



Aero Club joins in fall events & preps for annual dinner

Cape May fly out

The Aero Club coordinated a fly-out to the annual NAS Wildwood Aviation Museum Air Fest at Cape May Airport. Members with aircraft were offered space to display general aviation aircraft for the public to see up close. Twelve aircraft participated, including a J3 Cub, a 1946 Ercoupe, multiple Cessnas, a Navion, and two Mooney aircraft. This is the second year that the Club participated in the event and the Club anticipates continuing this event into the future. The event is a fundraiser for the museum. See photos on page 2.



Aero Club at Wings & Wheels

The Aero Club of Pennsylvania participated in the annual Wings & Wheels fundraiser at Wings Field. The Aero Club provided a booth to promote our club and our scholarship programs. Other Aero Club members offered airplane rides to raise funds for Angel Flight East. Weather started out IFR early in the day, but late afternoon storms stayed away along enough to get in a full day of rides. All in all it was a good day, beautiful weather, nice aircraft and lots of cars.

Aero Club October Board Meeting

The Aero Club board met at Wings Field on October 19 to discuss among other items the potential new slate of board members and the upcoming Wright Brothers Dinner on December

17. Each year, five new board members are voted onto the 15-person board for a 3-year term. They will be confirmed in a vote during the official annual members meeting at the December dinner. Our dinner speaker will be Gary Powers, Jr., the son of famed U-2 spy plane pilot Francis Gary Powers.

Gary Powers to speak at annual dinner

Gary Powers, Jr. will be our speaker on December 17. Gary is the son of Francis Gary and Claudia "Sue" Powers. Francis Gary Powers, Sr. was a CIA U-2 pilot who was shot down in Soviet Russia in 1960 during the Cold War. Gary is the Founder of The Cold War Museum, a charity located at Vint Hill, VA., that honors Cold War veterans, preserves Cold War history, and educates future generations about this time period. He has worked with the National Park Service to identify historic Cold War sites for commemorating, interpreting, and preserving. In 2015, he consulted for Steven Spielberg's Cold War thriller, Bridge of Spies, about the 1962 spy exchange that brought his father home. He has written three books about his father's experience and will speak about his father's legacy and dispel some of the misinformation surrounding the U-2 Incident. See back page for the invitation to our dinner.



President's Message

Fellow aviation enthusiasts,

Once again Winter fast approaches.

The Aero Club had a good turnout at the Annual NAS Wildwood Museum AirFest. Thank you to the members who volunteered and flew their aircraft to the event.

The annual Angel Flight East Wings & Wheels event had a great Wheels turnout, but due to weather the Wings portion was a bit light, but still a significant presence. Several members of the Aero Club were in attendance. Some brought vehicles and aircraft to display. A couple of our members were onsite providing aircraft rides. Once again, the organizers pro-

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December 17, 2023

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Flight line at Cape May



Aero Club display at Cape May



Aero Club display at Wings Field

Presidents Message

(Continued from page 1...)

vided the club with a prime location to promote the scholarship program and to build membership. We appreciate the opportunity.

I would like to give a shout out to Paul Heintz, Esq. for his tremendous effort to preserve Wings Field. Carris and I attended the 25th Anniversary of "Saving Wings Field" where we learned of the rich heritage of Wings Field and the wonderful efforts to preserve it.

I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to represent the Aero Club

The Annual Wright Brothers Dinner is our last event of the year where a new slate of five Board of Directors will be chosen by the membership. Mr. Gary Powers, Jr. will be the guest speaker providing a most interesting presentation, I hope to see many of you there. See invitation this issue.

Be sure to check out the "Airport Highlights" on Page 3 for information on the new Wingmate Guest Pass now being offered at Philadelphia International. It seems like a good idea to me.

As my tenure as President comes to a close, I want to express my gratitude for the opportunity to represent the Aero Club of Pennsylvania. The Club has a diverse and impressive membership that covers all aspects of aviation, and I am honored to be a member.

Keep the heaters working and watch out for ice,

Erik Kocher

Scholarship Update:

While 2023 scholarship recipients are making progress toward their goals, we are already thinking about our 2024 scholarship program. Besides all the hard work our volunteers provide in setting up the program, the program relies on the generous donations of our members. To make that part more fun, our Wright Brothers Dinner acts as a fundraiser for our scholarship program, while also being a fun gettogether. We hope to see you on December 17, and we hope you will bid on silent auction items.



