



Volume 12 - 07

December 2007

FROM THE LEFT SEAT

Len Alt, President

Merry Christmas! As winter approaches the good flying weather becomes less common. This past weekend was one of those infrequent fall opportunities to fly the beautiful countryside in northern Virginia. I got a great flight in Saturday afternoon, and saw several fixed wing pilots out also. Hope you were able to get in a flight over the Thanksgiving holidays.



Late Fall Flying at WAP

At our November club meeting we re-elected Jim Hill as our Secretary. Many thanks to Jim for agreeing to continue in this vital role. We are fortunate to have a core group of volunteers like Jim to keep this club running.

I was re-elected President. There was no other candidate. I hope this reflects general satisfaction, and not apathy. As we conclude this year and move into 2008 I am very interested to hear from the membership about what activities you think we should, and should not, be planning as a club. Tell me what we're doing that you like, what you would like to see less of, and what we're not doing that you think we should. Let me know if you have concerns or suggestions regarding how I am running the club. I need to hear this. Otherwise I'm just guessing. Thanks to all who have supported this club, and me personally, over the past two years.

My closing thought is that the safety of our members should still be our number one concern as a club. Let me know how we can support and promote safety throughout our club activities. Please provide your personal assistance to our club Safety and Training Director, Dave Riedel, by sending an occasional narrative of your personal experience as it pertains to safety. A short article, maybe with a photo, would be appreciated.



Take Off

Please remember, our club annual **Christmas Party** is this Saturday, December 1st at the Warrenton Air Park Club House starting at 4:00 P.M. Hope to see you and your family at this fun event!

Fly smart. Fly safe.

Have Trike, Will Fly

The main reason that my triking partner, Hugh McElrath, and I switched to trikes is that you can pack them up and take them to exotic locales, populated by spectacular scenery, dancing girls, and crusty old aviators with stories to tell. Not for us the hundred dollar hamburger! (Though now that airport restaurants have become as rare as airport dancing girls, maybe we should recalibrate...) We bought this beautiful Aerotrike Safari HKS from Bill Jacobson in May of 2006 and spent that season fixing up the trike and getting trained to fly it. By last April, we were ready for an adventure.

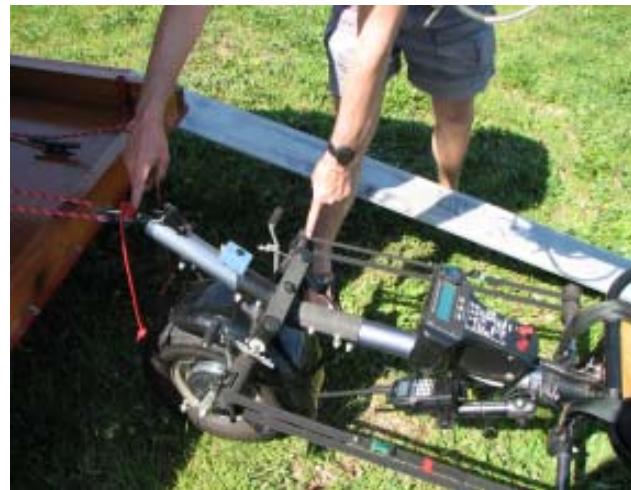
But first, we needed to figure out how to transport the trike. Our pilot's licenses did not testify to our skill at towing a trailer, which neither of us had ever done, nor at folding the wing, nor at packing the trike into this funky trailer that Bill had built. It has a sticker on it from Sun 'n' Fun, 2001, so Bill had obviously put the trike into the trailer back then. But there were no instructions, and Bill had been vague on the subject. The wing was a little better - thanks to Matt Liknaitzky, the LaMouette dealer in Los Angeles, we had instructions. But they were in Franglisch. "Remove the intrados battens." We puzzled over this at length. With an amazing lack of foresight, my high

school French teacher had never discussed technical terms relating to trike wings. Fortunately, the Google language translator came to our rescue. But we wouldn't have it once we were at an airfield.



Wing Being Folded

Clearly, we needed a shakedown trip to someplace close, so we planned a trip to Green Landings, an "aviation community" north of Martinsburg, just an hour down the road from our home base in Front Royal. No dancing girls, but we would have more adventure than we needed if we reassembled the trike and found we had parts left over.



