

WFC Flyer



In the latest WFC Activities Committee adventure, the WFC arrives at First Flight Airport (KFFA) with the Wright Brothers National Memorial visible in the distance (Dan Probst, 30 July 2023)

Important Dates:

General Meeting
August 10, 2023
WFC Clubhouse

Board Meeting
September 7, 2023
WFC Clubhouse

General Meeting
September 14, 2023
WFC Clubhouse

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Williamson Flying Club Newsletter

August 2023

From the President's Desk by Bob Fratangelo

August!

Wow, summer sure is flying by! We have had a lot of activity at the Club, including some fantastic lunches put on by Scott and Kim Lasky!

The Open House for August has been put on pause. We need to work out another date and do some more planning. More on that by the end of the month we may regroup for September or October.

The Activities Committee sure has been busy with some awesome trips. See later in the newsletter for some great examples. If you haven't participated, you are missing out on some great flying!

We lost another wonderful club member,

Phil Miller. Phil was a terrific member and dedicated a lot of his time supporting the club. He was an Electrician by trade and certainly supported the club with his trade. Early in my membership with the club I ran the Buildings and Grounds Committee for almost a decade. I could always count on Phil to help with many projects including wiring of our new hangars, the semi-enclosed hangars built by club member investors! He would help with the annual

pancake breakfasts, building maintenance, aircraft maintenance and, of course, he enjoyed flying! He was an aviator after all. He will be sorely missed. Blue skies, Phil. Our deepest sympathies to his family for his loss.

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Williamson Flying Club

Williamson-Sodus Airport (KSDC)
5502 State Route 104
Williamson, NY 14589

Find us on the web at:
www.williamsonflyingclub.com

Board of Directors

President: Bob Fratangelo
Vice President: Dave Lowry
Secretary: Paula Sippel
Treasurer: Bob Herloski

Director, 2021: Dick Swingly
Director, 2022: Gilead Biggie
Director, 2023: Dave Perricone

Contact: bod@williamsonflyingclub.com

Recommended Reading



From the President's Desk by Bob Fratangelo

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We are still looking for help mowing. If you are interested, let John Rubio know! He and his Grounds Committee will be delighted to give you some instruction on operating the equipment and get you mowing!

We have a lot of great flying weather ahead of us, so be sure to come on out to the club and enjoy some flying!

I'm not sure how many of you were able to get out to Oshkosh this year, I

made the trip out in the Mighty Charlie One Five Zero! The last time I flew the "150" out to Oshkosh was my first trip to Oshkosh 20 years ago! What a great machine to see the Country with - low and slow. Oshkosh is a fantastic aviator's adventure; flying in, enjoying the show and experience, and flying home. Great stuff. I know Kevin Malchoff made it out there!

Come on out to the Club, enjoy a Saturday lunch, and get up in the air! See you there!

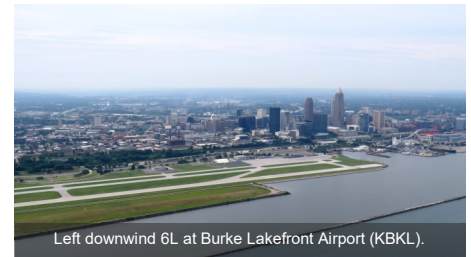
Congratulations!



Fly-Outs: The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, Cleveland, OH (KBKL) - 15 July 2023



WFC members enjoying lunch at Nuevo Modern Mexican and Tequila Bar on the Cleveland waterfront.



Left downwind 6L at Burke Lakefront Airport (KBKL).



Ziad Safadi with Kristy and Chris Houston.



"How can you have any pudding if you don't eat yer meat?!"



At the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.



Props from Pink Floyd's "The Wall" tour.



Ed Ciolkowski prepares to depart KSDC for Cleveland.



WFC aircraft on the ramp at Burke Lakefront.

We may have had to cancel the planned sightseeing flight around Manhattan three times in late June and early July, but the weather finally parted long enough for eight people in three airplanes to visit the [Rock & Roll Hall of Fame](#) on 15 July 2023 in Cleveland, OH.

It was the WFC's first return to the Rock Hall since June 2016. Participants included Nicole Bartell, Gilead Biggie, and Ed Ciolkowski in Ed's Archer II, Ziad Safadi with Chris and Kristy Houston in Chris' Warrior II, and Brad Roehrig and Nikki in Brad's Cirrus. The group spent roughly three hours exploring the museum before a 1:00 lunch reservation at [Nuevo Modern Mexican and Tequila Bar](#). The views of the city when flying into Burke Lakefront are always spectacular, the museum interesting, and lunch was excellent (the West Coast Shrimp tacos were especially popular). Thanks to Chris Houston for organizing this trip on behalf of the Activities Committee. Photos on this page are courtesy of Chris Houston.

