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Skyraider Sentinel

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Skyraider Aviation Welcomes New Club Members!

- Tom Beaver
- Justin Blackburn

This Month in Aviation History



F-15A Streak Eagle

January 16th, 1975... On this date, as part of its Operation Streak Eagle, the US Air Force set five new time-to-climb records with a specially modified F-15A. Departing from Grand Forks Air Force Base in North Dakota, the Streak Eagle reached heights of:

- 3,000m in 27.57 sec
- 6,000m in 39.33 sec.,
- 9,000m in 48.86 sec
- 12,000m in 59.38 sec.
- 15,000m in 1 min. 17.02 sec

In subsequent flights, the Streak Eagle reached an altitude of 98,425 feet in just 3 minutes 27.8 seconds and "coasted" to nearly 103,000 feet before descending.

By comparison... I once flew an Evektor SportStar to a height of 14,000 feet in about 30 minutes. In all fairness though... I wasn't trying to break any records.

"Instead of our drab slogging forth and back to the fishing boats, there's a reason to life! We can lift ourselves out of ignorance, we can find ourselves as creatures of excellence and intelligence and skill. We can be free! We can learn to fly!"

— Richard Bach, 'Jonathan Livingston Seagull,' 1970.

Skyraider Aviation Teams up to Promote Sport Aviation

From Thursday through Sunday January 24 - 27th, Skyraider Aviation joined forces with *Moore Airtime* and *Free as a Bird, Inc* to promote Sport Aviation at the International Sportsman's Expo at the Denver Convention Center. We were not quite sure what to expect, exhibiting at what was essentially a hunting and fishing show. But with *Moore Airtime's* LSA Trike at the booth, we could not help but draw a crowd! For four days we could barely get a break as we explained the many benefits of the new Sport Pilot License to people who had always wanted to fly, but thought it was too difficult or expensive. It proved to be an excellent opportunity to get the word out!

New Hangar

After months of anticipation, Skyraider Aviation has finally moved into its new home... a shiny new heated and lighted 50' x 50' hangar! While our offices are still located in the airport's main terminal building, our "fleet" is finally all under one roof. Our club members are already enjoying the luxury of conducting pre-flight inspections in the comfort and warmth of the new space, despite the freezing temps outside!

SportStar Update

As January comes to a close, we are happy to report significant progress in the repairs of N617EV. All the required parts arrived more or less on schedule, and the bulk of repairs were completed as of this writing. With just a little more work to be done, we're expecting our SportStar to be back in the air by mid-February!

Renowned Author Speaks at Club Meeting

On January 15th, Skyraider Aviation enthusiastically welcomed author and seasoned aviator, Reggie Paulk to our monthly club meeting. Reggie spoke to a crowd of 25 about his recently published article in *Sport Aviation Magazine* entitled, "In-flight Judgment Explained - Making Wise Decisions". Reggie offered sage words of advice on what to do when things don't go exactly as expected in the air. Thanks Reggie!

In the News...

Skyraider Aviation made it into the local paper! While the article won't necessarily be in the running for a Pulitzer Prize, and it wasn't necessarily factually accurate, it was free publicity. You can read it here:
<http://www.coloradahometownnews.com/erie-review/top-story.asp?ID=2291>