



The Monthly Flyer

Jan-Feb-Mar, 2025

Vol. 80 No. 1, 2, 3

SPECIAL EDITION — SEE PAGE 2

Annual Membership/Elections Meeting

That's right, this Thursday, March 20th, is the date for the club's annual elections meeting at the Coral Gables restaurant, **2838 E. Grand River** in East Lansing. Your pizza, salad, and soft drink tab are covered by the club. Order off the menu at your own expense.



Officers:

Larry Borton
President
Dick Best
Vice President
Steve Harsh
Treasurer
Stephen Colby
Secretary

Board of Directors:

Mark Coucke
Chet Dawson (2-year Term)
Dave Oxendale (2-year Term)
Todd Tarrant
John Yurkon

Bookkeeper/Membership Coordinator:

Dick Best
517-351-4675
517-285-6688

Maintenance Manager:

Chet Dawson
517-449-2182

Maintenance Assistant:

Steve Ballbach
517-331-4390

Newsletter Editor:

Dick Best

Our current officers are:

President-Larry Borton; Vice President- Dick Best
Treasurer-Steve Harsh; Secretary-Steve Colby

Board members Chet Dawson and Dave Oxendale are two-year term members and are not up for election. Normally we would be voting for the four officers and three board members, but this year there is a new twist. At the last board meeting, a motion was approved to increase the size of the board from five to seven members. According to club bylaws, in order to take effect, that decision must be approved by the membership. Therefore, before the vote for officers and board members, there will be a vote to approve or reject increasing the size of the board. Three board positions are currently held by Mark Coucke, Todd Tarrant and John Yurkon. We will vote for those three positions and possibly two more depending on the outcome of the board size vote, **All members are encouraged to consider running for any of the positions.** To have your name placed on the ballot, email dick@richard-best.com no later than Wednesday the 19th. Members Adlay Kejjan and John Barber have already thrown their hats in the ring

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, March 20th, 2025 6:00 PM (1800)
Coral Gables Banquet Room, East Lansing
All members encouraged to attend

SPECIAL Program After the Elections

“Garmin Autopilot and G5 Basics for VFR”



Dop you still find yourself relying on those old round steam gauges?

Member Jordan Cobb has put together an excellent multi media program to help you learn how to make the most of these very capable instruments and ease your transition. He's made this presentation several times already to very positive reviews. Don't miss it on the banquet room BIG TV.



From the Maintenance Crew

By Chet Dawson

Maintenance Report

March 15, 2025

Archer

The purchase of the new engine for the Archer is proceeding with Penn Yan. Penn Yan was the only engine source found that had a core to build. All of the other suppliers contacted required the removal of our current engine to ship-rebuild-ship back; a process requiring the airplane to down for six to ten weeks. Penn Yan will supply a new engine in approximately 22 weeks and AvFlight will swap the engines requiring a down time of three to seven days. The current engine will be watched carefully for signs of further wear. Oil changes will occur every 25 hours as opposed to every 50 hours.

New Club Member

Hi everyone! My name is **Bailey Colasanto**, and I'm an air traffic controller at LAN. I recently joined Olds Forge Flyers in February. My fiancée Sydney and I moved here with our golden retriever from Colorado in December 2022. We love camping, hiking, and anything outdoors! I'm currently working on my private pilot license and can't wait to hopefully fly with many of you!



Pilot's Tip of the Week

How to Think About Light Crosswinds

"I just became a part owner of a Cessna 182. When I was doing touch and goes in light winds with one of the other plane owners, he kept saying I was landing crooked and the wheels shouldn't chirp so much on landing. I've flown a 182 before and I know I wasn't looking diagonally across the nose. What gives?"—Francois B. Ryan Koch replies:

"Pilots often touch down a little sideways when winds are light because they're not in 'crosswind landing mode.' Similarly, variable wind direction is going to be a problem for a pilot who thinks in terms of using 'left crosswind technique' or 'right crosswind technique'.

