



Aviation News

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Logbook

October 2013

Oct 1

Fred Honart and
Frank Graves
KARB - KCMX
Cessna 172

Oct 4

Chris Faircloth and
Scott Bluschke
Piper Comanche

Oct 8

Kevin Dingman and
Michael King
KBIV - KRST
Beechcraft Duke

Oct 8

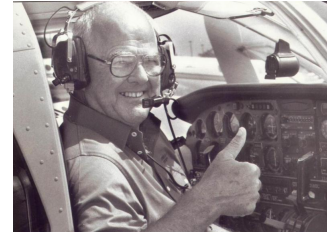
Kevin Dingman and

From the Board...

11/6/13

Join Us For a Special Night: Wings of Mercy Founder Peter VandenBosch to be awarded the Alliance for Health Regional Hero award!

The Regional Hero award is the result of a 3-month nomination campaign to identify Health Heroes in the West Michigan region. An independent judging panel made up of representatives from the Rotary Club of Grand Rapids, Hello West Michigan, and the Grand Rapids Business Journal reviewed all nominations and chose winners based on the merits of each submission.



"On behalf of Wings of Mercy West Michigan, I would like to express how proud we are of our founder Peter VandenBosch and his contributions to the local community," said Wings of Mercy Board Chairman, Terry Boer. He went on to say, "The free flights Wings of Mercy facilitates for those in need have made it possible for hundreds of West Michigan residents to enjoy improved health. We know that much of our success is the direct result of the work that Peter did to found the organization. It is exciting for us to have Peter's hard work recognized by Alliance for Health."

A special celebratory event to honor all the nominees and winners of the West Michigan Salutes Health Heroes will be held on Tuesday, November 12, 2013, from 6-8 p.m. at Watermark Country Club in Grand Rapids.

Help us make a good showing and support Peter as he receives his award by attending the event if you are able!

Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased online at <http://afh.org/events/west-michigan-salutes-health-heroes/>.

A Patient Story...

"To all of you involved in making this program available...Thank You...Thank You...Thank You! I really believe you are our wingless angels and that it was meant for us to meet people like you just to reaffirm our belief in God and all things that are good," said LeeAnn Vigliotti.

LeeAnn flew this month with Wings of Mercy Pilots (John Olson, Peter Tobin, John Laws, and JoAnne Redmon) on two flights from West Michigan to Martha's Vineyard and back.

"You saved my life...literally. As these diseases are going to be a lifelong battle, I expect I will be seeing all of you again."



Michael King
KCMX - KARB
Beechcraft Duke

Oct 9

George Schraft and
Brad Ziemer
KBIV - KRST
Cessna 310

Oct 11

Gary Sage and
Dan Neville
KGRR - KRDU - KGRR
Cessna 421

Oct 13

John Law s and
JoAnne Redmon
KCIU - KMYV
Baron 58

Oct 20

John Olson and
Peter Tobin
KMYV - KCIU
Cessna 421

Oct 21

Rick Terzo and
John Olson
KMSG - KMSN
Cessna 340

Oct 22

Rick Terzo and
John Olson
KMSN - KMSG
Cessna 340

Oct 23

George Schraft and
Brad Zimer
KLAN - KRDU - KLAN
Cessna 310

Oct 24

John Werner and
Thomas Wilkoski
KYES - KSEF - KYES
Beechcraft Baron

Oct 24

Chris Harper and
Jeff Ostrander
KARB - KCMX
Piper Tw in Comanche

Oct 30

John Olson and
Rick Terzo
KBIV - KRST
Cessna 421

At Wings of Mercy we know it is important for you to hear about how the work you do affects people's lives. This is just another example of how the flights made a difference this month. Keep up the good work! We couldn't do it without you!

Pilot Tips...

Considering Aircraft Operations Costs and Planning for Taxes

by Jason Blair

Conducting charity flying, such as flying for Wings of Mercy, can be a rewarding and exciting way to use your aircraft. While Pilots for Wings of Mercy enjoy the rare ability to have their fuel costs reimbursed by the charity, operating costs of the aircraft used during flights are not directly reimbursable. With the help of your tax professional, and with good record keeping throughout the year, some percentage of these may be deductible. The exact amount that may be deductible for any one aircraft operator will vary based on the fact that each person's situation is unique. In all cases, the key to any ability to deduct expenses will begin with determining the operating costs for your aircraft per hour and keeping good records of expenses and operations throughout the year.

Calculating Your Aircraft Hourly Operational Cost -

Determining the real cost per hour of operation of your aircraft requires you to do a little math. You need to determine any fixed costs you incur for operating the aircraft, any variable costs you will incur during the aircraft operation, and any reserve costs associated with aircraft maintenance. This isn't overly hard to do and there are resources available that can help you complete this exercise.

Determining real reserve costs that should be considered in your operational costs can be done through information available from commercial and membership organizations that estimate hourly operational costs for aircraft. These costs are a combination of your personally experienced costs based on your hangar, your insurance, and other cost along with some aviation industry aggregate experience that estimates things like engine reserve or propeller reserve costs.

A couple of resources for more information to calculate estimated aircraft operating costs per hour flown can be found through the commercial services of Conklin and de Decker (<https://www.conklindd.com>) or Aircraft Cost Calculator (<http://www.aircraftcostcalculator.com/>). For AOPA members, a database of information is available by referencing the AOPA Aircraft Operating Cost Calculator (<http://www.aopa.org/Pilot-Resources/Aircraft-Ownership.aspx>).

For more help calculating how much your aircraft operating costs per hour are, you can download a spreadsheet (<http://www.jasonblair.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/09/Estimated-Hourly-Operation-Cost-for-Personal-Aircraft.xlsx>) and input your aircraft specific information.

Keeping Your Records Straight -

When you are flying for charities, for business, or personally, keep track of the hours you flew throughout the year. It is a good idea to also keep track of how many hours you flew for any specific purpose such as charity, personal, or business flying. You can keep a log of flights much like you keep a pilot logbook of your hours flown. The total number of hours you flew in the year will be used to estimate the overall hourly cost of operation for your aircraft. With this information, your tax accountant will be able to best provide advice for any portion of your flying that may be tax deductible at the end of the year.

Oct 30

James Trebilcock and
Fred Honhart
KBEH - KARB - KBEH
Cessna 210

Wings of Mercy flight needs
change regularly. Click
here to login and view the

Current WOM Flight Needs

Wings of Mercy is a 501 (C)(3)
non-profit organization funded
solely by individual and
corporate contributions.

If you are able to help out,
click below to donate.



Keeping an aircraft log of hours flown is a good start. To supplement this, it is also a good idea to keep records of the documentation you submitted to Wings of Mercy upon completion of flights. This data can help your tax professional determine what may be deductible at the end of the year.

In most cases, charitable contributions are limited to out-of-pocket expenditures that are directly related to the charitable flight. While opportunities may be limited, some do exist. If you believe some of your flight operations are eligible to claim as a charitable contribution, seeking professional assistance and providing that professional with the best possible records will give you the best opportunity to find eligible deductions.

Take the time this year, and especially before you file your taxes next spring, to look at your aircraft operation records and the flights you have conducted. Not only will this help your accountant provide you the best possible information, but for better or worse, it will also help you have a better understanding of the real costs of aircraft ownership and operation.

Wings of Mercy is a volunteer organization that provides free air transportation for people with limited financial means who need treatment at distant medical facilities. Patients are carried on private aircraft by volunteer pilots.

www.WingsofMercy.org

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