Chapter 85 has a new executive this year. Heidi Bekker replaced Bruce Prior as Secretary and Gerard Van Dijk and Cyril Henderson moved over to Directors positions. Peter Whittaker has thankfully agreed to continue on as Vice President and Tom will look after the finances again. We do not have a program chairman this year. The rest of the executive stays the same.

We have had a binding offer on the Turbi. An RAA member from Manitoba made us an offer of $3500.00. Dave Rose managed to bagain our way up to $3900 but that was as far as the gentleman was able to go. A vote was held at the January meeting and after some debate the membership agreed to allow the sale to go through. It was somewhat bittersweet as the Turbi has been our signature aircraft for many years and it will be sad to see her go.

The chapter will benefit from the funds received to purchase the aircraft. The prospective purchaser will come to pick up the aircraft. After some debate the membership agreed to allow the sale to go ahead.

Bruce Prior was at the January meeting Behrouz Azadeh, an air traffic controller from Boundary Bay Control Tower, came to the chapter meeting to talk about ATC procedure in the Boundary Bay area. He summarized the services that ATC will provide to pilots in this area. The talk was very informative and the speaker very knowledgeable.

In February, Mark Garner reviewed some of the aircraft tracking websites of interest to pilots. Paul Harris from the Pacific Flying club came to speak in March about safety procedures for VFR pilots. Ray Maxwell from the Vancouver Soaring Association is coming to speak in April.

At the February Meeting the Executive of Chapter 85 confirmed that it was in agreement that the chapter will host the 2014 Annual Fly-in to be held on June 28 and the April Pancake Breakfast.

The Annual Awards Banquet was held at the Delta Town and Country Hotel. The award winners were as follows; Most Valuable Member: Yours truly, Woman of the Year: Terry Johnston, Ira Jamieson; Tom Boulanger, Peter Chick Trophy: George Gregory, Old Frank Trophy: John Macready, Craftsmanship, Helmut Gebens, Aircraft Restoration: Eric Munzer, Safe Flying: Sean Walker, Murphy’s Law: Texas Constantine, Broken Prop: Mark ter Keurs. Mitch Sokalski spoke about Parks Planning. Ron and Lynn Zelleschuk presented a slide show about their flying exploits to Central America. The food and venue was excellent as usual. Thanks to the Delta Town and Country Staff who make us welcome annually.

Bruce Prior Wins the Lifetime Member Award

This past year the executive of Chapter 85 decided to change the description of Honorary Member to the Lifetime Member category in our constitution. This was voted and approved by the membership as an amendment to our constitution. The new membership description reads the following:

“A lifetime member shall be any person nominated by the membership and approved by the Executive Committee. “The duration of lifetime membership shall be for life.”

The recipient for this new membership category is Bruce Prior who has been involved with the RAA and Chapter 85 since its inception. He has served in most if not all executive positions and he is undoubtedly one the most capable, and inspiring chapter members we have ever had. He is an individual of diversified talent. An electrical engineer by profession he has served in the Navy as a Medical Technician. He has a self unencumbered by the routine activities of his membership and will be missed on the executive.

Bruce Prior has retired from RAA Executive since its inception. He has served in most if not all executive positions and he is undoubtedly one the most capable, and inspiring chapter members we have ever had. He is an individual of diversified talent. An electrical engineer by profession he has served in the Navy as a Medical Technician, and worked as a senior manager at BC Hydro. He is conversant in computer programming and versatile in the use of information technology. He is an accomplished pilot and aircraft restoration hobbyist.

Bruce has done virtually everything you can do in the RAA, occupied most executive positions, been involved in most if not all of the major projects and activities and for years was very active as a member of the Delta Airpark Committee (DAPCOM) as the Secretary and Treasurer and facilitating the transition of the airpark to its present status.

Most recently Bruce served on our executive committee as Custodian and later Secretary of the Chapter where in both cases he was innovative and inspiring never ceasing to amaze us with his knowledge of the issues and the history of the airpark. He was a pleasure to work with and will be missed on the executive.

Bruce Has retired from RAA Executive this year. We think it’s a well deserved retirement.

He has indicated to us he will follow our activities and provide us with his help when we ask for it.

In that respect we hope he enjoys himself unencumbered by the routine activities of chapter life.

Chapter 85 was honored to be bestowed this award on Bruce and thank him for his contribution over the years. Congratulations, Bruce!

Old Frank Trophy: John Macready, Craftsmanship, Helmut Gebens, Aircraft Restoration: Eric Munzer, Safe Flying: Sean Walker, Murphy’s Law: Texas Constantine, Broken Prop: Mark ter Keurs. Mitch Sokalski spoke about Parks Planning. Ron and Lynn Zelleschuk presented a slide show about their flying exploits to Central America. The food and venue was excellent as usual. Thanks to the Delta Town and Country Staff who make us welcome annually.

