

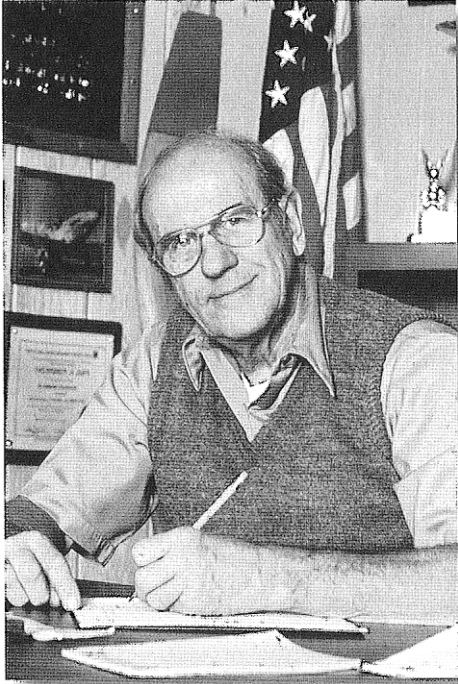
The Aero Club of
Northern California

1999 Award Winner

PAUL POBEREZNY



LIEUTENANT COLONEL USAF (RET)
FOUNDER, EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT ASSOCIATION
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD, EAA AVIATION FOUNDATION



PAUL POBEREZNY

Paul H. Poberezny is one of the most decorated men in the international aviation community, having received literally hundreds of trophies, awards and honors for his countless contributions to the world of flight. He is best known as founder of the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA), which has often been described as the world's most dynamic aviation organization. Each year, EAA's international Fly-In Convention draws more than 800,000 people and 12,000 airplanes to Oshkosh Wis., for one of the world's premier aviation events.

Paul organized the first Fly-In in 1953, the same year he founded EAA with a handful of other aviation enthusiasts in Milwaukee, Wis. From the basement of his Hales Corners (Wis.) home, Paul and his wife, Audrey, nurtured the small group and watched it grow each year. Paul toured the country on behalf of EAA, spreading a "grass roots" aviation message far and wide. He made frequent trips to Washington, D.C. to speak to Congressional leaders and



federal aviation authorities, where he defended the rights of amateur aircraft builders and sport aviation enthusiasts while earning his livelihood as a military pilot and aircraft maintenance officer. Today, Paul is considered one of aviation's leading spokesmen here in the United States and throughout the world, representing the interests of more than 170,000 active EAA members at local, national and international events.

The career of Paul Poberezny includes nearly 30 years of distinguished military service as a pilot, test pilot and a veteran of both World War II and the Korean Conflict. Prior to retiring with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, Paul became the only man in the armed forces to attain all seven aviation wings the military had to offer. Paul was able to accomplish this feat without ever having the benefit of military aviation training, a truly remarkable achievement in itself.

As a youngster, Paul built model airplanes from scratch. By the time he was 16, he had re-

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stored a battered Waco glider and taught himself how to fly. He has been in love with airplanes his entire life, although he has often remarked, "I've learned more about people through my associa-



tion with aviation than I ever did about airplanes." In all, Paul has logged more than 30,000 hours of flight time. He has piloted nearly 400 different types of aircraft, including more than

170 amateur-built airplanes. He has also designed and built more than 15 different airplanes and is currently working on a number of separate airplane projects in his private workshop. Paul also served as Publisher/Editor of EAA's publications, including five monthly magazines and numerous technical manuals and research papers, for 34 years. A collection of his "Homebuilder's Corner," which he has written since 1953, would be considered a homebuilder's bible.

Admired for his leadership and ability, Paul has served on the Board of Directors of many local, regional, national and international organizations. He is, without question, one of the foremost visionaries and innovators in the world of aviation today.



Paul Poberezny built this small single-seat aircraft of his own design. The Polar Sport is a single-seat light monoplane utilizing the basic fuselage structure of the Babe Ace, modified Luscombe wing panels and the landing gear of a Piper J-3 Cub.

It flew for the first time on July 7, 1959.

