



The Flyer

April, 2007

Officers: President: Gary Fox; Vice President: vacant; Secretary: Jan Handley;
Treasurer: Terrie Jo Fox;

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and Past Presidents.

Chairpersons: Wings Program ; Penrod Turk; Safety: Chris St. Germain; Membership:
Charles Wright; Meeting Arrangements: Terrie Jo Fox.

Editor: Al St. Germain

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - April marks MPA's First Missouri State Aviation Day. The purpose is to make your elected officials aware of the economic impact of aviation in the state of Missouri, and ask their support of legislation currently being considered. Please check out your state MPA newsletter and web site for the details on SB120/HB529 and HB571 concerning aviation. I would like to personally thank Joe and Bea Arnold, Ralph Schmude and Jeanne Willerth for helping to cover the 11 airports assigned to the KC Chapter to visit and hand out aviation packets before the April 25th Aviation Day. *** If you were able to attend the March 28th meeting to hear Bob Dickens, then you are more aware than ever of the need to contact your elected officials at both the state and federal level. The restructuring of the Federal Aviation Trust Fund is happening NOW in Washington and their proposals, if approved, will take effect on October 1st of this year marking the beginning of the Federal FY2008 budget. Therefore, NONE of us can afford not to be heard. USER FEES will kill general aviation as we know it and it is up to you. I have always contended that I do not expect my elected officials to be experts on every topic - that is why it is up to us to inform and give them the tools to understand the impact of their decisions. Many thanks to Bob Dickens for his excellent presentation. *** Missouri pilots, and especially the Kansas City Chapter, have always retained a personal and professional relationship with the FAA. Please show your appreciation and join us this month for our annual April FAA Appreciation Dinner at the DAV.

Gary Fox.

SPEAKER SUMMARE: Our March speaker was warmly welcomed as a member and long time friend of the old days. Former Safety Program Manager for the Kansas City Flight District Office and present AOPA Representative, Bob Dickens, drove all the way from Springfield with his wife Pat to continue the great work he has done in the past. His impressive and extensive bio tells of 28 years in the Army being awarded numerous medals followed by many years in FAA. Unfortunately, space limits a full recital of his impressive credentials. While his PowerPoint presentation was on the proposed "next gen user fees," they would have a direct bearing on flight safety, Bob's *raison-d'tre* all those years. To start with, fuel tax (fees) would increase 366% from 19.4 to 70.0 cents per gallon. Add state and local taxes (fees) to that! There would be fees for using Class B airspace and landing fees at 215 airports. No doubt approach, missed-approach, IFR filing fees, weather briefings and many others would come about. Flight training would be reduced of economic necessity with much concern for the impact on safety of flight. These ideas started in other countries and make GA unaffordable. The board administering the fees would be dominated by airlines without congressional oversight because these would be fees, not taxes. Can you imagine airline executives running FAA activities when they can't even run their own airlines!? And their plan is to pass on airline user fees to the passengers. These many fees would be used to fully fund FAA as opposed to some of the budget coming from the general fund. The rest of the FAA budget would come from the four categories of users, General Aviation, Air Carrier, Corporate and Military. FAA supports these proposals from predictable revenues, not broad user fees. Bob continued on with numerous figures and statistics to show that the proposal would kill GA as we know it today. GA includes Agricultural Spraying, Traffic Reporting, Search and Rescue, Medivac, Overnight Delivery and overflow contractors, Forestry Fire Fighting contracting and even Humanitarian (Angel Flight) Operations and Pilot training. And can we forget that Businesses fly 600,000 hours per year? How could we do without GA!? Long before the September hearings, we need to contact chairpersons and members of various committees with our objections. Included are Representatives Jim Oberstar and Jerry Costello, Senators Daniel Inouhe and Ted Stevens. Google "Directory U S Representatives," "Directory U S Senators" for their committee assignments and addresses. Bob's talk was both interesting and informative, but hopefully, a wake up call for us all. Let's do something about it! Thanks for your efforts on our behalf, Bob! *Gary Fox.*

STATE AVIATION DAY - State Aviation Day" is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25th in Jefferson City. In preparation for this first-ever event, we are asking that every MPA member sign up to visit at least one of the 114 paved, public-use airports in the State System Plan prior to the event. If you are interested, please contact me ASAP and your name will be submitted to Les Featherston who is assigning airports. He will send you a packet of information to leave at each location with the airport manager. Please read your State Newsletter for more detailed information. We are assigned Lexington, Higginsville, Lee's Summit, Grain Valley, Liberty, KC Downtown, KC MCI, Moseley-Clay County. Already covered are, Excelsior Springs, Roosterville. and Mosley-Clay County. *Gary Fox..*

