

The TAILSPIN



June 2009

ORLANDO YOUTH AVIATION CENTER

Jim Thomas
Prez Sez

Watch Your Rights Part Two!

Just as I sat down at the ol' writin' desk, the telephone rang. OK, the writin' desk is a laptop and the phone is cellular, but the point is I got interrupted by the phone and a happy interruption it was. My son Joel called to tell me he had just soloed... Hooray! It's been a couple of hours now, but I'll bet he's still grinning from ear to ear. I know it took me a few days for it to fade from my face. Runway 21 at Leesburg it was and while my CFI was getting out of the plane, a big ol' gator decided that the number 3 on the other end of the runway would be a good spot for a nap. I actually didn't notice him 'til I lifted off and that was well before the intersection of 13/31, so no worries, but it does make for a good story.

Do you remember *your* first solo?

I'm sure you do. However there are people out there who don't want others to share what is undoubtedly one of the greatest experiences we've all shared. Over in the town of Grant, in Southern Brevard County, they recently voted to annex the community of Valkaria, to keep Palm Bay at a distance. Now known as Grant-Valkaria, they have a nice little airport left over from WWII. The 99's recently repainted the compass rose there. They have an EAA chapter (#1288), a few hangars some tiedowns and not much else. Well, the town council, now having this nice little airport, decided that they should exert some influence. To that end, they decided that no flight school should be allowed to be based there. Never mind that students from FIT in Melbourne use it frequently, or that student pilots from all over the east coast use it. An ordinance prohibiting any flight training schools locating there passed its first reading on June 1, 2009. Ultimately, this will be defeated in court, but it's an expense taxpayers will have to bear. If you'd like to read more about it, this URL will take you to chapter 1288's news page.
<http://tr.im/o5cj>

The War on Airports

NIMBY – Not In My Back Yard! Nimbies are everywhere. Everyone agrees we need more and cleaner power, but nobody wants a nuclear plant or the perils that come with them. During last year's gas crisis, I saw hundreds of Drill Here, Drill Now! signs and bumper stickers. What will that do for tourism? As a steward of the planet and a fourth generation Floridian, I'd hate to see an oil spill jeopardize that. I

Next Meeting Tue, June 16, 7:30 pm

Program
Sherry Fowler
Commercial Ballonist
Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta

Tarmac Time 6:30 pm
Remos G3
First Landings Flight Academy

Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Executive Airport

Upcoming Events

Chapter Meeting	June 16, Tues Meeting 7:30 p.m., Tarmac Time 6:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Chapter Meeting	July 21, Tues Meeting 7:30 p.m., Tarmac Time 6:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
AirVenture	July 27– Aug 2 7 am, Mon–Sun Whitman Regional Airport, Oshkosh, WI
Chapter Meeting	Aug 18, Tues Meeting 7:30 p.m., Tarmac Time 6:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
OYAC Introduction to Aviation Class	Sept 12, Sat Class 9 am—12 Noon, 8 weeks Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Chapter Meeting	Sept 15, Tues Meeting 7:30 p.m., Tarmac Time 6:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Young Eagles Rally	Sept 19, Sat Flying 9 am—11 am Southeast Ramp, Orlando-Sanford Int'l

also don't believe one should sacrifice principles for the sake of expedience. In other words, don't throw out the baby with the bath water.

Twice in the last six months, **Tim Clifford** has presented incredible videos of places he likes to fly his Husky. The scenery was breathtakingly beautiful, but access to landing strips there has been threatened. Our ability to fly in the Grand Canyon was taken away years ago. Many of us wrote to Congress, but our protests fell on deaf ears. I guess what I'm saying folks is this: **If you don't want to lose even more of your rights, take a stand!**

Jim

Chapter Update

Beautiful Balloons

Plus LSA and charity flying on the summer schedule

An interesting variety of programs is on the schedule for this summer.

This month, commercial balloon pilot **Sherry Fowler** is coming to tell us about her corner of sport aviation. She'll include news about the giant Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta. She'll share quite a different view of flying than the one us fixed-wing, noise-maker folks are used to.

First Landings Academy from Orlando-Apopka airport is bringing a Remos G3 for *Tarmac Time*.

First Landings just started light sport training. They'll be back in July, with

the plane, to talk about light sport training. This will be a great meeting to invite friends, neighbors or co-workers who have been thinking about learning to fly.

In August, our guest speaker will be **Kenny Guill** of Missions Made Possible, an Orlando-based charity flight organization. He'll bring his Cherokee Six and talk about this very important part of GA.

Meetings start at 7:30 pm in the meeting room at Showalter Flying Service. Come early for *Tarmac Time* on the ramp at 6:30 pm for airplane lookin' and hangar flyin'. See you then.

Home, Sweet Home?

We *might* have a new Chapter clubhouse

No kidding! After all these years of sponging off our friends, we might actually be close to having a clubhouse for EAA 74.

Thanks to the continuing (and immeasurable) generosity and support of the Showalter's—our biggest sponge friends—we are being given an opportunity on a space that has recently become available on the field.

It'll take some fixing up but gives us plenty of room for meetings, tool stor-

age, our library and an office. There's great access to a the ramp and plenty of parking. It even has a reception area. We can use the space for OYAC classes and it can easily manage our Young Eagles flights. It also gives us a home of our own on the field and would probably help attract new members.

All the details will be presented at this month's meeting, so please be sure to come. It's your Chapter, too, and you get a voice.

