

EAA 908 HYLITES

Monthly Newsletter for Chapter 908, EAA
Saint Lucie County, Florida



December Meeting

December is just around the corner and the Chapter Christmas Party has been set for Wednesday, December 21st, with socializing (BYOB) at 6:00 and dinner at 6:30. The Chapter will provide Turkey, Ham and soft drinks. Members should bring their favorite covered dish and any drinks they may wish. Robin Moorman is coordinating things. Please let her know if you are coming and what you want to bring. If in doubt, bring a vegetable or salad. Call Robin at 595-9865 or email at airobin@bellsouth.net.

NO PANCAKE BREAKFAST THIS MONTH. It would normally fall on the Saturday after the membership meeting and that is Christmas Eve. The cooks will be busy wrapping presents.

Computer Corner

I may have mentioned some of these already, but there are several web sites that I use quite often. The first is www.airnav.com. This has a database of all airports, nav aids, fixes and fuel prices. Bring up FPR for a fuel price check and it will list the local and all airports within 50 miles of St. Lucie County International. Self Service 100LL is about 50 discount at OBE over FPR, and you want to avoid Stuart for fuel purchases. The list does show the date the price was updated and given today's fluctuations in prices, you may want to call to verify.

Airnav's display of airport information is extensive. All the info from the airport directory, a picture, current weather, instrument approaches with a link to view the approach and print it. About the only shortcoming is the availability of food and on field FBOs. Those vendors that pay for a listing are displayed, others may be missing or out of date.

The other site I use extensively is www.landings.com. This site's home page has news, highlights, forums, links, flight planning, and tons of other stuff. FAA regs, NPRMs, databases of pilots and N-numbers are a few of the thousands of resources. There's so much that the only downside is that some of the links get out of date. But that's when I go to Google and do a search.

Latest email scam is supposedly from the FBI or CIA that you have visited illegal web sites. DELETE it, they are bogus emails.

Mark Your Calendar:

- **December 21st - Chapter Christmas Party**
- **January 12-15, 2006 - Sport Plane Expo at Sebring**
- **January 18th - Chapter meeting**
- **March 25-26, 2006 Wings and Wheels Airshow FPR**
- **April 4 - 10, 2006 Sun-N-Fun at Lakeland**
- **Every Sat. morning — coffee and donuts at club house**

Officers:

President	Kevin Griffin 579-6529
V. Pres.	Ed Elder 595-5698
Secretary	Jerry Groendyke 489-9150
Treasurer	Ron Knaggs 429-1241
Past President	Jim Wetzel 878-1973
Directors	Dr. Jerry Gordon 343-7226 Robin Moorman 595-9865 Romeo Vadnais 461-6089
Newsletter Ed.	Richard Chapman email to: cfo@cypress-und.com
WEB Site:	www.eaa908.org

Safety - Richard Chapman

This time of year we have a lot more darkness than in the summer. The first few days of December are the earliest sunset of the year in Fort Pierce. Next week, we start gaining more evening daylight. No, the days are not getting longer, the sunrise still gets later to make up for it. December 21st is still the shortest daylight day of the year.

For flying at night, some extra vigilance is needed. Preflight check of all the lights. Even after a stop for dinner at another airport. The maintenance officer of the Flying Club Cherokee keeps extra light bulbs in a bag in the rear of the plane. The other night a pilot called to ask where they were. The Cherokee tail light is the same bulb as the overhead instrument panel illumination light. So now we are out of spares and more are on the procurement list. But since the Cherokee's older design of a single overhead instrument panel light has no back up, a pilot provided light is needed. I recommend and carry several flashlights for this purpose. I have two lights, one with a red lens, that I have on cords hanging around my neck. The very last thing that you want to have happen is to lose your instrument lights and then drop your backup flashlight on the floor. Remember Murphy's Law?

So enjoy your night flying this time of year, with its cool weather and generally smooth air and good visibility. But be prepared with backup lighting.

Chapter dues will become due on January 1, 2006. Treasurer Ron Knaggs will be sending out bills for your membership renewal. Dues went up to \$40 per year.

