

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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March 2007

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

The Presidents Corner

On February 14, the Bush Administration released its proposal for changing the funding mechanism for the Federal Aviation Administration.

In short, here's what the administration proposal would do:

Raise general aviation gasoline taxes 366 percent to 70.1 cents per gallon (jet fuel is increased from 21.9 to 70.1 cents per gallon)

Allow the FAA to impose user fee charges on GA aircraft flying in Class B airspace

Allow the FAA to charge landing fees at some 215 airports

Charge the airlines user fees, instead of taxes, and reduce the amount the airlines pay to the federal government

Create an airline-dominated board to help set user fee rates and run the air traffic control system

Allow the FAA to set fees and spending with no recourse to Congress or the courts.

The timeline:

Congress must take action by October 2007, as the existing authority to collect aviation taxes on fuel, passenger tickets, and air cargo waybills will expire.

What can we do?

Continued in NOTAMS



HANGAR FLYING

Sunday February 11th, Jan and I decided to fly north to the **Alton Bay Ice Runway** on Lake Winnepesaukee, NH. Unlimited visibility with light winds provided a nice ride in both directions. Unlike other years, we found the ice runway to be extremely slippery but that didn't stop the numerous aircraft that arrived. There was a steady flow of incoming and outgoing traffic during that day. The runway was approximately 2800 feet long and had a slight curve built in to add an additional challenge



Pix/ FrankO



The ice runway with a slight curve at Alton Bay Pix/ FrankO

Sunday, February 25th, some of the **Fly to Lunch Bunch** met at the Cloud 9 Cafe in Chatham, MA (CQX). Finally the ice melted off the airplanes and the day was just perfect for flying. The weather was severe clear with light winds from the north-west. There were three planes from SFZ with 8 people to share food and conversation for another unscheduled flight.

Pix/ FrankO



From Left to Right: Charlie Labonte and his daughter Larissa, John and Paula Sulyma, Deb Haworth, Scott Henry and Jan Mowry.

MEETING MINUTES

Rhode Island Pilots Association Dinner Meeting February 13, 2007

Beth Tetreault, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm at Chelo's in Warwick, RI. There were 57 member and guests present for dinner. After the Pledge of allegiance a moment of silence was observed for the troops overseas.. Table introduction was followed by a recess for dinner.

Dan Scanlon, Treasurer, reported \$4622.79 in the General Fund and \$609.07 in the Scholarship Fund. The report was approved.

The Secretary's report was approved as published in the Plane Paper.

Announcements

Scholarship applications are available. Closing date is February 28th.

Wind socks are available to replace any that need replacing.

Land Mark Aviation contributed a shirt for the door prize. RIAC donated a flight guide and Gabe Laurenzo a bottle of liquor.

FAA Awards Banquet at Lantana in Randolph is scheduled for May 16th.

A St Patrick Day Party/dinner was proposed. Details will be worked out and published in the next newsletter.

A motion was made to reimburse Frank Sherman for his expenses of running the Safety Seminars. Seconded and approved.

Door prize winners were Andy Andersen, Ron Tetreault, Rick Arnold, Tom Crossley, Kim Ellin, Gene Bielecki, Jan Sherman, Paul Carroll, Carlos Vares, and Gerard Archambeault

Beth welcomed the 10 extra guests that arrived after dinner for the seminar, featuring Tom Lafen of PVD tower and Bob Adelizzi from BOS TRACON.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Marilyn Biagetti, Acting Secretary

President Beth Tetreault – 447 5048, ETETREULT@cox.net

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Secretary:

Corresponding Secretary & newsletter editor:

Marilyn Biagetti – 568 3497, biagettim@cox.net

Membership Chair: Janet Crouse Events Chair: Rene Cardon

Website: <http://www.RIPilots.com/> Email: RIPAcMAil@aol.com

Group: ripa@yahoogroups.com

EVENTS

St. Patrick's Day celebration March 17th

St. Patrick's Day celebration at Pelly's 19th Hole at the Quonset Golf Course. I spoke to the barmaid Saturday and she said they could accommodate a RIPA table for 15-20 people easily. She didn't know if there would be entertainment, but it would likely be crowded. Let's say drinks at 6pm and dinner at 7pm. People can have Corned Beef or order off the menu. Have people call me to reserve a spot (401-474-8082).

The annual St. Pat's Brunch on Block Island will be held on Sunday, March 11 from 9 to Noon at the St. Andrew Parish Center, Spring St..

