

Published quarterly by the Aero Club of Pennsylvania for those interested in aviation in the Greater Delaware Valley

Desmond's aircraft company auctions aircraft, projects, parts and tools

On October 9 and 10, Heritage Aircraft, owned by our longtime member, former director and host of the Wright Brother's dinner, John Desmond, held an auction of John's aircraft projects and vast selection of parts and tools. John died before completing many of his aircraft projects. His shop has continued working on a few of those, notably a Pitcairn Mailwing and the fabulous Lockheed Vega.



Projects and parts at Desmond facility

Those projects, along with a large warehouse full of aviation parts and tools went to auction. One man came from Arizona looking for Lockheed Vega parts on behalf of the owner of a metal fuselage, flying Vega. Another was wearing the logo of the Fighter Factory, Jerry Yagen's shop and museum in Virginia Beach.

Member Mike Macario came to buy cylinders for a radial engine, the DC-3, and our friends George Jenkins and Steve Lindrooth attended. Steve started to bid on an unfinished Pitcairn Mailwing, but member David Pitcairn was the owner when the bidding stopped. George Jenkins went home the owner of a Waco project, nearly complete, because of its OX6 engine, newly rebuilt.

The next day, the shop tools were up for auction. It was sad to think of the talent and equipment being broken up. Bill McDevitt was putting the final touches on the Vega and negotiations were ongoing with a museum for its purchase. John's assistant Janet was selling box lunches to

participants. It is sad to see the end of the Desmond shop, but it is satisfying to see so many knowledgeable bidders take the parts and put them to good use. Some of the shop tools were sold to George Jenkins and will live on for Aero Club members to see at his museum in Eagles Mere, Pennsylvania.

Visit to Eagles Mere

Nine aircraft carrying 23 Aero Club members flew into the Eagles Mere Air Museum in northern Pennsylvania on October 10. This was the museum's last open weekend of the season. It will reopen again around Memorial Day. Weather was quite pleasant and upon arrival, the group was ferried by the museum staff into town to eat lunch at the locally famous Sweet Shop. One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the newly built automobile museum in a new hangar at the airport.



Curtiss Fledgling at Eagles Mere

Model Aircraft Sales

The Aero Club held a sale of model aircraft donated by the estate of Al Sheves at the Fall Flying Festival at Chester County Airport on October 10. The total income from the sale amounted to nearly \$1000 to be donated to the Aero Club of Pennsylvania Memorial Scholarship Fund. Additionally, some ready-to-build models were donated to the Future Aviators Summer Camps at New Garden Flying Field.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bruce Thompson

This will be my last message to you, the members of the Aero Club of Pennsylvania. Per custom, my two year term will expire with a hand off to the new president at the January Board of Directors meeting. Often we are told to not look back; always look forward and press on. Don't worry about the past since you can't do anything about it. Largely I would agree; but on the other hand, reflecting on goals and objectives attained or not attained can be a worthy drill much as professional sports teams pour over game films to gain an advantage.

Over the last two years we have revised our organization's By Laws to reflect changes in how we conduct our business. Our scholarship process has been streamlined from one of paper and snail mail to one entirely based on the internet. This makes for much easier file sharing among Scholarship Committee members and for our applicants (all more technically savvy than most of us) a more integrated approach to sending the required data to us.

Speaking of scholarships, over the last several years a diligent effort has been made to increase the amount of the individual award to more closely align with the current marketplace. To put that into perspective, for those of you who haven't paid for flying lessons for some time an aspiring aviator that runs the gamut from the Private Pilot license through Flight Instructor (including a multi-engine rating) will invest at least \$50,000; couple that with a college education and you can see the hurdle these young men and women face.

Our Membership Committee is now using an online software package to manage our membership rolls. Not only does the software assist in membership renewals and onboarding new members but it also assists with planning our events throughout the year.

