

## The Observer



<u>THE OBSERVER</u> IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE GETTYSBURG BARNSTORMERS, EAA CHAPTER 1041, GETTYSBURG PA.

The Gettysburg Barnstormers, EAA Chapter 1041 -

August 2023

# The Experimental Aircraft Association

...is not just Experimental Aircraft!

(EAA)

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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#### Another AirVenture In The Books-See You in 2024!

It seemed like it took forever to get here, but after it got here, the time went by oh so fast. This year, EAA was able to stream what was happening live— the daily air shows, the fantastic night air show on Wednesday night, along with events from the Theater-In-The-Woods.

Unfortunately, I wasn't able to attend this year, but the live streaming almost made up for it. Henry and Peggy made their annual pilgrimage to Oshkosh, and several fellow Barnstormers shared their campsite. They were even able to visit our Air Academy camper, Dominic!

AirVenture 2024 runs from July 22nd to the 28th– mark your calendars!

Only 357 days...



## Henry's Hangar

"Never judge what may have happened in someone else's cockpit if you weren't there." Paul Poberezny, EAA Founder, 1921-2013

Hello Barnstormers!

This month's column is being written as Peggy and I are preparing for our annual pilgrimage to the "Mecca of Aviation", Oshkosh.. If my recollection is

correct, this is our 36th trip to the annual EAA Convention. We are looking forward to a wonderful week, enjoying our Chapter 1041 Campsite with several members and probably a few guests. Stay tuned for more news and stories when we all get back to Pennsylvania.

Elsewhere in this issue of The Observer you should find details of our Saturday, August 5th Field Trip to the Udvar-Hazy Center of the Smithsonian Institute. Contact me 'asap' to sign up before all the seats are taken.

Also in this issue of The Observer should be information about our extra special 30th Anniversary Chapter Picnic on Sunday, August 13th. Please contact me to sign up and join

(Continued on page 2)

## UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS For AUGUST 2023

- August 12th IMC/ VMC gathering 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM at the airport
- August 12th IMC/ VMC gathering 9:00 AM to 10:30 AM at the airport
- August 13th -Chapter Picnic at Mathna
   Airport
- August 19th Chapter Fly-Out

## A LOOK AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER 2023

- Sept. 9th IMC/ VMC gathering
- Sept. 11th -Chapter Meeting, 7PM
- Sept. 14th to 17th - Ford Tri-Motor at York Airport
- Sept. 23rd to 24th • Fall Fly-in/Drivein Pancake Breakfast

## Henry's Hangar (continued from page 1)

(Continued from page 1) us for all the fun. Plan to share your best memories of things we have done as a Chapter over the years as we celebrate this milestone.

We want to sincerely say a great big THANK YOU to Gary & Kathy Mathna for again hosting us at their beautiful grass airstrip for our annual picnic. We really appreciate the wonderful atmosphere of the location and the ability for planes to fly in to the picnic. You pilots among us – remember that seeing planes land at his airport makes Gary smile from ear to ear!

In September, we have two very exciting events: a visit from the EAA Liberty Ford Tri-Motor, and our second-of-the-year Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast.

Both of these need your participation, especially the breakfast. Given the record number of breakfasts served in June, we will need many hands for this popular weekend.

We passed around a sign-up sheet for the Tri-Motor visit during the July Chapter meeting, and have a good start on enough help. During the September Chapter meeting, we will view a video presentation that is a training session for

how the various stations are manned when we host the Tri-Motor at the York Airport (THV).

Please plan to attend this important evening so we can properly and safely handle the tasks involved.

We hope to see you all at our upcoming events and thank you for your participation.

Henry





## **Another Former Barnstormer Has His Heavenly Wings**

The Barnstormers have lost a former member, Bob Simpson. Bob was a CFI and a skydiver, and was active with our group for many years. In April of 2016, Bob gave a presentation to the Chapter about his career flying helicopters for the Maryland State Police and MedStar.

There will be a Memorial Service for Bob Simpson

on Saturday, August 5th at Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, 16530 Trenton Church Road, Upperco MD 21155, with a visitation at 10:00 am and the service at 11:00 followed by a luncheon. Persons wishing to send a card to Bob's wife, Peggy, can use this address:

Peggy Simpson 2563 Ebbvale Road Manchester MD 21102



Peggy and her husband Bob at our holiday party a few years ago.

## Obituary reprinted from the Eline Funeral Home website

Robert James Simpson, 85, of Manchester, MD, passed away on July 13, 2023, at Bridging Life Hospice in Westminster, MD. Born September 16, 1937, in Baltimore, MD, he was the son of the late Kenneth and Ida (Hartzell) Simpson and the beloved husband of Peggy Stone Simpson, his wife of 32 years.

Robert was a graduate of Howard High School. He served in the U.S. Air Force as an aircraft mechanic and after leaving the military joined the Maryland State Police. During his 23 years with MSP, he served as a Road Trooper before transferring to the aviation division where he flew medevac helicopters.

