



NavCom

November 1997

A Look At The Past

By Jim Garner



This is what the LZU runway looked like in 1963 as the author climbed aboard the jump plane for his first parachute jump.

It was an early September Sunday afternoon. It was hot. I sat there shivering.

There in this case is the back seat in an old Tri-Pacer and I was geared up to make my first parachute jump and was looking at the 1500 feet of narrow dirt runway of the Lawrenceville airport.

After a lifetime of a ride to 3000 feet the jumpmaster locked the brakes of the wheezing old airplane and had me get out and stand on the wheel and hold onto the strut. The wind was deafening. Finally we reached the exit point and he motioned that it was time. A step backwards and suddenly it was deathly quiet. There was no wind noise and the engine sounds were gone.

Suddenly a tug and there was the most beautiful sight that I had ever seen... the canopy spread out over the sky above me. Everywhere I looked there was no obstruction to the view except down and there only my feet in the way of the Earth 3000 feet below. The Tri-Pacer was flying off into the distance.

Why was I doing this? I thought back to the time a few weeks ago when the Art Director of the Atlanta Newspapers called me and asked me to do a picture layout on a young Sport Parachutist. Of course to properly do the job I would have to take pictures of him in free fall. Therefore the training.

Almost before it had begun the ground came rushing up and I landed just a few feet from the target. Just about in the center of what is now the lobby of Hawthorn Aviation.

Continued on page 4

NEWS AND
INFORMATION
FOR THE
GWINNETT
COUNTY
CHAPTER OF
THE
EXPERIMENTAL
AIRCRAFT
ASSOCIATION

The NavCom

The **NavCom** is the official monthly newsletter of EAA Chapter 690 serving its members and other persons interested in the advancement of Aviation.

Original articles, art, and photos are invited and encouraged. Submit articles in ASCII or Word format and pictures in any format via email to: jdreed@mindspring.com or mail to:

Joe Reed
1098 Hillcrest Ct. NW
Norcross, GA 30093

Deadline for submissions is the First of Each Month

THE **NAVCOM** is created on a Pentium 133 computer using Microsoft Publisher 97, and is produced on a **Minolta CF-900 Color Copier**. Thanks to Alan Langford and Minolta Corporation for printing the **NavCom** each month.

Also thanks to Larry Bishop and his merry band who fold, staple and mutilate the **NavCom** for mailing.

In keeping with the spirit of all aviators, permission is hereby granted for the reproduction of the **NavCom** articles by other EAA Chapters provided proper credit is given to the author and to the **NavCom**.

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Presidents Pitch

By Duane Huff

Congratulations to our officers elected to the 1998-2000 term. Elected were President - Frank Wilcox; Vice-President - David Haskell; Treasurer - Lnor Levine; and Secretary - Wayne Whitaker. Elected to the Board of Trustees for a three year term were Don Roberts and Duane Huff. Clyde Schnars was elected to the Board of Directors for one year to complete the two year term of Al Higgins who has moved from the area. These elections were held at the October meeting.

The program about Angel Flight at our October meeting was very interesting and inspiring. On Saturday October 25th I had the opportunity to participate in an Angel Flight. Larry Bishop and I flew IFR in his Mooney to Panama City, Fla. to pick up a patient and return to Briscoe Field. The young man was to go from here to Cincinnati, Ohio. Larry let me fly on the instruments for about an hour in true IFR conditions. Quite a challenge for a seasoned VFR, low, slow, trail dragger pilot.

The GlaStar arrived late on the afternoon of the 15th, but even then pilots got to take demo rides. I won't try to critique the airplane, but just say that flying it around the field was quite a unique experience.

On Saturday the 18th two activities were going on at the chapter hangar. While seven Young Eagles and an older Eagle were being flown, Frank Wilcox and Don Roberts were reseeding and fertilizing the grass. We should have new grass coming up by the Flying Start seminar and/or our next meeting. Please do not park on the grass around the hangar.

Remember that we will be voting on the Chapter 690 "Outstanding Member" for 1997 at the November meeting. The program that evening will be Margaret and Frank Wilcox and Clyde Schnars relating experiences from their trips to Alaska this past summer.

The Christmas Awards Banquet will be on our regular meeting night, Dec. 11th and held in our own "banquet hall" We will also install the new officers. The meal will be a covered dish dinner with the meat, beverages and table service furnished by the chapter. David Posey has

arranged for an outstanding speaker to entertain us. We hope you will all plan to attend this special event, with spouses.

