

The Tennessee Short Wing Gazette

A MONTHLY UPDATE OF THE TENNESSEE CHAPTER OF THE SHORT WING PIPER CLUB

August 2004

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FROM THE LEAD POSITION

Tom Brent

The scheduled fly-in to Lake Barkley on Saturday 21st of August was foiled by rain and low ceilings. Just about all of Tennessee from the Mississippi River to the Tennessee River... and beyond was unflyable. A few folks in Illinois did attempt it though. Don and Donna Harbison got within 40 miles before being forced to turn back, and Dave and Deb Geiger in their TriPacer in formation with Ralph and Sherri Smith in their Pacer flying from Carbondale also got close but couldn't penetrate the scud to the airport at Lake Barkley. These latter folks decided that all was not lost, however, and diverted to Sikeston for some "threwed rolls" at Lambert's Café (<http://threwedrolls.com/>). ☺



Ken Rettburg chats with Gil & Barb Pierce while waiting for the president to arrive

Having hung around the FBO at Corinth for most of the morning, watching the ceiling go from 600 ft to 900 ft and back again, I did get a sense of the weather pattern, and, it emerged that the really bad weather had been timed to exactly coincide with our scheduled fly-in. Sunday looked like it was back to regular summer flying weather. Not much time to re-schedule for the next day, and some folks who had planned to fly Saturday had commitments for the Sunday. However, Barbara and Gilbert Pierce, Ken Rettberg, and Deb and Dave Geiger, together with myself, constituted four Short Wings that flew into [1M9](#) on Sunday.

We welcome the Geigers to the Tennessee Chapter. They bring not only their beautiful blue and white TriPacer but also their great enthusiasm for fun, friendship, flyingand food. Two fly-in lunches in two days! That says it all.

We had an abbreviated business meeting, as we waited for the restaurant to open for lunch. 12:00 noon is opening time, of which I was unaware. For once my tardiness in arrival at [1M9](#) was a bonus, as after looking at each other's planes on the tarmac, we arrived at the Lodge not that much too early.

Business constituted accepting the Geiger's dues, and getting approval to order a batch of 200 plastic decals that Curt Ammons had negotiated with a company, Express Label in Milwaukee. I showed samples they had sent and the consensus "expert" opinion present at the meeting agreed that the samples were good quality and that we should proceed with the order.



TNSWPC gang welcomes new members, Dave and Deb Geiger and their '57 TriPacer

After an excellent buffet lunch, with good conversation and an appropriate amount of levity, we piled back into the shuttle van for the airport. Saw a few young deer nonchalantly walking by the road, a common sight in the park, and sometimes on the airport ☺.

More time peering at airplanes, querying and discussing how the other guy has done this or that to deal with an issue. We finally we bid our farewells and all three Tripacers back-taxed the runway led by the Red Lady Clipper.



The members at Lake Barkley Fly-In/meeting
l to r: Ken Rettburg, Tom Brent, Deb & Dave Geiger, and Gil & Barb Pierce

For a moment, as we took position at the end of the runway, I thought we might all take off in an echelon formation.

However, discretion prevailed and we departed more sensibly in trail. Of course I can't speak for the two guys who were behind me ☺

Uneventful flight for me back to Corinth. There were several layers of scattered clouds, so I climbed over each. You know how when you get a check ride or biennial, you can unintentionally climb a few hundred feet above the instructor-assigned level? Well that's sort of how I got to 10,500 MSL. Cool! Literally! But time to come back down to earth, land at [CRX](#) and go home... another fun Short Wing Piper day.

Next month we shall join the Tennessee Taildragger Fly-in at Lexington TN ([M52](#)) on September 25th. Plan arrival for 11:00 to 12:00 CDT. Try to park close to other Short Wing Pipers and we'll plan to congregate at the plane(s) for our meeting at 12:00. Mike Key tells me this will be the last TN Taildragger fly-in at Lexington. Next year will be at a new regional airport at Beech River...*no turf runway!!* ☺

October we may have conflicting possibilities. On October 9th there will be a fly-in at Camden ([0M4](#)) Lawrence Atkins' and Bob Irby's home base. Various planes of interest, including warbirds, are likely to show there. Also on that date a regional SWPC multi-chapter fly-in is planned for Gaston's ([3M0](#)) in Arkansas. Let's hear from y'all regarding your thoughts.

Meanwhile, fly safe and often.

Cheers,

Tom

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The short wings at Lake Barkley Fly-In/meeting
l to r: Tom Brent's Tripacer, Gil & Barb Pierce's Clipper, Ken Rettburg's Tripacer,
and Deb & Dave Geiger' Tripacer

FLY MARKET

Lookin' Fer a Pacer!

A long time ago, I was in a club in Oliver Springs TN, and learned to fly in a 1957/ 150hp Tri-Pacer. I still miss that airplane and would like to find a 160HP, taildraggin' PA-22/20 like the one on the Wag Aero catalog or one I could rebuild/convert. Got any suggestions?

I currently have access to a recoverer who is currently installing Milman spars in our Citabria and is available to recover another plane.

Thanks for your attention,

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TNSWPC Patches

Here is the prototype patch for your TN Gaggle of Short Wingers. Initial order is for 100. We're taking orders now. Once the patches arrive from the embroiderer, we'll start sending them out!

Size: 2½" x 3¾"

Price: \$5.00, checks payable to *Tennessee Short Wing Piper Club*

Send to: Curt Ammons



TNSWPC Decals

Here is the new prototype decal. Initial order is for 200. We're taking orders now, and expect the decals to be available for our next meeting at the Tennessee Taildragger Fly-In in Lexington.

Size: 2½" x 3¾" (approx)

Price: \$2.00, checks payable to *Tennessee Short Wing Piper Club*

Send to: Curt Ammons



GAGGLE RESOURCES

Balance Forward: July 04	\$502.00
Income: (member dues)	10.00
Payments:	
- Sample decal + shipping	32.50
- 200 Decals	138.00
Balance: 27 August 04	\$341.50

FLIGHT PLANNING

It's a Taildraggin' Great Time!!

Lexington will host the Tennessee Taildragger Fly-In for the last time! Let's show them all the Short Wing's they'll be missin'! By the way, Milk Stools are allowed to hang out with their Leezard brethren.

Lexington, TN: Franklin Wilkins Airport ([M52](#))
Date: 25 September 2004
Time: 1000 CT
Location: 35-39-04.750N / 088-22-44.164W
Elevation: 514 ft
Communications (CTAF): 122.8
WX AWOS-3: 120.525 (731-968-4505)
Warnings: **Watch for taildraggers in the area**
Information courtesy of Airnav.com (<http://www.airnav.com>)

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