

EAA 908 HYLITES

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR EAA CHAPTER 908
SAINT LUCIE COUNTY, FLORIDA

President's Corner



August, what a month!! It's been a very hot and very busy month so let me get right to the issues: **Lee Roman:** Mary Roman is having a brief memorial service at the clubhouse for Lee on Saturday, Aug. 20th at 2:00 pm. A social hour will follow with food, beer and wine and everyone is invited to attend and celebrate Lee's life. **New Computer/Flight Simulator:** The BOD approved the purchase of a flight simulator

at it's August meeting. All components, except for one, that make up the sim have been received. As soon as we have the final piece the BOD will assemble and program the sim. We expect to have the simulator up and running by the end of this month.

HD/TV -47": The BOD approved the purchase of a new HD/TV at the August meeting. The TV has been received and installed on a new monitor mount. The TV is internet ready and can stream online TV programs. It is currently being tested and we expect to have it in service shortly. It took several of us to remove the old TV. Do you know how much the old TV weighed? Ask Mike Ketchpaw and Mike Gorman who helped lower it off its stand. A special thanks to them for their hard work. A couple of days later Mike Gorman had just finished a flight and I was lucky enough to catch him to assist in mounting the new TV. You'd think that would be easier. Try lifting a 47" TV above your shoulders and placing a small bracket in a small hole. Mike can tell you how



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**KFPR, east end use Taxiway
Alpha or Delta to Delta One, or
progressive to "EAA Ramp"
Pancake fly-in pilots eat free**

Mark Your Calendar:

- **August 20, 2011 - 2:00 pm, Lee Roman Memorial**
- **Every Wednesday — Coffee and donuts at club house 8:00 am until.....**
- **Every Sat. morning — Coffee and donuts at club house 8:00 am until.....**
- **Every Sat. Lunch — Suspended for the Summer**

President's Corner - by Paul Dekker

easy that is to accomplish. Thanks again Mike for the hard work. I hope this doesn't discourage you from flying. Oh that's not the end of the story. This past Saturday Mike Ketchpaw helped me load the old TV on to Stan Swiezy's pick-up truck (a good back saving idea suggested by Ron Kowalski) where we unloaded it onto a table in the Chapter's hanger for temporary storage. Thanks to Stan, Ron and again Mike for their efforts. **Security:** At 7:19 pm on August 9, 2011 a St. Lucie County Sheriffs Deputy on a routine patrol found our electronic gate halfway open. Please make sure that the electronic gate completely closes when entering or leaving. If a problem occurs, please call me, Ron Knaggs or another BOD member immediately. Don't leave the area until the issue is resolved. **New Signs:** The BOD approved the purchase of two new signs to replace the ones on the corner of St. Lucie Blvd. and Industrial 33rd St. The new signs have our phone number and website address. The old signs were removed and one was installed at the corner of Industrial 33rd St. and Industrial Ave. 3. This should help the public find us. **Chapter Elections:** It's hard to believe but it's time to think about board member elections again. I will announce the members of the election committee at this months General membership meeting. There are three positions for which nominations will be accepted: Vice-President, Treasurer and one Directors position. If you are interested in serving on the Board please inform one of the committee members following the General meeting.

New Members First Solo - by Mike Young and Romeo Vadnais

First Solo....Steve Smith has slipped the surly bonds of earth. On Wednesday, August 3rd, EAA Chapter 908 member Steve Smith soloed his recently rebuilt Piper PA28 Cherokee in front of a very critical Wednesday EAA coffee and donut group. Steve had accumulated 15 hours of dual, but in reality was about 12 hours actual flying considering a lot of taxi time had occurred during trips to maintenance and numerous full stop landings with taxi backs. After Steve's first landing, ATC questioned if his Instructor was on the frequency, well his Instructor Mike Young was, and Tower requested a telephone call. Thinking there was a problem the call was made and Tower Chief (and Chapter member) Jerry Groendyke explained that they needed Steve's data for a Solo Certificate! Steve is well on his way to his Private License having scored a 92 on the Written Test. Congratulations Steve!! Several traditions have developed in the USA around "soloing", including drenching the student with water and cutting off and permanently displaying the back of his or her shirt. Romeo Vadnais did some investigating and found out that in American aviation lore, the traditional removal of a new pilot's shirt tail is a sign of the instructor's new confidence in his student after successful completion of the 1st solo flight. In the days of tandem trainers, the student sat in the front seat, with the instructor behind. As there were often no radios in these early days of aviation, the instructor would tug on the student pilot's shirttail to get his attention, and then yell in

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All articles and pictures are the credit of the Editor, Richard Chapman, unless otherwise noted.

Many thanks to those that contributed. Anyone with stories, news, trips to Key West, aircraft projects, bios of members, etc. can share it with the world through *HYLITES*, as we archive the recent issues on the web. We have not copyrighted anything in the past, but may work up something in the future.

Generally, any other EAA or not-for-profit publication is free to use anything in this newsletter, just give us credit and send us a copy.

New Members First Solo - continued

his ear. A successful first solo flight is an indication that the student can fly without the instructor ("instructor-less" flight). Hence, there is no longer a need for the shirt tail, and it is cut off by the (often) proud instructor, and sometimes displayed as a trophy. In Canada, the dumping of water is replaced with a bucket of snow. The dumping is usually intended as a surprise to the newly minted solo pilot.

Around The Patch - by Paul Dekker

Ron Knaggs Ron should be returning from his cross country motorcycle trip this week and should have some good stories to share.

Richard Chapman Richard is still traveling and we won't be seeing him until around October 1st.

Todd Scher Todd Scher, Assistant Airport Manager for Vero Beach will be our guest speaker at this month's general membership meeting. He will be talking to us about Vero Beach airport operations.

Airport Construction The airport (FPR) is scheduled to start construction on taxiway A and B in the next several weeks. Both are being widened and resurfaced and will take approximately five to six months to complete. Additionally, construction work is scheduled to begin on the Terminal building with the staff being relocated to trailers. If you need to renew your airport badge you will have to call ahead and make arrangements with the staff. The Terminal building project will take about eight (8) months to complete. When the Terminal building is complete the construction project on the Customs building will begin and take approximately eight to ten months. There are other projects in the works so stay tuned for further announcements. In the meantime make sure you check for NOTAMS before going flying and make sure you understand the instructions you receive from the ground controller. If you're not sure ask the controller to repeat the instructions or ask for progressive taxi instructions.

Airport Day Mark your calendar for October 29th which will be Airport Day at FPR. We plan on having a display and flying Young Eagles. This is always a big event and we will need lots of help from the membership to make it a success for our Chapter.

Flying Competition Once the simulator is up and running and the membership has had a chance to get accustomed to it, we plan to have some clubhouse simulator flying competition. This should be a lot of fun and a great time to sharpen your flying skills. Back seat flyers should have the most fun so watch for upcoming announcements.

Jeanie's Teenie The Board has decided that the Jeanie's Teenie that was donated to the Chapter (the small plane sitting in Paul Whelan's tie down, minus the wings) will be placed on a pedestal, if it is cost effective, or made a static display for YE training. In either case, the plane needs a lot of cosmetic work before it can be put on display. This is a great Chapter project and can be a real asset in attracting attention to our Chapter and the programs we support. We will be setting up dates and times for members to participate in making this an eye catching display.

New HD/TV & Mount



New Signs



Congratulations To Steve Smith



Jeanie's Teenie

