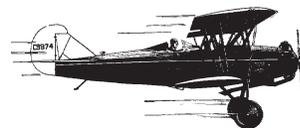


# The Eaglet

The Official newsletter  
of the

*Antique Airplane Club of Greater New York  
and the  
Bayport Aerodrome Society*



[www.bayportaerodrome.org](http://www.bayportaerodrome.org)

[www.AACGNY.org](http://www.AACGNY.org)

Volume 1 Number 7

November

2008



## **BAS Elections**

No surprises here, the slate was voted on and passed unanimously at the November meeting. Dave Liebman is the new Treasurer and Nick Mercouris will continue on as Vice -president.

We would like to thank William "Ace" Prechtel for his years of service as Treasurer and am sure he and Roberta are looking forward to his "retirement"

Speaking of "Ace", his double knee surgery went very well and he is moving rapidly through rehab. Word is Ace should be home some time later this week and should be skipping around the Aerodrome shortly. Rumor is he will be taking dance lessons soon to be ready for a possible Spring Dinner Dance social by the BAS and AACGNY.

## **AACGNY Field Trip:**

Turns out that visits to the Traffic Control Facilities at MacArthur are virtually impossible after the events of 911. Therefore we will just have to entertain ourselves at the Aerodrome this month.

We really want to try and "mix it

up" a bit with meetings at other locations. If you have any ideas shoot an email to Stu or myself for consideration.

## **Over to the Dark Side**

Steve Martin has added a new plane to his "Fleet" and it is (gasp) an all metal, tricycle geared Cessna 150. To be fair though, it is 47 years old (1961) and is a straight tail. If you were at the AACGNY Fly-In you saw this plane in the 1st Annual 150 Air Race in which we proved the fact that straight tails are faster than slant tails.

Steve has recruited partners in this race winner with Craig Sampson, who plans to teach his son to fly in it, Nick Mercouris, who hopes to get his ticket in it, and Bob Alonzo, who also intends to learn to fly. Steve in the meantime will try to earn an instrument ticket.

In the meantime, John Donecea has traded in his Pacer for a newer Cessna 150. While John enjoyed the Pacer, and got his tailwheel endorsement in it, John felt that the 150 more closely filled his present needs for reliable family transportation. Good Luck and we hope to see you back in a taildragger soon.



The Annual Christmas Party will be held on December 13th  
at:

The Irish Coffee Pub  
131 Carleton Avenue  
East Islip, New York 11730

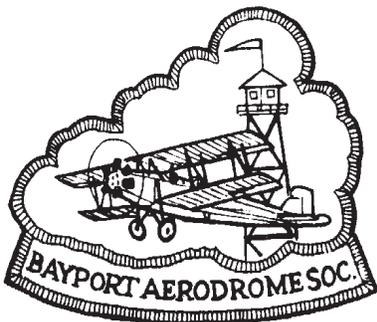
Tel 631-277-0007  
Fax 631-277-4744

This year's party is a joint event of  
The Bayport Aerodrome Society  
The AACGNY  
and  
The Long Island Early Flyers .

Tickets are \$40.00 per person and will be available at  
the next Bayport Aerodrome Society and AACGNY meetings

or

May be reserved by calling Frank Licari at 631-765-5185



The next meeting of the  
**Bayport Aerodrome Society**  
will be on Sunday,  
**December 7th**  
in the Museum Hangar at 1:30 pm



Next Meeting of  
**The AACGNY**  
is on Sunday,  
**November 16th**  
at Bayport Aerodrome at 1:30pm

**Hi Antiquers,**

I was wondering if you could do me, and a friend, a favor.....

I got a pal out here at the East Hampton airport who just bought (3 months ago, or so) a PT-19, and now he's lost his hangar and he has to sell it. He and I were wondering if somehow you could put the word out around Bayport, and to the AACGNY guys, that this machine is for sale. It's beautiful. Freshly restored, etc. It is on barnstormers, but he'd like to see it kept locally.

I hope all's well with you. The last of my Ryan flying days are here, and I'll soon be flying the J-5, until the spring.

Take care and thanks for the help,

Taylor Smith (631-806-2451)

### **From Alex Nelson from the Fearless Aeronca Aviator's Mailing List**

I knew the day would come eventually but it couldn't come too soon. I retired, gave my jet keys to my successor at the corporate flight department and climbed into Champ for a glorious day's flight from my working home on Long Island to my native home in the mountains of western North Carolina.

Champ came to me by pure serendipity. I had just sold our family Cub to seven members of our club at Bayport Aerodrome (23N) on Long Island and had been suffering tailwheel withdrawal something awful. I didn't think I could feel so close to another airplane, but there was this Champ in a hay barn in New Hampshire ...

Champ was owned by a lady who had just finished rebuilding the most magnificent Cub I have ever seen. Honestly, it is a potential Oshkosh or anywhere grand prize winner if she would fly it on the long trip to wherever. But that wasn't her motivation for making it what it is ...

The project was one she and her late husband had started and she had finished after his passing. It is a tribute, not a trophy airplane, and that alone makes it more valuable and important than a decorous piece of brass. The Champ was an airplane they flew together while the Cub was coming together. I don't think it had been much outside the state of New Hampshire in 20+ years but they needed room in the hay barn for the hay - imagine that - so the Champ had to go.

My first stop from NH was Bayport Aerodrome while I finished working out my career assignment, then, relieved of the weight of those jet keys, I waited out a sea fog on the south shore of Long Island and finally got away with my old Cub in company at about 0930. Most of the rest of the story is on my blog at <http://letsstofly.blogspot.com> ...

But the day was just perfect, no wind to speak of so I could get up close and personal to the mountains that line the Shenandoah Valley and they were truly magnificent. I did run out of daylight and had to spend the night a half hour's flight from home, but mountains are made out of rock and I saw no need to test my night vision or fly stealthy with no lights.

The hard numbers at the end of the trip were 8.9 hours' flying time and 44.7 gallons of fuel. That's 5 gal/hr in round numbers for my C-85 Champ which, when you come right down to it, is pretty thrifty entertainment.

I'm glad to be back in a Champ after 23 years away and very glad to have met up with f-AA ...

Fly safely, y'all, and I'll look for you online.

### **IDIOT SIGHTING:**

**I live in a semi rural area. We recently had a new neighbor call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the DEER CROSSING sign on our road. The reason: "Too many deer are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing anymore."**



P.O Box 782  
Bayport, NY 11705

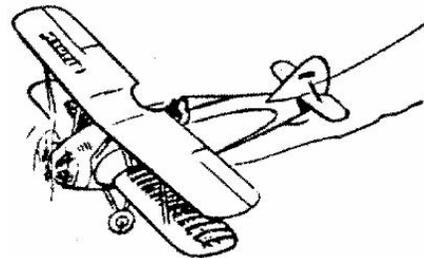
## The Gangs that run the Joint

### BAS

President Kevin Kilroy 631-239-6361	Vice President Nick Mercouris 631-472-5883	Secretary Stuart Bain 631-285-1095
Treasurer Dave Liebman 516-353-3870	Museum Director Stephen Martin 631-547-6881	Membership Dick Basak 631-289-0815
Activities George Mitchell 631-472-1568	Plans/Programs Bob Mott 631-451-4384	Director at Large William Jensen 631-325-8709

### AACGNY

President Stuart Bain 631-285-1095	Vice President Bob Mott 631-451-4384
Secretary Nick Mercouris 631-472-5883	Treasurer George Braband 631-475-8402



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