Fly-Outs: Tangier Island (KTGI) and First Flight (KFFA) - 30 Jul 2023 to 1 Aug 2023

At the beginning of the 2023 flying season, the WFC Activities Committee set a stretch-goal of a pilgrimage to First Flight Airport (KFFA) and the Wright Brothers National Memorial that would include visits to Tangier Island (KTGI) and some of the more remote airfields on Hatteras and Ocracoke Islands.

Dan Probst from the Activities Committee meticulously planned this journey to span three days with two overnight stays in Kill Devil Hills, NC. Participants included Dan Probst flying N701DT, Gilead Biggie with Scott and Kim Lasky in N1185X, Ed Ciolkowski in his Archer II, and Chris Houston with Tom Carter in Chris' Warrior II. The group was also joined for dinner and for a day of island hopping by WFC board member Dave Pericone who was vacationing in the Outer Banks at the time.

On Day 1, the group was wheels up at 8:00 am. Owing to a tailwind, the aircraft reached Tangier Island Airport (KTGI) after a mere 2.5 hours of time in the air. Tangier Island is a small, remote island located in the middle of Chesapeake Bay. It is home to roughly 400 year-round residents who speak with a unique dialect as a result the island's isolation. Sadly, the island is shrinking, continuing a decades long loss of landmass as due to erosion and rising seas. Experts believe the town may need to be abandoned in a few short decades. Lunch was at Four Brothers Crabhouse. Afterward, the group toured the island by golf cart.

From Tangier, the four aircraft



Final approach, runway 1, Tangier Island.



On Tangier Island, VA.



Departing Tangier Island.



Granite markers show the progress of the first 4 flights.

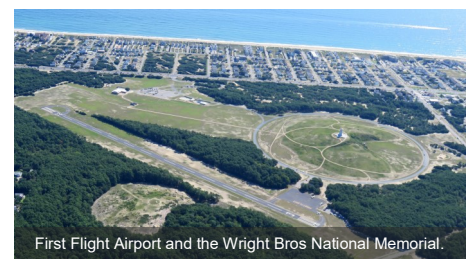
made a weather diversion and fuel stop at Chesapeake Regional Airport (KCPK) south of Norfolk, VA. Although intended as a weather deviation, conditions improved at the destination by the time everyone was refueled. In fact, the weather throughout all three days was excellent for flying. Dan chose the dates well!



Scott and Kim Lasky on Tangier Island.



Waiting for lunch at Four Brothers Crabhouse.



First Flight Airport and the Wright Bros National Memorial.



Ed Ciolkowski at First Flight w/ the Wright Monument.



The WFC at the Wright Brothers National Memorial.

After four total hours of flying, everyone landed on hallowed ground, runway 3 at First Flight Airport. They touched down within feet of

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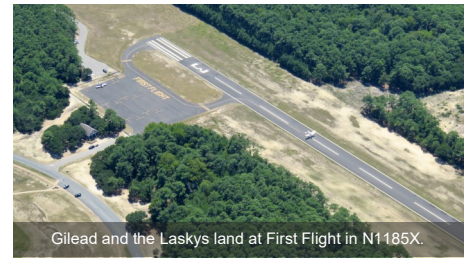
Fly-Outs: Tangier Island (KTGI) and First Flight (KFFA) - 30 Jul 2023 to 1 Aug 2023



The Wright's 4th flight on Dec 17 went 852 feet.



Wright Brothers National Memorial.



Gilead and the Laskys land at First Flight in N1185X.



That pretty much says it all.



Bodie Island Light Station.



The famous Cape Hatteras Light Station.



Base, runway 7, Billy Mitchell Airport.



Dave Perricone and Ed Ciolkowski, Billy Mitchell Airport.

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where the Wright Brothers made history with their first four successful powered, controllable flights on 17 December 1903.

First Flight Airport lacks a parallel taxiway, so all four aircraft accumulated in a jug handle loop at the approach end of runway 21 until a break in traffic allowed them to back taxi as a convoy to the ramp.

It is hard to miss the large dune where the Wrights conducted their early glider experiments nor the massive Art Deco granite pylon placed atop it to commemorate their feats. After arrival, the group visited the monument, the markers showing where each tenuous flight



Final approach, runway 7, Billy Mitchell Airport.



