

Skyraider Sentinel

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Skyraider Aviation Welcomes New Club Member!

- Brian Garrett
- Mark Howard
- Justin Kash
- Lloyd Lawrence
- Ed Norris
- Ed Orsini
- Jon Pickett

This Month in Aviation History



Illustration of Garnerin's historic parachute descent

October 22nd, 1797...
On this date, André-Jacques Garnerin, the inventor of the modern frameless parachute made the first human parachute descent. Garnerin, used a hydrogen filled balloon to lift himself to a height of 2,300 feet above Parc Monceau in Paris. After releasing the balloon, he floated to the ground under a silk canopy, landing uninjured before an admiring crowd.

A quarter century later, Garnerin died in a construction accident. He was hit by a beam.

"It is as though we have grown wings, which thanks to Providence, we have learnt to control."

— Louis Blériot, 'Atlantic Monoplanes of tomorrow.'

New Sport Pilot

Some 71 year old guys take up hobbies like golf or fishing. Others, like **John Masslich** crave something a bit more exciting... like flying. On October 30th, John became Skyraider Aviation's newest sport pilot after passing the flight portion of his practical test. John had completed the oral portion of the test several days earlier, but weather forced the flight portion to be pushed back. Everything came together on the 30th, and John was able to wrap things up without any trouble. Good job, John! Congratulations!



New Sport Pilot, John Masslich (R) gets a congratulatory handshake from his flight instructor, Dennis Moss (L)

Open House

On Saturday, October 25th Skyraider Aviation hosted an Open House and Sport Pilot/Light Sport Aircraft Exhibition. Over 100 visitors took advantage of the beautiful autumn day to come out and see a collection of light

sport aircraft, and to find out more about sport aviation.

On display were Skyraider's fleet of three LSAs, as well as a Flight Design CT, a StingSport, a Kitfox, a J-3 Cub, and an Aeronca Champ. By presenting everything from home built, to factory built Light Sport Aircraft, as well as a couple classic aircraft that meet the LSA criteria, our guests were able to see a wide range of aircraft that can be flown by sport pilots.

In addition to a spectacular array of aircraft, our visitors were able to sit in on several information sessions covering topics such as learning to fly, aircraft ownership, and the sport pilot/light sport aircraft regulations. Our instructors and staff were on hand to answer any questions, and by the end of the day I think we were all a little hoarse from talking so much!

With burgers and other barbeque fare being served up by the *Friends of Erie Airport*, the event had a fun, festive atmosphere. We look forward to hosting similar events in the future!

Well it's about time!

After being in business for nearly two years, I've finally gotten around to getting my Sport Pilot Instructor ticket. Now in addition to doing all those other things small business owners normally do, I'll be doing some flight instructing. So if you call, and there's no one there to pick up the phone... it's probably because I'm up flying! Leave a message, and I'll get back to you.