

# Lite-Wing



# News

Volume 1, Issue 3

Middle Tennessee Ultralight Group

March 2005

President: **Gary White** Vice-President: **Donald McDonald** Secretary: **Michelle Peden** Treasurer: **Eddie Pittman**

## March 2005

### From the President

#### From the President

As “hangar season” stubbornly gives way to “flying season” the Middle Tennessee Ultralight Group is moving rapidly forward to serve its membership with the information and opportunities to make this one of the safest and most active years ever. At our last meeting, we agreed to support the “Festival of Wings” fly-in for *Operation Migration* over Memorial Day weekend at the Tullahoma Regional Airport. How timely it was that, on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the television program “60 Minutes Wednesday” ran an exclusive story on *Operation Migration* and the success they are having using ultralights to train the endangered Whooping Crane a new migratory route. It is a bold step for MTUG to partner with the Chattanooga Sport Flyers to make the aviation aspect of this magical weekend a success.

Todd Lewicki has agreed to let us use his airfield in July for a small, MTUG-specific fly-in/air rally. The focus of this event will be, not only fellowship but, friendly and fun competition.

Our main event will be the Fall Fly-in/camp-out at T-Top where Ken and Gail Franks generously allow us usage of their beautiful grass strip and facilities. Again, camping will be available along with fine food, embellished stories and plenty of flying.

There are other ideas on the “idea burner” to help MTUG members adjust to the Light Sport Pilot both in certification of aircraft and for pilot. Bob McComb, Skip Little and myself just returned from the Illinois Ultralight Safety Seminar/USUA Annual meeting where we learned more about issues concerning the world of ultralights and Light Sport. There is much more to be said and many

more programs will follow.

Speaking of programming, this month’s meeting will feature **Bob Little**, *Safety Manager for the Nashville Flight Standards District Office*. He will be speaking on the history of the FAA and the regulation of flight. Bob will also address some of the issues concerning Light Sport and the interface between the FAA and local pilots. He is an engaging speaker and a remarkable pilot. Plan on attending and bring a friend for this “do not miss” event!

### Next Meeting

Thursday March 17th – 7:00 P.M.

Signature Aviation – BNA

Nashville, Tennessee

**Program – See last Paragraph or presidents message**

For new attendees, please see the club website - <http://www.mtug.us> for directions and a map to the meeting.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

**Pg.3** February Meeting Minutes

**Pg.4** Sun n Fun Invite

**Pg. 4** Formation Flying

## **MTUG Officers**

**President** – Gary White, (615) 491-3621

**V-President** – Donald McDonald,(615) 893-8930

**Secretary** – Michelle Peden,(615)754-4114

**Treasurer** – Eddie Pittman, (931) 294-5928

**Newsletter Editor** – Jack Maguire, (615) 778-1235

**Membership** - Eddie Pittman, (931) 294-5928



## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

02/06/2005

Balance	\$3,110.51
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### **For Sale**

447 Rotax engine package including a new Tennessee prop, exhaust system, carb and redrive .

### **Wanted**

Weedhopper (any model ; Chota square head 460 engine or engine parts.

Call: James Cash  
40 Mullican Road  
Sparta, TN 38583  
(931) 738-5776 (after 6 PM)

**Middle Tennessee Ultralight Group  
EAA Chapter 104  
Minutes of Meeting  
February 17, 2005**

Twenty-six (26) members and two (2) visitors were present. Gary White, President, welcomed the two visitors, Kenneth Flanery and Keith Hendry. Congratulations to Wade Lawicki for his new Kolb, Skip Little for his 2-1-05 Ultralight Radio show interview, Gary White for his Ultralight Flying article and Max and Michelle Peden's new twin granddaughters.

