

YALE AVIATION NEWSLETTER

June 2013

EVENTS –

- **N55044 Prop Drawing** The new owner of 55044's old prop is..... **Shep Stone!** Thanks to Kimberly Nucifora, the completely unbiased cocktail attendee who pulled the winning ticket, (see photos from our **Mory's Patio Cocktails & Prop Drawing Event** below!) and thanks to the 14 participants who raised \$750 for Yale Aviation.
- Ideas for further events this year include a tour of the CT Air & Space Center, evening drinks at **Tom Sobocinski's** new bar "The Ordinary", and more breakfast/lunch flights, but Ty can't do it alone!!! Interested in helping out? Contact **Ty Kamp** (tahia.kamp@yale.edu).



PILOTS...

CORRECTION FROM LAST NEWSLETTER: Due to delays with the FAA, your sectionals are good until July 15th!



Congratulations to **Manas Prasad** on his first solo flight, June 9, 2013!

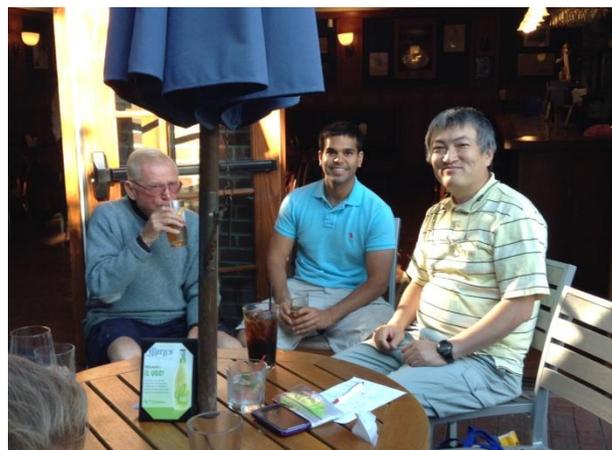
Congrats to **Christine Kim** on the birth of her daughter, Zora, in April!



Mory's Cocktail Get-together, June 14

It's always a great time, and friends and family were welcome, as about a dozen club members met at the back patio of Mory's to bask in some of the best weather all week!

Charlie Skelton, Manas Prasad & Akihiro Hashimoto talk tech (right).



Josh Parsons of Yale's NROTC



Jill Levine & Kimberly Nucifora chat before the drawing.



Ty and Rick Kamp dressed to impress!



Tom Sobocinski



Mark Volcheck, Nico Britton and Jill Levine

Contact Clarice Begemann (claricebeg@aol.com) for more information on how you can take a young eagle flying!

... & PLANES

June 1's Wash & Wax was another great time (see photos below). Thanks so much to the 15 or so members who made light work of washing and waxing our two planes. It only took less than 3 hours! Many thanks to **Alark Saxena**; Alark's sister and wife; **Jill Levine**; **Tom Sobocinski**; **Gary Sepulveda**; **Mark Otterson** and wife Karen; **Roberto Echevarria**; **Micah Luce**; **Josh Parsons**; **Mirai** and **Akihiro Hashimoto**; **Laura Baldwin**; **Charlie Skelton**; **Clarice Begemann** and **Ty Kamp** for a photo shoot with son Frederic (already an avid aviator!).



32028 will benefit from the Board's approval of the purchase and installation of a new radio King KX-155, as well as a NAV with ILS and DME capability. It is also at the point of needing new upholstery: a somewhat more contoured fabric and vinyl seat is planned in a wine color to match the rest of the interior. Thanks to **Larry Manley**, **Clarice Begemann** and **Laura Baldwin** who are contributing a bit extra to do both front seats at the same time! *(Feel like joining them? Send checks make out to Yale Aviation to Charlie Skelton with "028 seats" in the memo line)*

55044 has completed its annual and is back in service with a new prop! Photos below show the prop being removed for the servicing due every 2000 hours. It was determined that it did not meet the specs for retooling, so a new prop was purchased. The new prop is a bit longer than the one we've been using, but seems to fly the same (Charlie post-annual test flew it yesterday). Check it out!



