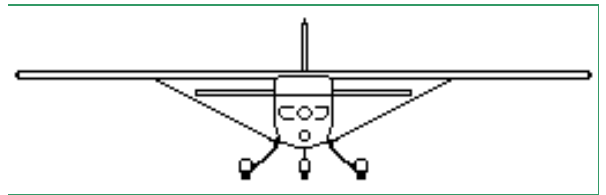


# MAC News



The Mansfield Aviation Club Monthly Newsletter  
P. O. Box 1471 Mansfield, OH 44901  
WEB Page: <http://www.mfd-aero.org>

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## FEBRUARY MEETING

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On Saturday, March 1st, our members met at the KMFD Terminal Conference Room. Meeting minutes can be found on the Web Site!  
*Margaret Halter*



## Co-pilot's Corner

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*This is a great story!  
Thanks Ron.....*

### My Johnstown PA Trip!

It was one of those Sunday mornings..... in August of 1967. One that pilots dream about, as the previous day a light front had passed through the area and had erased every cloud in the sky.

I called my friend Denny who wanted to visit his parents in Johnstown PA. I picked him up at the Ashland airport in my 1946 Ecoupe 2122H.

Having charted a course the night before we wasted no time in lifting off in to the cloudless morning, I was looking forward to seeing for the first time the Appalachian Mountain Range.

Within an hour we were passing the Ohio River and before long I was dropping altitude trying to see the check points as the sun boiled the moisture out of hills.

I told Denny we best land or go back as the plane or the pilot did not have an IFR rating.

Denny said we were over RT 30 and there was an airport ahead (not charted). Within a few minutes a field appeared with one plane off to the side, at this point I said to myself if he can make it, I can make it.

The wheels touched down and the grasses started rubbing the bottom of the wings and my judgment came into question.

Close examination showed that the plane on the ground had bellied in and the wing struts stuck through the wing tops.

Eventually blue sky appeared and one short field take off run was attempted stopping a few feet short of a building.

While waiting for the clearing

skies we noticed a large number of cars passing down the road marked Dead End.

Stopping one of the passing cars we found that a Drag Strip was having opening day festivities.

We quickly made our way to the drag strip control a tower (without paying) and explained our predicament.

Permission was granted if we can get the plane through a 20 ft gate we can take off on the newly paved drag strip.

With Denny checking the clearances we threaded the Ecoupe between mail boxes with only inches to spare for half a mile to racers gate.

I was able enlist the help of ten men consisting of drivers and pit crews, I explained that we could turn the plane sideways and slip one wing though the gate then pull it to one side and get the other wing inside too.

Gently we lifted the plane and slipped it though the gate and we then took our place in line with the race cars and waved to the crowd as we passed.

The announcer explained our predicament to the crowd and we were instructed not to go until all the racing lights were all green.

To cheers of the crowd the Ecoupe soon lifted off on its way to Johnstown.

The return trip was uneventful.

**Ron Dapper**

## TREASURER'S REPORT

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The January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2007 Check Book Balance was \$7,666.75. Deposits totaled \$46.42 for 2008 dues & GFS 1% bonus for 2007. Expenditures totaled \$330.13 for Stamps, Memorials, doughnuts and 2007 award. The Check Book balance at February 29th, 2008 was \$7,383.04. \$3,415.00 of this amount is restricted for the Garden of Heroes Fund.

Dennis J Atkeson,  
Treasurer

## E-MAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED

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We have approximately one-half of all members e-mail addresses. Some members may not have an e-mail address but if you have one and you will share it with Mansfield Aviation Club it will cut down on postage for the newsletter and other correspondence. Just send it to oldeagle@neo.rr.com or mail it to MAC, P. O. Box 1471, Mansfield OH 44901.

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## MERFI

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MERFI will hold a planning meeting April 5<sup>th</sup> at the Flyboy's Café, at 10:30am. Please plan on attending!

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## AIRPORT OPERATIONS

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### FLY MORE!

More airport news to be reported at the April 5<sup>th</sup> MAC meeting.

Mark Dougherty,  
Operations Manager

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## MAC WEBSITE TIPS

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Have you ever thrown away the monthly MAC Newsletter when you were through reading it – only to realize later, that you needed something you saw in it like an event or phone number or e-mail address? The MAC monthly Newsletter can always be found on the MAC WEBSITE at <http://www.mfd-aero.org/>. The current month's newsletter can be accessed from our home page (it's located in the left hand column). Back issues of the newsletters, going back to March 2000, are stored on the website as well. You can access the list of back

issues by clicking on the "Back Issues of our Newsletter" link, located on the left column of our home page.

Mike Broderick, Webmaster

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## COMING EVENTS

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**April 5 – MAC Monthly Meeting**

**May 3 – MAC Monthly Meeting**

**May ?? – Let's have a fly-out**

**May 31 – Memorial Day Picnic**

**June 7 – MAC Monthly Meeting**

**June ?? – Annual Pancake Breakfast**

**July 5 – MAC Monthly Meeting**



## PRAYERS-

**For a speedy recovery!**

**MAC member Bob Hamilton's wife (Anna Lou) took a nasty spill and is recovering at home.**

**For safe Flight for all pilots going to Fun-in Sun!**