

Helen Woods

15033 Courtland Place • Laurel, MD 20707 • Helen_Woods@verizon.net • (410) 604-1717 • (240) 620-8926

Summary of Qualifications

Owner and chief flight instructor of the largest light sport flight school in the country. Grew school from a one plane, one instructor, flight school and built it into a large and successful school. Purchased school this spring. Professional instructor, educator, manager, team builder and aviation community activist dedicated to promoting the future of grass roots aviation through flight training.

Instructional and Educator Experience

Total Flight and Instruction Time- Approximately 4900 hours total flight time. Approximately 3000 hours of dual given in Cessna, Diamond, Tecnam, Sport Cruiser, Remos, Flight Design, SeaRey and Sky Arrow aircraft. Primary instruction, aircraft checkouts, flight reviews, introductory flights, and media flights. LSA transition training for general aviation, glider, weight shift, and various ultra-light pilots.

Ground Training Curriculum and Class Development

- Developed Machado based sport pilot ground school and test prep class. Course required development of a syllabus and modification of Machado private pilot material for sport pilot training.
- Developed highly successful “Rusty Pilot Refresher” ground school tailored towards the many older pilots returning to aviation through sport pilot after a break of 10 years or more. Course covers airspace, regulations and computerized flight planning and has been borrowed and successfully duplicated by AOPA nationwide.
- Developed highly successful Jeppesen based private pilot ground school and test prep class. Development of class required 400 hours selecting materials, writing a syllabus, creating power point slides, class handouts, quizzes, and test, and setting up a classroom.
- Developed SFRA/FRZ and Class B training course.
- Developed highly successful airborne search and rescue training program for CAP. Program focused on flying visual and electronic search patterns, visual scanning, and effective CRM, as well as safety and operational risk management. Training program attracted numerous outside participants.

Professional and Community Activities

- **FAASTeam/Wings Seminars** - Initiated and coordinated bringing multiple Wings Seminars and multiple FAASTeam CFI seminars to Bay Bridge Airport, Maryland. Gave seminar on “Light Sport Rules for CFIs”.
- **Rewrite of the FAA Sport Pilot Test Question Bank** - Initiated the rewriting of the Sport Pilot Test Question Bank. Worked with members of AFS630 and CFI of the Year Arlynn McMahon to review, remove and rewrite sport pilot test questions as needed
- **Book Editing** - Edited Chapter 6 of Rod Machado’s new Sport Pilot Manual. Coordinated committee that edited entire book. Wrote the forward to this book. Edited workbook companion to this book.
- **Publications** - “Grass is a Gass” FAA Aviation News July/August 2009
"Perfect Opportunity, Sport Pilot Instruction Resurrect the Joy of Teaching" Mentor: December 2009
"Finding a Flight School" Light Plane World: February 2010
"Your First Flight Lesson" Light Plane World: April 2010
"On Eagles' Wings, Flight School Participation in Young Eagles Brings Benefits to All" Mentor
"Fun! How to Sell Recreational Aviation" Mentor: March 2011
"Simple Guide to Aviation Citizenship" Light Plane World: March 2011
"New! Improved! But Will They Work for You!" Mentor: March 2011
"Civics Lessons, Citizenship" Mentor: April 2011
"Marketing Knowledge, Using Your Website as Both an Instructional Tool and Marketing Tool" Mentor

"Weaving a Website: How to Create Your Online Presence on a Budget" Mentor

- **Recent Conventions** - Virginia Festival of Flight 2008, Oshkosh and Sun N Fun 2009
- **Upset Training** - DC Aerobatics 2009
- **Young Eagles** - Initiated multiple joint Chesapeake Sport Pilot and EAA Young Eagles Rally
- **Youth Aviation Adventure** - Established Youth Aviation Adventure squadron. Conducted two annual YAA programs for boy scouts and girl scouts.
- **NPRMs** - Commented on FCC rule to phase in 406MHz ELTs. Primary author and committee chairwoman of the AOPA sport pilot instructor petition. Responded to NPRMs about the DC ADIZ and Sport Pilot Rule. Attended related hearing about DC ADIZ.
- **Fly-Ins** - I ran a marketing tent at: Massey Aerodrome 2007 and 2009, Horn Point Antique Fly-In 2007, 2008, 2013, College Park Air Fair 2009, New Garden Light Sport Day 2009, Progressive Aerodyne Factory Open House 2011, Easton Open House 2013. Assisted at SeaRey tent Sun-N-Fun 2011, 2012, 2013 and Oshkosh 2011, 2012.
- **Talks** - New Garden Airport EAA "Light Sport for Private Pilot" and "Starting Flight Training"
Tipton Airport Pilot's Association "light Sport for Private Pilots"
Chesapeake Sport Pilot Open Houses - "Light Sport for Private Pilots," "Aging and the Learning Process," "Gyroplane Safety"
- **Bay Bridge Airport Operational Safety Working Group** - Chesapeake Sport Pilot representative
- **Civil Air Patrol** - Ran the most successful flight crew training program in Virginia for 4 years.
- **General Rabble Rousing** - Organizing the comments and complaints of the 600 plus local pilots on the DCPilot Yahoo list into a function set of proactive suggestions to provide to Mark Baker, AOPA
- **Chesapeake Seaplane Pilots Association** - I am one of the lead architects of the new Chesapeake Seaplane Pilots Association, and effort to revitalize seaplane flying in the Chesapeake Bay.