Trike Chassis Being Loaded Into The Trailer

It took us about 40 minutes to take the wing off the trike and put it into the wing bag. Well, actually, no. We can NOW do it in about 40 minutes. The first time, it took us two hours, easily. We were very careful and took pictures and notes as we went. Fortunately, Hugh has been flying hang gliders for years, so he knew the basics. Alas, our wing is still a two-man job, both coming down and going up.

December- Page 3

Nowadays, there are wings that can be folded and transported right on the trike. And many trikes now come with gas struts that make lowering a 100-pound wing easy. But ours doesn't. So it's two people, 40 minutes up, and 40 minutes down. Plus lifting the wing onto the roof of the car, another two-person job for sure, at least for me.

Our little trailer works great, but you can tell it's a one-of-a-kind. We kept asking ourselves, "Why on earth did Bill design it this way?" For instance, it fits the trike like a glove, with only an inch to spare in any direction. Somewhere between his last use of the trailer and his sale to us, he added a pitot tube on the nose of the trike and wheel fairings. Fortunately, I had removed the pitot tube when we replaced the altimeter with a variometer. There's no way the trike would fit in the trailer with the pitot tube still affixed. That would have been a rude surprise. The other oddity is the balance. The trike wheels cleverly sit on plates as you see in the picture. But the CG of a trike, wing off, is about nine inches ahead of the wheel axles. That puts it just behind the trailer axles. This means that with a full tank of gas in the trike, the trailer has a *negative* tongue weight of about two pounds. Imagine our surprise when we loaded the trike and went to unhook the tow car to run an errand. The tongue came UP! So, once the trailer has the trike aboard, it stays attached to the car. Never mind the trike, the FAA should have us put EXPERIMENTAL on the trailer. Fortunately, the rig trailers beautifully, with none of the oscillations that the books predict for this balance.



N42AT On The Ramp At Front Royal

An hour and a half later, we pulled into the grass strip at Green Landings. I had sent emails to the man I thought was the owner, but he turned out to be

at Sun 'n' Fun, so no one was expecting us. Kevin Green, the actual airport owner, came over looking a little warily at these two bozos and what looked to be some kind of flying machine. The magic words, "licensed pilots", "N-numbered", and "liability insurance" quickly eased his mind. After that, he couldn't have been more welcoming. It turns out that he's a man of parts. As a real estate developer, he had built the community. As an airplane lover, he's built a dozen or so experimental aircraft. Latterly, he's started one of these mega-churches with a thousand members after two years. He's too young to be a crusty old aviator, but he has plenty of stories to tell, so Hugh and I were thinking that maybe this wasn't just a shakedown trip: it was the real deal. That turned out to be the case. Kevin generously offered us the use of a hangar for the night, and a colleague from work who lives in Martinsburg offered beds. With those plans made, we looked for the next adventure. Alas, the airport dancing girls had left only moments before our arrival, so we went flying instead. I took pictures and put them on the web with captions for family and friends. You can see for yourself what triking is all about at <http://adobe.kodakgallery.com/>
[ShareLandingSignin.jsp?Uc=167h725w.13kfn1qs&Uy=2pyd7&Upo...signin=Slideshow.jsp%3Fmode%3Dfromshare&Ux=0.](http://adobe.kodakgallery.com/)

Have trike, will travel.

~ Steve Beste



Trike Ready For The Road

ADVISORIES

November Meeting – Minutes

USUA Flying Club 1

Monthly Meeting

Thursday November 1, 2007

Centreville High School

President **Len Alt** opened the meeting at 7:30 PM in the Centreville High School Library.

Fifteen members were present.

Officer's reports:

Secretary's report:

Jim T. Hill – In Jim's absence Len Alt was acting Secretary. The Minutes as published were accepted. Treasurer's report presented.

Jim Birnbaum – Treasurer's Report & Balance Sheet submitted.

Safety & Training Director: Dave Riedel has accepted the position and solicits safety related input from the club members.

Membership Director – Not Present

Activities at WAP (Tom Richards): Not present.

New Business:

December 1st – Holiday Party (Len Alt)

Photos solicited for club web site for member aircraft.

Jim Hill re-elected Secretary.

Len Alt re-elected President.