After retiring from MSP as a sergeant in 1983, he spent II years flying for MedStar in Washington, D.C. Robert was a licensed pilot and

instructor in both fixed wing aircraft and jet helicopters. He enjoyed hunting, skydiving, operating Amateur Radio and participating in Cycle Across Maryland (CAM) tours.

He was an active member of the Maryland Troopers Association, Maryland State Police Alumni Association, Quiet Birdmen, and Experimental Aircraft Association, where he donated his time and services flying 360 Young Eagles who were pursuing their interests in flight.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are his two daughters, Laura Simpson of Chambersburg, PA, and Susan Meyer of Hampstead, MD; son, Robert Simpson of Gettysburg, PA; brother, Kenneth Simpson and wife Deborah Graham of Pueblo, CO; four grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

The family will receive friends at Christ Lutheran Church, 16530 Trenton Church Road, Upperco, MD, 21155, on Saturday, August 5, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. A memorial service will immediately follow the visitation, with Pastor Michael Adams officiating.

A reception will take place after the service. If planning to attend the reception, please RSVP to jan2525p@gmail.com or call/text 443-935-2327.

Interment will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to either, The Gettysburg Barnstormers, c/ o Treasurer Karen Radzai, 450 Shrivers Corner Road, Gettysburg, PA, 17325 or Maryland State Police Alumni Memorial Fund, 1750 S. Plantation Drive, Dunkirk, MD 20754.

#### **Service Details**

### **Visitation**

- Saturday, August
   5th, 2023 10:00am 11:00am
- Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church
- 16530 Trenton Church Rd., UPPER-CO, MD 21155

#### **Service**

- Saturday, August 5th, 2023 11:00am
- Christ Evangelical
   Lutheran Church
- 16530 Trenton Church Rd., UPPER-CO, MD 21155

## The Fall 2023 FLY-IN/DRIVE-IN "WINGS, WHEELS, & PANCAKES"

BREAKFAST \* 8 AM – Noon \* RAIN OR SHINE!

Saturday and Sunday \* SEPTEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup> AND 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023

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

## FEATURING

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 right, Floyd's Fabulous Flying Flapjack Machine was designed by Floyd Armstrong (1944-2014)

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









Photos From The July Meeting (and Happy Birthday, Wendi!)



### Bob Howe's Name Added to the Memorial Wall at Oshkosh

As you all know, Bob Howe's name was to be added to the Memorial Wall during this year's activities at AirVenture.

Several of Bob's family as well as several of his EAA 1041 family were in attendance for the ceremony.

The Memorial Wall Dedication Service was held at 10AM on the closing day of AirVenture (Sunday the 30th). their input into Bob's biography that was in the program.



## History of the Ford 4-AT-E Tri-Motor



Henry Ford mobilized millions of Americans and created a new market with his Model T "Tin Lizzie" automobile from 1909 to 1926. After World War I, he recognized the potential for mass air transportation.

Ford's Tri-Motor aircraft, nicknamed the "Tin Goose," was designed to build another new market: airline travel. To overcome concerns of engine reliability, Ford specified three engines and added features for passenger comfort, such as an enclosed cabin. The first three Tri-Motors built seated the pilot in an open cockpit, as many pilots doubted a plane could be flown without the direct "feel of the wind."

From 1926 through 1933, Ford Motor Company built 199 Tri-Motors. EAA's model 4-AT-E was the 146th off Ford's innovative assembly line — the 76th model 4-AT-E — and first flew on August 21, 1929. Days later, it was sold to Pitcairn Aviation.

plane belonging to Eastern Air Transport, whose paint scheme is replicated on EAA's Tri-Motor. Eastern Air Transport later became Eastern Airlines.

In 1930, the Tri-Motor was leased to Compañía Nacional Cubana de Aviación Curtiss, where it inaugurated air service between Havana and Santiago de Cuba. The airplane was later flown by the government of the Dominican Republic.

EAA's Ford Tri-Motor returned to the U.S. in 1949 for barnstorming use. In 1950, it was moved from Miami to Phoenix and was refitted with more powerful engines for use as a crop duster. With two 450 -hp engines and one 550-hp engine, it became the most powerful Model 4-AT-E ever flown. In 1955, it was moved to Idaho and fitted with two 275-gallon tanks and bomb doors for use as a borate bomber in aerial firefighting. Then in 1958, it was further modified for use by smoke jumpers.

Kansas, in 1964, where its new owner flew barnstorming tours. During this period, it had a variety of roles, including serving as the primary setting for the Jerry Lewis comedy, The Family Jewels.

In 1973, the aircraft was still being used for air show rides, including an EAA chapter's flyin at Burlington, Wisconsin. While at the 1973 fly-in, a severe thunderstorm ripped the plane from its tiedowns, lifted it 20 feet into the air, and smashed it to the ground on its back. EAA subsequently purchased the wreckage.

After an arduous, 12-year restoration process by EAA staff, volunteers, and Ford Tri-Motor operators nationwide, the old Tri-Motor took to the air once again, having its official re-debut at the 1985 EAA Fly-In Convention in Oshkosh.