Everyone was reminded of the following events:

- Spot Landing/Fly-in, Russellville, AL (M22) on 2/19. This will mostly be GA aircraft. Breakfast starts at 8 AM. Spot landing is \$5 per try. It pays 3 places and all entry money will be put back in the pot.
- USUA Annual Meeting, Springfield, IL on 2/26 ([www.safety-seminar.com](http://www.safety-seminar.com))
- Indiana Ultralight Sport Plane Safety Seminar on 3/12. IVY Tech Aviation Maintenance Center located at Hulman Regional Airport (HUF), Terre Haute, IN. Seminar is hosted by USUA #195. Contact Lester Morrison at [lwmix@ticz.com](mailto:lwmix@ticz.com) or (812) 847-2321.
- Sun 'N' Fun, 4/12-18, Lakeland, FL
- Aviation Museum of Kentucky, Summer Camp/P.O. Box 4118, Lexington, KY 40544-4119. Contact Camp Coordinator, David Helm at (859) 263-4068 for additional info.

**Old Business:**

Minutes of January meeting were posted in the newsletter and on the website. Minutes approved. Eddie Pitman reported that there is a current balance of \$3,133.51 in the treasury. There are two (2) new members. Of the 65 paying members on the rolls, 43 had paid their 2005 dues. Jack Maguire, Newsletter Editor, contacted Eddie to find out how he should handle the expense of printing/mailling the newsletter. The newsletter is available on the website but some members have requested that a copy be mailed to their home address. After discussing several options, a motion was made that Jack would determine a reasonable cost per copy (paper/print cartridge usage/stamps) dollar figure and Eddie would reimburse him for the expense. The motion was passed. Jack Maguire's computer crashed and he is in the process of restoring e-mail addresses. The YAHOO Group now has 28 members and 29 pictures. The link is posted on the website, check it out. Let Gary know if you want an invitation to the group and he will send you an e-mail.

**New Business:**

Jim Sloan mentioned that he was contacted by the son of a deceased member. The son was caring for his mother and wanted to find out if MTUG had any type benevolence fund. His mother was ill and needed to go to a nursing home. The son is a former Navy photographer and sent Jim several photographs of Navy planes from the Korean/Vietnam war era. Since MTUG does not have any type of benevolence fund, Gary suggested that we scan some of the more interesting photographs and post them on the website with a link to the address of the son for anyone wanting to make a donation. Everyone agreed with this idea. Steve Turney will scan the photographs and post to the website. Eddie reminded everyone that Holmes Ellis would be having surgery on an aneurism on 2/25. He has been told the surgery will be pretty rough so keep him in your prayers.

**Fly-In(s):**

Gary stated that based on a poll on the website 8 out of 10 persons expressed an interest in more fly-ins. MTUG may need to evaluate what exactly is a fly-in. Some ultralight groups have monthly fly-ins. Gary was contacted by Jay Dewberry who is interested in coordinating a Tennessee Safety Seminar fly-in. T-TOP was mentioned as a regional headquarters. Let Gary know if you are interested in being involved in this endeavor.

**Special Guest:**

Gary introduced Geoff Dixon, Operation Migration. Operation Migration is organizing a fly-in to raise money for the "birds". The "Festival of Wings" will be held at the Tullahoma Airport on May 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Set up will be on Friday, May 27<sup>nd</sup>, and clean up on Memorial Day, Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>. Geoff provided an overview of the event and his vision for success. In a nutshell the following information was provided:

- The city of Tullahoma voted to provide police/fire protection; public works support; anything needed to ensure success. Security/lighting 24-7.
- \$5 daily admission; \$15 VIP pass; \$100 in advance (cocktail/book signing and benefit dinner.
- Food Vendors/"Chip Carts"
- Free Camping.
- Civil Air Patrol will park airplanes.
- All GA aircraft and ultralights encouraged to fly-in.
- Tullahoma Airport will remain active all weekend.

*Continued next Page*

## **Sun n Fun**

Greetings Chapter Leader,  
You are invited to attend the EAA Chapter Leaders Barbeque on Friday April 15th at Sun n Fun 2005, Lakeland, FL. (RSVP Required).

Wisconsin style Bratwurst served at 5:30pm. Located in the EAA Publications Tent - Sun n Fun Grounds - In the woods directly east of Johnson's BBQ.

