
TAILWINDS

Hangar Hop and Chapter Banquet Recap



In December, the chapter met at the Georgetown Airport for the annual December hangar hop and potluck. This year, we toured two hangars at the Tower T-hangars. Our first stop was to view Valerie Barker's 1960 Cessna 182C. The airplane has been in Valerie's family since 2000. Valerie told the group about some of the flying trips she has taken in the plane including a coast-to-coast trip with her dad after she took the Texas bar exam. Valerie's husband, David Biggs, also discussed future plans they have for upgrading the avionics.

Next we visited Ed Sinayi's Rotorway helicopter. Ed flew helicopters in the Army and has equipped his Rotorway kit with a turbine engine. He had received his airworthiness certificate the week before the hangar hop and was ready to start test flights. Ed started building his helicopter about five years ago. We can't wait to see Ed test flying his Rotorway around the airport.

After the hangar hop, everyone gathered at the terminal building for a lovely potluck lunch. Thank you to everyone who brought food to share.

In January, the chapter gathered at Tortuga Flats in Round Rock for the annual chapter banquet. The group enjoyed a delicious fajita dinner with plenty of chips and salsa.

After the dinner, the new chapter officers were introduced. Ken Matthews is the new chapter president. Ken is a 5th generation Texan and has been interested in aviation since he was a kid. He is an accomplished skydiver, having completed over 50 jumps. In his professional life, Ken is a processor designer and has a degree in electrical engineering from the University of Texas. In addition to aviation, Ken enjoys music including playing the piano and drums.



Chapter members enjoying the December potluck



Haruko accepts her appreciation award for her service as chapter president from incoming president, Ken

Our new chapter vice president is Haruko Reese. Haruko has been our president for the past four years. Haruko grew up in Japan and had dreams of being a member of the ski patrol and traveling the world during the off season. That all changed when she went to BYU to attend graduate school and met her future husband Rob. Haruko's son got her interested in aviation and she earned her pilot certificate 12 years ago. Haruko teaches piano lessons and works with language therapy for dyslexic students.

Our returning chapter secretary is Valerie Barker. Valerie grew up on a farm in Missouri where she started taking flying lessons at 15, soloed at 16, and got her private pilot certificate at 17. While in college, Valerie also earned her instrument rating and commercial pilot certificate. Valerie has a

degree in aerospace engineering from Oklahoma State University and worked as an engineer for 7 years at Lockheed Martin and Boeing before going to law school. Valerie is now an intellectual property attorney.

Our returning chapter treasurer is Rob Reese. Rob was raised in northern Utah and has an electrical engineering degree from Utah State University. Rob has always loved to do projects and has built an RV-12. He is now retired and spends a lot of his time mentoring high school students involved in Tango Flight.



First flight award recipients, Dennis (left) and Dan (right).

After the new officers were introduced, awards were given to the officers from the previous year as well as door prizes for some lucky winners. Finally it was time for the big awards - the First Flight Awards. Dennis Gerow had the first flight of his GF-4 the day after Thanksgiving. He started working on the plane in 2002 and was proud that building the wing was Tony Bingelis's last project. Dan Weyant accepted the first flight award on behalf of Tango Flight for an RV-12 built by students from East View High School. As a result of lots of hard work, Tango Flight was able to fly right before the end of the school year.

Project Spotlight: Scott Fish's Cozy MK IV

In December 2017, our Chapter's Cozy builder Scott Fish reached the milestone of completing all the major structural components through primer.

The [Cozy MK IV](#) is a canard pusher aircraft, designed by Nat Puffer/Burt Rutan. It follows the composite construction process of the Long EZ/VariEZ aircraft.

With the arrival of Scott's sons from college, they were able to assemble all the completed parts in the driveway and get an interim weight and balance. The weather

was cooperative and enabled a few pictures as well. Work continues (wings removed) in the garage this winter on the electrical system and initial engine fitting. With some luck finding a hanger this year to complete integration, Scott hopes to get a first flight by the end of 2018.



February Chapter Meeting

In February, we will be joined by Georgetown Airport Manager **Russ Volk** and Georgetown Tower Manager **Don Hall**, who will talk about the future of the airport.

We will have Pancake and French Toast breakfast at 9:30am if the weather cooperates, and the meeting will begin at 10 am at [Georgetown Municipal Airport's](#) terminal building. The address is [500 Terminal Dr, Georgetown, TX 78628](#).