Around-The-World

Carol Ann finishes the story of her record-setting flight

We each have our own reasons we enjoy flying—the diversity is one thing that makes chapter membership so much fun.

Among all the variety of pilots, CarolAnn Garratt brings a really unique perspective to flying—she *chooses* to sit in an airplane for up to 22 hours. Her thrill is flying around the world - earth-rounders, they call 'em.

Thanks to CarolAnn for being our speaker last month and completing the story of her record-setting flight to raise money for research to cure ALS.

Listening to CarolAnn, and reading her book, *Upon Silver Wings II*, lets you appreciate her flavor of flying and understand the why—even if you'll never do such a flight yourself.

It's amazing how much effort and planning goes into such a venture—finding fuel, charting winds, arranging permits (if you think our FAA is tough, CarolAnn suggests you try India's bureaucracy).

So, thanks to CarolAnn for sharing the tale of her adventure.

Welcome Matt Vogelpohl To The Board

Matt, Son of Greg, has been nominated to the Chapter's Board of Directors.

The appointment will be formalized at this month's meeting, but Matt has already rolled up his sleeves. He may have found a buyer for the two Piper airframes that were donated to OYAC.

Matt's been a Chapter fixture since he was just a young'un, often seen helping with computer duties at the Young Eagles events, or escorting kids to planes.

Matt will complete the term that ends in 2010.

Thanks, Matt!



EAA 74 members on a flyout to Ridge Landing, south of Lake Wales for a pancake breakfast to support Angel Flight. (Right to left) Dave Berelsman, Paul, Dean Seitz, Tim Sweeney, Debey Von, Mike Sills, Tom Carveth.



Carolyn Biter
Young Eagles

Rain, Rain...Go Away!!

Once again, weather has the final say

Sadly, no children flew on Saturday May 23rd, due to the weather.

Deb Von did take her check ride and is our newest Young Eagle pilot! Yay, go Deb. Her description of near IFR conditions upon landing put the final nail in the coffin for the day's flying.

I would like to thank the pilots who did arrive with the anticipation of flying children. Kudos to **Dave** and **Pat Berelsman** for mentoring the Atehortua team of mother and son-very excited ground volunteers!

We had a record return volunteers, **Bobby Barber** (who is now moving back to Nebraska), **Amberly Gardner**, **John Trimble**, **Cindy Huff**, and **Sindy Fitzpatrick**, thank you! Thanks again to **Tom Carveth** for making the dispatch stickers.

I would also like to thank and welcome two new volunteers, **Stef Mohl** and

Melanie Diehl, both from the UCF Social Work program- both were impressed with our event and now want to take Discovery flights!

The Sheriff's Department Helicopter became an interactive display as well as the Berelsman's 182 and Deb's rental 172.

And lastly, thanks to Bob's Hangar for supplying small items for purchase as well as Falcon Flight for cooking all of the yummy pancakes and **Tim Carr's** red, white and blue smoothies!

Let's hope we have better weather luck next time, September 19, 2009. We will again be hosted by the Southeast Ramp.

If you didn't make this last one, you may want to be there for the next one.....

Carolyn

74 Looks For A Young Eagle For Oshkosh Young Eagle points can cover one tuition

Thanks to our Young Eagles flying in 2008, the Chapter has earned enough points to send a deserving kid to the EAA AirVenture Summer Academy.

We've earned sufficient points each year, but EAA rules allowed a Chapter to use its points to cover only half tuition for a single child. Even though we tried a few times to sponsor a child, there have always been problems with funding the second half plus transportation. We came close a few times, only to have parents change their mind at the last minute.

This year, EAA changed its rules to eliminate that restriction, so we can use all our points for one child.

Despite the unusual weather challenges we've had this year, we still gar-

nered enough points for a tuition.

Now, all we need is a suitable candidate—and time's a-wastin'. **Carolyn Biter**, **Barbara Walters-Phillips**, **Louie Turek** and **Tim Sweeney** are working on identifying someone.

We almost had one student, but the family couldn't work out vacation schedules.

Points have to be used this year, so if you know of a worthy kid, please let Carolyn, Barbara or Louie know right away. There is a fallback—CarolAnn Garratt said she knows of several kids who are waiting in the wings, but it'd be terrific if we could send one of "our own".

Keep 'em flyin'!

74 Helps Kid Get To EAA Summer Academy

This summer, EAA 74 is helping a deserving kid get to the EAA Summer Academy on the EAA campus in Oshkosh.

CarolAnn Garratt created the J. Andrew Garratt scholarship in memory of her late brother for a deserving your person to go to the Academy. This year the winner is Jasmine Parnam who participates in the Teens in Flight Program which trains and grants private pilot licenses to kids whose parents have been killed or wounded in the military or law enforcement as well as kids from low income families.

CarolAnn asked if we could help with funds for Jasmine's grandparents to be able to drive her to Oshkosh and the Chapter donated \$300.

Jasmine wrote to CarolAnn, "...I will work very hard at the EAA Summer Academy, and apply myself in my studies, in order to further my passion for aeronautics.

"I am very excited to be going to Oshkosh. Your generosity has made it possible for me to participate in a wonderful learning experience."

Jasmine also wrote **Jim Thomas**: "Thank you for the \$300 transportation donation for the EAA Summer Academy. I appreciate this so much. It will be a tremendous help towards getting me from Florida to Wisconsin, and it will give me some extra spending money while I am there."

It's great we could help a deserving young person. We wish Jasmine a wonderful time and will try to get a report from her after her return from the Academy.