Come join us for some great food (FREE!), and evening of interacting with other Chapters Leaders, and EAA Staff. All Chapter Leaders are invited. Also invited are any Chapter Members who are interested in the future direction of EAA and your Chapter.

If you plan on attending, please RSVP by clicking the "REPLY" feature of this message, please include your name, Chapter Number, and EAA Number, or fax at (920) 426-6560. If you are bringing other Chapter Leaders/Members with you, please include their information in your reply. Space and food is limited so please don't wait to RSVP.

Please share this message with all members of your Chapter who do not have e-mail.

Keep up the great work, and we hope to see you in Lakeland!

Troy Toelle

EAA Chapter Office

## **February Meeting Minutes (continued)**

- Shuttle to town

Operation Migration is asking the Chattanooga Ultralight Group and the Middle Tennessee Ultralight Group to share the responsibility to run the fly-in. There are already 40 volunteers. Goal is to have the best-largest ultralight fly-in ever. Bob McComb is chair of our sub-committee for this event. If anyone is interested in volunteering, please see Bob.

Discussion on MTUG spring fly-in followed. Gary suggested that the Tullahoma fly-in replace the weekend spring fly-in. Since Ken and Gail Franks host a Saturday Memorial Day BBQ, it may be possible the MTUG members could support both events. Todd Lawicki has agreed to host a mini fly-in in July. A motion was made for MTUG to support the Festival of Wings. The motion passed.

Next meeting will take place at 7:00 pm on Thursday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, Signature Aviation, Nashville Airport.

## **Formation Flying**

**by Todd Lawicki**

Some of the most enjoyable ultralight flying we have done this past flying season at my field has been our formation flying "photo shoots." It can also be mentally some of the hardest kind of flying to do. While Blake Tumbleson and I have been "attempting" it for a couple of seasons, my brother Wade has done some this past season, and Jimbo Robertson has even rode with us on a few flights. I even had an opportunity while on an instructional flight in my Q2S with Carolyn Tumbleson for us to fly formation with B.V. Lawson in his L19 Birddog. Really cool! (We actually had to throttle back to keep from passing him).



As with any formation flying, there are some important rules that must be observed to insure a safe flight. I think the most important one is for each pilot to understand **exactly** what their responsibility is for that flight. If you're the leader, your job is to lead the formation, not to try and watch where the wingman is. If you don't trust the wingman to stay in the proper position you shouldn't be flying formation with him in the first place! Same for the

wingman, your job is to stay in the proper position on the lead plane during **all** formation flying. Sometimes that means watching the wingtip of the lead plane and nothing else for the entire flight. Let the lead man worry about where the flight is going.



Good communication is also vital to a safe flight. While we don't always use radios on our flights, we do use hand signals and we make sure every pilot understands them. One of the biggest things also is to know the person you are flying with. We all have buddies we fly with on a regular basis and sometimes we just know what our buddy will do even before they do it.

We use 2 different methods of taking pictures. Most of my ultralights have mounts under the right wings to attach a boom for a camera. We use the 35mm SLR with a wireless remote, which takes the best pictures, or sometimes we use the digital camcorder, which we just let run the whole flight, and make still shots during the playback. This method works best for first flights as we can get some pretty good pictures of the new passenger and the looks on their faces.

Formation flying is not only exciting during the flight, but it gives us fun things to talk about afterwards, exciting pictures to show our friends, and new ideas to try for the next flight. After all, isn't that why we fly ultralights in the first place?

Fly safe!

### **Hey Chapter Leaders!**

Come join us for some fun, interactive Chapter related forums at Sun N Fun, Lakeland, Fl...

"Keeping your Chapter Members Satisfied" on Friday April 15th, at 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., in Forum Tent #7

"Making your Chapter Great!" (Part 1 and Part 2) on Saturday April 16th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, in Forum Tent#3

These forums will be a fun and interactive presentations that will allow you to take away some ideas on how to make your Chapter more effective and more satisfying for your members! Please come armed with your best ideas/questions on Membership Participation, Membership Recruitment, Chapter Activities, and anything else you think will be of value.

We look forward to a fresh exchange of ideas and information.

No registration necessary.