The past two years have been a privilege and an honor

The mission of the Aero Club of PA is to promote aviation in the Greater Delaware Valley. Not only is this accomplished through our scholarship funds, but through the efforts of our Special Projects Committee as they arrange speakers and field trips to locations that many of us would not see if not for the Committee's contacts and networking.

The glue that holds this all together is our Communication Committee. If not for their steadfast drive to communicate with you, the member, via our newsletters and email blasts, to include keeping me abreast of all the nuances involved in running this organization, it suffices to say it would greatly suffer.

The past two years have been a privilege and honor to help chart the course for the Aero Club. I was very fortunate to have a superb team that backed me up at every turn. Rob Dant, chair of the Communications Committee, Mike Little, chair of the Membership Committee, Debbie Harding, chair of the Scholarship Committee and Walt Ellis, chair of the Special Projects Committee and their respective Committee members collectively produced the results I mentioned above. I have been blessed to have an outstanding group of officers. Mike Dunleavy as Vice President, John O'Toole, Treasurer, Elaine Farashian, secretary, two superb legal counselors in Jeff Kahn and Paul Heintz and a Board of Directors comprised of aviation enthusiasts from the Delaware Valley.

I encourage one and all to help us assist those aspiring for a career in aviation by supporting our scholarship funds or mentoring these budding aviators on a path many of us took oh so long ago...In the words of Antoine de Saint-Exupery "I fly because it releases my mind from the tyranny of petty things."



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Organized December 17, 1909 to promote aviation in the Greater Delaware Valley. We are a social and civic organization which plans field trips, holds an annual dinner, sponsors presentations, awards scholarships, and produces this newsletter.

PENNSYLVANIA PILOT

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Scholarships	Debbie Harding
Communications	Robert Dant
Airports	Elaine Farashian

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3 Year Term:	Mike Bem Carl Bianchini Elaine Farashian James Kilduff Alicia Sikes
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Anne Shields
Robert "Bob" Hoover

SCHOLARSHIP REPORT

Debbie Harding

Two years ago, I advised our Scholarship Review Board of a Presidential directive to keep the number of Scholarship awardees the same but to increase the amounts awarded; that, in order to realistically impact the financial burden of flight and aviation related training – while remaining fiduciary responsible as directed by the trustees. Well, Mr. President – you did it. This year, we awarded the largest award total to date, \$41,000 – and we still have more funds in the coffers to offset these expenditures. Also, we as a club have more visibility in the aviation community and have more supportive interaction with our recipients.

Some key accomplishments over the last two years:

- Bylaw update clarifying our mission and operations
- Membership levels synergistic with our established formula of awarding 100% of yearly contributions to the years' selected awardees
- Boeing Employee Gift Match Program. Thank you, Eric Kocher!
- The Hatcher family estate gift

- The sale from donations by Pat Sheves from her late husband Al Sheve's aircraft model and aviation book collection

- The recent establishment of the Bob Mills Memorial Scholarship fund mirroring that of the Bob Shannon Memorial Scholarship fund

- The Chester County Airport Aircraft Owners and Tenants Assoc Scholarship Fund

- The \$1000 "named scholarship" awards; thanks to many folks on that!

- In kind donation by a member for a taildragger endorsement award - Thank you Capt. Lewis!

- The ability to pay for a scholarship recipient dinner on our website

So now you know how it's done. If you want to award \$40,000 in scholarship awards, you pretty much have to figure out a way to raise it! Thank you Bruce for keeping the Club aligned with the simple mission of this club's founders – to support the future of aviation. It has been a busy and productive two years!

LETTERS:

Chris DeAugustine, scholarship recipient

I am working on my 1,000 hours. I banner towed with Steve Jordan this summer and that helped build a huge chunk of time. I am at 650 hours and I am in my senior year at Embry-Riddle working on finishing my CFI/II. I also fly a local flight school's Beechcraft Duchess with some buddies to build more time. I will likely stay for the summer to take the school's Capstone course in the CRJ full motion simulator and should graduate in the Fall 2016 with a BS in Aeronautical Science and a minor in Homeland Security.

