

WFC Flyer

Inbound to Williamson-Sodus Airport from the east, photo by Chris Houston

Important Dates:

General Meeting
December 8, 2016
7:00 pm, Clubhouse

Board Meeting
January 5, 2017
7:00 pm, Clubhouse

General Meeting
January 12, 2017
7:00 pm, Clubhouse

NOTAMS

Elections for club officers are coming! Offices up for election include:

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Secretary
- Director

If you are interested in serving on the Board, see additional information on the back page of this newsletter.

Williamson Flying Club

December 2016

From the President's Desk by Steve Murray

The Christmas Party was a great success this year. The venue at Carey Lake was excellent, the entertainment with Howie the Hypnotist a lot of fun, the company and conversation with our fellow aviators a delight. I would like to thank John Clingerman, Tammy Bebernitz, and the rest of the activities for all the work it took to make this event special.

2016 has turned out to be a great year for flying. The weather was kind, starting with the Apple Blossom Breakfast and following us right into December. By the time the year closes, we will have flown well over 1200 hrs while converting many of our neighbors

into aviators along the way. Membership remains strong, hovering between 160-170 throughout the year and our airport looks better than ever; the sky is certainly the limit for our club.



I would like to thank your board for the work that they have done throughout the year. A shout out to Greg Arserio and the work he has done with Projects, Chris Houston and this fantastic newsletter that he puts together throughout the year, the Activities committee consisting of John, Tammy,

Chris, Dan Adams and Tony Alesci for the great programming they have provided us throughout the year, the Cansdales for keeping the club house clean, Bill Bach and Kim Christian for putting together the Breakfast, Pam Tarkington for being our Medical Advisor, Bob Robideau for the Aircraft interior work, and all the mowers, plowers and volutneers who pitch in to keep our airport and aircraft operational.

A special thank-you to Mike Bjerga for not just bringing a quality instruction program to our membership, but also for the work he does as our Airport Manager. You might

(Continued on page 2)

Williamson Flying Club

Williamson-Sodus Airport (KSDC)
5502 State Route 104
Williamson, NY 14589

Find us on the web at:
www.williamsonflyingclub.com

Board of Directors

President: Steve Murry (president@williamsonflyingclub.com)
Vice President: Tom Henderson (vice-president@williamsonflyingclub.com)
Treasurer: Bob Herloski (treasurer@williamsonflyingclub.com)
Secretary: Joe Ebert (secretary@williamsonflyingclub.com)
Director: Dick Swingly (director-2014@williamsonflyingclub.com)
Director: John Clingerman (director-2015@williamsonflyingclub.com)
Director: Randy Christian (director-2016@williamsonflyingclub.com)

Medical Advisor: Dr. Pam Tarkington (pamela1@choiceonemail.com)

“Membership remains strong, hovering between 160-170 throughout the year and our airport looks better than ever; the sky is certainly the limit for our club.”

Aviation Quote:

“You enter the sky because of passion. The world aloft captivates you. Flight is the expression of who you are. You submerge yourself in the experience – and impatiently tolerate the passing of time until you can again leave the ground. You cannot help it – spending time in the heavens defines you.”

- Rick Durden, prologue to *The Thinking Pilot's Flight Manual, Vol 2.*

From the President's Desk by Steve Murray

(Continued from page 1)

not notice the little things that get done around the airport because they just get done and without much fanfare. As a board member and on behalf of the membership I would like to thank Mike for all of the hours he puts in at our airport so that when we arrive we can simply take advantage of all it has to offer.

I would like to thank our business partners, Williamson Aero and BAC Services, for all that they do to keep us flying. The ability to have any services on the field, let alone the quality services we have, is a great asset to our airport. I would also like to thank our off-field FBO, the Ankroms, for providing additional services to aircraft that are home based at SDC,

many of which are owned by our members.

Keeping our club and airport healthy takes time, energy, and the dedication of all members to make it happen. For 60 years, your board, to the person, has been dedicated to bringing a quality product to the membership along with insuring the longevity and success of this endeavor. Serving the needs of this club and airport is rewarding, an additional check ride that I have enjoyed. It takes more than money to make this operation run, it also takes people. This year, I have been able to assemble a wonderful Nominating Committee consisting of Eric Mehserle (chair), Robert Robideau, and Mike “Allen” Bebernitz. All

four positions of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer, along with the 2014 Directorship occupied by Dick Swingly, are up for election. I encourage anyone who would like to serve to contact the membership committee to discuss options on how you might serve. Even if you decide not to run for an office, we have many committee and volunteer positions to fill for 2017. Maybe 2017 is your year of service!

I would like to wish everyone good annuals, a new rating, or a just the ability to take that trip you always wanted to do. Above all, have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

An Unusual Visitor



Photo by Joe Ebert

In early November 2016, a US Army Blackhawk helicopter made a precautionary landing at the Williamson-Sodus Airport. It was later transported back to Fort Drum by truck.

