



# EAA602 Log Book

Adirondack Chapter Newsletter

May 2008

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HOMEBUILDERS



## From The Presidents Desk

*by Tim Cowper*

The 2008 flying season is now upon us, and the weather has been amazing. We have new members and new planes and lots of great things in store for EAA602. Many have already started logging hours enjoying our wonderful sport. Thanks to Larry Saupe for a fantastic follow-up presentation last month on weather and the "Skew-T!" Everyone I spoke with loved it, and actually understood it, well, most of it. Anyway, thanks also to Larry for organizing future presentations by our array of very talented Technical Counselors.

Our meeting this month will be at the Edinburg Community Center and we'll be discussing, among other things, our fast-approaching May 24<sup>th</sup> Poker Run. After we take care of the club business, we will have a presentation by Roger Johnson and Tim Devine on the problem of ethanol in our gasoline. Then afterwards Roger will talk about his trip last year to the "Greatest Show on Turf," the Geneseo Air Show. Hopefully we can organize a club fly-out (or two) this year, and the Geneseo event is relatively close by.

The fantastic newsletter articles just keep coming in and I am amazed at the quality of the writing. NOW is the time to write that article you've been putting off for so long. You know you want to.

See you at the meeting!

*Tim*



### The Meeting This Month Will Be At:

**Edinburg  
Community  
Center @  
7:00pm on  
Mon. Apr. 28th**

#### EAA602 Officers

President	Tim Cowper
V-President	Tony Rizzio
Treasurer	Doug Sterling
Secretary	Walt Kostuk
Y.E. Coord.	Judy Sterling
Editor	Doug Sterling

#### Board Members:

Rick Riccardi  
Larry Saupe  
Brian Hurst





## Spring Checklist Seminar

by *Tim Devine*

On Tue. Mar. 18 the Glens Falls Pilot's Association presented the FAA sponsored FFAST Spring Checklist seminar at the Ramada Inn in Queensbury New York. Jim Leavitt of the FAA and Dick Bovey of Argyle Flying Services LLC were the presenters of the pilot preparation part of the program. Jeff Wasileski of the Albany FSDO was scheduled to present the maintenance portion of the program but unfortunately could not make it at the last minute. Over twenty pilots made the trek to the Ramada Inn to participate in the program despite the late winter snowstorm that was dropping wet heavy snow. Beside myself, 602 members Bill Wade and Roy Card also took advantage of the presentation. The focus of the program was that while we are all thinking about what we need to do to prepare our steeds for the summer flying season, what are we doing to prepare ourselves?

Lets face it; it's been a long winter. How long has it been since you last flew an aircraft? While our airplanes have been collecting dust over the winter months, so have our piloting skills. There are many things that go on in our lives that can directly and indirectly affect our flying skills. We need to evaluate what may have changed in our lives over the winter months that may affect our flying abilities this spring.

First and foremost, how's your health? We are all a year older and it's a fact of nature that our bodies and skills deteriorate a little each year. I know that for many that its not a requirement, but when is the last time that you had a physical? Have you put on some weight over the winter? Are you taking any new medications? When is the last time you had an eye exam? Is the prescription strength of your sunglasses the same as your reading glasses? Did you have any operations or medical procedures over the winter? Have you lost range of motion for reaching for controls due to an inactive winter? When is the last time you had a hearing exam? Take a fall on the ice? Throw out your back shoveling snow? If any one of these has changed in your life it will affect your flying skills this spring until you get back into the groove.

What about your mental health? Have you changed jobs? Have you or a loved one been sick? Have you lost someone close to you? Getting married? Are you buying or selling a house? Do you have a new addition to your family? Did your mother in law move in? Events like this demand our attention and could prove to be distractions to our focus while flying with rusty skills. Mental focus and attention need to be at their peak especially while we are tuning up our rusty piloting skills.

We should never forget that aviation is a wonder-

ful but very unforgiving past time for the inattentive or unprepared.

So what are some of the things we need to think about as we prepare for our spring flights? If you feel really out of synch and unsure of yourself take a few tune up lessons from a qualified flight instructor, it will be money well spent. This is essential for anyone who is breaking in a new airplane that they have limited time in, or those of us who just haven't flown in a while.

