U S U A FLYING CLUB 1 NEWSLETTER

January 1987

FROM THE LEFT SEAT

by Steve Osten

With the onset of winter, when most of us avid ultralight fliers go into hibernation, it becomes time to reflect on what we've accomplished this past year and what we can envision for the coming one. First of all, allow me to thank all of you who have been instrumental in installing me as your new Club President. Through all those hours of scheming in the smoke-filled back rooms of Chi-Chi's, with all those political dirty tricks (somehow appropriate to this town), I want to personally thank all my political hacks. First and foremost, here's to "Mugs" McClung, whose tireless efforts of log-rolling, ultralight flying, bribery, cajolery, chicanery, wheedling, threatening, pleading, bargaining, lobbying, looting, burning (EAA documents), pillaging, raping (?) and other similar gentle forms of persuasion have brought the Club to its current state. Largely thanks to his (and Ed Whitman's and others') efforts, we now have a great flying field.

Then there's "Blackjack" Brooke, the inimitable Club Censor and Grand Inquisitor, whose ceaseless torrents of propaganda have conditioned the minds of club members to the point where they will follow him unquestioningly, as long as the winds are below 75 knots and not gusting too badly. Then there was the inveterate Club V.P., "Killer" Kelly, who instituted the infamous Colibri program, thereby claiming the lives and sanity of many an aspiring pilot. "Moneybags" Maitland, currently serving 35 consecutive life terms at IBM for embezzlement from our massive Club treasury, has once again agreed to fill this lucrative office. "Madman" Matson, erstwhile Program Chairman who represented the terrorist group that claimed responsibility for some of the heinous crimes committed in the name of our Club last year, could not be reached for comment. "Deadly" Derry, of Derry Air, Inc., kept (or tried to keep) the more adventuresome club members in line with his commentaries as Club Safety Officer last year.

So we return once again to the smoke-filled back rooms of Chi-Chi's to witness another insidious pressure-group caucus (otherwise known as a "Board Meeting") and we find a roster composed of none other than the same perfidious bunch, joined by a new member or two. "Crash" Osten has been installed as President, "Killer" Kelly the Veep, "Blackjack" Brooke remains Secretary and NEWSLETTER Editor, "Moneybags" Maitland is still raking it in as Treasurer, "Mugs" McClung serves the Board as past Prez and Program Chairman, Tom "Sinister" Simmons joins the Board and is Safety Officer for 1987 and Rick "Madman" Matson remains on the Board.

Some of the issues discussed at the meeting included:

- 1. Planning of activities for the upcoming year.
- 2. USUF pilot and plane registration.
- 3. Building of more hangars at Whitman Strip.

(From the Left Seat, cont.)

- 4. Colibri program (flying proficiency and cross-country flights).
- 5. Training of new ultralight pilots.
- 6. Advanced training and resource information.

With the above as a starting agenda and considering the collection of talent devoting itself to the above activities, 1987 should easily become a banner year for USUA Flying Club #1. I am personally looking forward to a lot of fun flying time and hope that we can all have a safe and enjoyable flying year.

Fly Safely!

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ADVISORIES

Please welcome our first new member of 1987, William McMurry. Bill is from Alexandria and has a Wizard J3. Bill has the honor of being one of the two members in good standing of USUA Flying Club #1 (see <u>DUES TIME</u>, below).

There was no regular meeting of the Club in January, our official meeting night being New Years Day (which occasioned considerable confusion) and there being no particular business to transact. Publicity about this non-event was nil. If any of you took the trouble to travel to Springfield for the non-meeting, your Editor begs your forgiveness. He will try to be a little more consciencious if the situation arises again.

A meeting of the Club's Board of Directors was held on January 15th. The most important outcome of this meeting was the ratification of the new Board. In addition to Steve Osten, President, Jim Kelly, Vice President, and Paul McClung, past president, all of whom are automatically on the Board, four additional board members were appointed by Steve Osten and ratified by the Board: Rob Brooke, Dave Maitland, Rick and Tom Simmons. The Matson position of Program Chairman has been accepted by Paul McClung and Tom Simmons has agreed to be our

Safety Officer (see <u>CAVEAT</u> <u>AVIATOR</u>, below).