As for my career, I am thinking Republic or Piedmont Airlines, as I'd like to stay in the Philadelphia area to save some money by living at home. I have an interview with Republic in early December and I am really excited.

I am doing photography for the marketing department for

Embry-Riddle and love it. I also joined FLAP (Flight Line Assimilation Program), an organization that helps mentor new students. I'm really enjoying that as well.

I am forever grateful for the support of the Aero Club.

Stephen Jordon, Scholarship Recipient

Just to keep you updated on my progress: Last Wednesday, I interviewed with Piedmont Airlines in Charlotte at the US Airways flight training facility. After an ATP-esque written test, a tour of the simulator facilities, and a one on one technical interview, I was offered the position as a first officer. I happily accepted. If everything goes as planned, I will go to Dallas to take my ATP CTP course soon, followed by simulator training in Charlotte for 6-8 weeks.

Because of the help I received from the Aero Club, I was able to achieve my goal more quickly and easily. I am forever grateful, and look forward to being able to help assist other young aviators in their flying pursuits.

Board of Directors Report

Elaine Farashian

The Board of Directors met at the Philadelphia Aviation Country Club at Wings Field on October 22. President Bruce Thompson presided at the meeting.

The group approved the minutes from the July meeting that was held at AgustaWestland at the Philadelphia Northeast Airport. Discussion then ensued about financials, newsletter and membership. Active membership stands at 183.

The scholarship committee relayed recent correspondence from our scholarship recipients, many of

whom have successfully transitioned to the airlines. Also mentioned was the success of the sale at Chester County that raised nearly \$1000.

The Special Events committee discussed ideas for upcoming events, including a visit to the Millville Army Air Museum and a possible trip to England for the summer airshow season there.

The meeting adjourned for dinner and a presentation by Walt Ellis and Rob Dant about Bob Mills and the history of the Philadelphia Seaplane Base.

By Nancy Kyle

Photos by John Kapusnick

Taming the taildragger

I received this year's Aero Club Taildragger Scholarship Award and I just finished getting that endorsement.

Flying with John Lewis, who gave me the opportunity and his time to teach me in his J3 Cub was a real experience.

I will never forget the crisp fall morning as I flew to Cross Keys Airport to meet him to drive a short distance to a small grass strip where his Cub was located. Practicing to taxi back and forth with a tailwheel and learning stick and rudder skills was mostly new to me. Flying with the open cockpit and a max speed of 80 mph is something everyone must experience. No words were spoken, only hand signals we discussed prior to departing as we flew to our practice area. My first approach, trimmed at 55 mph, nose slightly under the horizon I floated nearly the whole runway. With that being said, John taught me the "one potato, two potato, three potato approach." From there on out, I began handling the Piper J3 with more confidence and felt more in control of the aircraft. Receiving this endorsement and scholarship has changed the way I think about flying. It has allowed me to see the beauty and enjoyment in flying. And, receiving this scholarship has prepared me for a possible future job of banner towing at the Jersey shore.

Twelve years ago, in July 2003, the FAA-FSDO in Philadelphia got a call from the Commander of the Thunderbirds asking if they could conduct an airshow in Atlantic City in August—about a 30 day notice. They had a last minute cancellation from Cape Cod (methinks the locals complained about the noise). This request sounds reasonable? Hardly. Usually, airshows are planned months, if not years, in advance, and typically happen at the same location every year. This would be a first for Atlantic City. But the possibility of a full military airshow over the Boardwalk was too compelling to turn down. They agreed to work out the details, and 30 days later, the first, of now 12 airshows, flew a glorious show over the boardwalk, beaches, and ocean of Atlantic City.

I was lucky to attend the first one and since then, have gone often. They never lose their power to inspire new surges of patriotism in young and old alike. This year was no exception. It has always focused on the military,

and in fact, you can be assured of seeing several branches with displays on the boardwalk that use it as a recruiting event.



