



SPOKANE FLYER

FEBRUARY 2011

Banquet features mountain and canyon flying expert

Plus: Great aviation and other goodies on the silent auction block-Get your tickets now!

Dr. Amy Hoover, mountain/canyon flying expert and aviation professor at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, WA is the featured speaker at the WPA/Spokane Chapter annual banquet in February.

The event will be held at the Luxury Box in the Spokane Valley on Saturday, February 26th at 6:00 p.m. Dinner tickets are \$35 per person.



Along with Dr. Hoover's presentation, the chapter holds its annual benefit silent auction with dozens of aviation-related products and services up for bids. Proceeds from the auction go toward the Spokane WPA Aviation Student Scholarship program, annual Veterans Flight, the Wilderness Within Reach program, and supports other chapter activities.

Mountain flying techniques need to be a part of every Pacific Northwest pilot's skill set and Amy Hoover is one of America's top experts. Dr. Amy Hoover started flying in the Idaho back country in the early 1980's while working as a geologist and white water guide on the Middle Fork and Main fork of the Salmon River.

In 1992, Amy landed a job as a back country air taxi pilot and in 1993 began teaching mountain flying in the back country. In 1996 Amy collaborated with two other back country flight instructors to form McCall Mountain/Canyon Flying Seminars. For the next several years Amy developed the training curriculum and authored Mountain and Canyon Flying before selling the company in 2001.

Amy then spent five years as director of the Flight Program at Mt. Hood Community College, and in 2003 joined the flight technology faculty at Central Washington University in Ellensburg, Washington. Amy still keeps her hand in flying the Idaho backcountry. She now has time to enjoy exploring and flying in other mountain areas of the west, including the Rocky Mountains of British Columbia and Colorado as well as canyon country in Utah and Arizona, and rugged northern Cascades in Washington.

After spending more than two decades in the rugged terrain of central Idaho studying its rocks and landforms, navigating its rivers, and flying its canyons, Amy has a great awe and deep respect for the Idaho wilderness. "I love sharing the wonder of the area with other pilots," she says, "but we need to realize that a certain responsibility must accompany the privileges we enjoy when flying the backcountry." Those responsibilities should include safe and courteous operations, which has been the focus of her back country instruction for the past decade.



You can learn from Amy how to fly through this.



So someday you can land your plane on this.

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETING:

Annual Banquet and Silent Auction

February 26, 2011

Luxury Box

10504 E. Sprague-Spokane Valley

6:00 p.m.

Tickets-\$35/Available from any Chapter Officer

Please join the Spokane Chapter on February 26th for this exciting program with some tips and introduction to the exacting art of mountain and canyon flying. Plus, help the chapter continue our aviation programs..

One tip on the auction: Please bring cash or checks. To keep costs down, we cannot accept credit cards. Thanks.

For information on tickets, contact any chapter officer listed on page 2 of this newsletter.



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SPOKANE FLYER

is published 12 times per year by the Washington Pilots Association, Spokane Chapter. We welcome articles and photo contributions that may be of interest to pilots in the Spokane area and the Inland Northwest.

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Chapter general meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month except February August and December. Board meeting are held on the 1st Wednesday of every month.

Join or Renew On-line, Today!

Go to: wpaflys.org

President's Message: Tom Morris

We are headed down the home stretch for the Annual Benefit Dinner and Auction coming up on February 26th at 6pm at the Luxury Box in the Spokane Valley, University City Mall. Most of the leg work has been completed. The Board members have a cleanup



meeting on the 17th to finalize meal orders and items inventoried for the auction. Included again this year is a ride in the Boeing 40, donated by Addison Pemberton, two 1 hour sessions in the Kodiak full motion simulator, donated by Spokane Turbine Center, and much more! I want to thank the auction committee for digging in and helping prepare another stellar event.

Amy Hoover is going to be our guest speaker for the evening. She will talk about the basics in Mountain Flying, which should be of interest to everyone because of beauty and terrain we are surrounded by. My thanks go out to the outgoing board members and officers for another successful year passing beneath our wings.

This year we are looking forward first, to the Benefit Auction, then on to our spring, summer and fall activities which include the Boyer Park/Lower Granite State Airport work day, WPA picnic, the Wilderness Outreach for the Hutton Settlement, and the Veterans Foliage Flight. Many other activities will be accomplished as the year progresses. Come and join our group, enjoy the friendship and learn what can be done to further General Aviation in our area.

This year we also plan to help support the Recreational Aviation Foundation and their efforts to enhance our backcountry airstrips throughout the country.

We are looking for new members and new ideas to keep the WPA moving forward to provide for the needs of aviation everywhere. If you want to help make a difference, you can check out the WPA website at www.wpaflys.org. Get informed and become a member. Help us make a difference!

