



The Leader In Recreational Aviation

# RUNWAY 35

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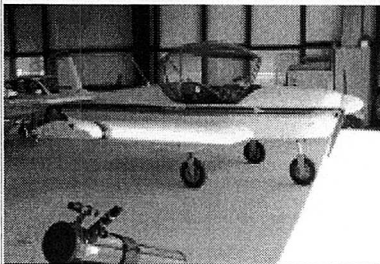
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## Inside this Issue

EXPENSIVE ROUND OF GOLF	1
TO OSHKOSH BY STINSON	2
PRESIDENTS COCKPIT	3
NORRIS WARNER'S PHOTOS	4
ROCH LAROCCA'S OSH PICS	5
GIMME A PROP!	6
JIM FEIGHNY BK EXPERIENCE	8
HANGER DEDICATION PICS	9
EAA TEXAS FLY-IN PHOTOS	10
JULY MEETING PHOTOS	11
THRESHOLD RANCH OPENS	12
ERCOUPE TURNS 61	13
ONE FLYER'S LIFE	14
AUGUST MEETING SUMMARY	15
CHAPTER 35 CONTACTS	16
CALENDAR	17
WANTED & FOR SALE	18
DIRECTIONS TO SAN GERONIMO	20

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Jones' CH-601 hides from the noon day sun

## A RATHER EXPENSIVE ROUND OF GOLF

**By Bob Cabe**

Joe and I have been planning this trip for about seven years. Joe is my twin brother. He lives in Akron, Ohio and he completed his RV-6 about a year ago. The plan has always been to meet somewhere and play a round of golf. The original destination was Memphis which is just about midway between Ohio and Texas. So it's been "see you in Memphis" for seven years.

Well, we finally decided that it was time to make the trip. About a month ago we got serious and set the date for the weekend of August 11th. Then we had to get serious about the destination. We waffled and at 8:00 PM the night before we were to depart, we decided to head for Destin, Florida. So much for seven years of planning. Joe would fly from Akron to North Georgia and drop Mom off to visit with her sisters. Then he would continue to Destin. I would leave San Antonio on Friday morning, get there early and get a rental car.

My trip was great. I filed a flight plan to Hammond, La. Sitting on the ground at Castroville, I used the cell phone to call flight service to activate the flight plan. This new flight service station arrangement simply is not working. After talking to a couple of people and being on

hold for more than 15 minutes, I gave up and launched. Calling approach at SAT allowed me to activate the flight plan with no problem.

At 7000 feet I was above an overcast, in serious haze, flying east into a rising sun. You guessed it, virtually no forward visibility. Soon, the clouds dissipated. It was as smooth as a baby's bottom. Houston gave me a strange routing and I was averaging about 145 knots with a slight headwind. I landed at Hammond (real nice landing) after a three hour and 17 minute flight. Then it was on to Destin.

You have to be careful flying into Destin. It has restricted areas on both the east and west sides. The only way in, if the restricted areas are "hot" is to either stay north and fly a north/south corridor directly to Destin or to bear to the south and hug the coast. I am a strong advocate of the use of "Flight Following". While still a long way out, I asked the controller to go direct to Destin, hoping the restricted areas were "cold". They were not. He gave me the two options and I headed for the coast line, which is a beautiful way to go. (I was asked several times, and got tired of saying "Destination is Destin".

**(Continued on Page 7)**