



# WaterFlying

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**AROUND THE WORLD IN  
A SEAREY. REALLY.**



Stone Boat  
Remembered

Historic Colorado  
Splash-in



# PHILLY'S SPB HOSTS SPLASH-IN

By Robert Dant

**W**inds were calm, skies were clear, the ramp cleaned up and conditions perfect for our second annual summer splash-in at the Essington Seaplane Base on the Delaware River in Philadelphia.

Our first visitor at 9:30 a.m. was Rich's Aventura II from New Garden Flying Field. It was mid-tide, and the small wheels on the Aventura had issues with a few larger stones and bricks, but Rich powered through and got to dry land. By this time, a number of classic

cars from a Delaware county club had arrived, as did many other visitors.

It was another hour and a half before other pilots flew in, but they started coming in quickly. Five flying boats lined both sides of the freshly mowed grass at the historic 1799 Lazaretto house.

We fired up two grills and fed the approximate 75 visitors with burgers, dogs, and kielbasa. It was nice to see quite a few local families that brought their kids to see the seaplanes. To top it

off, we cracked open the cooler loaded with dry ice and offered free ice cream to all visitors, including a Pennsylvania Department of Transportation road crew that was parked at the site waiting to get back on a nearby highway project.

Although real improvements at the seaplane base are probably a couple years away, it was nice to see so much seaplane activity here, if only for a few hours. Thanks to all who helped make it happen. ■

The first seaplane to arrive at the Essington SPB approaches the ramp.



Seareys dominated splash-in contingent.



Natural ramp leading to broad grass parking area is a bit rocky, but negotiable.



The SPB site also features an historic brick structure built in 1799.

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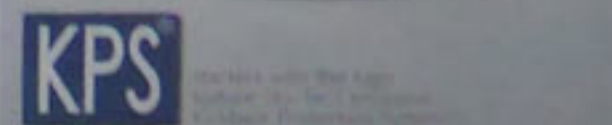
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