January - February 2014

Aircraft Survey Results

Summary

Survey results from the “Yes or No” questions indicate that there is strong support within the membership to purchase a club aircraft. Members would be willing to either rent or buy block time and help with maintenance. Either a tail or nose-wheel aircraft would be acceptable with a maximum cost of $25,000 and there is strong interest in helping with maintenance. There is no interest in a certified aircraft.

Introduction

A survey was prepared by Dave Rose (Aircraft Chairman) to determine if there was sufficient interest amongst the membership to support the purchase of a club aircraft. This aircraft is intended to be a replacement for the previous club aircraft which was damaged in a landing mishap and has been sold.

Seven questions were prepared to investigate firstly, if there was interest in pursuing an aircraft purchase and secondly, what the features of that aircraft should be. This first draft was reviewed by all members of the survey for consideration by the membership. The survey was circulated at the March 4th, 2014 general meeting held at the clubhouse at Delta Heritage Airpark.

Survey Results

Four of the questions involved “Yes or No” answers and these are discussed first. They are followed by three multiple choice questions and they are discussed individually. Completed data for all questions is given at the end of the article.

“Yes or No” Questions

Question 1: The Chapter Executive is considering buying an aircraft for the use of its members. Do you agree with this idea?

There were a total of 23 respondents to this question which represents almost half (48%) of the total membership of 48 paid members for 2014 to date. Eighteen out of 23 members indicated that there is strong support within the membership to purchase a club aircraft.
Tuesday, the 7th day of January, 2014

Attendance: Approximately 25 members attended. Some Executive Committee members attending included: Heidi Beikker, Tom Boulanger, George Gregier, Cyril Hender, Peter Langen, Max Macdonald, David Marsden, Hugo Regier, Peter Whitaker, Dave Rose and Gerard van Dijk.

Call to Order: At 21:00 by President John.

Minutes: Motion Rob and Bruce Prior that the Minutes of the 7th day of January 2014 General Meeting be adopted. Carried.

Visitors: Dan O’Hara introduced himself. He is building a wood home built aircraft and came to the meeting to see what is going on the chapter which could help with his project.

Communications: None

Tonight’s Program: Behrouz Azadeh, a licensed commercial pilot, has worked as an Air Traffic Controller for Bayport air for the last 12 years. Behrouz gave a presentation on Bayport procedures and provided an overview of the services that ATC will provide to fellow pilots.

Thank you to Behrouz who took the time to explain the procedures and answered many questions from the members.

Financial Report:

Tom reported that currently the RAAC has $37,000 in the bank. The majority of this money is held in a certificate of deposit for $4000 so far, and has spent $1800, bringing the total to approximately $5800.

Old Business

Executive Members, John introduced Heidi Beikker as the Secretary, along with Cyril Hender and Gerard Vandy as the new Directors for 2014. John thanked outgoing executive members: Todd Kinnear, Peter Klein, Bruce Prior, and Raymond Colley. Thank you to all incoming executives. The RAAC is still in need of a Program Chairman.

Update on Turbi sale: Dave Rose has advertised the sale of the Turbi through the distribution of posters to local airports, and has posted the sale on four different websites; one of the websites being Barnstormers. So far, there has been interest from two potential buyers, one in Chilliwack and one in Washington. The buyer from the Chilliwack did not proceed, but we are still awaiting proceeds from the prospect in Washington.

Transportation Safety Board Investigation on the Turbi:

Currently, we are still waiting for results from the forensic lab in Ontario. Update on Texas Constables: Texas is recovering from his accident and is in Toronto. Texas appreciates all the help that was given for his rescue and the recovery and disposal of his aircraft. Texas thanks the RAAC for investigating the cause of the accident and submitting the report for publication.

New Business

Skylark Project: by Dave Marsden and Dave Rose: Dave Marsden updated the members on the status of the Skylark. Currently, the fuselage has been painted with primer to avoid corrosion, and is in the process of being put together. One wing needs to be taken apart and reved, then painted with primer. Currently, there are three people working on the project along with Dave Marsden the owner.

The executive is currently evaluating costs and skills required of pulling the kit together, to see if project is suitable for the RAAC.

The decision will be made in the end of January. John encourages all members to come out to the workshop to gain some knowledge and experience on the project.

Question asked by member: There is a work schedule created for the project aircraft?

No set schedule has been made at this time, please contact either Dave Marsden or Dave Rose for further information.

Bob Lalonde expressed concerns about the length of time the potential project would be in the workshop.

John confirmed that the RAAC might extend the use of the workshop for the Skylark, if the project is suitable for a Chapter project. The decision to extend the time the workshop is continued is dependent on the chapter approving the Project or not.

