

The Nor'Easter

Newsletter of the North East Tribe of the International Comanche Society

December, January, February

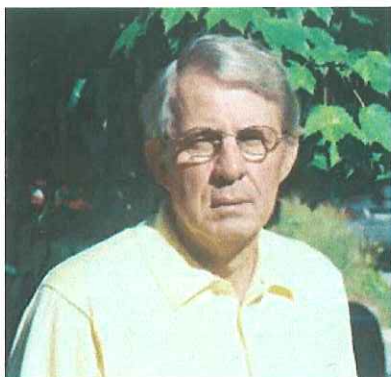
Winter 2009



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Message from the Tribe Chief



Winter months! Most of us are not flying as much this time of year. We all know how much there is to remember to fly a plane and how fast we forget some of this information. During this slack time it is good practice to go back to the basics and review this information. Some of the books to review include your POH. As you are watching the news, or during a dull playoff game, go through your POH. Read and review your Va, Vy, Vx, Vne etc. Calculate your weight and balance, using the correct weights for gas and oil, and multiply it by the arm to come up with the moment. Calculate the correct Center of Gravity for your plane. Review MOA, Warning Areas, Restricted Areas, and how to fly through them.

Read your old manuals that you used to get your certificates, VFR or IFR. Just leafing through these books will jog your memory and help to keep you sharp. Can you still effectively read a METAR/TAF and other weather charts? What is the definition for Density Altitude? What is a direct, parallel and tear drop entry to a holding pattern. Can you read all the symbols on a VFR or IFR chart? When do you contact Clearance Delivery?

How long since you have reviewed the emergency procedures in case of a gear malfunction. Review Short Field and Soft Field takeoff and landing procedures. Review your use of Carb Heat. How do you get out of a spin?

AOPA offers a host of On-line courses that will help to keep you current. Mountain Flying, Engine and Propeller, Weather Wise and Aging Aircraft are just a few. Take a look at the list and take a couple. Attend one of AOPA's Safety Seminars in your area. Attend local aviation club seminars.

Review the manuals that come with your GPS and other navigational equipment. When is the last time you reviewed a FAR/AIM?

Flying a plane is considerable harder and requires more memory searches that jumping into a boat after a month or two layoff. Read! Have lunch with a flying buddy and discuss aviation practices. In essence there are a number of things we can do to keep current during these slack months. It is to your best interest and safety to mentally stay current in this avocation that you have selected.

Fly Safe,

Dick

-Delaware Airpark (33N) Fly-In Report -

by Keith Johnson – Asst. Tribe Chief

On December 6, 2008, we held a luncheon fly-in at Delaware Airpark (33N), Dover Delaware. It was a beautiful VFR day, with little wind, and just the minor problem of a Presidential TFR over Philadelphia, 50 miles to the north. We had a great turnout, though, with thirteen planes and nearly 20 members making their way to join us. The TFR was a little reminder of the influence DC airspace has on most of our flying. Don't forget that "Navigating the DC ADIZ" training will be mandatory in February if you fly within 60 nm of the DCA VOR, and is available online from the FAA.



As always, early arrivals get the best parking spots

After a suitable period of looking at and talking about airplanes, we moved into the new terminal building. We heard some announcements from Dick Kuszyk, ICS Northeast Tribe Chief, and had conversations on Comanche maintenance, personal minimums, and some recent accidents in the Comanche community. Members also shared tactics and techniques for flying in cold weather. Cold starting and ground operations are as much a concern as flying when the weather gets cold. After talking for a while, we dug into a catered lunch.



Paul Phillips explains fuel bladder installation

The day was topped off with a visit to the hangar of Phill-Air, Inc., owned by Paul Phillips, ICS member and IA. Paul gave us a talk on fuel system maintenance, complete with a Twin Comanche in the shop for a fuel bladder replacement. We heard about how to recognize leaks, how the bladders usually fail, and what to do about it. We also were reminded about the importance of keeping water out of the fuel system – engines don't run on water, and water sitting in any part of the fuel system will cause serious damage. (A common and expensive problem these days is corrosion in the fuel selector valve body – drain that sump!) Paul also owns an STC for 40-gallon

nacelle tanks for the Twin Comanche – give him a call if you are interested.

