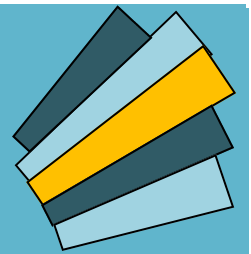


# FMFC FLYER

## The Fort Myers Flying Club NEWSLETTER



August, 2012

The FORT MYERS FLYING CLUB

### President's Message

by Terry Voorhees

Hello again everyone!

As many of you know I have a passion for flying and our Club. And I am especially proud of the things we do to support our members. Currently, the GPS seminars, both for VFR and IFR orientations, have been well attended. Based on feedback from the attendees, the sessions are excellent with the learning quotient very high. I have attended all, and while I think my useful knowledge of the Garmin systems is relatively high, I still learned something new in every session. Next under consideration is an IFR "discussion group" which will meet, perhaps monthly, to talk about IFR flying from a recreational pilot's perspective.

#### JULY STATS

##### Aircraft hours:

3521Q	43.0
944CC	52.8
9490X	15.5

##### Top Flyers for July:

Victor Bard	20.6
John Petrikas	13.0
Mark Youngblood	13.0

value to our flying community of members. As examples, on September 11<sup>th</sup> a flying over water safety program will be presented. Based on our locale, does one think this could be valuable? I certainly do!

At the October meeting, we're bringing in a group of highly experienced FAA Safety Team members/pilots to talk to us about the perils of flying at night in SW Florida. When is the last time any of us spent time discussing night flying? Yet all it takes is three night landings to be current and carry passengers.

Finally, we believe these kinds of programs have value to the entire Page Field community. As such we'll open these programs to all.

If you have a program recommendation, let's hear it. If you want to **BE** the program, even better!

Thanks for supporting your Club.

*Terry*



Piper Factory Tour! Page 1



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#### General Meeting

- \* **General Meeting**  
**Tuesday, August 14th**  
**@ 7:00 PM, RSW**  
**Training Center**
- \* **Special Presentation**  
**on Helicopters & Law**  
**Enforcement from**  
**Mike Tomisich, Chief**  
**Pilot for Lee County**  
**Sheriff's Office!**
- \* **Always informative**  
**and fun for everyone!**

I'm also feeling really good about our General Meeting programs. We're striving to bring meaningful programs and presenters designed, once again, to bring

### Piper Factory Tour

by Ellen Herr

Last week Terry Voorhees and I flew N944CC to Vero Beach to take a tour of the Piper aircraft facility where 4CC was manufactured. We were greeted by Ms. Mickey Demarcus from the marketing department who turned us over to receptionist Daphne Jacko. Factory tours are free and only require that participants wear closed toe shoes and present a photo ID. Retired test pilot Phillip was our very knowledgeable tour guide.



## Piper Factory Tour (Con't from Page 1)

Piper relocated its manufacturing plant from PA to Vero Beach in the 1950's and today has approximately 750 employees. Piper manufactures an aircraft only after a deposit has been placed, so each plane is custom built. Aircraft currently produced include the single engine Archer, Arrow, Matrix and Meridian, as well as the twin engine Seminole and Seneca. The Archer can be built in 2 months, while a pressurized turboprop Meridian takes 2 ½ months to complete. 80,000 of the more than 140,000 Piper aircraft built are still flying.

Most of the aircraft components are made in this plant with some exceptions being engines and glass windshields. Each aircraft is hand built with manufacturing operations divided into specific areas for fabrication, assembly, painting, etc.

Computerized milling machines are used to make a range of metal parts. The rectangular block of metal (foreground) is transformed into the component (shown adjacent to the red tool handle) by multi axis precision milling equipment.



The primary material for airframe fabrication is aluminum. Rolls and sheets of metal are stamped and formed to make wings and fuselages.

Some aluminum components are coated with a chrome compound, which gives them a greenish color. Circular cutouts make the wing ribs lighter and stronger.

After the skins are rolled and formed, fasteners are inserted to connect the pieces and to attach them to the spars.

Fuselage manufacturing and assembly follow a similar process. Then the engines arrive, crated from the manufacturer, and are inspected before becoming part of the finished aircraft.



The final assembly area brings all the components together to make a finished aircraft. Unfortunately no Archers were on the assembly line during this tour, but we did get to see engines being mounted on a Seneca.



This Meridian is being prepared for a test flight the day of the tour. Note the metal bar between the wheels which is used to align the main gear before the first flight.

Flight testing is done at several intervals, so any required adjustments can be made before assembly is complete and the plane is delivered to the customer.



Many thanks to the Piper employees for their hospitality. Currently tours are being offered Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 10 AM and 1 PM and last 2-3 hours. Please contact Daphne Jacko for more information at [Daphne.Jacko@piper.com](mailto:Daphne.Jacko@piper.com). Visitors can park on the ramp in front of the Piper facility off taxiway Charlie-2 at no charge.

There was so much to see, these are only a handful of the many photos taken on the tour. We had a great time! So if you're looking for someplace interesting to fly to, consider scheduling a Piper Tour over in Vero Beach. It's worth the trip!

Where It All Comes Together!

## FMFC CALENDAR

### UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

#### **FMFC General Meeting**

**Tuesday, August 14th, 2012**

RSW Training Center, 7:00 PM

Helicopters & Law Enforcement! Special Presentation by Club Member and Lee County Sheriff's Office Chief Pilot Mike Tomisich!

#### **FMFC General Meeting**

**Tuesday, September 11th, 2012**

RSW Training Center, 7:00 PM

Presentation on Flying Over Open Water.  
An excellent Southern Florida topic!

#### **FMFC General Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 9th, 2012**

RSW Training Center, 7:00 PM

FAA Safety Team presentation and discussion on Flying At Night.  
Something for all pilots to tune up on!

