



HANGAR TALK



Newsletter of The North Puget Sound Chapter of The Washington Pilot's Association. October 2006

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S HANGAR

There are two things I would like to talk about this month. First is the wealth of on-line free courses that Air Safety Foundation of the AOPA has available, the second is the preservation of

airports as exemplified by the controversy at Blaine.

This month our speaker is Wayne MacGee of Garmin talking about the new

developments from the company, including GPS. One of the best introductions to the use of GPS for both VFR and IFR are the courses that the Air Safety Foundation has on-line at http://www.aopa.org/asf/online_courses/. There is a very nice introduction to the Garmin 430 and 530 at http://www.aopa.org/asf/online_courses/gps/. This course does not qualify as a Wings program. However many of the other courses do. The GPS for IFR I found to be a great course, even after having flown IFR with a 430 for over a year. For the courses to count as a WINGS program there is a quiz at the end of each and upon passing a certificate can be downloaded. This certificate can be presented as the ground school portion of the Wings program.

The price is also great-Free.

The second item is the controversy about Blaine Airport (4W6). I got my multiengine training in a Seneca flying from 4WS and have long used the airport for students that had a difficult time staying on the centerline. It is one of my favorite local airports. Blaine has recently been under attack. Clearly as space to build becomes limited there will be an

increasing pressure on airports for further development. The same pressure is present upon all kinds of green space and farmlands, and this

"Preservation of airports"

is a trend within Whatcom County that is going to persist. Many see airports as underutilized space used by a wealthy few to generate noise and risk to the general public. As a community aviation needs to counter this impression.

AOPA has certainly documented the economic benefits of aviation and airports. We just need to get the word out. I am certainly willing to talk to Lions Clubs, Rotaries and other groups about aviation, just ask and I can get it scheduled.

Continued on page 6

Bellingham Aero FBO News

Bellingham Aero Inc. is pleased to announce that Bellingham Aero Flight School is officially a Cessna Pilot Center!

Bellingham Aero



Milo Stephens is our Chief Flight Instructor, and he has done an incredible job for us so far, including all his help and enthusiasm in acquiring our new Cessna Pilot Center status.

Our Private Pilot Ground School course began on September 13th. We have about a dozen enthusiastic, soon to be aviators. I've been a little busier than usual with Bellingham Fuel Service, but I have to say that Jody, Milo, Mat, and John are all working together as a team and they're doing a great job making some well needed changes.

We are now renting the 2006 Cessna 172 SP, with Garmin 1000 gear, that I spoke about in last months newsletter. Stop by and check her out. You'll be impressed with this airplane, as she is beautiful.

Chris Pagnotta, our 135 pilot, has left us to go on to bigger and better adventures! The Bellingham Air Taxi phone # 671-3075 is still being used by Chris, as he gets settled in

down the hall. We want him to know we love him and we're happy for his new venture. We know he's going to do very well and we're proud of him. We have plans for another air taxi operation, but not to the San Juan Islands. I'll keep you posted!!!!

Bellingham Fuel Service now has the entire office. We have needed more space for a very long time and we're adding on to our lounge area. We definitely need more seating space for all our incoming fuel clients. Stop in for some warm chocolate chip cookies and great conversation. As usual, the smiles are also free.

Our Fuel Service is growing rapidly. We have some important additions to our regular clientele list, and I'm very proud of Alexa and her fueling crew Brandi, Ryan, and Logan. I can't forget to mention Harlow and Fred, as they have been busy

with the fuel office too. I constantly receive compliments from clients and pilots on our impeccable "down home" customer service. Great customer service is hard to find these days, and most businesses fail to realize its connection with success.

