

PIEDMONT AERO CLUB

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Message from the President

It is already April, my fellow PAC Members, and the weather has been terrific, for the most part, so the flying tempo seems to have increased and we have a few members who are preparing for long awaited checkrides for new or advanced ratings. Want to wish them all good luck...

At the same time, we had a very good Club Meeting on March 17th, at GTCC. Some newer members

showed up as well as the long standing eighteen or so that always show up, which seems to be the mainstay of our Club. Where everyone else was, I don't know. The meeting started out with a Club update and then our guest speaker, Bill Kluepfel, who provided some very good information about aircraft maintenance as we prepare for the flying season. I did learn a few things I didn't know about. We concluded that portion with a raffle, giving away ten fun prizes that coincide with the topic.

Following his presentation, we had a closed session with membership, to review the results of the Survey, of which 22 Members out of 42 participated in giving us feedback. Going into the closed session, the entire Board of Directors had a very uneasy feeling of where the Club was going and what our purpose was, and more importantly, the lack of participation for events. Overall, we realize that we don't have the funding to purchase aircraft, the only way that is going to happen is if we enter lease agreements, again, or aircraft are donated to us. Likewise, for events, not everyone is going to be able to attend, however, the membership agreed that the couple large events we have each year, everyone should try to attend. We have also determined, that it's time to start "tapping individuals on the shoulder" and let them know they are leading events. The Board cannot do it all, and shouldn't have to.

The overall pulse was very positive and provided some good insight to what we are doing. We (the BOD) appreciate all the positive feedback, and at the same time, we need and expect our membership to step up and come up with event ideas, etc. Currently, there are no events, (accept meetings and Breakfast Club) planned past June....so, let's start hearing and seeing some good ideas.

On a very good note, instead of every other month for the Breakfast Club, members would like to see it monthly, so they don't have to remember which month. It is totally volunteer and if you show up to eat, whether two people or twelve, we'll move to every month. So stay tuned for that schedule in the newsletter.

Time to fly my friends, so let's do it!

Jon Wells - PAC President, 2016

Breakfast Club!



Look for our new “Logo” for the PAC Breakfast Club. This logo annotates our newest informal gatherings, as we will fly every month to a new venue/restaurant for some Club Member fun.

Here is our current calendar of “Breakfast Club” Meetings.

Date:	Airport:	Location:
April 9	43A – Montgomery County Airport; Star, NC	Martha's Grill
May 14	AKQ – Wakefield Municipal Airport; Wakefield, VA	Virginia Diner (est. 1929)
June 11	<i>TBD</i>	<i>We're looking ...</i>
July 9	<i>TBD</i>	<i>For new places ...</i>
August 13	<i>TBD</i>	<i>To have breakfast!</i>
September 10	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Give us some ideas!</i>
October 8	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Drop us a line ...</i>
November 12	<i>TBD</i>	<i>And let us know ...</i>
December 10	<i>TBD</i>	<i>Where do YOU want to go?</i>

Email us at PiedmontAeroClub@gmail.com with your Breakfast Club ideas!

Pilot Story – Ricky Cotton

“I wanted to be a pilot for a long time but sometimes you don't get what you want.”

Ever since I was little I have been surrounded by aviation. My father being in the Air Corp for World War II and constantly being amazed by his tales of flight molded me from a very young age. Even the tales of my oldest brothers fascinated me during my growing years. Being the youngest of six children, their stories, along with my father's, was much better than the cartoons on television.

Over the years since then, I developed a real passion for it, being fortunate enough to go to some pretty cool places around the world; thanks largely to my time in enlisted in the US Army and really experience flight. In the fall of 2015, I decided to do something with my passion. I am excited to begin learning how to actually pilot an aircraft. My ambitions are great, and have never been dimmed by the constant hurdles that life has thrown my way, putting his self through draft/engineer school with children on the way, my wife's health troubles and the constant challenges having two strong willed sons brings with it.

I have constantly put my hopes and ambitions on the back burner to make sure my family never did without with my job in aviation being as close as I got to planes outside of traveling but now the children are grown and fulfilling their dreams. Watching them soar through life has reinvigorated my desire to claim the skies for myself and fulfill a life long passion of my own.

“When once you have tasted flight, you will forever walk the earth with your eyes turned skyward, for there you have been, and there you will always long to return.” -Leonardo da Vinci



Did you know?

Many of members may not know that PAC has an agreement with GTCC for reduced pricing for **the RedBird Simulators, which are full-motion and offer a variety of platforms.**

The other thing, is that the hours are logable in your log-book and can be used for:

- (a) 2.5 hours towards PPL Instrument Training,
- (b) 20 hours towards your Instrument Rating,
- (c) IFR Currency and even (d) IPC (good for 2 months).

