

# The TAILSPIN



April 2008

ORLANDO YOUTH AVIATION CENTER

**Jim Thomas**  
**Prez Sez**

## It's All Good—Very Good

Life is Good! So says the cover story in this month's Sport Pilot and I have to say I agree.

There's so much going on with the chapter, I can hardly keep it all straight in my tiny little brain! I can't imagine what my life would be like without having been involved with EAA 74. I probably wouldn't be involved in the SeaRey community, because that stems directly from OYAC getting one donated and it's sale to three members. I also wouldn't have the great friendships that have grown over the years. We've got the best bunch of volunteers in the entire EAA.

Speaking of volunteers, **Mike Sills** suggested we have a volunteer appreciation picnic March 15<sup>th</sup> at Bob White and about 25 folks showed up for a late morning, early afternoon of aviation centered fun, food and flying. It was a bit breezy and I wish I'd had the presence of mind to remember that my digital camera has a movie mode so I could have caught almost everyone's multiple landings!

Last weekend, we had our Boy Scout Young Eagles program at Fantasy of Flight. **Steve Gatlin**, **Mike Sills** and **Tim Sweeney** did a great job of coordinating this event and **Debey Von** did her usual superb job dispatching the kids and matching them with planes and pilots. 15 pilots brought their aircraft and we flew 114 kids before the runway condition deteriorated so badly that we had to cease operations. Thanks to all the volunteers that gave their time, aircraft and energy to this event.

### Sun 'n Fun... and Steaks!

**Robert White** and **Bob Kosar** have been having a "Steak Night" at Sun 'n Fun and this year decided to open it up to the entire chapter. Thursday evening, they plan on cooking up a bunch of thick and juicy New York Strips for any chapter member interested. You need to RSVP to Robert at 407 340-7749 ASAP so they can get a handle on how many folks to expect. All you need to do is let him know you plan on coming and if you have a side dish you'd like to bring, tell him that, too. You can chip in on the cost of the meat, salad, corn, potatoes, etc. on Thursday night.

### Volunteer For Fun!

Many of our chapter members are a big part of the reason Sun 'n Fun works so well. If you'd like to help out, I'm sure they'd like your help. Off the top of my head, here's a list of our chapter members who keep things going smoothly:

**Pat Phillips** – runs the air show daily.

**Barbara Walters-Phillips** – runs the teacher's workshop.

## Is This Your Last Issue?

Say It Isn't So!

Please renew your Chapter membership today.

2008 dues are just \$25  
including the entire family

Make check payable to EAA Chapter 74  
PO Box 140571, Orlando, FL 32814  
or bring it along to this month's meeting

### Next Meeting Tue, Apr. 15, 7:30 pm

*Tim Clifford—Recreational Airport Assn.*  
*Sun 'n Fun Update*

**Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Executive Airport**

### Upcoming Events

Sun 'n Fun Fly-In	Apr 8—13, Tue—Sun
Spring Celebration of Flight	Aircraft displays, daily air show, workshops, marketplace Lakeland Linder Airport
Chapter Meeting	Apr 15, Tues Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Young Eagles Rally	May 17, Sat Setup 7:30 am, Flying 9 am-11 am Southeast Ramp, Orlando-Sanford Int'l
Chapter Meeting	May 20, Tues Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec

**Don MacLendon** – Co chairs parking operations.

**Bob Hayden** – handles evening entertainment.

**Beverly Hayden** — handles Bob!

**Mel Scherf** – runs the tool crib.

**Bea Scherf** – runs Mel.

If I've left anyone out, I apologize.

### Hook Up With Your Friends!

We discussed this at the board meeting and decided that 11:30 AM would be a good time, but didn't really come to a consensus as to where would be a good place, so I'm making an executive decision and naming a place everyone can find. Ace's Café. Just hang out in front and look for familiar faces. Don't forget to wear your badge!

If I don't see you at Sun 'n Fun, I'll see you at the next meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>!

Jim

## Young Eagles

# Flights of Fantasy for 114

## Rally fills out Scouts' Aviation Merit Badges



Three very happy Boy Scouts show off their Young Eagle certificates after flying with Greg Garrison.

If you checked Jim's *Prez Sez* on page 1, you know we had a great Young Eagles Rally at Fantasy of Flight in March.

Last Fall, the weather gods grounded our plans, so Fantasy of Flight invited us back to try again. This time the skies were just about perfect, letting us take 114 Scouts aloft, giving them the experience of flight and helping them earn their Aviation Merit badges.

Fifteen pilots in planes ranging from a 150 to a Van's RV-6 and a Bonanza B36 queued up on the ramp. Mark Almond flew, 12; Jim Barrett, 12;



Civil Air Patrol Cadets from De-Land Squadron 60 marshalled planes. Thanks to Capt. Tak Kong, Elijah Hogston, Michael Paulen, Riley LaBoy, Miguel Franco, Matt Monk, Aaron Jones, and Spencer Grace.