In 2003, the nation was still reeling from the after-effects of 9-11. This event reinvigorated patriotism and helped folks to heal. Over the years, the U.S. Airforce

Thunderbirds and the U.S. Navy's Blue Angels have appeared often, along with the Golden Knights. Aircraft like the Stealth Bomber and the F-22 Raptor have been a huge draw, and there are always demonstrations of water search and rescue. A nice cadre of privately-owned vintage military aircraft can be counted on to show their stuff, too.

The photo ops are spectacular, the show is free to the public, there are plenty of places to set up your own 'turf' along the boardwalk railing, (take chairs, a big hat, suntan lotion, plenty of water and snacks, a radio to tune in the local station which broadcasts the show all day, towels, etc.) and it is just great family fun. For the non-aviator family members, there are, of course, the casinos. If you prefer a more structured place to hang out all day, there are several opportunities for ticketed venues, which

include private bathrooms, unlimited water, lunch, and other amenities, but you can have fun without spending a lot of cash. As a suggestion, it is possible to drive into the city that morning and still find parking but the traffic can be high, so going in the night before and spending the night carries less pressure. Getting out of town post show is also stressful so plan on staying for dinner and waiting for the traffic to diminish.



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Show centerline is near the Atlantic City Convention Center. A date for 2016 has not yet been published, but typically occurs in August or September on a Wednesday. "Like" the show on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AirshowAC> to get first notice of the event.

This year, the show had several sponsors, including the Borgata which has been with them for all 12 years. The hotel hosts many of the pilots and administrative teams; the aviation community is grateful for their support.

The accompanying photos were taken by a friend. You can see more at www.kapusnickphotography.com. If you need a photographer for aviation (or non-aviation) subjects, give him a ring.

I hope to see you at the airshow next year!



SEPTEMBER, 2015

PHILADELPHIA INTERNATIONAL

The runway extension project is starting. Soil stability work is going to be taking place and the airport is looking to move a fuel tank. Phase 2 of the restroom improvements is underway in the D concourse and will be done in December. Concourses E and F are underway. The security bollard posts and decorative sleeves being installed.

PHILADELPHIA NORTHEAST [PNE]

The airport was awarded a substation upgrade project and is working on repairing cracked ceilings.

BRANDYWINE [OQN]

Grants are anticipated for obstruction removal, and Runway 9-27 improvements. The airport is progressing with tree removal along its runway approaches. The airport is conducting an LPV approach feasibility study.

CROSS KEYS [17N]

Three grants were approved for runway extension, taxiway installation, and more projects. The airport is looking to combine projects because of budget constraints.

DOYLESTOWN [DYL]

The airport authority is working to acquire easements and land for the purpose of obstruction removal for Runway 5. The Airport Authority and the Doylestown Pilot Association held a picnic in late August honoring area WWII vets. Aircraft and helicopter rides were provided. A fly-in breakfast and safety seminar was held on September 12th. The Pilot Association planned to hold Scout Day in October.

NEW CASTLE COUNTY [ILG]

The airport is near completion of taxiway B realignment. The terminal parking lot is being expanded. The site was chosen for a fuel farm. Frontier Airlines has withdrawn service.

NEW GARDEN FLYING FIELD [N57]

Runway widening and reconstruction work is ongoing and is in Phase 2. The Airport applied for and was awarded funds from the state Multimodal Transportation Fund for additional hangar development, including seven T-hangars and two box hangars. The Airport is painting another row of its T-hangars and making repairs and

upgrades to hangar doors. The airport hosted the Chester County Balloon Festival in June, two Future Aviators Summer Camps, the annual airshow in August, and a giant scale R/C aircraft meet in September.

PENNRIDGE [CKZ]

The airport is working on an apron design project and superficial design improvements.

PENNS LANDING HELIPORT [P72]

The heliport is repairing and redesigning the seawall.

POTTSTOWN MUNICIPAL [N47]

Runway restriping is complete.