Often, pilots describe a landing like this:

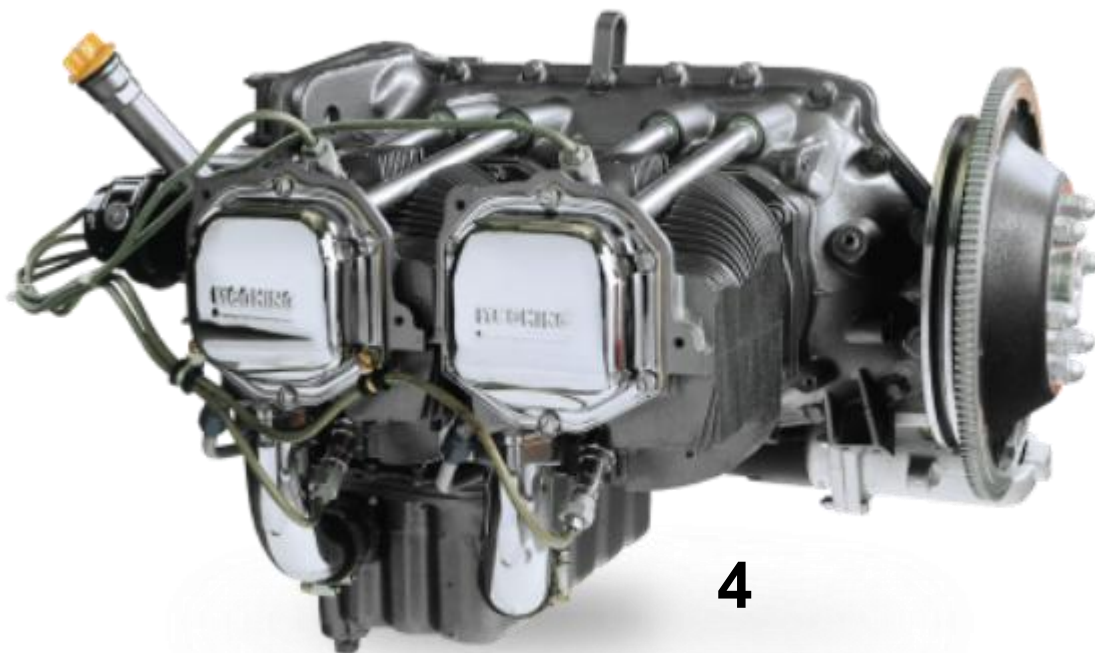
"I have a left crosswind, so I'll be using right rudder and left aileron, and touching down on the left main wheel first."

To me, that describes the result, not the technique. The proper technique on every landing is to use whatever rudder it takes to align the nose of the airplane with the centerline of the runway, and A it takes to control drift so the airplane itself stays over the center of the runway. Point the nose with your toes, and use the ailerons to move laterally to stay over the centerline. Use that technique on every landing, and good crosswind landings will follow.



This works when there's no wind, when winds are strong or variable, and for everything in between. After touchdown, position the ailerons fully into the wind—they should already be deflected that way as a result of the technique—and keep pointing straight down the centerline with the pedals.

A home simulator can be a great tool for practicing this. The controls won't feel the same, but the concepts are. You can get as many reps as you want in different wind conditions until the relationships between aileron, rudder, drift, and alignment become intuitive."



