

2024 Sentimental Journey Summer/Fall Newsletter

Well, we wanted sun, and we got SUN! Talk about a week of blistering, scorching sun...it was brutal! However, I'll take that over rain any day. The week was filled with all the usual fun events, plus a few new ones. Instead of having just one spot landing contest, we changed it up and had one every day, with the daily winners facing off Saturday for the title of Grand Champion. The 2024 spot landing grand champion was Neil Baughman. Way to go, Neil!

Sentimental Journey hosted an appreciation 'Meet n Greet' Monday evening, in honor of all the volunteers who give their time so freely. The pilots who arrive a day early are always welcomed to be our guests, and enjoy the evening. After all, without the pilots, we wouldn't have a fly-in. Thanks to John Spencer, who does a fantastic job of stuffing and cooking the pork. It was delicious! Thanks to Cal Arter, for providing us with the music Monday night. Phil Reeder and his band always do a great job entertaining us. And most of all, thanks to all the volunteers who make the fly-in, the pig roast & fundraisers happen. You are all awesome!

This year we added some cornhole boards that were available to sign out, but it was so hot out, I don't believe many took advantage of it. Next year, we want to see you all eggin' each other on. When the sun goes down and you're done flying for the day, get out to the pavilion and play a friendly game of corn. Make the stakes whatever you want them to be. Kind of like beer pong, only different!

Tuesday through Friday, the Fred Jackson corn boil was a big hit. A huge thank you goes out to Fred and Sue, for keeping it going. Without them, the corn wouldn't be a mere .50 per ear!

Wednesday, the 'Missing Man' fly-over was accompanied by Amanda Baughman on bagpipes. Thank you Amanda, and the pilots in the formation. We really appreciate you.

Another change this year: Gary's Cub Pub was open Monday thru Saturday. And, the bands played Tuesday through Saturday this year. Saturday was a bonus day! We had a great line-up of bands this year, and I'm optimistic they will all be back.

Saturday also saw a classic car cruise-in. Central PA Street Machines held a 'coffee & cars' from 8am - 1pm. Those of you who stayed on Saturday voted on the People's Choice Award, which went to Gabe Muthler, 19XX Chevy Pickup w/ transplanted 350 Chevy engine w/turbo. Next year's display will be even bigger, so plan on staying Saturday morning.

Tim Chopp & his crew were here all week with the "Spirit of Freedom" flying museum on static display. The C54D is dedicated to all those involved in the Berlin Airlift during 1948-49. A big thank you to the whole crew, for being here.

There was one tradition missing, though... The Alabama Boys comedy show. For all of you who asked about Greg and Fred, they've retired that particular show. No more landing that Cub on top of that truck! Greg is still doing shows, but ones that require a "box". Unfortunately, this airport isn't big enough for that. (insert tears). We really missed them this year, and wish them well. They hope to be here in 2025, as guests this time!

Wednesday was Clinton County Day. All C.C. residents were offered free admission after 12 noon. Thursday was Veterans Day. All veterans were invited to free admission all day. A big salute to all you veterans. Friday

was Bill Piper & Sons Day. Unlimited coffee was available Friday morning, compliments of Phil and Sharon Hoy.

The Banquet

The Piper Aviation Museum invited us to hold our annual banquet in their museum Friday evening. Sentimental Journey would like to thank the folks at the museum for their generosity. They also donate their rooms for our forums, Kiwanis/Rotary luncheon, and the QB dinner. The guest speakers were a few of Piper ferry pilots from 'back in the day'. Lynn O'Donnell, Nils Mantzoros, Phil Waldman & Ted Miller awed us with their harrowing stories of some of their adventures, and the details surrounding what goes into those flights. They had to be cool, calm & collected! Definitely not for everyone. A huge thank you to them for eagerly accepting the invitation to speak, and for sharing a few tid bits of the life of a ferry pilot.

The banquet was catered by Dave & Ruby's of Avis, and was very well received. The delicious meal was accompanied by Phil Reeder on guitar, quietly playing 'music to dine by.' A big thank you to them all for a job well done, to John Spencer for stepping up to the mic, and to Betsy Buchan for all her help in planning the feast.

The point of the banquet isn't to give awards out. That is why we quit calling it such. It is an appreciation banquet, open to everyone who wants to enjoy a good meal with a room full of people who all have the same interest...planes. It just so happens, it's also the best time & place to honor those who are receiving an award. So, that being said, congratulations to the following people who were given awards during

the S.J. appreciation banquet, as well as those who received awards throughout the week.

2024 Fly-In Awards

Grand Champion: *Bill Hollan, 1958 PA-22-150 Tri-Pacer, N8857D.*

Reserve Grand Champion: *Dennis Hauser, 1948 PA-16 Vagabond, N4420H.*

Best Original Long Wing Piper: *David Smith, 1947 PA-12 Super Cruiser, N4406M.*

Best Original Short Wing Piper: *Stephen Culler, 1955 PA-22-150 Tri-Pacer, N2311P.*

Best Military: *Dan Fogle, 1953 PA-18-105 Special, N310T.*

Clyde Smith Preservation Award: *Mike Childress, 1947 PA-12 Super Cruiser, N4364M.*

Best J-3: *Bob Santolla, 1946 J-3 Cub, N2124M.*

Len Buckel Piper J-3 Long Distance/Endurance Award: *Cameron Heddings, 1946 Piper J-3, N234TW. Flew 545 miles, from Okatie, S.C.*

Doc Conway Award; *Kim D. Garlick.*

Volunteer Awards: *Jae Gettig, Peg Johnson, Shaw Siglin, Dan Walker, and Neal Mayers.*

Special Appreciation Awards: *Rizzo's Flower Shop & Greenhouse, Ruth Eoute.*

Spot Landing Grand Champion: *Neil Baughman.*

Central PA. Street Machines People's Choice Award: *Gabe Muthler.*

Golf Ball Drop: *David Consbruck.*

Poker Run: Scott Gross.

