

Training – A New Training Coordinator

Well, you have probably already guessed from the title above that “change is in the wind”. As we all have learned over the years, change can often be a good thing and I believe this time it definitely will be that way. We have been doing this job for three years now, and think it is time for a new (and hopefully better) set of eyes to infuse it with some new thinking. Doing the “Training Coordinator” function has been fun, and actually quite rewarding. Yes, it takes a little time, but it is time spent helping the club.

Now let’s move to “the change”. **Alan Fry** has volunteered to take over this function. What impressed us about Alan is the way he immediately and enthusiastically volunteered. He didn’t hesitate or hedge or anything. We knew Alan before, many years ago, in the work environment. He did a great job. So let’s all welcome Alan and support him as he takes over the role of CVA Training Coordinator. We will hear from him in this space next month.

And so the “theme” of this, our final sermon is about volunteering to help the club. Don’t stop reading! Think first what would happen if no one volunteered to do anything other than fly. Think of how the grass would quickly grow knee-high. Think of how the bills would not be paid. Think of how events we know and love would cease to exist. There would be no training (yes we have four current members who have given hours and hours to the training of new pilots...and there were others before them). There would be fewer new members to enjoy the sport and hopefully help with the work. The Mall Show would stop. Generating the donations we give to charity would cease as would the associated events. Now think of all the things our club President does for the club (if you don’t know, come to some meetings).....and our Vice President, and Secretary and Treasurer. Look who does much of the behind-the-scenes work in running many of our major events...driving all the way from Norfolk to do it. Think about the work done by another of our key members, also from over in Norfolk, in putting out the “Pilot Talk” each month for years. Think about the effort it takes to be the club “Web Master”. Think about the volunteers (some not flying anymore) who found the land and made the deal to use it, who put down drain pipe and graded the dirt, and seeded and physically “made” the nice runway we now enjoy. And there is more, much more, and other people who help. Thanks to all of them our club stays active and respected in the area and respected by AMA. And it is thanks to them, as well as many others who came before them, that we even have a flying field at all. We should all stop and think about what these volunteers have done and are doing for us, and we should ask “what can I do for the club”? During the past three years we have talked in this column about many “fun” and interesting things, and perhaps the theme of the column this month is not about “fun things” but it is surely an important thing for the well-being of the club. One of the things we have noticed at the CVA monthly meetings is how many people suddenly have an interest in staring at the floor when our President asks for a volunteer! Lesser men would just say “the heck with it”. Of course, there are also those who don’t even come to the meetings!! End of sermon!

Again please welcome Alan Fry as he takes over this post and if you get a chance thank him for doing it. In fact, why not thank all of the club members who volunteer for us. They deserve it.

And so for the last time... remember to try something new each time you fly (and remember to volunteer to do something for CVA).

Steve Klute

Outgoing Training Coordinator