

April

2017 Edition

RUNWAY 15

Save An Airport
Quiet Flying
is good business!



WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT

GOT AVIATION NEWS: Send to Stacy@westhoustonairport.com tips, comments, events, suggestions, articles, or letters to the editor.



HOU FAA CHIEF MISLEADING LOCAL PILOTS

WOODY LESIKAR
OPINION

Jay Wilkins, the local FAA chief recently appeared before a pilot group at West Houston Airport. He spoke about the kinder gentler FAA and dodged all the substantive questions. He was unable to assure locals that the examiner shortage would soon be rectified. Other important issues that he shirks are those related to the backlog of approvals for various certificates, check rides, and much more. But Wilkins is a long time federal employee who admitted he is biding his time to retirement, and looking forward to getting away. He is the ultimate seat warmer, the do nothing unless

forced to administrator. Like his cohorts who have been at the FAA too long, he needs a new direction, maybe the swinging door.

In the fifty five years that I have worked with local FAA personnel, I have seen many different individuals and personalities. You could say they were the Good, Bad and the Ugly. During this time, there were some really well meaning souls, but in the minority.

Today the GA pilot plane owner is the enemy in the eyes of FAA. As everyone knows, our Congress had to pass legislation to force FAA to enact and implement certain long overdue changes in the way the FAA operates. And it had to do it over and over. This was partly Obama's fault and more so the FAA's pushback of anything new proposed by outside entities.

When visiting FAA in Washington early this month, I saw first hand the ineptitude of non-pilots making decisions that adversely affect us

FAA continued page 3

Cessna 172 Analog gets new equipment!

By James Wurman

Our rental fleet is coming to the inevitable ADS-B table. After Dec 31, 2019, if an aircraft that fly's in

controlled air-space will be required to have either UAT 978 DA-

TA OUT or ES/Extended Squitter capability.

FLIGHT INSTRUCTORS

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or call Hank at 281-492-2130



Well, as of last week, N945SA joined N624TA as 2020 ready! Last year, N624TA had it's transponder upgraded to ES(GTX330ES), meaning the aircraft transmits it's assigned code, plus S/N, ICAO CODE, speed, altitude, WAAS position, track heading along with other data parameters.

This information allows ATC, to create virtual radar using cell towers.

N945SA just kicked it up another notch with the addition of a Garmin GTN 650 and a Garmin GTX 345 ADSB/ES transponder. This

Analog continued page 3

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West Houston Airport Frequencies, AWOS: 125.575, (281) 579-9820

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RUNWAY 15

"As The Beacon Turns" CALENDAR OF EVENTS

APRIL

14 – Good Friday, 16 - Easter, 18 – Tax Day, 26 – Admin Prof Day

Quote: Pilot's Prayer:

When my flying days are over, And from this life I pass.....
I hope they bury me upside down, So the FAA can kiss my A__ !
Seen in a private hanger in Austin Texas Author Unknown

Trivia: Is the FAA allowed to Ramp Check at West Houston Airport (a privately owned and operated airport)?

A) No. B) When FAA thinks they can. C) At time of take off. D) When they flash a badge.

ANSWER A

PREFLIGHT Breakfast

Saturdays 7:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Pilots/Prospective Pilots Invited. Bring Your Plane!

PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL

Every Monday Evening, 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m., Class Starts April 10, 2017 West Houston Airport. No prior reservations needed. Licensed Jeppesen Video Presentation! Bring a family member for *half-price*. Start learning to fly today, don't procrastinate.

INSTRUMENT PILOT GROUND SCHOOL

Call for to sign up, 10 week course 7:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.. Licensed Jeppesen Video Presentation! Contact Stacy at stacy@westhoustonairprot.com to sign up for the Spring class!

FAA SAFETY MEETING

Fourth (4th) Tuesday 7:00pm-9:00pm April 25 will be The Weather Challenge presented by Pat Brown **FAASTeam requesting volunteers contact Carol Brackely @ carolav8@att.net**

99's MEETING

2nd Tuesday 7:00pm Contact Becky for more information Meetings International Organization of Women Pilots! Email Becky at nickellb01@att.net, website www.ninety-nines.org.

COMMEMORATIVE AIR FORCE (CAF)

Museum open first and third Saturday of the month 10am-3pm. Meetings 3rd Sunday of the Month at 2:00 p.m., Hangar B-5. Call for tours and flights at 936-697-3237 or the hangar at 281-579-2131 email info@houstonwing.org, **April 22, 23 Open House**

FLY MARKET (fly in for the Garage sale) April 22, 2017 10-5 and April 23 10-1

EAA CHAPTER 774 MEETING

Third (3rd) Thursday of the month 7:00 p.m. Terminal Building 2nd floor. For Meeting Information and Announcements Contact Rick Human 281-463-6769. Great Meetings! Join Today.

SUN 'n FUN is April 4-9, 2017

EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, July 24-30, 2017

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Fuel Price Comparison for the March 2017

JET A	High	Low	Avg
Southwest Region	6.95	2.20	3.94
West Houston Airport	3.94	2.94*	3.45
AVGAS (100LL)			
Southwest Region	8.33	3.20	4.46
West Houston Airport	4.93	4.40	4.66

*With Volume discount

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FOR RENT

CESSNA 172S, G1000/AIR,
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Analog continued page 1

means the new 345 is capable of transmitting ES data, to make ATC happy. But, better yet WEATHER and TRAFFIC are displayed on the GTN650.....But wait, there's more...Bluetooth connectivity to Garmin Pilot App and ForeFlight! That's right. Free weather /traffic on those pesky IPADS we all seem to be packing.

The powerful graphics of the GTN 650 are amazing, so you don't need your IPAD, but get

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Stacy or Woody



an APP anyway, to enhance your flying and more importantly your safety.