Please let your members know, maybe the weather will cooperate. The Block Island Catholic Ladies Guild

New England Aviation Expo is sponsored by The Federal Aviation Administration and Daniel Webster College is FREE and open to the public and features exhibits, seminars, workshops, and classes for all aviation enthusiasts. It is designed especially to educate and promote the safety of general aviation pilots and aircraft technicians throughout New England. Participants may walk or fly in. Wings credit is available. The event is fully accessible. Walk or fly in!

Visit the Expo website at

www.faa.gov/news/conferences_events/aviation_expo for up-to-date information on workshops

The Westerly Airport Association (WAA) fund-raising theatre event of the year is May 4th (a Friday evening) and will be held at the Granite Street Theatre, Westerly, RI. May 4th is the opening night for a rollicking comedy titled: "The Nerds". Ticket price is \$35 per ticket and includes appetizers. There is a cash bar. The show starts at 8: PM and appetizers will be served from 6:30PM. Look for more information in the next WAA (WAAves) newsletter.

We have reserved 60 seats so, if you want to go, call/e-mail Dick Morrone at 802-238-5038 / dick@wstaa.net or Rob Wilkins 860-514-7711 / robert@wstaa.net and reserve your tickets now.

Hope to see you there. The 2007 Theatre Committee

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



NOTAMS

What can we do?

Contact Congress as the FAA funding issue progresses through the legislative process. Experience indicates that this is the best approach because a member of Congress will typically focus on FAA funding when it is coming up for consideration in a committee or by the full House or Senate.

You can do this by making the following points on your personal or business stationary:

Contact Congress as the FAA funding issue progresses through the legislative process. Experience indicates that this is the best approach because a member of Congress will typically focus on FAA funding when it is coming up for consideration in a committee or by the full House or Senate.

You can do this by making the following points on your personal or business stationary:

- Introduce yourself by describing how you use your pilot certificate.

- Express your opposition to the fuel tax increase in the FAA plan by explaining what effect the tax on avgas going from the current 19.4 cents per gallon to 70.1 cents per gallon would have on your flying.

- Urge them to reject the Bush administration's request for air traffic control user fees for any segment of aviation by explaining that this is a major step toward privatizing the ATC system, and ultimately eliminating, congressional oversight of the nation's air transportation system.

- Share with your representative that, based on projections using Office of Management and Budget data, the FAA can be funded using the existing system of aviation taxes. The radical changes proposed by the FAA are not needed to keep the U.S. aviation system vibrant and successful.

- Conclude by asking if they will agree to oppose this plan and work with the general aviation community to develop a reasonable and balanced plan for financing the FAA and modernizing the air traffic control system.

By all means use these talking points, but writing your own personal message is important. Letters emphasize the fact the writer is in the congressional district and often the letterhead illustrates the relevant background of the author.

The fastest and best way to communicate with Congress is by fax, then follow up by mailing a copy. The Rhode Island members of the House and Senate are:

Congressman James Langevin

Rhode Island (District) Office:

300 Centerville Rd., Suite 200 South

Warwick, RI 02886

(401) 732-9400 (401) 737-2982 fax#

Washington, D.C. Office:

109 Cannon House Office Building

Washington D.C. 20515

(202) 225-2735 (202) 225-5976 fax#

<http://www.house.gov/langevin/comments.html>

Congressman Patrick J. Kennedy

407 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

(202) 225-4911 Fax: (202) 225-3290

Rhode Island (District) Office:

249 Roosevelt Avenue Suite 200

Pawtucket, R.I. 02860

(800) 392-5772 Fax: (401) 729-5608

Senator Jack Reed

728 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON DC 20510 (202) 224-4642

Web Form: reed.senate.gov/contact/contact-share.cfm

Senator Sheldon Whitehouse

UNITED STATES SENATE WASHINGTON DC 20510

(202) 224-2921

Please be sure to fax (301/695-2372) or mail AOPA a copy of any letter you send or response you receive from your representative as they are leading the battle on our behalf.

See you all at the meeting, "till then fly safe! Beth

Gene Bielecki, Pilot Examiner will be on vacation from 3/11 – 3/21. Please schedule examinations before or after that date.

BOARD MEETING

As members drifted in, the mundane office work was completed (sort mail, file, check supplies and straighten up). Beth, Marilyn, Dan, Bill and Frank settled in for the reports.

- Scholarship selection will commence.

- Upcoming speakers and topics were reviewed

- Events discussed and clarified

A request from Gene Bielecki will be presented at the dinner meeting

A short meeting that was appreciated by Marilyn, who had to get home to her patient.

FINAL NEWSLETTER

This is the final newsletter for members not paid into 2007. Check you address label if 2006 is showing you are not shown as paid. Send dues to Janet Crouse, RIPA Membership Chair, 383 Log Road, Smithfield, RI 02917-1021 or contact her if this is incorrect.

