

September 01, 2025

WNY AeroMail #104

IMPORTANT

"Clear Left!"

These words indicate that someone was bitten by the multi-engine bug. It's quite likely this person first uttered those words from the cockpit of a Piper PA-23 Apache. Another first is that when it was introduced about 70 years ago it was the first production light twin. Powered by Lycoming O-320 engines of 150 hp. it rapidly became popular. The forward fuselage was of welded 4130 chrome-moly tubing. This was covered with aluminum sheet that formed the rest of the aircraft. The wing featured the same Clark Y airfoil as the J-3 Cub and most other Pipers. This allowed decent performance while retaining predictable landing characteristics. The oleo struts were retractable by a hydraulic system. A Hand Pump and a CO2 cartridge were incorporated for gear extension. The cabin was large enough to have a party and could be heated by a combustion heater. A few years later the standard power was upgraded to 160 hp. The last of the Apaches featured 235 hp. engines. About 6 years after its introduction the design morphed into the PA-23 Aztec with 250 hp. that continued until production ended in the early 1980's.



Apaches soon faced competition from other aircraft like the Beech Travel Air & Baron, Cessna 310 & 320 and later the Grumman Cougar. There were single engine aircraft that were converted to twins also, for example the Bay Super-V (from Beechcraft Bonanzas), Camair Twin Navion (from Ryan Navions) and even the UC-1 Twin Bee (from Republic Seabees). Piper commissioned the legendary Ed Swearingen to develop a twin version of the PA-24 Comanche (designated the PA-30). The resulting aircraft performed so well it took the Apache's place as an entry level twin. So many of the existing fleet entered the role it excelled at - Multi-Engine Flight Training. Its relatively docile flight characteristics with an engine-out permitted this. "Dead foot = Dead engine" was the mantra that students learned when their Instructor barked at them to IDENTIFY the failed engine before feathering the prop. It literally means standing on Rudder pedal on the "good engine" side until you feathered the prop on the offending engine (I hope) and cranked Rudder Trim in! Sweat? There have been a lot of modifications available to improve to utility and safety of the original design. The first s/n only had a hydraulic pump on the Left engine. Adding another to the Right engine and electric back-ups were popular.

The ultimate upgrade was called the "Geronimo" adding a longer nose, extended tips with tanks along with gear doors helped to streamline the aircraft. Locally, Olsker Aviation offered a "partial Geronimo" with 180 hp. engines. In addition to the obviously better takeoff climb it improved another parameter: Single-engine Service Ceiling. Folks that buy a twin do so in an attempt to increase safety. When one engine is shut off at altitude there will not be sufficient power to maintain that altitude. The aircraft will descend slowly to a lower altitude where denser air will provide more power. This is the Single-engine Service Ceiling and is substantially less than the twin engine. 30 hp. more really helps!



Geronimo

Flying a multi demands continued proficiency and a thorough understanding of systems and concepts. Higher performance single engine aircraft have slowly pushed the Apache into the shadows. I know of at least 3 that became "flower pots". It also didn't help that the engines were ideal for the popular RV homebuilts. But there are geographical areas where landing is not an option, and that's where Apaches are still in demand.

Ron

You may read the letter to WNY aviation buffs from the President of the Aero Club of Buffalo here:

<https://wnyaeromail.org/archive/>

Select "ACOB_Presidents_Letter-2025"

EVENT CALENDAR

September 2025

1st. – **Geneseo, NY** National Warplane Museum **Annual Pancake Breakfast Fly-In**, 3489 Big Tree Lane, 8AM – 12PM, \$12, contact (585) 243-2100 for details.

3rd. - **EAA Chapter 44** continues the **Baby Ace Restoration** sessions on every Wednesday at 6PM. You are welcome to observe and pitch in!

6th. – **EAA Chapter 46** – **Hangar Talk** at Lancaster Airport (KBQR) **every Saturday morning**, 8AM – 12 Noon held in far east-end hangar, second row facing south.

11th. – **EAA Ch44 IMC/VMC** club meeting, 7PM – 8:30PM in the SAC.

16th. - **Airframe & Powerplant Course #1** - Classes are held every Tuesday @ 6:30 PM in the Terminal building at the Buffalo-Lancaster Airport (BQR), 4343 Walden Ave in the Town of Lancaster, NY

16th. - **EAA Chapter 44** gathering from 6:30 PM – 9PM, bring a dish-to-pass for dinner, our guest speaker is *UNKNOWN* in the Sport Aviation Center (aka “the SAC”, 44 Eisenhower Drive, Brockport 14420) at Ledge Dale Airpark (5G0).

