

## Why Learn to Fly?

When someone comes to us expressing a desire to fly, we often hear, “I have thought about learning to fly, and now I want to do it!” But why? What is the motivation?



Some have previous experience in aircraft modeling and want to experience “the real thing”. Some have friends or relatives who are or have been pilots, and have been encouraged to seek pilot training. Some have the desire to fly jets for the military or pursue an airline career. Others are looking for an exciting recreational outlet. Whatever it is, there is no time like the present to begin.

Piloting an aircraft provides many positive attributes both to the student and to the certificated pilot. These may include:

- **The aesthetics of flying over varied terrain.** For example the Finger Lakes, the Thousand Islands, the Adirondacks, and many other venues provide a beauty that can be appreciated only from the air.



- **The skills of piloting.** Pilots comprise a relatively small number of people, and belonging to that population is a satisfying position. This provides camaraderie second to none. Meeting a fellow pilot almost anywhere provides an immediate and usually satisfying (sometimes lengthy) interaction. (We call this “hangar flying” or “swapping lies”.)



- **The exercise of learning and gaining knowledge.** Piloting is a lifelong learning experience. Every flight has opportunities to improve upon skills and knowledge. As you progress from visual flying to instrument flying you will find mental challenges to excite and challenge you.



- **The ability to go places that the airlines do not.** The United States abounds with small airports that boast great restaurants, wonderful local attractions, and wonderful people.
- **The ability to go now.** There is no need to wait for scheduled airlines. If you are in business and need to visit a customer or supplier right now, here is a way to do it.
- **The satisfaction of overcoming the bonds of gravity and flying with the birds.** A poet said it best, "Your dream is the gift of your own soul. But if its promise is to be fulfilled, you must turn your eyes from the world of men and dare to fly among the stars." By Robert Sexton

Here is a great web site with more perspective on WHY:

[www.rod Machado.com/become\\_private\\_pilot/why\\_learn\\_to\\_fly.php](http://www.rod Machado.com/become_private_pilot/why_learn_to_fly.php)

## **And Where?**

Penn Yan Flying Club resides in the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York State. We are located at the Penn Yan Airport (KPEO) on the northeastern tip of Keuka Lake. We were founded in 1939 by some local business people with a love of flying. The club was incorporated in the State of New York in 1940, and has been in continuous operation since that time. Since this inception its mission statement has been "To promote aviation through the conduct of a business which breaks even and enables members to fly safely and inexpensively".

The Club has acquired members, aircraft, land and financial resources at varying levels during its existence. It has been responsible for training individuals who have become military aviators, airline pilots, bush pilots, flight instructors, civil air patrol (CAP) pilots and people who just love to fly for the fun of it.

We currently have fleet of 6 aircraft, including a Piper Cub (a J-3 purchased new in 1946), two Cessna 150 two seat trainers, one Cessna 172 four place airplane, one Piper Cherokee four place airplane, and a recently acquired Cirrus SR20 four place airplane. The capabilities of these craft vary from basic to technically advanced. All four place aircraft are equipped for instrument flight (IFR) activities. The Cirrus has an Avidyne "glass cockpit" avionics system including dual Garmin GPS navigation radios and an advanced two-axis autopilot.

We carefully manage our aircraft in terms of timeliness of service, quality, and responsiveness to problems. Safety of our aircraft and pilots is our foremost objective. We strive to have the maximum number of our aircraft available to our members at any given time. We currently have four flight instructors on staff. Two of these instructors are Cirrus standardized instructors (CSIPs). All have significant instruction experience and are qualified for both visual and instrument training. Two are also multi-engine qualified. We offer an annual ground school program aimed at helping students pass the FAA knowledge test, or just refresh an individual's knowledge. Instructor schedules are varied, but all are flexible enough to meet your needs.

A Board of Directors consisting of nine members elected by the general membership manages the Club. They are responsible for directing day to day activities as well as setting strategic direction for the Club. We also have a Flight Safety Board, responsible to the Board of Directors, whose charter is to oversee our flight training and flight operations, and assure their safe operation. This Board consists of the instructors and other individuals appointed by the President.

The entire staff of PYFC is devoted to its customers' (members) satisfaction, and is intent on providing them with the training, experiences, and enjoyment that our mission promises. Please visit our web site at [www.pennyanflyingclub.com](http://www.pennyanflyingclub.com) for more information about us and opportunities for flying, and for specific contacts if you wish to talk to any of our staff.