

FALMOUTH AIRPARK FLASH

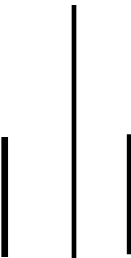
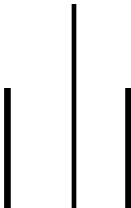
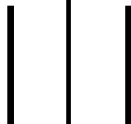


December 2012

Volume 1 No. 2



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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As this newsletter goes out to print we've celebrated Thanksgiving and find ourselves approaching the start of the Holiday season. Some of our residents have left or are preparing to leave for warmer climates for the winter. Looking at our community, we were fortunate to ride out Sandy and the ensuing Nor'easter with relatively little damage. Cleanup was handled by Randy and others that lent a hand. We've had our runway lights repaired through a combination of professional and volunteer work. Moving forward, we are looking at replacing our pilot shack with a multifunctional operations building that would be a benefit to our community.

Reflecting on this please keep in mind how fortunate we are in this community and keep in your thoughts those devastated by the storms we were given a pass on. Personally, seeing and interacting with these folks on relief missions put in perspective how truly fortunate we are here at Falmouth Airpark.

To our friends that are headed south, have safe travels and we look forward to your return. May all have a safe and joyful holiday season.

Ed Stadelman

SOCIAL COMMITTEE CALENDAR

Save The Dates! - Details to Follow

Winter Gathering at Oysters Too - January 12

**Comfort Food Potluck - February 23
Hosted by Sherry Grobstein and Rich Dupee**

The Falmouth Airpark *Flash*
is issued quarterly.
Next issue deadline is **February 15.**

Editor: Judie Spero
Associate Editor: Lee McGraw

Send correspondence to:
jss@cleveraddress.com
Subject: Flash

Website: www.falmouthairpark.net

FALMOUTH AIRPARK BOARD MEMBERS & STAFF

President: Ed Stadelman
Vice President: Mitch Garner
Treasurer: Rae Willis
Clerk: Lee McGraw

Directors:
Bob Bisbee
Pete Dooley
Roger McDowell
Lee McGraw

Board Meeting - Second Monday of
each month at 7 PM, open to the
membership.

Architectural Review Committee
Chairman: Bob Bisbee

Social Committee Chair: Cathie Pirri

Airport Manager: Randy Simon

AIRPARK CALENDAR

January 1 - HOA fees due

April 1 - HOA fees due

*(Please avoid the \$25 late fee
by submitting your dues before
the 15th of the month.)*

Second Request

Airpark Directory

If you are interested in keeping in
touch with your neighbors and
are willing to have your name,
address, phone number and
email address listed in a resident
directory, please send the info to:
leemcgraw@yahoo.com

***Submissions are voluntary and
participation is not required.***

**Only participants
will receive a Directory.**

*We've heard personally, in con-
versation, that several folks are
interested in participating, but we
really need emails from you with
your complete information.*

-The Editors

IN MEMORIAM

AARON MENTKOWSKI
WHO TOUCHED OUR LIVES
SEPTEMBER 1, 2012
REST IN PEACE

FLASH MAILING LIST

If you would like another or different
household email address added to the
Flash mailing list, please let us know
at: leemcgraw@yahoo.com.



Labor Day

Falmouth Airpark An Historical Account

(This article is the second of a series on the historical aspects of Falmouth Airpark.)

The Editor

Falmouth Airport, the youngest of the four Falmouth airports, is our focus this issue. Much of this report is from research by Gary Street from files of *The Falmouth Enterprise*. This installment will focus on the Airport's early years.

Falmouth Airport was founded by William Gallagher in the mid-1950s. Bill and his wife Gloria were a couple of modest means. In 1956 Bill had acquired a 1946 Aeronca 7AC Champ which he owned until his last few years. Pictures of Bill and his beloved plane can be seen in the shack.