Exploring the beach on Hatteras Island.



T-34 Mentor Devil 1 (or was it 2?) on Ocracoke Island.



Lunch at Howard's Pub, Ocracoke Island.

in the 1903 Flyer landed, and the on-site museum. Dinner was at the Outer Banks Brewing Station.

On Day 2 — with Dave Perricone joining as right-seater with Ed Ciolkowski
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Fly-Outs: Tangier Island (KTGI) and First Flight (KFFA) - 30 Jul 2023 to 1 Aug 2023

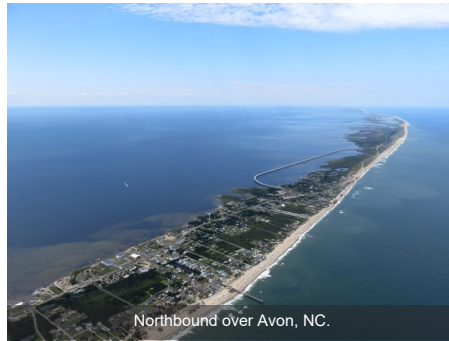
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kowski – the group explored south and west along the barrier islands, landing at Billy Mitchel Airport (KHSE) on Hatteras Island and Ocracoke Airport (W95) on Ocracoke Island. Both airports are immediately adjacent to the beach. On Ocracoke, they encountered a pair of turboprop-equipped T-34 Mentors with callsigns Devil 1 and Devil 2 out of NAS Oceana. Lunch was at Howard’s Pub on Ocracoke. Back in Kill Devil Hills that evening, some of the group opted for pizza while others enjoyed Mexican at 3 Tequilas. The day was concluded at the beach.

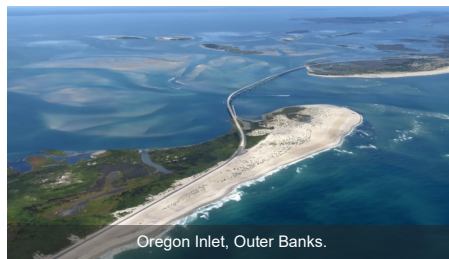
After launching from First Flight on Day 3, the group stopped for a late breakfast at the Pilot House Inn on Hummel Airport (W75) in Virginia before proceeding home.

Over three days and roughly 12 hours of flying, the group paid tribute to the Wright Brothers, landed at seven different airports, enjoyed plenty of a seafood, and took in the amazing vistas that the Outer Banks have to offer. There is no other place quite like it.

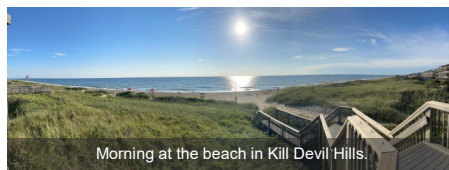
Photographs featured in this article were contributed by Tom Carter, Chris Houston, Scott Lasky, and Dan Probst.



Northbound over Avon, NC.



Oregon Inlet, Outer Banks.



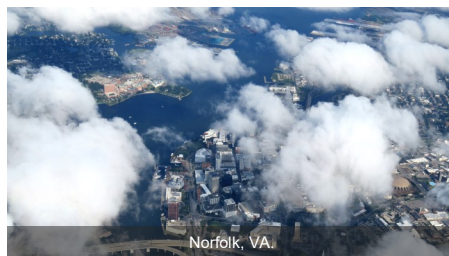
Morning at the beach in Kill Devil Hills.



"Say hello to my little friend!"



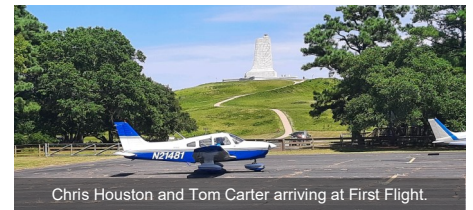
Departing First Flight Airport.



Norfolk, VA.



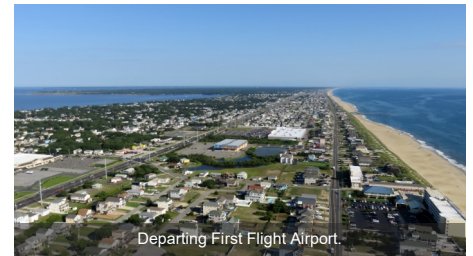
Inlet between Ocracoke and Hatteras Islands.



