

CHAPTER 690 NAVCOM

April 1995

Chapter 690 Victory Fly-In

Preparations for the 690 Chapter Victory Fly-In are zipping along. To refresh your memory, the EAA B-17 "Aluminum Overcast" is flying into Briscoe Field on May 12 and will stay until the following Monday. The B-17 will make several Historical Society Flights (seven riders per flight) on each day. During stand-down, walking tours will be offered. We have sold several flights, including entire planeloads. If you or anyone you know wants a piece of the action, better call David Posey now (442-0988). Remember, you get to log real time in the left seat and you get an embroidered jacket and EAA membership.

Following the Friday's flights and tours, Chapter 690 and the EAA Aviation Foundation are hosting a Victory Hangar Dance. This is a formal to semi-formal affair with music by the 19 piece Atlanta Blue Notes and heavy hors d'oeuvres by Proof of the Pudding. We could not get a hangar at Briscoe to host the dance, but we are getting the Gwinnett Cultural Center. The Cultural Center is an amazing facility. The use of the Center along with the Blue Notes and Proof of the Pudding makes the dance very different from any other Chapter 690 event that I've attended. Period dress (circa 1940s) or evening dress will be *de rigour*. A contest with prizes will decide the best period dress. Officials from EAA headquarters in Oshkosh and Gwinnett County will attend and make presentations. We are hosting the B-17 crew and a few other WWII aviators, and they will be introduced to the crowd and will be available for hangar flying.

Though we are getting great deals on everything, the evening will not be cheap at \$30 per person. On the other hand, this is very inexpensive compared to any such event I've attended. Our break-even point is 150 tickets sold. We have the opportunity to sell 300 tickets. The bottom line is that we risk \$700 in

deposits but stand to profit \$2500 if all tickets are sold. So, please help sell tickets by offering your friends the opportunity to attend a romantic evening of Big Band Dance and gourmet food. Also, please post the flyers included in this NavCom. Additionally, if you have access to any special interest groups that may be interested (e.g., veteran's groups, military academy alumnae, dance groups, etc) please contact them directly! So far, response to the Victory Dance has been phenomenal, especially as its theme is the celebration of VE Day and the role of aviation in the victory. However, we need ticket sales. All sales are in advance. Call Bobbie Estes or direct your customers to call her at 938-3515. If you need more posters or feel that you need help making a pitch to a group, Steve Ashby (the man of the honeyed tongue at 413-7112) has posters and will make himself available for presentations. **Please think long and hard about who you know or what groups you're associated with and whether they may want to attend.** I have found that non-aviation people are even more excited about the Victory Dance than we fliers are. Groups are welcome and we will reserve entire tables (10 seats) if desired.

The Victory Fly-In continues through Saturday and Sunday. The tarmac right in front of the new EAA Hangar Complex will be the site of most activities. The B-17 and other Warbirds will park here for tours. Right now, we have firm commitments on a P-51 Mustang, two AT-6s (or SNJs or Harvards...) a PT-17 Stearman, and two Cessna Bird Dogs. Both days will start with pancake breakfasts put on by the Chapter. The rest of the food (lunch, snacks, etc.) will be catered with a generous cut to the chapter. Past experience indicates that this protocol provides maximum profit and fun to chapter members.

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The Building Column

—Frank Wilcox

March 10, 1995 was a red letter day for Chapter 690. That was the day that the required Site Development Permit and Building Permit to construct our planned eight hangar cluster at Gwinnett County Briscoe Field was issued to our chapter. Most of you remember that this was the hurdle that stopped our building program at Stone Mt. Airport (DeKalb County) two years ago. These permits are now posted on our building site and our project can move ahead,

However, the building contractor could not be given the green light until building sites were level. Fill dirt was required to provide level sites for the four buildings nearest the runway. The dirt was delivered and leveled on March 23rd and 24th. For this we thank the airport management who made all the arrangements.

On Monday March 27th the building contractor was advised to "move ahead"! Scheduling of subcontractors for construction of the concrete pads, the building fabrication and the building erection is now in process. Keep watching the site for action.

A meeting was held with a recommended plumbing contractor on March 21st for review of the installation of the main sewer and water lines from the county taps to the clubs at each hangar. He provided a favorable cost estimate and the decision was made to give him the contract. This

plumbing contractor may also do the "stub" plumbing for the building contractor. He is also willing to work with the hangar owners in developing interior facilities and met with them on April 5th to discuss plumbing.

Bob Zahner has arranged for electrical service from Jackson EMC. Installation of poles, wires, transformers, etc, will be done immediately following the completion of the main sewer line. With no poles there will be less obstacles for installation of the sewer line.