DINNER RESERVATION INFORMATION ♦ Our next regular meeting will begin with social time at 6:00, dinner at 6:30 sharp on Wednesday, April 25, at the Disabled American Veterans, 8787 Old Santa Fe Road, KCMO. Our program will be FAA Appreciation Night. We expect several members to talk a few minutes after which they will gladly try to answer your questions. If you can't make it for dinner, come at 7:15. Take I-435 to 87th Street exit, (Missouri !!) go east on 87th Street 1.1 miles, turn right on Old Santa Fe Road, .2 miles to DAV on your

left. OR, west from Blue Ridge Boulevard onto 87th Street, immediate left on Old Santa Fe Road, .2 miles to DAV on your left. The menu will consist of Marvin's Famous Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes/Gravy, Vegetable, Salad, Bread/Butter, Coffee/Tea, Dessert. Please make your reservations with Terrie Jo by Monday noon, April 23 by e-mail, Terrie@Foxware.com or 795-7233. Cost is \$11 including gratuity, and DAV reservations must be made and kept. *Terrie Jo Fox.*

NEW OFFICERS - The present board stayed on from last year except for Marvin Moore who has joined FAA. It is time to start thinking about a new slate of officers. New officers bring new ideas and enthusiasm. Please consider volunteering. The old board will be glad to offer any assistance to get started. Elections will be in March, swearing in April, and the new board takes over in May.

Editor

BOARD MEETING - April 3. Treasurer's Report, Discussion of State Aviation Day, Meeting Date Calendar

STATE AVIATION DAY rally is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25th at the Capitol in Jefferson City. Please see the article in the February MPA News, page 4, for details. Let's support the purposes of the event. Editor

FLASH! FLASH! THE WINGS PROGRAM WILL CONTINUE THROUGH 2007!

Previously slated to end in 2006, the program is extended a year. If you wish to get one more set of wings, all it takes is one hour of air work, one hour of takeoffs and landings, one hour of instrument and a safety meeting. It is the responsibility of each chapter WINGS Chair to keep track of all their WINGS participants. So -please- keep Chapter Wings Officer, Penrod Turk, informed upon the completion of any phase. (4 West 112th Street, Kansas City, MO 64114-5304) Questions? PATurk@att.net.

CHAPTER FLYOUT INFORMATION - We will be flying to only 3 or 4 close airports in 2007 due to gas prices, and to increase our flying and members' participation. (Non-flyers welcome!) With a new chairperson, we hope to provide e-mail notification the week before. Please volunteer. Info on flyouts can be obtained at www.MidwesternPilot.com, or the State News Letter.

DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR: EAA will be sponsoring a Fly-In/Drive-In breakfast from 7:30 - 11:00 AM and Young Eagle Flights 8:30 to 12 noon on April 14, May 19, (Public Works,) June 9, (Boys' Toys Show, and Girls, too!) July 14 at Lee's Summit Airport. Also, the Raytown Historical Society will be dedicating a Richards Field marker at 350 Hwy and Gregory Boulevard near the water tower on Sunday, April 29. They request a fly over at 2 PM. Larry Young will lead the flight. Please meet at the EAA hangar, Lee's Summit Airport at 1 PM for a 1:50 departure. Please call Larry at 795-1992. July 14, Tarkio, Fourth Annual Fly-In and Show, sponsored by Congressman Sam Graves. More later. Editor

MEETING DATES FOR 2007: Please mark your calendars now so you won't forget any meetings.

April 25 - FAA Appreciation Night

May 23 - "Tall Towers" Kathy Randolph. FAA

June 27 - State Convention at St. Joseph

July 25 - .July to December To be announced

USEFUL WEB SITES -

Missouri Pilots Association Web Site for all chapters: www.mopilots.org

Missouri 2005-2006 Airport Directory & Travel Guide. This has view of the latest airports & information updates. <http://www.modot.state.mo.us/othertransportation/airportdirectory.htm>

Missouri State Senate Web Site: <http://www.senate.state.mo.us>

This website is a pilot to pilot information exchange: www.flykc.com

Super Cub website is very popular www.supercub.org and steve@flykc.com

MPA CHAPTER BOARD MEETINGS - All chapter members are invited to attend board meetings. They are normally held on the first Tuesday of the month, excluding holidays, at Executive Beechcraft, Downtown Airport, at 7 PM. We always welcome your advice and assistance, and the coffee pot is on! **MPA STATE BOARD MEETINGS** - Any MPA members may and are invited to attend the state board meetings. Check the MPA News for meeting dates, times and locations. *Gary Fox*

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