



Piper Aviation Museum NEWSLETTER

Fall 2022

1 Piper Way, Lock Haven, PA 17745
570-748-8283 www.pipermuseum.com



From the Desk of the President

----- Ron Dremel



A lot of great things have been happening at the museum. Our manager, Ed Watson has been busy, busy, busy giving tours to our many museum visitors. If you have not been to the museum lately, you need to stop in and let Ed give you a personal guided tour. You won't be disappointed.

Ed has also been busy expanding our displays. When he sees an empty spot on a wall he fills it with an interesting piece of information or photograph depicting Piper's aviation history. So even if you visit the museum every month or two you are guaranteed to find and learn something new.

We have another Penn State intern with us for the fall semester. Victoria Smith has a strong interest in history and museums. She is helping to get our Archives Room up to date and better organized. She has also been working to design a new display which we hope to have completed before the end of the year, with a formal dedication next spring.

As the year winds down we want to remind you that the museum will be closing for the winter season. Our last day will be Friday, December 23. We will be reopening on Wednesday, March 1. So plan to visit us before our winter hibernation.

I hope to see you soon at the museum.

When Cheetahs Fly!



by Sharon Hoy & Ed Watson

Did you know that cheetahs could fly? It was 1967. Ossie Bristow, a long-time Piper Colt owner in South Africa, used his airplane and his two tame hunting cheetahs to help him make his catch. Following the tradition of ancient Egyptian hunters who trained the big spotted cats to

hunt, Ossie raised eight cheetahs from cubs to help him with his favorite sport. He would have the cheetahs ride in the "boot" of the Colt while he flew over the Limpopo River Valley near his home on the South African/Rhodesian border looking for trophies. When he spotted a game herd, he would land the plane on the nearest "pan" or flat open plain and then he would send the cheetahs out to catch the prize. Our question is how did he get the cats back? Stand at the airplane and shout "Here Kitty, Kitty?"

The John Bryerton Room Dedicated at Piper Aviation Museum



PHOTO COURTESY THE CLINTON COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU The family of the late John Bryerton – wife Lana and children Lisa and Justin – stands at the entrance to the new John Bryerton Room at the Piper Museum, where there's a framed photograph of John, along with a plaque in his memory.

A new room has been dedicated at the Piper Aviation Museum, honoring long-time volunteer, the late John Bryerton.

The Museum's board of directors, as well as a good crowd of Museum volunteers, local leaders and community members, and members of the Bryerton family were on hand for the dedication. Bryerton's wife, Lana, and their children, Lisa Lucas and Justin Bryerton, led the Museum board of directors in cutting a ribbon to officially open the new room.

As part of his comments, Museum president Ron Dremel said John had envisioned adding a floor to what was then a two-story section of hangar. The new space — approximately 2,500 square feet, extends the footprint of the second floor Museum. Already, The John Bryerton Room houses an L-4 Grasshopper, the military version of Piper's J-3 Cub, and a Vagabond, the first of Piper's short-winged airplanes, with space for additional displays. An overhead garage door situated at the back of the new room serves as a mezzanine, allowing visitors a great view of a variety of airplanes on display below in the Museum's first-floor hangar.

"We added the floor for this new room a couple of years ago, and then COVID hit," said Dremel. "So we're happy to complete the project — to complete John's dream — this year, in time to help us have enough space to house a couple more airplanes that have recently been donated to the Museum."

Bryerton passed away in April at age 80, following a career of nearly 60 years in the aviation industry. He had worked for Piper Aircraft for 20 of those years and in 1980 formed his own engineering and consulting company, General Aviation Technical Services (GATS). John had given much of his time and talent to the Piper Aviation Museum, including serving as board president for 10 years. A framed photograph of John, along with a handsome plaque that reads, *"For his commitment, contributions and vision,"* hangs at the entrance to the new room.



PHOTO COURTESY THE CLINTON COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU The John Bryerton Room at the Piper Aviation Museum currently houses two Piper airplanes, with room for more exhibits.

In addition, to Dremel, the program included remarks from Michelle McCain on behalf of State Representative Stephanie Borowicz; Clinton County Commissioner Angela Harding, a former Piper Museum board member; and Chamber/Tourism Director Julie Brennan with the Clinton County Economic Partnership.



PHOTO COURTESY THE CLINTON COUNTY TOURISM BUREAU Center left, Lana Bryerton, wife of the late John Bryerton, and her children Lisa and Justin, cut the ribbon to officially open the new John Bryerton Room at the Piper Aviation Museum. Also pictured, from left, are Museum second vice president Calvin Arter; first vice president Charlie Rosamilia; the Bryerton family; Museum board members Clyde Smith, Steve Gundy, and Jason Marr; board president Ron Dremel; Secretary Cathy Redmond; and Treasurer Josh Grimes.

Calvin F. Wilson, Jr. Flies West

Mr. Calvin F. Wilson, Jr., 88, was born on July 25, 1934, in Fairmont, West Virginia and was raised by his parents, Calvin F. Wilson and Edith Marguarite McKeen Wilson in Charleston, West Virginia.