If you have changes in address or email, please call, mail to the chapter address, or email it to Ron Knaggs at rknaggs@bellsouth.net

From the Editor:

I've found a bunch of stuff to fill this edition, so it's almost done. Many thanks to those that contributed. Anyone with a 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.

Young Eagles - Tom Shedd

Special thanks to the Chapters' Young Eagles pilots during the October Rally. Robin Moorman and Jerry Groendyke are both closing in on their second 100 mission shirt, Jim Wetzel went over his 100 missions at the October rally and Pete Stryker is just a few kids away from 100. Jerry Gordon is approaching 100. Robin Blanton is nowhere near 100 but when you consider that he flew three boys named Jonathon and three others, one at a time, on the 15th he worked as hard as any. To all the Chapter YE pilots, past and present, thank you all. Our 2005 total was 125 and hopefully we can do 150 during 2006. Our grand total is now over 1,000.

It was necessary to start a second book of YE registrations. With a few of exceptions we have copies of all the submissions to the Young Eagles Office in Oshkosh. These books are available in the YE corner of the office in the hangar. Pilots may also review your flights at www.young eagles.org. Your Young Eagle number and date of last recorded YE flight is also available.

YE Registration Forms, Chapter Waiver Forms, and YE Certificates are posted on the bulletin board on the east wall of the hangar so there is no need to wait for a rally to fly visiting and neighborhood kids during the holidays.

Happy holidays and best wishes for 2006. Tom - your YEC

Flying Club

Rick Whitmore passed his check ride for Instrument Rating December 1st. Congratulations Rick.

Army Experimental



AH-1 Cobra

Army Viet Nam veteran standing next to a Cobra similar to what he flew. This Cobra is at the New England Air Museum, at Bradley Field, Hartford, CT. Very few Army helicopters were FAA type certified. There has been a constant improvement program that makes it hard to pin down a base line configuration for certification. And the Army has some unique mission requirements that don't have a civilian world equivalent. The State of Florida has several converted Cobras that are used for forest fire patrol. But as a governmental agency, they don't have to use certified airframes and are essentially 'experimental' aircraft.



Kaman Aircraft Experimental Twin Rotor Helicopter

There is no tail rotor, the main rotors rotate in opposite directions, intermeshing like a beaters in a kitchen mixer. No power loss through tail rotor, and tail rotor can't get caught in trees. Also at the New England Air Museum.

Airport Notes - Editor

The runway lights on 09-27 are being repaired. The contractor should complete this within a few weeks. Runway 09-27 is closed most of the time, due to vehicles and workers on or near the runway. The ILS glideslope is still OTS due to antenna damage from Wilma.

The 1 December 2005 notams are as follows:

KFPR ST LUCIE COUNTY INTL

- 11/017 - 9/27 CLSD 28 NOV 12:00 UNTIL 02 DEC 22:00
- 11/015 - TOWER 304 (280 AGL) 13.27 WSW LGTS OTS (ASR 1240933) WIE UNTIL 11 DEC 14:01
- 11/014 - TOWER 327 (304 AGL) 4.64 WSW LGTS OTS (ASR 1018578) WIE UNTIL 09 DEC 14:15
- 11/013 - TOWER 327 (310 AGL) 7.65 SSE LGTS OTS (ASR 1027255) WIE UNTIL 07 DEC 12:13
- 10/013 - 9 ILS GP OTS WIE UNTIL UFN
- 10/001 - 9/27 RWY LGTS OTS WIE UNTIL UFN
- FDC 5/3822** - FI/T ST. LUCIE COUNTY INTL, FORT PIERCE, FL. NDB RWY 9, ORIG-A... S-9 MDA 500/HAT 477 ALL CATS, VISIBILTY CAT D 1 1/2. CIRCLING CATS A,B,C MDA 500/HAA 477. TEMPORARY CRANE 195 FT MSL 1335 FT E OF RWY 9, 4664 FT RIGHT OF CENTERLINE. WIE UNTIL UFN

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