Aero Club of Pennsylvania
Promoting aviation in the Greater Delaware Valley

1399 Narcissa Rd, Blue Bell, PA 19422

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

PENNSYLVANIA PILOT

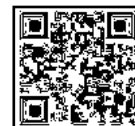
EDITOR/LAYOUT: Robert Dant [610 909 4467]

CONTRIBUTORS: Carris Kocher
Nancy Kyle
Sarah Wolfe

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www.aeroclubpa.org
mailbox@aeroclubpa.org
www.facebook.com/AeroClubOfPa



OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Erik Kocher
VICE PRES: John Brennan
SECRETARY: Carris Kocher
ASST SECR: Elaine Farashian
TREASURER: John O'Toole
ASST TREAS: John Stubbs
SOLICITOR: Paul Heintz, Esq

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MEMBERSHIP: Robert Morrow
SPEC PROJECTS: Walt Ellis
SCHOLARSHIPS: Steve Jordan
COMMUNICATIONS: Robert Dant
AIRPORTS: Elaine Farashian
NOMINATING: James Kilduff

BOARD of DIRECTORS

3-Year Term:	2-Year Term:	1-Year Term:
Anthony DiMaio	Nick Althouse	Michael Dunleavy
Steve Jordan	Jeff Bennett	Jeff Kahn
Daniel Sundt	John Brennan	Robert Morrow
John Stubbs	Emily Daniel	Erik Kocher
Bruce Thompson	Sarah Wolfe	Ilya Sabanin

SCHOLARSHIP TRUSTEES

EX OFFICIO: Erik Kocher
TRUSTEES: Michael Dunleavy, Bruce Thompson

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERS

Roscoe Draper (Tuskegee)
R. Anderson "Andy" Pew (1936-2022)

Airport Highlights

by Elaine Farashian



PHILADELPHIA INTL & PNE
Philadelphia Dept. of Aviation received more than \$26.5 million in grants to support projects at PHL and PNE. PHL will receive over \$23 million to aid in reducing emissions and to reconstruct taxiway S. PNE will be awarded nearly \$3 million for taxiway L rehab. Beginning in November, non-ticketed adults can apply for a **“Wingmate Guest Pass”** allowing access to terminals, after security, from 6 AM-10 PM. The program is designed to

allow guests to accompany loved ones to their gate, meet travelers arriving from domestic flights and enjoy the more than 150 restaurants and shops. Applicants can apply online at phl.org/wingmate up to 7 days in advance. TSA approved applicants will receive a digital pass to show TSA on the day of visit. Guests will also receive information on special food and shop discounts. Bristol Group, Inc. will construct a new state-of-the-art climate-controlled cargo facility on a 16.8 acre parcel east of Island Avenue along Escort Street. The project location is adjacent to PHL tarmac with immediate access to I-95 and 5 miles from Port of Philadelphia. Once completed in 2025, the 241,000 sq. ft. warehouse will accommodate a variety of cargo for single or multiple-tenant occupancy.

BRANDYWINE [OQN]

Night approaches have been reinstated after many years of obstruction mitigation. The east ramp reconstruction is nearly complete and preparation for construction of new corporate hangars is underway. Runway construction and widening is the next large project being planned for the next year or two. Included will be new LED runway lighting which will likely be installed in advance of runway work. The AWOS is slated for replacement soon. A successful deer control program has reduced reported deer sightings significantly.

CHESTER COUNTY [MQS]

The airport perimeter fence project started Sept. 11. Sections of 8 ft. high and 6 ft. high will be replaced by 10 ft. high fencing. The project will take 6 months to complete.

DOYLESTOWN [DYL]

The airport is implementing new self-service fuel. It has updated its Airport Layout Plan for developing the northeast ramp.

HERITAGE FIELD [PTW]

Heritage field is planning to begin construction of the 1st

phase of its projected 13 corporate hangar project in the spring of 2024 once local approvals are secured. Pitcairn Flight Academy LLC has a new website. The flight school has added additional aircraft to its rental fleet and more instructors to meet the demand. PennJet LLG is in the final stages of securing a 135 Charter certification and plans to begin aircraft charter brokerage services in the Spring of 2024.

