

**WE'RE GOING ELECTRONIC! THIS IS THE LAST
ISSUE THAT WILL BE MAILED TO MEMBERS!**

SEE PAGE 4

WASHINGTON PILOTS ASSOCIATION



Spokane Chapter

SPOKANE FLYER

OCTOBER 2011

Patriotic Mission

WPA/Spokane Chapter 2011 Veterans Fall Foilage Flight by Geoff Beth



The Vets



The pilots and ground crew: Tom Morris, Marian Heale, Dan Melville, Gary White, Geoff Beth, Paul Vietzke, and Terry Newcomb.

Pilot's Log Entry: Waking at 0430, I rush to the computer for the official Go/No-Go weather check. It's POURING outside, but the radar also shows a rapid clear slot. Just then, "It's a GO" beeps the phone with Paul on it, practically taxiing already. It had stopped raining completely by the time I finished my breakfast brick and quarter cup of half n half. The sun cracks through the cloud base of a misty dawn, silhouetting a single American Flag across the field bearing a certain local Veteran's memorial. I'm in a Super8 at Medical Lake, and this is my call to duty—just simple civilian pilot on a yearly patriotic mission.

Seven airplanes with 10 pilots and 20 vets, plus a couple very lucky bystanders took flight this year with Spokane Chapter WPA members. Carolyn White thankfully gathered the real food (yummy SUBWAY sandwiches made by Jacob, our sandwich artist) in the Western Aviation hangar at Felts Field. Meanwhile, I bump into Terry and Dana Newcomb at Spokane Airways and didn't even know they were taking part! This is going to be a good day.

Each pilot/plane takes two runs so we can get all the Vets into the sky. Some of the scenery includes the Bitterroot Mountain slopes. The fall has been fairly mild with not a spot of color to be seen. The eastern slopes of Lake Coeur D'Alene were engulfed by smoke. So much that we made a quick call to Spokane approach; "We didn't just fly into a new fire TFR, did we?" Thankfully, we had not.

We were especially impressed on how accommodating the crew at Felts Tower was. Impressively cool ATC Doug and Kelly provided some 'red-carpet' service in an already crowded day, complete with special message; "We are so glad up here you all do this for our veterans. Thank you and continue taxi on Bravo to parking."

"Most of these vets have never done anything like this before and they were so excited and thrilled to have gotten the opportunity," said V.A. Director Pam Wick. "Thank you for your time and generosity, and know we truly appreciate all the pilots involved."

I left with a smile a mile wide, I now think how thankful I am, to be able to share the freedom as flight, with these true heroes who dedicated their lives making that freedom possible.

You can ride along with us and see! Check out the pictures at: WWW.AV8NEWS.NET.

UPCOMING CHAPTER MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES:

October Chapter Meeting

Program:

Anthony Newcomb, Northwest Rep.

AvFuel

"Everything you always wanted to know about the aviation fuel industry, but were afraid to ask."

Wednesday, October 19, 2011, 6 p.m.

NEW LOCATION!

Timber Creek Buffet

9211 E. Montgomery

(Just east of Argonne)

Adult Dinner = \$12.39 +tax

Seniors = \$11.39 +tax

Prices include all you can eat and beverages

(If you are not having dinner, please advise the cashier, then there's no charge. But don't be sneaking into the dessert line.)



**Washington Pilots Association
Spokane Chapter
2011 Board of Directors**

PRESIDENT

Tom Morris 924-5544
tzmorris@comcast.net

PAST PRESIDENT

Duane Lukan 892-9142
dlukan@asisna.com

PRESIDENT-ELECT FOR 2012

Terry Newcomb 208-699-3716
tnewcomb@idahovener.com

TREASURER

Dave Lucke 326-2599
dlucke@comcast.net

SECRETARY

Carolyn White 891-6473
ccwhite@q.com

DIRECTORS

Marc Ruggiero

Marian Heale 624-1092
marianheale@q.com

Geoff Beth 208-746-1147
geofscott@aol.com

Jim Leighty 328-0839
theleighty@comcast.net

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.