Question from member: Are we intending to use this material for a chapter aircraft? The chapter has not made a decision about this. Dave Marsden has offered the Yellow Skylark for use as a temporary club aircraft. This may increase the cost of operation of the aircraft as it requires insurance before it can be used. There will be training implications for members.

For those who are interested, there is a link for more information on Dova Skylark aircraft (courtesy of Wikipedia): http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dove_OVA_1_Skylark

Committee Reports

Secretary: Heidi thanks all members for inviting her to be the new secretary for 2014. The chapter also appreciates Heidi’s efforts on their behalf.

Membership: Dave Marsden reports that membership fees are due by this year. So far, we have 17 members to date. Hanger and Workshop: John de Visser was out of town for this meeting – no update.

Custodian: Hugo Regier addressed the clubhouse issues of getting rid of the excess books that rentily belong to the members. Members have until the end of the month to take any unwanted books, which they will be donated to the Langley museum next month.

Vice-President: Peter Whitaker has reported the completion of the accident report document. This will be published in the next Tour and Business section and will appear in the Recreational Flyer Magazine.

A reminder was given to the members about the upcoming Awards banquet at Delta Town and Country Inn, being held in the first week of March 2014. There will be awards presented, and a guest speaker will be still considered for the event. Members are reminded to think about who they want to nominate for an award.

Aircraft: Dave Rose provided a report to the members about the sale of the Turbi. See above for further.

DAPCOM: Tom is the new representative for DAPCOM. The Embry House will be renovated this summer. Tress at the threshold of 07 may be cut down before summer. Hanger rates are currently being looked at and compared with how much rates against pricing in airports across the country.

DAPCOM is investigating the installation of navway lights. Also, the in the coffee shop is in need of repair.

RAAC National: Dave Marsden had nothing to report. Some members complained that it is difficult to contact RAAC Canada to purchase or renew a national membership. Members are encouraged to contact the national toll free phone number 1-800-387-1028. Gary Wolf is the National President of RAAC.

Newsletter: George Gregier confirmed that we have a Turn and Bank prepared for this month, which will be ready in a couple of days. The article by Peter Whitaker concerning the investigation of the Zenith 401 accident will be published in the Recreational Flyer this month. This is a major accomplishment for Peter Whitaker for submitting the article to and George Gregier for publishing it. The investigation committee confirmed a problem with the distributor caused it to fail after takeoff resulting in a stall and crash landing.

Programs: No Program Chairman to date. The club is in need of a Program Chairman.

COPA: Gary Pears advised that there was no meeting for January, as it would have been held on New Year’s Day. Gary, an avionics expert, reported a recently discovered design flaw found in the American 406 ELT. If the battery in the ELT is below 3 volts, it may go off. Gary recommends Skyhander as a reliable brand for the 406 ELT.

Announcements:

- RAAC Sponsored Breakfast on Sunday January 12, 2014
- Workshop Seminar TBA, on a Saturday before Feb 1
- Hugo reported on his current project of building a belt cramp device to create a adjustable leading edge on the stabilizer of his aircraft; the controlling cable goes to the cockpit. The fuselage on his aircraft has been completed recently and will be powered by a Suzuki or Subaru engine.

Optional Outline for 2014:

- More focus on a busy year for Chapter 85.
- There are a number of important Events and Projects on the agenda.
- Some initiatives:
  - The application for renewal of the Airport License agreement
  - The development of a budget for 2014
  - RAAC Canada and our relationship with DAPCOM
  - A membership survey to determine your interests and needs.

Survey 1 continued from page 1.

which gives a strong mandate to proceed.

COPA: The 100-200-300 survey indicated a willingness to help with aircraft maintenance at least one day per year. This is taken as a high level of interest and support from members.

Multiple-Choice Questions

Question 4: Should we purchase a tail wheel or nose wheel design?

- The Executive Management Seminar
- The Annual Awards Banquet for 2014 March
- A decision on an aircraft for the chapter
- The sale of the Turbi
- The decision on a major project for 2014
- Organization of a team to help David Marsden
- The Annual Fly in for Chapter 85
- The hot dog roast in August
- The November Remembrance Day Event
- The Christmas Party
- Four Pancake Breakfasts
- 10 monthly meetings
- 11 Executive meeting
- The election of a New Executive in October.

Awards and project require involvement of the members so if you are interested in becoming involved in one of these projects please let us know. January is the month when Membership Renewals are due. Please see Tom Boulanger to do this yourself or your funds or David Marsden to register your membership.

We still have some positions to fill in the executive. We don’t have a Program Chairman at present. Programs are a very important component to our meetings. If anyone is interested in filling that position please let us know.

Adjourn: Motion: Bob Lalonde and Eric Munroe that we adjourn. Carried. We did at 22:10. File: RAA/generalMeetingDayWithFrontstuff.doc

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Dave Rose, Aircraft Chairman