

# POTTSTOWN AIRCRAFT OWNERS AND PILOTS

Originated February 26, 1948 – Incorporated January 15, 1960

www.paop.org, Facebook: PAOP, Inc. a/k/a "The Flyers Roost"

3310 West Ridge Pike, Pottstown, PA 19464

August 2020 News, enticing articles, and more...



Dear Fellow Members,

A last-minute change of plans over concern of a Presidential TFR led us to Cherry Ridge N30 for breakfast last month. Thanks to Mike Sehl's article that gave advice on making reservations and included the phone number, it was a simple diversion.

It was a beautiful, perfect day to fly. Ron Davies (a student pilot) I had introduced to the PAOP came along with us. He flew with Mike McNamara in Mike's Debonair and I am pretty sure he had a great time. This past weekend Ron, Mario, and I worked together at the Roost. We tore off the old garage roof and put the new metal roof on. Now we have a dry garage to store PAOP equipment. Andy stopped by after the work was just about done and cooked up some lunch for everybody.

If you want to be counted in for a special treat, you may want to RSVP Kathy Brenneman 484-919-2586 or Laura Poppel 215-917-1071 for this month's dinner meeting on Thursday 8/27 at 6 PM. How about barbecue baby back spareribs? I think we are talking fresh corn on the cob and green beans too. You know I won't miss it.

Now for the big event, our fly in breakfast is only a few weeks ahead Sunday 9/13. We can really use some help for set up on Saturday and for the event itself on Sunday. We start setup on Saturday at 8 AM and on Sunday some are needed to get there at 6 AM so we're rockin' and rollin' by 8 am with fluffy pancakes, eggs, ham, potatoes, hot coffee and more. It will all be over by noon and then its cleanup time. Contact Kathy, Laura, or me if you are interested in helping. If you cannot commit to the assistance, bring a friend or all your friends and stop in for breakfast Sunday morning. PLEASE don't forget your raffle tickets. The raffle is a big help in funding our expenses and activities. We will have the drawing at the Roost shortly after 11 AM the day of the Breakfast. You need not be present to win but we hope that you will be! I believe there will be more than one prize available. So, if you have an airplane or classic car, bring it, we would love to check it out.

Your Prez Erik Forde



2020 Officers and Directors

President: **Erik Forde** Vice President: **Mike McNamara** Secretary/Treasurer: **John Green**  
Directors: **Gene Poppel, Barry Kerchner, Andy Landis, Kathy Brenneman/Laura Poppel, Alan Jones**  
and **Tim Drager** (President Ex-Officio)

PAOP Business meeting  
Aug. 6, 2020

**Attendees:** John Green, Erik Forde, Andy Landis, Kathy Brenneman,  
Tim Drager, Mike McNamara

**Treasurer Report:** July 2020 TD Bank + Univest accounts  
Starting Balance \$ 2,383.38  
Income \$ 717.00 This reflects \$377 not shown on Univest statement, deposited 7/31/20  
Expenses \$ 589.18  
Ending Balance \$ 2,511.20 - \$ 235.23 for Youth Education Fund  
Gain (Loss) \$ 127.82

As of Aug 1st, 46 of 139 members have renewed or joined. This does not include the 10 who do not pay dues based on past presidency or other criteria.

Motion made and carried to accept the Treasurer's report.

**Old Business:**

- Need to repaint breakfast PAOP signs or have banner signs made at Vista Print. Cost is approximately \$50 each. We are considering buying 2 or 3 to use for the Pancake Breakfast. Jim Fowler took 2 signs to repaint, John Green will look to repaint other signs in August.
- July 4<sup>th</sup> picnic netted about \$140. July dinner netted \$266.
- Discussed possibility of \$5 discount for prompt (prior to March 31<sup>st</sup>) payment from lapsed members and/or for previous year members. Also discussed Life Membership for one-time payment of \$600. Membership in a 501(c)3 is deductible under IRS rules. Will revisit both these proposals.

**New Business:**

- Motion made and carried to hold Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast on 9/13/20. Rain date the following Sunday. Will advertise on AOPA, ECPP, Eastern PA pilots, The PATCH, Social Flight. Tim will call Dave Fetsko about helicopter rides, Erik will contact owner for vintage biplane rides. Fly Elite will be doing airplane rides.
- Meeting with airport manager for plane parking and airplane rides parking expected in next two weeks.
- Kathy has priced out the food items for the breakfast. Andy to follow up on additional items, i.e. creamers, butter, coffee.
- Will rent porta-potties and two hand washing station.
- Tim to purchase one banner for advertising that will be out front of Penn Airways.
- Garage roof repair needs to get done this year.
- Roost roof needs to be painted this year.
- Monthly dinner on Aug 27<sup>th</sup> for barbecued beef or pork ribs.
- Next Fly-out scheduled for Aug 30<sup>th</sup> to KLNS Lancaster PA for dinner at Fiorentino's Italian Restaurant.
- Next Business Meeting Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> at The Roost beginning at 7 PM.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
John Green

