

Illinois Valley Beacon

January 1998

Volume 1 Issue 1

Breakfast Saturday, January 3rd, at *Doc's Mt. Hawley Inn*, 8412 N. Knoxville Avenue, just East of Mt. Hawley Airport, at 8:00 AM. See you there!

January Meeting Our next Chapter meeting will be on Wednesday, the 14th of January, at 7:30 p.m. in our hangar at Mt. Hawley Airport.

Our guest speaker will be fellow chapter member Jerry Peacock. Jerry will present a slide travelogue, of the time he spent in Zambia, in south central Africa, piloting a Cessna 185 with an IO 520 engine. He routinely flew from a short dirt strip during the rainy season, with both high temperatures and humidity. This should be very interesting!

December Christmas Luncheon

Our Annual Chapter Christmas Luncheon was held on Saturday, December 6th, at Barrack's Cater Inn.

Our featured speaker was Rick McDermott. Rick's interest and enthusiasm for his topic, Charles Lindbergh, was obvious to everyone. McDermott has developed a unique presentation about Lindbergh. He is a member of the CAL/NX-211 Society (an organization to perpetuate the memory of the man and the machine).

Back when Lindbergh was flying the mail, there was a time when he was unable to land at Peoria, Lindy headed southeast and eventually bailed out at night near Bloomington.

McDermott's father brought Lindbergh home from town to spend the night. The next day they were going to recover the mail from the aircraft, so that Lindy could complete the journey by train. At daybreak they could see out the back kitchen window that the aircraft had come to rest within 500 feet of Rick's Grandfather's farm.

After the luncheon, Chapter President-elect Sam Sisk received the following letter from Rick McDermott.

Dear Sam and EAA Members;

I would like to thank the Peoria EAA Chapter 563 for a great Christmas Luncheon. The plaque and taxi light assembly were very nice gifts and I appreciated them very much. I really enjoyed talking to you about a special subject, Charles Lindbergh. A lot of Lindbergh history is tied to the

Peoria area. If anyone comes across any information about Lindbergh and the Peoria area, please let me know. I'm always looking for Lindbergh memorabilia.

Some of your members showed some interest in the artist prints. I have enclosed Mort Kuff's order forms for anyone who may be interested in ordering any prints.

I talked to a Mr. William Baker of Channel 47 (Peoria WTVP-TV) who earlier this year interviewed me concerning Lindbergh. This interview will air Thursday, January 29th, on Channel 47 at 8:00 p.m..

Again, thank-you for the great day. I will add your plaques to my aviation collection.

Merry Christmas:
Rick McDermott

Membership Dues for 1998 remain at \$15.00. Please mail your check for dues to Chapter Treasurer Ron Wright at 616 Kerfoot, East Peoria, IL. 61611.

A **Super Safety Seminar** will be held on Saturday, January 10, 1998, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Illinois Department of Transportation Administration Building, 2300 South Dirksen Parkway, Springfield, Illinois.

This is a FREE seminar for all pilots, family and friends! The Public is Welcome. The program includes sessions on the following topics: How Pilots Learn; Airplane Performance; How to Avoid an Accident; The Revised FAR Part 61 and Aeronautical Decision Making.

For further information contact: John Blohm, FAA, Springfield, IL FSDO at 217/744-1910 or Dale Rust, IDOT-Aeronautics, Springfield, IL at 217/785-8516.

This seminar is sponsored by: The Springfield, Illinois Flight Standards District Office; the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics; AOPA Air Safety Foundation and AVEMCO Insurance.

EAA SOUTHWEST FLY-IN MOVING TO ABILENE, TEXAS

The Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) Southwest Regional Fly-In, held in Kerrville, Texas, for the past 20

years, will be moving to Abilene, Texas, beginning in 1998. The Fly-In's board of directors approved the move to Abilene Regional Airport to give the event additional room for growth that was not available at the Kerrville site. "The Southwest EAA Fly-In became so successful at Kerrville that it simply outgrew the airport and its facilities," said Stu McCurdy, Southwest Regional Fly-In president. "We've enjoyed two decades of support from the City of Kerrville and its wonderful people. The move to Abilene will allow the event to enjoy growth and satisfy our operational needs for years to come." The event, held on the third weekend of October each year, showcases a wide variety of aircraft, including homebuilts, antiques, classics, ultralights, warbirds and production airplanes. In addition, the Southwest Regional EAA Fly-In features air shows, aircraft judging, educational forums and a large variety of aviation exhibitors and vendors.

