

The following is a note from the President:

I take full responsibility for the information contained in the following 2 paragraphs and agree to hold FSAACA harmless for anything that I may say in said paragraphs.

Our first Sugar Loaf fly-out was canceled due to my mis-handling of the room arrangements. I offer my most humble and sincere apologies for I know that a lot of people were disappointed. When I was dealing with the owner/manager of the Sugar Loaf Lodge and Airport last December, he assured me that a group discount would be offered for a group of 5 rooms or more. When the final arrangements were being firmed up for ten rooms in April, the discount was retracted by the owner. Not a deal killer. The deal killer came when the owner insisted that a non-refundable deposit of approximately \$200.00 per room be tendered immediately. The only way that the deposit would be refundable would be if the reservations were canceled ten or more days before the scheduled arrival date. That's kind of hard to do when your arrival depends on weather conditions. In addition, the owner/manager was grumbling about too many airplanes coming in would inconvenience the jump club that is operating out of the airport and would incur undue liability for him.

After weighing the risks and benefits of such a policy, I decided that it was not prudent to risk nearly \$2,000.00 of members money and decided to scrub the trip. Again, I apologize to anyone who was inconvenienced or disappointed.



On Friday, May 22nd, a group of FSAACA members flew to Venice to have lunch at Sharkey's on the pier. The weather was great for the flight both down and back. Sharkey's provides a non air conditioned van for transport of pilots between the FBO and their restaurant. Not a bad ride since it's only 5 minutes. Upon arrival at Sharkey's, we found it to be nearly unrecognizable since the last time we were there. They have "improved" the front of the building by replacing the old rustic beach-side facade with a new concrete facade and a mall type structure that leads to their new restaurant to the right past a number of tourist trap type curio and souvenir shops. We found the same old Sharkey's dining room to the left and good food inside. The big difference since our last trip there were the prices which had been increased by as much as 50% in some cases. After a sightseeing and calorie burning trip out to the end of the pier, we made our way back to the airport and eventually home.



On that same Friday, May 22nd, Bobby and Kim took the opportunity to fly a reconnaissance mission to Marathon to visit with FSAACA members Kevin and Dawn Finney. Their account is as follows:

KMTH - Fly-Out, non-sanctioned recon. With four days off, favorable forecast and a standing offer we departed at 0700 for 2.8 hours of hands off flying...at a much higher altitude than I

care to admit. Landing, securing the plane in a shadeport that was arranged for by FSAACA member Kevin Finney via his long time friend, mechanic and hopefully soon to be FSAACA member Tony DAuito. After a quick tour of the airport, it was off to lunch by 11:00. We started at the Island Fish Co. for human fuel and a few adult beverages to start off the weekend..(see attached pics). The first day was nice, had the hotel (<http://seadellmotel.com/>) to ourselves but this would change by the next day, maybe Memorial Day weekend was not the best choice. Items of interest, car rental was available at the airport terminal with the heavy hitters all being there, Avis, Hertz, Budget,



Enterprise, etc. We looked at kayak rental as Prez Steve said this was available on Sugar Loaf. Looks to be available every few miles as you transition Key to Key. Did not rent, as that looks too much like work. The next adventure was to check out Marathon Beach, one of, if not the best beaches in the Keys. One of the few places that was not packed with people. The return trip was just as pleasant and faster. The wind gods must have gotten me mixed up with someone else as we had a tailwind both going and returning.



Progress on FSAACA's Historical Documentation

As many of you are aware, our officers have been on a quest to recover as many of FSAACA's historical documents as possible so that they can be stored in digital form in the cloud. We have made much progress in this endeavor in that we have been able to recover some documents back to the founding of the organization. If any of you have any documents related to FSAACA from the past, we would greatly appreciate it if you would come forward with them so that they can be scanned and stored. Any **old photos will also be greatly appreciated.** The originals will be returned to you if you wish. Steve, Bobby and Kim paid a visit to Shelly and Esther Decker last week. Since Shelly is the closest thing to a historian that FSAACA has, we thought that maybe he could help us out in this endeavor. Shelly said that he has some documents someplace, but couldn't put his hands on them right then. Hopefully he will be able to find them and bring them to the fly-in this weekend.

By the way, Shelly and Esther are looking great. They are both in great health and enjoying their retirement in the woods of North Florida.

New Project

Bobby Capozzi has come up with an idea to possibly generate a little revenue at Sun N Fun next year but needs some help. He is in need of an old Sun N Fun paper admission pass. The kind that was in use prior to the arm bands that are in use today. If you happen to have an old one laying around in a drawer someplace, please contact Bobby at mx180a@aol.com. He just needs to scan it and will return the original to you.

Humor

After one of Captain Jim's real "crusher" landings, the flight attendant came on with "Ladies and gentlemen, please remain in your seats until Captain Crash and the crew have brought the aircraft to a screeching halt up against the gate. And, once the tire smoke has cleared and the warning bells are silenced, we'll open the door and you can pick your way through the wreckage to the terminal."

Life is short. Smile while you still have teeth.

FSAACA is on the web. Go to: www.fsaaca.org

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