



The Denton Flyer

Newsletter of EAA Chapter 661, Denton, TX

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Next Meeting:

By now, I bet you know we are meeting at US Aviation, 4850 Spartan Drive, on the field at KDTO. It is equally likely that you know the meeting is up the stairs, the first door on the right, in Classroom Bravo. The meeting starts at 1200, on Saturday, 4 June.

Our guest speaker will be Chad Smolik. He will talk to us about aircraft insurance and take questions from the crowd.



At The Last Meeting:

At the meeting in May, we heard from Darrin Towers. Darrin talked about his Zenith. Good, talk, Darrin. Thank you.

Name Tags:

Maybe you have had this experience. You're walking down the hall in the squadron, and you happen to meet the wing commander. From fifteen feet away, he greets you and calls you by name. Now, why would the Wing King know your name? Are you in deep trouble and don't know it yet? Or, is the boss using his fighter pilot vision to read your name tag as he approaches?

Give yourself the benefit of the doubt. Request a name tag from Stormy and decorate it as you choose. Wear it to every EAA event. It comes with "EAA" and "Chapter 661, Denton, TX" emblazoned on it. Beyond that, it's up to you. Take it home and break out the craft paint and airbrush. Or, ask Stormy to

print out a label. It can be your name, call sign, blood type, and/or political affiliation. (Just kidding! I wouldn't want to see you A-Negative guys singled out.)



Young Eagles Event THIS SATURDAY:

NOW HEAR THIS! Your EAA Chapter 661 is hosting a Young Eagles Event on Saturday, before the monthly chapter meeting. This event is specifically for the Denton ISD and the students who will be attending US Aviation Academy's ground school in the fall. Our Coordinator of Youthful Enthusiasm, Mike Farlow, has pilots and airplanes standing by. However, he needs **five more people to help with support activities on the ground**. This volunteer opportunity is open to anyone who wishes to help. There are no special training, licensing, or certifications required.

The Young Eagles Event starts at 0700 Central Daylight Time (CDT). If you fly for Southwest, that's 7am, Tulsa time. If you fly for the US Navy, it's six bells. If you fly for the USAF, ask your

navigator. He can explain it. Everything should be wrapped up by 1100, giving you ample time to dress your wounds and be in place for the monthly meeting at 1200.

Mike asks anyone interested in helping to show up at least 15 minutes early so you can get your assignments and a briefing. If you would like to help, snap an email out to Mike at mike@mikefarlow.com.

Member of the Month:

Buck Rivets writes: This is the second episode of the MotM feature. In a fit of commitment and dedication so typical of his character, our Membership Czar, Tony Jones offered up himself as this month's exhibit. Here is the effluence of Tony's "personal interview:"

Hello to everyone in EAA 661. I hope everyone's planes are still tied down after this windy spring we've had! I'm certainly looking forward to some calmer winds and fun flying in the months ahead. This month's MotM will be a bit different from what I planned. An unforeseen and complex scheduling storm boiled up and forced a change of plans. With that said, this month is a bit of a 'get to know your chapter leadership' article combined with the MotM! This month, I will be interviewing myself and writing about me for the monthly article. Please bear with me.

As it happens, I finally have time to write this article while winging my way over the North Atlantic on a 777, on my way home from Italy, in between other tasks related to my main job, flying corporate/charter aircraft. I am relatively new to EAA 661, having joined the group at the first of the year. I was fortunate enough to grow up in aviation and EAA in particular. My father had an Aeronca Champ when I was young, and he donated his time as the Vice President of EAA 262 out of Columbia, SC. It was a glorious childhood, spending my weekends around Champs, Cubs, Stinsons, and Stearmans. That led to a lifelong passion for all things aviation. While I strayed away in my teenage years due to youth, moves, and a time consuming "career" in Hockey; I always knew deep down where my passion and heart lie. I ended up attending the University of South Carolina which was located a mere two miles from the airport where I grew up. I found my way back

into that community and worked on my private license while working the line in between classes.

After earning my PPL at age 20, I finished my college degree and headed out into the big world to earn all those advanced ratings. I accomplished those and began life as an instructor, working my way into the industry. In time, I was able to move into a job flying Barons and Chieftains for AirNet Express while living the freight dog life. After some ups and downs in the industry, I had flown the Falcon 20 (both freight and charter configurations) and the Falcon 50. I had also been a Falcon 2000EASy instructor and Falcon 2000 classic program manager for FlightSafety. I now find myself happily employed as a captain on the Falcon 50, Falcon 900, and Saab 2000 while also acting as the Director of Training for the company.

At home, I am slowly building a Fisher Horizon 2. I've come to realize that a plans built wooden aircraft doesn't go together too quickly. If you would like to help in an all-wood aircraft project, please reach out. I need all the help I can get! My hope is that it sparks a love of aviation for my daughter, Piper, just like my dad's enthusiasm did for me. I look forward to naming it after the C-47 that my grandfather had named after my grandmother. I will call it "The Betty-Jean II". I feel immensely grateful for the aviation adventure I've had, logging time in about 40 types of aircraft, including fixed wing, rotorcraft, and gliders. I wouldn't trade it for anything!



Happy Flying!
Tony Jones
Chapter Membership Czar

Buck Rivets writes: Tony did not mention that he is a skilled craftsman. He is doing an impeccable job building "Betty Jean II." He is also an award-winning scaled model builder. Included are some photos of his work.



The MotM column is a way to get to know the members of Chapter 661, one character at a time. If you would like your story told, please reach out to Tony. Grab him at the monthly meeting or send an email or text. Maybe you're not so eager to see your name and story in print. Nevertheless, please allow us the opportunity to know you better. Consider saying, "Yes," when Tony asks you for an interview.



Who's going to AirVenture?

Are you planning to go to AirVenture this year? Are you flying or driving? Where are you planning to stay? We are taking an informal survey to see who is going from the chapter. Perhaps we can meet up at Kelly's for a Chapter 661 Off Site. I'll promise no minutes will be taken and no action items assigned. Here is what we have so far:

1. Stormy Weathers, driving, staying in the dorms.



After the Meeting:

What do you do after the monthly meeting at KDTO? It's typically still early Saturday afternoon when the meeting breaks up. Last month, some of us ventured into Denton to share a meal, a frosty beverage, and maybe a "There I was" story or two. No notes were taken, and no action items were assigned. Moreover, I am sure that six to nine percent of every take was absolutely true. Perhaps we should continue to build on this 'trend of one' event. After two such outings, one could say it's a tradition. We all know tradition and aviation go hand in hand.

This is truly an informal endeavor. So, if you feel so inclined, talk it up after the meeting. As they say, "Run it up the flagpole and see who salutes."

Help Wanted:

Buck Rivets launched this feature in the last newsletter. The idea is to give you a place to ask for help with something on your plane. Perhaps you are looking for those who are building (or have built) something similar. We have quite an array of skills among our membership here in Chapter 661. This section is a way to reach out to your fellow chapter members. If you have a request to go in the "Help Wanted" section, send email to our Chief Editor, Buck Rivets at flynwx@pobox.com. It could look something like the following:

RV-8 builder with short arms seeks bucking bar holder to help forge permanent relationship between solid rivets and sheet metal.

Christmas?

It's only 208 days until Christmas. And, Heather Fahle is already making lists and checking them twice. As you have heard, one of the featured events for our Christmas party experience will be an auction, both silent and live! It's not too early to start gathering donated items for the auction. It all benefits your local EAA chapter. More details to follow! Please reach out to Heather if you have items to donate.