The Bellingham Aero staff and I want to wish our boss, Fred Knutzen, a happy birthday this month. For those of you who know Fred, you know he's

Continued on page 6

"New Cessna Pi- lot Center status"

Bellingham Aviation Services

Another summer has come and gone, but it still looks like we still have some good flying weather left. Bellingham Aviation Services (BAS) would like to congratulate Doug Tolchin on obtaining his private pilot certificate. Doug passed his check ride with "flying" colors, so be sure to congratulate him when you see him. We would also like to congratulate Scott Wesley, one of Chip's students on his first solo, so do not forget to congratulate him as well.

Also on the flight school side we are pleased to announce that BAS is beginning a partnership with Bellingham Technical College (BTC). Our next ground school is in collaboration with BTC and students will be able to get college credit for attending it. BAS is very excited about our alliance with BTC and we will have a lot more news to share in future Hangar Talk articles regarding BAS and BTC.

If you have visited our office recently you will have noticed that Northwest Sky Ferry is sharing space with us. We are happy to welcome Chris and Les into our fold. In cooperation with Northwest Sky Ferry we are pleased to announce that we have a 2006 Cessna 172 with a G-1000 avionics suite available for rental and instruction. Make sure to stop by and get some "glass cockpit" time. You will be impressed with the capability of

this great avionics system.

Scott Bethke is getting settled in at Bellingham Jet Center (BJC), our maintenance shop. Do not let the name fool you as BJC is also fully versed in piston aircraft maintenance and Scott will be happy to help you with a n y maintenance needs.

In the fuel office we say goodbye to Derin and Nick. Derin has

moved back home to San Juan Island and Nick will be attending school in Seattle. Taking their places will be Mike and Charlie, so stop by and say hi to them. By the time you read this they should have passed the NATA Safety First fuelling course and be on the line providing great service to our customers.

BAS is also very happy to see 100LL prices finally starting to drop. We are very pleased to be able to pass on the fuel savings that we are finally seeing on to our customers and I for one am keeping my fingers crossed that the prices will continue their downward trend. Of course we still have our Mid-day Markdown, and although I would find it hard to believe that someone still does not know what that is, it is when we discount our 100LL price from the truck by 15¢.



**"ARINC
frequency
of 131.30
MHz"**

Maureen Griggs

By Chip LaPlante

As a long time member of the North Sound Chapter, Maureen has filled many positions. As our Program Chairperson, her endless energy and love for flying is responsible for the many and most interesting speakers at our meetings.



Age: Young and Vibrant
(Phraseology, tactfully provided by Chip)

Height and Weight: None of your business. (Phraseology tersely provided by Chip)

Birthplace: El Paso, Texas (ELP)

Marital Status: Married.

Children: Two sons: Patrick O'Brien and Ryan O'Donirene

Education: BS, Microbiology from the University of Alabama. (Roll Tide!)

Hobbies: Flying, diving, reading, and boat refurbishing.

Year of First Solo: 1993

Where: BLI

Own or Rent: Rent in New Zealand. Own at home.

Home Airport: Bellingham (BLI)

Licenses and Ratings: SEL, Instrument, Commercial

Total Time: 1,130 hrs.

Life Philosophy: Ask more questions!

Flying Philosophy: PLAN before you PLAY, and ask those questions!

What do you like most or least about flying? Most: Having found a flying buddy who likes to fly even more than I do....."You know who you are, and yes, you are going to Point Barrow, so find your coat!"

Least: Not flying more, and not having more horsepower when I do.

Brief Flying History: More than ten years ago, and ripe for a challenge, little did I know that a simple detour to the airport would provide me with the challenge I needed, questions to last a lifetime, and a hobby so invigorating, that no one around me would be left on the ground! In the ensuing years, flights to the east coast (including Augusta, Georgia's unique Class Delta, TRSA airspace), Nome, Alaska (Dang!.....almost Provedenia, Russia), Ketchikan, Alaska (IFR at it's most exciting), Leadville, Colorado (pattern altitude: 11,000', not considering the density altitude!), and Miegs Field (\$5/gal Av gas was outrageous back then!) are just a few of the more memorable moments of my flying history. Traversing the Grand Canyon at sunset, "cruising" the Alaskan Highway, or riding a mounain wave between Havre, Montana and Kalispell.....All, are proof

Continued on next page.

