



January 2012

NavCom

News and Information for the Gwinnett County Chapter of the Experimental Aircraft Association
Chapter 690 Meets in Hangar #1 of the Sport Aviation Complex at Briscoe Field, 690 Airport Rd, Lawrenceville, GA

Special points of interest and upcoming events

- Sat. 1/21/12 Young Eagles next and first 2012 Fly Date
- Wed. 1/25/12 Explorers Meeting
- Tues. 1/24/12 Airport Expansion Meeting
- Sat. 2/4/12 Monthly Pancake Breakfast
- Fri. 2/10/12 Monthly Business Meeting and Explorers Meeting
- Sat. 2/11/12 A very special EAA 690 Chapter Meeting

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A New Year with New Ideas, New Members and Renewed Interest

As 2012 begins, we at EAA 690 hope everyone has a year filled with health; and for some the strength, courage, time and money to work on their home-builds. For all the pilots that come up with projects that they want to tackle, we hope you find the same. And for everyone that flies we hope most for safe flights and blue skies.

The first order of business took place at the Board Meeting on Tuesday, 1/10. According to our new President, Steve Ashby, we will keep some of the old traditions and also implement some new ideas. It all sounds very exciting and we look forward to a prosperous and growing chapter in 2012. (Just a brief connection to the prosperous part, Chapter Dues are due this month. Read more about this on page 2).

The second order of business started at about 6 pm on Friday, 1/13. It was a very **lucky** night that began with a huge number of folks, (25-30,

they had to add extra tables to accommodate everyone), coming together at the Flying Machine for what has become one of our favorite things to do. The camaraderie, stories and great food made for a fantastic prelude to our monthly chapter business meeting. After dinner we met with everyone at the hangar. There we shared more fellowship and time getting to know our newest members and possibly soon-to-be members. We found out more about upcoming events and shared various happenings with our chapter folks. You can get more information about the Board Meeting and the Chapter Business Meeting at the EAA 690 web page-www.eaa690.org

After the business part of the meeting and lots of delicious treats, we were wonderfully informed about gliders and a special "Kitty Hawk" event by Gilly Smith. Read more about his adventures on page 2.

Celebrating 100 years of flight with Gilly Smith



Our guest speaker at the Friday night Business Meeting was Gilly Smith. Flying is definitely Gilly's passion. He was born in South Carolina and moved to Atlanta when he was five years old. He has been flying gliders since 1959, thirty-eight of those years competitively, racking up a total of 2600 hours over 2001 flights. His longest flight of 300 miles lasted over five hours. He has a commercial glider ticket and has often taken friends for rides in his ASK-21 high performance glider of which over 750 were built. Gilly's is based at the Chilhowee Gliderport near Benton, TN. He says that he always looks up, whenever any aircraft flies overhead. When he spoke to Chapter 690 in 2005, he even brought his German-made ASW-27

glider to show, and assembled it outside the hangar. He recently sold his plane and now just flies for fun and leisure. ***He mentioned that he would look forward to taking any of us on a very special glider flight for only half the fee charged for the tow plane.***

Gilly presented a slide show while sharing numerous experiences with us. He is a true expert on planes without engines and explained just how a heavier-than-air craft can stay aloft and cover so much distance without artificial power.

Happy New Year from EAA 690 Membership Coordinator

It's time to renew your EAA 690 membership for 2012. Individual membership is \$30 per year, Family membership is \$40 per year and Student membership (18 and under) is \$10 per year. The membership form can be found and completed from the eaa690.org web site. The form is only needed if you are a new member or if any of your information has changed. You can now pay through our website (www.eaa690.org) using PayPal. You can also mail in your payment, bring it to the next meeting, or leave it in the box near the hanger door.

If you're not a member we would love to have you. If you have already renewed for 2012, thank you.

Continuing on the membership information topic, it is necessary to be a member of EAA National in order to be a member of Chapter 690 and there are great benefits that go with both memberships.

Cliff Aiken
EAA 690 Membership Coordinator
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Young Eagles November Update From Duane Huff-Program Coordinator

Young Eagles flown at the November rally totaled **36**. Eight pilots flew nineteen flights. The pilots were; David Balthaser-4 YE, Pat Bratton-6 YE, Duane Huff-4 YE, John Kimmons-4 YE, John Morgan-3YE, John Reitz-8YE, Pierre Rogler-3 YE, and Lynn Zahner-4 YE.