Upcoming Events

Rockdale Tiger Flight

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. We finished our air conditioned shop at the Rockdale airport in Hangar 1 and now have a comfortable place to meet and work at the Rockdale airport.

We assembled a Max Air Drifter for rides and youth instruction. Our Zenith 610 HDS airframe is mostly finished and we are working on the Canopy now. We are also building a Corvair engine for the Zenith. We have all of the parts machine work is done on the engine, so now we are ready to build our We will also be starting on the RV-6 wing when the Zenith is finished.



and the engine.

We started a free evening Ground school in January and meet in our shop for the classes.

And we are open to all youth and adults. We have kids that travel 1.5 hours to help. We get together every Saturday at 10 AM to 4pm, 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, look at our Facebook page, Rockdale Tiger Flight, log on to rockdaletigerflight.org, or call Jimmy at 512-429-0230

Funding for the project is primarily from charitable donations. EAA Chapter 187, being a 501(c)3 non-profit, is helping fund this project. You can make a tax-deductible donation using PayPal below (accepts all major credit cards and bank accounts).

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=DXYNUJUQUVFDL

Take a Look at NOAA!

Courtesy of Pete Christensen, we are featuring an article from ATC controller, Rose Marie Kern. Republished with permission.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has been around in one sense or another for 200 years now and is the governmentally administered parent organization to all the weather products used in aviation. Although President Thomas Jefferson originally founded the U.S. Coast and Geodetic Survey to provide nautical charts to the maritime community, its mission was broadened dramatically after the creation and addition of the Weather Bureau and the U.S. Commission of Fish and Fisheries. The convergence of these missions created America's first physical science agency.

Today it has metamorphosed into a community of scientists and engineers imbued with a vocation for scientific accuracy and precision and whose focus is the protection of life, property and the stewardship of resources. Their research extends from the sun to the ocean and the information they accumulate and distribute affects everyone on the planet.



NOAA has recently revised its website which I highly recommend to anyone interested in the sciences. Easy to navigate, it is rich with information in a format that rivals the simplicity of watching any dedicated science channel on television – but with far greater options.

Does NOAA have a presence in your state or community? You can find out where and what activities they undertake by going to <http://www.noaa.gov/about-our-agency> and looking at the right hand side bar for a link to NOAA IN YOUR STATE. This lists all the offices in your area along with their resources and focus of study.

Of course, the information of greatest interest to aviation has to do with the accumulation and interpretation of data concerning weather from the surface to the stratosphere. The primary office for this is the National Weather Service (NWS). Of course, the NWS is tasked with accumulating and forecasting weather for a wide variety of interests from the average person needing to know tomorrow is a good day to picnic to warning the entire nation when severe weather is expected to cause major destruction.

The NWS homepage, www.weather.gov, always shows what extreme weather is expected and where. If you scroll to the bottom you see a long list of options for your research. Modern

technology allows the NWS to archive its data – useful to determining trends and for pilots (and their insurance companies) to research factors involved in accidents.

Aviation is not the NWS's only focus, nor is it the largest. The list of weblinks on the bottom places aviation squarely in the center of its Information section. www.aviationweather.gov shows the charts and information which form the nucleus of the data distributed to all the sites normally perused by pilots prior to their flights. Whether you access that data from the Flight Service website, Foreflight, Duats or any other briefing service, it has been seized from the NWS reports and remastered in a manner each company feels pilots may interpret easier.

If your interest extends beyond the Pilot Briefing, you may want to take a moment to read through and enjoy the vast networks of information and graphics available through the NOAA website. www.noaa.gov.

***Rose Marie Kern** received her Aviation Weather Forecasting certification from the National Weather Service in 1998 when she became qualified as a Flight Watch specialist. This in addition to her years in all branches of Air Traffic Control incited a lifelong fascination for the vast study of weather and its*

Chapter Officers

President - Ken Matthews
Vice President - Haruko Reese
Secretary - Valerie Barker
Treasurer - Rob Reese

Young Eagles Coordinators

Jimmy Cox
Fi Dot Fomichev

Chapter Flight Advisor

Deene Ogden

Chapter Technology Counselors

Seth Hancock
William Bennett
Deene Ogden

Webmaster

Fedor "Fidot" Fomichev

Newsletter

Valerie Barker

Send submissions to:
valeriebarker@mac.com

Tool Chest

Gary Hamilton

Chapter Board Members

John Nunn (2015-2016)
Deene Ogden (2016-2017)

Meetings

Georgetown Municipal Airport (KGTU)
Terminal
2nd Saturday each mont at 10 AM

eaa187.org