Note that a current membership list is included with the <u>NEWSLETTER</u>. Hang on to it, even

though it will become obsolete very quickly. A second listing will be available in mid-year, after the Club has shaken down and all renewals are in.

CAVEAT AVIATOR

by Tom Simmons

This marks my debut as Safety Officer for USUA Flying Club #1. Members who have flown with me will recognize a certain symmetrical irony in my appointment, as I have personally demonstrated nearly every unsafe flying conduct possible, at least once. Members who do not know me will have to take it on trust that my cautions have grown out of first-hand experience.

Upon reflection, I think that the first appropriate action for the Safety Officer is to deputize the entire membership of the Club. We should all be safety officers of a sort because our club is fortunate to have pilots at all levels of proficiency and experience. And we each will have the opportunity and responsibility, if not to instruct, at least to inform.

When you notice that another

pilot's aircraft has a fabric tear, or other maintenance need, say so. When you see a pilot flying too close to the house of a known complainer, say so. When you observe another pilot, Club member or not, in a maneuver which you know is "outside the

(Caveat Aviator, cont.)

envelope", say so. Whenever you see something which you think the other pilot ought to know about, say so. Not like some know-it-all pest, of course, but like a friend and colleague in a unique community which is based on shared interest.

If your comment comes from an attitude of mutual respect and courtesy, chances are it will not be misunderstood. Some of the newer pilots will benefit from the experiences of others and we will all benefit from an informal "buddy system" which keeps an eye on out friend's airplane as well as our own.

Let's all look forward to a lot of safe, fun flying in the year to come. And let's look out for each other, too.

DUES TIME

At this writing, there are a total of two members-in-goodstanding in USUA Flying Club #1. Richard Walker wins the prize for "first to renew" and Bill McMurry the ribbon in the "new breaks member" category. Dues for 1987 are \$15.00 and are now payable. As before, on the mailing label of your NEWSLETTER will appear a dollar sign (\$) as a gentle reminder until we receive your renewal. Members "in arrears" will be carried on the rolls and receive the NEWSLETTER through March (April edition). Should you your membership lapse past March, a simple renewal will get everything on track again. Please send your renewals to Rob Brooke, the Club Secretary. His address can be found on the membership application, inside cover of the

NEWSLETTER.

USUA FLYING CLUB?

We are now calling ourselves USUA FLYING CLUB #1. When we undertook that affiliation last year, one of the things we promised we'd do was to institute a program of USUF pilot and plane registration. Now, if we fail to get all our member pilots and their planes registered with USUF by year-end, we don't think John Ballantyne is going to descend from Mt. Airy and break tablets and jerk our Charter. However, we do take seriously our commitment to "push" USUF registration. If you are an active ultralight pilot flying with other Club pilots and you and your plane are not yet registered with USUF, expect to someone say, "Say there, hear friend, let me tell you about the USUF and all the good things John Ballantyne wants to do for you!", or words to that effect. By the way, you will be easy to spot. USUF-registered planes those classy-looking numbers on the under surface of their left wings.

There are at least two USUF Examiners in the Club, Pat Derry and Jim Kelly. If there are others, let the NEWSLETTER editor know and he'll give you some publicity. We want to make the registration process as effortless as possible. The written test needs a modest amount of brushing-up; the flying testwell, if you can't pass it, you probably ought still to getting dual time. It consists mainly of your demonstration of your ability to get your plane off the ground and back on it without bending anything.

So if you've been looking for some kind of flying goal for the 1987 season and you're not yet registered with USUF, well, there you go. Get registered!

1987 ACTIVITIES

Paul McClung, the Club's new Program Chairman is now planning the schedule for the 1987 flying season. There will be fly-ins, parties and cross-country's-enough to keep us all happy and telling tall tales. Anyone with a pet project which might well be considered by Paul for inclusion in the schedule, please give him a call - (703)860-2919.

NEW HANGARS???

been talk of new There has hangars at Whitman Strip. So far, that's all it has amounted to, just talk. There are some ifs to be answered before talk will turn to action. One, does Ed Whitman want to build more hangars? Two, has the allotted number of planes permitted to be based at Whitman Strip already been filled? Three, are there people out there who really want hangar space at Whitman Strip and are they willing to put in some hard work to make it possible?

