



# EAA Chapter 302

## Conroe, Texas

To Fellow EAA Chapter 302 Members:

I'm Dennis McCright, your newly elected EAA 302 Chapter President. Welcome to our Chapter. I hope with the help of all our fellow members and potential new members, we can make 302 a more viable and active chapter for EAA'ers in 2011.

Some good ideas for chapter activities for this year have been informally discussed by our membership. Some things that are on the front burner that will require volunteers to help are:

- Membership Drive
- Current roster for all members
- Everyone to wear name tags at our meetings/functions
- Program for each general meeting
- Member profile in monthly newsletter
- Fly-in and fly-outs
- Pancake/Burger Burn/Chili Day



- Update member pictures on our wall
- Young Eagles Program
- Paint for Airport Compass Rose

We are going to need lots of HELP- so VOLUNTEER!! Let's make this a fun and exciting year!!

I have recruited Denny Irvine and Don Colchin to help with programs and entertainment. If you have a program in mind or want to put on a program, please let them know.

Please note the change in meeting dates.

Dennis

**New Meeting Time: 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month 9am Larry's Hangar41**

# EAA 302 Meeting Minutes – January 8, 2011

## By Shirley Park

- Meeting began shortly after 9:00am with Larry Perryman presenting chapter awards and pins as his last duty as President before introducing new President Dennis McCright.
- No minutes were taken as there was a Christmas party for December.
- There was discussion on changing time of meeting as many cannot make the current meeting time and date. Especially President Dennis McCright. Motion made and seconded to change the date to the first Saturday of each month and continue at 9am and see if this works, If not maybe a weeknight at 7pm would be viable.
- President Dennis McCright suggests we all wear name tags, consider a membership drive and consider some fly-ins.
- Treasurer's report records \$2901.39 in bank.
- Newsletter Editor, Bill Gipson, plans to do some member profiles with background information and of course airplane information and pictures so that we can all get to know each other better.
- Victor Delgado suggested a forum. The EAA 302 website is currently not functioning. It was decided that rather than develop our own forum, we would take advantage of the free National EAA web site for all local sections once it becomes operational in the spring.
- Denny Irvine presented an excellent program/refresher on air space. He would also like suggestions on programs to be presented every month.
- There were several announcements of flying events coming up soon. Please see [Calendar of Events](#) for a listing of events in the area.
- New member, Steven Iacoviello.
- Visitor, Ken Chrisman.
- 29 members and one visitor in attendance. Please be sure to see Lynell and sign the attendance list at the monthly meetings
- The Swindle was won by Bob Van Vleet and \$15 was donated back to the treasury. Dennis McCright won the T-shirt drawing, but declined since he had a T-shirt. Our visitor, Ken Chrisman drew the lucky ticket for the shirt.

### **2011 Monthly Chapter Programs:**

Program Chairman, Denny Irvine is in the initial stages of putting together programs for our monthly meetings. So far he is focusing on "pilot" subjects that hopefully everyone will find interesting. Denny is open for suggestions or volunteers for ideas and speakers to fill out the 2011 program. Contact Denny at [dirvine@cebridge.net](mailto:dirvine@cebridge.net).

### **Flight Reviews & Instrument Renewals:**

Dennis McCright, your Microdon Dealer and active Chapter 302 member, is also a CFI-II and available for your Flight Review, Instrument Renewals, training. Mobile (936)443-3562.

### **Now accepting 2011 Membership Dues for EAA Chapter 302.**

\$25 individual or family

Come to the February meeting and renew. Or send check to:  
EAA 302  
4 Timber Lane  
Conroe, TX. 77384

Remember: Name badges, shirts, hats, and visors are available for purchase at our monthly meetings. Support your EAA 302 Chapter by purchasing these items. See a display of EAA 302 collectibles in the meeting room.

# New Officers Introduction at January Meeting



From Left to Right: Lynell Gipson, Bill Gipson, Dennis McCright, Shirley Park



New President Dennis McCright addresses membership at the January meeting.



Larry Perryman flashes smile as outgoing President. Thanks Larry!

## February 2011 Program Topic



February's program will be a short film clip about Lonestar Airport's "Freedom Flight", plus an intro to their website.

Operating since 2006, the group meets once a week for briefings, practice, and critiques. In addition, their purpose is to honor local veterans, plus give support to local events which involve the community around us. If it involves "The Star Spangled Banner", Freedom Flight would like to be there.

The film clip was made during last July 4<sup>th</sup>'s celebrations at three Lake Conroe subdivisions. Two events were timed to pass over during the National Anthem for the start of parades, and one was to open the fireworks show at Bentwater. Other requests during the year include opening football or baseball programs, supporting military and veteran's gatherings, and—most importantly—showing our respect to a departed veteran's funeral with a "Missing Man" formation.

The film clip's eight participants included Sam Ward, Dick Stevens, Dick Kardell, Denny Irvine, Fred Dennis, Joe Waltz (all CXO), Chuck Scott from DWH, and Mike Smith flying the film plane. Mike also works for Southwest, as well as the F104 Starfighters based at Cape Kennedy in Florida.

For information about Freedom Flight, go to [www.lonestarfreedomflight.org](http://www.lonestarfreedomflight.org). There you can find a profile on each of the participants, and contact information if you have an event needing their services.

