



September **RUNWAY 15** 2014 EDITION

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Inside this issue:

CALENDAR	2
AIRCRAFT FOR SALE	3
FUEL PRICE CHART	3
FLIGHT SCHOOL	3
AIRPORT TEAM	4
AIRPORT CONTACTS	4

IMPORTANT NOTICE

LOCAL TOWER TO OPEN OCTOBER 1, 2014! NOT HERE

Recently, there was a meeting at FAA air traffic control at IAH regarding the opening of the TME (Houston Executive) air traffic control tower. In attendance besides myself, was AOPA, Sports Flyer Airport Pilots, Waller County Aviation Museum Representative, TME management, and FAA officials including ATC, Airspace, Airports, FSDO and upper management.

Special points of interest:

- AEROVILLAS PAGE 3
- AOPA MEETING PAGE 2
- FAA SAFETY MEETING
- CHL CLASS PAGE 2
- CAF MUSEUM PAGE 2

Since TME is funding the construction and operation of the tower, that part of it is a "done deal" But Airspace configuration is a another situation.

The "fact finding" meeting was organized to get interested parties input into the TME towered airspace configuration.

The proposed airspace for TME excluded a pie shaped area to the northwest large enough for Sport Flyer's pilots to fly in and out from the northwest and not have to contact the tower.

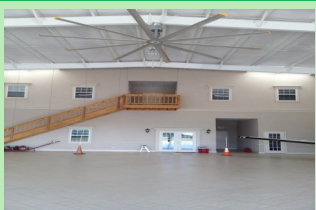
There was a discussion about the ceiling of the proposed class D airspace which was one of IWS concerns. FAA got a lot of input and it was "agreed" at the meeting that a 1900', ceiling same as David Wayne Hooks Airport, would allow for aircraft climbing or descending into IWS and other airports.

Next concern was over the "VFR Corridor" which runs "ease to west" or "west to east" depending on the way you are flying. FAA denied that there was ever a "VFR Corridor" along I-10. FAA said they do not use that terminology.

From SAT (San Antonio) to LCH (Lake Charles) along I-10, a VFR pilot flying at 1900' or below does not have to call ATC for anything. This is a major "flyway" for those pilots. The fact that FAA would deny this route to these pilots is absurd but as the saying goes "it ain't over until the fat lady sings."

Certainly TME is going to grow just as the community grows, but to place such a burden on flyers using I-10 is out of line at this time. Squeezing VFR pilots over Gloster airport where there is tremendous parachuting activity is by all means unacceptable and unsafe. With the very few operations (take off and landings) that TME has it is obvious that such a position cannot be sustained.

But this is the most important part of the meeting for us all to think about. I asked FAA officials what regulatory power that the TME control tower personnel will have over flyers and the answer was "same as other towers, whether FAA or private." Then I asked if there could be a letter wavier of violation issued which would for a period of a least 18 months, not violate pilots transiting the TME airspace in violation of the requirements to have and maintain two-way communication with the tower (FAR 91.126). Sort of a grace period. The FAA overruled my suggestion, but not without some opposing viewpoints from Lance Little and Paul Downs both with the local FSDO office. Mr. Little said he was inundated with investigations dealing with "pilot deviations" and that the TME airspace issues would only make it worse. Downs chimed in in support of his cohort. I was very pleased with their position but there came the real important "kicker". FAA made the firm and unwavering statement that had been passed down from higher up, that pilot deviations of any kind would result in investigations! Wow! You sure can learn a lot from "informal" meetings.



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Summary:

- 1) TME will be opening tower October 1, 2014 so be aware of the Tower Controllers and their regulatory powers and FAR 91.126 which requires two way communication with ATC tower in their airspace.
- 2) IWS will need your help when the FAA sends out its proposed "Notice of Rulemaking" regarding the TME airspace. It will be within the next few months, and knowing FAA, everything will be back on the table so we will need your comments in favor of the 1900' ceiling, preserving the VFR corridor, and other unnecessary airspace configurations. (cont. page 3)

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SEPTEMBER DATES

Labor day - 1

Patriot Day - 11

First day of Fall - 23



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SPECIAL EVENTS



FAA HOTLINE: 1-866-TELL-FAA

September

RUNWAY 15

2014

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

PREFLIGHT Breakfast

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PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL

Next Class starts October 6, 2014. Each Class is stand alone come for one or all. Every Monday Evening, 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., West Houston Airport. No prior reservations needed. **Licensed Jeppesen Video Presentation!** Bring a family member for *half-price*. Don't miss this new and exciting learning experience! Contact C. G. "Hank" Henry, Chief Pilot, 281-492-2130.

INSTRUMENT PILOT GROUND SCHOOL

CLASS STARTS September 2 2014, 10 week course 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m., West Houston Airport. Call for details Licensed Jeppesen Video Presentation! Contact Hank Henry, Chief Pilot, for information, 281-492-2130.

FAA SAFETY MEETING

Fourth (4th) Tuesday 7:00p -9:00p 2nd Floor Observatory. **2013 Accident Review for the Houston Region presented by the FAA.** email carolav8@att.net.

99'S MEETING

Second (2nd) Tuesday Every Month, 7:00 p.m., **Summer Salad, Guest speakers Bland and Sally Chamberlain; "YOU CAN RECOVER"** Terminal Building, 2nd Floor. Women's Organization of Pilots, Men welcome! Contact Sophie Thibodeaux 281-391-2958. See website www.ninety-nines.org.

AOPA MEETING: Wyndham Houston West, 14703 Park Row Blvd. "Real World Weather."

COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE (CAF)

Museum open first and third Saturday of the month 10am-3pm. Meetings 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2:00 p.m., Hangar B-5. Memberships available. Call for tours. Contact 281-579-2131 or email info@houstonwing.org, www.houstonwing.org.

EAA CHAPTER 774 MEETING

Third (3rd) Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m. Terminal Building 2nd floor. For Meeting Information and Announcements Contact Rick Human 281-463-6769. Great Meetings! Large Turnouts! Join Today.

GHAFI SEMINAR (Greater Houston Association of Flight Instructors)

GHAFI quarterly Seminar October 18. Questions or comments contact Carol Brackley at carolav8@att.net, or visit website: www.ghafi.org

Texas Concealed Handgun License Class

NEXT CLASS September 6, 9-3 New 4 Hour Class plus range time, West Houston Airport, Terminal - Upstairs, 18000 Groschke Road, Houston, TX 77094. Class includes: lunch, classroom, shooting range (indoor range in the area), instruction and all paperwork. Loaner guns available at no extra charge. First time shooters taught how to shoot at no extra charge. You can bring your own ammo (50 rounds) or buy from me for \$20. Cost is \$90. For Reservations call or email (ktwinkle@hal-pc.org) Kevin Winkle 713-252-7006.

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1981 Cessna T210N: Low time, low engine

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1968 Piper Dakota: Loaded and Beautiful.

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* With quantity discount

(continued) TME's ultimate goal is to have the longest Houston Runway, The tallest control tower, the largest covered parking area and the most jets of any airport.

If IWS could find a "sugar daddy" like TME's airport Manager has, it would certainly bolster my belief in miracles. What a way to go!

Woody Lesikar , Airport Manager

Thinking About The Advantages Of Flying At An Airport With A Control Tower?

- 1) FAA STAFFED Towers. Personnel have regulatory authority! Usually unhappy people!
- 2) ATIS, Clearance Delivery, Ground control, Tower... What else to slow you down and cost you money!
- 3) No real enhanced safety with a tower. There are no statistics available to prove that airports with control towers are safer than those without.
- 4) Pilots are more complacent when operating in class D airspace with an operating control tower.
- 5) Pilot deviations most likely in class D airspace will they give you a break?
- 6) "I need a Special VFR" - Standby!
- 7) A tower helps with bird problems.
- 8) "Towers are absolutely necessary" said one corporate flight department chief pilot who learned to fly at an airport with one!
- 9) "We will only land at airports with at least 5000' runway and a control tower." this statement comes directly from a corporate "flight department policy manual." Does this policy manual really reflect the utility of GA Aircraft?
- 10) Towers – "An unfortunate ending to an otherwise perfect flight!" - Professional Pilot

Woody Lesikar, Airport Manager

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Air West Interiors	Upholstery	Hangar #1 White East 281-398-3821	www.airwestinterior.com
J & S Detailing (Since 1991)	Aircraft Detailing	On Site 832-202-4198	www.jsaircraftdetailing.com
Dr. Victor Arellano (Baron Pilot)	FAA Medicals (by appt. only)	15410 Ridge Park Dr. 281-855-2244(o)	www.tmauc.com
		Houston, Tx 77095 281-460-2247(m)	

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AIRPORT CONTACTS: 281-492-2130 Fax: 281-492-7028

WOODY LESIKAR, Director of Aviation, Airport Manager, Available 24/7; woody@westhoustonairport.com

SHELLY LESIKAR deZEVALLOS, Corporate Officer, Ext 203; shelly@westhoustonairport.com

STACY LESIKAR-MARTIN, Corporate Officer, Business Promotion, stacy@westhoustonairport.com

RICH WHITNEY, Compliance and Safety Officer, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm Mon thru Fri;

rich@westhoustonairport.com*****

DON EUTON, AOPA Airport Representative, 281-391-7310, doeche@consolidated.net - volunteer

BOBBY JACKSON, President & Mayor Emeritus, West Houston Airport Subdivision Owners Association, Inc.,

bobbyj5471@sbcglobal.net - volunteer

KARL MEDCALF, West Houston Airport IT Support, karl.medcalf@yahoo.com

IWS SUPPORT TEAM:

RENEE STRIPLING, Corporate Officer, Accounting

Manager, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm Mon thru Fri;

renee@westhoustonairport.com *****

OLIVIA WATKINS, Customer Service Representative*

KRISTEN GIBSON, Customer Service Representative

AMANDA ATENCIO, Customer Service Representative

COURTNEY NICKELS, Customer Service Representative

C.G. "HANK" HENRY, Chief Pilot, 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Mon. thru Fri; hank@westhoustonairport.com * x37

JERRY ALLEN, Certified Flight Instructor**

CHRIS LANGSTON, Certified Flight Instructor

KEVIN LEATHERWOOD, Certified Flight Instructor

RYAN TAYLOR, Certified Flight Instructor

PHILLIP KMIEC, Chief Mechanic**

SAM TURK, Grounds Maintenance**

*Indicates years employed

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ron@westhoustonairport.com *

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shift; blake@westhoustonairport.com**

ERIK DITTMAR, Lead Line Supervisor, 3rd Shift**

RONNIE BOLES, Linecrew Technician***

MATTHEW RUIZ, Linecrew Technician***

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TOBY COOKE, Line Technician

DARON CASTILLOW, Linecrew Technician

MICHAEL FAIA, Line crew Technician

All comments, complaints, and suggestions are welcome please send to:

**Woody Lesikar, Airport Manager,
281-492-2130**

woody@westhoustonairport.com * www.westhoustonairport.com