

CHAPTER 690

NAVCOM

June 1995

B-17 Tour a Success!

Jeff Boatright

Pilot to bombardier... Pilot to bombardier...commence bomb run...commence bomb run...

Chapter 690's Victory Fly-In was another success: a tribute to those who fought the battles leading to Victory, both in the European and Pacific Theaters. It also stands as a tribute to the organizational and work abilities of many Chapter 690 members. Over a very complex three days, Chapter 690 hosted its first-ever Hangar Dance without a hangar but with a 19-piece Big Band, a flying museum tour centered around the EAA B-17 *Aluminum Overcast*, a two-day fly-in complete with 30 vendors, two pancake breakfasts and BBQ lunches, and a Young Eagles Rally. Whoo!

Flying the Big Iron. Several chapter members flew the B-17. For a fee, Ugarté, they got to experience a little of what it was like to be a fudgey faced 18-year-old kid heading off to do battle with the Luftwaffe or the Imperial Air Force, praying for a milk-run but competently doing one's duty come what may. This experience was due in large part to the amazing detail carried out in the restoration of *Aluminum Overcast*. All of the old equipment, from five-foot radio stacks to oxygen masks and heated body suits, were in the plane. On the initial mission down from Tennessee, **Bob Zahner** skimmed over the the Blue Ridge and actually had to climb for rising terrain. The B-17's crew likes to fly low. They like to fly fast, too. **Steve Ashby**, who flew chapter members up to the embarkation, could not keep up in his Skyhawk on the way back. Few Skyhawks can maintain 170 knots without soon meeting the ground. **Bob** says that the -17 was a big, honest plane, magnificent and majestic. **Jim Estes** and **Frank Wilcox** had similar experiences: smooth as a similar-vintage Cadillac; a big, graceful old bird. **Steve Ashby** also thought it was smooth, partly due to heavy ailerons. "It's definitely a two-hands-

on-the-yoke airplane. Flies like a big 172!" Regular crew members who flew the -17 in combat said that this made for weary pilots and copilots by the end of a mission, but like the accepted idiosyncracies of an old friend, it just makes them love her even more. **Steve** also flew in the bombardier's station in the nose. "It was a blast watching the ground rush by while lining up 'targets of opportunity' in the Norden bombsight."

The Victory Fly-In. The Fly-In began Friday 12 May with the arrival of *Aluminum Overcast* at LZU. Two missions were completed on Friday with some ground tours given. Saturday dimly dawned with overcast skies and a chill in the air. Many aircraft scheduled for shows and rides did not make it. Not surprisingly, all of the Young Eagle pilots found a way to get to the airport and complete their vital missions, though. The pancake breakfasts were again the way to start the day, and the twin twin pillars of Chapter 690 mornings, the **Norths** and the **Langfords**, made sure we got off to a good start. *Aluminum Overcast* made three flights with seven lucky, lucky "tourists" on board each. Between flights, **Andy Anderson's** ground tours provided us less-lucky souls a chance to play Walter Mitty's crew chief. Though it kept many people away, the damp, cool weather added to the atmosphere of an Eighth Air Force bomber base somewhere in southern England. Having **Jim** and **Bobbie Estes** greet each flight with a vintage Cushman "follow-me" scooter certainly added to the atmosphere. **Jim** probably could have sold rides in the funky little side-car! The Fly-In also had a festive air due in no small part to the amazing number of vendors that **Joel Levine**. Lots of color.

Sunday's weather was even stinkier, with only one -17 flight possible. With imposing

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The Building Column

by Frank Wilcox

Finally there is something "concrete" to see at our Chapter 690 Hangar Cluster site. There is real concrete. The footers and floors for hangars number 5 and 6 have been poured and finished (as of 5/28/95) and the excavation and form construction for hangars 7 and 8 are in process. The intention was to start the concrete work with hangar number 1, but this could not be done until some additional grading of the sites for hangars 1-4 was completed. While this was being arranged, work was started on hangar sites 5-8 which did not require additional site preparation. It is expected that the original plan for competing the footer and floor concrete work for two hangars per week will now move ahead.

Electric service is now in place and ready for connection to each hangar. This will require county permits. Temporary electric service for construction purposes will be

available following county inspection and approval of the temporary installation. This service is covered by our master building permit.