We have no firm schedule from the contractors, but it is their responsibility to take the next steps. The building committee will closely monitor their work and encourage them to move ahead as quickly as possible- Two big chapter fund raising opportunities, the B-17 Victory Tour in May and the U. S- Hot Air Balloon Team Championship Competition in June, will benefit significantly if our hangers are ready for use.

The building committee greatly appreciates the support, understanding and patience of the chapter membership during this building project. Please contact any member of the committee with questions, comments or suggestions. As mentioned before you will want to visit the site often once concrete and steel begin to appear. We will soon be the proud owners of our "EAA Eight Hanger Cluster".

Hot Air Balloons Ascend From Briscoe Field

A mini-hot-air balloon competition was held at Briscoe Field Friday morning April 7th. Scheduled for daybreak- 7 A.M., there were the usual delays and late arrivals so the competition didn't begin until an hour later. Twelve brightly colored and uniquely designed hot air balloons took off and immediately disappeared over the horizon flying southeast propelled by a brisk northwest wind. The biggest and most unique of the balloons, the Energizer Bunny Fiesta Flyer, which is 160 feet tall and is said to be the world's tallest hot-air balloon, was inflated but did not fly. The ground crew was insufficient for the big job of folding and storing the balloon at an off-field landing site. In addition to the usual "balloon - shaped" flyers there were Planter's Mr. Peanut, Famous Footwear's Big Shoe and Ball Park's Hotdog.

All of this was a preview of the U.S. Hot-Air Balloon Team Championship to be held at Briscoe Field June 9th to

18th. If this is a small preview, the real show will be something to see. There was a sizable crowd to enjoy the sights in the cool morning sunshine, including lots of small children. Too bad Chapter 690 wasn't there with a pancake breakfast. Barney and June Barnes and Frank and Margaret Wilcox, who arose early to attend the event, have numerous pictures to share. Duane Huff, who brought his 3 grandchildren, got into the action helping with the Energizer Bunny.

Duane Huff, who is chairing the Chapter 690 involvement in the U.S. Hot-Air Balloon Team Competition, has scheduled a meeting with Mr. Walter Bruno, the general chairman of the event. He should have some new information to share at the April Chapter meeting. According to Duane, Mr. Bruno is very interested in having the chapter participate.

Chapter 690 Annual Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, April 22nd, 2-6 pm (Eat @ 4:30)

Wilcox Air & Road Service Inn, 2995 Rosebud Rd., Snellville, GA

It is time again for the annual testing of the culinary arts of Chapter 690 members and friends. Chili is the menu. Bring your favorite recipe cooked to perfection so you can be a prize winner. Prizes will be awarded in the following categories: Antique (that old family recipe); Warbird (hottest); Homebuilt (unusual ingredients and taste); Classic (best-overall) and Ultra-light (for those conscious of nutritional standards). If making chili isn't your thing, bring

a salad or dessert to share. Drinks, condiments and table service will be provided. Fly-in, drive-in, or hike-in, but do come and bring your family, friends, relations and any interested persons who like airplanes and chili. Bring pictures and stories about Sun and Fun. As always there will be hanger talk and the Smarties can check on the progress on the C-140. If airplanes are not the most important thing in the world to you, we promise conversation on a few other topics as well. Y'all come.

From My Point of View...Our 'YES' Chapter

By Jim Estes, Pres.

It never ceases to amaze me. Ever since the first of 1994 when I became one of your officers, Chapter 690 has amazed me over and over again by confirming itself as a 'YES' group of people working together.

The undertakings, whether they were large or small, have all been met with enthusiasm and success. I have heard ideas discussed, debated and re-discussed. But when the person or group of people agreed to do something, it became a 'YES' project. There was agreement to go ahead, to move forward and take on the task. Some of the things we have taken on were events we have done in the past, but wanted to do more often or do on a larger scale. Other things were new and different, but we were willing to do new things together.

When you look at our calendar of events for just the remainder of 1995, it is quiet impressive:

- The B-17 Visit (Complete with a Victory Dance which alone will stand as probably the largest single gala celebration we have ever held)
- Hosting the Georgia Pilots Breakfast Club
- U.S. National Hot Air Balloon Championship

- The Paralympic Games Aviation Day
- Bi-Plane Fall Classic
- Year-End Holiday Party

This does not even include the regular project visits, fly-outs, picnic or Chili Cook-Off. And, Oh Yea! Guess what right in the middle of all this, we're building a clubhouse/hanger. YES!

My point? I think this is the most important time we could have for being involved. Read that as working in the chapter. We have new members that want to work with us. I urge committee managers to please call new and old members and let them say 'YES' to you. But please, new members, don't wait to be called. There are names and phone numbers in the NAVCOM for you to call and if you are not sure what you would like to do, then please call me 938-3515 or 885-8625.

