

## Blue Sky News!

Only six weeks left till SPRING!!! Hopefully much of the extreme cold has passed. Both **Ron Pinzker** and **Eric Shear** have been waiting for almost two months for decent weather to complete their checkrides. Instructor Scott has found just about every flying moving available on Netflix. Mike has been using his time to train for an Ironman race, (2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike and 26.2 mile run) on August 29<sup>th</sup> in Kentucky. Bruce and I have finished our basement. Nick has been busy looking for a Pitts. John has spent time with his grown kids, Clint and Lindsey. Kristen works a non flying job during the day, and Bill's job as fireman in Minooka keeps him busy no matter what the weather! All of us are looking forward to some consistent sunshine. ....In order to cut some office costs, the Blue Sky phone number is not a land line, but now routes to a cell phone, saving hundreds of dollars a year! I found that most people that needed to make a phone call would usually do so with their personal cell phone, so a land line at the office was hardly ever used. Another cost-saver is emailing the bills and newsletter. If you are interested in receiving your statement and/or newsletter in this way please let me know... every little bit helps! The credit card terminal went away with the phone line, so only cash or checks are accepted right now. I am looking into internet payment methods, but in the meantime mailing a check, or having one sent by your bank, would be the most convenient. The Arrow is gone most of February receiving its annual inspection and thereafter used for a trip by the owner. There are three people interested in sharing the Arrow and are looking for a fourth. Splitting the cost of the Arrow four ways would make an excellent way to own a great trip plane for a quarter of the cost! The plan would be to leave it on leaseback to allow the costs to further be shared by the renters, which paid for all of its costs last year. Interested? Please contact me for info [cindy@blueskyaero.com](mailto:cindy@blueskyaero.com) or 815-252-1031. Thanks!!

### Renter Corner

Want to get checked out in a different plane? Need a BFR? Want to check out the manual to one of the planes or do a weight and balance? For that and more, go to:

<http://www.blueskyaero.com/locked/members.htm>

The user ID and password to this page are at the bottom of your statement. Thanks!!

## WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE?

### “The Only Visible Damage Was a Dent...” (C-172 Pilot)

*I flew a rental plane from my home base...on a pleasure flight with a friend (also a pilot) as the only passenger...I landed on a turf runway, and taxied along the runway towards the parking area... As I approached the parking area, I moved slightly to the left of the centerline of the runway, setting up for a right turn farther down to park...As I continued taxiing, the plane suddenly had some sort of impact that forced it into a sharp 90-degree turn to the left, and it continued on a path straight towards the brush and trees that border the runway. I hit the brakes, but was not able to stop—perhaps slipping on the turf—before the nose of the plane entered just a little bit into the brush, with the prop chopping up small branches and splitting a small tree (approximately 3-inch diameter). The tree broke and fell sideways hitting the far leading edge of the left wing. Even though the plane had stopped, the engine continued to run until I stopped it by pulling the mixture knob... After pushing the plane back, we did a thorough inspection. The only visible damage was a dent on the far end of the leading edge of the wing, and flaps and ailerons functioned normally. The engine started normally, with all instruments in the proper range. I used power to park the plane alongside the other planes. No mechanical services were available. I then considered my options, in consultation with my pilot passenger....*

### What would you have done?

- Arrange alternate transportation back home
- Call the rental FBO and ask for help
- Fly the airplane back to home base
- ???

See what this pilot did: [www.blueskyaero.com/newsletters/2010/feb/nasa.pdf](http://www.blueskyaero.com/newsletters/2010/feb/nasa.pdf)

.What do you think he should have done?

Let me know! [cindy@blueskyaero.com](mailto:cindy@blueskyaero.com)



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