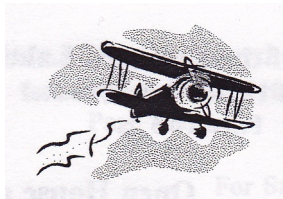


SHORT



FINAL

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport
Issue Four / Winter 2010

High Speed Pass

With this the fourth issue of Short Final we celebrate the first year of this newsletter. If you will excuse the pun, the year has gone “flying” by like a high speed pass. Many exciting things have taken place in the last year and more new and interesting events are to come. The Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport is a gateway to anywhere in the world you might want to go and we are fortunate to enjoy such a fine facility.

With the coming of winter things around the airport slow down a bit but there is still much activity, especially in this construction year. From the normal operation of the airlines and business jets to ski plane flying, the bright blue skies of the winter welcome us to the air.

We wish everyone the happiest of holiday seasons and hope you enjoy the winter! ☺

From the Airport Commission....

The Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport continues to bustle with activity amidst the snow and cold! Visitors and tenants should be aware of the construction zone in the main terminal area as Breitbach Construction is in full gear with the remodel project! Mark Cross of Kuepers Construction is on-site as the Project Manager hired by the Commission to oversee our interests in the project. Many thanks to all for their patience as TSA, Mesaba and the car rental agencies are all working in temporary locations.

Runway 16/34 was opened in late October and now spans 7,100 feet. Here's hoping those big jets visit regularly to refuel their aircraft at Airmotive Enterprises as well as refuel their passengers and crew at WINGS Café. Do I need to say how blessed we are with our businesses on site at the airport? Perhaps Steve Arhart could contact our Vikings and have them fly in for a BARC meeting in the future. I'm sure we have many armchair quarterbacks who would love to give opinions on how to improve their record. Runway 16/34 could be used, Airmotive could fuel the jet and the Tuil's could cater the treats. A win/win for everyone!

A huge thank you to the maintenance crew at the airport for their hard work these past few weeks in keeping the runways, taxi ways, hangar areas and parking lots clear of ice and snow. It has been a daunting task with the wintery mix and snowfalls these past couple of weeks. Please be patient as they follow their protocol to clear the airport grounds in a timely manner.

On a personal note, welcome back to Bill Olmsted (Mr. Montana) and congratulations to Les Henningson and Howard Philaja on their “new” aircraft flying out of the airport!

With the winter season here to stay, remember to have fun with your ski flying, plan a winter vacation and take advantage of the convenience of flying commercially out of Brainerd, and always be safe.

Have a blessed holiday season!

Beth Pfingsten, Chair
Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport Commission

Terminal Remodel Update

If you have visited the terminal recently you are no doubt well aware of the remodeling effort going on all around you. What you see is phase one of three phases that are to be completed before the construction is officially finished. Phase one involves all facilities to the south and west of the temporary wall erected in the terminal.

Currently the rental car desks, TSA, and Delta airlines are all located in a very compact space near the reconstruction. The only rest rooms available in the building are down on the Airmotive/Wings Cafe end of the terminal. Access to the main terminal is limited to a single door and parking on the street in front of the main terminal is also limited due to construction fencing.

With about 95% of the demolition work done for phase one, work is progressing on the reconstruction. Footings are now in for the terminal expansion of phase one, and work on the below grade masonry is proceeding for the new portion of the building. Phase one is due to be complete by May of 2011 at which time the rental car companies, TSA and Delta will be moved to the new portion of the terminal.

Completion of phase one will pave the way for the second and third phase of the project which will include the remodeling of the rest of the terminal and the installation of the new curved upper roof line. The entire project is scheduled for completion by late October 2011.

When complete, the Brainerd area will be served by a beautiful, state of the art terminal.

Your patience and cooperation is much appreciated during this process, the end result will certainly be worth the wait and the inconvenience! ☺

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport
Issue Four /Winter 2010
Page Two

Upcoming Events.

