



# CISS Membership Newsletter

## Wing Tips

Nov. 2006

Volume 5, Issue 10

NEXT MEETING: 7:00 PM NOV. 16 - AT MCL CAFETERIA, CASTLETON, IN.

[www.centralindianasoaringociety.org](http://www.centralindianasoaringociety.org)

**Annual Meeting** – will be held Thursday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the MCL Cafeteria in Castleton, IN. Come at 6:00 PM for dinner or 7:00 PM for just the meeting. We will elect officers and have a program by Nyal Williams and Don Taylor.

Nyal Williams will talk about his landing in the corn. He says this is the ONLY time he will discuss it fully and ask for comment, critique and discussion. Someday YOU may be picking corncobs out of your cockpit so find out what it was like.

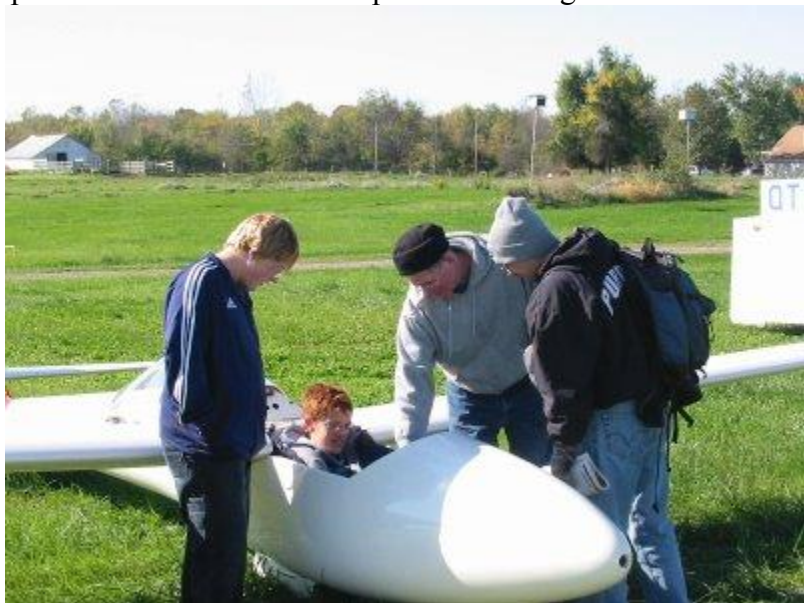
Don Taylor has informally polled some club members and has distilled out 10 or 15 things we can all practice on routine flights to improve our skills. He and others will discuss these and look for your input as well.

### **Scouting Outing:**

On a cold and windy Saturday, October 14, Mike Nichols and his sometimes able assistant, Don Taylor, introduced a passle of Boy Scouts to soaring. There was a weekend Camporee with over 2000 Scouts at the Accadamy of Model Aviation and Reese Airport near Muncie. A number of Young Eagle flights were given in powered aircraft. Mike set up his Libelle right next to the airplanes and the FBO. The transportation van dropped off the Scouts for a glider intro at the time of their powered flight. Mike brought his not insignificant collection of Soaring and EAA magazines for free distribution, and many of the boys walked off with something to read and dream about.

In addition to the Scout introductions, a number of EAA members and Scout leaders also were curious and we did our best to encourage them to come visit us at Alexandria. As a sidelight, we got to see some huge radio control model warbirds and a jet engine powered R/C model fighter jet fly some routines. And a "full scale" Army Apache helicopter dropped in to the delight of all in attendance, young and old.

*Don Taylor*



<b>CISS CALENDAR 2006</b>		
November	09 16	Board Meeting at Jim White's home Annual Meeting at MCL Cafeteria in Castleton
December		
January	13	Annual Banquet at the Martin House

**Annual Banquet-** will be held Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup> at the Martin House. Our speaker will be Kris Maynard, the FAI Official Observer of Steve Fossett's solo around the world flight in the Global Flyer last February.

This unprecedented flight, taking 75 hours to complete and covering 26,000 miles, was in a special aircraft designed by Burt Rutan. It began at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida and ended in Kent England. Kris was on hand at the start and finish to verify the strict requirements needed to



comply with the FAI record rules. Kris lives in Fishers and flies an Aviat Husky A1A out of Metro Airport, and he holds 4 World records and 5 National records in his Husky. He was a member of our glider club during the 1980s and purchased the LS6 that he shared with Ron Clarke and which is now owned by Mike Warren, ZA2. His detailed knowledge of the very complicated FAI rules led him to be selected as one of the official observers of Fossett's flight. Kris will share with us his first-hand experience in this great adventure at our annual banquet.