EAA OSHKOSH '97 'WORLD OF WINGS' VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE

The official video review of the 1997 Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) Fly-In Convention is now available on home video. "World of Wings" is a complete review of EAA OSHKOSH '97, the world's largest sport aviation event.

The 60-minute video features the people and airplanes of the world's premier sport aviation event. This year's Convention attracted more than 840,000 visitors and 11,500 airplanes.

"World of Wings provides a perspective of the Fly-In Convention that only EAA's video production staff can deliver," said EAA Aviation Foundation President Tom Poberezny. "The 1997 video provides viewers a glimpse of the massive size and scope of EAA OSHKOSH. It also lets viewers enjoy flying footage that is simply not available anywhere else."

This year's production includes air-to-air footage used in this fall's EAA OSHKOSH prime-time special on ESPN, plus exclusive EAA footage of homebuilts, vintage airplanes, warbirds, ultralights and more. This video also includes segments on the 50th anniversary of the U.S. Air Force, the 50th year of supersonic flight and other significant aviation developments presented during the event.

EAA Oshkosh '97: World of Wings can be purchased for \$19.95, plus \$5 for shipping and handling, by calling EAA at 1-800-843-3612, or in the online EAA Aeronautica Gift Shop. PAL format is available for international customers.

EAA's Paul Harvey Audio-Video Center produces a variety of aviation videos for broadcast and retail customers. It is located at the EAA Aviation Center in Oshkosh.

EAA CHAPTER LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS BEGIN NATIONWIDE IN JANUARY A nationwide series of workshops specially

designed to assist and develop leadership within the Experimental Aircraft Association's (EAA) Chapter network will begin Jan. 31, 1998, at Gwinnett County Airport (LZU) in Lawrenceville, Ga. The EAA Chapter Leadership Workshops are designed to provide Chapter leaders with practical ideas and solutions to the issues that face EAA Chapters. The sessions will also provide the mission, background and history of EAA, as well as effective ways to develop volunteers and future leaders. "EAA's more than 950 local Chapters are among the organization's strongest assets," EAA President Tom Poberezny said. "They provide the support for programs such as Young Eagles and Flying Start, and are the backbone of their local airport communities. It's important to provide these Chapters with ways to build on their strengths and help them become even more effective in the future." The Chapter Leadership Workshops were designed by the EAA Chapter Office and the Chapter Advisory Council. That Council is a group of seven Chapter leaders from throughout the U.S. who provide usable ideas and solutions for the issues facing most local EAA Chapters. During the sessions, local EAA Chapter leaders will have the opportunity to discuss topics relating to their Chapters, such as: * Building strong Chapter structure; * Developing future leaders and volunteers; * Breathing life into stagnant Chapters; * Getting the family involved in aviation activities; * Problem solving and dealing with difficult situations; * Delegating responsibilities; * Business side of EAA Chapters.

The workshops also provide local Chapter leaders with a way of presenting how they solved issues facing their groups. The workshops are free of charge and open to any EAA Chapter officer, newsletter editor, Technical Counselor, Flight Advisor, Young Eagles representative or other interested EAA members. Following the Jan. 31 session at Lawrenceville, Ga., other Chapter Leadership Workshops are scheduled for Feb. 7 in Bakersfield, Calif.; March 28 at Auburn, Ind.; and May 9 at Trenton/Robbinsville, N.J. Other sessions will be announced as they are confirmed. Those interested in attending a Chapter Leadership Workshop should contact the EAA Chapter Office at PO Box 3086, Oshkosh WI 54903-3086. You may also call 920-426-4876 for more information or send e-mail to Chapters@eaa.org.

PHOENIX CONTROLLERS WANT TO SHUT OUT GA:

Controllers at Phoenix, Ariz., Sky Harbor International Airport claim small GA planes are causing potentially dangerous close calls. Controllers want student pilots banned, though they have caused only a minority of the incidents, and they'd like to see less GA traffic altogether, possibly banning itinerant light GA aircraft as well. Controllers making life more difficult for GA in the past year have already had a negative impact on GA pilots using Sky Harbor. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

STUDENTS NOT THE PROBLEM SAYS NAFI

Recent calls to restrict student pilot operations at the Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport (PHX) in the name of safety are really precursors to banning general aviation, according to the National Association of Flight

