

Aviation Biography of Ben Templeton

Ben's first experience with flying was at the age of two. He flew in a V-Tail Bonanza at Greenville Downtown Airport in South Carolina. From there, his love of aviation grew. At age nine he flew his first Radio Controlled aircraft, and by age 14, he was competing on a national level through the International Miniature Aerobatic Club (IMAC).

On his 16th birthday, he soloed two aircraft, a C-172 (at 7:00 am before school!) and later that day, the Triple Tree Aerodrome's J-3 Piper Cub. He earned his private pilot license last fall at age 17. He owns a Cessna 120 and between that and anything else he can get his hands on, he has amassed 400 hours of flight time and achieved endorsements for Tailwheel, Complex, and High-Performance operations in General Aviation Aircraft. When he is not flying General Aviation aircraft, he competes with Radio Control aircraft at various IMAC competitions across the United States. In 2020, he won 1st place in the IMAC Regional Competition for Intermediate Class.

Outside of the cockpit, Ben just graduated June 1st from the Math and Science Magnet Program at J.L. Mann High School in Greenville, SC and instead of walking across the stage, he departed from Triple Tree (SC00) on an epic journey! Flying Triple Tree's vintage 1946 J-3 Piper Cub to all lower 48 states solo. Approx 8,000 miles and over 100 stops for fuel in an effort to promote Triple Tree and also "ignite and expand the passion for aviation." His ultimate goal is to raise interest in youths in aviation.

After his Cub trip this summer, he plans on attending Middle Georgia State University in the fall, where he is majoring in Aviation Science and Management.

In his free time, Ben enjoys working on all types of aircraft, volunteering at Triple Tree and serving on the Triple Tree Aerodrome Young Aviators Council to promote Triple Tree Aerodromes Aerospace Centered Education (ACE) programs. He is also a Regional Southeast VP in Young Aviators US, a non-profit group "committed to introducing youth and young adults to the incredible opportunities available to transform the world of flight."