18th. - **Aero Club of Buffalo** meets at Risottos Italian Eatery and Sweetery, 930 Maple Road, Amherst NY 14221 for dinner and a presentation by Laura Abplanalp on the exciting discoveries by the Rubin Observatory. See attachment below for details.

18th. - **EAA Chapter 674** meets on the third Thursday of every month at 7 PM. Join us in the clubhouse of Gaines Valley Airport, 2501 Gaines Waterport Road, Albion, NY. See below for details. Jean Depatie, jdepatie@rochester.rr.com

20th. - **Dunkirk Airport (KDKK)** hosts a **Pilot Controller Forum**. 2PM Cleveland Center presentation, 2:30PM Buffalo ATC & Cleveland Center Q&A, 4:30PM Light refreshments held at Hangar #4 – Fly-in parking in front of hangar, drive-in parking at the Centric Aviation FBO with signs directing to Hangar #4.

20th. - **EAA Chapter 44 Young Eagles** at 10AM. Pre-registration is required, see Upcoming Events below for more details.

23rd. - **Airframe & Powerplant Course #2** - Classes are held every Tuesday @ 6:30 PM in the Terminal building at the Buffalo-Lancaster Airport (BQR), 4343 Walden Ave in the Town of Lancaster, NY

30th. - **Airframe & Powerplant Course #3** - Classes are held every Tuesday @ 6:30 PM in the Terminal building at the Buffalo-Lancaster Airport (BQR), 4343 Walden Ave in the Town of Lancaster, NY

The September 2025 Issue of the **Akron Flyer** by **Allen Kidder** is now available and includes exciting news of new T-Hangar to be built at 9G3. As usual there were many interesting airplanes that landed this month at Akron Jesson Field. Mike Westphal’s photos are of the visiting Boeing B-29 “FiFi”.

The September 2025 issue of **Vectors for Safety** by **Gene Benson** is now available with Old Pilot Tips and continues presenting several of his Accident Analyses with graphic photos:

<https://www.vectorsforsafety.com/blog/vectors-for-safety-september-2025>

You may not be aware that Gene has 90 videos on his website for your viewing!
See: <https://www.youtube.com/@GeneBensonAviation/featured>

EAA Chapter 44 news: <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea44/newsletters>.

EAA Chapter 46 news: <https://chapters.eaa.org/ea46/newsletters>.

Here are some of EAA's Webinars scheduled for September:
<https://eaa.org/ea/news-and-publications/ea-webinars>

ATTACHMENTS / LINKS

Airframe & Powerplant Course

Eleven week semester, class #1 is on September 16th, 2025. Classes are held every Tuesday evening in the Terminal building at the Buffalo-Lancaster Airport (BQR), 4343 Walden Ave in the Town of Lancaster, NY. Start time is 6:30 PM and the class is three hours, ending at 9:30 PM. This Fall Semester the topic is **Airframe.**

New Students: Please contact Ron Ciura at 716-560-7205 (text / call) or magman366@gmail.com

While intended to assist in obtaining the A&P Certificate, these courses are helpful to anyone operating or maintaining light aircraft. You are invited to stop in for a night and see if it meets your expectations before registering.



Aero Club of Buffalo

The Oldest Aero Club in America, Second Oldest Club in the World
www.aeroclubofbuffalo.org



Laura Abplanalp

L3Harris

Thursday, 18 Sep. 2025
Rizotto Eatery and Sweetery
930 Maple Rd, Williamsville
6:00 p.m. Cash Bar
Dinner at 7:00 p.m.
\$35.00

"The Rubin Observatory is the first of its kind: its mirror design, camera sensitivity, telescope speed, and computing infrastructure are each in an entirely new category."

"The 8.4-meter telescope at Rubin Observatory is equipped with the largest digital camera ever built."

"The Vera C. Rubin Observatory's first test observations have resulted in the discovery of over 2,100 previously unknown asteroids. This was achieved in a relatively short period of about 10 hours of observation time."

"The Rubin Observatory will collect more data in its first year than has been collected from all astronomical telescopes in the combined history of humanity."

Please join us this month for dinner and a talk on the groundbreaking Vera C. Rubin Observatory when Laura Abplanalp will present an overview of the observatory's development, key Rochester contributions – including the actively-controlled secondary mirror seen above – and expected science. Laura has nearly 40 years of technical leadership and management experience with the development of advanced spaceborne optical systems ranging from classified satellites to NASA's highest profile space telescopes including Chandra, James Webb, and Nancy Grace Roman. She has a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Michigan Technological University (MTU), an M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Rochester, and an M.S. in Engineering Mechanics from MTU.