### OTHER AVIATION EVENTS

#### **Saturday Downtown Fair**

**Every Saturday Morning**

Downtown St. Pete

Albert Whitted Field (KSPG)

Every Saturday morning there's a great outdoor event in downtown St. Pete. It's within easy walking distance from Whitted, and it's free! There's an organic farmers market, loads of yummy food vendors, and all kinds of artwork, including paintings, sculptures, glass & pottery, hand made jewelry, and all kinds of yard ornaments. In season there's very tasteful live music playing as well. It's pet friendly, kid friendly and a great family destination.

It takes place year round, but in the heat of the summer the event is moved into an underground parking structure to provide some relief from the blazing sun. Not the same ambiance as during "season," but still an enjoyable place to check out!

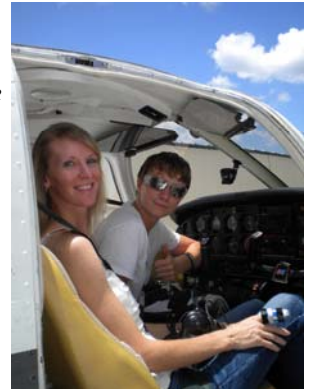
Plus there's loads of other downtown & waterfront restaurants, gift shops and art galleries to

## ANNOUNCEMENTS...

**CONGRATULATIONS to Alex Petrikas, who passed his Private Pilot Check Ride and got his ticket!**

**He celebrated by taking his Mom for a ride as his first passenger.**

**Way to Go Alex!**



### CLUB NEWSLETTER ARCHIVES!

The Club website now has a full page dedicated to the Club's previously published Newsletter Flyers, going all the way back to 2008. Check it out!

### FLIGHT INSTRUCTION CLASSES

#### \* Private Pilot Ground School

Tuesday Nights 6-9 PM

Ida S. Baker High School, Cape Coral

8-21-12 through 11-27-12 Fee \$135 + Text

Contact Ed Fink, CFII at 239-489-0443



#### \* Private Pilot Ground School

Thursday Nights 6-9 PM

Cypress Lake High School, Fort Myers

8-23-12 through 11-27-12 Fee \$135 + Text

Contact Ed Fink, CFII at 239-489-0443

#### \* Instrument Rating Ground School

Monday Nights, 6:30-9 PM

Page Field Base Ops Conference Room

9-10-12 through 12-10-12 Fee \$125 + Text

Contact Ed Fink, CFII at 239-489-0443



**"Glad You Asked!"**

Members Forum

**MEMBER QUESTION:**

*"If I have an airplane reserved that is currently at Switlik's or Tomlinson's for maintenance, is it OK for me to call or stop in to check on progress? I want to be sure the airplane will be ready to go."*

**ANSWER:**

*"The short answer is "No". Both Switlik's and Tomlinson's have directed that all inquiries relative to the status of an aircraft be done by the Club's Aircraft Officer. One can understand that request in light of the number of clients they serve. Further, they (and we) want a single point of contact for maintenance services. If you have a question regarding your scheduled aircraft that is in maintenance, call our Aircraft Officer, Charlie Carroll.*

*\*\*\* Thanks, and We're Glad You Asked!"*

**Maintenance**

by Charlie Carroll

**3521Q:**

Nav #1 tuned  
Seat Cable Assembly Replaced  
50 Hour

**944CC:**

Window scoop broken  
New overhead light  
Rheostat for overhead light

**9490X:**

Trim indicator fixed.

A quick reminder: when a plane is scheduled, the name of the PIC is to be listed on Schedulemaster, along with the destination airport.

Planes are in great shape. Get out, have fun and fly.  
Thanks for all the calls.

— Charlie

**"IN-FLIGHT" PHOTOS**

N9490X over Marathon (KMTH) Pilot: Terry Voorhees



N9490X View of Fort Myers Beach

Pilot: Terry Voorhees

*Got an in-air photo from one of our Club planes that you want to share with other members? Send it in!*

# The Fort Myers Flying Club

## The Fort Myers Flying Club

The Fort Myers Flying Club  
 605 Danley Drive, Box 10  
 Ft. Myers, FL 33907

www.FortMyersFlyingClub.com  
 Fort Myers' Oldest Flying Club

Authorized Club CFI's	
Frank Cerny	565-9763
Ed Fink	489-0443
Ed Hemsath	949-6330
Al Ledet	272-1289
Skip Bentley	691-6698
John Petrikas	565-8440
Rhonda Culmer	292-9602
H Ron Black	586-703-7751
Marc Scappaticcio	718-781-6123
Len DeNardo	849-7984

**Meetings**  
 Board Meetings: 3rd Wednesday, 6:30PM @  
 Page Field Base Ops Conference Room  
 General Meetings: 2nd Tuesday, 7:00PM @  
 RSW Training Center

**FMFC Website:**  
[www.FortMyersFlyingClub.com](http://www.FortMyersFlyingClub.com)

### Board of Directors

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<b>Aircraft Officer</b>	
Charlie Carroll	281-3710
<b>Legal Officer</b>	
Bob Adamski	482-8206
<b>Membership</b>	
Steve Hall	455-2881
<b>Newsletter/Website</b>	
Sherrie Lorenz	898-2430
Sherrie@FinallyFlorida.com	
Updates/Articles/Pictures welcome!!	

### \*\*\* OUR AIRCRAFT \*\*\*

**Cessna Skyhawk 172 N3521Q**  
 \$ 65 per hour + 10 gal fuel per hour



**Piper Archer 181 N944CC**  
 \$ 65 per hour + 10 gal fuel per hour



**Cessna Skylane 182 N9490X**  
 \$100 per hour + 13 gal fuel per hour