Chapter 690 will receive an honorarium of \$500 for hosting the Alexander Sportair workshops November 22nd and 23rd. If you are interested in taking one of the workshops, I believe there is still room to sign up. There are brochures in our hangar and on our website.

EAA was prominent in the news this month. After John Denver's fatal crash in the Long EZ, I was contacted by CNN and Fox 5 news departments. On Wed. Oct. 15th at 8:45 A.M. I had a pre-arranged five minute interview on radio WCNN. The Fox 5 segment was at 6:45 P.M. and started and finished live with Paul Yates sitting in Clyde Schnars RV 6-A. CNN broadcast their interviews on CNN Headline News at 11:30 P.M. Monday and on "Future Watch" on Sunday at 3:30 P.M. This program was seen world wide. A member of our church choir saw it in Seville, Spain. Charlie Patterson was also a part of this segment. We tried to dispel some of the misnomers of the word 'experimental' and put a positive spin on home built aircraft and recreational flying. Also we tried to emphasize the safety aspects of these aircraft. The Award Winning Aeronca was also highlighted. Now that we are world renowned celebrities, we might be persuaded to set up an autograph session at our next meeting if - that is, if you request it. I have a video tape of these programs if you would like to see it. Remember --- Keep Em flying.... for the fun of it!





Don't Forget to Buy Your Raffle Tickets!

* Have you done your part?

* Have you purchased at least one chance at being the owner of "Target of Opportunity" for your family room or den?

* Have you asked your neighbors, friends and business associates if they too would like support your chapter by buying a chance or two or three to own this print?

* Have you helped Chapter 690 in its efforts to help us lately?

If you can say NO to any of these questions, you might want to consider what you can do to help. With a little help from each of us, the finish line of raising funds for our aviation future and hangar development isn't so far out of reach.

Remember the old slogan "BUY BONDS! Support your country!"? Remember the new slogan! "BUY RAFFLE TICKETS! Support YOUR chapter and the future of aviation!" - Sue Adams, Stewart Raffle Chairman 770-613-9501

You could be the BIG Winner in the EAA690 ART EXTRAVAGANZA Contest. Purchase your chances for \$1.00 each and be the proud owner of this classic print Tickets may be purchased at any EAA690 meeting or

1st Saturday Pancake Breakfast

Hosted by Gwinnett EAA Chapter 690 of the Experimental Aircraft Association

SPECIAL NOTICE . . .

By Popular Demand

(And Thanks to the Willingness of Our Dedicated Breakfast Chairman & Crew)

Our 1st Saturday Pancake Breakfasts will continue through the winter - Watch for program announcements!

See you December 6th
January 3rd
February 7th
March 7th

Rain or Shine, Fly or Drive

GlaStar comes to LZU

By Bob Zahner

Wednesday October 15, Tim Johnson from Stoddard - Hamilton paid a visit to Chapter 690 with the GlaStar prototype N824Q. Sue Adams provided coffee and cake for everyone.

The weather was marginal but Tim gave demo rides to all takers. Since I last saw the airplane it has had a engine swap to boost performance. The airplane last had a Continental IO-240 but now has a Lycoming O-320 with a constant speed Hartzell prop. This gives the airplane a claimed top cruise of 167mph and a useful load of 800 lbs. Tim showed how the wings fold for saving on storage space and it can be done in less than ten minutes.

I was one of the last people around but still got to fly the airplane. As we taxied out to runway 7 Tim asked what I flew (not what I was building). When ready to take off Tim puts his hands in his lap and says "have fun". He must have a lot of faith in the airplane. The plane climbs great and before I can time our climb we are at pattern altitude. We can't climb higher due to the low ceiling but get to do some turns in the pattern because tower needed to work a Navajo in. The plane will stay stable in any bank angle I try it in and takes very low pressure. I motor down final using the 150 speeds I remember from the distant past and everything works out OK.

After the rides, Tim gassed the GlaStar and put it away in the Zahner hanger. We had dinner with Stoddard-Hamilton picking up the tab and Tim spent the night in the hanger apartment.

This is not the airplane I am building but the GlaStar does represent a logical choice for a lot of people. It has a combination of low construction time, very safe flying qualities and reasonable load, speed and range. Here is a plane that the low/no time pilot could build, learn to fly in and still have a cross-country aircraft after getting their license.

Chapter 690 Electronic Mail List



If you have an E-Mail address and have not yet registered it with the Chapter, Please send a message to Joe Reed and request to be added to the EMail list.

Send EMail to: jdreed@mindspring.com



"I have never heard of a company CEO coming to town on a bus...."