At that time, agriculture was still important to the Falmouth economy and much of Falmouth was planted in strawberries. Our area was used for both strawberry fields and for wood lots by the Cape Verdean owners. Bill's instructions to his real estate agent were "Find me a mostly cleared area of 2000 feet running in a northeast by southeast direction," and for whatever his modest investment dollars were. To this he added adjoining lots whenever his means and lot availability allowed. When asked by the bulldozer operator he hired how long Bill wanted the runway area, his reply was "As far as \$2,000 dollars will get me." I have had people tell me of landing here after it had evolved and the runway was 20 feet wide with only the first 1000 feet paved. If and when there was snow on the Cape, Bill operated his Champ on skis. Bill also had a glider rating.

The progression of developing the airport was not always smooth. In 1957, at the request of Falmouth Airport Commission, Gallagher delayed licensing of the Falmouth Airport to avoid possible conflict with a proposed municipal airport on Brick Kiln Road. In 1958, the State bought Coonamessett Airport (Division of Fisheries and Game) and Bill offered the Falmouth Airport site to the town at the annual town meeting. No action was taken. Bill then sent a letter to Selectmen withdrawing the offer so development could continue as originally planned. In 1966 the Coonamessett Airport was closed which left only the Falmouth Airport to serve the town, at no cost to taxpayers. In the years 1967 to 1969, attempts were made at town meetings to rezone the airport property for light industry. There was a majority vote but failure to receive the required two thirds.

In 1971 Falmouth Airport was sold to Morze but Bill retained a life estate. Airport operations continued uninterrupted. Sometime in 1972 or 1973, twin engine shuttle service to Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket was initiated. This resulted in many complaints to the town about the noise of the frequent twin engine traffic. This bothered Bill greatly but he was legally unable to stop operation of the twins. In 1978 after he initiated legal action, Bill was able to regain ownership of Falmouth Airport. The tenant moved out and Bill then restricted airport operation to single engine aircraft. Bill felt strongly about being a good neighbor to the community. After this and through the mid-80s, Falmouth Airport was a low key operation. Although not economically viable, Falmouth Airport continued as a licensed commercial airport open to the public.

(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4)

In 1985, Falmouth Airport was sold to Carl E. Petrillo (Yonkers Construction Corporation) and Harold Guidotti which begins the residential aviation period of our history for the next installment.

Roger McDowell

Share A Recipe

Rustic Turkey Tart

~Joan Garner

- 1 9-inch prepared pie dough (I suggest Pillsbury's)
- 1 ½ cups leftover turkey meat, cut into bite-sized pieces
- ¾ cup bleu cheese
- 2 firm pears, peeled, cored and diced
- ¼ cup pecans, toasted and chopped
- ¼ cup dried cranberries
- 1 cup sour cream
- 3 T heavy cream
- 1 T fresh thyme, minced
- Salt and pepper to taste

Adjust oven rack to middle position and preheat to 425°.

Gently press pie crust into a 9" tart pan, and trim excess dough with a knife. Prick bottom of dough all over with the tines of a fork. Bake until lightly browned, about 15 minutes. Cool on wire rack.

Combine turkey, ½ cup cheese, sour cream, heavy cream and thyme in large bowl. Season mixture with salt and pepper. Transfer turkey mixture to cooled pie crust, then sprinkle with remaining cheese.

Bake until crust is golden brown and cheese is melted. Serve warm or at room temperature. (Can be refrigerated for 24 hours before you finish baking.)

Congratulations

Congratulations to Charlene and Peter Walsh on the October birth of their second grandson, Colin Peter Walsh, born to their son Sean and his wife Lauri.

Best Wishes

Best wishes to Bob Kaufman for a fast and pain-free recovery from hip surgery. Bob is making progress quickly. He's up and about and doing well.

Wishes for a Speedy Recovery

Best wishes to Meryl Brown after extensive knee surgery. We hope to see you back on your bike and on long walks in the near future.

Red Hat Luncheon

Lee McGraw, Lenore Brownstein, Olga Mitchell, Judie Spero and Mary Krantz attended the September Red Hat's luncheon for Airpark members. The luncheon was hosted by Olga Mitchell at the Pocasset Golf Club. A good time was had by all. Do think about joining us the next time around. Socializing and relaxing is the order of the day; there are no secret handshakes and no one will be turned away if they are hatless.