He graduated WVU in 1959 with a degree in aeronautical engineering. During his time at WVU, he met his wife, Peggy Glenn Wilson, and after they graduated in 1957, they were married Aug. 31 the same year.



Calvin and Peggy were married for 65 years and had three children, Calvin F. Wilson III, Janie Wilson Styers, and Glenn B. Wilson; and five grandchildren Calvin F. Wilson IV, Donald B. Wilson, Katherine C. Styers and Abbegale L. Styers, and Christopher B. Wilson; and one great grandchild Bennett B. Wilson.

Both Calvin and Peggy loved attending many of the WVU football games after their graduation and, even when moving to Pennsylvania, they frequently went back to their alma mater to support their school. They were season ticket holders for many years.

Calvin Wilson throughout his life enjoyed model airplane building and flying model airplanes, particularly near their river lot on the Susquehanna. Enjoying adventure, he took cruises with his wife, Peggy, scuba dived in many beautiful locations, loved snow skiing out west, in Vermont, and in Canada, and his lifelong love of flying to many places across the country was his greatest joy.

Calvin found passion in his work at Piper, where he was employed with the company for 25 years, where he was the Director of Engineering. Following his work at Piper he went on to teach at Pennsylvania State University in the Department of Aerospace Engineering and went on to work with some other Ex-Piper Engineers at General Aviation Technology Services.

Calvin Wilson joined the Lock Haven Rotary Club in 1965 and was President one of the many years he was a member of this organization. He also had membership in Quiet Birdmen; it gave him many hours of fun and fellowship. He was a member of Bald Eagle Presbyterian Church. He was admitted into the Academy of Distinguished Alumni of the Department of Aerospace Engineering at WVU in 1998. Over the course of his career, Calvin logged over 5,000 flight hours and flew with more than 300 students helping them acquire differing piloting certification levels. Calvin was an instrument rate pilot as well as instructor.

If desired, memorial donations can be made to: Piper Museum, <https://www.pipermuseum.com> or the Bald Eagle United Presbyterian Church, 109 Main St., Mill Hall, PA 17751.



Piper Aviation Museum Joins Harvest Host Camping Program

Harvest Hosts is an RV membership program that allows travelers with self-contained recreational vehicles to overnight at unique locations around the country including farms, wineries, museums, breweries and more! Members can choose from 4,434+ host locations inside their ever-expanding network, and stay overnight with no camping fees in exchange for supporting their business. Host locations may charge for electric and water hook-up if the campers request it. Since joining the Harvest Host program in August, 12 Harvest Host members have stayed overnight in the Museum parking lot. All those who stayed overnight, visited the museum, giving glowing reviews of their stay and their museum experience. More information about membership to the Harvest Host program can be found at harvesthosts.com

Become a Member of the Piper Aviation Museum And Receive a Free Hat, Tee Shirt, or Mug, Plus other Perks and Benefits

Members Receive:

- * Free admission to the museum
- * 20% discount at our gift shop (excluding books and clearance items)
- * Quarterly Newsletter * Membership Card * Window Sticker
- * Your Choice of Hat, Tee Shirt, or Mug (see below)



Piper Aviation Museum Membership Application

Individual Annual Membership - \$75.00
 Family Annual Membership (immediate) - \$125.00
 Brick Only - \$100.00
 Individual with Brick - 150.00
 Family with Brick - \$200.00

Make checks payable to:
 Piper Aviation Museum
 One Piper Way
 Lock Haven, PA 17745

*Any Contribution of \$250.00 or More Entitles You to a Family Membership with an engraved Brick placed in a special display inside the museum**

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Enclosed is a Check or CC in the amount of \$ _____ Shirt, Hat or Mug Number _____ Shirt Size _____

Card Number _____ Exp. _____ V-code (3 numbers on back of Card) _____

Signature _____

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LETTER TO SANTA

Dear Santa:

Financially, this has been a difficult year for everyone so we know you will have a tough time satisfying all the requests in the letters you receive. With the rising cost of goods and services, we, too, have experienced a tough time making ends meet lately.

Family always should come first so please fill your sleigh with those things requested by the good little boys and girls. But if there's any money left in the Christmas budget, please consider dropping a monetary gift in the museum stocking. Two things that are outside our regular operating expenses but need attention are the servicing and repair of our heating and air conditioning systems. Your sleigh is always overloaded and being in the air flight business, we know that there are limits as to how much weight you can safely carry. So to make things easier for you, please tell all our friends of the museum who can help us out with a financial gift to send it directly to the museum at: Piper Aviation Museum, 1 Piper Way, Lock Haven, PA 17745. All gifts, large or small, are graciously received. And please be sure to thank everyone for their thoughtfulness and encourage them to visit us and see all the new exhibits we have. And lastly, don't forget to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and safe 2023.

Sincerely,
Piper Aviation Museum