Instructors (NAFI). NAFI's Executive Director, Sean Elliott, said, "[S]tudent pilots are involved in less than 20 percent of the incidents with general aviation aircraft that controllers contend violated safety standards." Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

MEIGS "DEAL" IN JEOPARDY? Is the five-year lease on life the GA community secured last year for Chicago's embattled Meigs Field in jeopardy? Recently Hizzoner Mayor Richard Daley was quoted as making statements to the effect that he would abandon the six-month-old agreement. Jack Olcott, NBAA's president, last week called that "a major disappointment." Meanwhile, AOPA prez Phil Boyer told AVweb, "AOPA expects and believes that Mayor Daley will live up to his word. But if not, we will take whatever steps necessary to ensure the agreement is honored in full." Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

MEIGS MESS: A FAILING GRADE ("AGREEMENT? WHAT AGREEMENT?") In response to Mayor Daley's most recent anti-Meigs statements, Chicago's Friends of Meigs called a press conference to present a report card on how well the city has kept up its end of the Meigs bargain. To no one's surprise, it looks as if the city will be eligible for some tutoring. It apparently had the desired effect. The Tribune reported the Mayor backed off, "[declining] to discuss the Meigs issue... dismissing reporters' questions by saying, 'We're going ahead with the agreement -- four years or five years -- or whatever it is.'" Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

FAA'S IMPROVED INSPECTIONS FOCUS STILL FALLS SHORT According to separate reports from the GAO and the DOT Inspector General, airline inspectors could use more and better training. There's also no system for tracking whether repair stations actually correct problems FAA inspectors find. FAA says it's working on both problems. Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

FAA FLOW-CONTROL SYSTEM FLAW FOUND, FIXED: FAA sources tell AVweb that a failure of the nation's airline flow-control system computers was averted early last month when technicians found and fixed a date-sensitive software bug. Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

LOWRANCE FIXES AIRMAP SOFTWARE BUG: Lowrance has corrected the vertical Nav problem that cropped up in AirMap software release Version 3.3 with the issuance of Version 3.4. Lowrance customer support: 800-324-1356. Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

PAC PILOTS -- FLORIDA FLIERS BLESS AOPA PAC WITH CASH: The

Florida Aero Club and seven chapters made a symbolic \$1,776 donation to AOPA Legislation Action to help assure freedom of flight. Their goal is to help prevent "the wanton destruction of our general aviation airports" and to further protect against "excessive federal tax proposals that would certainly kill general aviation nationwide." Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

CARDINAL OWNER SURVIVES FORCED IMC LANDING AFTER ENGINE FAILURE: Richard Weeks is "amazed" that he walked away from his beloved Cessna 177 last week after an engine failure at 2,000 msl let him down through the soup to a 500-foot ceiling. He made a road, clipped a tree and descended the last 10 feet via multiple 360-degree flat spins. Weeks survived with a mild concussion. The Cardinal died. Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

GPS FREQUENCIES SAFE -- FOR NOW: At the International Telecommunications Union World Aeronautical Radio Conference the aviation community successfully fought off telecommunications industry efforts for access to the frequency spectrum used now exclusively for global satellite navigation. Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

LAND-AND-HOLD-SHORT BITES: Some pilots are vowing to reject land-and-hold-short requests if the FAA gigs a turbulence-plagued 737 crew for crossing the mark at ORD. The FAA is seeking a 45 day suspension, saying the crew is ultimately responsible for stopping in time. Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

AOPA AIRPORT SUPPORT VOLUNTEER NOMINATIONS SOUGHT AOPA is looking for a few good men and women to lead local efforts in monitoring affairs at airports around the country, alerting AOPA to problems and serving to educate community leaders on an airport's value. AOPA is accepting nominations for its Airport Support Network at <<http://www.aopa.org>>. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

FIRST FLIGHT SOCIETY HOSTS 94TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Kill Devil Hills, N.C., will be the site of the First Flight Society's 94th Anniversary of Powered Flight celebration December 16-17 at the Wright Brothers National Memorial. The celebration begins with the annual meeting and banquet of the Man Will Never Fly Memorial Society Internationale whose motto is "Birds fly, men drink." Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

AVIATION PIONEER, BARNSTORMER DIES: Walter Addems, whose pilot license -- number

101 -- was signed by Orville Wright and who went on to become chief pilot for United Airlines, died last month at age 98. His passing leaves George Grundy as the sole surviving member of the Early Birds, a group of pilots who soloed before December 17, 1917. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

