

**Chapter Monthly  
Meeting Second  
Friday 7:30 PM.  
Breakfast Fly-in  
Third Sunday,  
Starting in April.**

# E.A.A 279 Newsletter

**February, 2003**

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### **NEWSLETTER**

### **EDITORS**

John Duffy

George Fortin

Information must be in the hands of the Newsletter Editor by the first of the month, for that month's issue.

## **President's Report**

Last month we were privileged to have Paul Babcock come to the meeting and give us a talk and demonstration on repairing Piper wing ribs. I know I learned a lot of things that can assist with other aircraft repairs as well as the wing ribs of a Cub. Thanks Paul!

I've been puttering on the Koala, trying to repair the lower engine cowl and re-making some of the wing fittings. I'm finding out that my fiberglass skills leave a lot to be desired. Hopefully, this spring my schedule will allow me to finish up the wing and get the thing flying again. When that's done, I'll be able to start on another project.

We've been working on trying to get a less expensive insurance carrier for the liability insurance at the clubhouse. We've had a little success in finding reduced premiums and should be able to report on our progress at the meeting.

The next month promises little change in the winds and weather and the opportunities for flying have been few, but the fly-in season will soon be upon us and I'm really looking forward to it.

Our next meeting will be February 14, 2003 at 7:30 PM. See you at the meeting. Gerry

## **Secretary's Report**

Our business meeting was preceded by a Technical Session on Piper wing Rib repairs given by Paul Babcock. Paul is an A&P mechanic and has been rebuilding and repairing early Pipers for about thirty years. He handed out a print detailing the Piper

authorized repairs. Next he showed the jig he built which is used in the repair process by tapping, with wood blocks, the bent area to conform to the jig.

Paul discussed splicing pieces where cracks were present and the

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**Interesting Article see Page 3,4**

## Old Colony Flying Club

The Old Colony Flying Club meets directly after the regular Chapter 279 monthly meeting on the second Friday of each month.

### Flying Club News

I wanted to add just a note in this column updating the Flying clubs two aircraft. The CGS Hawk and the Kolb MarkIII are doing well enough under their sturdy truss and vinyl hanger. The Kolb suffered some rudder fabric chaff and is in need of a little TLC. Both aircraft could use additional pilots for the coming flying season. Maybe a sliding door could also be fabricated for the hanger this year.

John Duffy

# Secretary's Report (cont.)

rivet spacing. He also went over the regulations concerning this repair. If there were three damaged ribs next to each other this would constitute a major repair and would require an A&P mechanic to sign off the log book and fill out form 337.

Next he demonstrated the corrosion removal process using a nylon bristle Wheel which has an abrasive coating that can be used with your battery drill. Paul discussed the etching process and suggested to use a good 2 part epoxy primer. He feels that the weight increase exceeds the extended service life that you will gain. This session was greatly appreciated and a hearty thanks was given to Paul.

The business meeting was brought to order @ 8:50 P.M. by Gerry Scampoli. The secretary's report was accepted as written in the December newsletter. Al Cavacco gave the Treasurers report which was accepted and passed.

Gerry brought to our attention that our insurance premiums have tripled and he asked if anyone had some insurance contacts that would enable us to lower the premiums.

**Old Business;** Bob Jackson has contacted the Boy Scouts (Southeast Mass district). He wants to invite the Scouts to our breakfast each month. The Scoutmaster asked if members would like to assist the scouts with their aviation merit badges. Some members expressed an interest in this but wanted information on what the requirements are. It was agreed to only charge \$3.00 for uniformed scouts at-

tending any breakfast. Al Cavacco inquired about the progress of the By-Law committee and asked if this matter could be expedited.

**New Business;** Sergio Quadros, approached the club with an announcement that Plymouth Airport is having a May Air Fair, on May 10th & 11th which is considered to be a rehearsal for an even bigger event during the last week of August. They are looking to re-enact the Boston Harvard Aviation Meet and are looking for volunteers. They would really like EAA 279 to be involved.

Through Roger Roy, the club has acquired an uncompleted aircraft that is a one-of-a-kind. It was engineer designed but never proven and has a full set of plans. Basically it is a wood airplane, low wing, and tricycle gear. Also there is a Continental A-65 with logs but there is rust on the crank. The main idea is to part it out to raise money for the club. While no firm decision was made there were some questions. As in, are there any members who would like to bid on it?, should we put it on E-BAY?, should we assemble the engine? The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 P.M. with 12 members present.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Hassie filling in for George Fortin who was unable to attend December's meeting.

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## Prop Wash

Our **Facilities Manager**, Bill Sweeney, has been busy making repairs to our underground electric water pump. It seems that during the

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# Prop Wash (cont.)

recent cold snap, the well pump area light, which keeps the inside temperature above freezing, burned out. A crack has developed in the cast iron impeller housing and has been spraying water. Bill tells me his repair may only be temporary until warmer weather allows the entire pump removal for welding or brazing.

We have also been through a January-February thaw, consequently the airport grass and soil apron is extremely soft and open to make huge tire ruts if driven over. It should be obvious to every aviation minded member and guest, that operation of auto/truck vehicles remain off the airport. Cars and trucks should be parked away from the flying, taxi and apron areas. This caution is nothing new, **Peter Annis** asks this of us every year as well as his other pilots and owners in the large hanger section of the airport.

On this years theme of the **Birth of Aviation** and the Wright Flyer, Bob Jackson and myself paid a visit to Glenn Lawrence in Rochester, Massachusetts. Glenn owns a small but really neat grass strip airport, affectionately called Meadow Muffin, (I guess it used to be a cow pasture hmm?). Although, we don't remember Glenn asking us to watch out for any while landing. Anyhow, to make a long story short, Glenn has a half size replica of the Wright Flyer

he and fellow pilots built for a home town centennial celebration two years ago. They did a great job and I have pictures. I have included two pictures of the Flyer which is stored in his hanger but unfortunately the lighting inside was poor for my camera and I'm afraid the shots are not too good, but I included them anyway.

Glenn told us the Flyer and a **Jim Bede BD-5** almost ready to fly!, was positioned on a construction trailer used as a float for the town centennial. I have included this picture also. Bob and I had a great visit with Glenn and were awestruck at the detail they had built into the Flyer. We were going to ask Glenn if we could put the Flyer on static display at one or two of our breakfasts, but it became obvious that the ship could not be broken down for transport. Glenn was a great host and showed us around Meadow Muffin. He has a wing for a J3 or Taylor craft (I forget which) ready to cover and dope. Glenn told us that he has visited our breakfast fly-ins in the past and was anxious to fly in again when the wing is finished. It was a great visit and Bob and I came away with a good feeling about our Wright Brothers 100 hundredth anniversary theme.

Happy flying,  
John Duffy

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## FOR SALE

**For Sale:** John Duffy has for sale a Light Miniature Aircraft LMA1. It is a  $\frac{3}{4}$  scale Ultralight type single place (does not fit the weight limit) of a Piper Cub J3. It is in excellent condition. It has a Rotax 503 but will need a prop. The wheels and tires are tundra type (large). The wheel brakes are set-up but not installed. \$7500.00 firm. Call 508-378-3411.

**For Sale:** Bob Wilkie informs me he his putting up his Kolb for sale. His asking price is \$8500.00. Bob can be reached at 781-878-4215.

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