



Chapter 1298
Hernando County, Fl.

The Hernando Flyer

May 2nd, 2007

President:

Bernie Berger

bberger4@tampabay.rr.com

352-799-2721

Vice-President:

Harold "Hank" Hiscox

hankdoris@bellsouth.net

352-666-4701

Secretary:

Edgar Flaig

ezedgar@tampabay.rr.com

352-428-8304

Treasurer:

V. Jim Doan

352-797-4797

Newsletter Editor:

Hank Hiscox

Tele: 352-666-4701

hankdoris@bellsouth.net

Technical Counselor:

Dan Landry

Tele: 352-397-5729

dan@adv-sol.net

The May Chapter meeting will be held on the **first Wednesday of the month (May 2nd)**. There are **two exceptions** to our normal Wednesday meetings. They are **two Hanger Meeting Meetings**, one in **December and one in March**. These two meetings are combined with a BBQ and are held on the 1st Saturday after the 1st Wednesday at 10:00 AM at Doc Bob Starck's hanger.

All meetings are open to anyone with an interest in building, restoring, and flying airplanes. The normal monthly meeting is held at the CAP Building on Air Commerce Rd., starting at 7:00 PM. There's ample parking in front of the of the CAP building. Please note that the Chapter does not meet during the months of July and August.

President's Corner:

Greetings fellow Chapter Members.

Our Chapter has never been a large one, but, we have accomplished much:

- We put on an Air Fest that highlighted the fact that there is an Airport in Hernando County. You might not believe it but there are many folks in our community that did not know that our airport exists.
- We have flown Young Eagles three to four times per year, each year.
- We acquainted many of our older citizens to general aviation through the our Bald Eagles and Bold Eagles programs.
- We are in the final stages of creating a Compass Rose to serve the aviation community
- We have a Mission Statement.

When you think about what we, as a group have accomplished, our record is respectable.

OK what's the message? With all that the Chapter has accomplished, our Chapter size is diminishing. Although we growing in new members, we are also losing our older members at a greater rate. Attendance of Chapter meetings is becoming less as the months pass. We need to find out why this is happening. Perhaps attendance is lower because we haven't had guest speakers often enough. Perhaps some members are finding that the Chapter is not serving their needs. Whatever the case we, as individuals have to step up and express just what we want to do to sustain our Chapter. I don't want to see the Chapter die, due to lack of interest.

A while back, the officers with the membership involvement agreed to accept our monthly newsletter via email. Some folks do not have email service and so receive a copy by regular USPS "snail mail". Contained in the newsletter are my comments and Edgar's, our secretary minuetts. Also we put a reminder of the chapter's meeting date. I don't know if everyone is reading their emails on a regular basis so by the time the Chapter's newsletter is read, the meeting date has passed. The decision to use email was based on trying to save some money by not having to pay for postage. Maybe this is a bad assumption so maybe we need to start using USPS again. Perhaps we need to start a telephone tree to remind our membership that a meeting is happening. Perhaps we need to create a "Press Gang" to go out to drag members to the meetings☺. OK, maybe that idea is too Draconian but whatever we need to do, we really need our members to attend the meetings.

Message complete.

REMINDER: our next meeting will take place this coming Wednesday, May 2nd. We will have a guest speaker, John "Rock" Rockcastle.

Rock spoke at our chapter last year on operations at non-towered airports. He will be presenting, "Operations at Towered Airports" and Working with "Approaches and Centers", basically how to use the system that's there so we can operate safely. If time allows I've asked Rock if he will be able to talk about proposed legislation in Congress and the Senate regarding the privatization of Flight

Services. If that were to happen we could end up paying for them. Our fellow pilots in Europe are dealing with this issue. If privatization of services were to happen, it could be a stake in the heart of General Aviation within the USA.

Chapter Meeting Minutes:

Our April meeting started at 10.15am. We had nine members and two Guests present. The guests attending were Ray Van Dyke and Robert Lowery.

Jim Doan gave the treasury report next. At the end of February we had \$5503.93 in our kitty. The expenses were the following: \$6.00 for donuts, \$4.50 for stamps, \$20.00 for CAP hall rental, \$132.00 went towards the Compass Rose project. We took in \$12.00 from the 50/50 raffle. On the pilot projects we have only one report. Dan Landry will be ready in June to do first stage painting on his plane.

After 2 years of planning we finally got going on the Compass Rose. The big part is now finished. We used 25 gallons of dark blue, 3 gallons of light blue and 5 gallons of yellow paint. We also used 18 rolls of masking tape and 21 paint rollers.

We still had to operate one bold Eagle Flight, which had been raffled off as a fundraiser for the Hernando County Animal Shelter. Greg Frey, with Bernie Berger in the right seat, took a twin engine aircraft with the couple that had the highest bid for a flight down the gulf coast. Later they flew to that fancy place (Jumboair) in Ocala for an expensive Brunch.

Our next meeting we will have "Rock" Rockcastle as a guest speaker. He will talk about tower and non-tower operations.

The meeting ended at 11.25. After we had our annual cook out. It was great as usual, why not, Edgar was the cook.

Edgar Flaig, Secretary