



PENNSYLVANIA PILOT

Vol 12 No 3, Fall 2001

Published quarterly by the Aero Club of Pennsylvania for all those interested in aviation activities in Pennsylvania

A record number of Aero Club Scholarships Awarded

AVIATION NEWS

Annual Scholarship Dinner awards eleven

The Aero Club's Annual Awards Dinner was held at the Philadelphia Aviation Country Club on June 28th. A record seven \$1500 scholarships were awarded. Nearly 60 attended the event, highlighted by a special presentation by Bob Mills, for a scholarship given in his name to recipient Anthony DiMaio.

The Bob Shannon Memorial Fund also granted two scholarships, and the Eastern Chapter of the 99's awarded two. All recipients and scholarship applicants will become complimentary members of the Aero Club for 2002. Congratulations to all recipients!

See page 4 for photos of all of our scholarship recipients.

FAA reassigns flight-standards director

Nicholas Lacey, the FAA's director of flight standards, is to be reassigned within the agency, the Wall Street Journal reported recently. Lacey oversees 4,500 inspectors and other aviation-safety workers. Nicholas Sabatini, manager of the Eastern Region Flight Standards Division, will succeed him. Lacey's new job, the FAA said will be to help advance the agency's 10-year plan for improving capacity and certifying new equipment to be used in the National Airspace System and to continue the FAA's

international safety initiatives. The move comes as the agency is preparing a report that is expected to criticize recent changes in the agency's airline-oversight program.

Boeing's Mach airliner

Boeing officials admitted in late winter that the company was working on its secret "Yellowstone

Project," as had been rumored in the aviation community. The project has company officials considering a new plane capable of flying close to the speed of sound.

It's just a little fire

When does an emergency warrant the risk of evacuating a jetliner? That is a question the FAA has decided to tackle. The frequency of

evacuations has increased in recent years, and so has the incidence of injury during egress. The FAA is concerned that airline crews may be evacuating aircraft too often without sufficient cause.

Evacuations of commercial aircraft occur about once every five days in the U.S., causing an estimated several hundred injuries per year. Just how are air crews are supposed to distinguish "dangerous" smoke and fire from "routine" smoke and fire?... Stay tuned.

Airport Highlight



Photo by R. Dant

Grimes Airfield (8N1) is a well-kept grass field located northwest of Reading, PA, and is home to the Golden Age Air Museum. Open weekends May through October, the museum houses many early 20th century flying machines, including this 1926 Winstead Special, which flies regularly. See page 3 for more airport news, and page 4 for the calendar highlight, featuring the fall fly-in at Grimes.

Clearance, Nyet

Recently, a Delta Airlines flight, en route from Atlanta to Japan, was refused permission to fly through Russian airspace. Flight 55 was about 20 minutes into Russian airspace when controllers radioed the crew to inform them that they lacked proper clearance. The pilots turned the aircraft around -- after they had burned about nine and a half hours worth of fuel getting to that point -- and then returned to the U.S., landing in San Francisco some five and a half hours after the turn-around.

AERO CLUB OF PENNSYLVANIA



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PENNSYLVANIA PILOT

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Norm Blanchard

I can't believe that it's midsummer already. No doubt many of you have had the same reaction. That means that cumulonimbus can crop up anytime, so be prepared for bad weather enroute whether flying IFR or VFR. Summertime also means more traffic in the pattern, so be alert for runway incursions. Check out the Flight Safety article on page 6 of this issue by Linda Robinson our Contributing Editor.

The annual scholarship dinner on June 28th at the Philadelphia Aviation Country Club was an exciting and historic occasion. Your Aero Club, along with the 99's and Bob Shannon Scholarship Fund awarded \$10,500 in scholarships to 7 deserving young pilots, which was the greatest number and dollar value in the history of our organization. All of you would have been proud to see the smiling faces of the recipients. And, to top off the proceedings, Bob Mills delighted the audience with some aviation stories, as well as presenting the scholarship in his honor to a young pilot. Photos of the scholarship recipients appear on page 4.

While you are thinking about how much this means to the future of aviation in America, why not sit down and write a check in support of this worthy cause?

