



# WinnAero News

Spring 2012, Volume 1, Number 1

## In this Issue

- \* Welcome: About WinnAero
- \* Fund Raising: Cessna Raffle, Wolf Aviation Grant, CAP Grant
- \* Student Activities: ACE Academy 2011 & 2012
- \* Teacher Professional Development: Past and Future Workshops
- \* Laconia Airport: Collings Foundation, Appreciation Day, Open House
- \* School Collaboration: Kingswood RHS, Huot CTE Center, Bedford HS
- \* A Moment in NH Aviation History: Capt Harl Pease

## Welcome

Two years ago, a small group of aviation enthusiasts began meeting in the conference room at the Laconia Airport to explore the idea of an aviation museum for kids. During that first planning year, we developed a purpose statement, constitution and by-laws, received our 501(c)3 status with the IRS, registered with the state of NH as a non-profit and developed a work plan. As we end our first year of operation (second year as an organization), we felt a need to let you know what we have been doing to meet our goals. This newsletter is the result. Members of the Board are: **Bill Seed**, President; **Vlad Vascak**, Vice President; **Donald Morrissey**, Treasurer and Public Affairs; and board members: **Dan Caron**, **Diane Cooper**, **Duke Kline**, **Bob McCulla**, and **Bill Moran**. If you have any questions, wish to donate, or want to help in our efforts, please see the contact list at the bottom of this page or visit the web site at [www.winnaero.org](http://www.winnaero.org).

## Fund Raising

Cessna Raffle: Approximately one year ago, we acquired a 1966 Cessna 172G aircraft. It immediately went into the shop for inspection, updating and some fresh paint. Raffle tickets for this aircraft are \$50. A maximum of 2500 tickets will be sold. The new owner will also receive a check for \$1200 which could be used for flight lessons or anything else. For more information, please visit [www.winnaero.org](http://www.winnaero.org). The winner will be announced on September 29, 2012.

Wolf Aviation Foundation Grant: The **Wolf Aviation Foundation** has granted WinnAero the funds necessary to schedule Teacher Professional

For Additional Information, contact

Bill Seed, WinnAero Management and Future Plans, [billseed@winnaero.org](mailto:billseed@winnaero.org)  
Diane Cooper, Laconia Airport Manager, [laa@metrocast.net](mailto:laa@metrocast.net)  
Dan Caron, Educational Activities, [dwcaron@hotmail.com](mailto:dwcaron@hotmail.com)  
Don Morrissey, Treasurer and Public Affairs, [mordonsan@aol.com](mailto:mordonsan@aol.com)  
Vlad Vascak, Web Master, [www.winnaero.org](http://www.winnaero.org)

## Events Calendar

June 2	Airport Open House
June 28	Teacher Workshop Aviation Basics
July 16-20	ACE Academy
July 30	Teacher Workshop CAP AEX
July 31	Teacher Workshop NASA Glovebox
Aug 1	Teacher Workshop Model Rocketry
Sept 29	Cessna Raffle



Cessna 172G  
to be raffled  
on 9/29/12



# Wolf Aviation Fund

Development sessions later this year. Sessions will be offered for teachers at the elementary, middle and high school levels. Planned sessions include: Aviation Basics, Using a NASA Glovebox, CAP-AEX, and Model Rocketry, among others. More information will soon be posted on the web site.

CAP Grant: The **Civil Air Patrol** has provided a grant to WinnAero to help purchase supplies for ACE 2012. Since a large number of our participants require financial aid, this grant will help to defray the cost for all students.

### Student Activities

ACE Academy 2011: Our first FAA Aviation Career Education (ACE) Academy was a phenomenal success. We got off to a late start and hoped to have at least five students. In the end, nine students participated in a variety of activities to teach flight basics and expose them to a number of different careers associated with aviation. In addition, students toured the ATC tower at **Manchester/Boston Regional Airport, Facilities at Pease Tradeport**, received their first *30 minute flight lesson* and flew a refueling mission with the **NH Air National Guard**. **John Dickinson, Don Morrissey, Carol Neiwola, Steve Selig and Patrick Testerman** spoke about their experiences in aviation. Partial scholarships were provided by the **NH Aviation Association, GSAMA, Thyng Chapter AFA**, and the **Diane K. Kline Memorial Foundation Scholarship Fund**. Assisting with the program were **NH CAP, Sky Bright Aviation**, and airport manager **Diane Cooper**. Students in our first ACE Academy class were: **Tyler Reid, Garrett Pitt, Hasan Sapry, Brendan Drew, Matthew Niskala, Justin Thomas, Patrick Welch, Gunga Timsina, Guyatri Subedi**. A summary PowerPoint of the week's activities is on-line at [http://www.winnaero.org/ace\\_academy\\_2012.html](http://www.winnaero.org/ace_academy_2012.html).