Contained from page one

That was in 1963. At that time the Lawrenceville Airport had, perhaps, 15 operations per month. Most of them flying parachutists.

Oh, there were other airplanes landing and taking off from there occasionally but I don't even want to think about what they were doing. There were no airplanes parked there. There was not even a shed or a building. Nothing. There were no rules.

A normal takeoff was to run to the end of the runway, pop a notch of flaps, and stagger out over the corn stalks clawing for speed and altitude.

Fast forward to today —

The Gwinnett County Airport, Briscoe Field, is now the third busiest airport in the state of Georgia. Also the second busiest General Aviation airport in the state and the fastest growing General Aviation airport in America. A far cry from 1963.

"We now have two full service FBO's and 10 - 20 aviation related businesses on the airport", said John Ferguson, the airport manager. "We have a full ILS system and there is much more expansion scheduled as soon as funding is available", he added.

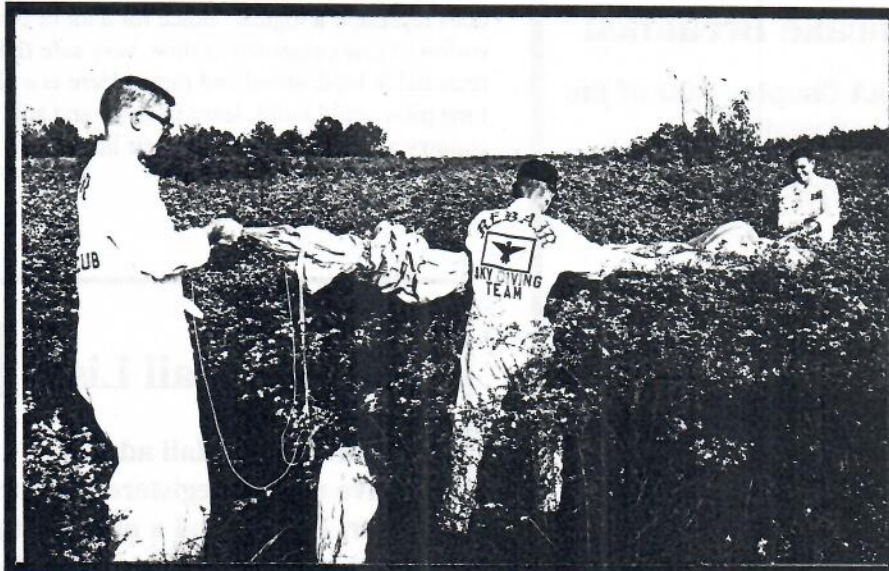
The first of these improvements should be started within a couple of weeks. Work will begin on expanding all the runup bays and building a new connector in the vicinity of Atlanta Jet connecting taxiways B and D.

"We will soon begin a 4 year project to build a new taxiway along the general route of the old runway. We expect to start that in mid-1998". It will pass close alongside the EAA 690 hangar and slope upwards to the runway level. The cost is expected to run about \$4.5 million.

"Long range plans call for a parallel second runway of 3500 feet but this is still sometime in the fairly distant future," John added.

Why is all this activity taking place to transform our airport to one as up to date as today's date? "I have never heard of a company CEO coming to town on a bus. They either get here by way of Hartsfield or in their own airplane," John said. "They are a large part of the economic future of this area."

This is why people like John Ferguson is taking the Gwinnett County Airport at jet speeds into the next millennium.



Standing on the spot now occupied by the lobby of Hawthorne Aviation, the author and his crew reel in the parachute.





Read About Our New Compass Rose!

Chapter 690 North Georgia Chapter 99's Gwinnett County Airport

Before there were electronic navigation aids, one of the more formidable challenges to pilots was knowing just where they were. Back in the 30s pilots were still depending on unusual structures or natural landmarks to confirm their flight plans. The history of early flying is filled with colossal navigational boo-boos. Wrong Way Corrigan comes to mind. But the reasons for all this were to radically change when Phoebe Omlie observed that "an air route without marking is like a highway without signs." The year was 1933 when Phoebe, a 99 and a member of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics, conceived a plan to paint town names and directional indicators on the roofs of buildings throughout the United States.

Then, at Eleanor Roosevelt's suggestion, the Bureau of Air Commerce hired five well-known women fliers to scout sites and get permission for the markers from local officials and building owners.

Once the idea was approved, surveyed by the Gwinnett County Airport, and the paint delivered the North Georgia Chapter of the 99s went to work. Air marking today has become a very important part of what The Nine-Nines do. The 12 point compass rose comes directly from the 99s logo.