**Winter Maintenance: Learn and Have Fun!** As the soaring season draws to a close, every member is invited to come on out to Alexandria on Saturday mornings to help get the club fleet ready for the 2007 season. This program has enabled many members to understand how to keep a glider fleet airworthy. As we have several qualified aircraft technicians in the club we have the opportunity to learn what it takes to "tune up" the fleet.

We will start work with the two single-seaters. If the weather is flyable we'll fly. After a morning's work, we'll adjourn to the Hi-Way Café for more hangar flying. Come on out and join in.

*The Maintenance Crew.*

**Last Resort** – Once again the weather did not permit us to get to Last Resort for an away weekend, October 14<sup>th</sup>. Let's hope for better weather next year!

***New Zealand Trip-*** Four people have expressed interest in traveling to New Zealand together in January of 2008 for a combined soaring – sight seeing trip. If you are interested contact George Saunders at 765-747-1033 [gsaunders@comcast.net](mailto:gsaunders@comcast.net).

### ***View from the Back Seat***

Here is an article by Tom Knauff. I had intended to write about this, but he has said what I believe about towing in a more complete fashion that I would have done. This is the view also endorsed by Burt Compton, who wrote the book on aero-towing. Further, it is the most efficient and therefore will use a bit less fuel.

*Nyal Williams*, Chief Flight Instructor

### ***Aerotow by Thomas Knauff***

I towed a visiting pilot this weekend. I was unable to see the glider through the rear view mirror during the tow. Speaking to him later, he said he was taught to place the tow plane's wheels on the horizon. Of course, this only works with one type of tow plane. Consider a very powerful towplane pulling up at a steep angle. It would not be possible to use the horizon as a reference.



The high tow position simply requires the glider to be slightly above the tow plane's prop wash/wake. You can simply move up and down through the wash to feel the slight turbulence, then move the glider slightly higher so the glider is just a few feet above the wake. Once in this position, find references to help maintain the position.

For many towplanes, lining up the top of the vertical stabilizer with the top of the towplane's wing, (high wing towplane) or canopy (low wing towplane) serves well. In some cases, the vertical stabilizer is extra high, so the vertical stabilizer will be above the wing/canopy reference. The ultimate sin during aerotow is to be too high, placing the tow pilot in jeopardy.

Moving to the side also has limits before the glider over-powers the towplane's rudder. The glider should only move to the side until the tailwheel of the tow plane lines up with the opposite main wheel. (Taildragger towplane.) Try it!

The purpose of the boxing the wake maneuver is to show the limits of where the glider is allowed to go while giving signals, etc.

***Winter Storage and Insurance*** – With the recommendation of the Finance Committee and the approval of the Executive Committee pending confirmation of the Board, the Club plans to put most of our fleet in winter storage and not fly it in order to save on insurance. Here's the plan:

- Tow planes 87Z and 898, one Blanik (303BA) will remain insured for flying all winter.
- The rest of our fleet will be placed in winter storage and not flown starting Nov. 1, 2006. Gliders will be disassembled and stored in trailers or labeled, "Do not fly."
- The Grob 103 and the second Blanik will be returned to service March 16, 2007.
- The Astir and PW-5 will be returned to service March 30, 2007.

***Presentations on Soaring*** Following the decision by the Membership Committee, an effort was made to make presentation on our club and soaring to whatever groups would hear us. The full list appears below. As a result, a number of folks who attended these various presentations

came out to Alex. Field and took introductory glider rides. It is very hard to calculate the direct value of these talks, but I have a strong feeling that together with the newspaper coverage (and the TV coverage that is still to come) we have effectively spread the word regarding our activities in East Central Indiana. This can only good for us. Maybe next year we should try to concentrate our presentation on younger audiences such as the groups Mike and Don courted at Reese airfield in October (see *Scouting Outing* on page 1).

I would be most happy continuing to make whatever presentations are required in the future as I firmly believe the more exposure we get the better our chances of getting more members.

*Ron (ZA)*

1	March 2	Lion's Club, Westfield	25 middle aged couples
2	April 17	Lilly Aviation Club, Indianapolis	10 young power pilots
3	June 8	Kiwanis Club, Anderson	35 business men/women
4	July 5	Kiwanis Club, Muncie	20 men, mostly retired
5	Aug 8	Lion's Club, Alexandria (Annual picnic at I99)	15 men, mostly retired
6	Sept 8	Baptist Church, Anderson	15 men, mostly retired.
7	Oct. 19	Craft 84 Group, Anderson	30 middle aged couples

Thanks to Dan DeWitt and Mike Beckage for arranging a number of these talks.

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