



April 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:

- **Tues. Apr 24**-Very Important Airport Privatization Meeting
- **Fri. May 11th**-Next Chapter Business Meeting
- **Sat. May 19th**-Next Young Eagles Flights
- **Sat. May 26th**-DC-3 comes to LZU

## Inside

Young Eagles	2
A New Young Pilot	2
Young Eagles T-Shirts	2
A "Never Again" Story	3
Successful Cleaning Day	3
George Strobel	4
Summer Camp	4
BOC Meeting	4
New & Different Dinner	4
Plane Builders	5
More Sun N' Fun Pictures	5
Misc Information	6

## Beautiful Planes, Great Shows, Old Friends, New Friends, Lots to See, Lots to Buy, Heat and Dirt

These are just a few of the things found at this years' Sun N' Fun. Most of the fun was had seeing Chapter Buddies, hanging out at the food tents enjoying a refreshing drink and the shade and doing the normal plane and flight chatter.

Some of us had fun manning the Technical Counselors Shack, others enjoyed being at Sun N' Fun for the first time and seeing all the vendors and their goodies. And, of course, the vendors enjoyed selling lots of their stuff to the wide-eyed first time shoppers. And then others of us got "really good" deals from the vendors.

Going through the Florida Air Museum was another highlight. Seeing numerous amazing planes and reading interesting facts about Howard Hughes, the Women of Aviation and many other

plane enthusiasts. Another treat was seeing and hearing the Boeing B-29 Superfortress "FIFI" of the Commemorative Air Force and meeting some of her pilots.

Seeing chapter friends and other old friends as well as meeting new ones is still one of best parts of this and other air shows. One of the least enjoyable parts of Sun N' Fun for the ladies are the Port-O-Potties but a smile returns after finding the fancy ones that are air-conditioned with all the conveniences and niceties of home. On several occasions there was even someone there to help you open and close the heavy outside door. The heat and the dirt are just another part of the area and what makes Sun N' Fun what it is.

Over all, a great time was had by all. Except for Forrest, see page 3.



**FIFI Rocks and Roars!!**



## Young Eagles March Update From Duane Huff-Program Coordinator

Very dark ominous clouds hung out to the north and east of the field when we arrived the morning of our Young Eagles rally. With the hangar full of people, we had to wait for the weather to clear. Registration was started and preflight briefings were given and the flying began late around 10:00 to 10:30 AM. and finished after 4:00 PM.

Eight pilots flew sixty nine (69) Young Eagles. The pilots were: David Balthaser 4 flights & 12 YE, Michael Christmann 5 flights & 5 YE, Randy Epstein 3 flights & 8 YE, Nate Griffin 2 flights & 6 YE, Duane Huff 9 flights & 9 YE, John Reitz 5 flights & 14 YE, Chuck Roberts 3 flights & 9 YE, and Jerry Shingleton 3 flights & 6 YE. We welcome Michael Christmann as our newest Young Eagle Pilot.

Jeanne Ferguson, Ruth Bruhns, Gay Roberts, Lnor Levine, Barbara Epstein, Lynn Zahner and Alison registered

the Young Eagles, printed the certificates, filled in the log books and keep everything running smoothly.

Bob Krone and Art Farmer conducted the preflight briefings and Hugh Colton and Rich Hopkins manned the flight simulators. Rich brought his own simulator making a total of three in use.

Ground crew and safety officers were Herb Rusk, David Reynolds, Bill Ferguson, Jonathan Meyer, Dennis Crossgrove, Billy Stewart, Wilson Mejia, Lee Olson, Clark Elliot, Vincent Rutagure and Walter Deere.

Fourteen of these Young Eagles had flown as YE previously.

Once again, Many Thanks to all who participated to make this a very successful Young Eagles Rally.

### Another Special Goal

Zak Clement, son of Gordon and Mary Clement passed his Private flight test last Saturday. The photo is a proud Gordon with Zak. Last year the Chapter awarded Zak a stipend to help with his flying.



### Young Eagles T-Shirts



There are fantastic looking T-Shirts and Sweatshirts available in a variety of sizes and also with just the Chapter Logo printed on them.