On Friday, October 3rd Sue Adams-99 and EAA Chapter member, Pat Underwood (Larry) Chapter 690 member, Lucy Young, 99's chapter president, and Barb Young, 99's chapter membership chairman spent the day preparing the area designated by the airport manager's office for the compass rose. From 9am to 4pm all 12 points were measured, marked and outlined for the next days painting. Then on Saturday, Oct. 4th during the pancake breakfast and long after everyone was gone, Joel Levine-690, Bob Langford-690, CAP Bruce Owings and 13 year old daughter Katy who worked for over 2 hours on the rose (she wants to be a jet engine mechanic), Jean Toxen-99, Kim Whiley-99, Carol Baney-99, Joyce Pittman-99, Lucy Young-99, Barb Young-99, completed the Compass Rose. It's located at the SW end of the old runway. It's not only a decorative item, but a useful tool as well. At this time we are waiting for our chapter logo to be stenciled in order to complete the center of the Rose.

Jim Glaeser has located the 'how to' on swinging the

compass of your aircraft.

Compass Compensation

Turn aircraft to a heading of exactly North. Adjust N-S screw until compass indicates exactly 360°.

Turn aircraft to a heading of exactly East. Adjust E-W screw until compass indicates exactly 090°.

Turn aircraft to a heading of exactly South. Adjust N-S screw to eliminate 1/2 of the error indicated by the compass. (example-if the compass reads 188°, adjust the screw until the compass reads 184°.)

Turn aircraft to a heading of exactly West. Adjust N-S screw to eliminate 1/2 of the error indicated by the compass.

Note - Two precautions:

1. The engine RPM must be high enough during the adjustments to insure that the alternator or generator is charging.

2. All metal should be removed from your person (watches, rings, metal framed eyeglasses, etc.)

WOW! Tupperware Sale

Sponsored by Gwinnett EAA Chapter 690 of the Experimental Aircraft Association

Now available to our members -

A PORTION OF PURCHASES AND SCHEDULED PARTIES WILL BENEFIT EAA 690












Contact Sue Adams for Info & to Get Your Kit for Selling to Friends, Co-Workers, Neighbors - It's Easy!





Events Calendar



-  **Saturday, Nov. 15 Chattanooga, TN**
Collegedale Pilots Club monthly fly-in breakfast at Collegedale Airport (3M3). Call the airport at (615) 236-5008 for more information.
-  **Saturday, Nov. 15 Lewisburg, TN**
Fly-in country breakfast at Ellington Airport (LUG). Call Clay Derryberry at (615) 359-5001 for more information.
-  **Saturday, Nov. 15 Owensboro, KY**
Ayer Flying Club monthly fly-in breakfast at Owensboro-Davies County Airport (OWB). 8-10 a.m. Call Wayne Gibson at (502) 684-2859 for more information.
-  **Saturday, Nov. 15 Sebring, FL**
EAA Chapter 803 fly-in breakfast or brunch and static display at Sebring Regional Airport (SEF). Call Frank Whittam at (813) 735-2269 for more information.
-  **Saturday, Nov. 22 Dayton, TN**
Rhea County Civil Air Patrol monthly fly-in breakfast at Mark Anton Airport (2A0), 7:30-11 a.m. Call Wanda Fulmer at (615) 775-8407 for more information.
-  **Sunday, Nov. 23 Mount Pleasant, SC**
The South Carolina Breakfast Club at East Cooper Airport (8S5), 9-10 a.m. to meet for morning meal and mixing. If weather is questionable or for further information call Anne Hawkins at (803) 432-9595 or Gerald Ballard at (706) 724-2651.
-  **Saturday, Dec. 6 Lawrenceville, GA**
EAA Chapter 690 Hanger #1 holds fly-in for all-you-can-eat buttermilk pancakes, sausage, orange juice, coffee and milk at Gwinnett County Airport (LZU) 8-10:30 a.m. Also Swap 'n Shop. Call Sue Adams at (770) 613-9501 or e-mail msadams@mindspring.com or call Duane Huff at (770) 921-4423 for more information.
-  **Saturday, Dec. 6 Swainsboro, GA**
Emanuel County Airport (SBO) fly-in 8 a.m.-5 p.m. for aircraft displays, spot landing contests, fly-market, food concessions. Free parking and camping. Call Don Gay at (912) 237-7281 for more information.
-  **Saturday, Dec. 6 Winchester, TN**
EAA Chapter 699 monthly fly-in breakfast at Winchester Municipal Airport (BGF). Call Scott Scarborough evenings or weekends at (615) 967-1991 for more information.
-  **Sunday, Dec. 7 North Myrtle Beach, SC**
The South Carolina Breakfast Club at Grand Strand Airport (CRE) BP ramp, 9-10 a.m. to meet for morning meal and mixing. If weather is questionable or for further information call Anne Hawkins at (803) 432-9595 or Gerald Ballard at (706) 724-2651.
-  **Saturday, Dec. 13 McMinnville, TN**
Fly-in country ham breakfast at Warren County Memorial Airport (RNC). Call Joe Howard at (615) 668-4806 for more information.



