

## A TRIBUTE TO AUDREY POBEREZNKY



The Experimental Aircraft Association and the sport aviation movement it supports lost one of its quiet champions in 2020 when Audrey Pobereznky went west. It signaled the end of an era.

Audrey was married to Paul Pobereznky the founder of EAA. She was with him, taking notes, when he hosted the first organizational meeting in 1953. She and Paul then dedicated their entire adult lives to developing and sustaining EAA. For many years, they housed EAA's Headquarters in the basement of their home.

It's safe to say that no other person has handled as many different types of responsibilities for EAA as Audrey. She processed all the incoming membership checks, typed member cards, typed and mailed thousands of letters for Paul, kept track of state and federal obligations, did the accounting, and handled an endless flow of details that arose in producing a newsletter



... later a magazine; in handling employees ... when they finally had some, and in supporting EAA's annual, expanding convention, now known as AirVenture.

She brought stability, professionalism, sound procedures and an astute sense of business to EAA's daily operations. Never one to seek out a spotlight, she preferred to work in the background and provided invaluable advice, counsel and new ideas to Paul. They were a perfect team. That teamwork became even more effective as Audrey's talented son, Tom, and gifted daughter, Bonnie, took on vital roles in the organization.

Audrey served as Co-Chairwoman of Guest Relations for AirVenture until 1998 and continued to participate at Oshkosh until 2014. She was 95 when she passed.

Audrey exuded a warm energy, a gentleness and empathy that won over hearts and minds for decades as she gave selflessly to a movement that has touched and enhanced the lives of well over a million people.

We are saddened to lose her and indebted to her immeasurable contributions. The catalogue in your hands at this moment probably wouldn't exist without the dedication of the extraordinary Pobereznky family.

## THE POBEREZNKY ESTATE



Aircraft Spruce purchased the former home of Paul and Audrey Pobereznky in Oshkosh, WI in 2017 and makes the home available to the EAA for tours and special events. The original stone farmhouse is over 100 years old and was Paul and Audrey's home from 1991 until his death in 2013. Located near Wittman Field, the 9 acre estate reflects the standards and culture the Pobereznys utilized in building the world's leading sport aviation organization, EAA, and the world's premier aviation event, AirVenture. This home hosted many of aviations leaders and icons, and countless aviation artifacts and photos representing the relationships and events that shaped Paul's remarkable life are on display throughout the home, providing insight into the lifetime passion and vision of one of aviation's greatest leaders. This is where Paul built airplanes,



read about aviation history, and wrote countless letters and articles. As he often said, "There isn't a day that goes by that I don't say the word airplane".

Aircraft Spruce and the Irwin family have maintained a close relationship with the Pobereznky family and EAA for over 50 years and is honored to have the opportunity to partner with the EAA to make this historic home available to EAA members and aviation enthusiasts in the years ahead.