

The TAILSPIN



March 2009

ORLANDO YOUTH AVIATION CENTER

Jim Thomas
Prez Sez

Around Our Patch

There's sure a lot going on in EAA 74's "pattern"!

Young Eagles

We have a new coordinator! **Carolyn Biter** is completing her Bachelor's degree in Social Work at UCF and will enter the Master's program this fall. Currently, she's working with "guests" of Orange County. They're housed at the lovely Hotel Greybar, not too far from the theme parks. I don't think their accommodations include park admission, though. Carolyn's an instrument rated private pilot who owns a 152 along with her husband Jeff. Both are welcome additions to our chapter.

Don't forget we have a rally on the 21st. We'll send out a copy of the flyer, so you can put it up for the remainder of the week at any of your favorite neighborhood businesses, grocery or convenience stores. The local diners and pubs are good spots, too.

I think we've struck a balance on Young Eagles. With just 6 rallies per year, it's not too onerous on anyone and Air Boss **Mike Sills** makes sure we always have enough planes and pilots. I'm trying a social experiment at this month's rally. Considering the obesity problem we have in this country, along with the pancake breakfast, healthy snacks and drinks will be available for sale. If they don't sell, I guess we'll go back to sodas and chips...

Orlando Youth Aviation Center

It looks like we've got a home for our donated planes. **Jim Buchan** called **Craig Pearlman** and Craig and I have arranged to store them in his warehouse near the Orange County Fairgrounds. We just need to get them from where they are to where they need to be. We should also know real soon whether we're going to do a restoration on either, both or just declare them as salvage.

Our final class series of the year is underway at the Showalter classroom. **We could use some help!** There are only a handful of teachers and all of us have been doing it for years. Check the www.OYAC.org website to see the topics covered in each class and contact **Louis Turek**, **Barbara Walters-Phillips**, or me to volunteer for the class that interests you.

Projects

A number of active projects are underway. Among them: my somewhat stalled SeaRey, and **Dave Martin's** 90%-done-90%-to-go SeaRey. **Jim Buchan & Tim Sweeney** are mak-

Next Meeting Tue, Mar 17, 7:30 pm

Guest Speaker
Bob Hayden
Plane Talk, Plane Fun

Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Executive Airport

Upcoming Events

Chapter Meeting	Mar 17, Tues Meeting 7:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Young Eagles Rally & Pancake Breakfast	Mar 21, Sat Flying 9 am—11 am Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Chapter Meeting	Apr 21, Tues Meeting 7:30 p.m., Tarmac Time 6:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Sun 'n Fun Fly-In & Air Show	Apr 21-26, Tues-Sun Daily 8 a.m. until dark, Air show 2 p.m.-5 p.m. Sun 'n Fun campus, Lakeland Linder Airport
Chapter Meeting	May 19, Tues Meeting 7:30 p.m., Tarmac Time 6:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Young Eagles Rally	May 23, Sat Flying 9 am—11 am Southeast Ramp, Orlando-Sanford Int'l

ing good progress on their Rans S-6, as are **Bob Kosar** and **Shawn Mack** on their helicopters. **Bruce Hotz** is officially making parts for his own single-place design. And **Adam Hayden** is back to work on his BD-5. And **Jim Jennings'** RV-6A has pretty, new paint job. Of course even so-called "completed" projects are never ending. **Chuck Bull** is doing a significant rework of his RV-6's panel and radios that you can read about on our Yahoo! Group. There are more but I'm out of room. Next month, we'll start a list of projects.

Helping The Needy

Last month, I asked y'all to help give back to the community by bringing in something that I can take to the food bank. Nobody did. The little bit we can collect would be greatly appreciated, because donations are down at 2nd Harvest. Please bring a little something to the meeting this month, but please make it light... I really can't carry a bunch of weight, yet and won't be able to for another 2 months. I'll be interested to see who read this far. <wink>

That's enough for this month... See y'all Tuesday!

Jim

The Flutter Effect

Act fast before it ruins your whole day

Welcome to springtime in Florida, you lucky ducks. Some people are still sliding around on ice and stuff and wearing heavy underwear, so don't complain about the occasional mosquito - this is their breakfast, and it's been a long time since supper.

Anyway, as the more alert ones amongst the group may remember, last month I addressed briefly some of the things we need to keep in mind that might pop up unexpectedly on some of your flights. One of the things that I mentioned was the onset of flutter and the need for very rapid corrective action if this reared its ugly head. I doubt seriously if any of the group except some of us with a lot of snow on the roof have ever actually been involved in a flutter incident. The likelihood of flutter onset has been engineered out of almost all modern aircraft except in some very unusual situations, but this is NOT true of experimental designs. So, a little information in this area may one day help save your bacon - if not, a little free info never hurts, anyway.

OK, to begin with, what is flutter? It is an uncommanded, and usually uncontrollable, rapid oscillation of an aircraft surface, almost always a control surface. In a matter of seconds, and not many of them at that, it can progress from a buffet or vibration in a control surface to a savage runaway shudder that can separate control surfaces from the airframe and destroy the aircraft. What causes it? Simply put, flutter is the alternating asymmetric separation of airflow across an aero-

dynamic surface which rapidly increases in frequency and intensity until the surface or the supporting airframe fails.

