

THE PLANE PAPER

A PUBLICATION OF THE
RHODE ISLAND PILOTS ASSOCIATION

644 Airport Road, Warwick, RI 02886

<http://www.ripilots.com/>

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PRESIDENTS CORNER

Happy New Year! I want to wish all members a happy and healthy new year. Your board of directors has been working hard to prepare a host of new and interesting activities for 2008.

In January we'll be welcoming staff from the Rhode Island Airport Corporation who will update us on what's been happening at both TF Green and the GA airports and what we can expect to see in 2008. What have you always wanted to know? Bring your queries the answers may surprise you.

Dues invoices are in the mail. I know we're just past the holidays but please send back your renewal. We need your support to keep RIPA operating and in the black!

Join us in January at Chelo's. Good Food and Good Company! What could be better?

Happy New Year! Beth



HANGAR FLYING

RIPA's Holiday Gala was the best. Over 70 members and guests donned their holiday finery and enjoyed the evening of camaraderie.

Dee Scanlon, our excellent coordinator, arrived with her usual array of cheerful and amusing decorations/ table prizes. Thank you again, Dee.

Joe Costello, of DTEC Entertainment 800-556-6440 EntertainerProductions@Gmail.com, catered to our taste and kept the music light throughout the dinner and then jazzed it up for the dancers.

Bill Weedon hosted the awards ceremony for RIPA's Airman of the Year, Bob Danis. Bill presented letters and certificates from US Congressman Jim Langevin, US Senator Jack Reed, and the RI Senate. Also presented were citations from the FAA and RIAC and a plaque from RIPA.

A truly professional pilot, Bob earned his Private license in 1953 just after 17th birthday and now, in his retirement, is the owner and Flight Instructor at Lincoln Flight Center.



Beth Tetreault presenting an FAA certificate to Bob Danis RIPA's Airman of the Year.

The Twenty Week Club drawing winners for December were John Dwyer, Robert McCullough, Steve Nelson and Joan Falcone. The Grand Prize winners were Joe Rossetti \$250, Stan Olson \$500 and Jack Crouse \$1000.

Door prize winners were Mary Lebeau- a \$50 gift certificate from Landmark, Adrien Desillier Dom Sgambellone, Nick Barone Gab Laurienzo and Paul Tocco.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Beech BE-55 Baron for sale. 9869 TT, 202 SMOH/760 SNEW. GAMI injectors, Air Wolf remote oil filters, leather seats, 136 gallons fuel, century III AP, KLN-94 GPS, HSI w/slave compass, 70 A alternators, deice boots, Whelan strobes, EZ-heat engine preheaters, NU-lite panel lights, speedslope windscreen, plumbed for oxygen, complete logs, fresh annual, more. Asking \$94,995. Listed with Tsunami Aircraft Sales, Westerly. Contact Bill Weedon 401-474-8082.

For Sale: Garmin GPS 196 with all attachments for Aircraft and Automobile and Carrying case. \$400.00 Call Al at (401)523-2647

FOR SALE: 1976 CESSNA 172M: 4800 TT, 1889 SMOH, IFR, NDH, Complete logs. Strong engine. Well maintained. Hangered. Nice paint & interior. Much better than the average SKYHAWK. To many options to list here. For details & pictures: <http://www.ripilots.com/classified/172.pdf> Asking \$65,000 e-mail: frank172@cox.net Week Days: 401-787-2338, Evenings: 401-727-2580

Used Headset For Sale

TELEX ANR 4000 in good condition. Gel cushions. Uses 6 AA batteries or can be hard wired (12V). Make an offer Call Frank, 401-787-2338 weekdays.

FOR SALE: Ocean State Oil is offering current members a discount on AEROSHELL(cases & drums). SHELL Flight Jacket, plane care products are now available at 123 Ocean State Dr. No. Kingston, RI 02852 1800 554 4557

Free Classified ads of current members for aviation related items.
Marilyn:568 3497,Fax:568 5392, email biagettim@cox.net

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Group: ripa@yahoogroups.com



Joe Ludovici and Evelyn enjoying the NE Aviation Xmas Party.
Pix/FrankO

NOTAMS

BOARD MEETING

We were all really lazy or busy this month and the date for the board meeting slipped by without any notice so a telephone meeting was in order.

We determined what was in need of attention and each took up the task of getting their job done. A couple of emails to coordinate and I think we did well.

The FAA passed on the Safety Seminar for the meeting but RIAC willingly stepped in

Dan Scanlon has received a \$100 donation from Frank Sherman in memory of Megan Cardon, who died in December. She was Rene Cardon's granddaughter and a student pilot of Franks.

Rhode Island Civil Air Patrol Golf Tournament

will be held Sunday May18, 2008 at the Cranston Country Club. For more information call 401 737 8490. Courtesy of response is requested by May 1, 2008 to guarantee placemen

The Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award

RIPA will once again solicit members to be honored with FAA's Master pilot Award. Applications will be available at meetings and applicants will be aided, if necessary, in completing these forms.

STAY IN TOUCH Join RIPA'S YAHOO Group. Go to www.Yahoo.com, select groups in column on left. Enter Rhode Island Pilots into the search. You can join once you've logged in.

Remember if you have changed your email address you have to change it at Yahoo Groups, also.

eMAIL BAG

Hello everyone and Merry Christmas,
Good news.....I added a new page to our we site called "classified ads". I hope you all approve. It will contain..... that's right..... classified ads for our members, complete with pictures in a PDF format for details.

It is still under construction and links in the sidebar are still to be added.

