



# The Ramp Page



## The Monthly Newsletter of the Sherman, TX EAA Chapter 323

**August 2017**

### Monthly Meeting—Thursday August 17

This month weather is the topic will feature Mark Fox, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Fort Worth. The meeting will start at 7 pm in the terminal building of the Sherman Municipal Airport.

### Visit to Fort Worth Center

On a warm Saturday August 5<sup>th</sup> morning, 5 members of the chapter braved the big city traffic and made their way to Fort Worth Center. The building is actually located just south of the DFW airport off of Hwy 360. The tour started at 10 am. After going through security and receiving a visitors badge we were escorted from the guard house to a conference room inside a plain looking building with several towers in front of it. Our guide was Jeff, a 10 year veteran ATC controller. We spent an hour in the conference room, as Jeff explained the complex map that ZFW controls and how the system operates. We were then escorted to the floor where the controllers work. The lights are kept low, and the room is divided in sections with each section controlling a portion of the airspace. We got to "plug into" the panel and listen to a controller as he or she guided traffic safely through their sector and then handed them off to the next sector. The controllers were very accommodating and explained what they were doing in between calls to aircraft. It was a great experience and I encourage you to tag along on the next tour. One thing that I took away from the experience was this: Flight Following is a tool that we should all use when we fly. Jeff explained that it is not a problem for the controllers to provide this service. They actually prefer to have contact with "targets" on their radar scope and be able to contact an aircraft if a potential conflict appears imminent. Using flight following makes the skies safer for everyone. We were unable to take photos in the building, so Jeff was kind enough to take this picture as he escorted us out to the parking lot.



## Upcoming Chapter Events

|                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Thursday August 17    | Monthly Thursday meeting at the Sherman Airport Terminal<br><i>Subject: National Weather Service Fort Worth Meteorologist</i> |
| Saturday September 2  | No first Saturday event—will be later in the month  |
| Thursday September 21 | Monthly Thursday meeting at the Sherman Airport Terminal<br><i>Subject: Kyle Thomas—Designated Pilot Examiner</i>             |
| Saturday September 23 | Young Eagle's Rally   |
| Saturday October 7    | Annual Brushy Creek Fly-In  |
| Thursday October 19   | Monthly Thursday meeting at the Sherman Airport Terminal<br><i>Subject: Condition Inspections—Mel Asbury</i>                  |
| Saturday November 4   | Flyout to Hicks Field for Breakfast   |
| Thursday November 16  | Monthly Thursday meeting at the Sherman Airport Terminal<br><i>Subject: Basic Med—Dr. Jasyn M Haney</i>                       |
| Saturday December 2   | Cedar Mills Flyout or Drive Out (Weather Dependent)   |
| Thursday December 21  | <b>Annual Christmas Party!</b>  |

## Officers/Board of Directors/Key Coordinators

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