**Planned 2020 PAOP Events, Flyouts and Meetings**

Date	Event	Comment
8/27/20	Dinner Meeting	6 PM at the Roost, barbeque ribs RSVP
8/30/20	Fiorentino's (KLNS)	Sunday date afternoon dinner (see the article on page 4)
9/13/20	PAOP fly-in/drive-in Breakfast	Roost Pavilion (rain date 9/20)
9/27/20	Sky Acres (44N)	Brunch
10/24/20 (Sat)	Grimes	Great Pumpkin Fly-in
11/22/20	Sky Manor (N40)	Brunch
12/20/20	Millville (KMIV)	Brunch at Verna's
1/31/21	Frederick, MD (KFDK)	Brunch

## The Best of Times

It has been Fifty-Three years since I was a summer cop in Ocean City, New Jersey (badge number 44). That was also the summer that I met my lovely wife Suzanne on Delancey Place, and the rest is history.

My only flying experience up to then was paying for two familiarity rides in a yellow piper cub out of the Vineland Airport when I was seventeen.

Suzanne and I have been back to Ocean City every chance we get regardless of the season or the weather. My Mom and Dad and their young family lived there in the late 1930's before I was born, and my eldest brother graduated from Ocean City High School in the same class as OCPD Police Chief Dungan, a long long time ago.

One day, I will go through my logbooks and count the number of times I have flown in and out of 26N – the Ocean City Municipal Airport. But that is not necessary for this article about changes.



26N was built as a government funded works project and originally had a second runway running approximately east-west towards the Bay. That second runway has not been in existence for many decades.

In 2018, there was an article in the Atlantic City Press about then (and now) Mayor Jay Gillian's Ocean City Five Year Capital Plan which proposed spending 2.3 Million Dollars in 2020 to replace the tiny airport building that housed and still houses the airport operations center, diner and golf course office. See "Ocean City Airport May Receive \$2.3 Million makeover in 2020" in the Atlantic City Press by: Donald Wittkowski.

Well, we all know 2020 too well, Covid-19, The Corona Virus that has upset the applectart for almost all of us. In addition to the Pandemic, on the micro scale for those of us called General Aviation Pilots, many favored places to buy lunch have closed or restricted hours and access. The little Diner at the Ocean City Airport has closed. And that is what started me looking around for "the rest of the story".

I spoke with Todd Dwyer, The Director of the Airport and employee of the City of Ocean City just this morning. What he was able to share with me was that the Mayor and City is still looking to replace the main building, but that the reality of 2020 and the absence of dedicated funding means that the replacement is not going to happen in 2020, although a lot of other work has gone on at the airport. *(continued on next page)*

There is going to be a self-service fuel station to be completed and hopefully operational in 2020. Along with that Mr. Dwyer expressed that they are hoping to also have the fuel truck service available when the airport is busy as well. They have placed artificial turf on the bayside of the runway as well as are in the process of finishing “obstruction lighting” on the airport property for safety. While they have a limited number of hangars, he also said they have 25 tie downs set aside for local pilots who do not “hangar” their planes. There is still plenty of room to fly in and tie down, on your way to the beach.

Replacement of the main building is still in the Capital Plan, but the City needs to find the appropriate sources for grants and funding to begin actual construction which is not going to happen in 2020.

The good news is that new bidding for operation of the diner is going to be published and hopefully find people as nice as the last operators to allow them to reopen the Diner at the Ocean City Airport. Then we can all dodge that pesky twelve dollar landing fee (unless you leave the building).

It's a beautiful day to fly

©Mike 'Sky-hawk' Sehl 2020

*I remember when I was learning to fly out of Doylestown and I asked my instructor, “Do you think I could fly to Ocean City?” The answer was “Yes, if you buy me lunch”. I bought several... Ed. (aren't these two adorable? The heart was from me.)*

### A FLYOUT FOR A NICE SUNDAY DINNER

*Most of our flyouts are either for breakfast, brunch, or a museum. We don't usually take the time to do a nice “date night” dinner. Well, that's the plan for the August flyout. On Sunday, August 30, we'll take a brief flight to Lancaster (KLNS) for a nice group dinner. Fiorentino's at the Airport features a great selection of Italian specialties, with choices from a full meal to pizzas and flatbreads. Pilots' companions can enjoy full bar service. Park on the west ramp and enter the restaurant patio adjacent to the airport gate.*

*We had originally planned a more exotic trip, but destinations called for ground transportation, which isn't quite so appealing in the Covid environment. We'll gather at Penn Airways at 1600 takeoff to arrive at 1630. Bring a significant other, or friends. Contact Gene Poppel at 610-647-1332 or [genepoppel@comcast.net](mailto:genepoppel@comcast.net) if you want a ride or have an available seat in your plane. The restaurant does request a call for reservations at 717-569-6732*