Mary Mattocks

90th President

Aero Club of Buffalo

Cut and Send Bottom Portion

Aero Club of Buffalo

Thursday 18 September 2025

Rizotto Eatery and Sweetery

930 Maple Road, Williamsville, NY 14221

Chicken Parm _____
Salmon Piccata _____
Spinach Raviolini _____

Members - \$35.00
Guest(s) - \$35.00
TOTAL _____

Please print your name and email address

Reservations must be received by **Monday, 15 September 2025.**

To register for this dinner email: aeroclubofbuffalo@gmail.com, call (716) 901-6126, or mail this form to: Aero Club of Buffalo, Box 676 Williamsville, NY 14231. Please make your check payable to the *Aero Club of Buffalo*.

The Aero Club of Buffalo



Upcoming Events

Thursday September 18, 2025: Our September's dinner meeting speaker is Laura Abplanalp who was inducted into the Niagara Aerospace Museum's Hall of Fame May 2025. She will speak about the development of advanced space borne optical systems and her involvement in projects ranging from classified satellites to NASA's most prominent space telescopes including Chandra, James Webb and Roman.

Thursday October 16, 2025: October's meeting brings us Bonnie Dunbar, who will speak about her career as an astronaut. A veteran of five space shuttle missions, she stands as one of the most experienced female astronauts in NASA's history. Over a career spanning more than two decades with the agency, she logged over 50 days in space, contributing significantly to scientific research and the assembly of the International Space Station.

Thursday November 20, 2025: Julie Wang will enlighten us of her solo flight around the world as she is the first Asian woman ever to achieve this. She did it in a single engine Cirrus and has some very interesting stories to tell about this adventure. She flew at 8000 feet and did it by flying westbound. From Portugal she made it to Lajes (in the Azores) in 14 hours and then from there to the nearest point in the US. She had the plane modified with additional fuel tanks and wasn't even able to carry her own replacement oil because of weight! This should be a truly inspiring presentation for everyone.

Thursday December 11, 2025: our holiday event with a basket raffle to add to the fun. Our speaker is yet to be determined but could be someone special! Note: this date is the exception being the 2nd. Thursday of the month.

Our monthly meetings are held at **Rizotto Italian Eatery & Sweetery**, 930 Maple Road, Williamsville, NY 14221 usually on the 3rd. Thursday of the month. All members and guests are welcome and you will be sent an e-Mail to remind you of these events and on our website <https://aeroclubofbuffalo.org> for details including registration form, membership application and making donations. If you need any more information, you may e-Mail me at MaryMattocks9@gmail.com.

Regards,
Willy Mattocks

The Aero Club of Buffalo



Please make note of the following: Our phone number is (716) 901-6126 and our mailing address is PO Box 676, Williamsville, NY 14231. The club's e-Mail address is aeroclubofbuffalo@gmail.com

Regards,
Willy Mattocks



SATURDAY SEPT 20, 2025 2:00PM PILOT CONTROLLER FORUM

Come meet your local controllers and learn about how they keep us safe and organized in the sky.

2:00pm – 2:30pm	Presentation by Cleveland Center
2:30pm – 4:00pm	Question & Answer Session with Buffalo ATC, Cleveland Center
4:30pm	Light refreshments (water, soda, hot dogs, chips)



Dunkirk Airport KDKK

Hangar 4, directions to hangar will be posted at FBO(Centric Aviation)

Fly-in: Ramp space available in front of hangar (bring chocks, just in case!)

Drive in: Parking available in FBO lot, follow signs to Hangar 4



EAA Chapter 44 Upcoming Events

Sport Aviation Center (aka "the SAC", 44 Eisenhower Drive, Brockport 14420) at Ledgesdale Airpark (5G0).

Chapter 44 2025 Young Eagles Schedule

Founded in 1992, the Young Eagles program is dedicated to giving youth ages 8–17, an opportunity to go flying in a general aviation airplane. These flights are offered free of charge and are made possible through the generosity of EAA member volunteers. The Young Eagles program has flown over 2.2 million kids

September 20, 2025: 10 AM

Please pre-register to reserve your child's aviation adventure! For registration and questions, please contact Rick Tandy at rltandy23@gmail.com

For more information from EAA headquarters about the Young Eagles program, visit www.youngeagles.org



EAA Chapter 674 Upcoming Event

Our EAA meetings are usually at the GVA (Gains Valley Airport) club house. At times, it is at a member's home or hanger to show their project's progress.

We also try to do technical demos like welding, riveting and such for our younger members.

