



Giving Wings to Those in Need

Aviation News

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[Pilot Delivers Rescue Dog for Adoption](#)

[Sky Broncos Capture Fourth Place in National Competition](#)

[West Michigan Aviation Academy Prepares to Graduate Its First Class](#)

[Spring Break Travel Lifts Ford Airport Passenger Figures 10% in April](#)

[Gala to Showcase Enhanced Relationship Between WMU, Air Zoo](#)

[Despite Past Turbulence, Kalamazoo's New Airport Director Sees Blue Skies Ahead](#)

[Airport in Chippewa County Getting Nearly \\$3.4 Million](#)

Logbook

5/5/2014

David Parmelee
and Mark Schmidt
TVC-GRR-TVC
Saratoga

5/5/2014

Ann Meengs
and Dave Seigers
BEH-RST

Muskegon CareAffaire a Great Day!

June 4, 2014

Blue skies and delicious pancakes drew a record crowd to the Wings of Mercy Muskegon CareAffaire on Saturday, May 31st.

The event included the 9th Annual Run for Wings 5K Run, pancake breakfast provided by the Muskegon Host Lions, classic car show, vintage aircraft, and lots of family fun. Thanks to all who came out to support Wings and to all who worked behind the scenes to make the event such a great success.



From the Board...

from Chris Harper

Think about the last occasion you discussed Wings of Mercy with somebody. Was it today? Yesterday? Last week? Last month? ...Hopefully it was not last year!

Wings pilots understand the impact that our wonderful organization delivers to patients. However, there are so many people who still need to learn about the unique way our organization serves the community. Direct interaction with patients provides a personal opportunity for Wings pilots to provide first-hand accounts that will educate others in a manner that nobody else can offer. Wings of Mercy's pilots translate the organization's mission into action. People will love to hear your stories!

In my role as an instructor at Grand Valley State University I recently had an opportunity to assist a university employee's child with tax and financial advice regarding her medical situation. During this process I mentioned Wings of Mercy as a potential resource for medical transportation. I simply mentioned this briefly as a passing comment and immediately diverted my attention to the numerous details that consume each day. Can you imagine my delight when I opened a recent e-mail and noticed this young lady's name in the flight mission list? Although I had forgotten that I mentioned our valuable service, I was pleased to see that my comment allowed Wings of Mercy to reach out to someone new.

Skylane

5/5/2014

Jerry Schmidt
and Max Engleman
RST-BEH
Cherokee 6

5/6/2014

John Workman
and Dan Neville
MKG-MSN-MKG
Cessna 414

5/8/2014

Tom Wilkoski
and Jimmie Szaikovis
SEF-UES
Baron 55

5/14/2014

Chris Faircloth
and Dan Neville
GRR-BKL
Comanche

5/15/2014

John Olson
and Rick Terzo
EGV-RST
Cessna 421

5/16/2014

Jerry Schmidt
and Max Engleman
RST-EGV
Cherokee 6

5/16/2014

Ryan Veenstra
and Ray Chester
BKL-GRR
TBM 850

5/20/2014

Peter Tobin
and Ellen Northam
ESC-ARB-ESC
Columbia

Events

Event Listings

**Holland CareAffaire
August 23, 2014**

**Traverse City CareAffaire
September 6, 2014**

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,

Marketing professionals advise that one way to double your business is to double the number of people you know. This applies equally to Wings of Mercy. Our business is giving wings to those in need! As a Wings pilot you clearly play a critical role in the safe, successful transportation of patients. However, Wings pilots are also ambassadors for Wings of Mercy!

So this is the call to action. Please consider opportunities to discuss Wings of Mercy as you encounter people each and every day. Church, work, school events, business meetings, the pilot's lounge or even a child's soccer game are just a few examples of occasions to mention Wings of Mercy. Do you know someone who is a potential patient, donor or financial contributor? Could you invite someone to a CareAffaire? Would you be able to ask a fellow aviator to join the roster of pilots?

Fred Honore, Wings of Mercy's director of operations and board secretary, has referred to Wings of Mercy as a three-legged stool that will not function properly without all three legs; Wings of Mercy needs pilots, patients and financial resources to accomplish its mission. Wings of Mercy appreciates everything that you and your fellow pilots do to sustain the flight portion of this tripod. Please consider what you can also do to spread the word regarding Wings so we can ensure that patients and funds are available to complete the triangle.