Managerial and Marketing Skills and Abilities

Team Building and Management-

CSP: Built a one man one plane flight school that was operating out of a broom closet into the largest and most successful light sport flight school in the United States. Chesapeake Sport Pilot now employs 162 other instructors, two mechanics, and a secretary and operates eight land planes and a seaplane. I helped establish the Chesapeake Sport Pilot Flying Club to give renters equity ownership options and better access to aircraft. We hold numerous community events included open houses, young eagle rallies, scout programs, and even coordinate Santa's annual flight to Tangier Island. These events are made possible by the 60 or more volunteers I coordinate. On a daily basis I oversee the logistical, instructional, and personal needs of all students and instructors. Duties range from mentoring instructors and students to overseeing the books and arranging aircraft and building maintenance.

Searey Flight Instructors Association: I am the vice president and one of the founding members of the Searey Flight Instructors Association, an organization that provides nationwide standardization and accreditation of Searey training.

CAP: Built a small, disorganized Civil Air Patrol Squadron into a thriving search and rescue unit, one of the most active in the state. Oversaw day to day logistical and personnel needs of a search and rescue unit consisting of 20-30 active members. Duties ranged from handling training needs of individual members, to organizing and overseeing equipment and facility maintenance including that of a buildings, aircraft, and ground vehicles.

Marketing (multiple organizations, including CSP, CAP, USFWS) Wrote and distributed press releases. Organized and oversaw media events. Organized and manned promotional booths and tables at local events. Developed promotional web pages.

Flight Qualifications

Ratings - Certified flight instructor, airplane, single engine land and sea. Airline transport pilot, airplane, single engine land. Commercial pilot multi engine land, single engine sea, instrument rating, tail wheel and complex endorsements. Current class II medical.

Flight Experience - 4900 hours TT, 3000 hours dual given. Operational risk management and safety training. Graduate of Charlie Hammond's advanced seaplane pilot school. Searey transition training at Captain Speak.

Aircraft Types - Tecnam singles, RV-12, Sport Cruiser, Sky Arrow, Remos GX, Flight Design CTLS, SeaRey LSX, Cessna 150/152, Cessna 172, Cessna 172RG, Cessna 182, Cessna 182 RG Cessna 185 amphibian, Cessna 206 amphibian, Diamond Katana, various twins, seaplanes and tail-wheel planes.

Work Summary

- **Owner** - Chesapeake Sport Pilot, LLC, April 2015 - Present
- **Chief Flight Instructor and Manager** - Chesapeake Sport Pilot, LLC, April 2007 - Present
- **Flight Instructor** - Chesapeake Proflight, Inc., April 2006 - April 2007
- **Adjunct Professor** - Community College of Baltimore County, Essex, January 2006 - May 2006
- **Substitute Teacher** - Anne Arundel and Prince George's Counties, September 2005 - May 2006
- **Pilot/Biologist** - US Fish and Wildlife Service, November 2004-November 2005
- **Research Specialist** - Virginia Institute of Marine Science, March 2003 - November 2005
- **Graduate Research Assistant** - Virginia Institute of Marine Science, May 1997 - June 2001
- **Naturalist Intern** - National Park Service, June 1996 - August 1996
- **Groundskeeper** - Salisbury State University, June 1995 - August 1995
- **Naturalist Intern** - National Park Service, June 1994 - August 1994

Education

Master of Science in Marine Science, Resource Management Concentration - 2001
Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, VA

Bachelor of Science, Biological Science - 1997
Salisbury State University, Salisbury, Maryland

Bachelor of Science, Marine/Environmental Science - 1997
University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Princess Anne Maryland