January 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

Olds Forge Flyers - Meeting Minutes

Date:	1/16/2025	Time:	17:30	Location:	AvFlight Conference Room
Board Member		Attended	Members / Guests		Member
Larry Borton - President		X	John Barber		X
Dick Best - Vice President		X	Steve Sherman		X
Steve Harsh - Treasurer		X	Karsen Raak		X
Steve Colby - Secretary		X	Jordan Cobb		X
Dave Oxendale (2 yr term)		X	Beverly Bonning		X
Mark Coucke		X	David Petrie		X
Chet Dawson (2 yr term)		X	Jeff Trommater		X
Todd Tarrant		X	Jeromie Golab		X
John Yurkon		X	Kenji Heikes		X
AGENDA AND DISCUSSION:					
1	Call to Order and Introductions: (President or Executive Member)				
	Meeting called to order by President Larry Borton at 5:30 pm.				
2	Additions to Agenda: (Board)				
	President's Comments - Thanks to Dick Best for the Olds Forge Flyer! Alex Taylor is now an available instructor for the Club. Larry mentioned the passing of a previous Club member from an aviation accident. Discussions ensued how to handle an emergency. Question regarding how to cancel the Smart Glide. Service from AvFlight - topic suggested by Mark Coucke.				
3	Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: (Colby)				
	December 2024 minutes submitted via e-mail by Steve Colby for Board review. Motion to approve the minutes by Chet Dawson, 2nd by Steve Harsh. Motion approved without opposition.				
4	Review and Approval of Treasurer's Report: (Harsh)				
	The year went well financially, the Club posted a net return of approximately \$14,000. Membership dues were higher than budgeted due to more new members. Some fixed costs were less in addition to reduced fuel costs. Some of the extra funds will be invested in CD's and some moved to other funds within the Club. Funds for engine replacements and airplane upgrades are at \$75,000. Other set asides are well funded. Mark Coucke expressed thanks to Steve Harsh for his exemplary efforts in keeping the Club financially stable. Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report by Steve Colby, 2nd by Dick Best. Motion approved without opposition. Looking ahead to FY2025, Steve Harsh has prepared a budget and is proposing keeping the dues and the aircraft rental rates that same. Anticipating that the club will have a net return of \$6k for 2025 with the budget proposal. Dick Best made a motion to accept the Treasurer's budget for 2025, 2nd by Mark Coucke. Motion approved without opposition.				
5	Maintenance Report & Hanger Items: (Dawson/Cobb)				
5a	Skyhawk - GPS is updated through January 23rd. Chet is starting the forward planning with Les for engine acquisition for the aircraft. Beverly mentioned that one of the cords in the Skyhawk does not fit the Tanis heater. Be sure you have a good connection if you plug it in.				
5b	Archer - GPS is updated through January 23rd. Member reports of the manual trim adjustment being sticky. Chet will have Les review it during the annual in February. Chet to look at it this weekend to see if the issue is temperature dependant (warmer weather this weekend). The wingspar AD is still being decided by the FAA. Stay tuned. We did have an eddy current inspection performed on our Archer a couple years ago and passed. Chet will talk to Randy regarding the ESP values on the Archer autopilot and the Autopilot having difficulties holding altitude.				
5c	Winter Procedures - Chet Dawson gave a review of the Tanis heaters and the need to use them in these colder temperatures. The cowl blankets and plugs should be on the airplanes when you finish your flight. AvFlight does not put in the cowl plugs nor the blanket on.				
5d	Maintenance Issues Coming Up - The Skyhawk annual starts next Tuesday (21st) and is scheduled in the system for three weeks (hoping it does not take that long). Chet will update the Scheduler as the annual nears completion. The Archer will follow the Skyhawk.				

January 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

5e	Motion to approve the Maintenance Report by John Yurkon, 2nd by Dave Oxendale. Motion approved without opposition.
6	Committee Reports - Membership
6a	Best - The Membership Committee interviewed Jeromie Golab and Kenji Heikes as prospective members. Dick Best made a motion to present Jeromie Golab as a new member, Mark Coucke seconded it. Motion approved with one nay due to the quantity of members at this time. Steve Colby made a motion to present Kenji Heikes as a new member, Chet Dawson seconded it. Motion approved with one nay due to the quantity of members at this time.
6b	Nominations For March Elections - Any person can run for any position in the Club. Please let Dick Best know if you are interested. The Elections Meeting will be at the Coral Gables Restaurant at 6:00pm.
7	Old Business:
7a	Badges - Please recall that your badge expires on your birthday! If your badge is expired and not returned within a period of time to the Badging Office, the club can be fined \$250 per badge. Going forward Dick is committing to be at all monthly Board meetings to sign badge applications. Be prepared to present two pieces of ID (A, B and C...see the Badging Office website for details) and a fee of \$22 when you visit the badging office. Please plan ahead and come to the Board meetings to get your badge form completed.
7b	Olds Forge Flyers Hats and Shirts - Dick contacted the apparel supplier and they are currently swamped. They will get back with Dick regarding pricing on jackets, hoodies, t-shirts, polo shirts and hats! Beverly asked if long sleeve shorts are an option. More to come....
7c	Maintenance Log Books - No update at this time.
7d	Constitution, By-Laws and Operating Regulations - Larry Borton verified if everyone received the email with this content.
8	New Business:
8a	March Program after Pizza and Elections - Suggestion for Jordan Cobb to present his Autopilot course. However, we have not always been isolated at the restaurant which makes presentations difficult. Dick will ask the Coral Gables if we can have an isolated room for our meeting.
8b	AvFlight Service - Mark Coucke presented concerns regarding priority from AvFlight. Snow removal was not conducted in a timely manner. Todd Tarrant related an experience that he recently had with the Archer. General discussion regarding the time it takes to refuel the aircraft. Make sure you plan ahead/call ahead when needing AvFlight's service.
8c	Next meeting will be February 20th at 5:30pm. All members are encouraged to attend.
9	Discussion Of Flying Experiences or Other:
	Frost and Ice - what is acceptable? Zero frost from the members is the consensus. Ensuing discussion regarding member's experiences with winter flying. Reminder from Jordan to disable the autopilot occasionally if you suspect icing.
10	Adjournment:
	President Larry Borton called for a motion to adjourn. Dick Best so moved, 2nd by Todd Tarrant. Motion approved without opposition. Meeting concluded at 6:59 pm.