January 4	Airport Commission 9:30 a.m.
January 25	BARC Meeting 6:30 p.m.
February 1	Airport Commission 9:30 a.m.
February 22	BARC Meeting 6:30 p.m.
March 1	Airport Commission 9:30 a.m.
March 22	BARC Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Excuse to fly to Little Falls

The rumor is really not true, the new aviation library at the Little Falls Airport (KLXL) does not really have Charles Lindberghs original logbooks.

With the goal of providing the aviation community and the general public with a free source of information regarding aviation, EAA chapter 551 is working diligently to make a fully stocked library a reality. The library is being created as a memorial to Veryl Finlayson, a long time area aviator and aviation booster. These materials will be made free of charge to anyone simply by checking them out on the good old honor system!

Upwards of 200 books and videos have already been donated, but to provide a complete resource library much is still needed. This is where you can help.

Remember those boxes of old aviation books gathering dust in the basement, or even the ones on your shelves that haven't been opened in years? Those are the books that the aviation library is looking for. Fiction, non fiction or reference materials new or old are all welcome as long as they pertain to flying. Even the pilot training materials you might have can be valuable to someone new to aviation. Now be honest, I know you have not opened your Private Pilot Handbook for some time! Videos with aviation related themes are also welcomed for donation.

Best of all, once you have dug out the books and videos you want to donate you need to drop them off in the terminal building at Little Falls. Please make sure to leave them with your name so that your donation can be properly acknowledged. What better excuse to go flying than telling your wife you are cleaning out some old books!

Please help the fine folks of EAA 551 in this worthwhile effort. ☺

Skiplane pilots heads up

Another fine excuse to fly, help out the Boy Scouts this year with their Extreme Camping Experience. Skiplanes fly in to North Long Lake, deliver "supplies" to the winter campers and take the hardy scouts for skiplane rides.

This years event will be three weekends, January 22, January 29, and February 12. Pilots are invited to participate any or all weekends. Last year a great time was had by all.

See Mike Petersen at Airmotive for more information. ☺

Aviation Boredom Fighters

Not looking forward to the long cold winter and those terrible flying days? Even on those non flying days would you like to do something aviation related? Here is a couple of ideas to help fight the boredom of winter:

If you enjoy working on jigsaw puzzles and have access to a computer, try working aviation jigsaw puzzles on your computer. With nearly 1,800 aircraft photos made into electronic jigsaw puzzles, and three levels of difficulty for each one, this could take up the entire winter and then some. They are free and fun and you can download them any time at <http://www.airplane-jigsaw-puzzles.com/>

Often your pilot proficiency declines in the winter months because you are not flying as much. This winter expand your horizons with free online safety courses. Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association, through their Air Safety Institute offers almost 30 interactive online safety courses. Providing a broad range of topics including mountain flying, IFR/VFR safety, GPS use, decision making and weather, you are bound to find a course or two that interests you. Also there are several minicourses involving accident case studies you might find relevant. If you are in the FAA Wings program, these courses also qualify for wings credit. To access the AOPA courses check out http://www.aopa.org/asf/online_courses/. To enroll in the FAA Wings program and view online courses offered there go to <http://www.faasafety.gov/>. ☺

VFR (*Very Frivolous Ramblings*)

Question #1. What is the largest airport in the United States - figured on area?

Question #2. There are six commercial airports in the United States named after former presidents. How many can you name?

Question #3. There are atomic clocks aboard the Navstar/GPS satellites. Those clocks are accurate within one second every how many years:

- A. 300
- B. 3,000
- C. 30,000
- D. 300,000

Question #4. Describe the inception of the FAA.

- A. In prehistoric times, three ape-like men hatched from dinosaur eggs and formed the FAA.
- B. The FAA was formed 50 years ago by a presidential decree.
- C. In the '60's, there were 5 guys who all had been turned down for a pilots license and vowed to get back at licensed pilots and formed the FAA.

(answers on page four)

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport
Issue Four /Winter 2010
Page Three

It Happened in Aviation

January 11, 1935... Amelia Earhart becomes the first woman pilot to fly solo between Hawaii and the United States. She takes off from Wheeler Field, Oahu, Honolulu, to fly her Lockheed Vega across the eastern Pacific to Oakland, California. Earhart lands after 18 hours 15 minutes.

