

The TAILSPIN



February 2008

ORLANDO YOUTH AVIATION CENTER

Jim Thomas
Prez Sez

Turning The Page

A new chapter in 2008

Wow, what great flying weather!

We have a bit of a different plan for this month's membership meeting. Edy Lindsey and her gentleman friend/flying partner, Jim Reitz are bringing their Kolb Light Sport plane along with it's mobile hangar for Tarmac Time at 6:30. Besides showing off her toys, she's got an ulterior motive, in that she's made some modifications since it was last weighed, so we'll be attempting to use the club's scales to get a new weight. If the good Lord's willin' and the wind don't rise, we'll do that. She and Jim said they'd also welcome any pointers from other builders. To take the plane out of the trailer, show it off and get the weight and then fold the wings back up to stow it back in it's hangar will likely take more than the usual hour, so we'll let it stretch to an hour and a half.

Tom Poberezney sent me a package of information and begged me to share the new AOPA/EAA General Aviation Airport Security Program with you, so we'll pass out brochures and watch a short DVD and then discuss whether we find the information useful.

So what have you done for me lately? or, ask not what the club can do for you, ask what you can do for the club!

As I mentioned last month, there is a growing desire within the club to have some social flyouts and some more emphasis on building. Let's start with flyouts. Mike Sills, our Young Eagles Airboss, would like to thank our ground volunteers by having a club picnic where these folks who show up early and stay late, but never get to fly, can actually have a flight. I think that's a great idea, so we've scheduled it for March 15th. More details will follow and you can be the first to know about it if you sign up for our Yahoo Group! There will be more instructions on how to sign up, elsewhere in this newsletter.

One long time member complained to a board member that we never do any flyouts. The board member asked the member what he was prepared to do about that. In other words, contact the board and tell us where you'd like to fly and what you'd like to do while there and then make it happen! That's all there is to it. Don't expect your board to plan all these activities... get busy and arrange it!

Next Meeting Tue, Feb 19, 7:30 pm

EAA-AOPA Airport Security Program

TARMAC TIME

6:30 pm

Edith Lindsey & Jim Reitz's Kolb Mark III

**Showalter Flying Service
Orlando Executive Airport**

Upcoming Events

Chapter Meeting	Feb 19, Tues Tarmac Time, 6:30 p.m. Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Chapter Fly-In	Mar 15, Sat Picnic and 'Bald' Eagle flights
Chapter Meeting	Mar 18, Tues Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Fantasy of Flight Young Eagles Rally	Mar 29, Sat Setup 7:30 am, Flying 9 am-11 am Fantasy of Flight
Sun 'n Fun Fly-In Spring Celebration of Flight	Apr 8—13, Tue—Sun Aircraft displays, daily air show, workshops, marketplace Lakeland Linder Airport

There are two SeaRey projects, a Quickie Q2 and a Europa project that I know about in the club. We have a tradition of flying Young Eagles on the Saturday following our meetings, but we don't have rallies every month, so third Saturday flyouts and project visits are a natural fit for those dates.

Get ready for Sun 'n Fun, it's just around the corner!

I know **Pat Phillips** can use some help with the air show, **Don McLendon** can always use extra help with aircraft parking/marshalling and **Mel Scherf** is the man to talk to about volunteering in general. EAA is looking for volunteers, too. If you haven't contacted them yet, please do so and help our chapter help Sun 'n Fun!

See you at the meeting... Blue Skies and Tailwinds!

Jim

Sneak Peek Of Sun 'N Fun

USAF Thunderbirds and lots of other flying stuff

Well, here it is February, going on April, and we all know what that means. A large percentage of the Chapter is beginning to get busy preparing for Sun 'n Fun '08, including Yours Truly.

Members of Chapter 74 are involved in almost every area of Sun 'n Fun operations, and if some catastrophe suddenly wiped out the Chapter (a misdirected asteroid, maybe, or a sudden outbreak of amoebic dysentery perhaps, well, SnF would be between a rock and a hard place.

