

The WFC Flyer – November 2015



Hold the date! The Williamson Flying Club Christmas party will be on Saturday, December 5! Details coming soon.

Important Dates

General Meeting

November 12, 2015
7:00 PM Clubhouse

Board Meeting

December 3, 2015
7:00 PM Clubhouse

General Meeting

December 10, 2015
7:00 PM Clubhouse

Club Officers

President

Randy Christian
president@williamsonflyingclub.com

Vice President

Duane Sims
vice_president@williamsonflyingclub.com

Treasurer

Bob Herloski
treasurer@williamsonflyingclub.com

Secretary

Steve Murray
secretary@williamsonflyingclub.com

Directors

Tom Henderson

director-2013@williamsonflyingclub.com

Dick Swingly

director-2014@williamsonflyingclub.com

John Clingerman

director-2015@williamsonflyingclub.com

From the President's Desk by Randy Christian

Wow where has 2015 gone????

Here we are, coming into the holiday season with Thanksgiving rapidly approaching. With this month's entry I, wanted first of all to say a great big **thank you** to every one of my fellow WFC members; for your help, support, and understanding during some difficult times. It has surely been another whirlwind year to say the least.

Along with my thanks, I have to shout out a reminder to all of our membership that our annual elections will be upon us rather quickly.

This leads in to the next comment that I would like to make. I have had the privilege of sitting on the Board of Directors for the past four years. I have had my ups and downs as part of the WFC leadership team, but I would not change one minute of how it has all played out. I honestly think that any eligible member should give serious thought to running for one of the open seats this year.

I know that when I joined the club, there were things I noticed that I thought could be done differently. I came to the realization that, if I was not willing to step up and try to help make changes, I was just going to be a whiner. So I made that leap to club leadership and hopefully I was able to lead the club for the better. I fully understand that you can't please all the people all the time, and I know now (after sitting on the Board) what a juggling act it can be.

My point is this: I fully believe that it's time for someone else with NEW and hopefully better ideas to make that leap and add a new face to the WFC Leadership team. So if you have ideas or thoughts for improvements, maybe now is the time! I will be announcing this month (hopefully) the members of the complete election committee. Once that has happened and, if you are interested and eligible (need to have attended 6 meetings & be in good standing), I encourage you

From the President's Desk (continued)

to reach out to the committee and start the process!

I am always just a phone call or e-mail away if anyone would like to discuss the process. Don't hold yourself back by thinking "not me" or "I don't think I am good enough / smart enough". Challenge yourself and take on the task! If you do, you'll not only help guide this wonderful club that we are all so proud of, but imagine the feeling of accomplishment you'll gain for yourself.

Blue skies and tailwinds for us all...

Headliners

Congratulations to our members on their aeronautical accomplishments!

Robert Burns soloed in N9855W on October 5!

Tom Kern earned his private pilot certificate in N9855W on September 27!

A warm welcome to our newest members!

Eric Alexander – Palmyra, NY

Garron Braman – Palmyra, NY

WFC Activities Committee Coming Events:

The Williamson Flying Club annual Christmas party is scheduled for Saturday, December 5. More details to follow soon!

Cool Places to Fly *by Denny Shaw and Chris Houston*

Destination: Block Island State Airport (KBID)

Distance: 276 nautical miles, direct

Why It's Cool:

A nice 280 nautical mile venture, Block Island off the Rhode Island shore is a destination that shares company with Mackinac Island in Michigan ([here](#)) and Ocracoke Island in the Outer Banks of North Carolina ([here](#)) in that it can only be reached by boat or airplane. The island can be best described as a smaller version of Martha's Vineyard. Rental bikes and scooters are available for ground transportation or pilots can stretch their legs after the flight from Sodus; the island is easily walkable. The island offers shopping, beaches for swimming, medium to upscale dining options (many with deck seating overlooking the harbor village), and B&B's for overnighting.

Block Island lies 25 nautical miles off shore; pilots will not have this small island in sight when going feet wet. However, for those not GPS-equipped or minimal trust in their pilotage skills, the Sandy Point VOR (SEY) is on the field. On good weather weekends, be ready for a very hectic

Cool Places to Fly (cont.)
by Denny Shaw and Chris Houston

traffic pattern, often with up to 10 planes in the pattern at a time, with others sightseeing over the island or waiting to enter the pattern.

Tips:

- Be aware that the runway is shorter than many (2502'). Though a short sloping runway shouldn't cause much concern on landing, departures from runway 28 will need to back taxi to gain full use of the runway, which will be necessary on hot days.
- There is no fuel service on the island, be sure to plan your fuel stops appropriately.

There is a landing fee at Block Island (\$15) and there has been an on-going debate about additional facility fees at Block Island (comments about it ForeFlight and AirNav are easy to find). However, as of November 2015, the additional fees have been suspended (see article [here](#)), but a call to airport management may be advisable before planning a flight.