ACE Academy 2012: Registrations for ACE 2012 are now open. This year we are offering 2 Academies. A **Coed ACE Academy** and a **Girls Only ACE Academy** will run concurrently to optimize transportation for field trips. However, all other activities will be separate. The counselors, and guest speakers at the girls only session will be all female in order to provide appropriate role models for the participants. Some activities will be changed for returning participants. As the schedule is finalized, it will be posted on the web site. Registration and Scholarship Applications can be found on the web site at [http://www.winnaero.org/ace\\_academy\\_2012.html](http://www.winnaero.org/ace_academy_2012.html).

Scholarships Needed: At the 2011 ACE, seven of the nine students received partial or full scholarships. This year, we expect 25 or more participants with a corresponding increase in scholarship requests. If you would like to help with this need, please contact **Bill Seed** at [billseed@winnaero.org](mailto:billseed@winnaero.org) or **Diane Cooper** at [laa@metrocast.net](mailto:laa@metrocast.net). Your generous support is greatly appreciated!

### Teacher Professional Development

CAP AEX: Last spring we offered a session for middle and high school



CAP Briefing and aircraft tour during ACE 2011



Navigation lesson during ACE 2011



First flight with instructor **Gena Adams** during ACE 2011



**Jim Brough** from FAA AVSED presented ACE 2011 Certificates



CAP AEX teacher participants

teachers on how to use the Civil Air Patrol Aerospace Excellence Program in their classrooms. Participants spent the day completing activities they would have their students do. Each teacher was given a CAP AEM membership and all the information they would need to implement the program at their schools. As an extra bonus, teachers were scheduled for a TOP Flight in a single engine aircraft with CAP flight instructors. Participating teachers were: **Julie Sicks-Panus, Clarice Clark and Paul Yelle.**

### Support for Laconia Airport

Collings Foundation Exhibit: WinnAero provides “man-power” support to Laconia Airport activities whenever possible. Our first activity was a concession stand during the Collings Foundation WWII aircraft exhibit.

Airport Appreciation Day Cookout: We also assisted with the Airport Appreciation Day Cookout by helping with set up and cleaning at the end of the event.

Airport Open House: We are currently assisting with the open house event scheduled for June 2, from 10AM - 3PM. We will again provide a concession booth. We are also organizing a “play” tent for children of all ages that will teach science, technology, engineering and math through aviation activities. Come join us at the airport!

### AvEd School and Organization Collaborations

BSA Merit Badge Counselors: Two of our Board members are registered with the **Daniel Webster Council, Boy Scouts of America** as merit badge counselors for the **Aviation** and the **Space Exploration** merit badges. **Bill Seed** (Aviation) and **Dan Caron** (Space Exploration) are available to work with scouts to help them achieve these badges.

Kingswood Regional High School: WinnAero helped to bring a group of Kingswood Technology Education students out to the airport for an aviation history lesson when the **Collings Foundation** aircraft were on site.

Huot Career & Technical Center: WinnAero made the arrangements that allowed engineering students from the **Huot CTE Center** to launch a high altitude balloon from the apron area near the Laconia Airport Terminal Building. The purpose of the flight was to expose students to the engineering involved in conducting a real world science experiment. The on-board instruments recorded temperature & pressure data, as well as photos of the Earth as the balloon ascended to 80,000 feet.

Winn Aero President, **Bill Seed** instituted an Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO) program and has been working with **Robbie Vachon**, a senior at Laconia High School, the school’s engineering club, and school staff members. Robbie’s project is to design and build a solar powered, propeller driven, model aircraft. Robbie will be entering the US Naval Academy and wants to be an aeronautical engineer.



A middle school teacher works through an AEX activity



Kingswood students tour the Collings Foundation aircraft



WinnAero volunteers sell goodies at the Collings Foundation Exhibit



Grillin' at the Airport Appreciation Day

Bedford High School: BHS has a 3 day program called Intersession, where all formal classes are suspended so students can pursue other educational activities in a real world learning experience. One of these sessions is Aviation Career Awareness and involves a day at **Laconia Airport**. On that day, 16 students arrived at the airport where WinnAero and airport employees placed them into an aviation immersion experience. Working with EAA, every student received a 30 minute flight lesson through their “Young Eagles Program,” tours of **FBO Sky Bright Aviation**, and airport operations. **WinnAero** also supported other activities taking place back at the students school. Funding for bus transportation courtesy of the **Air Force Association** and the **BG Harrison Thyng Chapter** of the AFA.

### EAA

The **Laconia Experimental Aircraft Association** has been active with their “Young Eagles” program. Without EAA and Young Eagles, we never would have been able to fly students during ACE Academy or the Bedford Intersession program. For more information about EAA, contact President **Bob McCulla** at [sundown@metrocast.net](mailto:sundown@metrocast.net).

### WinnAero Plans

If you haven’t had an opportunity to visit our web site, you may be wondering what are our long range plans. Our vision has two components. First will be the **Children’s Dream of Flight Museum**, and second will be **Take Flight Resource Center**.

#### 1. Children’s Dream of Flight Museum

This exhibit is designed to create interest in the “science of flight” at an early age.