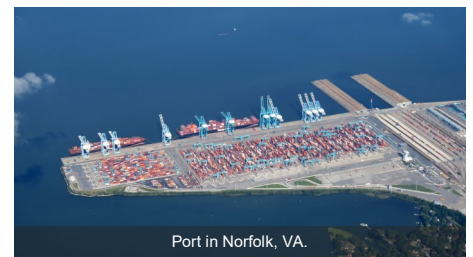
Chris Houston and Tom Carter arriving at First Flight.



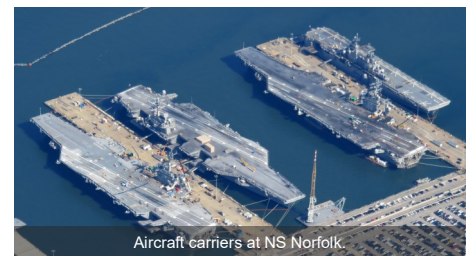
WFC aircraft parked at First Flight with Dan Probst.



Departing First Flight Airport.



Port in Norfolk, VA.



Aircraft carriers at NS Norfolk.



"OCRACOKE!" (With Dave Perricone.)

Got Spiedies? Photo Submitted by Chuck Mangos



Saturday lunches have been a cherished tradition at the Williamson Flying Club for many years. Thanks to Scott Lasky for pitching in to keep the tradition going. On July 22, he cooked up burgers and chicken spiedies for the club.

Thanks for all that you do, Scott!

Saturday lunches are held at noon in the WFC maintenance hangar immediately east of the clubhouse. Lunches do not occur every Saturday and are generally announced the Friday before. A donation to the food fund of \$5 to \$10 is always appreciated.

Aviation Quote

“Flying is a lot like playing a musical instrument; you’re doing so many things and thinking of so many other things, all at the same time. It becomes a spiritual experience. Something wonderful happens in the pit of your stomach.”

— Dusty McTavish

Upcoming WFC and Local Events

Sunday August 6	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Whitfords Airport (B16), 7:30 am-noon.
Sunday August 6	Fly-in pancake breakfast hosted by EAA 533 at the Elmira-Corning Regional Airport (KELM). 8:00 am–11:00 am. Park at the EAA 533 hangar.
Saturday August 12	WFC Fly-Out to Put-In Bay, OH (3W2). Details coming.
Saturday August 12	Fly-in pancake breakfast at Bradford County Airport (N27), 8:00 am–10:00 am.
Saturday August 12	Fly-in pancake breakfast at Clearfield Lawrence Airport (KFIG), Clearfield, PA. 8:00 am–noon.
Sat-Sun August 12-13	Airshow: Rochester International Airshow. See link for details.
Saturday August 19	Tentative date for WFC Airport Open House. Details coming.
Saturday August 19	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Cooperstown-Westville Airport (K23, turf only), 7:30-11:30 am.
Saturday August 26	WFC Fly-out to Castle in the Clouds near Moultonborough, NY (4MB). Details coming.
Saturday August 26	Annual Richard Newell / Speculator Lions Club fly-in pancake breakfast at Piseco (K09). 8:00 am–11:00 am.
Saturday September 1	WFC Fly-out to Gettysburg Regional Airport (W05). Details Coming.
Sat-Sun September 2-3	Airshow: Wings over Batavia. See link for details.
Sunday September 3	Fly-in pancake breakfast hosted by EAA 533 at the Elmira-Corning Regional Airport (KELM). 8:00 am–11:00 am. Park at the EAA 533 hangar.
Sunday September 3	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Whitfords Airport (B16), 7:30 am-noon.
Saturday September 9	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Finger Lakes Regional Airport (OG7), Seneca Falls, NY. 8:00 am–noon.
Saturday September 9	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Kline Kill Airport (NY1, turf only), Ghent, NY. 8:00 am–noon.
Saturday September 16	WFC Fly-out to Basin Harbor (B06), Vergennes, VT. Turf only (excellent condition). Lunch at the Red Mill Restaurant. Details coming.
Saturday September 16	Fly-in pancake breakfast, Cooperstown-Westville Airport (K23, turf only), 7:30-11:30 am.
Saturday September 16	Wings and Wheels in Hammondsport, NY. 10:00 am–4:00 pm. See link for details.
Sunday September 24	Fly-in pancake breakfast in support of Sentimental Journey. Piper Memorial Airport (KLHV), Lock Haven, PA. 8:00 am–noon.