

The Tennessee Short Wing Gazette

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

June 2006

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FROM THE LEAD POSITION

Tom Brent

Although a few of us had last minute doubts about flying in to Owensboro (OWB) last Saturday June 17, a flurry of early morning e-mails overcame any reservations and we achieved a quorum of Short Wing Pipers on the ramp and the seven souls they carried.

My flight from Corinth MS in the deepest south was rapid (118kt ground speed), courtesy of a healthy tail breeze... the price for which I was to pay later on. Typical summer haze made for limited, horizon-less visibility even at 5500 MSL making me appreciate the recurrent hood time I have gotten in the Wings program as well as the friendly ATC flight following by Memphis Center.



It's a Face-Off. (l-r) Jim Butler's PA22/20 debates on whether to challenge the Marcozzi's Tripacer... or the inclement weather, while Tom Brent's PA22 checks out the windsock as well.

It was good to meet old friends again, including our trusty secretary Deb Geiger whose reporting on our meeting relieves me of that function. In spite of hurrying through lunch at the Moonlight Café in anticipation of

inclement weather moving in from the southwest, the food was superb as usual. (I had mutton, a smattering of chicken gizzards with assorted veggies followed by cherry cobbler a la mode ☺ ☺ ☺ !!) Three of the crews present (D&D Geiger, Jim Butler and I) are planning to fly to Kingston for the (Inter)National SWPC Convention at the beginning of July.

As expected my return trip was slow (85kt groundspeed) with deteriorating visibility. Initially climbing over the broken layer to 6500' it was smooth and cool, but the towering build-ups were closing in and by Fort Campbell I was forced to descend below the clouds to 3000'. Campbell Approach vectored me around the restricted area but when I got back with MEM Center I was asked if I was aware of the weather ahead. Being unable to raise either Flight Service or Flight Watch, I admitted ignorance of Wx whereupon the controller briefed me and proceeded to give me airport conditions in my vicinity. Much like what Flight Service



The Geiger's Tripacer beckons for it's crew to hurry before the weather moves in.

does. Anyway, it appeared I was heading right into a three-sided box of severe weather, so I made the preemptory decision to land at the closest airport which was Camden (OM4). Within 20 minutes of tying down there, all hell broke loose for the next 30 minutes. Thunder, lightening, wind and water in sheets... everything except hail ...thankfully. What with the poor visibility, without the ATC warning, my first indication of trouble would have been lighting strikes ahead and on both sides. I would have had to do a 180 and negotiate a narrow slot to get out of the box. Seeing it all on the computer screen at OM4 I sure was glad I was on the ground. After 2 hours on the ground the sky lightened up and I took off in the now freshly washed N8894C reaching Corinth without any further excitement.

Our July fly-in is sheduled for July 15 at Corinth MS (CRX), but it looks like I'll be out of pocket for that one. Hoping to see a bunch of Tennessee members at Kingston. Fly safely,

Cheers

Tom B

CHASING THE MOONLITE BBQ AROMA

DEB GEIGER

Saturday, June 17, was one of those days when the skies looked promising early, but iffy later. What to do? Well...the thought of great food at the Moonlight Inn in Owensboro, KY was tantalizing, and great conversation with Short Wing friends even more so! Email communication from the gaggle indicated it was a go, so off we went to Hangar 48 for a quick (but thorough) pre-flight.



The "All-Weather" Gaggle of Tennessee Short Wingers gathered at OWB for a taste of the Moonlite BBQ.

Front Row (l-r): Jim Butler, Deb Geiger, Tom Brent, & Kim Marcozzi.

Back Row (l-r): Jeff Martin, Dave Geiger, & Steve Marcozzi

The skies were hazy, which made for less than ideal picture-taking, but that didn't stop me from snappin' away! I tend to take lots of pictures in the air, because my family doesn't fly and I'm always trying to get them to see how beautiful it is up there. To me, every cloud looks unique, each field an amazing patchwork quilt, a rambling road becomes a gigantic wavy ribbon stretching across the landscape. If you don't fly, you miss out on these views. Many of my photos look very similar, but occasionally I get one that impresses my hubby and surprises the dickens out of me. I can't say that Kodak moment happened on that hazy Saturday, but that's OK. I have plenty of shots that remind me of this latest excursion in our beloved Mystery Girl.

