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**IN THIS ISSUE:**

December  
Meeting Minutes  
Page 2

Ruby Lanich  
Memorial.  
Page 3

Russian GPS  
Page 5

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**EAA MILE HIGH CHAPTER 43**

*Founded 1957*

# **MILE HIGH FLYER**

*The Official Monthly Newsletter of EAA Chapter 43*



## **LOOKING BACK AT THE NEW YEAR**

Now, you're probably thinking that this new editor doesn't understand that you can't look back at what's ahead. OK, but we can pause to reflect on the triumphs and tragedies of 2005 while looking in askance and wonderment at 2006. The triumphs have included several "First Flights" and the Regional Fly-in success; the tragedy of a "Last Flight" that resulted in the loss of two of our cherished chapter members. We can only hope that the New Year has many more triumphs and no tragedies, but that will be something that won't happen by itself.

As a chapter, we will need to stay focused and work hard to maintain the level of success we have had in the past. Many of our members have worked very hard this past year to ensure that our Mile High Chapter could provide a very beneficial service to it's members. We can be thankful that we have a new "permanent" meeting place that is comfortable, clean, and spacious, due to the efforts of Steve Beach and Mark Graf. And a big thanks to John Evens and Stephanie Wells and others for their work in finding us a suitable facility for our annual banquet!

Continued on page 5

**JANUARY MEETING/BANQUET - JANUARY 14, 2006, 5:00PM - 8:00PM.  
WHITE ROSE ROOM, 6644 WADSWORTH BLVD. (RESERVATIONS/PAYMENT IN ADVANCE REQUIRED).** Directions: Take Wadsworth Blvd. to 66th, turn east on 66th to first parking lot entrance. Turn south into parking lot. Please park only in the White Rose parking area.

## December Meeting Minutes

Meeting was held in the Mount Evans Room at the Terminal Building at Jeffco Airport. Our new President, Roger Newman, opened the meeting at 7PM.

Roger welcomed us and recognized the **visitors**.

**Ron Langford** of Aurora CO. **Steve Simms** of Arvada CO. **Corey Crawford** of Wheat Ridge CO.

**Old Business:** Steve Beach said the first board meeting of the "Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-in" (R.M.R.F.I.), and the recruiting of upper level volunteer positions had started. The meetings will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 3PM at Front Range Airport.

Steve also reported on the Gala at the **Wings Over The Rockies Museum** where the young people were challenged to build a model of a spacecraft. Speakers included Burt Rutan.

**Treasurer Report:** Bob Wilson reported income and expenses and gave our bank balance. This meeting marked Bob's last report and he was thanked for his years of service as the chapter treasurer.

**Trip Reports:** Bob Young attended the Nellis Air Show. The performance by the planes and pilots was captivating. Public transportation to and from the event could use some better planning. The 3-mile Viet Nam Veterans parade in downtown Las Vegas was very fulfilling.

Joe Jones also attended the "Welcome Home" event. The USO show was a huge success and well attended. Joe also had an art show at the Wings Museum on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Progress Reports:** **Gene Horsman** reported that the 3<sup>rd</sup> wing was started on his Mercury at his home. It will take the most restoration because of the deterioration.

**Greg Hall** said his sister did the upholstery on one seat of his Fisher Horizon. Maybe his wife will get to park in the garage someday after all.

**New Business:** It was decided that the chapter donate \$250 each to the families of Ron Denight and Ruby Lanich. The money will go for the purchase of a brick at Oshkosh in memory of Ron. Ruby's family chose the Basset Hound Rescue.

**Lynn Miller** was elected as our new treasurer. John Burton (CPA) was another candidate and will offer assistance.

**The annual banquet** will be on January 14<sup>th</sup> at White Rose Room from 5-8PM.

**Gene Horsman** reported on grammar and other changes to our By-Laws and the attending members voted and accepted them.

**Adjourned By Dean Cochran** at 8PM. A video by Joe Jones and the DVD of our regional followed.

## RUBY LANICH MEMORIAL

*Gene Horsman has exchanged a few emails with Ruby Lanich's sister regarding the memorial check sent to the Basset Hound Rescue in Ruby's name. The following are a couple of those emails:*

I just received this response from Ruby Lanich's sister, Gwen Yee, from an e-mail I sent her. Bob, this is the address to send that \$250 check from the chapter to. Please remember to tell them that it is a memorial for Ruby from EAA Chapter 43.

Mark, The amounts were approved for both at the meeting on the 10th. - Ron's to go toward the brick and Ruby's to go to the Basset Hound Rescue group.

PS: I explained to her why the papers did not release Ruby's name at the time of the crash and how an unnamed chapter member was able to find their names and addresses and let the coroner and sheriff know. A second email from Ms. Yee follows on page 3.

Gene

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Good Morning Gene

I am so pleased that you are honoring Ruby in this way. I understand the problems you have encountered re: the family's wishes. If it is any consolation for some of you, Ruby and Ed will be remembered in Oshkosh anyway. When I get her Estate settled it will be going to POW charities and 10% will be going to the experimental division in Oshkosh where she and Ed started their interest in experimental aircraft.

Our family was a little disappointed in seeing her referred as the unidentified passenger in all the newspaper articles. Her life was full and she did deserve some recognition for all she did for others. The Berthoud reporter and the Berthoud Library and Basset Rescue have found some neat ways to recognize her.