It was another great get-together. See page 6 for more photos. We hope to see you out at the next one at Lancaster PA (LNS), in February.

NE Tribe Fly-Ins 2008-2009 (Scheduled at this time)

December 6	Luncheon	Delaware Airpark, DL (33N)
February 28	Luncheon	Lancaster, Pa. (KLNS)
April 25	Luncheon	Flying W, NJ (N14)
June 12-14	2-3-Day	Rochester, NY (KROC)
July 18	Luncheon	Newport, NH (2B3)
August 15	Luncheon	Tangiers Island, Va. (KTGI)
September 5	Luncheon	Southbridge, Ma (3B0)
October 10	Luncheon	Martinsburg, WV (KMRB)

All Fly-Ins are on Saturdays, with Sunday as a rain date. Email notices will be sent two weeks in advance. Watch your emails for any changes in scheduled dates or locations.

From the Scribe

Angel Flights Pete Morse - ICS #16012

Every pilot is looking for an excuse to fly. The famous \$100 hamburger, the fly-in pancake breakfast, the quick trip to visit friends, or giving a total stranger a ride to medical treatment in a far off city. Each year thousands of Angel Flights carry critically ill patients to treatment centers and back. Sometimes it's an older person receiving cancer treatments, sometimes it's a child going to a burn center, other times it's someone receiving a transplant or follow up care, or it may be a compassion flights, bringing family members to a wounded soldiers bedside. In each case the patient and their families are very appreciative of the pilots skill and generosity, and it's a great excuse to fly.



Angel Flight Northeast, in Lawrence, Mass, is the contact organization for prospective passengers for Delaware to New York and into New England – the same general area as for ICS-NE. The office staff gathers all data – name, contact information, doctor, needed flight timing – and lists each flight on the web site for pilots to sign up. Pilots click on flights they want to fly and receive the documentation by e-mail. The pilot and patient talk to each other on the phone, and then meet at the departure airport, fill out some paperwork and fly to the destination. All flights are on an IFR flight plan and use the preferential NGF call sign. In some cases there is a connecting flight with another pilot taking the patient to a further destination. After the flight the pilot files a report which includes the time and cost of the entire trip. Angel Flight then provides documentation for a charitable tax deduction.



Angel Flight originating at Rochester NY

Angel Flights brings good things on many levels. The patient gets to or from important medical treatment in a timely fashion, the pilot gets a great excuse to fly, and mission-related expenses can be claimed as a tax deduction. Some pilots sign up for flights in their home vicinity as an opportunity to fly. Other pilots, like me, sign up for multiple flights on the same day, maximizing time use - sort of like an area taxi service. Still others, when planning a personal flight somewhere, check the flight requests to see if anyone needs a ride in the same general direction. If so, a portion of the personal flight becomes a charitable flight, which is deductible. When other Angel Flight areas are included it is possible to find flight requests throughout the country.

To become an Angel Flight pilot, contact Angel Flight Northeast at 800-549-9980 or go to their web site at angelflightne.org. A minimum of Private Pilot and IFR currency are required, and a half-day training will be provided. Comanches make great aircraft for these missions with their comfort, speed and carrying capacity. If this idea intrigues you then sign up. Trust me, you will be glad you did.



NE Tribe June Maintenance Fly-In Weekend

Rochester, NY (ROC) June 5-7, 2009

The NE Tribe will conduct a three-day Fly-In at Rochester International Airport on the shore of Lake Ontario in western New York. Members of the ICS NE and other ICS Tribes are invited to attend. The event will feature the following:

- Friday afternoon tour of the beautiful George Eastman House to learn of the history of photography.
- Saturday afternoon workshop discussion of maintenance issues presented by George Gitleman, NE Tribe Technical Director.
- Aviation exhibits and aircraft displays conducted during the weekend by the Rochester Wings.
- Showing of two movies, "16 Right" and "Oshkosh 50th Anniversary".
- Hospitality Suite on Friday and Saturday nights, Hampton Inn South.