The ladies that worked registration Etc. were Ruth Bruns, Sheila Denna, Jeanne Ferguson, and Mary Jane Polizzotto.

Bob Krone conducted the pre-flight briefings and Hugh Carlton instructed the students on the flight simulators. The flightline volunteers were Herb Rusk, Lee Olson, Jimmie Rickerson, and Bill Ferguson.

The December rally went this way. About 25 kids showed up to go flying. But, because our (WIMPY) pilots would not fly because of some cross wind and low ceilings, they did not get to go for their Young Eagle flights. As a result, your YE coordinator, flew more Young Eagles in December than all the other pilots. I flew 2 YE that very same afternoon Ha! Ha!

Thanks again for these volunteers who worked the rally.

Dave Rushlow Memorial Service

As many may know, the Chapter lost a friend recently in Dave Rushlow, brother-in-law of Chapter 690 member's Lee & Linda Hockman. Dave was an EAA member and had flown many young eagles for the Gainesville chapter. Dave had 4 brothers, one of which was a twin, and a sister. He had sold his Stinson 108, Stinson Reliant, and most recently the Citabria that had been his father's and purchased a Bower's Fly Baby, and this was the plane he was flying.

Dave's Memorial Service will be held at 11:00AM on Saturday, January 21, at 19A- Jackson County Airport. The airport is 3 miles South of exit 140 & Interstate 85 on State Route 82 approximately 66 miles Northeast of Atlanta, GA.

The Service will be conducted by Phil Williams, Pastor of the White Pond Methodist Church in one of the two large hangars on the field (determined by the weather) and we will advise a day or two before the service and provide a map to the location.

Weather permitting, PLEASE fly in. It would be a GREAT tribute to Dave to have hundreds of aircraft on the field. But, under no circumstances compromise safety.

Dave's favorite food, as fellow pilots have seen it, hamburgers and hot-dogs, will be served following the service. Feel free to bring a covered dish if you are so inclined.

Home Builders Update



One of our new Business Meeting Talking Points that Steve Ashby asked was if there was anyone that would like to talk about their plane or how their building was going or just about anything they wished to say relating to flying, etc.

Well, guess what. The two great guys in the picture to the left (Jerry Fisher and David Henderson) shared the exciting event that Jerry completed his RV-7. But the really interesting part of the story was that David was the one to take the **1st** flight in Jerry's newly completed plane.

The weather looks like it is going to be getting better

Colin Martin Keeps his Head in the Clouds

excerpts taken from The Wharton

When he was a child, Colin Martin's mother Mary Pat took him to play on the playground at DeKalb-Peachtree Airport (PDK). Now, she gives a friendly warning to the parents there. "You better watch out," Mary Pat said. "I used to bring him here to play too when he was a child, now flying is his hobby."

Four years ago, at the age of 13, **Colin and a friend of his participated in a Young Eagles Association event at Briscoe Field in Gwinnett.** The event was designed to get young people interested in aviation. Apparently it worked. Colin said after he went up in a plane the first time he was hooked. "It's probably just in my blood. My grandfather was a private pilot," Colin said.

After his experience at Briscoe Field, Colin began looking for flight schools and found one at PDK. To pay for his lessons he mowed lawns and did other odd jobs. "I thought the money would get to him because, as much as we would have loved to pay for it for him, that was just not something we could do, but he found a way," Mary Pat said.

Colin, 17, is a senior at St. Pius High School and recently got his private pilot's license. Mary Pat is afraid of flying, but after Colin got his license she had to make good on a promise she made four years ago. "I told him if he got his license I would be the first one in the family to go up in the plane with him," Mary Pat said. "I thought it was just a fad." As Colin stood by the small Cessna he did his first solo flight in, he said the experience of being alone in the plane for the first time was surreal.

When he took his first solo flight, Colin's entire family came out to PDK and sat on the bleachers next to the playground to watch. Mary Pat and Colin's father Jim said they trust their son completely in the air by himself. Mary Pat finds comfort in the fact Colin's instructor trusts him enough to let him fly such an expensive plane alone, and Jim, whose father was a pilot, said at times it was a little "unnerving." "He's so responsible and so mature about the methods he follows, I know he's doing stuff the way he's told so I trust him," Jim said. Colin saved nearly \$7,500 to pay for his pilot's license and plans on going to college to make a career of flying. He said he plans to attend either Middle Georgia College or Auburn to obtain his commercial pilot's license. He wants to work for Delta or another major airline.

