

The FlyPaper

March 2014

The Official Newsletter for EAA Chapter 477, Charleston, South Carolina



From the President

The climate might not be warming up, but the calendar is! You can tell that Spring is coming when you hear about Sun 'n Fun and Walterboro Wings-n-Wheels. And speaking about the latter, Roger has been really working hard on the event and this year is going to be bigger and better than the past! Watch our calendar of events and you can visit <http://walterborowingsandwheels.com/> to get an idea of what is happening.

Our last meeting was well attended and two more people officially joined our ranks; thanks Jason and John. The day started out cold, so we retreated to the conference room in the terminal and watched the "Chapter Video" which comes to us from Oshkosh. Well, we attempted to watch it all, but due to computer ineptness of the Chapter president, we could not see it all. I have since been "trained" appropriately. So if we do that again, it will be much better. Read more about the meeting in the next pages of the newsletter.

Pat Wechter had a change of plans and will be out of town when we meet in March, so we have alternate plans for that date. You should see more about it later in the newsletter or of course can always keep up to date on the website, www.eaa477.org. Speaking of the website, Kevin is making some changes to give a "new" look. So take a look and tell him what you think. And please "Like" our new Facebook page www.facebook.com/LowcountryAviators

As you know, we are holding a raffle for a \$100 gift certificate to be given out at the end of the meeting on March 8th. If you are a Chapter 477 member in good standing (dues up to date) you get a free ticket for just attending a meeting. You can also purchase tickets for a dollar apiece. I can't give you the particulars, but I can tell you it would be worth your while to maybe purchase a ticket or more, since the odds are much better at winning than the Power Ball. OK, so the "prize" is less too, but think about it....



Upcoming Events

Mar 8 – EAA Chapter 477 Meeting, Walterboro Airport (see page 3)

Mar 16 - SC Breakfast Club, Greenwood, GRD

Mar 30 - SC Breakfast Club, Barnwell, BNL

April 1-6 – Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, FL

Apr 12 – Walterboro Wings-n-Wheels, RBW

Now for my Cozy report:

I met informally with the DAR who is going to do my inspection. That is scheduled for the week of March 24th. I came away from that meeting feeling much better about the few things I have to complete, and there is a handful! I jumped at the couple of warm days to do some fibreglassing and now back to final details. Next week is going to be a little too cool for fibreglassing, so little mechanical things, then out the door for some more taxi testing.

-Glen Phelps, President



February Meeting Report

The President, Glen Phelps called the meeting to order. Thirteen members attended. One new members present was John Kirk. We had a guest from Las Cruces, New Mexico. Doug St Pierre is a member of EAA chapter 555. Glen handed out raffle ticket for members who were present. Attendance was up from previous meeting. It was learned that membership in the EAA 477 chapter is still possible even if you are not a member of EAA. However, local members only cannot hold an office.



Glen discussed the January meeting and recalled the interesting stories that were shared about how each member got involved in aviation. He suggested that in the future he would like to have members write up a profile that could be posted on the EAA 477 web page.

Next we viewed the video of Glen taxing his plane at KRBW. Then we reviewed a video from EAA HQ with Chairman Jack Pelton sharing information on the issues we are looking at for 2014:

- 1) EAA is promoting the exemption of class III medicals for VFR pilots in certain types of aircraft. In those cases, the pilot could fly with a driver's license.
- 2) Looking at auto gas solutions and the replacement of 100LL fuel.
- 3) Promoted Oshkosh's Air Adventure in July – wants to include military demonstration teams and looking at the possibility of the Thunderbirds for 2014
- 4) Also shared some of the challenges that Air Adventure has had with the FAA

Next we viewed a video on a STOL aircraft called the "Lil Cub" in Valdez Alaska. It was much like a Piper Cub but modified and with an amazing take-off in 58 ft and landing in 54 feet. About two thirds of the way through

that video we experience technical difficulty. Then Bruce Huffines cooked hamburgers and hotdogs on the grill and the formal part of the meeting ended, but people hung around and talked "flying" stories. One caution to note is that we need to confine the meeting and eating in the building to the conference room. The lobby is meant for customers, flight crews, and guest.



The weather prohibited flying Young Eagles. Jeff Griggs provided two Young Eagles with some ground school training.

-Michael Brown, Secretary

facebook

Please take a look at our new Facebook page www.facebook.com/LowcountryAviators. We hope it will eventually become the social networking site for all coastal South Carolina pilots and aviation enthusiasts.

Treasurer's Report

This month we have a little decrease in overall bottom line. Thank you to those who continue to donate a good "tip" for the great food at the meetings, they are necessary for us to continue to have these little cookouts. More dues paid. Don't forget to buy raffle tickets before the drawing for the \$100 Sporty's gift card next meeting.

