



Club News Jan. 2012

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

By: Dave Starnes

Happy New Year!

We're off to a good start. The weather has been the best I can remember for this time of year. My logbook has a lot of past Januarys with zero entries. If you are looking for a reason (motivation) to brave the cold, this is a good time of year to brush up on your night flying skills. It's my favorite time of year to do night training. The sun sets around 5:30, so you can enjoy a bit of night flying and still be back at a reasonable time.

We have an exciting event coming up in February. One day last year, Clark Johnson asked me if there would be any interest in having an astronaut speak at one of our club meetings. I gave his question serious contemplation, and about a half second later relied in the affirmative. Clark's nephew, Gregory Johnson has agreed to come in from Houston for two presentations on February 2nd. He'll speak to students at one of the Troy public schools during the day, and then do a presentation that evening for all pilots and other folks who are interested in aviation and space flight. I look forward to hearing about Greg's many experiences, and in particular, what it's like to fly the space shuttle. I wonder if a space flight would count as an FAA Flight Review???

There is a lot of buzz these days about using Electronic Flight Bags (EFB) in the cockpit for VFR and IFR operations. Club member, Dave Londal will be talking to us at the January club meeting on the 24th about using the iPad as an EFB. Several members, including me are using the iPad as a navigation tool, and also as a source for charts and approach plates. This should be a good discussion and answer many of your iPad questions.

See you at the airport.

Dave

From the Flight Surgeon

Depending on where you are in the country winter is just around the corner and those of us that utilize our aircraft in the cold climates contend with certain challenges such as potential for low body temperature or "hypothermia". Just as many aircraft engines don't start well when cold, pilots don't perform as well either when we are chilled. For example, exposed body surfaces such as hands are prone to frostbite when doing a good pre-flight in cold conditions. Cooling the body even a few degrees can lead to severe shivering making manipulation of controls difficult. With even mild hypothermia other body processes degrade which can lead to confusion, inability to think clearly and stiffness in the muscles. The bottom line? Dress warmly in layers, do pre-flights inside whenever possible in cold weather and consider hand warmers to keep your fingers safe and supple. Fly warm and safe!

Gregory Pinnell, MD,
Senior AME/Flight Surgeon USAFR
www.OK2FLY.com

Dr. Scott Grant , TOPS member, can now provide examination services for your aviation medical. Dr. Grant is located in nearby Birmingham (Maple and Old Woodward). His contact information is:

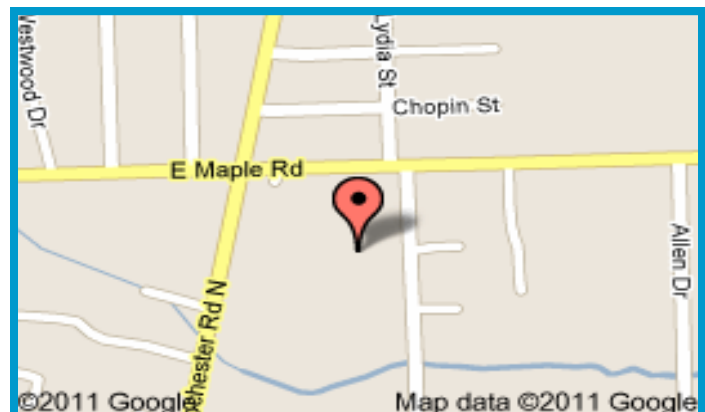
**Birmingham Medical
180 East Brown
Birmingham, MI 48009
248-645-1000**

Same day appointments are possible. Make sure you mention that you are a TOPS member.

Miscellaneous

Next Club Meeting:

**Tuesday 7 PM
January 24, 2012
Midwest Video
1515 Souter, Troy**



Local Events

January 20, 21 - Great Lakes Aviation Conference

Student Center at Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti, Michigan

The 2012 Great Lakes Aviation Conference is the most complete aviation conference in the Midwest, offering educational seminars for all pilots from Students just beginning to learn about flying to Seasoned Professionals. It also offers educational experiences for all forms of Aviation Maintenance professionals, whether just learning or those who have worked in the industry for decades.

<http://www.greatlakesaviationconference.com>

February 2 - Astronaut Greg Johnson

Athens Troy High School : Through the generous efforts of TOPS member Clark Johnson *Astronaut Greg Johnson* (yes, they are related) will be making a presentation at Athens High School in Troy the evening of Thursday February 2, 2012. More details will follow. All are invited.

<http://www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/johnson-gh.html>

February 18 - Frostbite chili fly-in

Canton Mettetal Airport (1D2) 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Enjoy chili and hot dogs in EAA Chapter 113's heated hangar.

Sponsored by EAA Chapter 113. Call John Maxfield 248-890-6767.

MAY, 18-20 - Pinch Hitter Course

Ann Arbor Municipal Airport (ARB) - Designed for the flying partners of pilots to be able to land safely in the event of an emergency.

Sponsored by the Michigan Chapter of the 99s. Call Rosemary Sieracki or Jennifer Phillips at 734-276-4181 or 734-419-3676. www.michigan99s.info.

2012 Club Officers & Appointees...

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TOPS Flying Club ***(Troy Airport, KVLL)***

\$1,800.00 (security deposit and application fee) provides
you with a full individual membership.

Can be paid in our EASY payment plan at \$600 to join, \$100/month for 12 months.

24 hour Internet and telephone scheduling.

Indoor hangared planes with engine pre-heaters.

Pre-pay your flight time and save 10%!!

Cessna C172s: \$45 and \$55 per hour (before 10% discount!).

Cessna C182: \$85 per hour with Garmin 430 WAAS and autopilot

Cardinal C177RG: \$105 per hour with Garmin 430 WAAS and autopilot.

Low dues -- only \$65 per month which also covers your insurance.

Flight instructors are Club Members.

Seasonal Wash n Waxes, free BBQ's and

club meetings with training videos,

guest speakers, etc.

A great group of friendly people.

Contacts:

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TOPS FLYING CLUB
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
REVISED 03/08

LAST NAME _____ FIRST _____ MI _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ MARITAL STATUS M S SPOUSE'S NAME _____

HOME PHONE _____ CELL _____ WORK _____

IN AN EMERGENCY PLEASE NOTIFY _____

PILOT CERTIFICATE TYPE _____ NUMBER _____ DATE ISSUED _____

MEDICAL CLASS _____ DATE ISSUED _____ ADDITIONAL RATINGS _____

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP: SINGLE _____ FAMILY _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

MEMBER # _____

REFERRED BY: _____