There are three packages for fly-in attendance. Hotel not included.

- Full three days (Friday through Sunday) \$135.00 per person, includes:
 - Dinner Friday (Bazil's, Italian food) and Saturday (Delmonico's Steak House)
 - Rochester Wings display (admission free)
 - Sunday lunch at Rochester Wings
 - Eastman House Tour Admission
 - Ground Transportation
 - Gifts and the Hospitality Suite on Friday and Saturday nights
- Two days (Saturday and Sunday) \$100.00 per person, includes:
 - Dinner on Saturday (Delmonico's Steak House)
 - Rochester Wings display (admission free)
 - Sunday lunch at Rochester Wings
 - Ground Transportation
 - Gifts and the Hospitality Suite on Saturday night.
- Saturday only \$15.00 donation.
 - Rochester Wings display (free admission)
 - (Lunch at Rochester Wings is not included)

Hotel reservations can be made at the Hampton Inn South. The ICS_NE group rate is \$125 per night (\$109 + 14% taxes) for a non-smoking double, breakfast included. Reservation should be made by May 5th 2009 to guarantee rate. Check in after 3:00 PM, check out by Noon. For cancellations made less than 72 hours in advance one nights room rate and taxes will be charged.

Contact information: Hampton Inn South, 717 E. Henrietta Rd. Rochester, NY 14623. 585-272-7800

Suggested timing:

- Friday: Arrive by 11:30 AM. Leave for Eastman House by 12:00 PM.
- Saturday: Arrive by Noon. Maintenance lectures begin at 1:00 PM.

We look forward to your attendance. We believe that we have put together a full and exciting weekend of events that will keep you busy with informative lectures, tours and enjoyment. Come and meet with friends and other members of ICS.

See you there. We are planning to have a great time.

Dick Kuszyk
NE Tribe Chief

***Comanche Safety Spotlight:* winter and water!**

As seen in the photos below, participant at the December Delaware fly-in got a down and dirty look at fuel cell installation and system components. Drain those sumps in this cold weather!



An interested crowd learns about Comanche fuel system maintenance



A common spot for corrosion to start



Members look at expensive fuel selector parts that corrode unseen.

Technical Questions

If you have any technical question contact Dave Gitelman, the NE Tribe Technical Director.
Contact Information: H-585-381-4785, C-585-317-8446. No calls before 9:00 a.m. or after 9:00 p.m.

Flotsam/Jetsam

From time to time ICS-NE members have a Comanche item for sale or are looking for parts or information. If you are one of these, contact the Tribe Chief, Dick Kuszyk, at the e-mail address below. Please include as much information as you can. This is not a commercial activity, but a sharing of information among fellow Comanche drivers. Each posting or request will be forwarded to the membership in a timely fashion, and added to the list for the next *Nor'Easter*.

The list below is of the postings since the Fall *Nor'Easter*.

Comanche for sale: PA24-250.
Contact: Angelo Gianni 540-314-6566 or AngeloRGianni@aol.com.

Comanche for sale: 1963 PA24-250 for sale. Dick Burrows has owned the plane for 42 years. This is all the information that I have. Let's see if we can find another good home for this craft.
Contact: Rivanna Aircraft Sales, LLC, Charlottesville, Va. 434-964-0082.

Available: two (2) original nose bowls for a 1970 PA39 that are in good condition. (replaced them with newer models) Available to anyone interested and willing to pay for pickup and transportation.
Contact: Nicholas Constantine, 917-440-8999, Zornick@aol.com.

ICS-NE Tribe Officer Contact Information

Tribe Chief:	Dick Kuszyk	dickbay14 @comcast.net	410-867-9156
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Scribe:	Pete Morse	pete.morse @rogerscorporation.com	860-928-3323