Beginning Bank Balance = \$2,362.30
Ending Bank Balance = \$2,478.71

Beginning Petty Cash = \$175.00
Ending Petty Cash = \$10.00

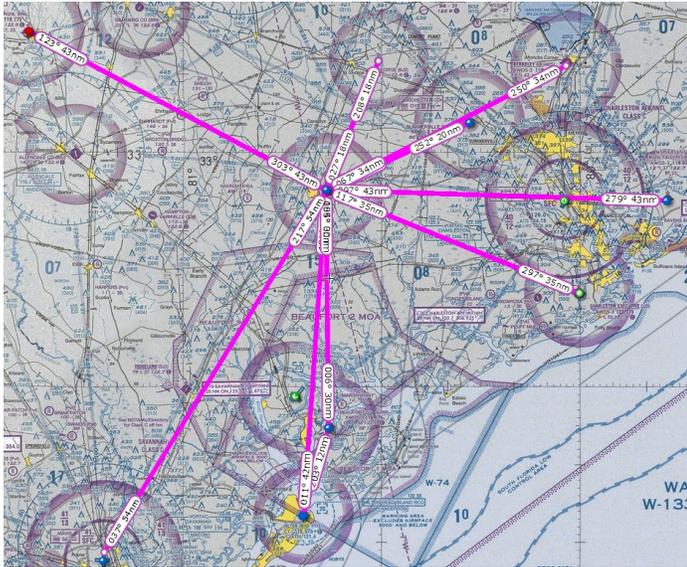
Beginning Balance = \$2,537.30
Ending Balance = \$2,488.71
Increase or (decrease) = -\$48.59

-Lee Miller, Treasurer

Next Meeting: March 8

**FLYOUT/COOKOUT SATURDAY, 11:00 am,
WALTERBORO AIRPORT (RBW)**

Not that we need an excuse to fly on a beautiful March day, but the plan is each aircraft will deliver a Walterboro Wings-n-Wheels poster to a local airport (DYB, JZI, LRO, etc.). The faster planes will fly the longer routes, so we all should be back at RBW about the same time.



Afterward we'll be grilling up some delicious burgers and sausage dogs, so please bring about \$5.00 for the "tip jar".

And don't forget - one lucky guy (or gal) will win a \$100 Sporty's Gift Card! See below.

ALL are invited! Whether you have a plane or would just like to ride along, please contact Roger Medlin if you can join us: (843) 549-2549, email acpilot.roger@gmail.com

Change of Plans

We had originally scheduled Pat Wechter to host the final segment of his multi-part presentation on fabric covering, this time focusing on finish coats and repairs. However Pat had a scheduling conflict, so we'll do this at a future meeting, perhaps May. Those of you who've attended any of Pat's workshops know this will be fun and informative!

Raffle

We'll be raffling off a **\$100 Sporty's Gift Card** at our March meeting. Tickets can be purchased for \$1, but as an added bonus we're giving away a free raffle ticket to each *current* Chapter 477 member in attendance!



RBW Sightings

I had a very unusual sighting this month. It would not have been as easy if it had not been for Jeff Grigg's birthday celebration at RBW. It was on this festive occasion that a friend of his, who is also a bird handler, chose to release an owl that had been on the mend following injury.

This is a Barred, (sometimes called a Bart owl), named for the barred lines in the feathering on its back. The handler told us that these owls mate for life. They don't build nests of their own, but prefer to steal other nests. If one does not find a nest, it would not be uncommon to find eggs layed in the crook of a tree limb.



They catch prey with their talons, not their beaks, and eat it on the spot, unless it is so large that it is carried to a place where it the catch can be torn up. Common meals are rats and mice or even crawdads, and their nests be found near or around swampy areas. Whew, I thought it might feed on Cozys.....

We were told that nature has provided the owl with special feathering such that you will not hear the sound of their wings in flight. I guess that is a form of "stealth" design.

If you want to know what the owl sounds like, vocalizing is like a series of eight accented hoots ending in oo-aw, with a downward pitch at the end. The most common mnemonic device for remembering the call is "Who cooks for you, who cooks for you all." Hmm....the answer of that question is Bruce Huffines, but that is not what is important here.

-Glen Phelps, President

Editor's Note: Additional photo on last page, and video posted at http://youtu.be/Gcwug0_5DOI

Do Airplanes Make You Smile?



If you're not already a member of EAA Chapter 477 we'd love to have you join us!

Fill out the application on our home page (www.eaa477.org).

Or just drop in on one of our meetings & see what we're all about.

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Barred Owl being released back into the wild at Walterboro Airport.

See "RBW Sightings" on page 3 for details and a video link.