JAX CENTER DEMOLITION DISTRIBUTES DUST, DELAYS: The FAA's asbestos abatement program got a little out of hand Tuesday as controllers at the Jacksonville (FL) Air Route Traffic Control Center were forced to abandon their scopes after workers knocked down a wall, spreading asbestos fibers. The controllers who stayed behind used masks and other safety equipment. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

...AND INDY CENTER STINKS: Meanwhile, at the Indianapolis ARTCC, a chemistry experiment went awry and forced controllers to evacuate that facility. It seems a maintenance worker poured bleach and drain cleaner down a clogged drain just a few feet away from where controllers were working. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

NAKED AGGRESSION? POCATELLO PECCADILLO PAUSES PLANES: It's not even the dead of winter yet and some U.S. residents are apparently already experiencing cabin fever. Witness Ronald B. Glenn, 40, whose antics with a pickup truck on the taxiways at Pocatello, Idaho airport delayed several flights Wednesday morning. Local police chased him down and charged him with trespassing, resisting arrest and driving while intoxicated but, curiously, not with indecent exposure; Glenn was buck naked. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

NASA SETS GENERAL AVIATION SAFETY WORKSHOP: NASA's Aviation Safety Program will be holding a workshop on January 20-21 at its Ames Research Center at Moffet Field, Calif. NASA is encouraging members of the GA community who are involved in training or safety research to participate in this workshop. Details, are at <http://olias.arc.nasa.gov/training> or contact Rebecca Chute at rchute@mail.arc.nasa.gov. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

CAP TAKES DELIVERY OF TEN NEW SKYHAWKS: On November 24, the Civil Air Patrol accepted delivery of ten new Cessna 172P Skyhawks at the Cessna single-engine factory in Independence, Kansas. The CAP will receive another ten new Skyhawks over the next two months. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

MAGELLAN AND ASHTECH IN GPS MERGER: Orbital Sciences announced it was merging Ashtech Inc. into Orbital's Magellan subsidiary. The combined GPS operations will operate under the Magellan name. Reprinted from AVflash 3.49

CESSNA'S RUSS MEYER PLANS FOR

AN ORDERLY SUCCESSION Russ Meyer, Chairman of Cessna Aircraft Company, announced Tuesday the immediate appointment of Charles B. Johnson to succeed him as Cessna's President and Chief Operating Officer. Johnson was Cessna's Executive VP-Operations. Meyer remains CEO and is expected to stay on until sometime in 1999. Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

"FAST TRACK" FOR TALL TOWERS TARGET OF COALITION A coalition of the aviation industry alphabet soup -- plus the National Association of Counties -- recently formed to oppose the Federal Communications Commission's effort to preempt local zoning and regulatory authority over tall towers in its effort to fast track digital television (DTV), as mandated by Congress. Meanwhile, legislation has been introduced in Congress to block the FCC proposal. Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

BRANSON'S BEAUTIFUL BALLOON: UP, UP ANDAWAY... For the second time in a year, British tycoon Richard Branson's dream of becoming the first to fly around the world non-stop by balloon came up short. Tuesday his craft broke its tether and drifted away without him. In what will surely compete for aviation's understatement of the year, Branson told a wire service, "I could see it out of my hotel window rising very quickly and I realized that somehow or other I should have been with it, so something had gone horribly wrong." Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

KANSAS UNIVERSITIES WIN "BUILD IT, FLY IT" DESIGN COMPETITION If all goes well for a team from four Kansas universities, next summer they will fly a newly-constructed airplane at the EAA's Oshkosh extravaganza. The team -- from the University of Kansas, Kansas State, Wichita State and Pittsburg State -- won the "Design It, Build It, Fly It" award in the national General Aviation Design Competition. Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

HEATHROW: FROM THE FRYER TO THE FIRE? Even though the trans-Atlantic competition between American Airlines and British Airways is heating up, neither carrier can be blamed for Friday's fire at London's Heathrow airport. Beginning before dawn in the ventilation shaft above the deep-fat fryer of a Burger King, the blaze delayed more than 50,000 pax. Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

CARBON MONOXIDE BLAMED FOR CRASH LANDING, CRUNCHED COMANCHE: Dr. Bob Frayser, a family physician, should definitely play the lottery this week. Frayser was piloting his Piper Comanche 400 last Saturday from his hometown of Hoisington, Kansas to Topeka when he dozed off -- probably as the result of CO poisoning -- but walked away from the ensuing crash landing with only a broken wrist. Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