Singing the praises of Wings of Mercy is not difficult. The Wings story almost tells itself! (Plus, you will probably enjoy every second of the conversation. I have not yet met a pilot who does not like talking about aviation). If you really want to put a smile on somebody's face, just tell them about your last flight and see where the conversation takes you!

Thank you for all that you do for Wings of Mercy and its patients!

Pilot Tips...

WOM is For Real By Kevin R. Dingman

The first day of summer, June 21st, is just around the corner. In our neck-of-the-woods, this is the season in which the majority of our flying is accomplished; for both business and pleasure. Summertime flying usually involves less work and anguish: No pre-heating the plane, no shoveling snow from in front of the hangar, no sluggish batteries and no slippery runways.

It also means that ceilings and visibilities are normally either really good, or really bad. Even so, when bad, the condition is often short lived as thunderstorms roll through. If you can stay away from fast moving cold fronts, and zigzag around isolated thunderstorm cells outside of these systems, the weather is generally pretty civilized-albeit sometimes a bit more bumpy if below the clouds.

Thy Neighbor

If you have been a Christian for long, you have likely noticed that our path can often be as described above, including the zigzagging and the bumps-I know that I have. Like wintertime flying, there can sometimes be a bit of extra work and anguish because of our do-onto-others, love-thy-neighbor and turn-the-other-cheek approach to life. And there will always be those around us that take advantage of this life style, which gives us a taste of their historically predictable ridicule.

Fortunately, there are times and events in which we can enjoy our "Christian flying season." Where the work and anguish of pre-heating, shoveling, zigzagging and the bumpy times of life pays off: attending our church, participating in Bible studies with other like minded believers, helping others find the way, setting a good example as best we can and sharing in fellowship events.

My Brothers Keeper

Flying WOM missions gives us the opportunity to engage our Christian life style in a very positive way without some of the backlash often presented by the non-believing public-for us to fly above the clouds in the smoother air. Showcasing WOM to the flying public and promoting our, I am my brothers keeper approach, allows us to show that WOM is real-and that not only does

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it work, but its fun, rewarding and often very humbling.

Summer is fly-in, pancake breakfast and airshow season. The biggest fly-in and airshow of the season is of course EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, WI. This year the dates are from July 28th to August 3rd. There are four main display hangars at the show labeled A, B, C and D. You can't miss them. As in previous years, WOM will have a presence at the show in the form of a display booth, its number B2056. WOM staffs the booth with happy, smiling and informative representatives. It's our chance to let thousands of people-pilots, non-pilots, believers and non-believers, see how we approach life and to give them a chance to participate in that approach.

Fellowship at Oshkosh

Grace is the POC (point of contact) for our participation at OSH this year. Having "been there-and done that," she has the information you will need to join in. She can answer your questions about what it is like to participate, and provide administrative details from obtaining an entry pass to finding food, what to wear and what questions to expect from the public. She can use your help so contact her soon at the Wings office, and if the booth times are already filled, you can still put on your WOM shirt and simply hang-out, share in the fellowship and learn the ropes; the more the merrier. Come and see how much fun it is.

Once the AirVenture is over, you can bring home the enthusiasm by supporting one of the two remaining Wings of Mercy CareAffaires. These events not only raise money for the cause, they also raise awareness of what we do. The Holland event will be Saturday, August 23 and the Traverse City event will be Saturday, September 6. Both are pancake breakfast/fly-ins and both give us as pilots an opportunity to connect with the people in the regions we serve, you may even run into a patient that you have flown.

Our presence at OSH and the CareAffaires enables the flying community to see a functioning, successful Christian organization staffed by happy people, engaged in a flying activity that helps give hope to hundreds of people. It allows us to put faces on the reality of volunteerism, to show people a way to join us and that WOM is for real.

Authors note:

The book, Heaven Is For Real, by Todd Burpo, Thomas Nelson publishing, was first published in 2010. There are now a couple of follow-on books and a movie. Author Burpo's books and WOM founder Peter Vandebosch's book, Earth Angels are testimonies of a reality in which we all believe, but many of us have only our faith in which to rely upon.

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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