



Arizona Cloudbusters Inc.

[www.arizonacloudbusters.com](http://www.arizonacloudbusters.com)

September 2008

### ***Presidents Message***

Fellow Cloudbusters, I would again like to thank those who stepped up to fill open seats on the Board of Directors as well as our new Webmaster. With any luck we will keep things running smoothly into the fall flying season and beyond. I encourage members and guests to attend the monthly meetings and participate in the running of the club.

With cooler weather almost upon us the aircraft will begin to see more use. As this happens it becomes more important to be considerate of our fellow club members. Please only schedule an aircraft when you expect to fly. All too many times the Board hears complaints of scheduled aircraft sitting at the airport unused. If you won't be able to use your reservation e-mail the club as soon as you know and delete your reservation from the schedule. Cleaning and fueling, we all know the drill, no one likes to show up at the airport and find a bug covered aircraft with two hours fuel in it. Lets all remember, it's our club and our aircraft, keep them something we can all be proud of.

As always I wish you blue skies and smooth air.

*-James M. Sukach*

### ***Safety News***

#### **The Wings Program**

At the August meeting some questions were asked about how the Wings program works and how it is used instead of the BFR.

The Wings Program can be used as a BFR but it has to be done every year. There are four parts to the program, three flights and one aviation seminar requirement. Below is a link to the advisory circular on the WINGS Pilot Proficiency Program PDF File

<http://learn-to-fly-book.arizona-flight-training-and-instruction.com/faa/wings.pdf>

The requirement is one hour of dual instruction for each of the three flight areas:

1. Takeoffs and Landings
2. Simulated Instrument Flight
3. High Altitude Maneuvers

The seminars are put on by the local Flight Standards District Office and AOPA.

The program has changed recently and is now available online. The FAA has tried to structure this program to individual pilot needs.

*(Safety News continued....)*

Here is a link to the the general information on the WINGS Website:

<https://www.faa.gov/WINGS/pppinfo/>

Also, below is a link of a presentation put out by the FAA:

<http://www.faa.gov/files/articulate/wings/default.htm>

*-Freddy Longe, CFI, CFII*

### ***Maintenance News***

The big news is that 93M remains in Devine, TX for its engine overhaul. The return to service date is not far around the corner. You won't recognize 93M when you see it next. New paint is another improvement the club has made in the care and maintenance of our aircraft. Between the new interior in 2007, new paint and overhauled engine in 2008, 93M will be one sharp bird.

### ***This and That***

#### **Where's Danny's?**

June's Plane wash wasn't this traumatic, but it required a bit more effort for the five members who were present. We all



understand the difficulty that our active lives present, but it is also important to

make the time and come out to lend a hand to your fellow "club" aviation enthusiasts. Acknowledgment and thanks' go to Rich Kupiec, Greg Coomens, Ron Greenbank, Sam Waters



(son Ben) and Austin Erwin for their effort in keeping our fleet in good condition for everyone's enjoyment.

The next wash is not until Saturday, December, 20<sup>th</sup>. Put a placeholder in your social calendars for that morning!

#### **Fuel Foul**

It is frustrating to keep coming back to the pump to see the price continually a different number, and it is rarely less. As you know our 182's consume nearly 13 gallons per hour, the 172 a little less. So to put matters in perspective, the



increased cost of operation based on fuel price alone is \$1.30 for every 10 cent increase. Translate a dollar increase then equates to a \$13 hourly operating cost increase. Digging through the archives, fuel in October-2006 was \$3.29 when our Tach hour pricing was \$80, and most recently fuel at KCHD is \$5.24, nearly a \$2 hike. So it is easy to see why we have to pay more to fly these days.

## **New Certificates**

Another one of our members passed his check ride! Congratulations **Manthou Tsiouris!!!!** Time to go for your \$200 burger!

Who else got their ticket?  
Let me know.  
AustinErwin@yahoo.com



## **When are we returning to Stellar?**

As you are aware we have temporarily relocated the Cloudbusters Fleet to KCHD while the runway is being worked on at P19. The target completion date was supposed to be the first week in September, but as luck would have it, completion has been delayed. The latest estimate for completion will be the first of October. Stay tuned! Until then we all can get more practice in at a controlled field.

## **Members Resigning:**



As you are aware our former President, Bill McGrath, has left the club to take up a new adventure of RV'ing across America. We wish him well and acknowledge his time and effort with the administrative duties of our club's operation. Thank you Bill, best of luck and come back anytime!

Until next time, blue skies!

*-Austin Erwin, Editor*