OOPS...WRONG SWITCH! TECHNICIAN EYED IN KC ARTCC OUTAGE

Once again last week a FAA ATC facility went off-line and -- stop reading if you've heard this before -- once again the FAA said no lives were in danger during the episode. Kind of makes one wonder why ATC bothers, doesn't it? Anyway, the latest in a growing list of calamities befalling FAA ATC facilities this year involved Thursday morning's massive computer and communications outage at the Kansas City Air Route Traffic Control Center in Olathe, Kansas. Predictably, other ATC facilities re-routed hundreds of flights around ZKC's airspace during and after the outage. Reportedly, the hapless technician performing a routine annual check of the facility's back-up power system accidentally shut down the main system as well, darkening radar scopes and forcing a re-boot of the ARTCC's computers. Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

NEW NASA SYSTEM HELPS AIRPORTS MANAGE GROUND MOVEMENTS

A new hardware/software system designed to help the FAA, airlines and airport officials manage ground movements is in operation at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport, NASA said last week. The system, dubbed the Surface Movement Advisor (SMA), is designed to help eliminate ground-side bottlenecks and is getting a major workout during the holiday season. Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

FAA HAMMERS FIRMS ON HAZMAT VIOLATIONS

The FAA last week said it was proposing some \$2 million in fines to non-aviation companies over alleged violations of regulations governing hazardous materials shipments. The targeted companies were cited for improperly packaging, labeling, and documenting their shipments and for allowing employees to package and handle hazardous materials without proper training. Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

AND THEN THERE WERE TWO? It may soon be extremely difficult -- and expensive -- to base a GA aircraft in the Austin, Texas area if the proposed sale of Austin Executive (3R3) comes to pass. Reportedly, the field may be purchased by Dell Computer Corporation for undetermined use. That could leave Georgetown (GTU) as the sole dedicated GA field in the Austin area. As we reported in April, Austin's downtown Mueller Airport (AUS) will close in 1999. Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

WORTH ITS WEIGHT IN GOLD? The FAA last week figured out a response to the Pentagon's \$25,000 toilet seats and \$400 hammers: a \$100,000 closet door. That's the amount the agency proposes to fine Delta Air Lines for operating a 757 "with an inoperative first class coat closet door." Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

NEW EJECTION SEAT CLEARS OBSTACLE: A new ejection seat, capable of operation at speeds in

excess of Mach 1, was successfully tested in November at Holloman AFB, the USAF announced. The new seat was tested in the forward portion of an F-16 fuselage on a rocket sled, presumably with an instrumented dummy. Plans to test the seat with a human dummy were not disclosed. Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

HIGH ON RELIGION? The devil didn't make him do it. Dean William Trammell, 21, of Silver Spring, Maryland was on USAirways Flight 38 from LAX to BWI Tuesday when he reportedly began "blessing" passengers in the belief Jesus Christ was within him. What was really within him was LSD. Trammell allegedly threw a flight attendant across three seats and bit a passenger before being restrained. Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

LEAR LIFTED FROM LAUDERDALE?: Either some drug runners want to step up to a pure jet, or else the market for used Learjet parts is quite good. The Aviation Crime Prevention Institute tells us that a 1975 model Lear 35, N58EM, was stolen from the Ft. Lauderdale (FL) Executive Airport. Reprinted from AVflash 3.51

MINI 500 CRASHES IN OHIO The controversy surrounding Revolution Helicopter Corporation and its Mini -500 kit-built helicopter is likely to grow in the aftermath of the December 19 crash of one of the company's designs. The pilot was killed and the helicopter destroyed during an attempted forced landing near Gettysburg, Ohio. One of the rotors apparently struck the tailboom before failing in flight. Meanwhile, US Aviator Magazine issued an "Aero-Consumer Advisory" suspending their recommendation for the Mini-500. Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

FAA PUBLISHES, DELAYS GRAND CANYON RULES...AGAIN

The FAA last week published a final rule regulating flights in and over the Grand Canyon National Park (GCNP), but then delayed its full implementation until 1999 while it develops a new route structure. The new rule adopts various proposed measures, but delays the effective date until January 31, 1999. Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