January 29, 1959... The first jet passenger service across the United States is begun by American Airlines using Boeing 707 jet airliners.

February 6, 1956... William Judd lands his Cessna 180 in Paris after a solo flight of 25 hours 15 minutes across the North Atlantic from the US.

February 28, 1918... Regulation of the airways begins as US President Woodrow Wilson issues an order requiring licenses for civilian pilots and owners. Over 800 licenses are issued.

March 2, 1932... The 20-months-old son of aviator Charles Lindbergh has been kidnapped from the family's home in Hopewell, New Jersey.

March 7, 1961... The # 2 North America X-15 becomes the first manned aircraft to exceed Mach 4 when pilot Capt. Robert M. White reaches a speed of 2,905 mph which, at the altitude of 77,450 ft., is Mach 4.43. ☺

Are you a Redneck Pilot?

You might be a redneck pilot if...

- ... your toothpick keeps poking your mike.
- ... you have a black airplane with a big #3 on the side.
- ... there is a sign on the side of your aircraft advertising your septic tank service.
- ... you have ever responded to ATC with the phrase "That's a big 10-4!"
- ... you typically answer female controllers with titles like "sugar" or "little darlin'."
- ... she responds with the words "Honey" or "Big guy" then she may be a redneck.
- ... you have ever used a relief tube as a spittoon.
- ... you glance down at your belt buckle to help you remember your N-number.
- ... you refer to flying in formation as "We got ourselves a convoy!" ☺

Cliff Claven Little Known KBRD Fact

If all the hangars at Brainerd Crow Wing Regional airport were under one roof, how large would the building be? Would it be the largest building in Brainerd?

Well, not quite the largest but pretty close! Hangar space only, both airport and privately owned, totals 205,445 square feet of space. To put that in perspective it could house seven Lodge Waterparks, and is larger than Wal-Mart but just slightly smaller than the entire Westgate Mall. ☺

Old Bird Flies Again

Just to clarify, the old bird we feature in this story is the airplane, not the pilot!

Congratulations to Les Henningson who in September had the opportunity to pilot his 1948 Luscombe 8A Silvaire back into the air again.

A true late bloomer to aviation, Les earned his private pilot certificate at the age of 62 - 19 years ago. After owning his Piper Cherokee 140 for 14 years, he sold the airplane thinking that he was done with aviation. After a few years without an airplane he discovered that the bug never really went away and began looking for an aircraft he could fly under the new light sport rules.

In the fall of 2008 just such an airplane appeared on the airport bulletin board, a beautiful Luscombe was for sale in Grand Rapids. Unfortunately between the time that Les first saw the flyer for the airplane and the time he called to take a look at it, the aircraft had been ground looped and seriously damaged. Undaunted, he took the opportunity to go to Grand Rapids and survey the damage. The prop was bent as the result of a prop strike, the right main gear was bent back and pushed through the floor pan and the left wingtip damaged. With no aircraft mechanical experience and never having flown a taildragger, Les bought the pretty little airplane, disassembled it and trailered it to his garage in Brainerd.

With the experienced help and encouragement of his friend Al Leonard, he set about getting the aircraft back in the air. By his own admission, he probably could have had it flying about a year sooner, but after overcoming motivational issues Les and Al worked hard to restore it to flying condition. After much effort the airplane was moved to the Brainerd Airport in the summer of 2010. The wings were put back on it, some additional finish work was done and in September of 2010 Luscombe N2018B returned to the air with Les at the controls under the able supervision of Andy Dunlap.

Hand propping the airplane to start it, the 65 horsepower engine sounds right at home in the shiny polished aluminum airplane.

So far Les has flown with Andy about 10 hours and has now earned his taildragger endorsement. With about two hours of solo flight Les says that he is happy with the airplane but is still getting used to the ground handling differences so common with a taildragger.