To date, Colin has spent nearly 60 hours in the air (the FAA minimum to obtain a license is 40). He said his favorite thing about flying is the freedom it offers him. "I've come here and taken friends from St. Pius up just for fun flights around and sightseeing," Colin said. "It's neat just to be able to just come out here and go fly."

"He said, 'Mom, I could rent a six person plane and we could fly to Florida,'" an option Mary Pat said she was all too happy to think over.

He is a nice looking young man. He looks especially happy standing next to the 172 that he rents but copyright laws would not allow the transfer of his picture from the article.

Classifieds

Members ads run for 2 issues. If you would like to continue the ad for an additional 2 issues, you must request it through the editor by e-mail, snail mail or phone call. This limit is set to keep the ads current and effective. Ads will be dated with month and year at the time of submission or renewal.



Mark your calendar - You won't want to **miss out on any of Chapter 690's meetings and activities.**

Our regular 1st Saturday Pancake Breakfasts feature aviation programs or activities. Our meetings, on the 2nd Friday of each month, include programs on a variety of topics.

Commercial Ad Rates

Business Card Size: \$10 / Is-

1/8 Page: \$15 / Issue \$40 / 3 Issues **1/4 Page: \$25 / Issue \$60 / 3 Issues**

Support our Advertisers!

Visit the EAA 690 AeroShoppe

Chapter Logo Items - Shirts, Hats, Vests Embroidered Patches, Hats, Vinyl Stickers

Etched Tempered Glass Mugs.
Oil Analysis Kits - *Only \$12*

The Chapter 690 AeroShoppe

... is a great place to find some unique & high quality gifts.... for birthdays, holidays, or just because ...

Gift cards (sets of 8) and ceramic coasters (sets of 4) featuring aviation photography by our own John Slemp.

Signed, hand colored (suitable for framing) prints of the B-17 by local artist Bill Eyke, III.

We have a very few autographed copies of SpaceShipOne: An Illustrated History by Dan Linehan available for \$35.



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Mention this ad for a 10% discount to EAA Chapter 690 members.

EAA Calendars

The 2012 EAA Calendars are in. If you ordered one, please see Lnor Levine or call her at 678-770-1877.

2011 Chapter Web-Site

Most of you know that the new Chapter web-site (www.eaa690.org) is up and running.

Please go ahead and register for the secure members only portion. The new features will be rolled out shortly. While you're at it, up-load your photo.

Speaking about photos, if you have photos of Chapter events, send them to [John Slemp](mailto:John_Slemp) or Joel Levine, jlevine@bellsouth.net for posting to the web-site's photo gallery.

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Newsletter for EAA Chapter 690

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Come Join Us!

Regular monthly meetings

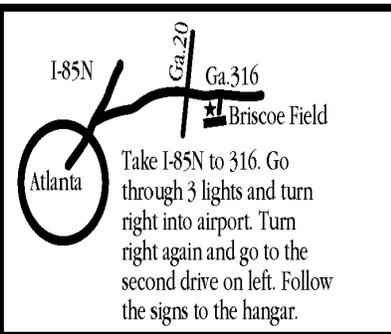
On the 2nd Friday of every month (except for August's Post Oshkosh Bash). In the Chapter Building at 8:00 p.m. Hangar flying before & after! Dinner at the Flying Machine prior to the meeting between 6-6:30.

Pancake Breakfast and Aviation Program or Activity

On the 1st Saturday of every month, in the Chapter Hangar.

Breakfast served 8:00 - 10:30 am

Cost: Adults \$6 Children \$3
Explorers \$4



Stymied by radio chatter when you fly?

The National Air Traffic Controllers Assoc. is having a free seminar: Communication for Safety 2012 Jan 30-Feb 1, 2012

For more information go to:
natcacfs.org/index.aspx

To register online go to:
natcacfs.org/registration.aspx

For additional information go to:
safety@aopa.org

Visit the EAA 690 Web-Site at www.eaa690.org