

# NavCom



## EAA Chapter 690

April 2014

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The DC-3 is coming May 10th-see page 2 for full details

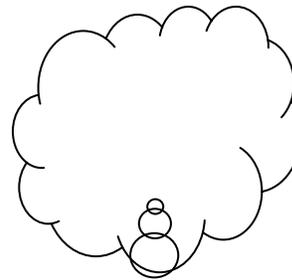
## The Skies are Blue and We're Ready to Fly

OR ARE WE??? All pilots love blue skies, whether VFR or IFR, they would all prefer blue skies. But I must admit that there is a tremendous thrill flying through the clouds on a "not so pretty" day and coming out on the top side of the clouds to beautiful blue skies!!! For those pilots without their instrument rating, the Gray, White, Blue experience is well worth it. Not to mention that it increases your options for when and where you may want to fly.

Back on point, we all know that the color of the sky is NOT the determining factor to whether or not we're ready to fly. **SAFETY** today, tomorrow and always has to be our first and foremost priority and always something that is **NON NEGOTIABLE**.

Pilots have a very thorough

preflight check list that they go through before starting the plane. After months and months of training in order to get their certificate and doing the preflight routine over and over again, you may think that they should have these points memorized and shouldn't need a check list. **WRONG!!!** There isn't any level of experienced pilot out there that shouldn't each and every time before starting their plane use a check list. You, as a pilot, may be put in a situation where you're interrupted in the middle of your preflight procedures. Without the check list, there is too great a chance of missing an important task no matter how small that check may be. From the view of the right seat person or a passenger in the back, I'd rather drive to wherever than fly with a pilot that hasn't done a



Blue skies and puffy white clouds!!

complete preflight inspection of their plane using a check-list.

And flying a plane that isn't air worthy. That's a whole other discussion for another month.

**SAFETY, SAFETY!!! SAFETY, SAFETY!!!**

## We Continue to Grow

As of April 22, 2014 total of 171. New members, reactivated members and student members have continued to

come in. Thanks to each and every one who have joined the chapter. Hope to see everyone at every event!!!

**200! 210!!** The sky's the limit!!!! Watch us soar to a new high!!!!

### Important Monthly Dates

- **Sat. 5/3**-Pancake Breakfast 8-10:30 followed by a program on Fiber Optics given by Bill Gardner
- **Mon. 5/5**-Board Meeting @ 7:30pm
- **Fri. 5/9**-Chapter Business Meeting @ 8:00 following by a program on the Fastest steam Locomotive given by Bob Krone. (If you can, join us at the Flying Machine starting at 6:00 for dinner before the meeting)
- **Sat. 5/17**-Young Eagles starting @ 8:30am

## Young Eagles Rained Out Again

The bad weather on the Young Eagle Saturday fly day has become a bit much, way too much actually. And it happened again on the 19th of this month. Duane had arranged for at least two groups of 15 or more to get their kids up in the air. We arrived at the hangar knowing there was no chance we would be able to fly any

young people. But there are always individual families that come, sometimes hoping for the best, and we always like to be there for them. We were glad that the group leaders were able to contact Duane and Jeanne to let us know they wouldn't be making the long drive to Briscoe Field. We look forward to seeing them in May or

soon there after. Since the stage has been moved and things have been rearranged, the ladies are looking forward to trying out the new table setup/placement. Now we have more to look forward to in May!!!

## May 3 - Pancake Breakfast and Non-Aviation Program

The May 3rd 1st Saturday Aviation Program will be most interesting and a departure from our aviation programs. Details will follow but here is an excerpt:

Bill Gardner has a B.S. from the University of Alabama and a Ph.D. in physics from The Johns Hopkins University. He spent his career in the development of optical fibers for communications with AT&T Bell Labs, Lucent, and OFS, mostly at the

manufacturing plant on I-85 at Jimmy Carter Blvd. He chaired the International Telecommunication Union's subcommittee in Geneva Switzerland that established standards for communication fibers. In retirement, he flies Grumman Tiger N28462 out of LZU, where he has been an EAA690 member for eight years.