Cool Places to Fly by Chris Houston

I started this column in 2014 with a goal of inspiring WFC club members to go beyond the KSDC pattern and discover some of the amazing places that General Aviation brings within our reach. To me, part of the joy of aviation is exploring new places, both near and far, and by doing so, we learn and grow as aviators. Though I usually stick with destinations close to KSDC, every so often it's fun to stray a little farther afield.

Destination: Jekyll Island Airport (09J), Jekyll Island, GA

Distance: 758 nautical miles

"Where are you headed?" asked the Cirrus pilot tied down next to us on the ramp at the Greenville Downtown Airport in South Carolina.

"Jekyll Island," I responded.

"Oh, Jekyll Island is awesome!. You'll love it. Just don't land short or long...you'll be in a swamp if you do! Take it easy!"

Jekyll Island rests off the southeast coast of Georgia near the Florida state line. It was once the playground of the wealthy, hosting "cottages" owned by J.P. Morgan, Pulitzer, Rockefeller, and Vanderbilt. In 1910, a meeting at the Jekyll Island Club led to formation of the Federal Reserve System.

Now, Jekyll Island is a relaxing seaside destination surrounded by miles of white sand beaches. Sea turtles visit the island to make their nests and the Georgia Sea

Turtle Center works to rehabilitate injured sea turtles for their eventual return to the ocean (my daughter LOVED the Sea Turtle Center). Among modern hotels and eateries on the island, the restored Jekyll Island Club provides a glimpse of early 20th Century high culture.

The pilot in Greenville was right, the 3715 x 75 foot runway is almost completely surrounded by marshland. Wind coming through the trees can be a little tricky at times, causing aircraft to plunk down on arrival. Despite reading about this phenomenon in advance, I fell prey to it anyway.

The airport is an open, friendly place. The owner of the airport gives aerial tours in his beautifully restored Ryan PT-19 WWII era trainer.

Bicycles and street legal Red Bug electric cars (golf carts) are available for rent at the airport for ground transportation on the island. The Red Bugs rent quickly though; none were available when we visited. During the off-season, they are reputedly available for free. Our hotel (the Hampton Inn, which was much nicer than the average Hampton) provided a free shuttle service around the island and we took full advantage of it.

We only stayed a single night on our way to Florida's gulf coast, but my family really enjoyed the visit to Jekyll Island and we hope to return someday. Next time, we'll reserve a Red bug in advance.

If interested in more information

on Jekyll Island, [Pilot Getaways](#) published a great article on 09J in 2014.

Tips:

- No fuel is available at Jekyll Island, but KSSI is five miles north.
- Be cautious of traffic inbound to nearby KSSI on approach to Jekyll Island Airport



Shhh...Top Secret



Upcoming Events

10 December (Sat)

WFC luncheon, noon- 1:00

Menu: Harrier ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, and corn with dessert TBD. RSVP via the [Event Calendar](#)

At left: Photographer and WFC member John Griebisch captured this shot of Ray Chapin secretly testing a new creation from the B.A.C. Skunkworks. Clearly, the Chevrolet badge on the front of this hybrid winged / wheeled vehicle was meant to befuddle casual observers. You just never know what you'll see around the Williamson-Sodus Airport!

WFC 2017 Elections

In order to run for office in the February Elections, Active and Permanent Members must have attended at least 6 monthly General Meetings in the previous 12 months. The list below contains the attendance status of members who are already eligible for office, and those who must attend the December and/or January meeting(s) to be eligible for election to office at the Annual Meeting on February 9, 2017.

The following members are already qualified to run for office:

Allen, Richard
Allman, Joseph
Ankrom, Dennis
Bach, William H
Caldwell, Gary
Carter, Thomas
Christian, Randy
Ebert, Joe
Foti, Ron
Fuller, Jack
Henderson, Tom
Herloski, Bob
Malec, Michael
Mehserle, Eric
McCutchan, Rick

Murray, Steven
Sims, Duane
Stulpin, Corey
Swingly, Richard
Verbridge, Alan

The following members have attended five General Meetings to date in 2016 and need to attend one additional meeting, either in December or January, to qualify:

Arserio, Gregory
Christian, Kim
Clingerman, John
Guild, Dave
O'Donnell, Jim
Schoeneman, Carl A.
Shippers, Lee
Shippers, Michael
Zeck, Jesse

Finally, the following members have attended four General Meetings to date and need to attend both December and January meetings in order to qualify:

Bebernitz, Michael
Buzzell, Richard
Englund, Frances
Fair, Ian
Houston, Christopher
Marchionda, Dick
Palmer, Matthew
Paxton, Sandy
Perricone, David
Tarkington, Pam

Qualified Active and Permanent Members interested in running for a WFC Board of Directors position (President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, or Director) should contact a member of the 2017 Nominating Committee:

Eric Mehserle (chair)
Bob Robideau
Mike Bebernitz