

9-2009

September 2009

Liberty University

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Recommended Citation

Liberty University, "September 2009" (2009). *Aviation Department Monthly Newsletter*. Paper 10.
http://digitalcommons.liberty.edu/aero_news/10

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Dean's Comments

THIS IS GOING TO BE THE BEST YEAR YET! This is my opening statement to our students, faculty, flight instructors and staff each year. I fervently believe it and each year God has blessed us for it to be so. This is not wishful thinking on my part and here's why: we just enrolled 93 new students in the School of Aeronautics – three years ago we didn't have this many students in our entire program. We are blessed with the most outstanding cadre of professors and instructors we have ever had. They are skilled professionals, who not only teach aviation, but also mentor our students as they grow and mature in their Christian faith and prepare to enter the world in their chosen profession. We are equipped with the best equipment we have ever had in our inventory and we are acquiring more. We are beginning new programs such as the Flight Attendant, Aviation Maintenance Training, and Online Degree Completion offering, all while we continue to enhance and modernize our current curriculum. We have been blessed with a safe flying record – something on which each and every member of our team places the utmost importance – Safety is Paramount in all that we do – on the ground and in the air. We set the highest of standards and when we achieve them, we raise the bar. Above all, we have a significantly growing

number of supporters, people who believe in what we are doing and how we are doing it, and to whom we are extremely grateful. I am absolutely convinced our best days are ahead of us and this year is simply continued ascension in altitude as we climb higher and higher. We covet your prayers. God Bless.

-Dave Young

Flight Instructor Training Week A Success



The LUSOA Flight Instructors attended the annual training seminar on August 11th-14th. The instructors brushed up on their safety procedures, FAA regulations, standardization procedures, and customer service skills. Several new instructors were added to the program including, Daniel Mahr, Dallas Loewen, Josh Rubel, John Wallace, Michael LaVanchy, and Michael Kennedy.



Congratulations to the following students who earned certificates:

Solos: Sylvia Ayieko, Zach Caswell, Aaron Blaine, Erick Lawson, Joel Taylor, Rick Warner Tracy Baker, Jon Barnett, Tyler Barton, Elic Kirby, Helo- Josh Tate

Private: Tracy Baker, Jon Barnett, Tyler Barton, Eric Bell, Luke Hamer, Josh Moerman, Gray Robinson, Rob Penn, Anthony Sanchez, Bryan Strathdee

Instrument: Jimmy Cheers, Aaron Alvis, Melanie Evans, Chris Jenkins, Joshua Tate, Kyle Dillon, Daniel Figueredo, Maureen Mutisya

Commercial: Alex Fenson, Nathan Joachim, Daniel Mahr, Beth Partie, Eric Vorhies, Nathan Edwards

CFI: Daniel Mahr, Shannon Flynn, Johnathon Wallace

CFII: Matt Stoker, Michael Kennedy, Micah LaVanchy

Helicopter Program Receives FAA Part 141 Approval



The LU helicopter program was approved as a FAA Part 141 school earlier this summer. This opens up the ability for students to use different funding options for training. When asked about the approval, Tim "Tango" Tillman, the Helicopter Flight Instructor, stated "The Veterans Administration will help with the cost of flight training for veterans. Student loan money and other financial aid can be used towards the training in a FAA Part 141 school."



Liberty Hosts Aviation Technology Summer Camp

This summer, the LUSOA, along with CVCC (Central Virginia Community College,) hosted an Aviation Summer camp. Students built, painted, and launched model rockets, and were given an introduction to aerodynamics. The students were able to visit the Lynchburg Regional control tower while the Boeing 757 used as Air Force One was doing touch and goes. There were also trips to the A&P School and Virginia State Police Helicopter Hangar. The flight simulator was introduced and each student was able to fly in a Cessna 206. This year will mark the sixth year Liberty has hosted the camp. Andrew Walton, LUSOA safety officer, stated, "This was the third year I've run these camps, and this was our best one yet. I really enjoy working with middle schoolers because they have so much enthusiasm. The goal of our camp is to introduce young people to the thrill of flying and the possibility of pursuing a career in aviation."

PA-44 Seminole Added to Liberty's Fleet



A PA-44 Seminole was added this semester to the fleet of fourteen aircraft. This newest addition will upgrade the equipment used during multi-engine training.



First Liberty Staff Member Receives the Gold Seal Flight Instructor

Bryan Lockhart, a flight instructor for the LUSOA, was the first to receive the FAA Gold Seal Flight Instructor Award. In order to receive this award, one must successfully pass the Advanced Ground Instructor Written test issued by the FAA. Also, eight of ten students must successfully pass the FAA checkride within twenty-four months. When asked about the award, Lockhart replied, "I am grateful that Liberty has given me the opportunity to invest in its program and in the lives of students going through the program. I know great things are happening in Liberty's School of Aeronautics and I am glad to be part of it. I know the quality of instructing is among the best in the country and I'm sure Liberty is going to produce many more Gold Seals in the future."

Liberty's AMTS Receives Turbine Engines



The new Aircraft Maintenance Training School received two "remove and replace" PT-6 engines from Turbines, Inc. According to AMTS director, Bradley Blank, the building is "starting to fill with world-class training equipment." Pending FAA certification, the first class of the AMTS program will begin in January.



New Agreement with Roanoke Approach

Many changes have been made this Fall but one of the most important safety features is radar following by Roanoke Approach while operating in the eight practice areas. Not only will this enhance safety, but will allow students more interaction with approach control.

NIFA Update

Fifteen pilots from the LUSOA were selected for the 2009 NIFA flight team. We wish them all the best as they prepare for the Region X flight competition, hosted by Averett University. The competition will take place October 24th-26th at the Danville, VA airport. Liberty University has won first place in the region for the past three consecutive years.



Kristie Morris, First Winner of the "LU Wind Sock" Award

Kristie Morris was the first recipient of the "L.U. Wind Sock" Award for Christian character, service to others, and enthusiasm in their support of LUSOA. Kristie is a senior and was raised in South Africa.

Congratulations to...

- ❖ Ernie Rogers, Chairman of LU Aeronautics Department, for his election into the International Association of Missionary Aviators (IAMA) board of directors. Our core value is to provide quality pilots and mechanics to the missionary field.
- ❖ Josh and Kelly Clark on the birth of their son, Jackson Thomas.