Pilot Profile

continued from page 4

positive that the journey really can be more thrilling than the destination!

I hope to add to my log-book of aviation history, with some flying time in New Zealand..... if only those darn sheep will quit bending the props and cracking the spars!

Who has been your pilot mentor:

Hank Brown, and Jonathan Seddon.

Explain Maureen in five words or less:

On this one, I asked for some input.....I deleted what I didn't like, and I admitted to the rest:

Inquisitive, perfectionistic (misspelled), practical, and fun-loving.

What makes Maureen tick?:

Finding answers to all those questions!

Most people don't know this

about me: I am now a certificated New Zealand pilot. (WooooHooooo!)



Bellingham Aviation Services

Continued from Page 3

This happens every day between 10:00 and 14:00 and is a very popular time to buy fuel.

Finally, BAS has been assigned an ARINC frequency of 131.30 MHz. As always we will monitor 122.95, but we have secured a discrete frequency to be able to better serve our customers. There is a lot of congestion on the Unicom frequency and we are excited about having a nice, quiet frequency just for our customers.

As always we look forward to having you drop by to say hi and have a cup of coffee.

Martyn Harris
Chief Flight Instructor



C-182
PA28-161

Well maintained,
hangered, IFR
aircraft.

OTHER NEWS

From The President's Hangar

Continued from page 1

As I write this the decision about Blaine airport is several days away. No matter the outcome it should be interesting.

Fly safe

Wayne Landis



Bellingham Aero

Continued from page 2

one of the most genuine guys you've ever met. I personally want to give Fred an A for resilience. No matter what gets thrown at him, he always comes out ahead. It's truly amazing and so is he. We at Bellingham Aero truly appreciate the fact that he's our boss. He is loved!!!!

I mentioned last month that there were rumors floating around the BLI rumor mill. As for the next chapter of "As the Propeller Turns", I guess I have to pass on saying anything right now. After all, with the way things have been going, if I said anything, there's a good chance I might get sued! Don't forget the 1st Saturday of the month Bellingham Aero Open House or the 3rd Saturday, Heritage Flight Museum Open House!

I hope to see you there!

Linda Marrom

Marketing Director

Bellingham Aero Inc.



Blaine Airport Under Fire

The Blaine City Council is scheduled to vote on October 9th 7PM whether to keep the Blaine Airport open.

The alternative proposed by a local developer is to divide the property into a large Truck Stop, a tavern, and other non-aviation uses.

All NSC members in support are urged to attend this very important meeting.

Letter to the Blaine City Council from our President.

Dear Sirs

On behalf of the North Sound Chapter of the Washington Pilots Association based in Bellingham, I would like to express our support of the present Blaine airport and its future planned development. We represent pilots and aircraft owners throughout the Whatcom County and Island region, including pilots and owners based at Blaine.

Airports such as Blaine serve as sources of economic development. Properly managed airports have drawn high tech industry that needs access to rapid transport. Corvallis and Eugene Oregon are both cities that see the airport as important to the technology industries in that region. Imagine the economic impact to Friday Harbor or Orcas if the airports closed.

Continued on next page

Blaine

Continued from previous page

Blaine airport has served and can serve in the future as an important gateway to the San Juans. It has been well documented by the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association that a properly managed airport is an important economic asset to a city or community.

Airports also generate economic development as part of the care and maintenance of these machines. New four to six seat piston aircraft can range from a \$, 180,000 to over \$500,000. Used aircraft of the same capability range from \$60,000 to \$300,000. Hangar facilities, fuel and maintenance on these large ticket items employ a variety of skilled individuals that also bring wealth to the local economy. In the last five years this kind of aviation, general aviation, has grown at a tremendous rate at Bellingham, and if available, this type of activity can occur in Blaine.