KID'S CORNER

Place a number between 1 and 6 in each empty cell so that every row, every column and every 2x3 box contains all the numbers 1 to 6.

3					5
	5			2	
6					1
1					3
	3			5	
5					2

SCA/Endeavour Aerial Photos * - September 21, 2012

The following photos are attributed to Sam Sun, of California, who bought Larry Rachman's Tiger. They were taken from heights of 3,500' to 10,5000' as well as on the ground. Sam has become a friend of Larry's and is a serious NASA and space program enthusiast.



**Photos used with permission*

Falmouth Newcomers

The Falmouth Newcomers Club holds a general meeting on the second Thursday of the month, usually at the First Congregational Church located at 68 Main Street in Falmouth, across from the Village Green. Anyone who has had Falmouth as their primary residence for five years or less, or has experienced a life changing event (retirement, divorce, or loss of a partner) within the last five years, is invited to attend this meeting and join the club.

Members are urged to join a variety of special interest groups as well as to attend special events. The December 13th general meeting will be a Holiday Luncheon, held this year at the Coonamessett Inn in Falmouth.

For more information visit www.falmouthnewcomers.org or send an email message to falmouthnewcomers@gmail.com. If you have questions about membership, you can also reach membership chairpersons Nancy O'Donnell at 508-564-4854 or Susan Maffei at 508-540-9586.

Judie Spero

Old Friends

I flew to Barnes on October 13 for an aerobatic contest. To my great surprise, I met Jack Adams there at KBAF where he keeps his plane. Jack is a former long-time airpark resident. Jack had volunteered to help out driving people and scores between the terminal and the judging line. On Saturday he brought Joan to the airport to see me. They are both looking well. Joan is going in for her second knee replacement next week.

Olga Mitchell

Thank You Shout Out

It was a good group of guys clearing away the storm damages. Mitch Garner, Jeff Mandeville, Jason Cullinane and others lent a hand.

The larger project was getting the airport lights back up and running. Mitch spearheaded this project from start to finish. He found the contractor to direct-bury the power lines around the runway and do a "mole shot" under the middle of the runway to get power to the other side. This all started on a Wednesday and was done by Thursday afternoon. In the meantime, Mitch had purchased all the materials to make our own runway lights. These are similar to the old, existing lights, but much improved. Plastic had to be cut, holes drilled and electrical connections made. Mitch enlisted the help of Bob Bisbee, Pete Dooley, Rae Willis, Rick Brown, Rich Desmond and Bob Brann, among others.

Thank you to all who gave so generously of your time, and please forgive any name omissions.

Randy Simon



Departing: Goodbye to Peter & Carol Anderson.

Arriving: David and Janet Prybla, 27 Quimby, 10-26-2012. Welcome to our new neighbors!

Australian Vacation

February/March/April 2012

Last spring we travelled in Australia (Oz) for two months. On a previous trip we had visited sites in the Eastern half of the continent. This time we toured Tasmania and Western Australia. Our friends from Perth, Roy and Robin Green, met us in Melbourne for our tour of Tasmania, the island south of Melbourne. We were graduate students with Roy at Toronto in 1957. We then flew to Perth, the capital of Western Australia and the San Francisco of Oz, and spent a week in Perth before touring the southwest wine country from Margaret River to Albany. On the way back, we had a farm stay at Chuckem Farm owned by Rob's sister Chris and her husband Bob who have 9,000 sheep. After another week in Perth we headed north to the Kimberly region of Western Australia in a camper van for an 11-day trip to Broome. On the way we visited Pinnacles National Park (NP), Kalbarri NP, Monkey Mia on Shark Bay where we had an exciting sunset sail on a catamaran, and Coral Bay where Olga snorkeled with manta rays and Peter snorkeled from a glass bottom boat. A two-day drive of 15 hours took us to our final destination, Broome. We were at Palm Grove Holiday Park on Cable Beach for two nights before dropping our camper van and flying to Kununurra (just west of Darwin) for a two-night stay at the Kimberly Grande. The next day we flew in an eight-seat Airvan to Purnululu NP for a tour of the Bungle Bungles, a spectacular geological formation, by 4-wheel drive and a three km hike to Cathedral Gorge. Finally we had a 13-day cruise on a small ship (14 passengers) along the northwestern shore of Oz in the Kimberly back to Broome. Our ship had its own helicopter for aerial views of the

striking gorges and waterfalls. We flew back to Melbourne for an overnight stay at the airport hotel before catching our international flight via Sydney and San Francisco to Boston.