Since we were the hosts for the OWB fly-in, we made certain to be the first to arrive, but President Tom reported 12 miles out while we were taxiing. He's an early bird, always looking for the worm, or in this case, the mutton, which Moonlight is known to offer. Soon, we heard Jim Butler overhead and we were



Thunderheads in the distance as the Geiger's and Mystery Girl make their way home.

pleased to meet his passenger and brother-in-law, Jeff Martin! Next came Steve and Kim Marcozzi, and our hungry gaggle was ready for escort to the Moonlight.

With afternoon thunderstorms predicted for the area, we gave new meaning to the term "eat and fly!" What a shame that we couldn't linger over a great meal, talk about Kingston, future fly-ins, the poor performance of the St. Louis Cardinals of late...but everyone was just a wee bit nervous about getting home. When we returned to the FBO and checked the weather, there was no doubt that our party was over. Quick untying, hugs and goodbyes,

and the TN Short Wing Chapter meeting adjourned!

For the Geiger's, our trip home was uneventful until we got to Harrisburg, IL. We were flying at 6500 feet, in order to keep an eye on the big boys building up in the west. There were clear skies behind and to the north, so we had a contingency plan if need be, and we thought we were going to be able to make it all the way home to KMDH, but it was not to be. Over Harrisburg we could see that it was stormy to the west. We contacted Marion tower, who called Carbondale for a report. We were told that Carbondale was in the thick of things – don't come home! Marion welcomed us in, towed us in to a maintenance hangar, and we rode out the storm in the comfort of the Pilot Lounge. You probably think, with the huge meal that I just consumed at the Moonlight, that I was able to resist the vending machine with the Twinkies and Ding Dongs, but you'd be WRONG! You see, I was too full to enjoy the dessert buffet, and a stranded gal is a sucker for something a bit sweet! If we'd only made it the six minutes more to our hangar, I could have eaten an apple! But, that's flying. Sometimes you have to wait it out and those vending machines are hypnotic.

We were anxious to hear from our fellow Short Wingers and were thankful that everyone made it home safely. Even though it was a very short visit we did manage to conduct some TNSWPC business. We discussed the convention in Kingston, and agreed that the TN chapter should donate four checks, each \$25.00, as door prizes for the convention. Last year we donated one \$100 prize, but splitting it up would get our TN chapter three more mentions! Good thinking, President Tom! He's not only a great leader, he's a masterful politician! All in all, it was a very successful day for general aviation, particularly Short Wings, and especially TN Short Wings!

Until the next gaggle gathering, fly safely everyone!

Deb Geiger

TNSWPC Secretary

GAGGLE RESOURCES

DAVE GEIGER

Net Cash Assets May 31, 2006	\$714.20
Ordinary Income & Expenses	
Income	
Membership Dues	
Donations	
Sales	
Interest	.81
Total Income	.81
Expenses	
Postage & Delivery	
Other	
Total Expenses	
Net Ordinary Income:	.81
Net Cash Assets: June 30, 2006	\$715.01

Paid Members as of 30 June 2006		
Adkins	Ammons	Atkins
Bale	Brent	Brown
Butler	Geiger	Hancock
Hensley	Hillis	Hudgin
Hudgins	Marcozzi	Miller
Passalacqua	Perry	Rettberg
Sargent	Scheve	Sherlock
Smith	Spence	Stanley
Stone		Warren

FLIGHT PLANNING

Corinth, MS (CRX)



Your webmaster is coming out of hiding in order to try to host this one. Tom says there's a Ruby Tuesday's near by, so let's make it a date!

Date: 15 July 2006
Time: 1100 CT
Location: 34-54-53.8840N / 088-36-12.5410W
Elevation: 425 ft
Communications: 122.8
 WX AWOS-3: 118.675 (662-287-5103)

Information courtesy of Airnav.com (<http://www.airnav.com>)




FLY MARKET

TNSWPC Patches	TNSWPC Decals
	
We have plenty of patches available. Contact either Tom or Dave so you can fly your colors proudly! Size: 2½" x 3¾" Price: \$5.00, checks payable to <i>Tennessee Short Wing Piper Club</i> Send to: Dave Geiger	Display your colors while supporting your organization. Contact Tom or Dave to get yours now! Size: 2½" x 3¾" (approx) Price: \$2.00, checks payable to <i>Tennessee Short Wing Piper Club</i> Send to: Dave Geiger

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