Review your own flying minimums. You may have been greasing those 20 knot crosswind landings last fall after a full season of flying but maybe you need evaluate and increase your minimums for a while as you get back into the swing of things.

Review your radio procedures. Do you have current charts and maps available in your airplane? Have you reviewed those charts? New cell phone towers and other obstructions are going up all the time. Have airspace limitations changed in areas you like to frequent when flying?

When is the last time you boxed your compass? For that matter when is the last time you flew somewhere using just a wet compass? Affordable hand held GPS devices have become a great asset to aviation, but they have also allowed us to become lazy with our navigation skills.

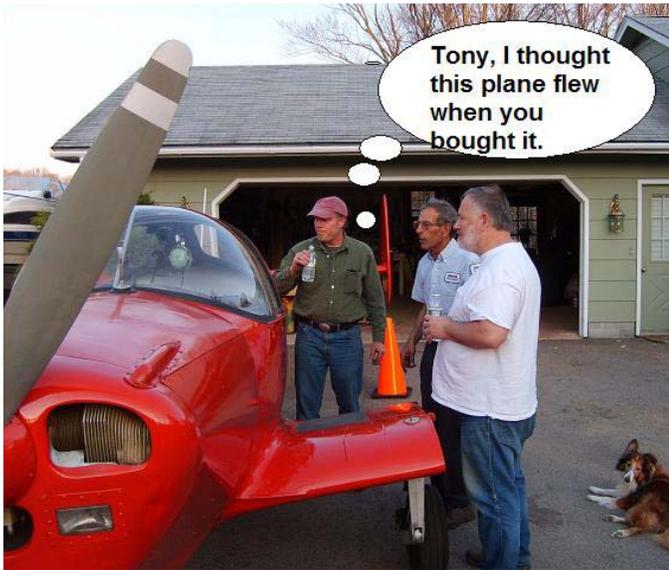
Is the paper work for your AC all up to date? When is the last time that you reviewed the performance section of your aircrafts operating manual? Can you do a quick density altitude calculation in your head? Have you added or removed something from your aircraft over the winter that will affect the weight and balance?

### **REVIEW YOUR EMERGENCY PROCEDURES!**

Some day take a half hour and while sitting in your AC safely on the ground with the engine off, go through your emergency checklist and practice it more than once. Get yourself to a point where you can do it by reflex. Review the ABCD of in flight emergency procedures every time you go flying. Practice emergency landings! Get back in the habit of scanning for usable emergency landing sites. Are you confident that you can handle an in flight emergency? A positive mental attitude and preparation can mean the difference between a successful off field landing or a disastrous accident.

I'm sure there are many additional things that can be added to the list, but the main focus needs to be that we should be preparing ourselves both mentally and physically for the upcoming season just as diligently as we are preparing our airplanes.

***PS. BOTH The AOPA and EAA have excellent articles available on their respective websites concerning this topic. Why not check out their web pages.***



## From Our VP's Desk

*by Tony Rizzio*

Finally the weather has warmed enough for me to paint. I picked a nice bright red and have it almost ready. If you come to the meeting I'll pass along an experience I had with one of the paint supplier's . They couldn't have been more helpful. It has been nice to have a project so all you guys could stop and see the progress. Now I can't wait! It's time to get it to the airport since it's been such a bad spring, with no flying every time I hear a plane go over I have to run out to see who the lucky guy is. See you at the airport.

*Tony*



## Upcoming Events

**May 24 - EAA 602 Annual Poker Run, 1F2 Edinburg**

**June 14 - UL 90 & EAA 353 Young Eagles Day @ GFL Glens Falls**

**June 28  
EAA 602 - Kenny Schleich Memorial Fly in BBQ,  
NY37 Galway**

**July 10-13  
Green Mountain Aerobatic Contest Springfield, VT  
For info go to  
[www.iac35.org/contests.html](http://www.iac35.org/contests.html)**

**July 28-Aug 3  
AirVenture - Oshkosh**

**August 9  
EAA 602 & UL 90 Young Eagles Day,  
NY0Fulton County Airport**

**September 6 - Old Time Taildragger Fly-in,  
OH37 Murphys**



## BIRDS EYE VIEW

by Rick France

Ok since I have been recruited to take and keep pictures for the club, I am going to start a monthly column called **BIRDS EYE VIEW**. Now this is they way this is going to work. I will take pictures, some you will know about some you won't. The best of these pictures will be put into this column (*or throughout the newsletter*) with captions worthy of the picture. If one of you guys take a great picture, send it to me with the caption you would like attached to it.

