



meet a member

Jud Ready Takes Aviation Awareness to New Heights

Lynne Robinson

“Fly through the clouds, Dad.”

It’s a favorite request that Jud Ready hears when sharing one of his best loved places with his children—the world from 3,000 feet up in the cockpit of a small plane. The freedom of “breaking the surly

bonds of Earth,” as he puts it, is an experience that he is intent on introducing to young people far beyond his family, through his volunteer work as the board chair of the Yellow Jacket Flying Club (YJFC).

YJFC is a non-profit 501c3 organization affiliated with the Georgia Institute of Technology (Georgia Tech) that is

devoted to educating the public about aviation. Established in 1946 by Georgia Tech students who had served in World War II and wanted to continue flying, YJFC is the oldest collegiate flying club in the United States. Ready traces his relationship with the YJFC back to his graduate school days at Georgia Tech, when he joined the organization as a student so he could learn to fly. Now Principal Research Engineer at the Georgia Tech Research Institute, Ready

wants to make sure that current and future Georgia Tech students can pursue their passion for aviation as he did. “Aviation is a miracle, when you consider where it’s at barely 100 years after it was identified,” said Ready. “YJFC exists to expose people to these technological advances and the

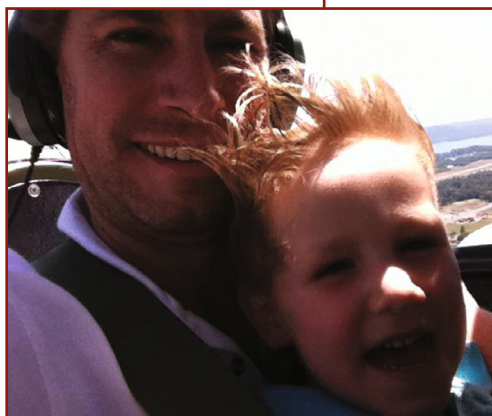


In addition to chairing the YJFC’s board of directors, Ready’s volunteer service to the organization includes teaching aviation concepts at its community outreach programs.

importance of aviation to the economy.”

YJFC accomplishes this goal, in part, by providing affordable access to planes and flight training to Georgia Tech students, faculty, alumni, and supporters. Based out of Dekalb-Peachtree Airport, it maintains a fleet of four Cessna 172 aircraft that its members can schedule to fly 365 days a year. Every aspect of the operation is managed by volunteers, from aircraft maintenance to vetting the flight instructors who contract independently with the students. The organization also extends its educational outreach to the greater Georgia community by hosting programs for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and other youth organizations, as well as sponsoring community events. While membership dues and aircraft rental fees cover operating costs, YJFC relies on contributions for major equipment or facility upgrades.

In addition to developing future pilots, Ready believes that exposure to YJFC’s resources and information encourages young people to consider other careers in aviation, including related science and engineering disciplines. Then, there is just sharing the sheer joy of flight.



(Above) Ready and his son, Lucas, enjoy a flying adventure together. (Below) Ready flies both single-engine planes and helicopters. He prefers helicopters because of their versatility. “It’s spectacular,” he said. “With fixed wing aircraft, you are pretty committed to moving forward. In a helicopter, you can back up, stop, and move side-to-side.”



“Flying gives you the freedom to detach from everything on the ground,” said Ready. “I’m not thinking about work or anything else when I fly—just complete commitment to the task at hand. Precision is important to my life as a scientist and flying is another way of applying that.”

Ready has also built quite a store of great memories from his flying adventures. His favorite one is his surprise delivery of flowers to his wife while she was working out of town. “My plan was to line up the aircraft and drop the flowers at her job site,” he said. “What I didn’t account for was that the wind was blowing at 100 miles an hour outside of the plane, so the flowers were ripped from my hand as soon as I opened the door.” His wife happened to look up in time to see a tiny glint falling from the sky into the nearby woods and decided to investigate. Miraculously, she found the flowers in the middle of a foot path, nearly unscathed.



“She was pretty happy about that,” said Ready.

For additional information on the Georgia Tech Yellow Jacket Flying Club, visit www.yjfc.org.

Boy Scout Merit Badge Day at YJFC includes an in-flight experience, as well as learning about what it takes on the ground to get a plane in the air.

Each month, *JOM* profiles a TMS member and the activities, hobbies, or special interests that he or she pursues outside of the workplace. To suggest a candidate for this popular feature, contact Lynne Robinson at lrobinson@tms.org.

member news

Jay Narayan Receives O. Max Gardner Award

Jay Narayan, John C. C. Fan Family Distinguished Chair Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, North Carolina State University, is the 2014 recipient of the O. Max Gardner Award. This is the highest honor awarded to faculty by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors. The award is presented each year to a faculty member from one of the

system’s 17 campuses who is recognized as having “made the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race.” Narayan is widely recognized for his contributions to materials science, most notably in domain matching epitaxy—a method of combining nanomaterials that reduces defects in the semiconductor materials that affect LED efficiency.



Jay Narayan

Devesh Misra Receives Hind Rattan Award

Devesh Misra, Professor and Director, Center for Structural and Functional Materials, University of Louisiana, Lafayette, was honored with the 2014 Hind Rattan Award at a January ceremony in New Delhi, India. The award

recognized his service and contributions to his field, as well as his efforts in building relations between India and North America. The Hind Rattan Award is presented annually by the NRI Welfare Society of India.



Devesh Misra

In Memory of Jeffrey L. Evans

TMS extends its condolences to the family, friends, students, and colleagues of Jeffrey L. Evans, Associate Professor, University of Alabama, Huntsville, who passed away suddenly in May. He had recently been awarded tenure and had seen

his first Ph.D. student complete her course of study two days before his death. Among his proudest professional accomplishments was being selected for National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Award in 2012.