

Atlantic Aviators News

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Happy Holidays!

As 2010 draws to a close, the Atlantic Aviators are gearing up for a very busy and exciting 2011! This coming year we will be hosting our 5th Annual General Aviation Day on Saturday, May 21, 2011 from 10am to 3pm. Not to mention the continued fundraising and planning for the first ever aviation themed playground at the New Bedford Regional Airport!



The chapter has really come a long way and I am so happy and honored to work with the amazing people that make up our chapter! Visit our website – www.atlanticaviators.org and check us out! We'd love to have you join us and participate in our great year of fun! Maybe you could be featured in our Member Spotlight!

We wish you and yours a very happy and healthy holiday season! Best wishes for a prosperous 2011!

See you in the next edition!

Best,
Tammie Irwin
President



Member Spotlight – Emily Brown

At age eight, I took my first flight in a small plane in my uncle's Beech Baron. It was an IFR day, and I got sick to my stomach in the backseat when he went missed approach! Even though this event was slightly traumatizing, it only served to stimulate my all-consuming interest in aviation. To appease this obsession, my parents gave me three flight lessons for my sixteenth birthday. I took my first lesson at Clow International airport in the Chicago-land area, and was fortunate to have an experienced instructor Rodney Collins. He made me taxi, take-off, fly over my house, maneuver the Cessna 152 and land back at 1C5. I loved every second of it. Performing the necessary functions on the first flight gave me the courage to know that I could fly an aircraft. That same day, I told my instructor that I wanted to earn my Private Pilot's certificate. I didn't have the cash to pay for the training, so I began a part time job as a waitress. My parents supplemented my income, and I was able to complete a solo and a recreational pilot certificate before returning to high school in the fall. During the school year, I continued saving money from my job so that I could finish my private pilot certificate in the spring. I completed this goal in 2004, and was accepted to LeTourneau University.

At LeTourneau, I began as a Professional Flight student and accomplished my tail-wheel endorsement and instrument ground school during my freshman year. Shortly after I left Chicago for Texas, I got the news that my father had lung cancer. His cancer ended up being terminal, and I lost my dad that spring. Suddenly, I was faced with the inability to completely finance my education. I had earned large scholarships for national merit and great grades in high school, but I didn't have any funds for the additional costs of flying. I began applying to various scholarships and grants to be able to continue my education. I graciously received this help, and was able to complete another year of school without my father's financial help. Missing him and his ability to fix anything, I also pursued a different direction with my degree program. I transferred into the Flight Science major, which allowed me to complete my pilot certificates along with my A&P. Learning how to fix things,

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Help the Atlantic Aviators raise funds for the installation of a public playground at the New Bedford Regional Airport. Donate to the Playground Fund and maybe even earn cash back for you!

Shop through:

www.marketamerica.com/atlanticaviators

Scholarship Committee

The Atlantic Aviators Scholarship application is now available! We are eager to encourage women and men pursuing careers in aviation, science, technology, engineering or mathematics and have established a scholarship fund to that end. Applications are due by March 31, 2011 and can be downloaded from the chapter website at

www.atlanticaviators.org

Playground Fundraiser at the Airport Grille

On Sunday, November 14th from 1-4PM, the Atlantic Aviators hosted an afternoon at the Airport Grille to benefit the Aviation-Themed Playground Building Fund. Over 150 tickets to the event were sold. Airplane rides were offered to all guests in attendance, provided by Cape Air. Guests were taken up in Cessna 402s and brought for a scenic view of New Bedford and the surrounding area.

New Bedford Mayor Scott Lang stopped by to show his support for the group's efforts. Also in attendance were several members of the New Bedford Regional Airport Commission. Live music entertained guests in "the hangar", and was provided by Bill Santos. A piece of luggage from the playground's luggage climber was sold at the event. Door prizes were given to two lucky guests. All in all the event was a great success in order to kick off fundraising for the playground.



Member Spotlight (Cont.)

made me feel like I was continuing his legacy. I also obtained a job washing University aircraft at the airport. Eventually, I moved on to be an apprentice to the night mechanic there. Aviation maintenance is now my full time job and is an important set of skills I am still growing today.

By the beginning of my junior year, I had earned my instrument, multiengine, commercial, and flight instructor ratings. (CFI, MEI, CFII, AGI). I obtained a job for the school, flight-instructing students. During the last two years of school, I was able to complete 12 students including private pilots, instrument, multi, commercial and CFI single engine and instrument add-ons. This experience, along with the completion of my A&P in my senior year, gave me the initial experience I needed to get a job in the aviation world.

I came to Cape Air with 1100hrs and a yearning to learn more about flying and maintenance. Initially, I was working as a first officer, but with only a few hours a week flying, I requested to work part time in the maintenance department. I worked in this function for a full year. Upgrading to PIC of the mail at 1200 hrs and obtaining my ATP at 1500hrs. After gaining my ATP, I chose to work MTX full

time, and to flight instruct on the side to continue building skills in both flying and maintenance. This was a hard choice to make, because it meant giving up a large portion of what I enjoy doing the most, flying. Yet, it was important to me to continue growing as an aviation professional, and to be a steady partner in my marriage. My 8am to 5pm schedule in maintenance allowed me to be at home with my husband, and to stay in once base year round.

Currently, my goals are to test for and obtain my Inspection Authorization in May, once I have 3 years experience in maintenance and to further my education. Since I am already working full time and flying part time, I can't leave my job here to go back to school but I will not let that slow me down. I have applied to obtain my MBA in aviation through Embry Riddle Worldwide, and my classes will begin in January. I am seeking funding for this additional education, which costs nearly \$1500.00 per course. Someday, I would love to be in a position of management at Cape Air or to start my own business with my skills acquired in various facets of aviation. Whether it is flying, maintenance, or managing projects or a department, I will continue to participate in aviation for as long as I can.

To suggest a story, share an opinion or find out more about how you can get involved, contact us via email: AtlanticAviators@yahoo.com