Dennis Boudreau, 3; Bob Caime, 8; Chris Fenger, 12; Greg Garrison, 9; Greg Gent, 7; Glenda McElwee, 9; Chuck Bull, 4; Mike Sills, 12; and Greg Vogelwohl, 9.

The rally was dedicated to the memory of Harris Sullivan, and we were happy to welcome pilots from his home chapter, EAA 791 in New Port Richey. Stan Crosier flew 9 Scouts; John Edwards, 4; and Art Michaud, 4. Thanks to their Chapter mates John Voda and Sid Miller for helping on ground.

AIAA—always a big help—provided runners, John Griffin, Milissa Seco, Marcelo Rosas, Alejandro Ruiz del Sol, Michelle Tyrlk, Nicholas Koutsos, Sam Ziebelman and Ben Coleman.

Civil Air Patrol Squadron 60 from De-Land provided very professional ramp safety and marshalled the planes.



Mike Sills and Louis Turek brief the pilots on the day's flying.



Debey Von was a blur assigning all the Scouts to planes, directing the runners and recording flights. Andy Singh (lower left) cranked out the certificates

EAA 74 members helping out included Debey Von, Jim Buchan, Real Dupuis, Tim Sweeney, Andy Singh and Tom Carveth.

A big salute goes to Steve Gatlin for overall coordination with Fantasy of Flight, Mike Sills for arranging pilots and Tim Sweeney for operations.

Of course, hats off, too, to Kermit Weeks and Fantasy of Flight for making it all possible.



Above: John Edwards of EAA 791 poses with a Boy Scout crew, while Sid Miller readies the plane for another flight.

Below: Chris Fenger with a Scout crew just after landing.



# Bob Finds A New Passion

A 90%/90% SeaRey has come to the Hayden's

*Well, for the third time this &%\*\*^\$% laptop has eaten an almost complete planetalk. Please do not talk to me about the "save" or "draft" button. I have pressed both of these treacherous keys with no appreciable result, and have been reduced to swearing, kicking the table, and chewing the carpet, with no result. Do it again is the only choice. So here it is.*

**S**un-n-Fun 08 is coming up, with all the excitement, thrills, and new stuff that we all enjoy. But I have an additional reason to celebrate right now - I am the proud owner of a SeaRey project that is at the 90% point, with only another 90% to go. Final assembly and connection of the myriad of wires, cables, fuel, oil, electric and hydraulic lines to go.

Unfortunately, when the time came for a familiarization flight with the guru of Progressive Aerodyne, I had a bad case of allergy going on and could not fly. My younger brother and my nephew did make the flight, however, and have been acting like they were vaccinated with a phonograph needle - they just can't shut up!

They flew all around Lake Apopka and did all sorts of wonderful things, water takeoffs and landings, high speed water taxiing, fast turns, docking maneuvers and all that good stuff. The feedback I got from them both was all positive.

While poking around in the Progressive Aerodyne plant, back in one corner I noticed a brand new extra long hull with a double step. When I asked the CEO about this, he said "Yep, that's the new baby in the house and its coming right along." Imagine - a four place SeaRey coming up soon! I immediately asked if they were gonna take trade-ins when the new plane is ready for the public. but he just smiled and basically said "Heck No".

Anyway, when they're ready, I'm gonna get one if I gotta hock the boat! Well, this is my third shot at getting this little article out, Beverley is turning out the lights, and it's time to go.

Be careful out there.

Bob

## OYAC Update

# Learning Is Fun—But What's Next?

New education activities added to popular Youth Aviation Class



*Brian Wavra's Model Building Class is a big hit—especially when they get to fly their own creations.*

**G**etting kids to enjoy education is a no-brainer—at least during Youth Aviation Class of the Orlando Youth Aviation Center, sponsored by EAA 74.

The 8-week class, now in session three times per year, has proven to be a real hit with kids 10-15 and their parents.

The only question after class is the one we get after Young Eagles rallies—What's next? So, Louis Turek, OYAC president, has announced two new education activities.

The first is a glider competition—actually it's the second one. High

schoolers will be invited to build a glider and fly it in competition. Simply stated, the one that flies the farthest while carrying the most marbles will be declared winner. The competition is coming up in May, probably at the UCF Engineering School.

Louis' next brainstorm is called "Test Pilot". With a title sure to inspire, kids will be invited to Elite Flight Simulations thanks to Chapter member Steve Gatline, the firm's marketing director. The kids will be divided into teams and get to "fly" a variety of flight simulators from a helicopter to a King Air.



*Bob Kosar teaches riveting in his Aircraft Construction class.*

The new activities are exciting additions to OYAC's programs and a boost to the organization's goal of building an aviation education facility at Orlando Executive Airport.

If you'd like to get involved, contact Louis at [aerospace\\_pilot@yahoo.com](mailto:aerospace_pilot@yahoo.com).



*Robert White shows a student how to fit a wing rib together.*