



PALATKA MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
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NEWS LETTER

October 15, 2006

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*** **Skydive Palatka has set the date for their annual Halloween Boogie "Hog Flop".** Now *that's* a special event title. Falling back into tradition...look for this special event this year on Halloween weekend, beginning October 26th and running on the 26th, 27th, 28th, and 29th. Past years' special event aircraft that have participated in this annual event have included such beauties as the historical Douglas DC-3, the military CASA, the Irish Skyvan Shorts, Cessna Caravans, fleets of Beech King Airs, and various assortments of helicopters. This year's "Hog Flop" will feature the Shorts and the Caravan. These two main feature aircraft are chiseled in stone but rumor has it...rumor actually has it...that this year... there is a very small tiny, tiny, skim slim possibility that a hot air balloon may join the festivities. And as with any other day in their operations, folks are always welcome to ride along as observers.

The "Hog Flop" is a huge annual event that draws skydivers from nationwide. We invite you to come be a part of it, either as spectator or participant. Bring the kids. And don't forget the eats. Historical groceries have included the all-American "belly buster" hotdog, a pork pig rig roasting over pit, a flock of fried turkeys, etc., etc., etc.

We urge all aviators to exercise particular caution during these days, as there will be an abundance of meat missiles in free fall over Palatka. Blue Skies...!

*** **Hangar Maintenance in Progress...!** Once again Jose is a man on a mission. You know folks...you should really shake this man's hand or at least smack him on the back or throw darts or something. Jose has really put a smack down on the various needs to your t-hangars. I wish we had ten of him running around here I tell you. I bet you didn't even notice him and David running around on your roof.

Well, the task at hand this time involves select preventative door maintenance. I have scheduled this for the first week of November. Please consider this your only notice of hangar entry for maintenance reasons only.

*** And...in order to swat two mosquitoes with the same shot of spray, I have also scheduled for the first week of November...round two of pest control and spider eradication. We have had very little feedback of a continuing spider population since the first treatment in August and we aim to keep it that way. But we have had *some* feedback so the first quarterly follow up treatment is obviously needed.

Please consider this your only notice of hangar entry for pest control and spider eradication reasons only.

*** **November 11th, 2006** still marks the date for the next **FLY IN**. We are not opening this one to the public. On this day we simply aim to provide *FIRST FLIGHT* aircraft rides to the more than fifty kids that were turned away the last time because the volunteer pilots were just slap worn out.

Anyone looking to participate should contact Glenn, Airport Manager, at 386-937-1774. Still...we invite you to come and spend the day with us. Blue Skies...!

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Or visit us at

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*** Welcome October 1, 2006, the start of our new Fiscal Year. It's a brand new day people. And with that brand new day comes our brand new 2006-2007 fiscal budget.

We are what is known as "local government", being owned and operated by the CITY OF PALATKA. Within that, the Airport is classified as a "free enterprise". In the world of finance, that basically means that we are self-supported. We operate on our own revenue. Contrary to popular belief, we are not budgeted millions or even hundreds of thousands of dollars from the City. That's right folks. We are not "gifted" by the City's general fund. In short, if we don't make the money...we don't get to spend the money. Period...! That's free enterprise. Expenditure control within that revenue is fiscal responsibility at it finest.

Last month, while defining some up-coming capital improvements, I made reference to our circle of funding and our free enterprise operating budget. Be it as we are, a "local government", or whether on the state level or the federal level, our circle of funding begins with you, the aviator, who supports continued development with your purchases and rentals. We wanted to express to you, our tenants, customers, and visitors that we appreciate the support you provide us. Thank you. Every penny you give us goes back into the continued development of this Airport.

*** That eighth wonder of the world I mentioned last month...that bonafide aircraft tug...has become a reality. We took physical possession of this "aircraft tractor" towards the end of September. And as predicted, Glenn is enjoying our new toy. The man knows how to pop a pretty good wheelie.

Seriously though, prior to its delivery, we put it through the ringer of having it checked for operational status and possible maintenance needs. And having come from government surplus, it presently looks like one would expect... "O.D. Green". Isn't that special??? But fear not, we plan on making it a little more pleasing to the eye: in short...it will become "Airport Blue". Imagine that. I might even let Glenn sign his name in the wet paint to memorialize the acquisition.

Many thanks to Glenn, Jud Neufeld, of the Airport Advisory Board, and Gary Armstrong of Putnam County Maintenance. Through joint action these gentlemen located and brought forth this needed addition to our fleet.

*** The *Cheap Shameless Plug*: Aeronautical Charts and Related Publications is the target this month. We urge you to take a peep into your flight bag at the expiration dates on select aeronautical charts. Your Jacksonville, Miami, Atlanta, and Charlotte sectionals all became obsolete for navigational use in August. And the AFD, the Terminal Procedures, and the IFR Enroute L19/L20 expired in September. Fear not...we got 'em. We got 'em all.

Can you say FAR/AIM? Anything you ever wanted to know about aviation, say it, spell it, or think it...is in this publication. By request, I started carrying the ASA Federal Aviation Regulations & Aeronautical Information Manual, otherwise known as the Bible of Aviation, affectionately known as the FAR/AIM, a few years ago. For those of you looking to acquire one or replace your 2006...the new 2007 FAR/AIM has arrived. And a brand new addition to our aeronautical publications is the ASA Student Pilot Guide/Practical Test Standards. This too, I brought in by special request and it has proven useful to the student pilot.

We carry a variety of aeronautical charts and publications, including those mentioned above and more. You'll find them all priced below their suggested retail. The Student Pilot Guide is here. The 2007 FAR/AIM is now available. Come see us for all of your charts and publication needs. And remember...going cross country???...if we don't carry the chart you need, I can get it for you, overnight if need be, with a just reasonable day's notice.

This concludes the *Cheap Shameless Plug* and it didn't hurt as much as you thought it would, huh.

*** The *Airport Advisory Board* will next meet on Tuesday, December 5th, at 5:30 pm. These meetings are open to the public. We encourage your participation and invite you to come. To my knowledge, the meeting will occur at the Airport.

This concludes the October NewsLetter, all be it short but still sweet this month. And as always, if you have any questions or if there is anything we can do for you, please feel free to call.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Donna S. Franklin
Business Operations Supervisor

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