Go to [www.yellowllama.com/ea690](http://www.yellowllama.com/ea690) for more details and to order.

## Forrest's "Never Again" Story

On March 29th, I was heading to Sun-N-Fun. Another pilot (Mike) was with me, in my Defiant. Probably doing too much talking, and not enough attention to flying. We were nearly half way there, almost to the Waycross (AYS) VOR (GPS waypoint). An engine started running really rough, so bad I couldn't read the compass. I thought I may have lost part of a prop, so I pulled back the power, and it got better. I pushed the throttles forward one at a time, and determined the rear engine was the problem, so I shut it down. Meantime, Mike pushed the "nearest airport" button on the GPS. We were 6 miles from a 6000' runway, and at 9500'. Might have made it with no engine, but a spare was really nice :-)

The people there (DQH) were really nice, let me leave it there for free, and even put it into an open-bay T-hanger. Mike and I opted to rent a car, and continue to Sun-N-Fun. I was talking to another pilot friend, about how I was going to get it home, and he suggested flying it on one engine. I had actually done that on my first flight, since the rear engine wasn't putting out any power. His plane is actually certifies to depart on one engine (Rockwell Twin Commander).

Saturday), I got a ride down to DQH. We had to take a new battery, because the one that starts the front engine was weak, and there isn't a big enough cable between engines to use the good battery.. It took an hour or so to replace the battery. We also removed the propeller off the rear engine, to reduce drag. While I was doing that, I turned the engine with the propeller. It was a little hard to turn, and pretty noisy. That isn't a good sign, but

since I could turn it all, it means it may be possible to overhaul the engine.

The Runway there is 6000', so I decided that if I was in the air at 3000' I would go on home, but if not I would abort, while I had enough runway to stop. To be sure that I would be light enough to get in the air, I emptied most of my fuel, giving it to some other pilots that were there to watch.

I did a "rolling start" from the taxiway onto the runway, to get as much speed as possible. I was barely fast enough at 3000' to lift the plane off the ground, but there weren't any obstacles, so I went ahead and took off. Retracting the nose gear helped some, but it was really slow climbing. It took over 20 minutes to get up to 4500'. It usually takes under 5 minutes, and wouldn't go nearly as fast as normal. I turned out early, and to my surprise, lost altitude in the turn, because I was going so slow. The reason the plane was so slow is that I have cruise props, there was always plenty of takeoff speed with both engines running

Since I didn't have a lot of spare fuel, I tried switching fuel tanks while I could still turn back. Usually I fly with one tank feeding one engine, and the second tank feeding the other engine. I took off that way, but needed to know if it would run on the other tank before getting too far from the airport. I accidentally turned it OFF ::)

I switched back quickly, and it started back up.

## A Very Successful Cleaning Day Submitted by Jerry Fischer

I would like you to thank the following volunteers who helped with the Hangar Cleaning Day on Saturday, April 14th.

Bill Ferguson, John Slemp, Billy Stewart, Duane Huff, Dave Henderson, Lee Olson, Walter Deere, Jimmy Rickerson, Hugh Cotton, Mike Davidson and Dave Balthaser, and any I may have missed, I apologize.

We had a very productive day & nice weather, with pizza provided by EAA 690.

All Chapter members; Please remember to get trained on any equipment in the tool room that you need to use, this is for your own safety. We will be having training sessions on an as requested basis by one of us who knows the proper procedure. David Posey, David

Rowe, Jerry Fischer, Duane Huff, Larry Bishop, Greg Janakos and others who have been previously trained will be happy to show you the proper way to use the miter saw, end mill, drill press, bending brake, and other equipment if you need to use them on your project.

The tool room is for all chapter members use and we would really appreciate your leaving it better than you found it.

