

# LITE-WING NEWS

NOVEMBER  
2008



THE MONTHLY PUBLICATION  
OF EAA ULTRALIGHT  
CHAPTER #104

President: Skip Little

Vice-President: Don McDonald

Secretary: Bucky Carter

Treasurer: Bob McComb

**...NEXT MEETING THURSDAY NOVEMBER 20TH, 7:00 P.M. AT SIGNATURE AVIATION**

## From the President

The MTUG website gets regular inquiries from folks who are interested in receiving ultralight pilot instruction and buying an ultralight. As has always been the case, the cost of aviating is increasing, now more than ever. And you can't get much lower, altitude and/or dollars, than ultralighting. However, forces beyond our control have limited entry into our world of fun flying.

With the elimination, by the FAA, of ultralight trainers and instructors, we no longer have formal, recognized ultralight pilot instruction. And that combined with the current financial situation, has all but eliminated the manufacturing of legal ultralights. Although it is possible to obtain buddy ride/training, the ever increasing threat of lawyers limits that option. Since light sport instructors and aircraft are way beyond both ultralight requirements and prices, it seems that we are in a tough spot.

With Part 103 ultralighting being essentially unregulated (hooray!), the FAA has absolutely no interest in us, unless we get on the 5 o'clock news. And even if they were interested, we are so low on the FAA agenda that we will get absolutely no assistance. But since ultralighting is still legal, and since the instruction courses that terminated last January are still available, all that is needed for interested people to become pilots is a new approach.

Or, in this case, an old approach applied to a new use. It seems that the FAR's have a mechanism to provide what is needed without being violated. If a club bought a two place ultralight trainer

which is now light sport, all the members would be owners of the plane. The FAA allows a flight instructor to charge the owner of a plane, (any certified aircraft in current license), for flight instruction. Therefore any of the co-owners of the club two-place trainer can legally hire a flight instructor to provide formal training from the existing ultralight pilot training courses. However, this approach requires a current FAA rated CFI. Unfortunately, very few ultralight BFI's become CFI's, limiting the formal instruction part of this scheme.

Since the CFI cannot issue an ultralight pilot certificate unless he is (was) also a BFI in one of the orgs, then a CFI is a really nice to have guy, but not required to provide flight training. Which means that a club member, who holds a current pilot certificate for the type of craft the club owns, may fly it and he can give, not charge for, buddy instruction. That pilot might ask his CFI, when getting his BFR, about recommendations for buddy instruction.

To accomplish this informal type of instruction, the student could avail himself of the published ultralight pilot training syllabus from the club, then, with the buddy instructor pilot, obtain adequate instruction. This is certainly far from an optimum training situation, but it is all that is available. However, the club could develop a buddy instructor course to enhance the training and better secure safety of flight for both pilot and student.

And, best of all, we could resume real ultralight pilot instruction, and bring lots of new pilots into our world of fun flying. *-Harold "Skip" Little*



*Middle Tennessee Ultralight Group  
EAA Chapter # 104  
2008 Christmas Party*

**Date: Saturday December 13th**

**Where: Lawicki's Salem Field**

**Time: Dinner begins at 6:30pm** (*social hour starts somewhere around 5pm*)

**Cost: \$16 members / \$21 non-members**    **Food By: Jordan's Catering**

**RSVP By: Monday December 8th** (*see RSVP info below*)

Please RSVP Club Treasurer Bob McComb with number in your party and payment no later than Monday, December 8th. RSVP may be done in person at this month's club meeting or if you are unable to attend meeting please send form below with payment to:



**Bob McComb  
116 Depot Street  
Watertown TN 37184**

Name _____	Number of people in your party _____
Address _____	City _____ Zip _____
Amount Enclosed \$ _____	Daytime Phone # _____

**DIRECTIONS TO LAWICKI'S SALEM FIELD:**

**From Murfreesboro:** North on Hwy 231. Turn right on Simmons Bluff (1/2mi past Hwy 452 Super Speedway Hwy). Drive 4 miles and turn right on Salem Road. Over 1 lane bridge and drive is on left with wood fence and orange sign.