Feel free to put my name and numbers out to people who would gain some closure by talking to her family members. I am her youngest sister but there are others who were close to her. Thanks again and send that on to all your members.

I have some fantastic pictures of Ruby by herself and Ron by himself completely rebuilding the Ercoupe. When I have time I am putting a slide show together if anyone is interested.

Merry Christmas

Gwen Yee

303-986-1475

yeebrl@aol.com, gyee@jeffco.k12.co.us

Brian Hoffmann, Basset Rescue, 1300 Luke Street, Fort Collins, Co. 80524

A second email from Ms. Yee follows on the next page.

Gwen Yee email, continued.

Bob, Dave and Mark,

Here is a follow-up note from Gwen Yee. Thought you would be interested in her kind words about the chapter and some of Ruby's history, that I for one, was not aware of.

Dave, maybe you can put together excerpts from the two notes, or print as is, your prerogative, for the newsletter. I think the chapter deserves to know some of these things about Ruby.

Gene

\*\*\*\*\*

Gene

Ruby has chosen to divide up her estate in the memory of her late husband Edward Lanich who was an Air Force Flight Engineer and gunner on the B-17 Flying Fortress. 10% will be used to restore and preserve this plane, through the EAA in Oshkosh, Wisconsin. He was a native of Wisconsin. Ruby and Ed were involved with the EAA in Oshkosh during the time they lived in Janesville Wisconsin. Ed was a W.W.II Germany POW for 18 months so 60% will go to the Prisoner of War Museum, Andersonville, in memory of Ed and his wife Ruby. (She and Ron flew several items up to that Museum, that belonged to Ed while in the prisons. She was able to donate them to that Museum in person.)

Ruby was devastated when she lost Ed after 25 years of marriage. It was her strong friendship with Mary Mitchell and after she met people like Ron, and the other members of your group that she was able to continue her love of flying. You people were her life. I think you are such a special group of people. Instead of getting old you people jump in a plane and have pancakes in another state or work months on a plane to restore it. Ruby didn't talk much about her job, but always had a flying story for the kids on her block or anyone who would listen. The neighbors and kids in her area still come by and ask about her and her dogs when they see us at the house.

I met Ron when he was working on her house and also at a fly-in and at a special presentation they attended in Las Cruces, for our sister who is a NASA Research Scientist, (as sisters, they were very close but their jobs and hobbies kept them very busy). Several other members of my family had met Ron on different occasions too. He was a very important friend in her life, as he was in so many of yours. The sudden lose of two people with so much knowledge to offer others is just so hard to accept.

I will be busy on Ruby's estate for a while but I will get to the pictures soon. My husband and I have the bassets, Maggie and Binky. They are doing well. Binky always loved my husband and sons and remembered our backyard, so she gets around okay. She is eating again and is not completely blind, like everyone thought. She can see our cats and the minute they stick their head out and chases them. Maggie is the pup, she is a joy to have around and our small dogs enjoy trying to play with her. The bassets have sure been a big help to me.

Thanks again for your donations and for being her friends and for the cards and phone calls from several members.

Gwen Yee

**Looking Back**, continued from page 1.

Each of us can contribute something in our own way. Just being a chapter member and participant facilitates the camaraderie and education that helps each of us enjoy and foster our interest in aviation, which is what our EAA Chapter 43 is all about.

We hope that all our members continue to participate, if only by your attendance, but you can contribute so much more just by speaking out, volunteering, and asking questions that many of us are certain to need answers to. Please send any information, photos, aviation related jokes, stories, and articles you may have to the newsletter editor. Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

Here's a New Year's Toast to 2006! May we continue to have many more victories unaccompanied by misfortune. *Dave*

The following article was printed in the *Loveland Reporter - Herald*. It will be interesting to see how this becomes incorporated.

Thursday Reporter-Herald December 29, 2005 C7

## Europeans enter GPS competition

### Russian launch signals end of U.S. monopoly

PARIS (AP) — The European Union launched the first satellite in its Galileo navigation program on Wednesday, which European officials expect one day will end the continent's reliance on the U.S. Global Positioning System.

The Galileo satellite, named "Giove A," took off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan aboard a Soyuz rocket. Journalists monitored the liftoff through a linkup at the European Space Agency headquarters in Paris.

After the launch amid clear skies, the satellite was released into orbit and began transmitting signals, scientists said.

The \$4 billion Galileo project will eventually use about 30 satellites and is expected to more than double GPS coverage, providing satellite navigation for everyone from motorists to sailors to mapmakers. Because Galileo is under civilian control, the ESA also says it can guarantee operation at almost all times, unlike the American system.

Last year, President Bush or-



The Associated Press

The GIOVE-A, the first satellite in the EU's Galileo satellite navigation program, mated with the Soyuz launcher, blasts off Wednesday from the Baikonur Cosmodrome.

dered plans for temporarily disabling GPS satellites during national crises to prevent terrorists from using the navigational technology.

Galileo will also be more exact than GPS, with precision of about three feet, compared to about 16 feet with GPS technology, ESA spokesman Franco Bonacina said. With Galileo, for example, rescue services will be able to tell ambulance drivers which lane to use on the highway, he said.

## EAA Mile High Chapter 43

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**Mile High Flyer**  
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 Data Base Editor  
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FIRST CLASS



**THIS MONTH'S MEETING / ANNUAL BANQUET:**  
 Saturday, January 14th, 5:00 PM. at The White Rose Room,  
 6644 Wadsworth Blvd. Info inside.