President:	John Tower	585 283-1762
Treasurer:	Jean (John) Depatie	585 589-0358

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Gaines-Valley-Aviation-100069383616047/>



<https://niagaraaerospacemuseum.org/visit-the-museum/>

Open Saturday and Sunday 11-4PM and by appointment.

The Niagara Aerospace Museum, located to the left of the terminal at the Niagara Falls Airport, recently celebrated its 25th year documenting the incredible aviation and space history of Western New York, ranging from the rocket engine that lifted all twelve Apollo astronauts off the moon to the Bell X-1 that Chuck Yeager flew to break the sound barrier

WNY AeroMail issue #105

Please note that e-Mail submissions of any type for the next issue of WNY AeroMail must have "#105 " in the subject line. You do not need the quotation marks but you do need to have a space after the number 105. Send submissions by September 28th. to **Both** christopher.koch@gmail.com & magman366@gmail.com

Also: Clicking "reply" to this monthly copy of WNY AeroMail sends your response to a non-monitored e-Mail address. Please use our e-Mail addresses above.

Secondly, "for sale" ads will run for three issues maximum unless the ads are revised and updated.

Thanks, Chris



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BATTLE OF BRITAIN AIRFIELDS AND MUSEUMS TOUR

To the Aero Club of Buffalo members, Guests and
Those interested in the Battle of Britain:

Austin Beach, who presented at the Aero Club dinner last November on the Battle of Britain, Jared Cummings and I are planning a tour of Battle of Britain Airfields, associated Museums, aircraft and other centers of interest. We plan to make it a

seven day tour around the English countryside to these areas above. The tour will be limited to not more than 20 people and will be conducted the last week of August or the first week of September next year 2026. Austin will be our Guide. More details as to the Museums and airfields selected will be presented in the next 2 weeks. Accommodation and transportation will be arranged from either Gatwick or Heathrow to the hotel and to the museums. Your flight to and from Gatwick or Heathrow is up to you to arrange for yourselves as you may want to come earlier and stay later. If you are interested in this tour, please indicate to me, Willy (Mary) Mattocks 716 435 6132 (cell) phone or text or e-Mail mmattock@daemen.edu

Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certification (MOSAIC)

Key Changes in the MOSAIC Rule:

- **Aircraft Capabilities:**
- **Increased Speed:** MOSAIC allows for higher maximum speeds for light-sport aircraft, potentially up to 250 knots.
- **More Complex Systems:** The rule permits more advanced systems, including retractable landing gear, constant-speed propellers, and various propulsion systems like electric and hybrid options.
- **Increased Size:** MOSAIC allows for aircraft with up to four seats, though sport pilots will still be limited to carrying one passenger, [according to the FAA](#).
- **Stall Speed:** The rule is based on a clean stall speed, with a likely cap between 54 and 63 knots.
- **Weight:** By permitting higher stall speeds, the proposal would bring aircraft weighing as much as 3,000 pounds within the LSA regulatory framework, says the FAA.
-
- **Pilot Privileges:**
- **Potential for Simplified Medicals:** The MOSAIC rule may maintain sport pilot privileges, potentially allowing pilots to operate expanded LSA capabilities without a medical certificate, though this remains under review.
- **Endorsements:** Pilots may need specific endorsements for certain aircraft features or operations, like night flying or operating aircraft with more complex systems.

See: https://www.faa.gov/newsroom/MOSAIC_Final_Rule_Issuance.pdf

Helpful Basic Med Links

<https://www.aopa.org/advocacy/pilots/medical/basicmed>

https://www.faa.gov/licenses_certificates/airmen_certification/basic_med/

Here is the form for your Doctor to complete:

https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Form/FAA_Form_8700-2_.pdf

December 2024 changes made through the FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024:

- Pilots can carry up to six passengers, increasing the total number of occupants in the aircraft to seven
- Takeoff weight increased from 6,000 lbs. to 12,500 lbs.
- Pilot examiners can conduct flight checks in aircraft covered by BasicMed
- The duration of the comprehensive medical examination is determined using calendar months

Transport category rotorcraft certified to airworthiness standards under part 29 are **not** covered by BasicMed

ITEMS FOR LEASE, SALE OR WANTED
--

Have you always wanted to own an Airport?

Hamburg Airport and adjacent land will be listed For Sale soon, interested parties contact Rob Gannon at gannon@hamburgairport.us for details. This would be a great opportunity for a group of airplane owners!