If you see the shiny little taildragger sparkling in the sun, be sure to stop by and see Les and have a look at his labor of love, the Luscombe. ☺

Classified Ads

For Sale: 1968 Mooney M20G. 3613 airframe and engine total time, 1550 since major overhaul on engine. Leather interior, nicely equipped panel.
\$60,000. Robbie Thrun 218-839-1222

The Quarterly Newsletter of the Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport
Issue Four /Winter 2010
Page Four

Test Your Knowledge

Susceptibility to carbon monoxide poisoning increases as

- A) altitude decreases.
- B) altitude increases.
- C) air pressure increases.

(Correct answer in next column) ☺☺☺

High Flying Humor

The pilot was sitting in his seat and pulled out a .38 revolver. He placed it on top of the instrument panel, and then asked the navigator, "Do you know what I use this for?"

The navigator replied timidly, "No, what's it for?"

The pilot responded, "I use this on navigators who get me lost!"

The navigator proceeded to pull out a .45 and place it on his chart table.

The pilot asked, "What's that for?"

"To be honest sir," the navigator replied, "I'll know we're lost before you will."

A man jumps out of an airplane with a parachute on his back. As he's falling, he realizes his chute is broken. He doesn't know anything about parachutes, but as the earth rapidly approaches, he realizes his options are limited; he takes off the parachute and tries to fix it himself on the way down. The wind is ripping past his face, he's dropping like a rock, and at 5000 feet, another man goes shooting up past him. In desperation, the man with the chute looks up and yells, "Hey do you know anything about parachutes?!"

The guy flying up looks down and yells, "No, do you know anything about gas stoves?!"

A military aircraft had gear problems on landing, and as the plane was skidding down the tarmac the tower controller asked if they needed assistance. From the plane came a laconic southern voice: Dunno - we ain't done crashin' yet. ☺☺☺

Wisdom of Experience

-The scientific theory I like best is that the rings of Saturn are composed entirely of lost airline luggage.

-When it comes to testing new aircraft or determining maximum performance, pilots like to talk about "pushing the envelope." They're talking about a two dimensional model: the bottom is zero altitude, the ground; the left is zero speed; the top is max altitude; and the right, maximum velocity, of course. So, the pilots are pushing that upper-right-hand corner of the envelope. What everybody tries not to dwell on is that that's where the postage gets canceled, too. ☺☺☺

VFR Answers (from page two)

Question #1. The nation's largest airport by area - is almost twice as big as the combined campuses of all of the universities in the Big 12 Conference - and it covers 34,000 acres and is called: Denver International Airport.

Question #2. JFK in Queens, New York, Bush Intercontinental in Houston, Regan Washington National in Virginia, Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport in Springfield, Ill., Gerald R. Ford International in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Theodore Roosevelt Regional Airport in Dickinson, ND.

Question #3. D. 300,000 years. Your cell phone receives signals from these satellites. So do you think that the time displayed on your cell phone is accurate? Probably!

Question #4. B. The FAA was formed on August 23rd, 1958 by President Eisenhower signing the Federal Aviation Act creating the FAA. ☺☺☺

Test Your Knowledge Answer

Correct Answer: B) altitude increases. ☺☺☺

Butterfinger Cookies (the perfect dunking cookie)

From Melissa Bonar at Wings Cafe

1 1/4 c. unsifted flour

1/2 tsp. baking soda

1/2 tsp. salt

1/2 c. (1 stick) butter

3/4 c. sugar

1 egg

1 c. Butterfinger candy bars, cut into sm. pieces (takes approximately 3 - 3 1/2 big bars)

1/2 tsp. vanilla

Sift together flour, soda and salt. Cream together butter and sugar until light and fluffy. Beat in egg. Stir in candy bar pieces and dry ingredients. Add vanilla and blend well. Chill dough for 30 minutes. Drop by 1/2 teaspoonfuls onto greased baking sheets. THESE COOKIES SPREAD SO PLACE ABOUT 2 INCHES APART!!! Bake in moderate oven, 350 degrees, for 10 to 12 minutes or until done. Remove from baking sheets and place on wire racks to cool.