CLASSIFIED ADS

For Sale Archer canopy cover. Bruce's Custom Covers #PA28-005. 2 1/2 years old, half price, \$185.
Don Pillsbury 401 885-9740

For Sale N2466U 1963 Cessna 172D,



with Garmin GNS 430. IFR certified, Fresh Annual (Feb-07), Total Time 5672h, Continental 0-300D 145HP, Avionics: Garmin GNS 430 GPS, Garmin GMA 340 audio panel, Garmin GI106A CDI, CI503 dual glide slope coupler, King Radio KX155, New Attitude Indicator, New Directional Gyro, New Vacuum pump and vacuum gauge, Transponder Mode C, King KI209 OBS Indicator. Asking \$35,000 OBO. Contact –Jay Coia (401) 639-0023 jayscoia@gmail.com or Inbar.Dan@gmail.com

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. 1339 Davisville Rd, Quonset 1800 554 4557

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

NEW RATINGS

Beth Tetreault – WINGS I w/ Adrian Desslier at SkyLANES
Rene Cardon – WINGS XVIII W/Frank Sherman at SkyLANES 12/22/0607



FROM THE EMAIL BAG

I received these two letters this past month and suggested they visit our web page. Thought I would pass them along to members. You could find a flying buddy..... EDITOR

From: rwilson132@cox.net

subject: Flying Clubs??

Date: Wed, 7 Feb 2007

I moved to R.I a couple of years ago from Ct. and would like to join a flying club if there are any around. I used to fly out of Brainard/Hartford when I worked for Pratt & Whitney. Now I live in Matunuck.
Thank you for the help! Bob Wilson

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

I am new to the Rhode Island area. Currently living on the Navy base in Newport as I attend the War College for the next year. I am emailing to find out about general aviation in the Rhode Island area. I am a military aviator and CFI, and to start with, am looking for any FBO's that participate in aircraft rental. So far, I've only found Newport Aviation that rents Cherokees for \$115/hour, a bit much from my experience. Wondering if there are any other options in the area and again, would like to know anything else you may be able to share with respect to GA in RI. Many thanks for your attention.

Respectfully, David Johnson

Flying the Virgin Islands

On a recent vacation to the Virgin Islands, I rented a Cessna 172 and flew around the islands. This narrative adventure will depart from St. Thomas (STT) Cyril E King airport and take you over to St. Croix (STX) where Cruzan Rum comes from, and Hess has the largest oil refinery in the Western hemisphere. From there, we'll cruise over to St. John and fly over some of the world's most beautiful beaches including Cruz Bay, Caneel Bay (recently visited by the likes of Alan Alda, Denzel Washington and Brad and Angelina Jolie) and Cinnamon Bay, home of Country Music legend Kenny Chesney, and the sugar cane ruins scattered around the island. We'll then cross the international boundary into the British V.I., for an aerial tour of Blackbeard's old stomping ground in Tortola, Norman Island, Peter Island, Salt Island, Dead Chest ("Fifteen men on the dead man's chest ... ("yo-ho-ho and a bottle of rum"), Virgin Gorda. Then heading back Westward, we'll pass Jost Van Dyke and fly along the North side of St. Thomas over Megans Bay, arguably the nicest beach on St. Thomas. We'll extend the downwind and circle the Isla de Culebra off Puerto Rico's coast, then back into Cyril King. The talk will dig a bit into the history of the Virgin Islands to the days of Columbus, Blackbeard and Rockefeller. If time permits, we'll also take you undersea to the wreck of the Rhone, one of the most popular ship wrecks in the Caribbean that went down in the Category 5 hurricane of 1867, and was also where the movie "The Deep" was filmed.

Bill Weedon



Tom Lafen from the PVD tower Pix/ FrankO



Bob Adelizzi from BOS TRACON

Tom Lafen from the PVD tower and Bob Adelizzi from BOS TRACON discussed Airport operations including suggested taxi routes, recent airport changes, information requested on initial contact, and operations within the PVD Class C and BOS Class B airspace. They also discussed VFR altitudes to avoid.

BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Heard at Gainesville, Florida Airport:

Cessna: Gainesville tower, Cessna Three Four Five, seven west with Tango.

Tower: Cessna One Two Three Four Five, cleared to land Runway six.

Cessna: We'd prefer Runway one zero, we have some passengers to drop off at the terminal.

Tower: Cessna Three Four Five, you can't do that, you have to use the general aviation FBO.

Cessna: We called ahead and they said we could drop them off as long as we stayed clear of the gate.

