



Aviation News

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Logbook

June 4

Fred Honhart and
Mark Engleright
ARB-CMX
Piper Arrow

June 5

Bill Klungle and
John Workman
MKG-RDU-MKG

From the Staff...

July 9, 2014

Getting Ready for AirVenture 2014...

I am really looking forward to Oshkosh this year! Hopefully many of you will get the opportunity to also attend, and if so, we can always use help at the Wings of Mercy booth. If you are going to be there and have a little time to spare, let the staff know and we can put you to work spreading awareness of the great work that Wings of Mercy does.

I would also like to invite all active Wings Pilots to my campsite (location TBD) at Camp Scholler for a cookout. More information will be provided soon, but we will be shooting for something in the middle of the week (Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday) after the air show is done (probably about 5:30 p.m). Let Grace know if you have a preference for the day and we will make every effort to accommodate the most pilot's schedules of folks that will be up at Oshkosh. No need to bring anything other than a lawn chair and a good "Wings" story, we will provide the rest.. We will confirm the campsite location, date and time via an upcoming email. Feel free to drop by our booth, #2065 in Hangar B to let us know if you will be attending.

It will be a great opportunity to celebrate Wings of Mercy and everything that is good about general aviation flying.

See you there!

--Fred Honore

A Patient Story...

We are very happy to share that Wings of Mercy recipient Laura Crockett recently received a good report from her doctors in Ann Arbor.

Last September, Wings Pilots flew Laura from her home in Marquette to the University of Michigan Hospital so she could receive a double lung transplant operation.



After a lengthy stay in Ann Arbor she was able to return to her home and is now feeling better than she has in a long time. Laura still has many follow-up visits ahead of her and is extremely grateful for the assistance Wings of Mercy continues to provide.

Pilot Tips...

Independence

by Kevin R. Dingman

In consideration of the recently passed Independence Day, I couldn't help but have a few thoughts I wanted to share. Our freedom here in the United States applies to aviation. A freedom we have to defy gravity and see the world from above.

The Declaration of Independence is arguably one of the most influential single documents in the history of civilization. The freedom inspiring impact

King Air

it continues to have on our country and the world is difficult to overstate.

June 10

Chris Faircloth and
Dan Neville
3GM-ARB-3GM

Our freedom as GA pilots in the United States is far reaching, affordable and underappreciated. Some might add, underutilized. A few in GA have had run-ins of late with, as AOPA put it, "overzealous" law enforcement entities. But still, the effected pilots have their body parts intact, the important ones anyway, and are not in prison-something not guaranteed in some parts of the world. We have the alphabet organizations (with the help of our money) to thank for defending our aviation freedom-Thank-You!

June 12

Timothy Brenner and
Alex Anderegg
EGV-RST
Cirrus

The purchase price of factory-new, six seat and larger singles and twins, is indeed daunting, as is the care and feeding of said beast. There's the bank payment, training, insurance, fuel and the maintenance costs; and none are for the faint of pocketbook. But this is America, and if you have the means, you can have the plane-along with the freedom and convenience it presents. It is the appreciation of these freedoms and the convenience of GA that I offer in this months column--- the month in which we celebrate our independence.

June 15

Mike Miller and
Jason Blair
SAW-ARB
Baron 58

The Airlines

If you would like to increase your level appreciation of the freedom and convenience afforded by your privately owned and operated plane, say after you write a check for the annual or an engine overhaul for example, take a trip from one small town to another small town; perhaps Holland, Michigan to Pierre, South Dakota. Leave on a Friday morning and come back on a Sunday afternoon. Oh, and make this trip on the airlines.

June 16

Gary Sage and
Paul Lehman
LAN-FME
Cessna 421

Get on line and surf through the jungle of travel and airline web sites to find what you believe to be the best value for this trip. You will discover later at the unattended kiosk that you forgot to pay for your carry-on. And the checked bag you did pay for is over the weight limit by twelve pounds and you must pay fifty dollars more. If you have golf clubs, they are an automatic fee of \$100. You can't sit next to your wife and a soft drink is three dollars.....no cash accepted. Now, print your itinerary and boarding passes (to save an extra \$10 each at the counter) then hit the road....literally.

June 23-24

Rick Terzo and
John Olson
MKG-MSN-MKG
Cessna 340

Clean Underwear

Drive your car an hour or three to an airport that has air service to the "Big City Airport" that you need to use for your connection to the next "Big City Airport." Once there, park your car two or three miles from the terminal and pay some dude the equivalent of your annual GPS update subscription to park for three days. Next, head into the terminal for the glamorous part; I hope you wore clean socks and underwear.

June 30

Chris Harper and
Jeff Ostrander
MKG-MSN-MKG
Twin Comanche

After five years of carrying around my laptop with office supplies that I use for writing for T&T and CJ magazines, the TSA decided my little two inch, rectangular, pink eraser with tappers on each end (I guess it's a trapezoid), when sitting close to my laptop audio jack splitter, looks like C4 and something electronic to make it blow-up. After sending my briefcase through the scanner three times while a guard watched over me, followed by a visual search of the briefcase, they let me keep the eraser. I threw it out anyway. They're not having their way with me twice over an eraser.

June 30

Scott Sedam and
Mike Wetherbee
ARB-SAW
Aero Commander

The very next week, a small 1 ¼ inch combination nail file, knife and foldable scissors that I'd been carrying since before 9-11 was suddenly too dangerous for the airline captain, in uniform to have onboard his own flight. Are you getting the picture? Don't even try to take along more than a few ounces of Grecian Formula to work on your graying mustache.

June 30

Rick Terzo and
John Olson
GRR-RST
Cessna 340

Not Amused

You get on the flight from Big City Airport number one and fly to Big City Airport number two. If you have a maintenance or weather delay you will miss your flight from Big City Airport number two, to Little City airport number two where your rental car is waiting, hopefully. Once at airport number four, you go to baggage claim and fill out the forms needed to recover your lost \$1,500 golf clubs. Good job, now it's out to the rental car place. When was the last time you ate? Was it at Big City Airport number one? You begin the two hour drive to your hotel with a lap full of McDonalds-the wife is not amused. The next morning you shoot a 105 with rental clubs.

Events

Event Listings

**Holland CareAffaire
Runway 5K
August 23, 2014**

**Traverse City CareAffaire
September 6, 2014**

Two days later you repeat the process going the other direction; this time without your golf clubs, and without your wife-- the clubs are still lost and the wife chartered a King Air flown by two hansom dudes. They offer

**Gerber Collision Golf Outing
September 16, 2014**

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

**Current WOM
Flight Needs**

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



gourmet sandwiches; strawberry shortcake and Perrier all served in containers with embossed drawings of the King Air and its tail number. The plane has a spotless potty that only she can use. She gets home six hours before you and when you come dragging in, asks how the return trip went. Your clubs are delivered to your home four days later without your Cleveland lob wedge, TaylorMade driver and three sleeves of ProV1's. And now, you are not amused.

The freedom to aviate across states and countries in our own aircraft, at an affordable price and on our own schedule is a unique and valuable privilege. Time is one of your most precious commodities and GA spends it wisely. It may also help you to stay closer to your clubs and your wife.

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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