

CFO East Coast Flyin – Lancaster, PA, August 11, 2007

Norman Freed – '75 RG



2007 turned out to be one of the best years yet for the annual CFO East Coast flyin. Unlike the previous five years where Al and I were on the phone every few hours trying to determine go or no-go, the weather was forecast as CAVU for the entire day.

I left my home base of White Plains, NY (KHPN) in severe clear to arrive at Lancaster at 8:00am. Other than a low cloud deck to my North, I know this was going to be an excellent day.



Well, almost. Soon after my arrival, one of the first planes to enter the pattern was that of Richard Benson. Unfortunately, he was not able to deploy the nose gear on his '78 RG. After several attempts to lower the gear, he opted to divert to Latrobe, PA (KLLB) so as

not to close the runway for our event. Congratulations to Richard who performed a successful emergency landing without the nose gear deployed.

“What happened to cause the incident was a failure of the turnbuckle holding the left clamshell door. The threads separated and the turnbuckle came into two pieces held only by the safety wire. We assume this occurred on engine start-up or taxi before our departure because the clamshell door felt normal during the pre-flight. When we took off, the clamshell door blew closed and the gear then retracted, jamming the clamshell into the gear well. – Richard Benson”

I wish a speedy recovery for his plane..

Al Hubler had already set up the Shoo-fly pies and coffee and was setting up the tables and chairs by the time I arrived. Sal Lagonia and his wife Loretta arrived to assist in hanging all of the signs and posters around the ramp and terminal. Al and I then began to place the water bottles on the ramp.

Soon after, more and more guests began to arrive. Tom Saxon in his beautifully painted '76 FG arrived and immediately volunteered to staff (his now permanent position) at the sign-in desk.

Duane Allen volunteered to assist parking the planes as well as taking pictures (most displayed in this write-up).

Once again it was a lot of fun listening on the tower frequency when every other phrase was “...follow the Cardinal”! Aircraft started arriving from all over the Northeast. Matt Wickham flew the furthest distance from Wooster, OH (KBJJ, 259nm) and Paul Landis had an exhausting trip from Smoketown, PA (S37, 6.5 nm). Al, Norm and Duane greeted as many arrivals as possible with the now traditional Cardinal red carpet. Duane was from the farthest location, Pleasant Hill, CA, but he cheated and arrived via commercial airlines (no red carpet for him ;-).

Once people signed-in and received their name tags, goodie bags, 2007 flyin pencils and ballots, they started walking the ramp, renewing old acquaintances and making new ones. Every model Cardinal was represented except the 72 RG. New paint, old paint, new glass, old glass, new avionics, old avionics and mods, mods, mods – they were all here. Members talking with other members. Questions, questions, questions. That’s what this is all about. It was a great opportunity to look, see and learn about our Cardinals. This year we added “Tower Tours” which many people attended. FYI: Most towers will allow you to visit based on their staffing and work load. Just give them a call on ground frequency and they’ll let you know their availability.

Lunch was served at Noon in the main terminal. Our buffet lunch of Penne pastas, bread, salad, dessert and more was catered by Fiorentino's restaurant. Yummy.

After lunch we held drawings for our door prizes. Unfortunately, I was still parking planes so I did not record the names of all of our winners. I have listed names wherever possible: (Memo to Norm – Next year assign a volunteer recorder).

Door Prize	Winner
Dynamic Prop Balance (2) Donated by Sensenich Propeller (on field)	
VFR Transponder Check (2) Donated by Lancaster Avionics	Mike O'Neill Michael Jones
50%-off Coupon for GAMInjectors Donated by Tornado Alley	Bruce Baer
One year subscription to Trade-A-Plane (3) Donated by Trade-A-Plane	Sharon Santacroce
One year subscription to Atlantic Flyer (3) Donated by Atlantic Flyer	Brian McManus Jim Minetti Sam Mazza
20 Minute Helicopter tour of Lancaster County Donated by Dutch Country Helicopters	Frank Podgwaite
Demo Ride in a new LSA	Margaret Leber



Balloting was not completed before lunch so the results were tallied after the event and the winners published and notified by email. The following were the winners of a \$20 gift certificate from the Airways Pilot Shop (Joe Pilot) located on field:

Three-way tie for “Best Exterior”:
 Jack Dobi - ‘77FG N19880
 Dick Dagle - ‘73FG N34542

Tom Saxon - '76FG N478TC



Best Interior:

Sharon Santacroce - '75FG N35076



Most Deserving:
Larry Petro - '77RG N52073



Don't be upset Larry, I won that dubious honor two years ago due to paint (you too). Now my plane is being painted and, after speaking with you, found out that you are the next plane to go into the shop after mine is complete. Next year you and I will compete for Best Exterior!