For Sale

2 **Luscombes**, 1- **7AC Champ** (rusted fuselage)
and 1 - **J-3** partially completed.
LOTS of Cub parts. Too many to list.
Darrell Panike, Canandaigua 585 738 8264 or
darrellpanike@gmail.com

For Sale: my **1946 Globe Swift GC-1B**
145 hp. Low time airframe and mid time engine. Ken Moses cell: 585 353 4666



Also: **Perry Warsaw Airport (01G)** has three hangar spaces available at attractive rates. We have several spots up to and including a light twin.

Ken Moses, Airport Manager, call 585 353 4666 for details.



VREF Valuation Service

As you may know, VREF airplane valuations are no longer available to AOPA members. Little Bird Airways, LLC has recently purchased a VREF subscription. If you are in the market to buy or sell an aircraft and need guidance on its value, we can prepare a VREF report for you for a small fee. Please call Claudia at 716-796-1823.

Wanted: Lycoming O-235C, contact Ron Ciura: magman366@gmail.com

Aircraft Items and Tools For Sale

1. Pilot PA-400T 4 Place Intercom - \$125.00
 2. David Clark H-10-66 Helicopter Dual Military/Civilian Headset - \$275.00
 3. David Clark H-10-56 Helicopter Headset - \$275.00
 4. David Clark H-10-40 Airplane Headset - \$275.00
 5. Hydraulic Mule 0-1500 PSI - \$1000.00 - Used on T-6, P-51, B-25
 6. Aircraft 4130 Steel Tubing and Channel, enough to build a J-3 - \$1000.00
 7. Mooney Gear Rigging Tools - each tool cost \$1300.00, \$500.00 each tool.
 8. Aircraft Gas Powered Tug - Up to 15,000 lbs. Single Engine to Light Jet - new tires, tubes, carburetor installed. \$2000.00
 9. Engine Overhaul Stand with assorted adapters. \$350.00
 10. Aircraft Jumper Cables - \$100.00
 11. Tail Wheel Aircraft Tow - \$200.00
 12. Sensenich Propeller Test Club - \$750.00
- MAN CAVE or HANGAR DISPLAY ITEMS:*
13. Flight Data Recorder: Make Offer
 14. Omega Navigation System: Make Offer

15. Hartzell Propeller HC-12X20C-3

Contact: Paul D. Faltyn
716-807-2692 or PDFpilot@aol.com

Aries in Flight Ground School Services - My name is Elisabeth Tate. I am an Advanced Ground Instructor. I offer affordable lessons online via Zoom or in-person at Akron-Jesson FBO. Please visit my website for more information and contact information. <https://elisabethtate.wixsite.com/ariesinflight>

Cherokees, 172s and other aircraft for sale **wanted**. Send details to Ron at Magman366@gmail.com who will relay to buyers.

We Highly Recommend:

Visit Niagara Aerospace Museum's website: <https://niagaraaerospacemuseum.org/>

Do you periodically read "**Vectors for Safety**"? Join Gene Benson's mailing list: <https://www.genebenson.com/#join-my-mailing-list> Also check out his websites at <https://www.vectorsforsafety.com/> and <https://www.genebenson.com/>

If you don't receive the monthly **Akron Flyer** newsletter, contact Allen Kidder AllenKidder@Gmail.com and request to be placed on the subscription list or simply signup on the website: <https://www.akronairportny.com/newsletter-signup>

Akron Airport's website: <https://www.akronairportny.com/> and <https://www.airnav.com/airport/9G3>

Check out the National Warplane Museum in Geneseo, NY - <https://nationalwarplanemuseum.com/>

Wings Flights of Hope: <https://www.wingsflight.org>

Further info on abandoned Airfields: www.airfields-freeman.com

Jeff Brook's "My Fokker DVII Project" -
<http://www.theaerodrome.com/forum/showthread.php?t=24887>

Mike Busch's Savvy Aviation: <https://www.savvyaviation.com/about-us/>

Notes from Ron Ciura (the Reporter):



We are looking for local aviation history and articles! Send them to Ron Ciura at Magman366@Gmail.com.

We all know that WNY has many unique Aircraft, Pilots & Stories. If you know of anything unique, please send it to Magman366@gmail.com

Some AeroMail points you should know:

- If you have a message you wish to have added to AeroMail then send it to me - the earlier the better.
- Advertisements will be posted for three issues unless you request an extension.
- If you wish to respond to any content, contact the content provider, not Ron Ciura!
- If you no longer wish to receive the "Aviation-Only Mail" please let me know why & I will subsequently remove you from the List.

Thanks,
Ron

"Flying is a hobby I participate in to prevent becoming wealthy!"

"A mile of highway gets you nowhere - A mile of runway gets you everywhere"



Production Editor: Christopher Koch christopher.koch@gmail.com