Yale Aviation is a 501(c)3 organization - your contribution is tax deductible and helps promote aviation education!! **Keep Yale Aviation alive in the future as it was for you!**

AVIATION EDUCATION & NEWS –

For those of you following Solar Impulse: Solar Impulse is getting ready to head to the East Coast and the nation's capital! The date has not been confirmed yet, so stay tuned...

Check out their website: [SOLAR IMPULSE - AROUND THE WORLD IN A SOLAR AIRPLANE](http://www.solarimpulse.org)



PODCASTS & APPS & GADGETS– Please send me your favorite app, tech toy, video or podcast suggestion to share!



The Poor Man's ANR Headset -Manas Prasad

Hello fellow Yale Aviators! Recently, I graduated from pharmacy school, and my ever-so-proud parents decided I was entitled to a graduation gift of my choice! Not wanting to abuse such an offer, I was stumped. After all, their love and support all these years was more than enough, right? Yet they insisted, as parents often do, and so I thought long and hard to myself, “What could I ask for that would help me in my future as a pharmacist?” Aside from a spatula and a pill counting tray, there’s not much else that I would need!

Around the same time, I started to really pick up on my flight training with lessons every few days and riding backseat whenever the opportunity presented itself (mainly thanks to **Alark Saxena**). It was on one of these backseat adventures that it dawned on me that the headsets in the plane just didn’t cut it. I felt stressed and sick but had no idea why. Was it the turbulence? Was it Alark’s sloppy controls (only kidding)? I wasn’t burdened with flying the plane, so why so much discomfort? Slowly, the often unnoticed subtleties of the headset became much more apparent: the weight and pressure on my head was dramatic, and the noise reduction was hardly noticeable. I realized that I was straining to hear and pick out every bit of communication going on in the plane. Days later during my own lesson, I was sure that the headset actually added an additional stress to my lessons and, in fact, may have

been hindering my progress somewhat. At this point, I knew having my own personal headset would be the perfect graduation gift!

And so began days of online research, which led me to many different headsets, ranging from \$200 upwards to the famous Bose Aviation A20 priced at a hefty \$1,199. Finally, I came across an aviation forum with numerous pilots raving about “the Poor Man’s ANR Headset” claiming it offered the Bose A20 experience at less than half the price! Intrigued (and a bit wary), I looked into it further and found out that a small family company called [UFlyMike](#) had developed a microphone adapter to fit onto a consumer Bose headphone set. I went back and forth on the idea of ordering this combo kit by reading as many reviews as I could and also calling [UFlyMike](#) to address some other questions. Ultimately, I decided this was worth a shot. I ordered the headphones, a Bose QuietComfort 15 for \$300 on Amazon.com, and the microphone adapter from [UFlyMike.com](#) for \$234.



First Impressions

This headset is *amazing*! On my first flight there was a difference of night and day compared to the headsets in the plane. All communications sounded crisp and clear, and I could just barely hear the plane's running engine (the noise cancelling is *that* good). It felt very light on my head and provided a nice seal around my ears without any noticeable clamping pressure. The following is a breakdown of the pros and cons of this headset learned over the past few weeks of owning them:

Pros

- *Noise Cancelling* – the Bose QC15 is one of the highest rated headphones out there for active noise reduction. Microphones on the outside and inside of the earcups listen to the ambient noise and counter the incoming sound waves with inverted sound waves. Great at cancelling low frequency sounds, not so much with higher frequency sounds.
- *Comfort* – the Bose QC15 is designed with the general frequent flyer in mind. Soft ear pads provide a seal around the ear (as opposed to directly on the ear) and the headset is very lightweight. Can be worn for hours without any discomfort.
- *The microphone adapter* - The UFlyMike microphone adapter is custom made to firmly plug into to the Bose QC15. Quality is very impressive and the adapter has a metal casing, giving it a very solid feel. The adapter also allows you to change microphone gain sensitivity, if necessary. Also allows you to add an aux cable to listen to music while flying.
- *Dual usefulness* - The headset doubles as an aviation headset and as an everyday, high quality headphone set. Unplug the UFlyMike and you can use the headphones to listen to your music or computer as normal.
- *Compactness* – the headphones and microphone adapter fit snugly into the *slim* case that comes with the headphones.