50/50: Bill Clifford.

Piper Paper Plane Long Distance Award: Jack Baughman.

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST

The next breakfast fundraiser is Sunday, September 22, 2024, starting at 8am...Rain or Shine. Fly in or drive in for a nice, hot breakfast to start your day! The S.J. crew will be serving delicious buttermilk pancakes w/ PA maple syrup, sausage links, sausage gravy on biscuits, hash brown patties, eggs, fruit cup, OJ, coffee & tea. This is an ALL YOU CAN EAT event.....arrive hungry! All proceeds go towards funding the 2025 fly-in. Pay a visit to the Piper Museum, while you're here. They are located on the north side of the runway.

Funding the Fly-In

As you well know, it costs a lot to host the fly-in, with insurances, rentals, and the like. There were several unexpected expenses this year, including the poor attendance due to the extreme heat, which have put us in a deficit at the end of the fly-in. So, this is a plea for donations of any amount, so we can continue planning for a 2025 fly-in. Please send any donations to: Sentimental Journey, P.O. Box J3, Lock Haven, PA. 17745. We are VERY grateful for all donations sent that help keep the fly-in going.

Many Thanks to Cal, John & Mike

On another note, after 39 years of service, Cal Arter and John Buchan have decided to hang up their wings. Everyone at S.J. would like to thank them for everything they've done throughout the many years as president & director. Betsy Buchan, who presides over the volunteers

and is a huge help with the banquet, and Mike Marasco, who has been in charge of the transportation crew, have also decided it's time to hand over the reins to someone new. It is difficult to put into words our appreciation for the relentless service these 4 people have provided towards making this fly-in a huge success for these past 39 years. We are in desperate need of new volunteers to fill the holes left by these wonderful people. If you are interested in helping with the fly-in, please contact Kim for the details. 570-893-4200.

*We are in **dire** need of a replacement for John Buchan, as director. He is more than willing to work alongside his replacement this next year & show him/her the ropes. This position should be filled by someone local. John supervises the people who clean up, set up & tear down the site for the fly-in, along with various chores throughout the year. Mike, in transportation, had decided last year that 2024 would be his last year to help. So, the other replacement we need is someone to be in charge of transportation. This position doesn't necessarily need to be filled by a local resident. His role requires some coordination with car dealerships and drivers. Mike will be glad to help the new person learn the job. There isn't much involved, but we really **need** someone to fill this void, because without transportation, we don't have a fly-in. If you are willing to accept either position, please contact us, as the fly-in depends on these positions being filled.*

And of course, as always, we are in need of volunteers throughout the week. Our phone number is: 570-893-4200, please call us and sign up! Guaranteed you will meet tons of people & make a lot of new friends.

We are also looking for someone to be our social media promoter for the Fly-In. Today we have a very limited presence on social media and we need someone to help promote our awesome fly-in. The attendance is critical to our survival as the fly-in, so we must reach out to more

aviation groups through social media. If you are interested in stepping into the role, please contact Mark Stewart at stewartmw@aol.com.

Flying Stories & Forums

We are always looking for aviation stories for the annual program book. Whether it's a restoration story, travel adventure, a story on your time at S.J., or anything you would like to share, please send it to Kim for publication in the book. You don't need to be an author, just write up what you have and Kim will help you finish it up.

Have you considered doing a forum presentation? It is easy and we would be delighted to hear your aviation or non-aviation stories. Got a technical subject that you want to share? Please contact Kim. Pilots & non-pilots are always welcomed at the forums. New this year, Jerry Petro will hold a forum on the Stromberg carburetor design, maintenance and trouble-shooting.

Looking Ahead

Sentimental Journey is very excited to announce the Short Wing Piper Club will be joining us during the 2025 Fly-In. They will be holding their convention here, and are planning to do so every odd numbered year after that. We look forward to seeing them in 2025.

We are getting credit card readers for the East & West entrance gates. This will eliminate the need for cash at these outside gates.

In Closing

In closing, thanks to all who attended this year, and thanks to all the volunteers who gave their time so freely. We hope you thoroughly enjoyed your time here, and are looking forward to returning. Enjoy the rest of your year. Be good, be kind, be careful...we hope to see you next year, (June 17th thru June 21st).

REMEMBER THAT WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS, WE DON'T HAVE A FLY-IN.

IF YOU HAVE ENJOYED THE FLY-IN THESE PAST YEARS, PLEASE STEP FORWARD AND VOLUNTEER, EVEN IF IT'S JUST FOR A HALF DAY. WE NEED ALL OF YOU TO HELP.