

MAFC

The Newsletter of the Monmouth Area Flying Club



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Next BOT Meeting
July 2
Next General Meeting
July 18

In this month's issue of the club newsletter you'll read about a great honor being bestowed on one of our members, and some achievements by two of our club student pilots. The rub and scrub (AKA wash and wax) was held in June and we had not only over two-dozen members attend, but also a hot dog BBQ for those who were there. Perhaps the great turnout was due to the great hot dogs? Joe Bonacci made a trip out to Reading, PA to the Mid Atlantic Air Museum and he tells us of his trip and his new involvement with the organization. Four members flew youngsters last month as a part of the Young Eagles Flight Rally, and Frank Fine reports on this. I certainly hope you all have had an opportunity to check out the club's new website (FlyMAFC.com), designed and written by Dave Trulli. This year the Fourth of July falls on the fourth ;). I hope you all get in some good flying, have great times with family and friends, and please, go easy on the hot dogs. Happy Independence Day to my fellow MAFC Members!

John Hannon, Editor.



A Trip to The Mid Atlantic Air Museum by Joe Bonacci

On June 20th I traveled to Reading Regional Airport, a/k/a Carl Spaatz Field. More specifically, I was at the Mid Atlantic Air Museum attending my orientation meeting as a new member of the museum.

For you history buffs out there, Reading Airport, which opened in April of 1938, became the Reading Army Airfield (AAF) on June 1st, 1943.

While the airport was returned to civilian control on May 1st 1950, it did have an interesting history throughout WWII and several years after the war. It was there that the famous, and at the time cutting edge technology, Norden Bombsight was installed on B-25 Mitchell Bombers. Also, interestingly enough, German POW's were housed at AAF. Some 250 were utilized as local, farm hands and apple pickers at farms throughout nearby Beck, PA. But that's a whole different story.

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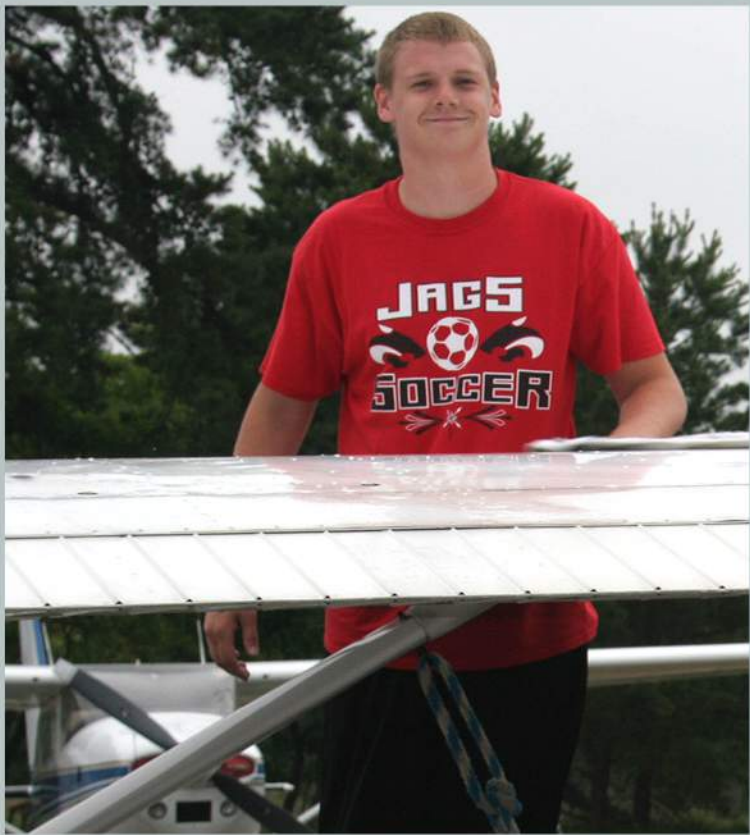
Janis Blackburn to be Inducted

On June 17th, Janis Blackburn received word that she is being inducted into the Aviation Hall of Fame of New Jersey. There were 20 nominations this year and just three people will be inducted. This is a great honor for Janis, who is not only a club member, but also a club flight instructor. Last year's inductees were Lt. Col. Jay Zeamer, Jr., a B-17 pilot who was awarded the Medal of Honor in 1944, Cpt. Kenneth Ham, former astronaut and Navy test pilot, and Maj. Joseph Crecca, USAF F-4 pilot and POW during the Viet Nam war. The induction dinner will be held September 29th. We offer Janis our heartiest congratulations!