February 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

Olds Forge Flyers - Meeting Minutes

Date:	2/20/2025	Time:	17:30	Location:	AvFlight Conference Room
Board Member		Attended	Members / Guests		Member
Larry Borton - President		X	Frank Eastman		X
Dick Best - Vice President		X	Steve Sherman		X
Steve Harsh - Treasurer		X	Karsen Raak		X
Steve Colby - Secretary		X	John Barber		X
Dave Oxendale (2 yr term)		X	Beverly Bonning		X
Mark Coucke		X	Dillon Bassett (guest)		X
Chet Dawson (2 yr term)		X	Bill Zuke		X
Todd Tarrant		X	Bailey Colasanto		X
John Yurkon		X	Kenji Heikes		X
AGENDA AND DISCUSSION:					
1	Call to Order and Introductions: (President or Executive Member)				
	Meeting called to order by President Larry Borton at 5:30 pm.				
2	Additions to Agenda: (Board)				
	None at this time.				
3	Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting: (Colby)				
	January 2025 minutes submitted via e-mail by Steve Colby for Board review. Motion to approve the minutes by Chet Dawson, 2nd by Todd Tarrant. Motion approved without opposition.				
4	Review and Approval of Treasurer's Report: (Harsh)				
	Steve Harsh has sent out the insurance forms. He has received six, 36 to be received. Please complete your form and return it to Steve H. as soon as possible. Archer annual was just less than \$2000 and the Skyhawk annual was just over \$2000. Both were under budget. Engine accumulated hours: Skyhawk is at 2800 hours, the topside was rebuilt at 2000 hours. Archer is just short of 2200 hours. The Archer engine fund is at \$36,000 and the Skyhawk is just under \$30,000. Todd Tarrant made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report for 2025, 2nd by Dick Best. Motion approved without opposition.				
5	Maintenance Report & Hanger Items: (Dawson/Cobb)				
5a	Archer - Annual Inspection complete. GPS is updated through March 20th. Oil change revealed metal debris in the oil filter and oil screen. It is time to initiate the purchase a replacement engine. The airplane is airworthy and another oil and filter change will happen in 25 hours. AvFlight is investigating new engine options for both aircraft. Chet Dawson has started researching engine options....timing varies from 6 months (PennYan) to 14 months. The pricing with new cylinders is \$39,245 (PennYan). Cost to install is appromimately \$5,500. There is also a core charge of \$16,000 for the existing engine. Chet is recommending we order the engine from PennYan. Steve Harsh suggested contacting Waterford for a competitive quote. Motion by Chet Dawson to order the engine for the Archer if alternate sources are not competitive, 2nd by Dick Best. Les is aware of the wing spar issue and is researching our options. Please leave the Archer's door unlocked when at KLAN or secure airports. The lock mechanism is worn out and will need replacement soon.				
5b	Skyhawk - Annual Inspection complete. Engine compression is good, and the oil filter was clean of metal. The new aluminum lower switch plate was installed (looks very nice!). The mechanics tightened up front strut assembly eliminating the shimmy (validated to 70 knots). GPS is updated through March 20th.				
5c	Motion to approve the Maintenance Report by Steve Harsh, 2nd by Mark Coucke. Motion approved without opposition.				
6	Committee Reports - Membership				
6a	Best - The Membership Committee interviewed (and recommends) Bailey Colasanto as a prospective member. Dick Best made a motion to present Bailey Colasanto as a new member, Chet Dawson seconded it. Dick Best call to question on the motion. Motion approved without opposition.				

February 2025 Board Meeting Minutes.