NEW CASTLE [ILG]

Final phases of 3 and 4 of runway 1/19 rehab are being completed. Avelo Airlines will be initiating service to San Juan, Puerto Rico and Sarasota, FL.

NEW GARDEN FLYING FIELD [N57]

A terminal building addition project is moving along. The extension off the existing building will house a new pilot lounge, a classroom area and new restrooms with showers. The flight school is offering a new “sim club” that with a low monthly fee offers unlimited simulator flights in their Redbird simulator for a discounted per hour charge. The airport is home to an expanding maintenance facility and avionics shop.

OLDMANS TOWNSHIP [7N7]

The airport is permanently closed.

QUAKERTOWN [UKT]

The airport is installing solar panels on every hangar roof. Bidding begins in January for new and expanded apron with construction to begin in the spring.

READING REGIONAL [RDG]

The Airport Authority has purchased the two based FBOs, Reading Jet Center and Millennium Aviation. Plans call for operations to be consolidated in the newer, more optimally located Millennium facility on the east apron. Future improvements would include hangars that could handle the latest ultra-long-range business jets.

SOUTH JERSEY REGIONAL [VAY]

Obstruction removal is completed for runway 26 end. Runway 26 widening design and parallel taxiway relocation are completed. Doors for community hangar 4 have been replaced. FAA approved final wildlife hazard study report and meeting for next steps of fence installation needs to be scheduled. Phase I of new parallel taxiway was approved by FAA and construction is to begin Spring 2024.

TRENTON-MERCER [TTN]

Runway 6/24 rehab as well as design of taxiway A rehab are complete. Time extension is awaited for taxiway A lighting construction. Grant agreements are being prepared for removal of off-airport and on-airport obstruction.

Wings Field celebrates

The Wings Field Preservation Associates held a 25th anniversary celebration on the evening of Nov. 4. The evening started with a film about the unique history of Wings and recounted the changes that have taken place in the last 25 years. The invitation-only event was attended by pilots and friends involved with Wings Field over the years, including past pilots from Wings Airways, airport engineers,

and the airport owners and partners that helped secure the airport's future. The event took place in one of the large new corporate hangars. Participants both flew and drove into the event that included wine and hors d'oeuvres and featured a backdrop of a classic Stearman and a modern Cirrus aircraft. The event was moderated by Jeff McFadden, Michael Dunleavy and Paul Heintz.



Paul Heintz interviews Jim Vincenzo

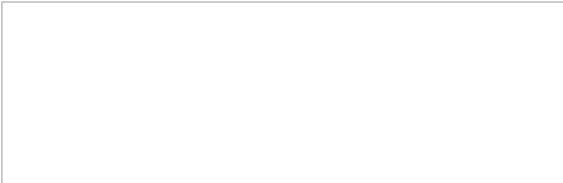


FIRST CLASS
POSTAGE
REQUIRED

Organized December 17, 1909; Chartered May 10, 1910
Aero Club of Pennsylvania
1399 Narcissa Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422

www.aeroclubpa.org
www.facebook.com/AeroClubOfPa

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



2023 Wright Brothers Dinner and annual member meeting

Sunday, December 17, 2023
The Desmond Hotel
1 Liberty Blvd, Malvern, PA

Filet and Salmon, Salad and Dessert: \$79 per person

Silent Auction fundraiser

5:00PM: Reception, Cash Bar, Silent Auction
6:00PM: Presentation and Dinner
Black tie optional, period dress or aviator uniform.

Guest Speaker: Gary Powers, Jr.
Writer, Founder: The Cold War Museum

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, 1399 Narcissa Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422

NAME: _____ Attending in-person: ___ x \$79 = \$ _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE: _____ Addl. Scholarship Contribution: \$ _____

PHONE: _____ Renew my Membership (\$30): \$ _____

E-mail: _____ Lifetime Membership (\$1000): \$ _____

Special Meal Requirement? _____ Total Enclosed: \$ _____

ATTENDEE NAMES: _____,
 _____,
