

The Pea Patch Post



EAA CHAPTER 172
AUGUSTA, GA



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July, 2012

PRESIDENT'S DESK

Al Nodorft

The Wrens fly in was a great success, despite the unfortunate accident of Chris Bowen the day before. Our thoughts remain with his family.

I was impressed again with the amount of work that goes into preparing and running such an event. I am proud of the folks who volunteered their time and efforts to make this happen. It is a good showing for our EAA Chapter as well as the community of Wrens.

One add-on for this year was the RC planes. This was a good addition and brought in more spectators. As a special treat on Friday night, one of them flew a plane after dark with 1080 LED lights on it. It was really great.

At the end of May our family took a vacation in Europe. In good tradition, I always seem to wrap some aviation related activity into it. This time I took a tandem paraglider ride in Interlaken, Switzerland. This has been on my bucket list since I first visited that city many years ago.

Interlaken is a smaller city located between two large lakes in the valley between some smaller mountains. Just to the South are the big mountains. So you see lots of green and are flying with just a light jacket, but have a clear view of the snow capped mountains.

The ride was about 20 minutes long and included some thermalling that went up above some of the smaller mountains. It is worthwhile doing if you ever have the chance.

Speaking of thermalling, I have finally gotten the glider out again. First flight was for 3 hours. Didn't go anywhere in particular as this was the first flight, but there were cloud streets, so you could fly under them for 20 miles or so without circling and barley losing any altitude. It gives you the feeling that you could fly forever.

July Meeting

Our next meeting is July 14th and we will be having barbeque. Please bring a side dish to go with it. After the meeting we will have a guest speaker, Dana Atkins, a former USAF Thunderbirds pilot, who will tell us about his experiences.



Fly safe!

Al



CHARLIE DIDN'T PULL HIS RIP-CORD

Member Charlie Connell won't be doing much outdoor partying over the holiday. It seems that he was doing some roofing work on his house on June 15 and somehow lost his footing and slipped off the roof. He has a multi-storied residence and was trying to remove a limb that had fallen on it after a storm. He and his wife, Sheila, were getting some work done and preparing for two guests from England who were coming that weekend and planning to stay for a couple weeks. Sheila said that she was inside the house and heard shouts and a yell and "ran to check it out, and there he was on the ground."



Sheila called 911 and Charlie was rushed to the hospital. Though the injuries were found not to be life-threatening, Sheila said "We feel so lucky that he is alive. However, he spent three days in the hospital, and is now home awaiting swelling to go down in one of his legs (both ankles broken, one shattered) enough for surgery." Surgery is anticipated to be done the week after the 4th. Charlie's at home now. Sheila related "He is currently going from wheelchair to bed, so you can imagine the stress associated with even a trip to the bathroom. Home Health Care has three outfits (RN, aide and physical therapist) visiting us twice weekly and they have been super."

Sheila said that their English friends were en-route so there was no time to tell them about all this prior to their arrival. "Anyway, we feel they have been a God-send, as they have been a big help." Among other activities they have assisted Charlie moving from the ground floor to his bedroom up and down the stairway. Sheila and Charlie are in good spirits. Sheila even wrote "A pilot should have had his parachute open, right?" You can contact Charlie at 803-279-7250.

MARCIE WILHELMI RECOVERING

Marcie Wilhelmi, who has worked with EAA 172 over the years, especially regarding the Boshears air show, is recovering from some major surgery. It was recently related that she had the surgery in early April. She's had some memory problems from the anesthesia, but is improving. Make it a point to wish her well and we're thinking of her.



Her email is: mwilhelmi2@comcast.net

Since before 1995, Marcie has done much work including organizing, setting up, etc. for the Boshears air show. She has been a director of Boshears Skyfest, a member of the Daniel Field commission, and member and Chair of the Augusta Aviation Commission.

AVIATION QUESTION OF THE MONTH

Answer to last month's question: *A pilot got a speeding ticket. Does he need to report that to the FAA?*

According to AOPA: No, typically he does not need to report a traffic violation in which he had to pay a fine. However, he would be required to report it on his medical application in question 18(v) if the violation resulted "...in the denial, suspension, cancellation, or revocation of driving privileges or which resulted in attendance at an educational or rehabilitation program." An example might be if he had multiple speeding tickets and his driver's license was suspended for a period of time. That would need to be reported at his next visit to the aviation medical examiner. He does not need to report it to the FAA Aviation Security Division per [FAR 61.15](#) unless it involved drugs or alcohol. He should also bring court documents/police reports of the incident with him to the AME. The FAA will likely want to see them. The FAA has access to the National Driver Register, so if he doesn't report it they will eventually find out.

This Month's Question: A pilot is planning to take his kids with him on a trip in his airplane. Does he need to use a child seat?