**From Lebanon:** From I-40, south on Hwy 231 approx 9 miles to left on Simmons Bluff. Drive 4 miles and turn right on Salem Road. Over 1 lane bridge and drive is on left with wood fence and orange sign.

**From I-840:** Exit on Hwy 452 (Super Speedway Hwy) and go East to end at Hwy 231. Turn left then 1st Right on Simmons Bluff. Drive 4 miles and turn right on Salem Road. Over 1 lane bridge and drive is on left with wood fence and orange sign.

*If your party desires any adult libations please b.y.o.b. and b.y.o.6.p., although water, tea, and softdrinks will be provided with dinner.*

It is with great sadness that we share the news that MTUG member and good friend, Rick Kinney succumbed to his long-term illness Wednesday, November 5, 2008. His family and friends were with him as he peacefully passed away. A memorial service honoring the life of Rick was held on Saturday, November 15 at The Nashville Center for Spiritual Living in Nashville.



*"Flying My Trike To Heaven"*

I have now left this earth, and I fly with no cockpit,  
No motor or wings, As I fly to heavens gates,  
I look behind as I fly, And if my soul is what I am, my memories  
My friends, I fly, and for that gift I will thank god when I land in Heaven.

- Jimmy Smith

**In lieu of flowers, donations may be sent to the EAA Young Eagles program:**

EAA Young Eagles  
P.O. Box 2683  
Oshkosh, WI 54903-2683  
Phone: 1-877-806-8902

Middle Tennessee Ultralight Group  
EAA Chapter 104 • Minutes of October 16, 2008 Meeting

- ▶ Discussed the upcoming Presidential Elections
- ▶ Discussed John Sewells Mini Max project
- ▶ Art Kramer Discussed his Kestral Hawk w/Verner Engine
- ▶ Richard Wrenn has a new aircraft Mini Max and trying to get the paperwork finalized as well as licenses
- ▶ Discussed the Fly Inn at Lebanon Airport
- ▶ Boyette White Flew into Cooper Field in Morristown
- ▶ Holmes Ellis Flew into Welcome Field
- ▶ Bob McComb is taking orders for the EAA Calendar –contact him at McComb.bob@yahoo.com
- ▶ Christmas Party was discussed – Todd Lawicky has graciously agreed to have it at his place on December 13th. See newsletter for details.
- ▶ Speaker was Donald McDonald
- ▶ Presentation Discussed His New Super Cub
- ▶ Discussed the Donald & Francis McDonald's Scholarship Program at MTSU
- ▶ Newsletter was approved and second.
- ▶ Treasury Report given - \$2805.83
- ▶ Minutes were approved.
- ▶ MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

## NOVEMBER MTUG MEETING AGENDA

- ▶ Greetings and Announcements
    - Gary White and other club members remembrances of Rick Kinney*
    - Visitor Introductions
    - Project Reports
    - Member Happenings
    - Fly-in Reports
  - ▶ Old Business
    - October Meeting Minutes
    - Treasurer's Report
    - Newsletter Editor's Report
    - MTSU Shop Tool Report
  - ▶ New Business
    - Christmas Party
    - Volunteer Tasks Open
    - Nominating Committee Report
  - ▶ Ballot
    - 2009 Club Projects & Programs
- BREAK -----
- ▶ Program
    - Elections

## CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR SALE - One place weedhopper in good condition. Like-new sails, good engine and prop, pod with new windshield, new tires and tubes. \$2900.  
Contact James Cash 931-738-5776

FOR SALE - Pair of Firestone 5.00 - 4 wheels, tires, tubes, and axles. All in good condition. \$150.  
Contact James Cash 931-738-5776

### Friend Test

Who is your real friend? This really works...!  
If you don't believe it, just try this experiment.  
Put your dog and your spouse in the trunk of the car for an hour. When you open the trunk, who is really happy to see you??

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Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.  
-P.J. O'Rourke, Civil Libertarian

TO:

MIDDLE TENNESSEE ULTRALIGHT GROUP  
3021 HIGHWAY 99  
MURFREESBORO TN 37128