6b	Nominations For March Elections - Any person can run for any position in the Club. Please let Dick Best know if you are interested. The Elections Meeting will be at the Coral Gables Restaurant at 6:00pm.
7	Old Business:
7a	Badges - Please recall that your badge expires on your birthday! If your badge is expired and not returned within a period of time to the Badging Office, the club can be fined \$250 per badge. Going forward Dick is committing to be at all monthly Board meetings to sign badge applications. Be prepared to present two pieces of ID (A, B and C...see the Badging Office website for details) and a fee of \$22 when you visit the badging office. Please plan ahead and come to the Board meetings to get your badge form completed.
7b	Olds Forge Flyers Hats and Shirts - Dick has reached out to the vendor and has not heard back yet. Look for an update in the newsletter.
7c	March Program after Pizza and Elections - March 20th at 6:00pm at Coral Gables. We have a private room with a large screen TV reserved. This year we will have a salad and pizza. Hoping to have Jordan Cobb present his Archer autopilot material.
8	New Business:
8a	Insurance: Pilot History Forms to Steve Harsh before March 10th - Please return your form to Steve Harsh as soon as possible! This helps reduce our insurance costs.
8b	Number of Board Members - The question was asked if we wanted to increase the number of Board members. It would take a change to the Constitution. Discussion ensued to add two more Board members. Motion by John Yurkon to increase the Board by two members and to raise the quorum amount to six. 2nd by Chet Dawson. Steve Harsh called to question. Motion approved with two nays. This will be presented to the membership at the March meeting.
8c	Office Cleanup Crew - The office needs a clean up! Adlay Kejjan has volunteered to lead this effort. She is looking for assistance. Beverly Bonning and Steve Colby volunteered. Steve Harsh will provide a document detailing retention guidelines.
8d	Lack of email addresses in Sky Scheduler roster - JB, JC and AT. Steve Harsh will provide the email addresses to Larry Borton.
8e	Next Board meeting and all Membership meeting will be Thursday, March 20th at 6:00pm at Coral Gables. All members are encouraged to attend.
9	Discussion Of Flying Experiences or Other:
	Our planes are now stored in Hangers 2 and 3 (no longer 1 and 3). Larry posed the question: At what bank angle are you uncomfortable during your turn to final? Pilots that overshoot Final tend to steepen the bank angle to get back on Final. Larry was taught that if you overshoot Final, go around.
10	Adjournment:
	President Larry Borton called for a motion to adjourn. Dick Best so moved, 2nd by Todd Tarrant. Motion approved without opposition. Meeting concluded at 6:51 pm.



The Latest TSA Badging Procedures

Olds Forge Flyers has 3 designated signatories who can sign your **completed** application. They are Larry Borton, Dick Best and Steve Harsh. Get your blank application from the person you intend to have sign it so he doesn't have to repeatedly fill in his information. Blank applications can be emailed to you, but you must meet **in person** with your signatory to get it signed. We are now required to keep copies of signed applications so you'll have to sign where there's a copy machine (Club office!) or fill out two copies. Remember — you can apply up to 60 days before your badge expires on **your birthday**. Yes, that's right, the badge office has asked us to clarify when your badge expires: **on your actual birthday**, not the end of the month of your birthday. There is now a **\$22 renewal fee** for badge renewals. Signatories will be available to sign your app at any board meeting or scheduled event. Since you can apply up to 60 days before badge expiration, you will have two board meetings available for signing (**most convenient**) without having to make special arrangements to meet with a signatory. Signed applications are valid for 4 weeks.

OVERTIGHTENED OIL DIPSTICKS

AGAIN...Some members are overtightening the oil filler dipsticks; requiring pliers to loosen them to check the oil level. Tightening them until they are just snug is sufficient. The dipsticks have 'O' Ring seals which actually get distorted when overtightened which makes them less effective as seals.

CURRENT AIRCRAFT RATES

Although fuel costs have decreased, engine replacement costs have dramatically increased resulting in a July, 2024 board decision do keep aircraft rental rates at their present level. These rates were based on forecast costs and known consumption rates which treasurer Steve Harsh hopes will hold true for the year. These rates will remain in effect for 2025 or until further notice.

Skyhawk: \$100 / Hour Archer: \$110 / Hour

Olds Forge Flight Instructor Contact Information

Mark Coucke	517-719-9061	mdcoucke@gmail.com
Adlay Kejjan	517-899-0731	adlaykejjan@gmail.com
Karson Raak	616-914-2647	raak@crosswindsaviation.com
Alex Taylor	616-299-3389	taylo887@msu.edu
Patrick Dwyer	616-268-7933	patrickdwyer98@icloud.com
Bengt Jansson	859-630-3997	bjansson1228@gmail.com
Pete Kamarainen	517-281-3899	pete@grandairaviation.com
Fred Moore	517-230-7918	fredmoore48842@aol.com
Pam Tobin (Ground Instructor)	517-703-4273	airwomancfi@gmail.com

Monthly Hours Flown Report:

Skyhawk \$ 90 / hr. Archer \$ 105 / hr.