QUAKERTOWN [UKT]

An obstruction removal and lighting project is underway. Work is continuing on the Runway 11 obstruction removal. The airport is finished restriping the runway. The Quakertown Pilot Association held their first community day and car show. The pilots continue to have Young Eagles Day at the Airport on a monthly basis.

SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL [VAY]

The FAA Master Plan update has been closed out. The obstruction removal and main tie down apron projects are ongoing. An environmental determination for obstruction removal is ongoing and it is hoped to be completed by the end of the year.

SPITFIRE AERODROME [7N7]

It is possible that the airport will be acquired by the county.

SUMMIT AIRPARK [EVY]

The grass crosswind runway was reopened after being closed for many years and may have accounted for additional flight operations.

TRENTON-MERCER [TTN]

Taxiway rehab is done and security fence improvements are underway.

TRENTON-ROBBINSVILLE [N87]

Stormwater management and environmental assessment studies are complete.

WINGS FIELD [LOM]

The airport is progressing with obstruction removal at both runway ends and installing obstruction lighting, in an effort to regain instrument night minimums. Final design and bidding is out to rehabilitate the GA terminal apron.

Your donations provide scholarships:

1970 Private Pilot certificate = \$1,500

2015 Private Pilot certificate = \$10,000+

Thanks to your donations and investment income, we have awarded \$200,000 in the last 10 years to prospective airman on the road to a career in aviation. To maintain that meaningful impact, the Memorial Scholarship Fund needs your continued support!

Gift levels:

\$100 or more = complimentary membership.

\$1,000 or more = A named scholarship in someone's memory or a lifetime membership.

Your donation is tax deductible.

Join us for our Silent Auction and Raffle

Please join the Aero Club at our 5th silent action and raffle event on December 17th at the Wright Brothers dinner. This is a fun opportunity to contribute directly to next years' Scholarship recipients. Bring your friends to join the fun while raising funds for our scholarships. Items will include dinner and overnight packages, a hot air balloon flight, vintage aviation books, a basket of cheer, and other items. We hope to see you there to help us celebrate and to raise funds.

If you would like to donate a nice item to the silent auction, please contact us:
mailbox@aeroclubpa.org, 610-909-4467

A E R O C L U B O F P E N N S Y L V A N I A

2016 Membership Renewal and Warbird Ride

Renew online at www.aeroclubpa.org

Renew your membership online or with the form below. Donate \$100 to the Scholarship Fund and your membership dues are waived. Contributions are tax deductible.

The Aero Club will again offer a seat provided by an anonymous donor on an upcoming warbird flight to one active member as of January 31, 2016. This is a phenomenal opportunity with significantly better odds than a typical raffle. Purchase additional membership for friends to give them a chance to take a ride too!



Membership-only Form:

Send Renewal or Scholarship Donation to **Aero Club of PA, PO Box 748, Blue Bell, PA 19422**

- \$30 membership renewal (Payable to Aero Club of PA)
- \$100 scholarship donation (Payable to Aero Club PA Scholarship Fund)
- \$1000 donation for a Lifetime Membership (Payable to the Scholarship Fund)
- 1st/2nd of two \$500 donations for Lifetime Membership (Payable to Scholarship Fund)

NAME: _____

I am a current member with address on file (or fill out below)

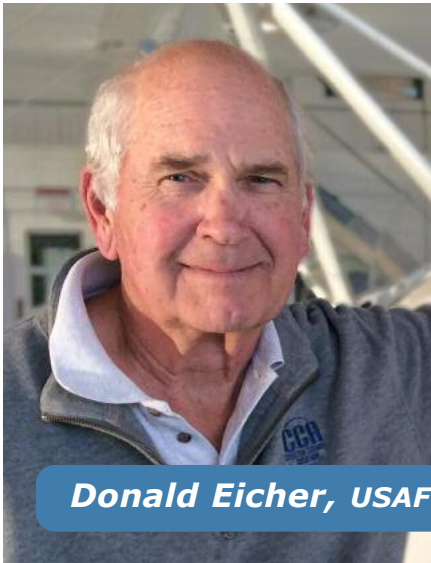
ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