Membership growth is the lifeblood of any organization, so don't forget to renew yours, and while you are at it, try to recruit the pilot tied down or hungered next to you at your local airport. An Aero Club membership is still one of the best bargains in aviation today.

Blue skies.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

Jeff Kahn, Secretary

The meeting was brought to order at 5:00 p.m. by President, Norm Blanchard. Present; attending were Board members, Jeffrey Kahn, Bob Tonkinson, Bob Young, Charles Pydych, Steve Najarian, Joan Landrey, and Tim Boyle.

After the reading of the April 18 meeting minutes, the treasurer's report was discussed and unanimously approved. Then Norm Blanchard reported for Lou Fitzpatrick that the paid membership is at 266, including 28 new members. Following this, Steve Najarian reported that he is soliciting two additional discount participants by the end of the year.

Tim Boyle reported that thirteen scholarship applications were received, twelve were interviewed and seven scholarships awarded in the amount of \$1,500.00 each. There was a general discussion about recipients receiving repeat scholarship awards and there was a general consensus that, so long as additional awards serve to assist the applicant towards a career in aviation, there should be no restrictions.

We are still trying to line up the Desmond Hotel for the Wright Brothers Dinner. Tim will contact John Desmond and also ask him to be the speaker.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Meeting Report

AIRPORT NEWS

June 21, 2001
By Steve Najarian



PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL [PHL]

Terminal F providing 38 additional gates for commuter operations was opened at a cost of \$100 million. U.S. Air will occupy 24 of the 38 gates. The next phase will include parking for 3400 vehicles to be completed by June 2002. Expansion of Concourse D and E each with 4 additional gates respectively is planned. Implementation of Position Runway Monitoring (PRM) will allow simultaneous use of the parallel runways, which are 3000 feet apart. FAA normally requires 5000-foot separations between parallel runways.

NEW GARDEN [N57]

Runway cracks are being sealed. Airport has sent letter to 300 residents surrounding the airport inviting them to visit the airport as a measure for improving public relations.

DOYLESTOWN AIRPORT [DYL]

Fourteen new T-hangars are under construction and are all sold. Land has been acquired for obstacle clearance and runway extension from 3300 to 3800 feet.

QUAKERTOWN [UKT]

Self-Fueling is operational. A new FBO called Flight Concepts has moved in.

POTTSTOWN LIMERICK [PTW]

Wings Flight School has moved to PTW temporarily. Four new T-hangars have been constructed. Ownership has been transferred from PECO to Exelon Energy. A pilot's lounge has been added.

CHESTER COUNTY AIRPORT [40N]

FAA/Penn Dot has provided grant for purchase of new snow removal equipment, removal of obstacles and construction of more parking ramps.

BRANDYWINE AIRPORT [N99]

2½ acres were cleared and paved to accommodate 22 aircraft tie downs. A row of 10 T-hangars is under construction, all having been sold. The airport was closed for 3 days to rehabilitate the runway surface

NEW CASTLE COUNTY [ILG]

The airport has recently completed a new tower facility and expansion of hangar space for corporate tenants. The 7200 ft ILS runway can support commercial activity but terminal facilities and parking must be expanded. The airport is trying to attract new corporate tenants.

SPITFIRE AIRDROME [7N7]

Jack Fetsko reports that grants were signed with NJ Dot to reconstruct the 2450' by 60' runway. Construction will be underway soon.

SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL [VAY]

Airport has approval to install a new fuel tank farm. New condominium hangars will be constructed. The Township is still opposed to runway extension. NJ DOT must decide whether an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required.

TRENTON MERCER [TTN]

New ground has been broken for Pfizer's new hangars. Federal money has been granted to conduct an Environmental Impact Study [EIS] at the request of Congressman Greenwood of Bucks County. This in response to local opposition to the expansion of the airport across the Delaware River.

WINGS FIELD [N67]

The airport is closed to all fixed wing aircraft until completion of the new

runway, scheduled for end of July 2001. Med-Vac helicopter operations continue to operate.

The State Court ruled in favor of Wings by declaring Rule 2210 unconstitutional. This rule allowed Whitpain Township to obstruct the flow of FAA block grant funds. Instead, the FAA funded the runway extension by using its discretionary fund, thereby circumventing 2210.