We have a real treat in store for our annual Holiday Dinner program. Betty Ann Wylie, a professional story teller, will spin some yarns appropriate to the season and our common interest, aviation.

Most notable of these is a tale known as "Ten Dollars is Ten Dollars", about a ride in a bi-plane. Betty Ann is one of the founders of the Southern Order of Story Tellers and a past President of that organization. Be assured that the evening will be most entertaining. Come one come all, enjoy the victuals and divertissement. Price of admission, one covered dish for ten hungry souls. Happy Holidays!!!!



Minutes of EAA Chapter 690 October Meeting - Wayne Whitaker, Secretary

The meeting was opened by Chapter President Duane Huff leading the Pledge of Allegiance.

Program for the evening was held first, a report on the Angel Flight Program.

President Huff reminded members that at the next meeting (November) the chapter will vote on the Outstanding Member for 1997.

The past month has been a busy one for 690: Aeromart and pancake breakfast, two Young Eagle events, the annual Biplane Fall Classic, and other activities. The President thanked our outstanding volunteers for making these events a success. Chapter then viewed a videotape on EAA, narrated by Paul Harvey.

Ballots were passed around and members voted on chapter officers for terms starting in January 1998.

Minutes of last meeting approved as submitted and printed in NavCom.

Treasurer's report for September: The chapter currently has 136 members.

Aeromart financial report:

Meals made \$1,112.34

Raffles: \$30

Table donations: \$131

Exhibits: \$275

Rides: \$54

For a total of: \$1,602.34

Expenses: \$550.36

Profit of \$1,051.98

Biplane Fall Classic financial report:

Rides: \$1,150

Parking: \$702

Young Eagle sales: \$201.60

Raffles: \$89

Lunch: \$566.38

Breakfast: \$817.02

Total: \$3,526

Expenses for lunch and breakfast: \$487.34

Biplane ride pilots paid: \$920

Profit: \$2,118.66 (preliminary; more expected)

President reminded membership that though amount in treasury seems substantial, chapter still has to finish paying back underwriters who helped fund hangar construction.

President thanked Sue Adams for work on Aeromart, getting vendors for BFC, and other projects.

Discussion on whether to hold monthly pancake breakfast as usual in December. Chapter membership in favor of breakfast as usual.

Ron Alexander's airplane-building workshops scheduled for November 22 & 23, to be held in chapter meeting place and adjacent hangars. Chapter will receive an honorarium for use of hangar. Some discussion on serving meals to people participating in workshops.

Young Eagle Coordinator Bill Coleman reported that the chapter has already exceeded its 1997 goal of flying 120 kids. But we're not stopping now: Another rally planned for October 18.

Frank Wilcox gave a Board of Trustees report. Plans for mezzanine level in chapter meeting place to be submitted to county for a building permit. Also, a work day is planned for October 18, to plant some grass alongside the hangar.

Lnor Levine gave a report on mezzanine level fundraising efforts. Tupperware is available for sale, and the chapter gets a percentage of any sold. Raffle ticket sales are going particularly well.

Suggestion was made to have a donation jar at various events for voluntary contributions.

Flying Start Program to be held on Saturday November 1, 11:00 to noon.

Results of chapter elections:

President: Frank Wilcox

Vice President: David Haskell

Treasurer: Lnor Levine

Secretary: Wayne Whitaker

Board of Directors: Clyde Schnars

Board of Trustees: Don Roberts and Duane Huff

Discussion on cooking pancakes. We're renting a cooker from chapter 1025 for \$25 per breakfast event. Some discussion on whether that's a good deal. Board of Trustees is currently shopping for an electric grill to supplement our gas grill. Electric grill will be installed in new kitchen. Motion made and approved to table discussion on grill.

Musically inclined President Huff is gathering members with pleasing voices to sing as a group at 690's annual Christmas banquet.

