional revenue, which included closing the field on some weekends to hold drag races on the runway, and the sale of a large amount of airport land to developers which now limits the future growth of the airport.
- In 2006, the airport was put up for sale by the private owner and the Federal Aviation Administration wanted it brought under the umbrella of the Susquehanna Area Regional Airport Authority (SARAA). Headquartered at Harrisburg International Airport's main terminal building, SARAA also operates the Capital City airport as well as Chambersburg's Franklin County strip.
- In 2016 and 2017 came the addition of new runway lights, along with the complete rebuilding of 24/6, which is now 3,100 feet in length.



Opinions expressed in *The Observer* are those of the article authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of EAA Chapter 1041 Directors or membership.

Letter From the Editor

Thanks to a couple of our members for their contributions to the newsletter- one for this edition, and the second for our July issue!

First, many thanks to Michael Cooper-White for the fantastic article that was submitted to EAA! While I was planning to put the article in the May newsletter when Kat and Maddie do their program, the EAA beat us to the punch by putting it on their blog, almost immediately after receiving it.

I decided that to print it 30 days out would be too long, and while it's not in print at EAA until next month or later, at least we can beat them to it. Sorry that this month's newsletter got delayed, but it took a little time to rearrange things.

Jason Pape sent a great teaser and photos for his upcoming presentation in July. Take a

peek at a couple of these gorgeous images...



Dianna Moy



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IT CONSULTING AND
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES,
PC AND LAPTOP REPAIRS/UPGRADES**

Dianna N. Moy, N.P.

1080 Old Route 30,
Ortanna PA 17353

Email: dianna.nicole.moy@comcast.net
Website: www.diannamoyconsulting.com
Phone(s): 301-717-7412 or
301-318-DMOY (3669)

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Sam Kistler

3642 Franklinville Rd,
New Windsor, MD 21776
Email: csamkistler@gmail.com
Phone: 443-695-5433

Zoom Broadcast of Monthly Program Meeting Segment



The broadcast of our monthly program meeting segment via Zoom will begin at 7PM. Typed messages will be responded to. Audio will be turned off on the presentation side to prevent feedback, so we won't be able to hear you.

The meeting ID and password is the same as last month, and will remain the same for each meeting (unless we get a "meeting crasher"). Below is the link to Join the

Zoom meeting along with the password:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86271166916?pwd=NVNKU1RQKy9RUXcrdGY0UVNiTjBjdz09>

Meeting ID: 862 7116 6916
Passcode: EAA1041

NOTE: *If no one joins the Zoom call by 7:05PM, the Zoom feed will be turned off.*