Olga and Peter Mitchell

Pilot Humor

ATC: 'Al Italia 345 continue taxi to 26L South via Tango - check for workers along taxiway.'

Al Italia 345: 'Roger, Taxi 26 Left via Tango. Workers checked, all are working.'

Lost student pilot: 'Unknown airport with Cessna 150 circling overhead, please identify yourself.'

Beech Baron: Uh, ATC, verify you want me to taxi in front of the 747.

ATC: Yeah, it's OK. He's not hungry.

Student Pilot: 'I'm lost; I'm over a big lake and heading toward the big "E."'

Controller: 'Make several 90 degree turns so I can identify you on radar.'

(short pause)... Controller: 'Okay then.'

That big lake is the Atlantic Ocean. Suggest you turn to the big "W" immediately.'

Controller: 'USA353 contact Cleveland Center 135.60. (pause)

Controller: 'USA353 contact Cleveland Center 135.60!' (pause)

Controller: 'USA353 you're just like my wife you never listen!'

Pilot: 'Center, this is USA553, maybe if you called her by the right name you'd get a better response!'

Foreign Pilot Trainee: 'Tower, please speak slowly, I am a baby in English and lonely in the cockpit.'

Submitted by Olga Mitchell

FAHA Memorial Project

The memorial committee, which at the moment includes Roger McDowell and me, was tasked with creating and building a memorial for all those residents of the Airpark that have “gone west” (aviation language for those who have passed on). The committee conceived the design, built the memorial and put together the administrative structure for on-going maintenance of the monument and procedures to honor those “gone west.” The vast majority of this work has already been completed. The work of the committee to date has been completely funded by donations. Most of these donations came from Kevin Clancy (a pilot himself, and local realtor who has represented a number of homes here in the Airpark). We are extremely grateful to Kevin for his generosity and forethought to see this project come to fruition. There have been some anonymous contributions as well.

At the recently concluded annual meeting, Sue Shaw graciously asked about the names that were to go on the face of the monument. We were very glad she did, because this is the most critical work yet to be accomplished. We don't believe everyone is even aware that this endeavor exists. We hope this article can correct that oversight immediately.

To complete the memorial we require a bronze plaque (which would hold individual tags for each of the deceased), benches that would flank the stonework, landscaping to enhance the current site, and possibly other features that would help create a place where people can relax and reflect upon past friends who are no longer with us while enjoying the runway environment at the same time.

All donations made now will be used for the bronze plaque (the most expensive and expressive part of the monument). New committee members, or even just ideas, to make all this come true are always welcome. A memorial committee fund does already exist within the FAHA budget process. Individual or even group contributions toward making the completion of this project a reality are greatly sought and appreciated. Know that the funds will be used for this, and nothing else. All labor is free, and the committee seeks to maximize the value of all donations made.

Please consider making a contribution as soon as possible to the memorial fund. This can be given to our treasurer (Rae Willis) or either committee member (who will then pass it on to Rae).

If every lot owner in the association gave as little as \$50, the monument would be complete, and have much greater and more meaningful impact on our community. In the spirit of cooperation, the committee will NOT, we repeat, will NOT put any restriction on the maximum donation allowed.

On behalf of the memorial committee, we thank you in advance for your thoughtfulness.

Pete Dooley, Roger McDowell
FAHA Memorial Committee

Best Wishes

Best wishes to Olga Mitchell for a full recovery following hip injury. She's been in rehab and working hard toward that goal.