Anyway, it is that time of year, and I thought you might like a little advance peek at the planned activities. For starters, the USAF Thunderbirds will be at SnF for the whole week - static display on the Warbird ramp for the first couple of days, then several days of flights towards the end of the week. MacDill AFB wanted them for their show, but they don't have a 12,000 foot runway (which is required for the aerobatics box & deadline areas) or the needed parking space, so we got 'em!

Also, there is another highly unusual goody to be seen this year. There is an international meet of air refueling aircraft and crews from all over the world at MacDill, and guess what? Reference my previous statement about non-availability of parking space at MacDill, we got a lot of it at SnF, so there will be large numbers of very large and unusual air tanker types parked in the Warbird display areas at SnF. I am told that there will be KC-130s, KC-135s, KC-10s, and several other flavors of American built tankers, and also quite a few foreign built types that are not normally (or ever) seen in the US.

All this is in addition, of course, to the gobs of active USAF/NAVY aircraft on display, plus the regular gaggle of restored Warbirds that grace the ramp every year. We will quite possibly have some of the new light jet aircraft display,

both US and foreign built, and some of the new aircraft piston engines designed to burn jet fuel instead of 100 octane.

With the incredible advances in magnets, batteries, and electronics, there are bound to be some new things coming out in those areas that are a quantum leap forward from the basic 1920 -30's types of stuff that we are still flying around with. Have you heard about the new batteries that are paper-thin, stackable, can be cut and spliced, shaped, and even formed to fit any space?

Solar cells are going wild, also, and I expect that more than one person or group is messing with the idea of a solar - powered aircraft engine that would deliver unlimited range using the new thin, flexible, lightweight and extremely efficient solar cells as part of the aircraft skin! If we could do that, we would be standing on the edge of independence from relying on oil as fuel, and open up incredible opportunities for improving life in general all over the world. I know that this would irritate our friends in the Mid-East a trifle, but they could still amuse themselves counting the gold that they have already traded our paper money for, and watching the camel races that I understand are very popular in the sandy areas over there (are there any other kind of areas in the Arabian Peninsula?)

Anyway if it is aviation related, it's gonna be at SnF and you gotta see it! In addition to this wonderful news, Beverley and I are now in residence in the Back Acres campground at SnF and hope to make it to the next couple of chapter meetings, alive and in person!

Meanwhile, have fun, and be careful out there.

Bob

It's Time To Re-New

Send your Chapter dues today

Yep—it's that time again.

Time to renew your Chapter membership. But it's more than just getting on a list. Just like becoming a member of EAA, your Chapter membership is your statement that aviation is not just what you do, but a very large part of who you are.

It's through Chapter membership that we get to experience the world of aviation up close and personal. For most of

us, the EAA experience is limited to a monthly magazine and a day at Sun 'n Fun, and for a few, a trip to Oshkosh. But the Chapter is where we get to interact regularly with people who share and encourage our passion.

Through Chapter 74, we've met many pilots of impressive capability and fantastic experiences. We've watched friends go from tentative steps as student pilots to IFR-rated builder owners. We've made a contribution to our community. We've expanded our personal

horizons. And had quite a bit of fun and shared a lot of smiles along the way.

Plans for the this year include fly-outs and more building-related programs. Dues support activities like the summer picnic, the Chapter's dues and insurance to EAA, tools and equipment and the Christmas Party.

Chapter 74 dues are just \$25 and include everyone in the family. Just send a check made out to EAA Chapter 74 to PO Box 140571, Orlando, FL 32814.

See you on the ramp.



Starting On The 2nd Try

Thick fog grounds the January rally;
blue skies turn it around in February

As thick as pea soup.

No kidding. The fog on Saturday morning, Jan 19th, was so dense you couldn't see from the ramp to the runway. Definitely zero-zero conditions at Kissimmee Gateway for the Chapter's first scheduled Young Eagles Rally of 2008. Being next to Lake Toho, Kissimmee does get more fog than Orlando, but the conditions prevailed across the whole Central Florida area. For a time at ORL, the tower was not visible from Showalter's classroom where the OYAC model building class was in session.