By Denny Irvine, EAA 302 Program Chairman





## Louisiana Fly-in Series

Saturday, January 22, a group of CXO fliers decided to attend the first of the Louisiana Fly-ins of the 2011 season. Pictured at DeRidder Army Airfield are Joe Waltz, Denny Irvine, Jim Archer, Jim Crawford, and Dennis McCright. The invitation was for

some great chicken & sausage gumbo, and a chance to meet some of our neighbors to the East. You can see what's coming up by checking [www.laflyin.com/schedule](http://www.laflyin.com/schedule), or you can get a weekly newsletter by signing up for [www.laaviator.com](http://www.laaviator.com). They have a very informative newsletter, plus several fly-ins around Louisiana each month. See you there. **(Trip report by Denny Irvine)**



**“Fly-out Opportunities for EAA 302 Members”**

# Plane Talk: Getting to Know our Members

by Bill Gipson

(This article is a first in a series designed to get to know our members better. I will randomly choose a volunteer member of Chapter 302 to provide their story and interesting experiences that they are willing to share.)

This month's Plane Talk features a long time member of EAA and a native Houstonian. **Ray Coker** joined EAA in 1966 and shortly thereafter became a member of local Chapter 12 in South Houston. Ray migrated to south Montgomery County in 1968 and joined the 345 Chapter (no longer exists) at Old Sports Flyer Field and later Hooks. In 1980, he joined the newly formed EAA 302 Chapter and has held every office at least once over the years. (Long story)



1964 was a big year for Ray. He vividly remembers several milestones in his life that occurred that year. He left the Air Force that year after 6 years of service, and got his private and marriage licenses (in that order) also. He started learning to fly in a 7AC Champ and Cessna 150. Ray currently holds a VFR single engine land rating with tail-wheel endorsement. He also had time in 172's. After buying and restoring a C172, dealing a Tri-Pacer and BD4 kit, Ray purchased a 1955 Model PA -22/20-150 Piper Pacer in Clarksville, Ark. in 1996 which had been restored in 1994. Ask Ray for full details because I'm sure I missed some of the story!

Ray enjoys flying N2335P to local fly-ins and other events in the area. He has made 10 trips in the Pacer to Oshkosh (12 trips in all) and gets special parking privileges as a member of the Vintage Division. Ray has made the trek to Sun N Fun twice and numerous fly-ins in the area including SWRFI in Kerrville and New Braunfels. He now has over 700 hours in his Piper Pacer and is also a member of the Short Wing Piper Club. The beautiful picture below was featured in their "Short Wing Piper Club Commemorative History" Book on page 65.



Ray just recently retired from Continental Airlines as a customer service agent. Prior to that Ray worked for Compaq as a computer assembly technician. Hobbies include aircraft and aviation, snow skiing, music, and vintage cars. He was also a professional musician, assembling and playing in his own Pop/Rock band 1957/1974. Again, ask Ray for details.

Ray is looking ahead and is seriously thinking about light sport aircraft. He is currently looking at the market for an unfinished LSA rated kit.

Ray is still an active member of our chapter and loves to share his 50 years of aviation experiences with the group. Just ask him.

## EAA 302 2011 Officers and Contact Information

**President:** Dennis Mccright (936)443-3562  
**Vice\_Pres:** Bill Gipson (281-814-6006)  
**Secretary:** Shirley Park (281)460-2946  
**Treasurer:** Lynell Gipson (713) 825-4090  
**Young** Chuck Elsey (713)705-2090  
**Eagles:**  
**Website:** Shirley Park (281) 460-2946  
**Program** Denny Irvine (936)856-2929  
**Chairman**  
**Newsletter:** Bill Gipson (281) 814-6006

## Calendar of Events

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sat., La Grange BBQ Fly-In, Fayette Regional **(3T5)**
- 1st Sat., Fly-In Lunch, Leesville, LA **(L39) EAA Chapter 1356**
- Quarterly, Fajita Fly-In, Lufkin **(LFK)**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sat., BBQ Lunch, Disc. Fuel, Jasper Apt. **(JAS)**
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sat., Fly-In Breakfast, 8-11 am, Tyler Pounds Fld, **(TYR)**

- ❖ Feb 12, Houston Texas 99's Valentine's Poker Run, 8am-3pm, [www.houston99s.org](http://www.houston99s.org)
- ❖ March 19, Shreveport Downtown EAA 343 Fly-in **(DTN)** [www.eaachapter343.org](http://www.eaachapter343.org)
- ❖ March 29-April 3, Lakeland, FL Sun N Fun Fly-in
- ❖ May 7, Jennings, LA Barnstormer's Air Festival EAA Chapter 541 9am-4pm **(3R7)**
- ❖ May 27-29, Ranger, TX, Ranger Memorial Day Fly-in and Airshow, Ranger Airfield **(F23)** [www.rangerairfield.org](http://www.rangerairfield.org)

### **NEXT MEETING:**

**FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup>**

**9 AM**

**LARRY'S HANGAR**

**EAA 302 regularly meets @ 9 AM on the 1st Saturday of the month, Lone Star Executive Airport, (CXO), Lone Star Builders Center, 10150 Dorbandt, Hangar #41**

**Visitors are always welcome!**

**Take IH-45 Exit 90, follow the signs 3 miles east to the airport.**

**Disclaimer:** Chapter 302 assumes no responsibility or risk for use of products occasionally listed for sale. This is a service to members and does not constitute an endorsement of such products by the Chapter, its members, or the EAA. All building tips and suggestions put forth in the newsletter or at chapter meetings are informational only. The Chapter assumes no liability or responsibility for the accuracy of such material. Anyone applying such information to their flying or project does so at their own volition and risk.

Space reserved for free advertisements – send me your logo and information

Newsletter editor :  
gipsowh@hotmail.com

**Young Eagles ~ Share The Dream**