

The WFC Flyer – October 2012



Flying for a Lifetime

Thursday October 18th 7PM

Brockport, NY (1 Credit)

Private Pilot Ground Course

Tuesday's (Sept 25-Dec 4) 6PM

Williamson Flying Club (\$120 Students/\$5 night Pilots)

Important Dates

General Meeting

October 11, 2012

7:00 PM Clubhouse

Board Meeting

November 1, 2012

7:00 PM Clubhouse

Club Officers

President

Joe Ebert

joe_ebert@rochester.rr.com

Vice President

Randy Christian

rchristian@paychex.com

Treasurer

Bob Herloski

herloski@rochester.rr.com

Secretary

Bob Cournoyer

rcourno999@aol.com

Directors

Tom Henderson

thenderson@nye-tech.com

Jake DeGroot

degrootewill@aol.com

Mike Shippers

buick55@dreamscape.com

From the Presidents Desk

Beginning in this issue, and continuing monthly, we are going to publish a few of the club's existing Bylaws and Standing Rules along with any information that may be necessary to explain what they may mean and why the club has that particular rule in place.

Bylaws govern the process by which the club conducts its business, whether admitting members, conducting elections, defining club officers, committees and classes of membership, financial management, order of business at meetings and that kind of thing. It's really a section of our club document that defines what we are. In our case, we're a member organization that self-governs through monthly membership meetings and monthly board of directors meetings.

The Standing Rules govern club member activities like check ride requirements, pilot responsibilities, liability insurance requirements for on-airport A&P mechanics and much more. The day-to-day business of the Club is conducted by the elected Board of Directors. The Board must follow the Bylaws and Standing Rules as they may apply to issues that are brought to their attention.

The difference between the two sections of rules is that Bylaws typically don't change for long periods of time. In fact, it takes approval of a duly made motion, properly seconded, debated and subjected to a membership vote in the affirmative to change a bylaw. It also requires that we notify members in advance of a recommended bylaw change.

Standing Rules, on the other hand, can be changed, deleted or added to by a 2/3 majority of the Board of Directors. That's in the bylaws, by the way! Standing rules may change on occasion when the Board is faced with changing conditions or a new circumstance for which there is no prior experience.

It's important that we all understand our Bylaws and our Standing Rules as we proceed with revising the documents to comply with NYS Law regarding member organizations. They are going to look different. The important thing is that we want to end up with an organization that might have slightly different documents, but is essentially the same, with bylaws and rules that govern as we expect them to.

It is my goal to have the revised documents in place for member approval by the February, 2013 General Membership meeting. In the meantime, enjoy the presentation of these rules as they appear over the next several issues of the WFC Flyer.

MACULAR DEGENERATION

This is the cause of major vision loss in people over 55 years old. The macula is located in the retina. If the macula is not up to speed, your central vision is disrupted. Macular degeneration can affect both far and distant vision, however, the peripheral (side) is not affected. Your ability to read may be diminished or even lost.

There are two types of macular degeneration: wet (this is the most serious) and age related (most common and not as devastating).

Age related macular degeneration (AMD) is, obviously, an age related condition. There are 4 major risk factors for AMD:

1. family history
2. cigarette smoking
3. age over 50
4. high cholesterol levels.

The exact cause is unknown, however, drusen (debris), deposits in the retina. If this occurs in large amounts there is an increase risk of AMD. The loss of vision is insidious. This type affects 90% of people with macular degeneration.

The other 10% is caused by wet MD. With this type abnormal blood vessels develop in the retina that leak blood or fluid that cause the central vision to be blurred. With this type of macular degeneration the loss of vision can not only be severe but, also, occur very rapidly.

Macular degeneration affects one or both eyes.

The first sign of macular degeneration may be blurred vision (more marked if it affects both eyes). Your eye MD may ask you to look at something called Anslers grid (a bunch of lines that form boxes) – if these lines appear wavy to you he will probably have you have a test called optical coherence tomography to see if you have any abnormal blood vessels.

Treatment: about 25% of those with macular degeneration can be helped with certain high doses of vitamin and zinc and copper. You will not be cured nor will you repair any lost vision. It will not prevent macular degeneration.

Wet macular degeneration can be treated with certain injections into the eye to prevent the formation of abnormal blood vessels. Lasers are also used to stop the leakage of blood. Again, this is not a cure.

What does the FAA say about macular degeneration? You will need to have your eye MD fill out the eye evaluation form from the FAA--your AME will have this form. Also all pertinent information will need to be submitted to the FAA. The FAA will then make the final decision.

Standing Rules

Section 4a

Club aircraft shall be flown onto grass strips only under the following conditions: (1) the strip is FAA-approved (i.e. charted), (2) it is at least 1800' long, (3) the pilot-in-command has at least a private pilot license with at least 150 hours total time, and (4) for solo operations, the pilot-in-command has received a grass strip checkout from a club CFI.

Section 4b

Before flying WFC aircraft IFR, an Instrument Proficiency Check (IPC) with an approved club instructor must be satisfactorily completed in the model of aircraft to be used for IFR flight. Subsequent IPCs must be successfully completed annually.

Section 4c

Before flying WFC aircraft beyond 1 hour after sunset and before 1 hour prior to sunrise, a Night Proficiency Check (NPC) must be successfully completed with a club approved instructor. Subsequent NPCs must be done annually between the months of October and March.

Section 5

If a member has a club aircraft reserved for a specific time and does not show up one half hour into that reserved time, any member may use that aircraft for the balance of the reserved time.