*"Bill chaired the International Telecommunication Union's subcommittee in Geneva, Switzerland."*

## 1940 Douglas DC-3 A Once-In-A-Lifetime Ride to Remember

EAA Chapter 690 at Gwinnett County Airport, Lawrenceville, Georgia will host Captain (Retired) Ron Alexander with his fully restored 1940 Douglas DC-3 on **Saturday, May 10th from 9am to 4:30pm.**

Fly on the restored DC-3 owned by Delta Capt. Ron Alexander (Ret). The DC-3 was delivered to Braniff Airways in June of 1940 and has always been a passenger plane. 13,000 were built and were the workhorse of WW-II, hauling passengers, freight and even pulling multiple gliders carrying troops. Experience the thrill of flight that millions of passengers have enjoyed. The visit provides an opportunity for parents and their kids, grandparents and all aviation enthusiasts to see and ride in this unique aircraft.

Flights will depart from the Aircraft Specialist Jet Center, 500 Briscoe Blvd., Briscoe Field, Lawrenceville, GA. The cost of the flight is \$75 and worth every penny

for the amazing journey back in time.

Your pilot, Captain **Ron Alexander**, has a very long piloting history. He first soloed at the age of 16 and received his Commercial Pilot's certificate at the age of 18. He served as a pilot in the USAF for 5 years, including a 1 year tour in Viet Nam. During those 5 years, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross and 2 Air Medals. After his service time, he flew for Delta Air Lines for 33 years, retiring in 2002. Not being the kind of guy who could actually "retire", he founded Alexander Airplane Company providing aviation supplies and PolyFiber Fabric Coatings. Ron is now busy developing the Candler Field Museum located in Williamson, GA. The Candler Field Museum will replicate the original Atlanta Airport as it existed in the early 1930's. His DC-3, with more than 82,00 hours on the airframe, will be an integral part of the mu-

seum and will allow visitors to enjoy the increasingly rare sight of an airworthy DC-3.



**Ron Alexander's DC-3**

# Chapter 690 Programs and Activities

## Mark your Calendars

**Friday, May 9** Bob Krone, The Fastest Steam Locomotive in the World.

**Saturday, May 10** Ron Alexander and his DC-3 9am to 4:30pm

**Monday, June 2-Friday, June 6** Aviation Camp

**Friday, June 13** John Slep on Photography Basics

**Saturday, July 5** Roadable Airplanes

**Friday, July 11** Carter Wood, Escape from Koldtitz

**Saturday, August 9** Post Oshkosh Blast; great food, great pictures, and lots of stories.

**Friday, September 12** Presentation from the participants of 2014 Aviation Camp

A Poker Run, a Plane Wash and Fly-Outs are still in the works along with programs for the rest of the year. Those dates will be announced soon.

Of course, be sure to join us for our Pancake Breakfasts the **1st Saturday** of every month. And after enjoying lots of great food and fellowship, plan to stay for interesting speakers and topics. More details will be provided in future newsletters and the Notams!!!

## Summer Aviation Camp

Aviation adventures are coming your way! EAA Chapter 690 is offering an immersive aviation program at the chapter hangar located at the Gwinnett County Airport in Lawrenceville, Georgia. The camp will run from **Monday June 2nd through Friday, June 6th**, with an option of a Young Eagles flight on **Saturday, June 21st**.

Students in seventh through twelfth grades may apply. Topics covered include Aircraft Construction Methods, Air Traf-

fic Control, Principles of Aeronautics, R/C Modeling and visits to select facilities located on Briscoe Field.

The cost is \$280 for Levels 1 & 2 . The cost of Level 3 (for serious students seeking to begin preparations for a private pilot rating) is \$350. Camp begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:00 p.m. each day. Registration deadline is May 10, 2014.



Picture provided by John Slep

# A Message from the President - April Showers

Sorry, couldn't think of a catchy title for this month's message. I've got a few things to mention this month. We're quickly coming up on Ron Alexander's DC-3 visit on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. We are in need of volunteers in the near term to help us distribute table tents to local restaurants to make the local community aware of this visit. Please be sure the let all of your friends and family know about the visit as well as your work community. If you have a cafeteria at your place of work, maybe you get some table tents placed there. This can be a very good fund raiser for the chapter.

On Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup> we will need at least 10 volunteers to help set up the canopy over by The Flying Machine. On Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> we will need a couple of teams of volunteers to man the operation during the day. If you can help in any of these areas, please let Herb Rusk, Shellie Kirk, Duane Huff or me know.