Housing developments and service industries will occur in Blaine even with the airport remaining open. The key is what kind of development? Airports attach high tech and aerospace industries and individuals that are parts of those activities. Airports are openings to transportation across the region. A properly managed airport can act as the centerpiece of a City or a community in a way that service industries can not.

The key is to keep Blaine airport open and to develop it along the lines that have already been discussed with the FAA. Blaine will be a very different kind of community without it.

Thanks for your time and patience. Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions.

Sincerely

Wayne G. Landis



WAI Washington State Chapter Scholarship

The Washington State Chapter of Women in Aviation, International (WA-WAI) is offering a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 in memory of Janet Clark, a member of the Washington State chapter. Janet worked with the FAA as an Airworthiness (maintenance) Aviation Safety Inspector. Her friends and coworkers all say, "Janet was one of the most passionate and steadfast aviation representatives we have ever met. We have lots to compare to! Her honesty was infallible, her pursuit of the truth insatiable. She was a woman of great depth and wisdom on a large scale."

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page

This scholarship is open to all aviation career fields and can be applied to an accredited program. This scholarship will be awarded on the basis of merit and commitment to chosen career in aviation. If enrolled in a program that issues grades, grades will also play a role in decision process. Preference will be given to individuals who have already made steps toward a chosen aviation career. An interview may be conducted at the WAI conference or at an earlier date in Washington State before the scholarship is awarded.

Guidelines for Application:

Applicant must:

- Be a WAI member.
- Preference will be given to a Washington State resident.
- Be working towards career in aviation*. (Please include details in essay.)
- Be enrolled in an accredited aviation related program**.
- Have done volunteer work for an aviation related activity or event in the last year. (Please include details in essay.)

* Aviation careers include but are not limited to: pilot, mechanic, avionics technician, engineer, meteorologist, dispatcher, flight attendant, air traffic controller, airport management.

** If working toward a pilot career, the applicant must hold a private pilot's license

Scholarship usage criteria:

- The scholarship funds must be used within 1 year of receipt.
- Scholarship funds will be paid directly to an accredited program.
- Scholarship funds may be used for tuition, books, specific training, or housing (if arranged through the training program).

This scholarship will be awarded on the basis of merit and commitment to chosen career in aviation. If enrolled in a program that issues grades, grades will also play a role in decision process. Preference will be given to individuals who have already made steps toward chosen aviation career. An interview may be conducted at the WAI conference or at an earlier date in Washington State before scholarship is awarded.

(Scholarship value \$1,000)



Washington Pilots Association North Sound Chapter



October Meeting Speaker

Wayne McGee

from

Garmin International

Will be here to present:

“GPS - A Look at where were going”

A presentation on the current state of GPS navigation and a sneak peak at some future developments.

When: Thursday October 12th. Doors open at 6:30pm

Time: 7:00pm

Where: in the old Port Administration building.



North Sound Chapter WPA Control Tower

Hangar Talk Newsletter is the official publication of the North Sound Chapter of the W.P.A.

PRESIDENT

Wayne Landis
landiswg@comcast.net
360-647-8206

VICE PRESIDENT

Jim Laird
jimlaird@earthlink.net

SECRETARY

Don Lunt
drlunt@juno.com

TREASURER

Mike Holl
360-647-0432
samish4@comcast.net

DIRECTORS

Doug Fenton

Gary Oaksford
360-733-2586
goaksford@aol.com

Martyn Harris
mharris@bli-jet.com

PROGRAM CHAIRPERSON

Maureen Griggs
360-734-9013
mgriggs9617y@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Chip LaPlante
360-671-4359
kidkomet@comcast.net

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Wayne Landis, Martyn Harris
Linda Marrom Jeff Geer,
and just about anyone willing to help!