Len Alt - President adjourned the meeting at 8:40 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Len Alt

Acting Secretary

2008 Club Activities Schedule

April Meeting Lunch [Sat 5 Apr]

May Meeting Lunch [Sat 3 May]

Memorial Fly-In Coordinator [Sat 31 May]

Poker Run Coordinator [Sat 21 Jun]

Summer BBQ & Meeting [Sat 12 Jul]

Aug Meeting Lunch [Sat 2 Aug]

Sep Meeting Lunch [Sat 6 Sep]

Fly-Out [Sat 13 Sep]

Fall Fly-in Coordinator [Sat 4 Oct]

Color Run Fly-Out [Sat 11 Oct]

Holiday Party [Sat 6 Dec]

ACTIVITIES

2007 FLYING CLUB 1 ACTIVITIES SCHEDULE

Designated Club meetings will be held the first Thursday of each month in the Centreville High School, Union Mill Rd., Centreville, VA, at 7:30 PM. Others will be held at the Warrenton Airpark as shown in the 2007 schedule. Changes in time or location will be posted in this newsletter and on the Club website.

Dec 1, Sat Club 1 Monthly Meeting and Holiday Party at WAP

Additions or deletions to this schedule will be made as other club schedules become known and as the Club 1 schedule may be adjusted. Changes will be published in this newsletter and on the Club website.

CLASSIFIEDS

Ads will be run twice and then dropped unless resubmitted, or renewed by telephone or e-mail. Please advise the editor when the ad is no longer needed.

FOR SALE -- Brand new and unused Blackhawk one-piece flying suit in red and black. Size Medium. **\$40.**

Inquiries: Bob Bell
(W) 540-351-1081 or (C) 703-943-7129
cedarfield540@juno.com (12/07)

HANGAR TO SHARE WITH TRIKE --

Beautiful new hangar at the Front Royal airport. Electric door, south-facing. Your share would be \$160/month. It's 75 minutes from Braddock Rd. and the Beltway. Front Royal is beautiful.
Contact Steve Beste at 703-321-9110. (09/07)

1952 PIPER TRIPACER — Project. Airframe and engine with less than 800 hours since new. Fuselage and one wing have been recovered. Other wing needs cover. Needs paint job. Engine needs assembly. Asking \$ 12,000.

Inquiries: Ralph E. Kew via e-mail at
REKP1@MSN.com (08/07)

PASHA 2 TANDEM WING — 42m, like new, \$2400.00

Inquiries: Michael O'Daniel 540-270-8855
onegooddoc@starpower.net (08/07)

WEIGHT SHIFT KIT FOR BLACKHAWK —

brand new, never used \$225.00

Inquiries: Michael O'Daniel 540-270-8855
onegooddoc@starpower.net (08/07)

Items bought and sold through the *Newsletter* are solely at the risk of the buyer and seller. Neither the *Newsletter* nor USUA Flying Club 1 guarantees, or is in any way responsible for, the airworthiness or other aspects of the items listed.

Membership Due's Policy

The period of membership follows the calendar year – January through December.

The renewal period starts on 1 October with regular dues at \$20.00 and family at \$25.00. Members who have not paid their dues by the end of February will be dropped and will not receive the Newsletter or Membership Roster.

New Members joining from 1 July through 30 September will be charged \$10.00. New members joining after 1 October will be charged \$20.00 or the family rate, if applicable, and will be credited with full membership for the following calendar year.

Please mail payments to USUA Flying Club 1, 8570 King Carter Street, Manassas, VA 20110. Payment can also be made at the regular monthly meeting. Please include the 2008 Membership Application form with your payment. This will be used to ensure that our records are current. A copy of the membership application is attached and also printed at the end of the Newsletter.

**Jim Birnbaum
USUA Flying Club 1
Treasurer**

FLYING CLUB 1 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - 2008

All members are encouraged to provide an e-mail address to the Club. It is our best means for fast communications with a large number of Club members in minimum time. We welcome you to USUA flying Club 1 and hope your membership will be rewarding to you in flying and fellowship.

*Name: _____ New _ Renewal _ Regular _ Family___ Membership

*Street or PO Box:_____

*City: _____ State _____ ZIP

*Telephone(H) _____ Telephone (W) _____

*Spouse's Name _____ *Name To Go On Your Name Tag_____

Emergency Contact: Name: _____ Phone: _____

To Receive Your Newsletter By E-mail, Enter Your E-mail Address:

*USUA Member: Yes____ No ____ If yes, enter member number:_____ USUA Pilot: Yes____ No____

*UL Registration #_____ *Aircraft Liability Insurance_____

Type Aircraft Cessna 150 Stored/Flown from Warenton Air Park

Other Ultralights (Owned or flown) _____

Flying Hours: Dual UL _____ Single UL _____ Conventional_____

*Club Activities or Services for Which You Volunteer_____

(NOTE: References to Ultralight aircraft above include Ultralight-type aircraft). Starred must be completed. Mail application to the Club 1 Treasurer, Jim Birnbaum, 8570 King Carter St., Manassas, VA 20110, accompanied by dues for regular (\$20) or Family (\$25) membership for a full year or \$10 and \$12 (Family) for the period 1 July through 30 September. Payments after 1 October should be for the full rate and the member will be credited with membership for the following calendar year. NOTE: Information from this application will be included in the Club 1's membership roster intended for internal use only. (*Roster____ E-mail____ USMaiI____ Name Tag____).