Tom Morris

CHICKEN WINGS

www.chickenwingscomics.com

BY MICHAEL AND STEFAN STRASSER



Through special arrangements with Michael and Stefan Strasser, we are pleased to have the Chicken Wings comic strip in *Spokane Flyer*. For more strips, products, and offers, check out their website at www.chickenwingscomics.com



Moody Aviation and Mission Safety International team up for InfoCentral

Moody Aviation is holding their annual safety seminar on Monday and Tuesday, March 7-8, 2011. This year's program features some great speakers, some of them have even been around the world quite literally, even in a spacewalk!

Some of the topics include: Rules – Prison Bars or Guardrails? A discussion/presentation about attitudes towards rules and regulations. What is their purpose, what do they do for us? What do we give up when we ignore them? Confused - A recreation of a near-miss event in Providence, RI with discussion about lessons to be learned.

Expert Care and Maintenance of Aircraft Tires - A look at the technical issues of maintaining aircraft tires: theory, operational issues, R&R, troubleshooting, etc. And, Survival Lessons From a Castaway - A review of some essential survival strategies using clips from the Castaway movie as illustrations.

The seminars run from 7:15 a.m. through 4:15 p.m. on Monday, then from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Contact Moody Aviation at 509-535-4051 for registration information.



Michelin Western Sales Manager and tire expert Eldon Anderson (on the right) will go over the care and feeding of your aircraft tires.

Spokane Airport Director hiring process still underway

At their January monthly meeting, the Spokane Airport Board announced the names of the three Airport Director candidates recommended by the Airport Board's Personnel Committee and Search Committee. The three finalists include Jim Elwood, Airport Director, Aspen/Pitkin County Airport (Colorado);

Rebecca Hupp, Airport Director, Bangor International Airport (Maine); and Larry Krauter, Interim Executive Director, Lehigh Valley International Airport (Pennsylvania).

The candidates will travel to Spokane in February for familiarization tours of the Spokane community and airport facilities, followed by formal interviews conducted by the Search Committee. Afterward, the Search Committee and ADK, an executive search firm contracted by the Board, will present their recommended candidate to the Airport Board for approval. The final step in the process is approval of the recommendation by the City of Spokane and Spokane County, which is a requirement of the Airport's Joint Airport Operating Agreement. The Airport Director is responsible for overseeing the operations of Spokane International Airport, Felts Field Airport and the Airport Business Park.

Last August the Airport Board appointed a search committee to assist with the completion of the job description as well as the screening, evaluation, and interviewing of candidates. The board also authorized the Airport Board's Personnel Committee to contract with ADK, an executive search firm, to assist with the overall recruitment process. The Airport Board has been committed to an inclusive and deliberative recruitment process.

It is expected that the Board will make its final selection in March.

The airport director oversees operations at Spokane International Airport, Felts Field, and the Spokane Airport Business Park.



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Spokane Chapter

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2011 Membership renewal time is here!

It's time once again to renew your WPA membership. You can do so either on-line at www.wpaflys.org, or by sending a check for \$31 to the Spokane WPA.

When you renew, please include an email address as we will be using email more to communicate with members.

Renewal time is also the opportunity to make your financial contribution to the WPA lobbying efforts in Olympia. If we lose this battle our tax bills will make the lobbying costs look like small change.

Thanks for renewing early and supporting the WPA.



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Unleaded AvGas focus of new committee

A new Aviation Rulemaking Committee (ARC) will advise the FAA on the development of unleaded aviation gasoline (avgas) for piston-engine aircraft. According to its charter, signed by FAA Administrator Randy Babbitt on Jan. 31, 2011, the ARC's tasks are to research, identify, and prioritize key issues and provide "recommendations for joint industry-government initiatives to facilitate the development and deployment of an unleaded gas with the least impact on the existing piston-engine aircraft fleet."



The committee will include representatives from aviation associations (e.g., AOPA and EAA) aircraft and engine manufacturers, the American Petroleum Institute, environmental groups, the FAA, and other government entities. The charter indicates a 6-month term and a commitment to submit a report recommending specific tasks and initiatives within that timeframe.

There are now more than 160,000 piston-engine aircraft that rely on leaded avgas. Lead protects engines against damaging detonation (or engine knock) at higher power settings. Impending environmental regulations along with production and distribution issues threaten the continued availability of leaded avgas.

Editors note: One of the major issues that continues to be unanswered is why the AOPA and EAA refuse to tackle the issue of availability of premium unleaded NON-ETHANOL automotive fuel. It is a certified aviation fuel and usable in most new light sport aircraft and many single-engine pistons with STC's.