In N624TA, you will need to make use of your Stratus or GDL 39 to pump weather and traffic to your IPAD. The GTX330 does provide TIS-B traffic on the GNS530W.

FAA continued page 1

pilots. The absolute ignorance by these incompetents was so blatant that it seemed as though we, my daughter Shelly and I were not even in the meeting! Their decision making process was so flawed and they showed no concern for what we were there to accomplish. That swamp certainly needs to be drained!

Recently one of Wilkins henchmen was at the airport and introduced himself by flashing his badge. During his visit, a drone was seen flying over the end of runway 15, over Pine Forrest Country Club. I asked the inspector to take a look, at which he said that I would need to call the Sheriffs Department as they were the agency in charge of drones. Well, we know that statement to be false. And we know why he said it. These wannabe legends in their on minds officials should be

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fired for incompetence, malfeasance and derelict of duty. While standing around eating donuts and drinking our coffee, they would prefer to harass pilots and legitimate businesses by the use of random ramp checks, unwarranted invasion of critical areas and disregard of the fourth amendment to the Constitution. There needs to be a big broom taken to these incompetents.

Wilkins could do much more for our industry, but he is a chair warmer that only wants to pursue non-productive exchanges, including the black-mailing of industry and pilots trying to whip them in line.

The best place for Chief Wilkins is in Nome Alaska. I don't think he would be appreciated there either!

FAA MISSION STATEMENT:

We're not happy
Until you're not happy



RUNWAY 15

WEST HOUSTON AIRPORT TEAM

Aviation Businesses:

West Houston Airport (Since 1962)	Flight School, Pilot Supplies	Terminal Building	281-492-2130	www.westhoustonairport.com
Calkins Aero Service (Since 1985)	Maintenance and Repairs	Hangar #3 Brown East	281-579-6674	www.calkinsaero.com
General Avionics (Since 1995)	Avionics Sales and Service	Hangar #1 White East	281-647-9600	www.general-avionics.com
Sky Aircraft Interiors	Aircraft Upholstery	Hangar #1 White West	281-682-4454	
Fast Freddy Mobile Detail	Aircraft Detailing		281-330-9813	www.fastfreddymobiledetail.com
Dr. Victor Arellano (Pilot)	FAA Medicals (by appt. only)	15410 Ridge Park Dr., Houston, Tx 77095 281-855-2244(o) 281-460-2247(m) ww.tmauc.com		

Airport Based Non-Aviation Businesses

Lone Star Rod & Rifle	Purveyors of Fine Sporting Life Hangar B-1	281-829-3006	www.lonestarrodandrifle.com
A.I.C. Security	Total Security System Solutions Hangar B-3	888-242-9777	www.aic-security.com
REALMARK Design	Hangar and Hangar Home Construction Hangar G-4/5	713-389-0806	www.aerovilla.com
Herndon/Muncey	Plumbing Solutions (Investigative) Hangar D-1	281-579-0515	www.herndonmuncey.com



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AIRPORT CONTACTS: 281-492-2130 Fax: 281-492-7028

WOODY LESIKAR, Director of Aviation, Airport Manager, Available 24/7; woody@westhoustonairport.com
 SHELLY LESIKAR deZEVALLOS, Corporate Officer, shelly@westhoustonairport.com
 STACY LESIKAR-MARTIN, Corporate Officer, Business Promotion, stacy@westhoustonairport.com
 RICH WHITNEY, Compliance and Safety Officer, 7:30 am to 5:30 pm Mon thru Fri;
rich@westhoustonairport.com *****
 DON EUTON, AOPA Airport Representative, 281-391-7310, doeh@consolidated.net - volunteer
 BOBBY JACKSON, President & Mayor Emeritus, West Houston Airport Subdivision Owners Association, Inc.,
bobbyj5471@sbcglobal.net - volunteer

IWS SUPPORT TEAM:

RENEE STRIPLING, CFO

Accounting office open, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Mon thru Fri:
renee@westhoustonairport.com *****

COURTNEY NICKELL, Customer Service Representative**
 BECKY NICKELL, Customer Service Representative*
 CRYSTAL HOLL, Customer Service Representative
 TIFFANY GROVE, Customer Service Representative

C.G. "HANK" HENRY, Chief Pilot, 8:00 am to 5:30 pm

Mon. thru Fri; hank@westhoustonairport.com * x39
 JERRY ALLEN, Certified Flight Instructor**
 TYLER ROMACK, Certified Flight Instructor

PHILLIP KMEC, Chief Mechanic****
 SAM TURK, Grounds Maintenance*****
 RICK DELBOSQUE, Vehicle Maintenance
 JIM WACHS, Driver

*Indicates years employed

MIKE WHITE, Lead Line Supervisor, 1st Shift
mike@westhoustonairport.com *****

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Ronnie@westhoustonairport.com *****

RON THOMAS, Lead Line Supervisor, Weekend shift;
Ron@westhoustonairport.com****

ERIK DITTMAR, Lead Line Supervisor, 3rd Shift****

SEAN FRITSCH, Line Crew Technician****

MARK WHITNEY, Line Crew Technician***

TOBY COOKE, Line Crew Technician**

MARK TAMEZ, Line Crew Technician**

JOSE VILLATORO, Line Crew Technician*

JESSE GUTIERREZ, Line Crew Technician*

JAMES FENTON, Line Crew Technician*

THOMAS METZ, Line Crew Technician

CAMERON SATHNGAM, Line Crew Technician

All comments, complaints, and suggestions are welcome please send to:
Woody Lesikar, Airport Manager,
281-492-2130

woody@westhoustonairport.com * www.westhoustonairport.com