



Club News March 2011

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...

By: Dave Starnes

Spring is right around the corner and I'm betting you'll welcome its arrival. My logbook entries have been pretty sparse since Thanksgiving. I walked into the terminal last week and was greeted by the airport manager offering to show me around. Anyway, it's good to know that better weather is right around the corner.

If you fly our Skyhawks you'll welcome the addition of Rosen sun visors recently donated by one of our members. They are awesome and a welcome change from the 1960 Chevy visors they replaced.

Joe Hass passes along some good advice for all pilots:

- Remember that if you are flying IFR the VORs must be checked and documented within the past 30 days. The same thing goes for the GPS databases. We do a good a good job of keeping up with the GPSs (thanks to Joe), but we could do better with the VORs.
- Always let someone know when and where you are flying. A flight plan is a good idea, and it's also prudent to leave the information with someone at home. They should know your tail number, your destination and the number for Flight Service.

Our March and April general meetings will be indoors and then we'll try to meet at the hangars for May (WX permitting). It's time to start planning a flight to shake the dust off. If the dust is thick you might want to hook up with a fellow member or a flight instructor. Remember that spring brings back the Detroit Tigers, so always check their schedule for home games.

See you at the airport.

Dave

Next Club Meeting
Tuesday
March 29th
7:00 pm
Midwest Video

New “green” PTK Terminal



The construction of the Oakland County International Airport's (OCIA) new “green” terminal is gaining ground in an effort to replace the existing building which has been in service for over half a century.

Work on the new terminal began in the spring of 2009 and the building is expected to open this summer.

Due to a series of problems with the current terminal building, such as single pane windows, evidence of asbestos, and a leaky roof, Oakland County officials determined that it warranted replacement.

“It’s over 60-years-old and obsolete and worn out,” said J. David VanderVeen, Oakland County’s director of central services. “If not for this fact, we wouldn’t have started this project in the first place.”

The new terminal will be constructed on the same site as the existing building. Upon completion, it will actually be smaller in terms of square footage — about 13,500 square feet as opposed to 17,000 square feet — but used more efficiently.

The new terminal’s exterior is framed and the interior has been roughed in enough for crews to work during inclement weather.

“They are still roughing in the interior as opposed to finished carpentry and the ventilation system is still under construction,” VanderVeen said.

The “green” terminal will be one of the first of its kind in the country for a general aviation airport. Oakland International is the 16th busiest general aviation airport in the U.S. and the second busiest airport in the state behind Detroit Metropolitan Airport.

“When somebody lands at the airport we leave an impression, whether that’s good or bad,” VanderVeen said. “OCIA is the aviation gateway to the county from the world. We tout ourselves as a high-tech modern county and want the terminal to reflect that image.”

The new eco-friendly terminal will incorporate wind power-generating technology to offset electrical power use; LED interior lamps; wind turbine solar powered signage; solar hot water heating; geothermal power; and a rain water system for landscape irrigation.

The new building will include airport offices, a U.S. Customs Service office and a private meeting telecommunications room that can accommodate 80 people.

Materials used in the building construction will contain recycled content, and materials from the demolished building will be recycled whenever possible.

Neumann Smith Architecture of Southfield designed the new terminal, with Frank Rewold and Sons acting as the project's construction managers.

"Thus far they are doing an excellent job," VanderVeen said.

The county is seeking Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification through the United States Green Building Council as a means of recognition.

"It's a process during and after construction to see if we meet certain standards, and if we do, we become certified," VanderVeen said.

The entire project is pegged at \$5.5 million. Approximately \$1 million will be paid for by the Federal Aviation Administration; \$1 million will come through a U.S. Department of Energy grant; and the balance will be covered by the county's airport fund, which has grown for several years to pay for the terminal and other capital improvements. The airport fund is self-supported by fees collected by airport users, not from county property taxes.

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VanderVeen said he's hoping for the project to be completed by the end of July.

"That's assuming everything goes as planned," he said.

From the Flight Surgeon

Can you believe it? Spring is just around the corner. Even though there is still snow on the ground my Ear, Nose and Throat Flight Surgeon buddies tell me the tree pollen counts are already rising!. Most of us have at least mild allergy problems so if you use antihistamines remember that CFR (FAR) 91.17 does not allow "any drug that affects the persons faculties in any way contrary to safety." A smart choice would be to use non-sedating medications such as Allegra, Clarinex or Claritin. Nasal spray steroids are effective also and allowed by the FAA. Nasal decongestants like Afrin are effective but should be only used in certain situations. Call or write through www.OK2FLY.com and we will be happy to guide you through the wide array of available medications Fly Smart and Safe!

Gregory Pinnell, MD
Senior AME/Flight Surgeon USAFR

Miscellaneous

Owner/Operator Maintenance and Pilot/Mechanic Relations

Topic: Maintenance Owner/Operators can perform and relations between pilots and mechanics.

On March 16, 2011 at 7:00 PM

Location:

Waterford City Library
5168 Civic Center Dr.

I am planning on attending and will have feedback on this course in the next newsletter. Tom

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.

2011 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.

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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: _____