Editor

Al Gilson 922-4259
alcessnapilot@comcast.net

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

You have to love this time of year. It starts to cool down, colors magically appear, which means it is time for the annual Veterans Fall Foliage Flight. On October 1st, six of our finest volunteer pilots and planes started the two-trip mission. Around 20 veterans and family arrived to take a ride. With only six pilots and their planes, that meant most of the planes had to make two trips. We were all back in the Western Aviation hangar by noon and enjoyed a Subway sandwich lunch. I want to thank all the volunteers that were there to make it happen. We even picked up a new member, Donna Childs, who came out just to watch the event. As we look toward the next events, the Scholarship selection and Annual Benefit Auction, MORE club membership involvement will be needed. I see the same people mostly, usually only board members are doing all the work. This is a club of nearly 80 members—we need more help from the membership.



Our annual banquet and benefit auction is February 11th; it is time for all members to start thinking about items for the auction. This year we are also looking for some company sponsored or co-sponsored scholarships given in that company's name.

The October chapter meeting will be at the Timber Creek Grill on the 19th. I will work on getting dividers put up to help block some of the outside group noise. Anthony Newcomb will talk to us about Aviation Fuel and what is in the future for us as users. We hope to see you at the meeting. Arrangements have been made for those of you not interested in eating. You are welcome to come around 7pm when the meeting starts and will not be required to purchase a meal. Just inform the cashier that you are there for the WPA.

Most of you have probably heard by now, but if not, there is going to be a small change in Marcia's and my life. As Larry Tobin so eloquently put it, "Marcia is getting twice the husband around, at half the pay." Yes, I will officially retire on Monday, October 31, 2011. I will truly miss the people that I worked with, but I will not miss hotel rooms for half of the month, checkrides, schedule revisions, time zone changes, and the TSA. There is an invitation to a retirement party on page 3 of this newsletter. I hope you can make it!

Smooth Landings,
Tom

CHICKEN WINGS

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



She's moving up!

Scholarship student gets ratings

One of the primary missions of the WPA/Spokane Chapter is to help aspiring pilots achieve their flying goals. One of those pilots is Becky Harris. Becky has been the recipient of our WPA aviation scholarships, and we are pleased to see that she has advanced to another level in aviation. Becky just picked up her Commercial and Instrument ratings. Her next goal is the Certified Flight Instructor rating.



The WPA/Spokane Chapter benefit auction and scholarship program is coming up. If you have an item to donate, or your company can sponsor all or part of an aviation scholarship, please consider helping.

Think of students like Becky.

Checklist "Webinar" coming up

The FAASTeam is offering a live Internet seminar on "Checklists - Why? What? How?" at three different times on Tuesday, October 18th. This special "Webinar" will cover developing and using effective checklists in general aviation. This live webinar is intended to increase the pilot's awareness of how effective and efficient checklist usage can actually lower the pilot's workload and increase safety. Even the most simple airplane can be flown more safely by incorporating appropriate checklists. For details on how to participate in this exciting FREE webinar, go to www.faasafety.gov.



WESTERNAVIATION
Your new FBO at Felts Field Airport

Repair Station # GGR560N

~ FUEL ~

100LL & Jet A

~ AVIONICS ~

Come see the new Garmin GTN 650/750!

~ MAINTENANCE ~

Schedule everything from annuals to oil changes.

~ PILOT SUPPLIES ~

We carry FAA Charts for the entire US!

Line Services

Terminal Building
6105 E. Rutter Ave.
Spokane, WA 99212
Open Daily 8am to 5pm
509-939-8197

Main Facility

5505 E. Rutter Ave.
Spokane, WA 99212
Open M-F 8am to 5pm
Open Saturdays (seasonal)
509-534-7371

Airport News

Lower Granite Update

by Tom Morris

It's time for an update on the status of Lower Granite Airport (00W) on whether the airport can stay open over the winter. As most pilots know, the airport is located at about 700 feet



MSL and receives very little, if any, snow over the winter. The operator, Washington State Department of Transportation/Aviation Division (WSDOT), is discussing the issue with the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

Paul Wolf of the WSDOT told us that has requested that the USACE restart the lease negotiations now that the Division has a new Aviation Director on board. Negotiations were stopped until WSDOT had approval to move forward by the new director. WSDOT requested that the USACE respond to State Aviation with any concerns for keeping the Snake River Airports open this winter. The Washington Administrative Code, Chapter 468-250-030 allows WSDOT Aviation to keep it open, however the USACE owns the land and has previously indicated that they will review the issue of the winter opening at the time they prepare the new lease. Based on previous feedback from the USACE, they require environmental review on all property lease transactions. The level of environmental review remains to be decided.