Our special thanks to Airway's Pilot shop, who gave all CFO-ers a 50 cent per gallon discount (\$4.29) on fuel.

During lunch more planes began to arrive so pilots could participate in the Wings seminar – "Airport Signs and Markings" presented by my co-host, Al Hubler. Al had the audience glued to their seats (clever of him) when reviewing this information that is critical for preventing runway incursions. Rules and procedures were reviewed including what to do at an ILS Critical Area hold sign, LAHSO procedures and defining movement and non-movement areas. Al also presented the new enhanced taxiway markings. A general question and answer period wrapped-up the session. All attendees were given credit for attending this Wings seminar.



“Thank you, Al and Norm, for all the work that you did to make yesterday's fly-in a great success. I enjoyed the event, especially meeting old and new friends, looking at our Cardinals, and learning from Al's talk. I don't know how good my long term memory is, but I felt like a pro as I taxied to the VOR check point and then to RWY31 for takeoff! – Larry Petro”

Back outside after the seminar to walk the ramp one last time. Did you know that Phil Boyer was a secret admirer? Phil and his wife arrived unannounced and just “happened” on our flyin...

“Geez ... I had no idea what my wife and I were flying into ... And when we got near the airport on a lazy Saturday afternoon we knew it wasn't a normal day at KLNS.

What a great event, and sorry I was not aware earlier of it ... But you caught me and my wife in one of the few times we can get out together in our own plane and just be regular \$4.50 a gallon avgas "burners". We hadn't been to the restaurant there for sometime and decided it would be neat to have lunch there and go through the PILOT SHOP - I am a pilot shop "junkie".

Thanks for letting us just be regular people and not singling me out.

--Phil “

Next year Phil will be on the official invite list. I did try to have the AOPA “Catch-A-Cardinal” sweepstakes plane at the event, but it had an iron-clad appointment at the interior shop in Oklahoma and was not available. Maybe we could get AOPA to refurbish an RG next year.

After a little more walking of the ramp, people began to depart for home. After six month's of planning, it's difficult to see it end. One by one the planes departed, all

sounding a little more professional thanks to Al's review of radio techniques during his seminar.

By 4:30, most of the planes were gone. Al and I gathered all of our supplies, returned the tables and chairs and said our goodbyes, for now.

We will start planning the 2008 event in February or March of next year and are always open for suggestions. What did you like? What did you dislike? What should we add to the event? Drop us a note and let us know.

Thank you to the 100 people and 60 aircraft that attended and a huge "thank you" to my co-host, Al Hubler, without whom people would be signing-in while leaning on the fence, be very thirsty and hungry (or else standing up while eating) and would not have the opportunity to attend a professionally presented Wings seminar on "Airport Signs and Markings". Next year we'll be bigger and better. Safe flying to all.

Norman '75 RG norman.freed@verizonbusiness.com
(and Al) '75 FG BMWTimPilot@aol.com

Attendee Comments:

"Love to help plan next years Lancaster fly-in. Call me at any time. I would love to have a door prize for every cardinal that came! John F. Pilkins, Jr."

"Had a great time at the fly-in! Make sure the weather is as good next year! Great job organizing and look forward to seeing you next year. - Sharon Santacroce"

"As always, you guys pulled off another superb CFO event. Thanks for your hard work. I had a great time there, and I enjoy helping out. - Tom Saxon"

"Just a note of thanks for the excellent effort you all put forth in creating a very, very successful fly-in. This was my first in Lancaster, although I have been trying for 3 years. A seemingly effortless event is always precluded by hours and hours of advance work and believe me, it showed. I am hereby challenging you to deliver as beautiful a day for next year's event. See if you can get Mother Nature on board one more time.

One other point. Please thank the tower controllers for handling the onslaught of Cardinals with great coordination and professionalism. It didn't go unnoticed. - Jim Minetti"

"I just wanted to take a minute to let you know how much I enjoyed attending the fly-in yesterday. I got a chance to talk with many Cardinal owners and put a few faces with names that I have seen on the CFO website or in the Digest. The food was great and the safety presentation that Al gave on airport signs and markings was outstanding, very well done Al! Of course we cannot forget the hospitality of the airport management at LNS.

The event was very well coordinated, obviously the result of a great deal of hard work by Norm and Al and many other volunteers. If I can be of assistance for next year's event I would be more than happy to fly up early (since I live so close). Just let me know. Speaking of assistance, I don't know how the event was funded and I didn't see anything regarding registration fees or donations. If I can help the cause with a donation please let me know. Thanks again for a great time. - Rick Garner”

[Norm’s note: The flyin is funded by the money we collect for the buffet lunch. It covers all of our costs. Any left-over funds are donated to CFO.]