I don't think any of us would be surprised by the fact that general aviation has been in decline for some time. We need to work hard to replace the aging GA pilot population to keep it healthy and make it thrive again. The EAA Young Eagles program is designed to help toward that end

by getting young folks excited about aviation in general. Your chapter has always been one of the most involved in Young Eagles through the years. Along with Young Eagles, we now have the Eagle Flight program coordinated locally by your vice-president, John Morgan. John loves to pass along his love of aviation to others and has provided many Eagle Flights himself. This program is a one on one flight program with those that are 19 and older and interested in aviation. If you would like to participate as an Eagle Flight pilot, please let John know.

I would like to see EAA 690 add a third program that will be for middle/high school aged youth. This program would give the youth more insight into aircraft construction by exposing them first to small scale RC aircraft by building one or more small RC planes and moving up to a larger scale RC project and eventually into something even larger. We hope to start this in association with the local RC group. If this is something you would like to be involved in, please let me know. I plan on having a meeting in the near future to discuss the formation of this group so be on the lookout for that announcement.

This Chapter was chartered in August of 1980. That makes next year a big year for EAA 690. We'd like to get a committee started to begin the planning for how we will celebrate next year. If you would like to be a part of this committee, please let myself of any chapter officer know.

As you can see, we continue to have a lot of opportunities for each of you to be involved in the chapter.

That's all I have for this month. Look forward to seeing you all at breakfast!!

*“This Chapter was chartered in August of 1980. That makes next year a big year for EAA 690.”*

## Addition to Membership Database

We continue to work on and improve the Chapter membership database at [www.eaa690.net](http://www.eaa690.net). If you have never checked it out, stop by today and take a look.

The purpose is to provide members with information on members and other things such as Flyout Events.

On your first visit, you will need to have your password set. This is accomplished by clicking on the log in link at the upper right corner of the site. At the bottom of the log in form is a link to the Forgot Password form. In that form you will

enter the email address that you received this newsletter at as that is your username for the site. You will receive an email with a link that will allow you to enter a password for log in use.

When logged in, you can edit your individual member information. If you would like to make your info available to other

logged in members, there is a check box at the bottom of the edit page. Check that box and submit and other logged in members will see a details link next to your name.

*“The purpose is to provide members with information on members and other things such as Flyout Events.”*



## EAA Chapter 690

690 Airport Road  
Hangar #1  
Lawrenceville, GA 30045  
Phone: 770-339-0804  
E-mail:  
membership@eaa690.net



● It's all about the flying!!!

## Important Information to Remember

*Every Month our Pancake Breakfast is the 1st Saturday with serving starting at 8:00.*

*Our Business Meetings are the 2nd Friday of each month beginning at 8:00 with an aviation related program following an update on the activities of your chapter.*

*To send the Editor your birthday and/or anniversary information, to notify her of anything you wish to sell or a partnership you may have or want, to send her an article you'd like included in the NavCom please provide that information to her no later than the 20th of the month you wish the information to appear. Send your information to barbara\_epstein@hotmail.com*



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## Classifieds

### For Sale

**Various Products available at the Aero Shoppe include:**

**Large Coffee Mugs-\$15** These are extremely well made with a sectional on one side and Chapter 690 logo on the other.

**Water Bottles-\$12** These are perfect for adults and kids to enjoy while watching or participating in any type of sporting event. They're really great any time, any place.

**Personalized Large Coffee Mugs** are available upon special request by contacting Ronald Hlozansky @ skee5bell-south.net or by calling him @ 770-435-2104

**Gift Cards (set of 8) \$10 and Ceramic Coasters (set of 4) \$10** featuring aviation photography by our own John Slempp.

**Child Related Products** including gliders, wooden airplanes and so much more.

**Oil Analysis Kits-\$12** Keep on hand for those very important changes.

### Hangar Space Available

For a "Van's RV aircraft in the EAA Hangar #4. For details, call **Clyde Schnars @ 770-769-7177**

### Partnerships

**1976 Piper Warrior 1/4 Share \$8,500** Hangared at KLZU For more information contact: Randy Epstein @ 678-507-9394

### Individual Sale

Becker Transceiver AR4201, just back from Becker USA, Yellow Tagged \$650, contact Mike McKenna @ 770-962-7064

### Ad Rates and Information

**Member Ads** run without charge for 3 months with a continuance available upon request to the Editor at Barbara\_epstein@hotmail.com

**Commercial Ads** are: Business Card Size: \$10/issue, \$25/3 issues, 1/8 page: \$15/issue, \$40/3 is-sues, 1/4 page: \$25/issue, \$60/3 issues