

# Mentone flying Club, Inc.

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Internet Address: <http://www.mentoneflyingclub.org>

Newsletter

February 2001

1. I have the unfortunate duty to inform the club members that we have experienced another accident. Fortunately no one was hurt but 4378Q, our newly acquired Skyhawk, sustained some damage Sunday evening, 21 January. Dan Christman with two passengers was making his second short field touch-and-go at Culver airport and hit a very hard snow mound right at the approach edge of the runway. The left main landing gear was torn off and the left wing tip, left flap, left wing and the horizontal stabilizer was damaged. No damage to the engine was sustained to the best of our knowledge. We do not have an estimate as to the repairs but a rough estimate could be \$7,500 to \$12,000 for parts and labor depending on available parts. The repair work will also include an annual which is due this Spring. Casey Siery, and independent A&P at Fulton County Airport, will be doing most of the work on 4378Q. I plan to assemble a safety board per our By-Laws in short order.

2. I would like to extend a special thanks to John Cash, our Vice President and Maintenance Officer, for the outstanding planning and coordination done on the recovery of 4378Q. In addition, several other people added their expertise and a strong back (during snow flurries and a wind chill around 11 Deg F). They are Dan Christman, Bill Willard, Don Walls and Casey Siery. The recovery team removed any remaining fuel, removed the airplane interior and the wings in about 4 ½ Hours. When started, the entire operation took about 6 to 6 ½ Hours to include loading, transporting and securing the airplane at our main hanger. Good job to all volunteers.

3. The annual dinner on 19 January went off without a hitch. The food and the company was outstanding. Let's thank Bill Willard for organizing the dinner and for most assuredly, strategically placing the signs along the route so us VFR pilots can find our way. Pictures are available at the hanger.

4. The Mentone Flying Club has a new Web address. Give it a try at <http://www.mentoneflyingclub.org>. Our thanks goes to Dan Christman, our Web site administrator.

5. We have dates for our Safety Seminars. Mark your calendars for Thursday, 5 April 2001 and Thursday, 18 October 2001. Don Hales from the South Bend Regional FAA Safety Office will be presenting a safety talk and providing FAA Safety Program information at each seminar.

6. Bret Prior asked me to share some information with the club membership related to the same subject as in paragraph 5 above. Bret stated that there is a monthly safety meeting at the Logansport FBO the last Monday of every month. Sam Williamson is the sponsor and presenter. For more information call 800-555-6640. Bret said that the meetings are very informative and helpful to all pilots both new and old.

7. Bob Domke has given the club several metal lockers for the club's use. The lockers need to be cleaned up but are in good shape. Bring your own pad lock and use them for storing your personal gear. Thanks Bob.

8. The club is looking for a working, FAA approved flight simulator—either to purchase or just a location of one near Rochester. If anyone in the club has knowledge of one, please give me a call. Home: 219-352-2826 or send an email at [rfearnow@aopa.net](mailto:rfearnow@aopa.net).

9. Speaking of emails, if anyone would like to receive our newsletter over the Internet, send me your email and I will put you on my list. In addition, Dan Christman can place your email address on our Web site if you like.

Ron Fearnow, President