If you have something for sale, send me pictures and details, at frank172@cox.net

Happy Holidays, FrankO

Bill Weedon [whw@appliedradar.com]

Sent: Wednesday, December 12, 2007

Just want to give the RIPA members an update on the landing/handling fees at MVY. I have been in contact with the FAA NE Airports division, and have filed an informal complaint alleging that their fees discriminate against multi-engine aircraft because they charge ZERO fee for a single-engine aircraft to land/park for a day, and upwards of \$53 for a multi-engine to stop for breakfast or lunch. My most recent letter has been sent by the FAA to the MVY airport manager for comment.

I have also been in contact with Woody Cahall, the VP of Government Affairs at AOPA, and although AOPA has been largely silent on this issue, they recognize that it is becoming an important issue for pilots, and offered to send a follow-up letter to the FAA. Stay tuned, because the battle is sure to heat up. If you don't think it will affect single-engine pilots, it's just a matter of time before airport start charging single-engine planes the exorbitant fees that some airports are charging. For example, I was planning a trip to Baltimore last week, and the Signature FBO who has a monopoly there wanted to charge a \$150 "handling fee" on top of a \$25 landing fee and \$18 parking fee.

From: Bill Weedon

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2007

To: Cahall, Woody

Your assistant called me yesterday and informed me that you received my emails and are working on the AOPA support letter for MVY. Thanks!

Just as an FYI, I was planning a trip to Baltimore this week in my 1973 C421B, but had to cancel at the last minute due to a maintenance issue. I called Signature, the FBO there to get an idea of the fees ... this is beautiful. They wanted to charge me a \$150 "handling fee" on top of the \$25 landing fee, plus a \$18 parking

fee if I stay more than 3 hours (the landing and handling fees don't come with a place to park!). Of course, they would "waive" the handling fee if I bought 50 gallons of 100LL at \$7.13/gallon – which is almost exactly \$3.00 ABOVE what I normally pay. So they are going to get their \$150 whether I buy gas or not. This is nothing more than extortion. What happened to the "fair and reasonable fees" associated with this public-use airport?

We talked about this, but my feeling is that we need regulation REQUIRING public-use airports to provide airport access to GA pilots, either through the FBO or a GA terminal, regardless of whether they buy fuel or not. A pilot should be able to refuse FBO services if he/she doesn't need them or if they are overpriced. As it stands now, the FBOs at many airports (MVY, ACK, PVD, BAL, TEB, IAD, etc.) are controlling the security gates, and using that to extort unreasonable sums of money from GA pilots. Corporate aircraft (Netjets, etc.) can negotiate lower fuel rates based on volume, and typically get these fees waived. You might say "well don't go to that airport if you don't want to pay". But the argument is that we pilots have a right to use all public-use airports, and shouldn't have to pay these unreasonable fees just because the FBOs are controlling the security gates. And there is no other justification for the fees other than greed and because we let them get away with it.

I checked the Southwest.com website, and I can buy a round-trip airline ticket from PVD-BWI for less than the total fees charged by Signature to land/park my C421 at BWI. If nothing else, these unreasonable fees discourage pilots from legitimate business and personal use of high-performance multi-engine aircraft.

From: Cahall, Woody

Sent: Friday, December 07, 2007

To: whw@appliedradar.com

Thanks for the additional input Bill. There have always been a few price gougers that either priced themselves out of business or competition forced normalization after a short time. The last 18 months have been different. Unreasonably high prices are becoming the norm, FAA has done little to stabilize the trend and the developing culture of handling large aircraft only and diverting other aircraft through an exorbitant pricing scheme is becoming widespread.

Members have been all to clear in letting us know the situation this year as we raised awareness of the user fee issue. We might escape user fees for now - but to little avail if we can't afford to land.

Dealing with this trend is a tactical objective for 08 but with little to nothing in rule or law, it will be difficult.
Woody

MEETING NOTICE

Make your reservations today by calling 568 3497 or via email at RIPAmail@aol.com by January 6, 2008.

Date: Tuesday, January 8, 2008

Time: 6:30pm Cocktails

7:00pm Dinner

8:00pm Meeting and Speaker

Place: Chelo's in Warwick

*Airport exit off Rte.95 to Post Rd south,
500ft on right*

Buffet of:

Yankee Pot Roast, Baked Scrod,
vegetables, potato, rice pilaf, and fresh
baked bread.

Mixed Desserts,

Coffee and Tea.

Price: \$20 per person

\$5 just coffee and dessert

PLEASE CALL TODAY!!!!!!

Feel free to join us by 8:00pm if you wish to attend just the meeting. There is a \$5.00 charge if you would like coffee and dessert.

Members wishing to fly into PVD can call any Board Member to arrange transportation to and from the event.



GUEST SPEAKERS

January – **RIAC** staff for an annual update.
Bring your queries the answers may surprise you



104 East Ironstone Road
Harrisville, RI 02830

EVENTS SCHEDULE

January 8- Dinner Meeting

January 29 – Board Meeting

February 12 – Dinner Meeting

Tower Tour & Snow Removal at PVD

February – Valentine Party

February 26 – Board Meeting

March 11 - Dinner Meeting

March 15 - St Patrick's Day Dinner Dance

March – St Patrick's Day Brunch BID

March 25 – Board Meeting

April 8- Dinner Meeting

April 29 – Board Meeting

May 13–Dinner Meeting

Scholarship Awards

May 18 – RI CAP Golf Tournament

May 27 – Board Meeting

June 10– Dinner Meeting

Master Pilots Awards

August 12 – Beach Party Fly-In

August – Gadabout Gaddis CampIn

September 9– Dinner Meeting

September– Greenville Seaplane Fly-In