- *Value* - \$534 including shipping and taxes for both pieces of the headset. Performs similarly to higher priced headsets

Cons

- *Battery Requirement* – Unfortunately, unlike most ANR headphones where the battery is only required for noise cancelling, if the battery runs out in the Bose QC15, it stop functioning entirely, i.e. you cannot hear anything at all. However, the microphone will continue to function. From what I've read, the one required AAA battery lasts about 25 to 30 hours. I've added to my personal checklist to check the battery status light before and after every flight.
- *Microphone Position* - the microphone adapter will only fit on the left side of the headset. Not a deal breaker in my opinion, but perhaps some pilots will have a preference to keep the mic on the right side (especially when flying in the right seat as the cables would then cross over your lap).

Final Thoughts

There really isn't much that I don't like about this headset combo. For just a little over \$500, it definitely performs as a premium headset. I did notice that the microphone gain was preset a little high, but I was easily able to change this so my voice didn't sound distorted. Learning to fly has become even more enjoyable now that I can focus my attention to other things in the plane, rather than struggling to listen for important communications. Even Charlie is seemingly impressed with this headset, but he insists that I made a poor decision; according to him, given the opportunity to choose my own gift, I should have just asked for a Cirrus SR22, but what's done is done, and I couldn't be happier with this headset combo. Plus, these noise-cancelling headphones might just be the best way to deal with angry customers at the pharmacy, too!



Please feel free to contact me with additional questions at manasvp@gmail.com

TWEED NEWS -

Message from Robinson Aviation:

Runways and taxiways continue to be painted this month – be aware of any closures or changes by checking the NOTAMS every time you fly!

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**TSA Badges** – Have you renewed? Remember that to complete the procedure, you must have a completed application signed by our TSA signatory, **Jeff Welsh** (203-481-7676, calling between the hours of 10 am to 5 pm is best). Once that is done, you must call KATHY GRANT (203-466-8833 ext 109) to make an appointment to pay your \$10 renewal fee (cash or check) over at West Ramp and have your new badge issued.

## ONLINE -



**MERCHANDISE!** We sold many t-shirts, mugs and stickers at the last **Wash & Wax**, but a few things remain. Interested? Mugs (12 oz) are \$15 each, and I have 2 medium men's t-shirts at \$20 each. Stickers are \$1 each (but need to be reordered). Let **Laura Baldwin** know if you want to purchase! [lfbaldwin@aol.com](mailto:lfbaldwin@aol.com)



**Yale Aviation** is on Facebook! Email **Tom Sobocinski** ([tom@caseusnewhaven.com](mailto:tom@caseusnewhaven.com)) or **Laura Baldwin** ([lfbaldwin@aol.com](mailto:lfbaldwin@aol.com)) to be invited to join this closed group. We are hoping this semi-public forum will help pilots connect to willing passengers and safety pilots, not to mention be a great place to post those fabulous photos we all love to see. A big thanks to Tom for setting this up! Email **Laura Baldwin** ([lfbaldwin@aol.com](mailto:lfbaldwin@aol.com)) if you have any questions on how to set up a Facebook account, which you will need before using our FB page.

Remember pictures can also be posted on our Yale Aviation website at [www.YaleAviation.org](http://www.YaleAviation.org).

In addition, we are looking for those last three (3!) people to complete the **gallery** of names, faces and ratings on the website – please send Laura ([lfbaldwin@aol.com](mailto:lfbaldwin@aol.com)) a picture as we work to include this new feature on the site. [*Cuz ya know if you don't send me a picture, I'll be forced to find one of my own... this means you: **Leslie Ashie, Amy Jeffries, & David Perkins!***]

## SIMULATOR -

Anyone needing simulator access should e-mail **Ty Kamp** ([tahia.kamp@yale.edu](mailto:tahia.kamp@yale.edu)) the alpha-numeric code on the back of their Yale IDs. Those without Yale IDs need to enter with Charlie, who has a key to the Simulator Room in Engineering.



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The Yale Aviation Newsletter will go out to the membership on the 15th of every month. Please let me know if you have any news, suggestions, or comments: YASecretary@aol.com

Laura Baldwin, Secretary
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