Whitpain Township did not appeal, but it has enlisted a local legislator to draft a new version of Rule 2210. Aircraft owners, pilots, and friends of aviation should let their local representatives know that this is a bad bill for PA aviation that could compromise safety at all airports in the state.

CAMDEN COUNTY [19N]

DVRPC reports that this airport may be closed in the near future. Forty aircraft are currently based there.

CAN MIEGS BE SAVED?

Time may be running out for Chicago's Meigs Field, the poster child of endangered general aviation airports. Recent editorials in the Chicago Tribune lamented that despite the strong case made by supporters to save the airfield, Meigs probably will close for good on February 10, 2002. Chicago Mayor Richard Daley has long wanted a park at Meigs' waterfront site, but back in 1997 then-governor Jim Edgar made a deal to keep the airport open for five years -- with the understanding that after that, the mayor could have his way. Now it looks like options are dwindling -- and chances are, the Tribune says, Daley will get his park, along with even more congestion at the region's other airports, which are already bursting at the seams.

Aero Club Discount Merchant

Brandywine Airport Pilot Shop [N99] West Chester. PA

by Steve Najarian

Fly into friendly Brandywine Airport and say hello to Dave Nelson, Airport and FBO Manager located at the terminal building. There is no landing or parking fee for G.A. aircraft and he offers a 10% discount on all pilot supplies to Aero Club of PA members. Dave is well stocked with VFR, IFR charts and approach plates as

well as a complete line of pilot accessories, training manuals and clothing. Telephone 610-692-6100. Summer FBO Hours 8:00 am to 6:30 pm. Runway 9-27, 3347 x 50 feet. Approaches, VOR, VOR/DME, GPS, & RNAV. Unicom/CTAF 123.075. Approach Philadelphia 124.35. Charts L24, L28, Washington sectional.

2001 Bob Mills Scholarship Winner



ANTHONY DIMAIO WITH BOB MILLS

AERO CLUB CALENDAR

September

- 8** Vintage Aircraft Day; Wings Field
- 8** 2nd Annual USO Swing Dance, NASW Aviation Museum, Cape May Airport, NJ
- 8-9** Sounds of Freedom Air Show, Willow Grove, PA
- 13-16** Reno Air Races; Reno, NV
- 18-20** NBAA Convention; New Orleans, LA
- 22** Annual Air Festival; Ocean City, NJ
- 22-23** Planes, Trains & Automobiles, Mid-Atlantic Air Museum, Reading, Pa
- 27** **Aero Club B.O.D. Mtg (tentative)**
- 29-30** Fall Fly-In, Grimes Airfield, Bethel Pa

October

- 10-12** 53rd Annual NBAA Meeting & Convention; New Orleans
- 10-12** 21st Annual PA Aviation Conference; Lancaster, PA
- 14-15** Rotorfest 2001; Brandywine Airport, West Chester, PA
- 20-21** MAAF Anniversary Reunion Weekend, Millville, NJ
- 20-22** AOPA Expo 2001 Long Beach, CA

Nov/Dec

- Nov 8-10** AOPA Expo 2001 Fort Lauderdale, FL
- Dec 17** **Annual Wright Brother's Dinner**

HIGHLIGHT

Fall Fly-In at the Grimes Golden Age Air Museum

Grimes Airfield (8N1) in Bethel, PA is located northwest of Reading. This 2700' grass field is home to the Golden Age Air Museum. September 29-30 is the second fly-in of the season, featuring breakfast, lunch and dinner, overnight camping, Saturday night dinner and a movie. All flying ends at dusk. Bring your own tie-downs. No fuel available. See www.goldenageair.org for more information, including a listing of the restored aircraft and autos at the museum.