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Congratulations to Tom Beyer who did his first solo on June 25th in a club C-152, N66977. Tom's instructor is Janis Blackburn.

Congratulations to Kyle Braun who did his first solo on June 27th in a club C-152, N67818. Kyle's instructor is John Hannon.



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The Mid Atlantic Air Museum (MAAM.org) founded in 1980, is a membership supported museum and aircraft restoration facility housed directly on the Reading Airport property. You can taxi directly to their ramp upon arrival. It was founded by Russ Strine the current President. The museum collects and historically and accurately restores warplanes, classic airliners, and civilian aircraft. Their B-25J Mitchell Bomber (Briefing Time), and TBM -3 (Avenger) are regulars on the air show circuit. If you check out their website you will see approximately 24 golden age aircraft, 15 WWII aircraft and 41 post war military and civilian aircraft on display or in various stages of restoration.

The museum's number one project currently is the restoration of a P-61 Black Widow night fighter. On January 6, 1945, this aircraft crashed on Mt. Cyclops on the island of New Guinea. Forty years later the wreckage was recovered by the museum where it currently sits in the museum's hanger being restored. Museum President Strine has made clear that it will indeed fly again and when it does, it will be the only flying P-61 in the world.

I can personally attest that this is one cool looking airplane. Radar equipped, this plane was designed specially to fly at night, find enemy aircraft, close in on them undetected, and then open up with its four 20 mm cannons.

Every June the museum hosts their WWII weekend. Attendance has approached 100,000 people with over 450 museum volunteers needed to organize and manage the event. In addition to vintage aircraft from the period, there is a reenactment of a battle between GI's, German soldiers (with armor) and French civilians, all contained within the "French Village" that is constructed on the property.

Membership to the museum is \$45 a year! (I spend more on coffee in a month). As a member you can volunteer at events, be a tour guide, have free access to the museum anytime you want, and get discounts on merchandise and free admittance to the WWII weekend. And the best part? You can be part of the flight crew when they bring the B-25 and TBM to shows. I kid you not. Members get the schedule of all air-shows, you let them know what show you want to volunteer on, and you are part of the flight crew. As I am sure you know, when these air shows come to town it can cost the general public anywhere between \$400-\$1200 to ride in a warbird. Members pay \$50 if part of the crew.

So fly or drive (130 miles) and check it out. Make sure you park on the museum ramp (it's free) rather than the FBO ramp right next to it, which I believe is \$10 or \$12. Just follow the directions on their website and enjoy.

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Young Eagles Flight Rally

By Frank Fine

LAKESWOOD, NJ — Nearly 60 boys and girls ages 8-17 had an opportunity to experience an airplane ride on Saturday and Sunday, June 13 and 14, as Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Chapter 315 of the North Jersey Shore hosted a Young Eagles Flight Rally at Lakewood Airport. The sun shone brightly, nearly as bright as the smiles on the faces of the youngsters. Since the program was launched in 1992, Volunteer EAA pilots worldwide have flown almost 2 million young people who reside in more than 90 countries. The local chapter has participated nearly every year at Monmouth, Middlesex, and Ocean County airports.

There is never a charge for Young Eagle flights. Pilots taking part are all volunteers and happy to explain about the different types of airplanes involved. They also demonstrated how pilots ensure safety by conducting a pre-flight inspection of the airplane before every flight. The pilots spoke about what makes an airplane fly, what it takes to get a pilot's license, and career possibilities in the world of aviation. Even if the young people never pursue a pilot's license, the EAA hopes to create friends of aviation.



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Four MAFC club members participated in the Young Eagles Flight Rally. They were Frank Fine, Al Miller, Art Templeton, and John Pereira.

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Following the flight, each young person, received a logbook and a certificate making him or her an official Young Eagle. Their names will then be entered into the "World's Largest Logbook," which is on permanent display at the EAA Air Adventure Museum in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. The logbook is also accessible on the Internet at www.young eagles.org. Additional information about EAA and the EAA Young Eagles program is available on the Internet. Access to EAA's Home Page is available at www.eaa.org. The Young Eagles web page is www.young eagles.org or visit the local chapter page at www.facebook.com/EAChapter315



Do you know?: An airport traffic pattern has an upwind leg and a departure leg. They are not the same thing and when communicating over the radio, don't substitute "upwind" for "departure" when you are indeed on the departure leg.

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Rub and Scrub



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A pilot is on a blind date. After a while she says,
"Well, enough about me....wanna hear about my plane?"