Many have used the RedBirds to curb their cost for the Instrument Rating, and we encourage all to do so.

The other nice thing, when the weather is really bad out, it's a great way to stay current, and even as a Student Pilot, work on understanding how to track VORs in VFR Conditions.

GTCC has 4 simulators, as well as a table top version. Configurations include C172, C172 with G1000, Piper Arrow (work on Complex), Piper Seneca (multi), Beechcraft Baron (multi) and Cirrus SR-22 (Side Yoke).

Take advantage of the \$45/hour use of the simulators, it's one of your Club privileges. If you want to get signed up, contact Jon Wells, Club President and CFI, he will help you get started.

(Picture above is our own Eric Perdew maintaining IFR Currency)

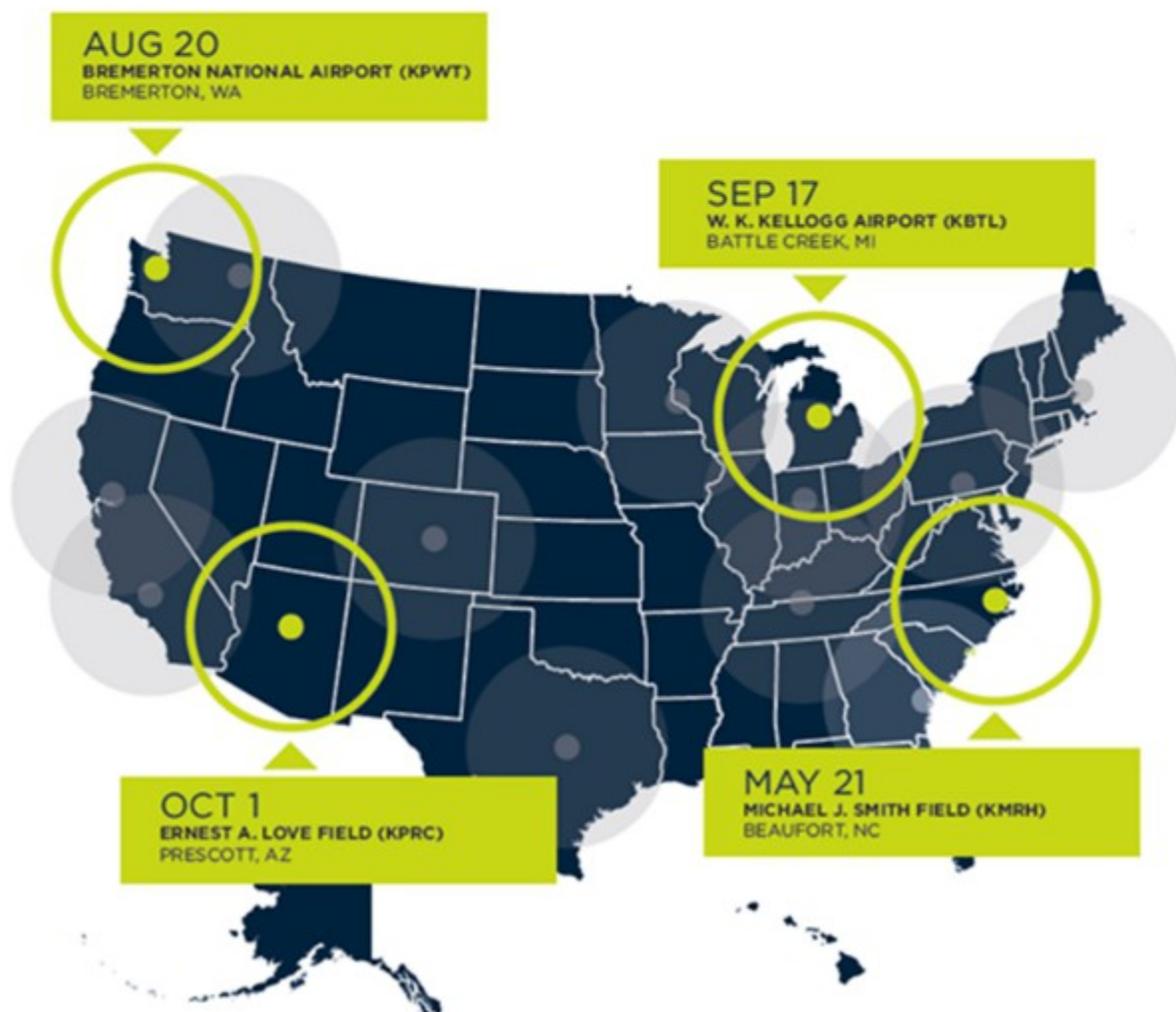


START MARKING YOUR CALENDAR:

This year the AOPA is having one of their regional fly-ins in our own backyard, at **Beaufort, NC** on Saturday, May 21st. (Michael J. Smith Field – KMRH)

We already have members planning on attending, so even if you come for the day, or stay for the weekend, don't miss out on a great opportunity to meet many fellow aviators and join in for the festivities.