	2025	2024	2025	2024
Year-to-date				
Total (Jan)	1.2	4.6	10.7	0
February	9.1	13.7	5.4	25.5
TOTAL	10.3	18.3	16.1	25.5

COMBINED HOURS THROUGH FEBRUARY

2025: 26.4 2024: 43.8

We're off to a slower start than last year due largely to both planes having their annual inspections done. Reliably warmer weather will soon be here making pre-flight inspections more pleasant. So sharpen your skills and - **Let's go flying!!** March/April are great months to get your currency take offs and landings logged so you're ready to go for the rest of the summer. Fly up the west or east coast of Michigan along the shoreline. The spring green landscapes are especially vivid as the days get warmer. Beautiful from the air. The Grand Traverse Bay area is scenic in the spring. Many interesting flights to explore. Check out the dozens of scrapped 747's at Oscoda-Wurstwmith (OSC). It's a 2 mile long runway so land long if approaching from the west. Unfortunately, the Waco Kitchen Restaurant (wacokitchen.com) in the Waco airplane factory in Battle Creek (KBTL) is now closed indefinitely. Make a weekend out of an adventure to the Air Force Museum in Dayton Ohio. Sign up with socialflight.com for your customized weekly email listing of timely and interesting destinations. The kids will love **the full motion simulators** at the "Air Zoo" in Kalamazoo (KAZO). Open 9-5 Mon.-Sat, Noon-5 Sun. Check their web site. You can taxi right in to the museum's parking area. It's a surprisingly good museum that amazingly even has an SR-71. Traverse City (KTVG) has a courtesy car available. Many great restaurants. Grand Traverse Bay is beautiful from the air. In the U.P., there's the Soo Locks (ANJ), Pictured Rocks and Marquette (SAW). There's lots of great destinations and plenty of sightseeing in the mitten. And you can do it all from the air. You've got a pilot license—USE IT!!!

FLYING IS FUN!

Maintenance Summary

Maintenance Issues:

Notify Chet: 517-449-2182 chet777@comcast.net

Skyhawk: GPS updated.

Annual Due: 2/12/2022 Hours flown since last annual: 16.2

Archer: GPS updated

Annual Due: 3/12/2022 Hours flown since last annual: 7.8

USE Phillips 20W 50 OIL ALL YEAR!

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Thursday, March 20th, 2025 6:00 PM (1730)

Coral Gables Banquet Room, E. Lansing

All members encouraged to attend

Financial Report

OLDS FORGE FLYERS, INC

Profit & Loss Statement

January 1, 2025 - February 28, 2025

Archer Hr =	17	Skyhawk Hr =	10.3
		Actual	Budget

OPERATING INCOME:

Aircraft Income	\$2,691	\$2,900
Initiation Fees	\$2,850	\$1,900
Membership Dues	\$6,265	\$6,460
Interest	\$0	\$0
Other Misc. Income	\$14	\$0
	\$11,82	
TOTAL INCOME	0	\$11,260

OPERATING EXPENSES:

Variable Costs:

Improvements, Archer & Skyhawk	\$218	\$218
Engine Depletion, Archer	\$357	\$357
Engine Depletion, Skyhawk	\$201	\$201
Fuel, Archer	\$769	\$748
Fuel, Skyhawk	\$192	\$377
Misc fuel & Oil	\$0	\$1
Maintenance, Archer*	\$1,991	\$2,380
Maintenance, Skyhawk*	\$2,237	\$2,927
Maintenance, Other	\$0	\$239
Total Variable Cost	\$5,966	\$7,448

Fixed Costs:

Office and Service Fees	\$480	\$852
Operations Costs	\$6,983	\$8,325
Total Fixed Costs	\$7,463	\$9,177
Misc. Cost	\$0	\$300
	\$13,42	
TOTAL EXPENSES	9	\$16,925

NET OPERATING INCOME

	-\$1,609	-\$5,665
Contingency Fund (equity fees)	\$2,850	\$1,900
NET AFTER CONTIN. FUND	-\$4,459	-\$7,565

* Archer Annual (Budget = \$3,400; Actual = \$1,979)

* Skyhawk Annual (Budget = \$4,500; Actual = \$2,364)