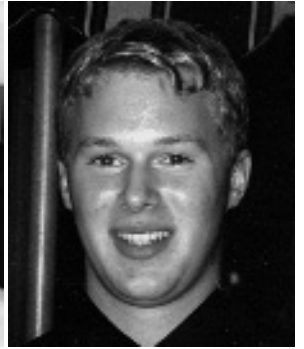
2001 Scholarship Winners



RYAN KOCH
AERO CLUB
SCHOLARSHIP



ADAM LEVISON
AERO CLUB
SCHOLARSHIP



CODY MCDONALD
AERO CLUB
SCHOLARSHIP



PHAEDRA MUSSELMAN
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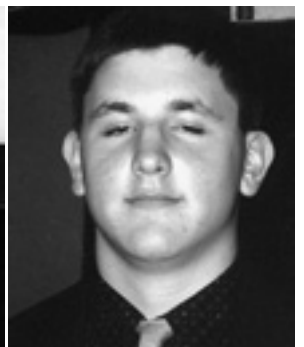
PENNY LEVIN
99'S
SCHOLARSHIP



PHAEDRA MUSSELMAN
99'S
SCHOLARSHIP



WILLIAM HOHELLA
BOB SHANNON
SCHOLARSHIP



JOSEPH ROMEO
BOB SHANNON
SCHOLARSHIP

Around the world; new icing definition; new member highlight...

PILOT NEWS

Around the world in 124 days in a Dakota

Polly Vacher, a 57-year-old British woman, recently completed a 29,000-mile, four-month, around-the-world flight in her Piper Dakota. Upon touchdown in Birmingham, England, she became the first woman to circumnavigate the globe in a small plane via a certain Pacific Ocean route. She was not after the record for personal glory. The charitable venture raised \$215,000 for the Royal International Air Tattoo Flying School for the Disabled, for scholarships to help disabled persons learn to fly.

New icing changes

The FAA proposed new definitions of in-flight icing terminology and now wants your comments at their office "on or before January 22, 2000." We'll just assume that they meant 2001. Changes of note include the elimination of the term

"trace ice," as the NTSB found that it was too often interpreted by pilots as a condition non-hazardous to flight operations.

Is that your final answer?

On April 15th, A 30-year-old graduate student became the eighth big winner of ABC's "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire." Bernie Cullen won the \$1 million dollar prize after correctly answering the following question: "What letter of the alphabet does the registration of every U.S., non-military aircraft begin with?"

Layover gambling

US Airways flight attendant Cynthia Malinoski apparently doesn't have a concern in the world regarding the failed US Airways/United merger. While on a layover in Las Vegas, she decided to wile away the time by doing a little gambling. A few quarters later, Malinoski was \$9 million

richer, thanks to a big payoff at a Megabucks slot machine.

Bold or bullying, he's got his job back

Stewart Clapson, 54, was demoted by British Airways after he shouted at and insulted an hysterical 59-year-old woman who ignited a bomb scare on his aircraft on October 26, 1999, causing a departure delay. After repeated appeals, Clapson was fired. But on Monday, the courts reinstated Clapson to the position of first officer. The new ruling apparently reinforces the notion of a captain's unquestioned authority aboard his own ship, but we'll leave it to you to decide if that's a good thing.

Be-A-Pilot will reward best flight school

A \$10,000 cash prize will be awarded to an industrious flight school this year by the folks at BE-A-

Continued next Page...



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Aero Club members receive a
10% discount with their membership card.

PILOT NEWS

Continued from Previous Page...

PILOT. The prize will reward "the most innovative, extensive and effective local marketing of primary flight training." The marketing venture was announced at the "Aviation Super Show" opening session on Tuesday, in Long Beach, Calif. To participate, the school must join the BE A PILOT program. Currently, there are 1,600 schools that qualify.

Runway incursions revisited

A lot has been said about runway incursions recently, and now the FAA has added a new spin on the data. Until now, the FAA has tracked incursions, but has not distinguished between, say, an aircraft poking its nose across the hold-short line, and an airliner taking drastic evasive action to narrowly escape a big crunch.

The FAA now has four categories for ranking incursion severity, based on available reaction time, need for evasive action, speed, and proximity. Based on this new system, the FAA reports that in 81 percent of the incidents studied, the potential for an actual collision was remote. And although the most common types of runway incursions involved two general aviation aircraft, those incidents were predominantly minor in severity. The analysis also showed that the average rate of major runway incursions at the 32 busiest U.S. airports was about twice the average for the rest of the towered airports. Overall, the FAA said, it found the results of its analysis "encouraging ... while incursions are on the rise, the great majority pose little chance of collision."