The hard facts are these: Last year, a number of folks who wanted hangar space got together with Ed Whitman (who wanted hangars built) and raised two good-sized hangars - enough space for six fully set-up ultralights gyrocopters, with assorted fold-up Kolbs paraplanes and around the edges. shoved in Leadership? It took care of itself because these pilots were HUNGRY for hangars and there were volunteer foremen crawling out of the woodwork.

Now all those hungry guys are sitting back fat and happy with their planes comfortably under a roof. If you have been waiting for that same set of hardworking, hungry guys to build your hangar for you, well, forget it. They ain't hungry any more. You want a hangar? Call Paul McClung, he's got a list of other people who want a hangar. All you

guys on that list ought to get together. Want to find out if Ed Whitman's even interested in building more hangars, well you ought to give him a call, (703)788-9413. Tell him you're interested and listen to what he has to say. If there are enough of you out there, things will start rolling.

The good news is this: the guys who went out last year in the cold of February and March to build the first two hangars had such a good time at it, they'd probably be happy to help you with yours, if you gave 'em a call.

FLIGHT PLAN

Feb 5 - Club Meeting

CLASSIFIED

Flight Designs trike with Demon 175 glider wing, Kawasaki TA440 engine/electric start, parachute, 14 hrs TT. Will sell glider or engine separately. Best offer.

Ray Taylor

(703)536-6722 (703)237-3967

* * * GENERAL INFORMATION * * *

The United States Ultralight Association's Flying Club #1 is a non-profit, educational club dedicated to the sport of recreational ultralight flying.

Meetings are held at 7:30 P.M. on the first Thursday of each month in the auditorium of the Springfield Operations Center of the Washington Gas Light Company, unless stated otherwise in the newsletter. To reach the WGL Center, take the Edsall Road West exit from I-395; turn left at the second light (Industrial Road); continue until the "Y" in the road; bear right and continue until you reach the WGL Center at 6801 Industrial Road on the left.

1987 CHAPTER OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Steve Osten	703/860-2919
VICE PRESIDENT	Jim Kelly	301/855-4046
SECRETARY	Rob Brooke	301/279-2816
TREASURER	Dave Maitland	703/792-2924
PROGRAM CHAIRMAN	Paul McClung	703/430-0216
SAFETY OFFICER	Tom Simmons	703/548-7420
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	Rob Brooke	301/279-2816

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*** Members are encouraged to submit items for inclusion in this newsletter. Articles and non-commercial classified ads will be run, space available, free of charge for current members. Commercial ad rates are: full page - \$20.00; 1/2 page - \$10.00; 1/4 page - \$5.50; business card - \$3.00.

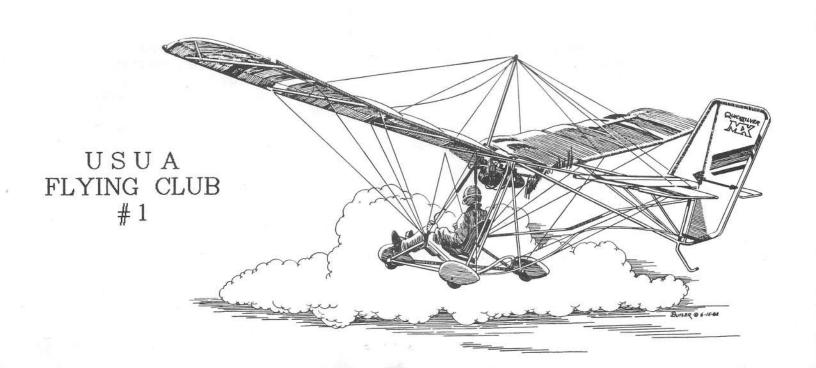
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	Mail to: Rob Brooke 1 1809 McAuliffe Drive, F		
NAME:	DUES INCLUDED:		
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Robert B. Chapman Rt. 1, Box 51AA (Lenah Road) Aldie, Va. 22001

Bockville, Md. 20851
1809 McAuliffe Drive

THE NEWSLETTER



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