



TAIL-DRAGGER

And "Nose-Dragger" too!



Volume 25 Issue 1

January, 2012

First Flight, December 17th

On December 17th the 1939 Taylorcraft that Charley and I have been working on for the last year and a half took to the sky for the first time in sixteen years. Scott Marquardt was our test pilot and Charley went with him to monitor engine and flight instruments and video the event. First, high speed taxi runs were made and on the initial attempt, with help from a bump in the runway, the T-Craft was air born at only forty miles per hour and actually flew about as far as the Wright Brothers did one hundred and eight years ago. After Scott ran Charley through three or four of these runs it was my turn. A constant dance on the rudder pedals is necessary when taxiing to keep things under control. Forward pressure on the yoke to keep a low angle of attack and the mains glued to the runway with the tail in the air is the technique used for a high speed ground run.

We took a break for a couple of hours while Charley finished the necessary paperwork and made logbook entries. Then, with a light breeze nearly straight down runway 24, it was time to fly. Again, Charley went first, with Scott at the controls, the T-craft intentionally left the ground this time and made the circuit for the first of four touch and go landings (Charley made the last three). It was quite a sight for me, having had this airplane in my possession and in pieces for the last thirteen years. My turn came next and with Scott's coaching I made my first flight in this old bird in twenty five years (I learned to fly in this very aircraft in 1965). The T-Craft flew just as I remembered, with the elevator trimmed for straight and level flight, there was no tendency to roll. I carried a bit too much power on our first downwind and saw 90 mph indicated airspeed which isn't bad with 65 hp.

Our intention is to put a few more hours on the T-Craft then disassemble the wings, stabilizers and control surfaces to clean, make any necessary repairs and recover them this winter before spring and the start of warm flying weather. This recovering process, using the Stewart System, might make an interesting subject for a presentation at one of our chapter meetings.

The hope is that many more happy years of flight are in store for this old Taylorcraft. For many years Aeronca, Interstate, Piper, Stinson and Taylorcraft among others, all with conventional landing gear (tail-draggers) were what made up the training fleet of general aviation. Now and then it's good to experience and appreciate these old airplanes.

Many thanks to Scott for the expert tail wheel instruction that got our project into the air where it belongs.

Page 2 has a timeline and pictures of N23694's seventy two year lifespan.



Lombard 1965



Lombard 1965



Lombard 1965



Scott & Pat



2100 RPM & 70 IAS



Downwind to Base



Naperville 1985



Charley adjusts breaks



AVTECH 2011



Painting lift struts



277 members help

move the wings

TAYLORCRAFT BC-65 N23694 HISTORICAL TIME LINE/OWNERS

Sept. 9, 1939-Manufacture date (born as BL-65).

Mar. 21, 1940-Glen L. Whitaker (McGehee, Ark.).

Sept. 27, 1940-William H. Allen (Panama, OK.).

Apr. 12, 1944-M&R Flying Service (Hinsdale, IL.).

Oct. 26, 1945-M&R-Flying Club (Lockport, IL.).

Sept. 18, 1946-Lewis College (Lockport, IL.).
-Converted to a BC-65.

June 7, 1949-Harold Scherer (Cicero, IL.).

Oct. 24, 1952-Lewis College (Lockport, IL.).

Sept. 29, 1955-Robert Jackson (Downers Grove, IL.).

July 26, 1958-Lombard Airport Co. (Lombard, IL.).

March 30, 1959-Robert Binkowski (Bellwood, IL.).

Feb. 15, 1961-H.I.H. Flying Club (Argon Nat. Labs).

Aug. 12, 1961-Flight Inc. (Downers Grove, IL.).

Dec. 23, 1964-Pentagon Flying Club (Downers Grove, IL.).

March 29, 2011-Charles Rodreguez & Patrick McGuire.



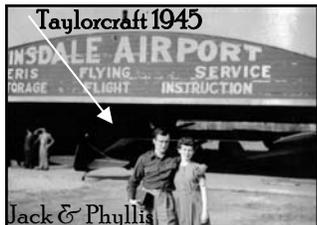
Final approach 24



AVTECH 2011



Jack & Rich 1985



Jack & Phyllis



11 years in storage

Pat McGuire

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 2, 2012

Purpose: To handle business items, leaving more time at Chapter meetings.

Members Present: Bob Amunrud, Dick Cannon, Clarke Deacon, Pat McGuire, Charley Rodriguez, Steve Schlager, Marshal White, John Williams

- The meeting was held in the conference room at Midwest Aviation, Marion, and called to order by the Ron Farver at 7:05 PM.
- The Treasurer reported a balance of \$2421.60. Several have not yet paid dues for the new year.
- Discussion: Website using the EAA template. Additional information from EAA headquarters is coming.
- Refreshments for meetings have been set for January, February and March. Ice is available at the terminal building so there is no need to purchase it.
- Programs: There is a need for a safety minute at each meeting as a reminder of the regulations by which we fly.
January: Todd Greiner & Chart Symbols
February: First Flight of Taylorcraft
Your suggestions are always welcomed.
- Meeting adjourned at 8 PM.

Reported by Bob Amunrud, Secretary

Membership Meeting December, 2011

The membership meeting for December was not held. Instead, the chapter Christmas Party was held on December 11 at the University of Illinois Extension Service building north of Murphysboro. The dinner was potluck (great dishes and lots of them) with ham, turkey, mashed potatoes and drinks provided by the chapter. Awards for service were presented and a large attendance enjoyed each others company.



2012 Chapter Dues will be accepted at our membership meeting Monday night. They are \$20.00 for the year and entitle you to a monthly copy of our newsletter and a choice of either a beige or grey chapter cap.

REFRESHMENTS

January: Clarke Deacon & Steve Schlager



Monday, Jan. 9, 2012 [7:00 pm]- Membership Meeting, Room 145 Av-

Tech, Southern Illinois Airport.

Saturday, Jan. 14, 2012 [8:30 – 10:00am]- Breakfast at Golden Corral, Route 13, Carbondale.

Monday, Feb. 6, 2012 [7:00 pm]- Board Meeting, conference room, Midwest Aviation, Marion.

**CHAPTER 277
YEAR 2012 OFFICERS**

- President—Steve Schlager
- Vice-President—Ron Farver
- Treasurer—Clarke Deacon
- Secretary—Bob Amunrud
- Newsletter Editor—Pat McGuire

YEAR 2012 BOARD MEMBERS

- All of the above-Plus:
- Membership—Marshall White
- Young Eagles Cord.—Charley Rodriguez
- Member-at-large—John Williams
- Past President—Charley Rodriguez

**JANUARY
MEETING PROGRAM**

Todd Greiner will give a talk on sectional charts.

Pat McGuire
103 South Parrish Lane
Carbondale, IL 62901



PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Happy New Year!

I hope this message finds you well and happy and ready to begin again a new year filled with happiness and lots of aviation related events to enjoy.

Your board of directors will have met for the first time in 2012 by the time you read this, and we'll be working on activities for the new year for your enjoyment.

At the January meeting, let us know if there's something in particular you'd like to see for a program, and we'll try to provide it. First up will be Todd Greiner; he always comes up with fast-paced enjoyable programs. And for February.....? and March...? Any ideas?

What's in store for 2012? Come to the January meeting and find out!

Steve Schlager President, 2012