Jim Garner is looking for volunteers to man an EAA booth at the Gwinnett County Fairgrounds during the annual ham radio fest on the weekend of November 1 and 2.

Classifieds

For Sale: Pete Bowers award -winning plans-built Fly-Baby. Approx. 45%. Have all plans and invoices. All ribs complete-brakes, wheels, and tires-also,converted Javelin 1.0 litter, alter., starter, with all engine instruments. \$4500. Frank Settle 770-923 6149

Intercom for sale: Sigtronics four-place. \$95. Frank Sledge 770-963-1011

For Sale: Dismantled Piper Tomahawk project for sale. All parts, plus some extra components for \$2800. Rick Matthews 770-928-6926

For Sale: Tri-Q Project (160mph on 65hp) All major construction completed - wing, canard, fuselage and control surfaces. To be finished - assembly, systems and engine installation and finishing. All materials, fittings and hardware to complete including instruments, prop and new Revmaster 2100-D engine (65hp)). This is an original factory kit. All factory newsletters and Quickie Builders Association newsletters, drawings and instructions. \$13,000 in-

For Sale: Zenith CH250. Almost ready to paint. FACTORY NEW Lycoming O-320. Full details and pictures on the EAA690 website or Call Gary Polizzotto 770-507-9050

For Sale: Pulsar SW. 425TT -Featured in KITPLANES three times and on the cover once. Full details and pictures on the EAA690 website or call Gary Polizzotto 770-507-9050

For sale: Kero-sun 23000 BTU Kerosene Heater \$75.00
Thule Bicycle Rack for car. Holds 2 bikes. \$50.00
Call Sherry @770-339-3674

House Wanted: Karen and Don Roberts are looking to rent or buy a house with a garage within 30 minutes of LZU. House can be brand new, poor condition, or anything in between. Call Don at home 770-207-0258 or Karen at work 770-393-1410.

For Sale: Lycoming O-235-C1B 1608 Hrs TTSMN , Mags and Carb \$4000 OBO Don Glasser 770-975-0977

For Sale: 1983 Volvo 240 dl wagon for sale \$1200.00 call Frank Settle 770 923-6149...

MINOLTA

Produced on the Minolta
CF-900 Color Copier

November Meeting
Friday, 14 November
8:00pm at the Chapter Hangar

Newsletter of EAA Chapter 690
Editor: Joe Reed
1098 Hillcrest Ct.
Norcross, GA 30093
jreed@mindspring.com

NavCom

Come to the November Meeting

...and cast your vote for the Outstanding Chapter 690 Member. We have many dedicated and hardworking members from whom to choose, so let's recognize someone who has not previously been given this award. Just look at the plaques on the wall to see some of the past winners if you have no ideas about whom to choose. The balloting is secret and the recipient will be presented the award at the December Holiday Banquet.

Visit the EAA690 Aero Shoppe

There are some new items in the Aero Shoppe that would make great stocking stuffers or party favors. We have airplane canteens for toddlers and young children, clear power balls with airplanes imbedded within, WWII aircraft spotter playing cards (adults will really appreciate these!), biplane pencil sharpeners, B-17 pullback toys, patriotic hackey sacks, balancing planes, planes on a string, aircraft stickers and much more. Next time you're at a chapter function, check it out!

New Signs for "Cafe 690" and "Aero Shoppe"

We have several new colorful signs around the Hangar- over the bulletin board, at the merchandise sales area, and in the kitchen. They really spark the place up. If you get a chance, say thanks to Alan Langford to let him know that his efforts are appreciated.

Watch Us Grow!

Watch the chapters progress towards its goals for the inside construction of our hangar. The square feet donations are being posted on a large board made by Jesse Williams and Lnor Levine so that we can monitor our efforts in raising funds for the four phases of the interior project.

Wear it with Pride

Order your chapter shirts and hats at the next meeting. If we get enough orders we could have them in time for holiday gift giving. We'll be ordering chapter patches too!

NOVEMBER PROGRAM

Traveling and Flying in Alaska will be the theme of the November program. Clyde Schnars who videoed a spectacular flight around Mount McKinley in the 49th state and Margaret and Frank Wilcox who drove 7500 miles in a motor home in 45 days through British Columbia, Yukon and Alaska will share their experiences of this past summer.

Alaska is a state where flying is not only for recreation but more often for necessity. One out of every 62 Alaskan citizens owns an airplane. Come to hear and see this story and you'll want to visit Alaska too.