CONTINENTAL CRANKSHAFT AD PUBLISHED

After some five years of debate -- through a proposed Airworthiness Directive and two supplements generating 71 comments from owners and operators -- the FAA December 19 issued a final AD requiring replacement of so-called "airmelt" crankshafts with vacuum arc remelt (VAR) components. If your 360- or 520-series TCM engine is coming up for overhaul and has a non-VAR crankshaft, expect to ante up (ouch!) for a new crank. Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

"DOC" DOCKERY FLIES WEST: Pioneering crop duster Jesse Orval "Doc" Dockery died Saturday, December 20, from complications associated with pneumonia. He was 88. Orville Wright signed Dockery's first pilot's license was after he learned to fly at the age of 12. He went on to deliver mail with Charles Lindbergh. Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

ABSOLUTE POWER CORRUPTS, ABSOLUTELY: To officials running the city of Torrance, California, Machiavelli must have been a rank amateur. It seems the Torrance views Zamperini Field as a cash cow, not the national transportation asset most others would -- including the city attorney. Officials have diverted more than \$5 million from the airport fund to the general fund since 1990. Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

NATCA ISSUES TRACON SAFETY ALERT: This is getting to be a weekly occurrence. This week's manifestation of the U.S. crumbling ATC infrastructure comes from the New York TRACON. It took controllers more than 30 minutes to locate an operational spare and plug it into the position. According to NATCA, "this problem has been building for years" but "time is running out." Let's all be careful out there, okay? Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

FIRST THE PUDDING, NEXT THE FRUITCAKES: Forget exploding fuel tanks, errant missiles and rudder malfunctions: the latest threat to aviation safety is pudding. It seems that traditional English Christmas pudding looks exactly like the explosive Semtex when examined by an airport X-ray machine. "...Christmas puddings have an unusual density which alerts the system," an anonymous airport spokesman told the Associated Press. Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

SHORT FINAL...

Comment in the New York Times editorial page of December 10, 1903...just one week before the successful flight at Kitty Hawk by the Wright brothers:

"...We hope that Professor Langley will not put his substantial greatness as a scientist in further peril by continuing to waste his time and the money involved in further airship experiments. Life is short, and he is capable of services to humanity incomparably greater than can be expected to result from trying to fly. ...For students and investigators of the Langley type, there are more useful employments." Reprinted from AVflash 3.48

A pilot planning a VFR flight was getting a weather briefing from AFSS. When told of a line of thunderstorms approaching the departure airport the pilot asked: "Well, if I'm IFR will the thunderstorms still be there?" Reprinted

from AVflash 3.49

** Courtesy of Saturday Night Live: The NTSB has determined that a frayed wire caused the spark that ignited vapors in the TWA 800 fuel tank. The wire became frayed when it was hit by a missile... Reprinted from AVflash 3.50

** FSS Briefer: "Threshold of runway 28 is displaced 277 feet." Pilot: "It that MSL or AGL?" Reprinted from AVflash 3.52

1998 Chapter 563 Officers

President: Sam Sisk, 7214 W. Legion Hall Rd., Dunlap, IL. 61525, Ph. 243-5729 e-mail rsisk@uic.edu
Vice President: Joe Rex, 295 E. Lucille St., East Peoria, IL 61611, Ph. 694-3792 e-mail jfr@ix.netcom.com
Treasurer: Ron Wright, 616 Kerfoot, East Peoria, IL. 61611, Ph. 694-1527
Secretary: Morrie Caudill, 600 W. Melbourne Avenue, Peoria, IL. 61604, Ph. 685-8547
Newsletter Editor: Dennis Mellen, 2333 N. Ellis St, Peoria, IL. 61604, Ph. 682-7890 e-mail dennis.mellen@mcleodusa.net
At Large Board Member: Bill Mathis, 1408 W. Holly Hedges Dr., Peoria, IL. 61614, Ph. 693-6113
Technical Advisor: Al Lurie, 605 E. Armstrong Avenue, Peoria, IL. 61603, Ph. 682-1674
Young Eagles Coordinator: Joe Rex, 295 E. Lucille St., East Peoria, IL 61611, Ph. 694-3792 e-mail jfr@ix.netcom.com
Flight Advisor: Jim Hannemann, 1404 Miller Street, Washington, IL. 61571, Ph. 444-4062
Flight Advisor: Sam Sisk, 7214 W. Legion Hall Rd., Dunlap, IL. 61525, Ph. 243-5729 e-mail rsisk@uic.edu
Flight Advisor: Ron Wright, 616 Kerfoot, East Peoria, IL. 61611, Ph. 694-1527