Tower: I don't know who told you that, but I'll ask the airport manager.

Tower (a short time later): Cessna Three Four Five. I'm sorry, but you can't taxi to the terminal. However, if you'd like I can clear you for a low approach, and your passengers can jump out as you fly by.

Cessna: (Laughs) How about I just use Runway six?

Overheard while flying between Athens, Ga. and Charleston, S.C.:

Bizjet 123: Approach we just flew through the localizer. Can you vector us around for another attempt — early turn in?

Augusta Approach: Sorry about that. I was on the land line coordinating with Center and the guy just kept talking and talking and talking. I couldn't get him off the phone.

Bizjet 123: Yeah, I understand. Sometimes I can't get my wife off the phone, either.

Approach: Well, she must be working at Atlanta Center then.

This comes from a search and rescue pilot at Canadian Forces Base in Bagotville, Quebec. It happened late one night during bad weather, as heard over the tower radio:

Helicopter pilot: Roger, I'm holding at 3,000 feet over the beacon.

Second voice: (Panic in voice) No, you can't be doing that...I'm holding at 3,000 feet over that beacon.

Helicopter pilot: (Short pause) You idiot, you're my copilot.

The following exchange took place enroute to opening day at Sun 'n' Fun last April:

Bonanza: Jacksonville Center, Bonanza Two Zero Yankee. 11,000.

Center: Bonanza Two Zero Yankee, Roger, Jacksonville altimeter 30.12.

Bonanza: Are you working a lot of traffic to Lakeland this afternoon?

Center: I'll tell you what -- if you fell out of your airplane right now, you'd never hit the ground

Returning to Republic Airport in Farmingdale, N.Y., on New Year's Day, I heard the following exchange between the tower controller and the pilot of a Piper Arrow:

Arrow: "Republic tower, Arrow Three Four Five, eight miles north, inbound with India."

Tower: "Arrow Three Four Five, report right downwind Runway 32."

Arrow: "Any chance we can get a straight in?"

Tower: "You said you were north didn't you?"

Arrow: "Yes, seven miles north."

Tower: "Arrow Three Four Five, the only way I can give you a straight in for Runway 32 is if you turn north and continue for about 24,000 miles."

Arrow: (momentary silence) "Uh, okay, sorry, Happy New Year..."

Overheard in Southern Florida:

Fort Myers Approach: Cessna Three Four Alpha, say heading.

Cessna: Ah, we're headin' for Tampa.

Fort Myers Approach: Cessna Three Four Alpha, say heading.

Cessna: Well, okay, we're headin' for the LaBelle VOR first and then going on to Tampa.

Fort Myers Approach: Cessna Three Four Alpha, could you look at your compass and tell me what number is behind the little line?

Cessna: Oh...you want to know which way we're going right now. Three five zero, sir.

MEETING NOTICE

Make your reservations by calling 568 3497 or email RIPAE@mail@aol.com by Sunday March 11, 2007.

Date: Tuesday March 13, 2007

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:

Turkey and Baked Scrod with salad,
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

March – RIAC, "What's Happening in 2007"
Projects scheduled for this year at RI airports.

April – Flying the Virgin Islands
(Bill Weedon rented a Cessna 172 and flew around the islands.

May – "Cross Country Flight Planning"
Thinking of planning a cross country trek?
Rene & Bill have some helpful hints
Rene Cardon / Bill Weedon,

June – Master Pilots Award

September - Gregg Marley from Avidyne



104 East Ironstone Road
Harrisville, RI 02830

EVENTS SCHEDULE

March 11 - **Annual St Patrick's Day Brunch**

BID St Andrews Parish Center 9-12

March 13 – **Dinner Meeting**

March 17 – **St. Patrick's Day celebration**

Pelly's 19th Hole at the Quonset Golf Course.
reserve a spot (401-474-8082).

March 21 - **Safety Seminar**

Wednesday at 7:00pm

Part 2 of "On Landings"

K of C Hall Jenckes Hill Road
(Route 123) Lincoln, RI

March 27 - **Board Meeting**

March 31 - New England Aviation Expo

Daniel Webster's Eaton-Richmond

Center from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. adjacent
to Boire Field ASH Nashua

April 10 – **Dinner Meeting**

April 24 – **Board Meeting**

May 4 – Westerly Airport Association (WAA) fund-
raising theatre event

May 8 – **Dinner Meeting**

May 29 – **Board Meeting**

June 12 - **Dinner Meeting**

June 16 – FAA Award night at Lantana's

October – **Harvest Hangar Party**

December 8 – **RIPA Holiday Gala**