- Modeled after the **Iowa Children’s Museum’s “Take Flight”** exhibit theme “the science of aviation”. See the Iowa Museum at <http://www.theicm.org/exhibits/take-flight>
- Participatory play elements using the “Power of Play” to learn. Detailed descriptions can be found on our web site.

#### 2. Take Flight Resource Center

The “Resource Center” is designed for older youth and adults. It will provide hands on experiences in many areas and serve as a resource for access to subjects and programs related to aviation, aerospace, and related fields. It will include the following:

- Information Center for Career Opportunities in Aerospace, and Related Fields.
- Learning and Training Center. Incorporating the following:

Flight Deck Hall: A multi-purpose function area designed as classroom and meeting space for various seminars, aviation and aerospace educa-



Bob McCulla busy selling raffle tickets



VentureKits engineer Scott Stegman explains the payload to students



Students inflate the balloon



Everyone signed off on the payload



Payload launch!

tion programs, movies, indoor flying of remote controlled aircraft etc.  
Civil Air Patrol: Meeting space for the Cadet Program.

Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA): Meeting space and “T” hanger space for EAA project aircraft.

Build-A-Plane school based program: High school students will build kit planes or restore aircraft. A “T” hanger and adjoining shop area are available for this use in the proposed Resource Center.

Educational programs & linkages: Programs with schools at all levels with aviation and aerospace programs. The purpose of the linkage is to foster interest in young people in science, technology, engineering and math through aviation learning based programs and experiences; and, to showcase career opportunities in the aviation and aerospace fields.

- Information Center for access to:
  1. Information on sport aircraft and kit built planes, both experimental and certified.
  3. Contacts and assistance for kit airplanes and aircraft restorations. Assistance available from certified airframe and engine mechanics working for the local fixed based operators at Laconia Airport.Detailed information concerning these plans are on our web site.

### **Donations: Time, In-Kind, Money**

Our plans are great and our board has more ideas than we can execute without additional assistance. Some areas where we could use help include: teacher professional development, publicity, fund raising, and planning student activities. If you or your organization wish to be a part of this grand adventure, please contact Bill Seed at [billseed@winnaero.org](mailto:billseed@winnaero.org).

### **Captain Harl Pease.....A NH Aviation Hero**

Harl Pease was born in Plymouth, NH and earned a business degree from the University of New Hampshire. Fueled by a spirit of adventure mixed with patriotism, Pease enlisted in the Army Air Corps in 1939. Commissioned a Second Lieutenant in 1940, he soon found himself at Kelly Field in Texas where he earned the silver wings of an Army Air Corps pilot. In 1941 he deployed to the Pacific Theater with the 19<sup>th</sup> Bomb Group as a B-17 pilot. On August 6, 1942, Pease lost an engine during a mission and returned to base for repairs. Knowing that his unit had been alerted for a “maximum effort” the next day for an attack on the Japanese airfield at Rabaul, and that his own B-17 would not be ready, Pease and his crew, all of whom volunteered to follow their inspirational leader, opted to take a barely flyable spare B-17 on the long mission. The aircraft had been relegated to training status only, a fuel pump had been removed for use in a more airworthy B-17 and the engines were long overdue for maintenance. Pease had a fuel tank added to the bomb bay with a hand



Bedford students pre-flight the aircraft before their lesson



Students Tebow the first flight of the day



Diane Cooper explains airport operations to Bedford students



Lee Avery points out different aircraft



Scenes from the Iowa Children's Museum's Take Flight exhibit

crank pump to manually transfer fuel and flew to Port Moresby to rejoin the 19<sup>th</sup> Bomber Group. There, with less than three hours rest, the crew took off to bomb the enemy airfield at Rabaul. Fifty miles from the target, the bombers were attacked by a squadron of 30 Japanese fighters. Pease's crew managed to shoot down several of the fighters and proceeded to the target area to drop their bombs. Heavily damaged in the attacks, Pease's B-17 fell behind the rest of the formation returning home. Attacked again by enemy fighters, Pease's crew was observed jettisoning the burning spare fuel tank from the bomb bay and fell further behind. Assumed lost, at least two of the crew, including Harl Pease, survived bailing out of the crippled B-17. Captured by the enemy, Pease was taken to a POW Camp. On October 8, 1942, Pease, along with five comrades was executed by their captors. In December, 1942, President Roosevelt honored the courage, airmanship and dedication of Captain Harl Pease by posthumously awarding him the Medal of Honor.

The Portsmouth Airport was subsequently named Pease Air Force Base and hosted USAF bombers and refueling planes for many years. It is now known as Pease Air National Guard Base with the NHANG flying worldwide refueling missions in support of US and Allied airpower.

Capt. Harl Pease, Jr.  
USAAC

Medal of Honor recipient  
1942



View of Laconia Airport with Lake Winnepesaukee at the top of the picture

Some of our supporters who have assisted with our activities...

Aviation Association of New Hampshire  
Diane K. Kline Memorial Scholarship Fund  
Gunstock Mountain Resort  
Hyslp and Associates