It is difficult to estimate the amount of construction that will be completed by June 9 when the Hot Air Balloon Team Championships will be starting. In all probability very little if any of our facilities can be used. A major concern is whether this large event will have an impact on the construction schedule of the hangar cluster. We are hoping to minimize any adverse effect.

As of June 1, Charlie Sego will assume temporary chairmanship of the Building Committee. Frank Wilcox will be on an extended summer trip. All questions, comments, opinions, and problems concerning the construction of the Chapter Hangar Cluster should be directed to Charlie at 923-9549 (home) or 822-5006 (work).

FSDO BBS now Online

Joel Levine reports that a new Bulletin Board containing lots of FSDO announcements and other goodies can now be accessed by modem at 1-800-645-3736.

Calendar of Events

June:

- 6 - Georgia Pilot's Association Meeting 6:30 Jilly's on Cobb Parkway. Two Pan AM Flying Boat captains, James McDowell and Frank Bull, regale us with wet flying stories. Reservations are required. Bob Hughes 455-8565 or 610-2840.
- 9-18 Briscoe Field, Lawrenceville, GA - 1995 Int'l Balloon Festival. Chapter 690 will host various aspects in our New Hangar!
- 9 -Briscoe Field, Lawrenceville, GA - Chapter 690 monthly meeting. Steve Ashby regales us with his experience in Air Combat Flight!
- 17 -18 Huntsville, Ala - Chapter 190 Father's Day Fly-In and Breakfast.
- 24 - Murfreesboro, Tn - Chapter 419 Fly-In Lunch
- 30-July 2 Gainesville - 27th Cracker Fly-In hosted by Chapter 611.

Regularly Scheduled Programs—
First Saturday - Winchester, Tn (BGF)
Second Saturday - Rome, Ga (RMG)
and Gadsden, Ala (GAD)
Third Saturday - Collegedale, TN (3M3)
Fifth Saturday - Fort Payne, Ala (4A9)

Tools, Books, and Video Tapes

The following are Chapter-owned items. The use of tools, videos, or books is free to chapter members. The materials are not free, but are inexpensive. Frank Wilcox (978-2403) is keeper of the tools. David Cranford is film and book custodian.

(Note: Films out of sequence denote either repeats or members of series)

Rivet squeezer
 Nicopress tool
 Spark plug cleaner and capping tool
 Piston ring compressor pliers and bands
 Set cylinder base wrenches
 Timing indicator
 Torque wrench
 Instrument hole cutter, (2-1/2" & 3-1/8")
 Tube bending tool, set plier type
 Cable tension tester
 Tachometer checker
 Compression tester
 Spark plug lead tester
 Magneto timing light & lock, Bendix
 Coaxial cable (antenna)
 Wire--20 & 22 g. (light and radio)

New tools:

Tube flaring set
 Rivet removal tool kit
 Cleco kit (pliers, clamps, clips)
 Right-angle drill kit - screw-type bits
 360o rivet puller
 Starter wire
 Rivnut puller kit

EAA CHAPTER 690 BOOKS AND VIDEOS

1. EAA basic woodworking
2. EAA basic aircraft welding
3. EAA composite construction
4. Duane Cole VFR tips
5. Safe pilot overwater flying, wake turbulence, winter flying, take off/landing, basic radio, start
6. Prescott Pusher elevator trim tab kit # 102
7. Prescott Pusher
8. To Fly
9. F4 mishaps, aeronautical mishaps, history of rigid airships
10. Voyager
11. Stits fabric covering
12. Blue River covering

King series

13. Weatherwise
14. Complete aerospace review

15. Rules to fly by
16. Communications
17. Practical piloting
18. Flying the Citation
19. VFR with confidence
20. IFR with confidence
21. Complete Jeppeson chart rev.
22. Takeoffs & landings
23. Hangar flying w/ a pt

ABC Wide World of Flying Series

24. ABC Wide World of Flying v1 #1
25. ABC WWF v1 # 2
42. ABC WWF v1 #3 Learjet, stereo intercom, Skylane, NDB, Lasertrak, Tsunami
26. ABC WWF v1 # 4
57. ABC WWF v2 #5 (@ Harry Goetting)
58. ABC WWF v2 #7 @
59. ABC WWF v2 #8 @
60. ABC WWF v2 #6 @
61. ABC WWF v3 #9 @

EAA Oshkosh Series

27. EAA Oshkosh 87
28. EAA Oshkosh 88
29. EAA Oshkosh 89
68. EAA Oshkosh 90
70. EAA Oshkosh 91
76. EAA Oshkosh 92
30. EAA Eagle hangar dedication "A Call to Wings"
34. Book index of Sport Aviation, Vintage Airplanes, Sport Aerobatics, Experimenter, & Warbirds, 1953 1990.

