Profile This Week

Introducing - "The Terrace Bay Flying School"

Terrace Aviation Inc. is the first local, all-year round air service, based in Terrace Bay. It is owned and operated by a local man by the name of Javier Martinez and is being based out of the Terrace Bay Municipal Airport. If you ever had the desire to obtain your pilot's licence, the opportunity is now available.

Javier recently offered this service due to the numerous people who expressed a desire for flying lessons. With the large amounts of air activity being created by Hemlo, pilots are high in demand. Javier operates his School from a Commercial Air Service licence and offers various forms of instruction, ranging from Flight Training, aircraft rentals, recreational flying, aerial inspection, photography, and the list goes on.

Before opening his flying school, he had to show a need for such a service. With a list of 30 signed letters from individuals in Terrace Bay, Marathon, Rossport, Geraldton and Schreiber, he was able to prove such a need. Since the opening of his school, he has received a very good response from the people. He has excellent references as an instructor and has had many years of experien-

Javier moved into the Terrace Bay Airport about 15 months ago, from Geraldton. He now

runs the Weather Station for the M.T.C. out of the Terrace Bay Airport.

If you've always wanted to get your pilot's licence but were afraid to try or you didn't think that you could afford it ... look again. All you need to start with is a medical certificate from your doctor, and then once that is obtained, you will be given an 'Introductory Lesson" where the student will do the flying (except for the take-off and landing). From there it is up to the student to decide as to whether or not he/she wishes to continue with lessons. Lessons will take place only during good weather and times are negotiable, depending on your personal schedule. The average time per lesson is one hour, but this is also negotiable. "I've taught a lot of students over the years," says Javier, "many of whom have been women. The ratio is usually 1 woman per 10 men, and I find that the women do very well

Before taking off, Javier assures the student that "throwing-up" is quite a normal thing to do. He is more than prepared for such an event, as it has happened on more than one occasion. "Some people are too proud to have someone witness their queasiness, but throwing up is an acceptable occurance in a small air-

indeed."

craft," states Javier. "I only hope that they will inform me of their intentions, before they actually experience problems."

When questioned as to why the majority of people wanted to learn, Javier said that there were numerous reasons. "For some, it has always been something that they have wanted to do for many years, but thought that they could never do. For others they just want to be able to hire a plane and take off on a moment's notice. Many others just enjoy recreational flying, with no destination in mind. Some want to obtain their commercial licence for working purposes. A pilot's licence is a good thing to have in the north."

In order to receive your Private Pilot's licence you must undergo approximately 50 hours of instruction. This type of licence will allow you all the benefits of flying a private aircraft, except for hire. A Commercial Pilot's licence requires you to take a minimum of 150 hours of instruction time and this will entitle you to fly a commercial aircraft for

A Private licence will cost in the area of about \$3,000 and the Commercial licence will cost around \$3,500. Depending on your future needs, he suggests that you choose according-

Lessons are given in

Javier's own plane; a Cessna 172. It seats four people and is slightly larger than most small aircraft.

Following the interview with Javier, I was invited to take to the air; to experience what his many students will. Too chicken to say that I was chicken, I proceeded to do so. Now ... small planes and I just don't click. If it isn't a 737 or larger, I tend to sweat a great deal. But much to my amazement, I survived the experience with no repercussions to speak of. I was so enthralled at the lay-out of the town, the size of Kimberly-Clark and the abundance of water, inclination what-so-ever



Javier Martinez, your flying instructor, stands beside his Cessna 172. This is the aircraft that students will be using during their lessons.

that I never had time to experience the dreaded FEAR! After snapping off an entire roll of film, we headed in for the landing.

Although I have no

to engage in flying lessons (if it doesn't have four wheels and is a foot off the ground, I want no part of it) I highly recommend to anyone thinking of going for

their licence, to do so. Money is no problem ... do it as you can afford it. The only thing holding you back is FEAR!

And that didn't stop me.



A fascinating view of Kimberly Clark via aircraft.

The North Shore Dive Club

wishes to apologize for an error in extending appreciation to one of our prize donors for our recent Treasure Hunt.

Our ad should have read: Thank you to The Mutual Life **Assurance Company of Canada** Gary Gusel, Representative; **Terrace Bay** rather than London Life.

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