So today Saturday, April 19, 2008, I decided to go out and about after work and see what was happening in the world of EAA 602. Today was 83 degrees and a better day you could not order. On the way home from work I noticed Bob Walsh had a snowman sitting on his deck. When I rode back by his house on the way up to Edinburg I saw the snowman picking up debris in the yard. Only then did I realize this very white figure was BOB! I then rode my motorcycle up to 1F2 to work on my little plane and see what activity was brewing. The first thing I noticed when approaching the airport is a radio control plane stuck in the top of a tree. Some ones day was going poorly. Just as I arrived Doug landed with the Cherokee. We chatted like a couple of old ladie's for a while then decided to get some work done. I had some maintenance to do and so did Doug. Then it happened. We actually had a Tommy sighting! Then Phil Risley came by to borrow a compressor. After I was done and Doug had taken a ride in the Glastar he asked me if I would like a ride. I, of coarse, stammered for a second looking at the Glastar remembering the wings were folded last time I saw it, (it's the nuts and bolts thing) but Doug got a second headset and said well? Ok what the heck let's go. Very nice plane Doug! Nice and quiet, and yes Doug, with the bubble doors at a 30 degree bank to the right I can see straight down, THANKS! Buddy.

After leaving the airport I decided to go by Tony's to see if any activity was going on there. Well on the way I saw Chris and Art circling over head like a couple of buzzards looking for something to eat. As I approached Tony's house I saw him sitting in his plane with his headset on, trying to get Chris on the radio. Later Chris said he didn't hear Tony because he was on 106.5 or better know as pix 106. Soon Fred and the crew showed at Tony's and he gave us a demo of how his engine runs. All in all it was a great day in the world of 602.

**Who's legs could these be??**



**It's a Tommy sighting!**



**A view of our meetings.**



## FAA Seminar Scheduled

“Top 5 Mistakes Pilots Make “

**Topic:**

‘Mistakes Pilots Make’ harness the vast power of nearly a quarter-century of ASF accident research and analysis

On Tuesday, May 6, 2008 at 7:00 PM

Location: Michael’s Banquet House  
1019 New Loudon Road  
Cohoes, NY 12047  
Rte.9, 2 miles north of Lathan Circle

**Description:**

It’s sad but true: In an average year, three quarters of all accidents are caused by pilot error. And the mistakes that lead to those accidents? For the most part, they’re the same ones pilots have been making for decades. ASF’s latest seminar takes a new aim at those old mistakes. We’ve identified the most common fatal errors pilots make and put together a show that’s full of practical tips for avoiding them. From steering clear of weather to maneuvering safely and much more, if you’re looking to minimize your chances of being involved in a fatal accident, you’ll definitely want to attend this seminar!

***Lets get together and go down for what should be a good seminar. Give me a call if you want to go down together. 863-2409***

*Doug*



**Doug thinks his wings are low on air and attempts to blow them up. Notice the safety precautions with the step ladder he is on!**

## Notes From Your Editor

*by Doug Sterling*

Well it’s finally here - flying weather!! It’s always a real kick when the ground clears, the temps go up and the steeds come out of their stalls (hangers). What a blast last weekend when I was able to get back airborne. It’s like a rebirth in spring. The skies were bright, the air was warm, and the wind was still. The land bound folks can’t imagine the feeling of freedom when you take to the air. It was a great week with Herb & Dave taking to their new Light Sport, Tim Devine exercising his Champ, me in the GlaStar, Rick making some repairs on his Koala (and taking some great pictures), and Darel & Kevin getting the Hawk up and ready. We even had Tom, Smitty and Shirl up and flying last Sunday.

What a wonderful thing seeing activity starting at Edinburg! 8 planes making their first flights of Spring in the last week - has to be a record. All we have left is to get our prez and v-prez up in the air and the Spring will be complete. All things come to those who wait (or keep trying).

Sooooo - let’s get out there, embrace the great weather and get our rides ready for a busy summer.

BTW - All the pictures this month were taken by Rick France (our official club photographer). What a great job. Hope to see more of them on our web page.

*Fly Safe, Doug*