2015 Wright Brothers Dinner



Donald Eicher, USAF (ret)

Aero Club Annual Member Meeting

Wright Brothers Dinner

Thursday, December 17, 2015
 The Desmond Hotel
 1 Liberty Blvd, Malvern, PA

5:30PM: Reception, Cash Bar, Silent Auction
 6:30PM: Dinner and Presentation
 Black tie optional, period dress or aviator uniform.

An event to benefit the Aero Club of Pennsylvania Memorial Scholarship Fund and to celebrate over a century of aviation.

Donald Eicher hails from Chicago's west suburbs. He got his BA in Business Administration from Drake Univ. in Des Moines. He became a Private Pilot in 1964 through the Drake ROTC and was commissioned as USAF 2nd Lt. upon graduation. He did Air Force pilot training in Big Spring, Texas, 1964-1965 and flew F-4 Phantoms until 1971, with permanent duty in Arizona, Germany, California, Vietnam, and England. He is a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross and a USAF Air Medal (AM&4 OLC).

Don obtained his master's degree in guidance and counseling while in England and went into sales and management for Procter & Gamble, retiring in 2001. Since then, he obtained his CFI and has been teaching at Chester County Aviation, specializing in Commercial and CFI. He lives in Downingtown with his wife Vicki.

Don will talk about the combat loss of an F-4C Phantom on Dec 13, 1967 in Vietnam, with closure not until July 7, 2012.

Filet and Stuffed Shrimp with Crabmeat: \$65 per person

Reserve online at www.aeroclubpa.org

Dinner and Membership Form:

Reserve ONLINE, or send this form and payment by December 10 to:
Aero Club of PA Meml Scholarship Fund, PO Box 748; Blue Bell, PA 19422

NAME: _____	Number Attending: ____ x \$65 = \$_____
ADDRESS: _____	Addl. Scholarship Contribution: \$_____
CITY/STATE: _____	Renew my Membership (\$30): \$_____
PHONE: _____	Lifetime Membership (\$1000): \$_____
E-mail: _____	Total Enclosed: \$_____

ATTENDEE NAMES: _____, _____
 _____, _____



Organized December 17, 1909; Chartered May 10, 1910

AERO CLUB OF PENNSYLVANIA

P.O. BOX 748, BLUE BELL, PA 19422

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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FIRST CLASS
POSTAGE
REQUIRED

AVIATION EVENT CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 14 Reedsville EAA 518 Fly In Breakfast (RVL)
- 13-15 Waterfowl Festival, Easton, PA (ESN)

DECEMBER

- 12 Paws & Planes, Holiday at the Airport, Frederick (FDK)
- 17 Wright Brothers Dinner, Desmond Hotel 5:30PM

JANUARY

- 14 Aero Club Board of Directors Meeting, Wings Field

FUTURE PLANNING

SUN N FUN: April 5-10

READING WWII Weekend: June 3, 4, 5

ENGLAND AIRSHOW CIRCUIT: July 7-17

OSHKOSH: July 25-31

Paul Heintz Retires from AOPA Board



Longtime Aero Club member and solicitor, Paul Heintz has recently retired from the AOPA Board after 40 years of service. He helped oversee all five AOPA presidents during his tenure.

Local aviation enthusiasts remember Paul from his longtime aviation column in the Sunday Bulletin and

from his aviation book, "Flying for Fun."

Aero Club members know Paul for his relentless legal support of our Scholarship programs over the years, helping to ensure their longevity.

Pilots at Wings Field know Paul for his distinct radio voice and for his efforts to save Wings when it was in jeopardy of closing.

Jane, his wife, knows Paul as her steadfast pilot on their long trips flying together in their Cessna 210.