Seventeenth Annual Awards Presentation

The Aero Club of Northern California

June 12, 1999

San Jose, California

Welcome and Introduction Scott Yelich

Invocation Rev. Dwight Kintner

DINNER

Introduction of Aero Club Officers and Board Members Scott Yelich

Aero Club - NAA Special Honor Award

• Jay C. White Bill Potter

James M. Nissen Scholarship Award Barbara Murren

• Nicolas Sabardin

Roy Hester Scholarship Award Ron Blake

• Mark Losee

Guest Speaker

• Paul H. Poberezny Ray Hutchings

Crystal Eagle Award Presentation Scott Yelich

The Crystal Eagle Award

The Crystal Eagle Award is presented annually by the Aero Club of Northern California to recognize an individual whose accomplishments have significantly contributed to the advancement of aviation or space technology.

The Crystal Eagle: A distinctive work of art

The Crystal Eagle Award is a unique work of art crystal handcrafted in Italy.

It is fitting that the eagle should be the symbol for the Aero Club's annual award. The North American eagle is recognized as a bird possessing great strength, natural grace, keenness of vision and power in flight. The eagle has been used by man to identify with flying since its inception to our current successes in space.

The Crystal Eagle is mounted on a California redwood base, unique to Northern California. In its natural state redwood has unusual durability, commensurate with the recipients of this coveted award.

Crystal Eagle Award Winners

1983: General James "Jimmy" Doolittle

1984: Brigadier General Charles E. "Chuck" Yeager

1985: Stanley Hiller, Jr.

1986: William "Bill" Lear, Sr.

1987: James M. "Jim" Nissen

1988: Anthony W. "Tony" LeVier

1989: Elbert "Burt" L. Rutan

1990: George S. Cooper

1991: Allen E. Paulson

1992: Jeana Yeager

1993: Robert T. Jones

1994: Frank L. Christensen

1995: James S. Ricklefs

1996: Darryl G. Greenamyre

1997: Robert L. "Hoot" Gibson

1998: Donald D. Engen



Our Special Thanks to:

Hillis Printing/Chuck Hillis
Hugh Center Trust/Art Lund
Sixteenth St. Design/Bill & Kim Pfahnl
Alpha Eta Rho - SJSU Chapter

San Jose International Airport (SJC)
Special Recognition

- San Jose Jet Center
- Aris Helicopters, Ltd.

About our club . . .

The Aero Club of Northern California was formed to promote those activities which advance aviation and aerospace within Northern California.

We are a chapter of our parent organization, the National Aeronautic Association (NAA), which having been founded in 1905 as the Aero Club of America is the oldest independent, non-profit aviation organization in the United States, and the sole U.S. representative to the Federation Aeronautique International (FAI).

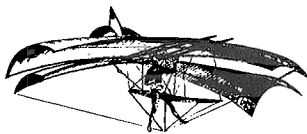
So central to aviation was the Aero Club that until 1926 it issued all pilot licenses in the United States.

The first five pilot licenses issued by the Aero Club were: 1) Glen H. Curtiss, 2) Lt. Frank P. Lahm, 3) Louis Paulham, 4) Orville Wright, and 5) Wilbur Wright. All other pilot licenses issued in the United States subsequent to these five were until 1926 issued by the Aero Club of America.

We embrace the goals of our parent organization in our efforts to support a vigorous aviation and space program for students at all levels of learning, and to recognize and honor those who have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of aviation and space flight.

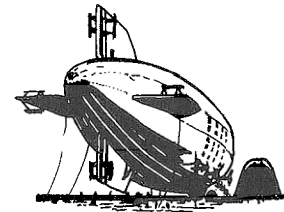
About our logo . . .

Incorporated in the logo of The Aero Club of Northern California are some of the most significant contributions the Northern California area has made to the art and science of flight.



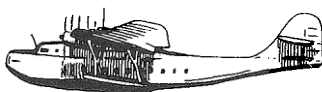
Montgomery Flight - 1904

Often referred to as "The Father of Basic Flying" Dr. John Montgomery was a true aviation pioneer. San Jose was the site of many of his historic achievements. Alexander Graham Bell noted that, "All subsequent attempts in aviation must begin with the Montgomery Machine."



Moffett Field - 1933

Dedicated April 12, 1933, Moffett Field until recently was the United States guardian of the Pacific. It continues to be a major aviation facility supporting both federal and military operations.



China Clipper - 1935

Lifting from San Francisco Bay waters on November 22, 1935, the Clipper became the first airplane to fly the Pacific non-stop. Cutting over 15 days off the best surface time from San Francisco to Manila, it led to the elimination of the barriers of space and time.



NASA Ames Research Center - 1940

Northern California's continued contributions to involvement in the quest for our ultimate destiny is assured by the ongoing advancements in aerospace science and technology at NASA's Ames Research Center.