35. Book service manual for Stinson 108

36. Book miscellaneous Essco catalogs. Copies available

37. Book Red Eagle aviation spin seminar reprints

38. Book AN, NAS, & MS hardware handbook

39. EAA Salute to Sport Aviation Sun n Fun 90

40. EAA basic aircraft painting

Sporty's What You Should Know Series

43. 2 (2 tapes) practicing landings* *(on loan from b.C.Barnes)

44. Sporty's wysk vol 3 (2 tapes) your first solo*
45. Sporty's wysk vol 5 (2 tapes) your dual x country*
71. Sporty's wysk vol 6 (2 tapes) your solo x country*
74. Sporty's WYSK Vol. 7 (2 tapes) -Your Private Pilot Test*

46. C'mon geese*

47. Arrl new world of amateur radio
48. Tactical technology a overview of tactical systems division** (**Rockwell Int.)

49. AGM 130 smart bomb.**

50. Hellfire missile.**

51. Plans Aeroline hangar door

AOPA Series

52. AOPA WX flight planning & the pilot includes safety pamphlet with same name (#52a).
53. AOPA go/no go wx decisions
54. AOPA evaluating in flt wx

55. Posa carburetors by Rex Taylor (Reinhart Kuntz)

56. Murphy Aviation "Renegade" aerobatic bi plane (+ Bob Barton)

63. The Petrel Amphibian (Fr) +

64. Warbirds the feel of combat (shell) donated by Frank Flessel

65. VFR approaches to Oshkosh

66. J 3 piper cub service man. (R. Beyer)
67. EAA memorial wall (7 31 91)

69. Building the Rutan composites

72. Sun 'n Fun 92 VFR arrival procedures

73. Morton buildings. Donated by Steve Ashby.

75. Short Wing Piper News, Sept/Oct 89 thru May/Jun 91 (10 issues). Donated by Daniel Arellano.

77. Kit Planes (2 tapes) donated by Steve Yothmet.

Victory Fly-In continued

thunder poopers on the way, the crew buttoned up *Aluminum Overcast* and left for the day. Frank Wilcox remained on site, though, and ended up introducing about 75 people to the B-17 and EAA Chapter 690. We may have gained ten new members due to Frank's perseverance!

A-Go-Go 690. The Victory Fly-In also included a hangarless hangar dance held at the Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center. With the *Atlanta Blue Notes* making with the tunes and guests arriving in full 1940s gear, the evening was a smashing hit. People are already clamoring for a dance next year. With the completion of the Chapter House, we can actually have a hangared hanger dance! A big, big plus is that the Blue Notes had such a great time performing that they've already agreed to the next gig.

Mission Accomplished. We hosted a big, complex,

multi-day event. We learned a lot. We had some fun. We made enough money to pay for the Chapter House door. Many people who otherwise would not have even remembered VE Day and the contributions of the "flyboys" were uniquely exposed to this part of our history. Maybe most importantly, we made new friends, maybe even new chapter members.

And a big "Job Well-Done" to David Posey. David was the man. There were many setbacks and frustrations in the planning of this enormous event. David consistently led the way to victory with a can-do attitude and a reasoned plan. Always. By the time of the event, nothing was left to chance but the weather. Everything went smoothly—no muss, no fuss. And everybody had fun in this calm, unrushed atmosphere. Thank you, David. Now, about next year...

What's missing from the NavCom?

Your Contribution!

Got a story to tell? Some advice to pass along? An idea? An opinion?

Send it on in! We'll print anything!

Call me, Jeff Boatright, at 315-6869 or 778-4113.

Duane K. Huff
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Chapter Calendar

June 9 Briscoe Field Administration
Building - Chapter 690 monthly
meeting. Steve Ashby in Combat
June 9-18 Briscoe Field, 1995 Int'l
Balloon Festival.

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The NavCom

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