Despite the ground clouds—and a note on the website canceling the Rally—a few people showed up anyway, hoping for the best. The best was Tim Sweeney and Steve Gatlin walking kids around planes tied down on the ramp. Tim taxied his RV-7A over to the Rally site and said he really had no idea where he was going—he just followed

the yellow line in the direction he thought he was supposed to go.

But, on Feb 5th, the weather gods made up for being so sulky. They started things out a bit dark with low ceilings but relented before flying time offering blue skies and high clouds.

This time, Tim had no problem taxing over, joined by Mike Sills, Dave Macintire and Greg Gent and Louie Turek who flew in from Orlando.

The "early risers" were Steve Gatlin, Tim and Jim Buchan and his friend Lil, who set up the tent and Steve's popup camper for registration and certificate printing. They were joined later by Deby Von, Real Dupuis, Chuck Bull, Dave Berelsman and Tom Carveth.

Our faithful friends from AIAA also arrived—flying in with Greg and Louie—to help out as escorts. Thanks to David Ameijeiras, Will Walsh and Ken Stanley.

By the end of the morning, 23 kids had enjoyed a free airplane ride. That's kind of a small number for us, but it allows for the kids to get more quality time with the pilots and in the planes.

Greg flew 8 kids; Dave 3; Louie 6; Mike 5; and Tim 3.

Thanks to Steve for planning the Rally at Kissimmee and to Signature Flight Services for extending use of their ramp space.

The next Rally is a special event for the Boy Scout Camporee at Fantasy of Flight on March 29th. We expect to fly 150 Scouts. Volunteers are permitted to fly in and park. There is also camping for anyone interested in spending Friday night. Last year's Rally at FoF was a great experience and a huge success. Pilots may contact Mike Sills at mikepilot1@earthlink.net. Ground volunteers, please contact Steve at stephen@flyelite.com.

'Bald Eagle' Fly-In Planned

A rally for the rest of us

You may not know this, but EAA 74 has flown a whole lot of kids in our Young Eagles program. Somewhere approaching 10,000.

Of course, it is the pilots who gave so generously of their skill, aircraft and wallets that achieved that number. But through it all are a lot of people who stayed on the ground promoting, organizing, setting up, registering, escorting, cooking, and handling the many tasks without which the flights would not happen at all.

Mike Sills, our Chapter's air boss, has decided it's time for Chapter members to enjoy the flying fun that has been reserved for the kids. So he's planning a rally for the rest of us. A 'bald eagles' rally if you don't mind the kidding around.

The plan is to gather at Bob White Airport off Jones Rd in Zellwood on Mar 15th. Several of the Young Eagles pilots will fly in. We'll share some fried chicken and good ole' hangar flying and anyone who'd like to take an airplane ride will be able to do so.

There won't be any certificates like the kids get, but we're adults—we can live without them. Besides it's an airplane ride, who cares about any certificates?

Don't confuse this with our annual picnic that we also have at Bob White. That's for the summer. Last time, Pat Phillips gave a bunch of Chapter members rides in his and Barbara's Stearman. Don't expect them to fly this time as they are both in the thick of planning for Sun 'n Fun. But there will be other planes there so not to worry.

So, even though it's kind of like our picnic and not wanting to confuse the two, think of this as a Rally For The Rest Of Us.

This is primarily for the Young Eagle ground crew and other Chapter members, so it will be a good time at a wonderful grass airport.

Final details and times will be determined and posted on the website as well as included in an email to everyone.

The Chapter will supply a few buckets and some soft drinks, but Mike needs someone to help picking it up and getting it to Bob White (he'll be flying in). Of course, anyone who want to bring anything else is welcome.

Come to the Chapter meeting for more info, or contact Mike at mikepilot1@earthlink.net.