Thanks again

Bill Ferguson & Jerry Fischer

Co-chairmen of the BOT

## Remembering George W. Strobel

George W. Strobel, of Lawrenceville, GA was born on September 3, 1920 and died April 8, 2012. He passed away on Easter Sunday morning in Sarasota, FL after being diagnosed with a brain tumor 3 weeks earlier. His will be buried with full military honors in the VA cemetery in Sarasota. For those who knew

him we feel a terrible void. His wife Joannie shared a beautiful thought: "George didn't have to go through Atlanta to go to heaven, he went straight up!!" George and Joannie are chapter members that many of us will remember.

## Sliders and Dogs Dinner Friday, March 9th Submitted by our Food Service Chairwomen, Jill East

Our newest event for 2012 was the Sliders and Dogs Dinner before the monthly business meeting. At this event everyone had the opportunity to buy any combination of three sliders (small hamburgers) and hot dogs along with chips and a drink for \$5.00. Everyone seemed to enjoy the meal and they got to spend time with each other without distracting noise.

My part was cooking the hot dogs which did not require a diploma!! The best way to cook them just happens to be the way that I've always cooked them.

Jennifer North and Laura Bishop also helped as well as Terry Hurst. We had a good time in the kitchen with Lee Olson and Steve Ashby. I think this might be done on a quarterly basis and that would be fun. I, along with the slider crew, are ready for more fun the next time we have it at the EAA building.

## Item for Sale

Glastar kit #5747. \$23,500 Flying surfaces completed except for installing wing top skins. Fuselage halves joined and cage partially attached to fuselage. Tools included along with several factory options including

cast rudder pedals and long range wing tanks. Tri-gear but can be built as TD or tri-gear. See it in Athens. Call Cecil Oglesby @ 706-549-2197 or 706-615-5094. (hcoglesby@gmail.com)

## Attend If You Can, It's Very Important

**The April Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners Meeting will be Tuesday, April 24th @ 7:00 PM in the Justice & Administration Center, Langley**

**Drive, Lawrenceville. A very large turn out to oppose the Privatization of LZU is needed.**

## Summer Day Camp

We are looking forward to this years Plane Builders Day Camp June 11-15 being led by Debi Huffman. This is sure to be a very special event for all the young people that are going to participate. And the Chapter is espe-

cially thankful to the many chapter volunteers that will be assisting. More information about the Camp is available at the EAA website, [www.eaa690.org](http://www.eaa690.org), and in the May and June newsletters.



## Plane Builders Updates

The latest information from our Plane/Home Builders is as follows: Jerry Fisher has an RV7 in Phase 1 Testing and had a Slow Flight; Dave Haskell was improving his glass and acrylic talent by removing a scratch; Steve Ashby has an RV8A-Tandem and is working on finishing

the canopy and doing some fiberglass work.

We would like to include all our home built peoples information on their project. Please send your updates to Barbara\_epstein@hotmail.com by the 25th of each month to be included in the following months NavCom.

## More Sun N' Fun Pictures



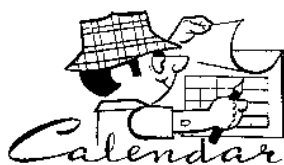
Ernie Schnack, a past instructor at the flight school, looks great and is doing wonderful things taking care of his wife.



**Amazing!!!**

### 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 / Issue  
\$25 / 3 Issues

**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.



*"South's Friendliest Little Pilot Shop"*

We stock supplies for the aviation enthusiast, the student pilot, the general aviation pilot and professional pilot.

**Leonard Harris**  
**"Air Boss"**

Dekalb-Peachtree Airport  
1954 Airport Road  
Suite 66  
Atlanta, Georgia 30341  
Phone: (770) 451-2066  
Toll Free: (800) 421-8748  
E-mail:  
[info@wingspdk.com](mailto:info@wingspdk.com)  
[www.wingspdk.com](http://www.wingspdk.com)

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

## NAVCOM

### Newsletter of EAA Chapter 690

**Editor:** Barbara Epstein

**Email:** [barbara\\_epstein@hotmail.com](mailto:barbara_epstein@hotmail.com)

### 2011 Chapter Web-Site

Most of you know that the new Chapter web-site [www.eaa690.org](http://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](mailto:jlevine@bellsouth.net) for posting to the web-site's photo gallery.