

Conversations with Chris Lord

Kathy and Ross Howitt



Sunday, October 28, 2018

Ross and I were in our hanger working on our plane when Chris “popped” in to say hi. It was a total surprise to see him and we had a wonderful conversation. He caught us up on all the news with his family and his business.

He said that tomorrow, Monday, he was going down to West Palm Beach to pick up a gyro. We knew a bit about the history with West Palm and Ross asked “how’s that gonna be”.

Chris kinda shrugged and said that the West Palm guys would be there and also the people from Spain. Chris said that the Spanish Company had not sold many gyros since he (Chris) left the company. Ross heard/got the impression that Chris was going to go down and get a machine that he knew needed some work.

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

I, Kathy, saw Chris 3 times and spoke to him 2 times.

At about 8:00 am I was at our hanger to pull our plane out and taxi it to JB Engines, on the KSEF field.

I stopped over and talked to Chris, who was in the hanger next to us. I asked Chris if he was going to West Palm and he said, no, he had gone yesterday. I asked how it went and he said that the gyro that he brought back had issues. He mentioned that the blade was not balanced and then listed 2-3 other problems which didn’t mean anything to me and I don’t remember what he said.

Chris said that he wondered if the 40 hours had been flown off. He said there was a way to show hours, without flying them. He said he had the equipment to determine this, but not here. He said his equipment was at home.

Chris said that he and Jeff had spent all last night, Monday, working on the gyro.

The next time I saw Chris was in the afternoon, around 2- 2:30 when the blue gyro was being fueled with the KSEF fuel truck. Ruban was fueling it and I asked for a ride in the fuel truck down to JB Engines to pick up my plane.

Chris and I chatted briefly. He just asked what they had found with our plane. I told him it appeared to be a clogged fuel injector on one of the new cylinders and they had cleaned it out. He said he was glad it was simple fix, big smile. We didn't talk further because I left with Ruban in the fuel truck.

As I was taxiing our plane back to the hanger, I passed the FBO. Chris had just pulled the blue gyro up to the Terminal and he was getting out of the gyro and heading into the terminal.

When I got back to the hanger, Jeff and I chatted a bit and then I pulled my plane into the hanger and left.

On my way home, I got news that there had been a "helicopter crash".