What can you do about it? Well, in the test phases of your newly built machine be extremely methodical in speed increase stages until each phase has been flown thoroughly and tested, and be alert for the warnings of possible onset of flutter. This is where the seat of your pants gets to be very important - it will tell you if the vibration or buffet that you are starting to feel is in the airframe itself or in the control surfaces. If your butt is shaking, it's probably the airframe signaling onset of airflow separation somewhere. If the control stick or yoke is what you feel, you are very close to real trouble - flutter is about to begin and you need to act very quickly.

Reduce power immediately, slow down, and try to put a constant, positive pressure on the control surface concerned to damp down the vibrations until they stop. If you are both quick and lucky, this will work. If not, all bets are off. If you're wearing a chute, you may have to use it, if the aircraft does not oscillate so violently that you can't get out of it. If you do get down safely with the plane, a complete airframe inspection for distortion, cracking, or failure of any part of the craft is mandatory.

Be careful out there.

Bob

We Be Flyin'

Chapter members having plane fun, seein' the sights



Debey Von pilots Tim Sweeney's RV-7A to Flying Tigers for their pancake breakfast.

Chapter members have been out stretching their wings.

Every few weeks, two or three or four or six pilots get together and fly out to one of the many events taking place around the Sunshine State.

A recent popular destination is the pancake breakfast fly-in at Flying Ti-

gers. The fly-in community just north of Gainesville has their First Saturday event once a month. It competes for our attention with the Chapter 866 Smilin' Jack breakfast at Arthur Dunn the same day of the month. Flying Tigers is also home to Carol Ann Garratt, or will be as soon as she finishes her runway-side house. The hangar was completed first, of course.

In February, a group went over to the 2nd Annual Air Fest at Valkaria Airport on the east coast. It's a fun little fly-in that's growing up. It attracts a lot of neat homebuilts and classics and this year added an airshow.

If you'd like to go on some of the outings, or just want to keep up, plans are usually posted on the Yahoo! Group.



A Harmon Rocket on the display ramp at the Valkaria Air Fest.



This Mustang I looks fast just sitting on the ramp at Valkaria.



Louie Turek
OYAC Update

Class Is In Session

Three courses help launch kids' dreams

It's been a while since I wrote an OYAC update, and so one is more than warranted. If I had to summarize our recent activities in one word, it would be: Whew! In just over the last month, OYAC has conducted a Test Pilot Class Series, wrapped up one Intro to Aviation Class Series and started another, and held a glider competition for local students. Let me give you a little more information about each.

Test Pilot Class Series

This is a class series that we hold several times a year and the kids love it.



A new 'test pilot' files a King Air at Elite Simulations.

We bring them to the Elite Simulation Solutions office in Oviedo and they learn about how to perform different maneuvers in aircraft (stalls, spins, etc.) and why things like left turning tendencies occur.

Then we have them fly the sims and test these various aspects of performance in each type of aircraft.

A big thanks to Stephen Gatlin and the folks at Elite Simulations for letting us use their equipment.

Glider Competition

We've been doing this activity once a year for three years now and for the first time were able to do it with a large number of kids. This year, we did it in conjunction with SECME, which is an organization that strives to get kids interested in Engineering.

We had 27 teams from a bunch of local elementary, middle, and high schools. The gliders they built had to be within certain weight limits and had to carry marbles as a payload. A few of the gliders were, shall we say, not quite balanced. But, many more thoroughly impressed us and flew very well and stable.



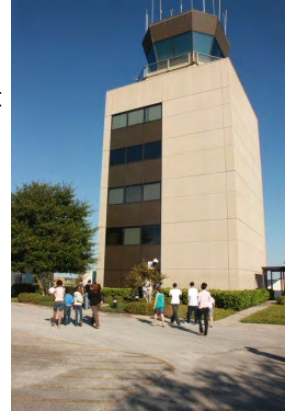
Hand launching at the Glider Competition.

I got a lot of feedback from parents and teachers about how much their kids enjoyed building the gliders and learned in the process.

Intro to Aviation Class Series

This is our flagship program and is as busy as ever.

On February 28 we had our graduation flight where the kids acted as copilots and navigators to Leesburg, Kissimmee, and back to Executive. Hot on the heels of that class series we started another with another eager group of kids. Each week the students learn a different topic in aviation and put their knowledge to use on the graduation flight.



"Intro to Aviation" students visit the tower at ORL.

This class series can always use more volunteers, so if you're interested, please contact either myself at (aerospace_pilot@yahoo.com) or Barbara Phillips (flypatbarb@aol.com).

Louie



Young Eagles

Flying & Pancakes At ORL

Big turnout expected next Saturday, call for ground crew & pilots

The Chapter's Young Eagles program is back at our home field this month with a forecast for lots of sunshine and a hearty pancake breakfast.

Carolyn Biter, our new Young Eagles Coordinator, has really pulled out the stops on getting us ready.

First, she's made sure to put the word out for free publicity at every media outlet with an event calendar. News 13 has begun running the notice on their

community billboard. So, we're expecting lots of kids.

Carolyn also has contacted the local chapter of the 99's who have agreed to come and help cook pancakes. **Tim Sweeney** has volunteered to head up the breakfast preparations, and could use some help early setting up the tent.

For that matter, a few extra hands are always welcome. Ground crew is needed particularly for registration and

escorts. Contact Carolyn at young_eagles@eaa74.org.

Pilots are still needed, too, if you'd like to share the fun of flight with kids and see their big smiles. If you'd like to fly, please contact our air boss, Mike Sills at mikepilot1@earthlink.com.

It's all next Saturday, Mar. 21, starting at 8 am with flying from 9- 11. Come hungry!