



**AVGAS**  
**The Official Newsletter**  
**Of The**  
**NANAIMO FLYING CLUB**  
January, 2006

**Executive is:**

President: Doug. Sowden  
Vice President: Chris McLean  
Treasurer: Joyce Clark  
Secretary: Galt Dunford  
Directors:  
Howard French-Building  
Alex Galt – Parking  
Peter Kroupa – Wherever needed  
John Hubbard – Membership  
Frank Benven – Fuel  
Social – Chris McLean

**Fly-In:** Dates have been set for June 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> of 2006 for our Fly-In. We are looking for ideas to enhance our successful fly-in, so if anyone has any ideas, please speak to one of your directors or bring it up at one of our next meetings. We are also looking for team leaders and volunteers to help put on this event. A few members alone cannot do it. It needs all of us participating, doing something, so please come on out and support this event.

**Remember,** *you only get out of a club what you put in. If you don't participate in club functions, don't complain.*

**Fuel:** Club has recently had a fuel dump and our cost at the pumps is \$1.05 per liter.

**Work Party:** We hope to have a work party at the Club in late February or early March, depending on weather to get a few odds and ends done around the clubhouse that need to be taken care of. If you get a call, come on out as I am sure we will be having a social hour afterwards. Howard French is our building and maintenance man again this year and he has a few projects in mind.

**Rust Remover:** One being held in Victoria at the Flying Club as this is being written. The local EAA Chapter will be holding a seminar on March 4<sup>th</sup> at the Nanaimo Flying Club. Please contact John Balogh at 250-741-1452. You need to reserve as seats are limited.

**Club Meetings:** Meetings will be held once a month on the **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday at 10 am** as per the wishes of the membership. Please come out and support your club. It was felt by many members that this is also a good social event. You own the club, so make use of it. At this time, there will be no meetings in July or August as it is hoped we will all be out flying.

Alex Galt will be looking at getting some Guest speakers or videos for the membership at upcoming meetings.

Our next meeting will be February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006, and there will be a Bar BQ of burgers held after the meeting at the clubhouse. Please email [lakelse@shaw.ca](mailto:lakelse@shaw.ca) to let me know if your attending so we know how much to buy.

**New Proposal From MOT:** All aircraft flying VFR with an encoder, will have to have their altimeter calibrated every two years. This is only a proposal at this time as reported by COPA. Estimated approx. cost might be \$100 - \$200.

**Fly-Outs:** Discussion was held at last meeting about organizing a fly-out for the club. There were a few suggestions made, such as Seattle – Museum or Langley Museum or Tillimook in Oregon or 108 Mile House for Golf/lunch or Vargas Island or Penticton as beach close by with hotel or Oliver and possibly Anaheim Lake. There will be more discussion to come.

**Advertising:** Any Company that wishes to advertise in the Avgas is

more than welcome. We will put your business card ad in for a \$5 donation to the flying club.

**Best Places to Fly:** Our President Doug Sowden thought that Oliver was a great place. He flew in a couple of years ago, and went to the Southwind motel to get a room. This hotel happened to be full as there was a regimental reunion being held there. Not to be discouraged, Doug asked if there was another motel in town, which there was. The Southwind manager was kind enough to get him a room there. As to how to get there, Doug asked about transportation, and the first hotel clerk told him to take her car as she did not need it. Doug said fine, he would use it, then bring in back within the hour, but the manager said “NO” keep it all weekend as she was very busy and would not be needing it. Doug thought this was quite fine and off he went. As he was checking in at the new motel, he happened to mention to the clerk, that this was a very hospitable town, and he explained about the car. To his surprise, the clerk said “ You take that car right back, and I will pick you up. If you are going to stay in my motel, you will use my car”. Fine by Doug. Off they went, and Doug and Adeline had the use of the motel car all weekend. What a great place Oliver is and it is so nice to find so many accommodating and friendly people around airports.

**Membership:** John Amy was accepted as a new member of our club and we say:

**WELCOME ABOARD JOHN**

Trust you will have a good time in our club and we look forward to seeing you at our different events.

**NFC Hangars Inc.** will be holding a meeting of their members on February 19<sup>th</sup> after the Club

meeting. Please attend if you are a member.

**Sinking Feeling:** We had the sinking of the 737 off Chemainus last weekend for a diving reef. Looks like approx. 14 airplanes and a couple of Helicopters took part. There was a bit of a briefing put on by John Amy at the Flying club for those from our field who took part. The frequency of 122.75 was used. Here are some pictures as taken by John Hubbard.



### **Qualicum:**

The Qualicum/Parksville Flying Club will be hosting the Airport Appreciation days again this year. More details will be printed as we find out about them.

### **Nanaimo Airport:**

Sounds like there are about 5 airplanes up for sale at our airport at the present time and approx. 10 have been sold and moved off the

airport in the last year. With rising costs it is getting harder for general aviation owners to keep up. Perhaps more social events might be the ticket at the club and a lot more hangar flying.

**Christmas Party:** Was a blast again this year. Not as big a turnout as in previous years, but those that did attend enjoyed themselves with a great Turkey and Ham dinner and Potluck. Our President cooked the Turkey/Ham; Chris and Linda McLean decorated the club. As usual, the gift exchange brought quite a few laughs and there was a lot of "stealing of presents" done as usual in the flying club way of doing things. It was a very enjoyable evening with the fireplace burning and a good way to wind up the year with "wine, women (and men) and song". We look forward to next year's event.

**Security:** Due to some fuel thefts late last year, it was felt that perhaps we should purchase some cameras to put up along with some motion sensor lights for our outside parking areas. This is being looked into and if and when they are purchased, we will put them up at one of our work parties. If you see someone around the airport or a strange car by the club, or out of place, note the licence plate number and give to a director of the club so we can keep on file in case we need it. Don't ever confront someone, just get descriptions and licence numbers, and let the RCMP do their job. We all have to look after one another and do our best to keep costs in line.

Weather will be picking up, should be good flying soon.

Remember, if you are going flying, and you see someone sitting around the club, ask them if they would like to go for a ride. You never know what your fellow

members will be like unless you meet and greet them. We all belong to the club because of a interest in flying.

**AVIATION HISTORY:** By *Tim Yates: Retired Air Traffic Controller*

I don't know if it was hanging around the airport yesterday, but I started reflecting on aviation history. The story of Charles Tate came to mind.

During the twenties when it became apparent the airplane was more than a fad, many people got on the band wagon, making solo flights, and some, manufacturing new equipment. This of course carried on to present day, but somewhere in there, Charles Tate began manufacturing instruments and particularly navigation instruments such as the compass.

For some reason, his compasses could suddenly become unreliable (I wonder if Amelia Earhart and "Wrong Way Corrigan" had them). Well, they didn't last. People needed reliable equipment and the Charles Tate Company didn't survive. However, they did give birth to the phrase: "He who has a Tate's is lost".

***MAY THE CLOUDS BE ABOVE YOU, AND THE GROUND BELOW, PLENTY OF FUEL IN THE TANKS AND WIDE OPEN SPACES TO ENJOY YOURSELF FOR MONTH'S & MONTH'S!***

**PLEASE SUPPORT ONE OF THESE FINE FIRMS WHO SUPPORT YOUR CLUB:**