*Deadline for the next issue is
Tuesday October 31st.*

WEBSITE

STATE <http://www.wpaflys.org>

LOCAL http://www.wpaflys.org/Chapters/North_Sound.htm

Articles for submission can be either e-mailed to:
kidkomet@comcast.net
Or sent c/o:
HANGAR TALK
3128 Alderwood Ave.
Bellingham, WA 98225

JOIN NOW

Join your fellow pilots and aviation enthusiasts. Become a member of the North Sound Chapter of the Washington Pilots' Association. The North Sound Chapter represents members from Whatcom, Skagit, and San Juan Counties. To be a member, you need not be a pilot but only have an interest in and promote general aviation.

name (last, first, middle initial)

spouse if applicable (last, first, middle initial)

address (street, apartment number)

city

state

zip

phone number

email address

The \$31 Chapter dues are comprised of \$19 State and \$12 Local dues. Active CFIs are charged \$1 for State dues. Soloed student pilots receive first year State dues at no charge. Also offered, on a voluntary basis, is a year subscription to the GA News for \$25.

STATE DUES

_____ \$19 STANDARD
_____ \$1 ACTIVE CFI
_____ n/a SOLOED STUDENT

LOCAL DUES

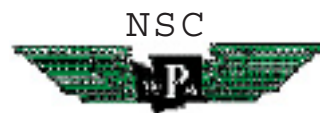
_____ \$12 ALL

GA NEWS

_____ \$25 VOLUNTARY

TOTAL ENCLOSED

Please mail completed form and check (payable to North Sound WPA) to Mike Holl, North Sound Chapter WPA Treasurer, 259 Friday Creek Road, Bellingham, WA, 98226.



SPONSORS

The Hangar Talk Newsletter Mails out 100 Plus copies each month. Most of these copies, of course, go to members of the North Sound Chapter of the Washington Pilots Association. However there are numerous copies mailed to interested persons and companies outside the membership. Some copies go to the State entities such as the State WPA President and editor of the Wings publication. We believe the Hangar Talk reaches a surprising number of people.

We wish to offer to all interested persons and businesses to advertise their services in Hangar Talk. A sum of \$50 will purchase a year (10 issues) of business card advertising. Please send a check payable to North Sound WPA and a business card to Mike Holl, North Sound Chapter Treasurer, 259 Friday Creek Road, Bellingham, WA 98226

The Richard D. Gale Company

Financial Strategies & Solutions

Financial Planning, Investments
Insurance, Asset Management

Richard D. Gale, ChFC, LUTCF
244 Pacific Hwy Phone: (360) 647-8184
Bellingham, WA 98225 Toll Free: (888) 364-5843
Fax: (360) 647-4291

www.RichardDGale.com Email: Richard@RichardDGale.com

Securities offered through KMS Financial Services, Inc.

WHATCOM TERRITORY AERO SERVICE INC.

John A. Ring

Airframe & Powerplant Mechanic/IA

1980 W. Bakerview Road Bellingham, WA 98226
Phone: (360) 647-AERO (2376)
Cell (360) 441-7088
fax: (360) 738-4314

Cal Leenstra, CCIM
Real Estate Investments



Prudential

Kelstrup REALTORS®

315 Lakeway Drive, Bellingham, WA 98225
Bus 360 734-6050 800 213-6050
Fax 360 734-6162 Hm 360 734-8250
calleenstra@prudentialkelstrup.com

An independently owned and operated member of The Prudential Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.

PATRICK K. COE, D.D.S.

Ph. 360-255-5000

1225 E. Sunset Drive, Suite 140 • Bellingham, WA 98226
www.PatrickKCoEDDS.com

*"Smooth Takeoffs and Happy Landings
With All of Your Real Estate Needs"*

Gary Oaksford
Realtor®, ABR®, CFII, ASMEI
360-441-5500
go@coldwellbankerma.com
(Aerial Reconnaissance Available)

FERNDALE CHIROPRACTIC CENTER INC. P.S.



DR. RAYMOND J. MAC DONALD
(360) 384-1366 • FAX (360) 384-1365
1945 Main • P.O. Box 1178 • Ferndale, WA 98248