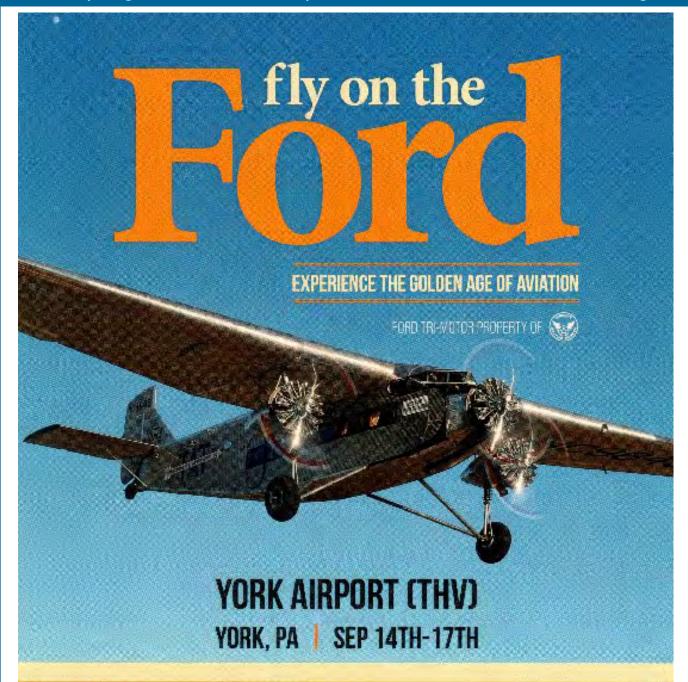
It was displayed in the EAA AirVenture Museum until 1991 when it returned to its former role of delighting passengers on its annual tour across the U.S.

(reprinted from EAA website)









PRICING: ADULT MEMBEH: \$85 | ADULT NON-MEMBER: \$95 | CHILD (17 & UNDER): \$65

RIDES: THURS 2-5 PM | FRI-SUN 9 AM - 5 PM



FOR MORE INFO: FLYTHEFORD.ORG OR CALL: 1-877-952-5395



## Letter From the Editor

**IT CONSULTING AND BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SERVICES** 

Website:

www.diannamoyconsulting.com Phone(s): 301-717-7412 or 301-318-DMOY (3669)





The Barnstormers are celebrating 30 years this year, and it was brought to my attention that I made an error in my commentary last month, so I'm taking the opportunity to correct that error.

The pancake breakfasts have been going on long before we started keeping statistics on how many have attended (perhaps as far back as our first year!). As with many things, once it starts to grow (and more costs are involved), the need for keeping statistics becomes a necessity. With the number attendees increasing, making sure we have enough supplies is important!

Putting on the events is a lot of fun and creates a spark of interest in aviation for many of our attendees, both adults and kids. It takes a lot of work as well, so please sign up as a volunteer to help out. It doesn't matter if you can only show up for a day or even just a couple of hours- any help is appreciated.

The September **Pancake** Breakfast is only two months away! Flyers are available for distribution. At this time of year, it doesn't hurt to get the info out earlier so that we can get on someone's calendar before another event does.

Speaking of the calendar, the "printing" of the newsletter during the summer months (May through September) is pushed as far to the end of the month as

possible to allow for coverage of the events for the month without a month going by in-between. As an example, the events at AirVenture in July are presented in August instead of September.

I try to keep aa consistent a layout as possible so that I can provide each of the clubs in our Chapter "press" for their events. However, to do that, I need each club to provide information on their activities for the next month. If I don't have anything from the club, I have to create fill material, and I hate to have to do that...

Dianna Moy

## **Zoom Broadcast of the Monthly Program Meeting Segment**

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.

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



## Getting The Word Out- (But Please Don't Hit 'Reply')

For the last couple of months, we've been using text messaging to let membership know of events or as a heads-up of an important email.

Again, the reason we started doing this is simply the fact that a lot of people get so many emails that they're easily missed, and that quite often

personal emails aren't even checked until one gets home and could be late in the evening. With text messages, it will get to you right away.

Some notes to remember: the first is that the number that appears is not my personal phone number. It is a special one specifically for group texting and is connected to the computer and not a cell phone. Replies to messages sent to that number appear on the computer like an email, and I may or may not see it right away.

Store the number in your phone and tag it something like "EAA Broadcast". That way it might make it easier to remember NOT to just hit reply. My number for replies

301-717-7412.

If you don't want to get text messages, let me know.

Dianna Moy

#### **AVIATION LINKS**

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

www.eaa.org
www.aopa.org
www.l04l.eaachapter.org
www.intrepidmuseum.org
www.york-aviation.com
www.airfactsjournal.com
www.jerryandersonart.com

You can find us on Facebook as well!

<a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/1101406127018136">https://www.facebook.com/groups/1101406127018136</a>

Coming soon: Instagram and Twitter! Keep an eye out here!



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

dianna.nicole.moy@comcast.net



## Our Chapter Officers and Board of Directors

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- Randy Kalp, 724-875-8899
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Photos within <u>The</u>
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## Sam Kistler, except where noted.

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