



The Denton Flyer

Newsletter of EAA Chapter 661, Denton, TX

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Next Meeting, we're changing things up this month:

The October meeting of Chapter 661 will NOT be at our usual place at US Aviation. We are going to Alliance Airport (KAFW) to meet with "Airplanes and Coffee." Get to KAFW in any way you choose, airplane, car, or horse, and look for your fellow 661ers. Andrew expects to fly his helicopter, so let's plan to gather with Andrew near his flying machine for a chapter photo op at 1000. That all happens this Saturday, 1 October 2022.

How it Really Happened

By Heather Fahle

To be honest, I'm not completely sure how the meeting started this month because I was, ahem, late. Janet was out, so Mark ran the show and did a fantastic job. Dave Anderson was the guest speaker and his topics were fascinating! He talked about the build that he did on his Long EZ, flying her, and also talked about air racing.

Dave started his build project by purchasing an existing orphan project. The plane is really light because it is all built out of fiberglass. Dave passed around a fiberglass wing sample to demonstrate both the strength and light weight. Apparently if you work with fiberglass a lot, it means that you REALLY enjoy sanding, or something close to that. As I may have already mentioned, I missed some of the presentation, so hopefully Stormy reads this prior to sending the newsletter and adds some details that I missed.

Yet another really cool thing about Dave's plane (other than the prop on the back and the Cunard

thing) is that he races it! He just came back from Oshkosh where he competed in the AirVenture Cup Race. Not only does he race his plane, but he is getting ready to step into the role of chairmanship of the Sport Air Racing League. Something that I learned from Dave about the Sport Air Racing league is that anybody can participate. There are 28 factory-built classes and 29 Experimental aircraft classes so that everyone has an opportunity to be competitive. There will be racing in this area, and if this seems interesting to you, you can email Dave at usaf_david@yahoo.com.

We also talked about an upcoming fly-in / grill out that we'll be hosting on the 29th at the airport. Make plans to come. It'll be burgers and dogs with all the fixin's. The cost will be a mere \$10 per person and all of the proceeds will go into the chapter coffers. Come out and join us – hang out, have a burger, meet the other members, and help raise money too! Wrapping the meeting up, the date of the Christmas party was announced: December the 8th is the date and the venue is TBA, so stay tuned!

And that's how it really happened

Name Tags:

Ever have one of those senior moments? Someone comes up to you, happy to see you, calls you by name. You smile and shake his hand while thinking to yourself, "I know this person. Why can't I think of their name!?" That has happened to me. I think it happens more frequently than it did a few decades ago. I wear my nametag to chapter meetings to save someone from that kind of experience. Perhaps I could ask you to do so as well. If you don't have a Chapter 661 name tag, please see me at one of our

meetings. You could also reply to the email that brought you this newsletter and ask me to bring you a name tag. As always, it's free with your paid membership.

New Membership Czar:

Please joining me in congratulating our own Heather Fahle for her appointment to the prestigious office of Membership Czar. Heather succeeds Tony Jones who first held that position. Thanks to Tony for all his work. Among the duties of the Membership Czar is the Member of the Month feature in this newsletter. If you would like to see your story in that column, please reach out to Heather. I bet she would welcome volunteers.

Chapter Shirts:

I must report that your chapter leaders are still working on making those chapter T-shirts available. When we get them, we will have them available for sale in the Victory Pilot Shop. You do not need to place an order for your Tshirt. We will send out word when those become available for purchase.

After the Meeting:

There is a group of us who just can't get enough of hanging with our EAA friends. After the meeting, we launch an assault mission on a local dining establishment for lunch and stories about airplanes. If you would like to join us, grab Janet (el Presidente) or Heather (Membership Czar) after the meeting.

Help Wanted:

Our Chief Editor Buck Rivets launched this feature a few months back. 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. However, so far, we have no takers. This is not surprising. It can be hard to ask for help. Moreover, it is hard to trust that the one offering help is actually qualified to help you.

Let's take another approach. What if we put together a list of genuine handy folks and identify their particular skill sets. Then, anyone in the chapter could pull the el Presidente aside and whisper, "I have a friend who needs to ask for help." If you are one of those genuinely handy people, please let us know if you would be willing to help a fellow chapter

member. Perhaps you don't see yourself as an "expert" at anything. Be honest, though. Consider what you have accomplished. Do you remember the lessons you learned in the process? Valuable experience is often gained while muttering unhappy words over something that didn't come out as planned. They say experience is a great teacher. However, the best experience is someone else's. It's always less expensive than your own. Now that you have paid the price to acquire some of that experience, consider sharing it.

Let me begin by offering myself as an example. I have been an amateur woodworker for many years. I have made cutting boards and staircases and quite a few things in between. If you are working on a project that involves wood and you want some help, let me know. I am also a retired aerospace engineer. I might be able to help if you have an issue with aircraft systems or structures. I have also created and modified performance charts for a number of aircraft. Are you looking at that EAA guide to conducting the Phase I flight test of your new airplane? I used to be a flight test engineer for the U. S. Air Force. I also have that RV-8A kit coming together in my garage.

Christmas? Hannukah? Festivus?

Mark your calendar! We are going to celebrate the holiday on Thursday, 8 December 2022. Your chapter officers still have a few details to work out. Turkey or ham? Potatoes or stuffing? We will have all that straightened out in time. It won't do any good, though, if you haven't blocked out that evening on your calendar. We know how quickly the December calendar fills up. Tell the in-laws they can come for Thanksgiving, but they have to be on the road home not later than 8 December. We are also thinking we might do a gift exchange – with a dollar limit, of course. Do you have something aviation related that you could part with? I used to work with a guy who kept a G meter on his desk. It always read -1 because he left it sitting upside down. I recall his license plate said, "YFLYLVL."