**To join USUA Flying Club #1, fill
out the forms on the reverse side.
To join the national USUA, fill out
the form below:**

(Canadian and non-US membership add \$5.00)

**Jim Birnbaum
8570 King Carter Street
Manassas, VA 20110-4888**

____ **\$30.00** U.S. Ultralight Association annual membership does not include magazine subscriptions. All publications are optional, and are available to USUA members at the discounted prices below. A current USUA membership is required to take advantage of these discounts. Subscribe to your choice when you renew your membership.

**Ultraflight Magazine - \$24.95
Light Sport and Ultralight Flying - \$34.95
KITPLANES Magazine - \$19.95
Air & Space - \$19.00**

____ Enclosed is \$2.00 for work in ultralight safety by USUA.

Name:_____

Address:_____

City:_____ State____ Zip_____

Phone_____ Date of Birth_____

Enclosed is my Check____ Money Order____
Visa____ Mastercard____

**United States Ultralight Association
104 Carlisle Street
Gettysburg, PA 17325**

USUA FLYING CLUB 1 GENERAL INFORMATION

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

2007-2008 CLUB OFFICERS, DIRECTORS & STAFF

President Len Alt*	703-467-0586
Vice President	Pete Bastien+
Secretary Jim Hill*	540-659-8366
Treasurer Jim Birnbaum+	703-361-7478
Pass President	Dave Riedel
Dir, Safety & Tng	Dave Riedel
Dir, Membership	Phil Williams
Dir At Large	Jerry Starbuck
Dir at Large	Larry Walker
Club Artist	Jim Heidish
Events Coord.	
Librarian	Dick Walker
Newsletter Editor	Kim Alt
kim.alt@gmail.com	
Web Master	Greg Palmer
PPG Web POC	Par Karandikar
Terms of office:	+2007-08 *2008-09

Ads will run twice and then dropped unless resubmitted or renewed by phone or email. Advise editor when item is sold.

A club is only as good as the members who volunteer to support its activities. The following listed activities with the club require member support in varying amounts. Please indicate on your membership application the function(s) (can be more than one) you will support as a Club member. All active Club members are expected to participate. However, members who live some distance away and cannot attend meetings regularly, may prefer to support functions associated with Club wek-end activities.

ANNUAL DUES (Jan 1 - Dec 31) \$20.00. (Includes newsletter.) Family membership: \$25.00. After July 1, dues for remainder of year are \$10.00. Family membership: \$25.00 (husband and wife). (A spouse who wishes to participate will please complete a membership application form.)

NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION (without membership) is \$10.00 per year.

CLUB WEB SITE: <http://usuclub1.org>. Note the change in web site. Flying Club 1 now has an officially registered name on the internet.

MEETINGS are at 7:30 PM on the first Thurday of the month at locations announced in the Club newsletter and on the Club web site. (Times and days may vary. check the newsletter and/or the web site.)

SUBMITTING ITEMS FOR THE NEWSLETTER Members and non-members are encouraged to submit items for this newsletter. Send submissions to Kim Alt, 13102 Mares Neck Lane, Herndon, VA 20171. E-mail is shown at left. Deadline for entry of items into the newsletter is 10 days before each meeting.

Club Management/Administration: Club Officers (elected, Directors and Staff). (Talk to current officer for more detail.) ***Fly-ins:*** Food supply, preparation; Facilities; Grounds; Ground Support. ***X-country & outside events:*** ground support. ***Safety & Education:*** Flight Safety & Training, New Member Mentoring, Library, Monthly Program Development. ***Communications:*** Membership, Newsletter, Web Site. ***Fund Raising:*** 50/50 Raffle. ***Miscellaneous:*** Meeting Facilities, Property Management, Clothing Sales, Tool Custodian, Ad Hoc Committees.