During our May PAC Meeting we will discuss the event and fly-in procedures to ensure everyone is safe.





Airborne Aspirations To Be On Display April 23 at Family Aviation Day

*Kids, Families can learn more about a career in the sky during the fun,
interactive event at PTI Airport in Greensboro*

GREENSBORO, NC – March 31, 2016 – The Piedmont Triad of North Carolina has truly become a place where aviation dreams can take flight. That's why Triad Aviation Academy (TAA) – a flight training facility devoted to facilitating flying aspirations for young and old alike – is hosting the first Family Aviation Day at PTI Airport in Greensboro.

The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 23 at the Signature MRO Aircraft Ramp beside the airport, at 1030 PTI Drive, Greensboro, NC 27409. More than 50 exhibitors, vendors, airlines and organizations will transform the apron beside TAA's hangar into a fun, interactive day celebrating flight.

Invited exhibitors include:

- Signature Flight Support – refueling, towing and other service equipment
- Causey Aviation – maintenance, upholstery, avionics and jet engine display
- Private Jet Displays – including HondaJet, Cessna Citation and Old Dominion
- Air Cargo Operators – including FedEx, UPS and DHL
- Major Airline Carriers
- Safety Services – including the airport fire department, police and K-9 units
- Plus, military, medical transport, and more!

Family Aviation Day – a joint effort of TAA, Guilford Technical Community College and the Girl Scouts of America – is designed to introduce children and families to the range of options available to those interested in a career in, or around, aviation.

“With a pilot shortage estimated to grow to more than a half-million in the next several years, it's never been more important to inspire our youth about considering a career in the sky,” said Bruce McCall, CEO and President of Triad Aviation Academy. “That said, there is a similar need for mechanics, engineers, scientists and other experts that keep our planes aloft and safe. It is our hope that by attending this event, more kids will become aware of the range of options that exist to them – particularly in a city like Greensboro, which has emerged as the heart of aviation in the Triad.”

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Tickets, to be sold at the gate, are \$5 for adults and \$2 for children, with proceeds benefiting Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, and a local charity, "Patriot Rovers," that provides service dogs to military veterans.

Participants interested in showcasing their services or information to attendees have until April 9 to claim one of the few remaining display spaces for Family Aviation Day. Registration forms can be downloaded at www.FlyTAA.com or requested by calling 336-369-2804.

About Triad Aviation Academy (www.FlyTAA.com)

Founded in 2008, Triad Aviation Academy offers Exceptional Flight Instruction, Safe Aircraft, and Outrageous Customer Service to aspiring pilots in the Piedmont Triad region. A member of the Flight School Association of North America (FSANA), Triad Aviation Academy has become a leader in facilitating opportunities for youth to become cadets, offering the annual AeroCamp and year-round AeroChapter to give hands-on ground and flight training to middle-school and high-school aged kids and young adults.

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Upcoming Activities

April Activities

Saturday, April 9th – Breakfast Club @ 43A

Tuesday, April 5th – Sun N' Fun

Sunday, April 10th

Monday, April 11th – PAC Board Meeting

Friday, April 29th – Landmark/PAC Hangar Party

May Activities

Monday, May 9th – PAC Board Meeting

Saturday, May 14th – Breakfast Club @ AKQ

Thursday, May 19th – PAC Meeting

Friday, May 20th – [AOPA Fly-In, Beaufort \(MRH\)](#)

Saturday, May 21st



FAA Safety Briefing!

Check out the [March/April Issue of FAA Safety Briefing](#) for great information on how to **#FlySafe**. Topics this issue include:

- Preventing Inflight Loss of Control
- Using the Four Forces to Maintain Aircraft Control
- Taking Control of Your Takeoffs
- Combating the Startle Effect
- Techniques to Avoid Joining the Crash Landing Club

Safety Briefings are available as PDFs and EPUB or MOBI files – perfect for your mobile devices! While you're reading up, make sure to catch all the latest GA Safety Enhancement Topic Fact Sheets!



4 Days Until
Sun N' Fun!



115 Days
Until EAA
Airventure
Oshkosh!