On the issue of the weeds on the trail: "The USACE had stopped WSDOT on all weed control activities this spring and it took considerable negotiations to get the program restarted," Wolf said. "Yes we got behind on the weeds, but my maintenance supervisor has indicated recent mowing and weed control at the airport, including another compacting and oiling of the runway was handled within the last two weeks. I will continue to work with maintenance and the USACE on a weed control plan, but please understand that it is tightly regulated in order to meet environmental protection standards," he said.

Hopefully the airport can be open soon. There's a lot of Steelhead swimming in the river that need to be caught.

Tom Morris is retiring!

It's finally happening! Northwest Orient Airlines (aka Delta Airlines) is allowing Tom Morris to retire. Tom and Marcia are requesting your attendance at a little event celebrating his airline career. Join them on Friday, November 4th at The Luxury Box, 10512 E. Sprague Ave. from 7pm to Midnight. Partial hosted bar and Appetizers Provided Please RSVP by Oct 15 to: tmorris@comcast.net or 509-924-5544. Please no gifts (the hangar is already full).



Spokane Chapter

P.O. Box 11911
Spokane, WA 99211

Welcome to the future at WPA

We're going "electronic" with the Spokane Flyer.

The high cost of printing, folding, and mailing an issue every month to each member has really taken a bite out of the WPA Spokane Chapter budget. It costs about 90 cents in paper, duplicating, and postage to put this newsletter into your mailbox. Considering that the Chapter's share of the annual dues is only \$12 per year, it no longer is cost-effective to keep this up.

We've been putting the newsletter on our website, in a full color version, since November 2007, so this isn't anything new. All the issues are available at www.wpaflys.org. Just click on the Spokane Chapter tab in the drop down menu.

It's very important that we have your current e-mail address to keep this newsletter coming to you every month. Please go to: www.wpaflys.org, click on the "UPDATE MEMBER INFORMATION" tab, and put in your current e-mail address.

Thanks for helping the chapter save a few dollars, and enjoy each issue in living color (including the cartoon!).



YOUR FULL SERVICE FBO AT
SPOKANE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (GEG)

FUEL
100LL & JET A

FLIGHT TRAINING
TEACHING PEOPLE TO FLY SINCE 1928
LASER GRADE FAA Testing Center

AIRCRAFT RENTAL
INCLUDING A CESSNA 172RG WITH GARMIN 430

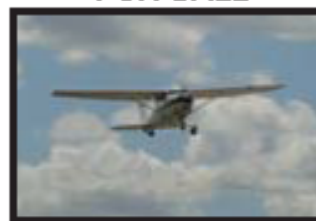
MAINTENANCE
CHARTERS

OPEN DAILY 0600-2200
509-747-2017 122.95
3910 S. DAVISON BLVD., SPOKANE, WA 99224

GREG KESSINGER-RETAIL SERVICES MGR.
gregk@spokaneairways.com

www.spokaneairways.com

**CESSNA 172 PARTNERSHIP
FOR SALE**



1964 Cessna 172E 1/4 Share

NEW PRICE - \$6,500

Hangared at Felts Field in Spokane.

Low monthly costs. Mid-time Continental O-300D/
145hp with new prop. Nice paint, new interior.
Economical to fly. MoGas STC. Two NAV/COM
radios, one with Glideslope. Lowrance GPS. Asking
8000. Includes 1/4 share of the airplane, and 1/4
share of equity in cash account. May be willing to
owner finance.

Call John Cadwell
509-521-8532