

TAILWINDS

2015 Holiday Hangar Hop



It was a rainy Saturday morning on December 12, 2015, when chapter members gathered for the annual Holiday Hangar Hop at Georgetown Municipal Airport. However, a rainy day will not keep aviation enthusiasts from an opportunity to share stories, tips, and of course, lunch!

The first stop on the hangar hop tour was Ken Firestone's RV-7A. Ken finished his beautiful blue and white RV-7A in 2013 after approximately six and a half years of construction. Ken shared some tips for keeping his prop in mint condition (the key is a thorough FOD check before starting up) and also let at least one of the taller chapter members try the airplane on for size.

Chapter members take a peak at Ken Firestone's RV-7A, the "Lottie Lou."

Next up was Cliff O'Meara's Ravin 500. Cliff was unable to be at the hangar hop, but graciously let everyone admire his airplane. The Ravin 500 is a sleek aircraft from South Africa that is based on the Piper PA-28 [Comanche]. According to the Ravin website, there are only 23 Ravin 500's in existence and only three in the United States, so it was quite the treat to see Cliff's.

The third stop was Rob and Haruko Reese's RV-12. Rob and Haruko built their RV-12 according to the rules for experimental light sport aircraft. Rob explained the modifications he made to the aircraft within the experimental light sport rules during the approximately three year build. Rob also showed off the "Wingamajig," which allowed him to rotate the wings of the RV-12 while he was painting the aircraft in his garage. Rob even offered the use of the Wingamajig to other builders!



Cliff O'Meara's Ravin 500.



Rob Reese explains some of the modifications he made to his RV-12.

The final stop of the hangar hop was John Nunn's Steen Skybolt project. The Steen Skybolt is a fabric covered aerobic biplane. John had the fuselage and one wing on display. It was quite interesting to see the wooden wing construction.

Once the hangar hop was complete, the group enjoyed a delicious lunch in the terminal building. Many thanks to the chefs who brought food including pulled pork, soups, sides, desserts.



One wing from John Nunn's Steen Skybolt.



Chapter members enjoy lunch and some "hangar flying."

January Chapter Banquet

The annual chapter banquet will be at 6 PM on January 23, 2016. The chapter banquet will be held in lieu of the regular January chapter meeting. The location is still TBD. Watch your email for details.

For sale? Events?

We plan to start monthly publication of the Tailwinds newsletter again in 2016, so if you have an event or something for sale that you would like to advertise in the newsletter, please email Valerie at valeriebarker@mac.com.

Upcoming Events

2016 Membership Dues

If you have not already paid your 2016 chapter membership dues, now is the time to pay! You can pay by Paypal using the link on the website (<http://www.eaa187.org/index.php/pay-due-donate>) or send a check for \$35 payable to EAA 187 to: ATTN: Rob Reese/Treasurer, 8100 Ephraim Road, Austin, TX 78717.

Rockdale Tiger Flight: Help us Build an RV-6!

Rockdale Tiger Flight is a group organized by several EAA 187 members in Rockdale, TX.

The group is focused on teaching mid- and high-schoolers airplane building skills. Our current projects are an RV-6 and a Zenith CH-601. We get together **every Saturday at 10 AM**, and focus on building those airplanes. We also offer **weekly Young Eagles rides** to kids, subject to weather and aircraft availability.

This weekly event is free to participants, and we are looking for help! Both kids and adults are welcome!

For more information, log on to rockdaletigerflight.org.



Rockdale Fly-Out

A group of local pilots are organizing a fly-out to Rockdale [KRCK] on January 9 from 11 AM to 4 PM. The group is working to organize lunch. Possibilities are Becky's Sandwiches or another local restaurant. For more information, contact Fi Dot at fi.dot.slc@gmail.com.

Pitch Hitter Training

The Waco chapter is hosting pitch hitter training on February 6 at the McGregor airport. This is a great opportunity for a frequent passenger to learn to safely land your airplane should something happen to you in flight. If interested, submit your RSVPs to smwiseman@gmail.com with the following information: Your passenger's experience in small (GA) aircraft, aircraft most often riding in, personal reasons for taking the course, expectations of the course (what you want to learn), and dietary restrictions, if any. Additionally, please send your \$30 check to "EAA Chapter 59 Treasurer Ken Langley; 1103 Evening Sun Lane; McGregor TX 76657." More information is available at: <http://www.houstonpinchhitter.weebly.com/>.

A Word from the President . . .

Happy New Year, 2016 to all Chapter Members and Aviation Friends!

Hope you had a wonderful time with your families and friends. As we start our new year, let's commit ourselves with great enthusiasm to participate in the good cause of EAA and spread the "Spirit of Aviation" to our community, shall we?

We would like to welcome Valerie Barker as a secretary in the Chapter Presidency! She is willing to start our Chapter newsletters once again! Way to go, Valerie! Please send her photos, articles, information on your project's progress and the events you attended to share. Remember, no news means no newsletter...

As we start 2016, we will need to:

1. Pay the Chapter dues of \$35 for 2016 (January ~ December) as soon as you can. We need to report the numbers of the members to EAA HQ. 55% dues are in. Please help! We need to update the Chapter Roster at the website before the end of January.

2. Switch your minds to the **Second Saturday** meeting at **Georgetown Municipal Airport (GTU) at 10:00a.m. every month**. Those people who live in South Austin, may find it easier to meet with San Marcos or Lakeway Chapters. Moving the New Braunfels Chapter to San Marcos Chapter was a part of this long term plan to provide all people somewhere near to attend the EAA meetings. We already have several members attending San Marcos Chapter who are still our Chapter members. If interested, please contact EAA 958 (San Marcos Chapter) at <http://www.958.eaachapter.org/> or Gerald Champaign who is a Chapter 187 member who lives in Buda at gerald.champagne@gmail.com. They meet on the Third Saturday at 10:00a.m. (Breakfast at 9:30a.m.) at Redbird Skyport at San Marcos Municipal Airport (HYI).

3. Put in your calendar our annual Chapter Banquet on Saturday, January 23 at 6:00p.m. The details will come later. We will not have our regularly scheduled meeting in January. Please check our website at eaa187.org.

4. Volunteer for vice president. We are still looking for a person who can work as our vice president. We have quite a few programs already lined up, so mainly we need a person who can attend most of the meetings and events, and participate in discussion on programs, event and problems in the presidency meetings. Please contact Haruko Reese.

There are many activities that all of us can volunteer throughout the year including Hangar Hop, Rockdale RV-6 project, pilots and ground for Young Eagles, Georgetown RV-12 project, refreshments/breakfast for monthly meetings, etc.

Please be involved to help EAA Chapter 187 fly high!

Haruko Reese
EAA Chapter 187 President

Chapter Officers

President - Haruko Reese
Secretary - Valerie Barker
Treasurer - Rob Reese

Chapter Board Members

Pete Christensen, Fly-in Chairman
John Nunn, Tool Chest Chairman
Anthony Plattsmaier

Young Eagles

Jimmy Cox, Marketing Chairman
Gary Hamilton
Stan Jensen

Chapter Technology Counselors

Seth Hancock
William Bennett
Deene Ogden

Chapter Flight Advisor

Deene Ogden

By-Laws Committee

Brad Bellamy
Ronald Panton

Webmaster

Fedor "Fidot" Fomichev

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