New Member Highlight

Ronald Tornari of Warminster, PA is one of the many new members that have joined us since our last issue. Ron owns and operates a mobile aircraft cleaning service in southeast Pennsylvania, northern Delaware, and central and southern New Jersey. He has a complete, self-contained cleaning unit and will come to your airplane. Services include anything from a straight wash to a full interior/exterior detail on your small single, twin, or corporate aircraft.

Contact Ron's business, "Attention to Detail" at 215-443-0368 for an appointment. Aero Club members receive a 10% discount on services.

Reducing Runway Incursions

FLIGHT SAFETY

By Linda Robinson



...

Editor's Note: The latest versions of the Airport Facility Directories (those little green books) have been expanded to include detail airport sketches of all towered airports in their respective geographic areas. Pilots are encouraged to study these taxiway and runway layouts to help reduce the likelihood of ground incursions.



AERO CLUB OF PENNSYLVANIA
P.O. BOX 748, BLUE BELL, PA 19422

2001 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE

Dear Member,

Just to remind you that your Aero Club dues in the amount of \$20.00 for 2001 are due by November 1, 2001. **Unless, of course you just joined us this summer, in which case your dues aren't required until next year.** Be sure to take advantage of membership renewal discount program-discount \$5.00 off your membership for each new member (maximum three). Discount only applies if membership application(s) and dues for new members are included with your renewal. Please complete the membership subscription form below, making any changes as appropriate. By filling out and sending the form now, you can help save the club the cost of sending you a renewal notice directly.

If you wish to contribute to the Scholarship Fund your donation will be used to promote youth in aviation. A donation of \$10.00 from each member will assure providing two scholarships next year. Remember that all contributions to the Scholarship Fund are tax deductible, so please consider the Aero Club when planning your 2001 contributions. If you contribute \$100 to the scholarship fund, your membership dues are waived for the year!



Blue Skies..... Al Schnur

Please send your dues and Scholarship donations to:
Aero Club of Pennsylvania, PO Box 748; Blue Bell, PA 19422.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____

PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

SCHOLARSHIP CONTRIBUTION: \$10 \$25 \$50 \$100 Other: _____

2001 DUES: \$20.00 SCHOLARSHIP \$ _____ TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

* PLEASE RETURN BY NOVEMBER 1, 2001 *

Aviation Oddities:

Monkey business not profitable for smuggler

Apparently baby monkeys are not too fond of being drugged, stuffed into a bag and forced to fly commercially -- but, then, who is? An irate monkey escaped into the cabin from a would-be smuggler's carry-on luggage during a Yemeni Airlines flight from San'a to Damascus, Syria. Agile crewmembers were able to capture the monkey, but only after it had spread a small dose of hysteria among the passengers. The flight then returned to San'a where the smuggler was arrested on charges of -- er, smuggling -- and endangering the safety of airline passengers.

Rocket Guy

A 44-year-old Bend, Oregon toy inventor is working on a project that, even if it doesn't work, could win him a place in Darwin Award history. In May of 2002, Brian Walker, known as "Rocket Guy" around his hometown, plans to blast off in a homebuilt capsule dubbed "Earthstar 1." The ship's rockets will burn 90 percent pure hydrogen peroxide, which Walker hopes will propel him at Mach 4 to an altitude of 160,000 feet.

Reading Aero Club History:

New Aero Club member Tony Talarigo and member of the Reading Aero Club read our last issue stating that the PA Aero Club is "the nations oldest continuously operating aviation club." Tony wants to report that the Reading Aero Club, too, has a long history.

Tony contends that Reading Aero Club, started in 1932, is the "oldest continuously active flying aero club", having operated club-owned aircraft continuously since its inception. An amazing fact is that one of the 14 charter members of the club is still alive, still involved with the club, and still actively flying at age 92.

So, perhaps a clarification is in order...

The Pennsylvania Aero Club, "the nation's oldest continuously operating aviation club" is the oldest club dedicated specifically to promoting aviation.

The Reading Aero Club, "the oldest continuously active flying aero club" is the oldest club dedicated to actively operating aircraft for the benefit of its members.

And here is another one:

College Park Airport in Maryland is the "world's oldest continuously operating airport". It began operating in 1909 when Orville and Wilbur Wright taught the first two Army officers to fly.



Organized December 17, 1909; Chartered May 10, 1910

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