Yes, we are a very 'YES' Chapter. What an exciting time to be a part of EAA and especially Chapter 690.

And YES, for all of us luckless people who can't go to SUN 'N FUN, there will be a regular meeting April 14th.

LOST... (and we hope soon to be found!)... 23 members who have not yet paid their 1995 Chapter 690 dues!

MEMBERSHIP REPORT AS OF 4-6-95

1994 closing membership was 65. We currently have 56 paid members, of whom: 42 are renewing members (4 are in our new spouse category) 6 are new spouse category members, and 7 are new members

If you have delayed or forgotten to renew your membership, you will find a "1995 Dues Statement" enclosed in your issue of The NavCom.

Chapter 690's long awaited new chapter directory is in the works. It will include the latest updated info available (Have you returned your new membership profile? Has your spouse?)... with photo (Have you had your black and white photo taken by 690's portrait master Duane yet?)... of all currently paid members of Chapter 690. If you're not sure whether your dues are up to date, last year's members who have not yet "re-upped" will find a blue "1995 Dues Statement" in their NavCom.

Calendar of Events

•APRIL:

- 22 - Cartersville Airport - Chapter 268 Pancake Breakfast and Fly-In
- 22 - Wilcox Air & Road Service Inn (2995 Centerville Rosebud Rd., Snellville; Lenore Field) - Chapter 690 Annual Chili Cook-Off. Rain or shine, 2 to 6 pm (eat about 4:30). See notice elsewhere in this NavCom.
- 22-23 - Souther Airport, Americus, GA - Lindbergh Air Days; Exchange Club; Support for Child Abuse Prevention. FMI: 912/924-0766
- 29 - Kitty Hawk, NC - Antique Aircraft Fly-In. 919/473-2600.
- 29 - Griffin, GA - Gulf Coast Avionics workshop / Alexander Aeroplane seminar. Call Rick Garcia, 813/879-9714.
- 29-30 - Griffin, GA - Alexander Builders Workshop. 800/831-2949.

MAY:

- 6 - Milledgeville, GA - GAPBC (Georgia Pilots' Breakfast Club)&##
- ?- Montgomery, AL - EAA Chapter 822 Spring Fly-In. 334/365-3508.
- 6 - Cleveland-Hardwick Airport, Cleveland TN - CAP Fly-In.
- 12 - Gwinnett Cultural Center - Chapter 690 Victory Hangar Dance. Music by The Atlanta Blue Notes and catering by Proof of the Pudding. Call 938-3515 (Bobbie Estes) for tickets!
- 12-14 - Gwinnett County/Briscoe Field, Lawrenceville, GA - EAA Chapter 690 Victory Fly-In, hosting the EAA B-17 "Aluminum Overcast", warbirds, experimentals, antique classics, contests, raffles, the whole shootin' match Call 442-0988 (David Posey) FMI.
- 20 - LaGrange, GA - GAPBC
- 20 - Newberry, SC - Fly-In at Newberry Municipal (27J)
- 26 - Decatur, AL - EAA Chapter 941 WWII Victory 50th Anniversary. 205/355-5770.
- 27-28 - Toccoa, GA - EAA Chapter 1011 Fly-In. 706/779-3446.

June:

- 3-4 - Rainsville, AL - 4th Annual Fly-In. 205-638-7593.
- 9-18 Briscoe Field, Lawrenceville, GA - 1995 International Balloon Festival. Chapter 690 will host various aspects in our New

Victory Fly-In (continued from page 1))

There will be no charge for parking but parking will be supervised. Mike and Jennifer North (925-9552) will run the breakfast. Please call them to volunteer for a shift.

In addition to the B-17 trinket trailer, we have several vendors attending including Alexander Aero, possibly with their DC-3. Noted aviation artists Sam Lyons and Marc Stewart will have booths, as will the t-shirt and cap man from the AirFair last year (Note: Somebody needs to buy Steve Ashby another cap!) Other Exhibitors include the Ninety-Nines, CAP, ROTC, Aircraft Technologies, Inc (the Acro I concern), and possibly AOPA. If you know of any group that would like a presence at the Fly-In, contact Joel Levine at 394-5455. **Please think long and hard about who you know or what groups you're associated with and whether they may want a booth.** Remember, because of the broad appeal of VE Day celebrations, these groups need not be aviation-specific.

We will host a Young Eagles Rally on Sunday. Flights will not be open to the public this go-round. We will fly a Scout Troop of about 30 and all of these flights are pre-arranged.

David Posey is the Mission Commander. He's done a bang-up job of riding herd. If you have ideas that you think we've missed, some unique take on the situation, please call him at 442-0988. Every one of the above projects started with a member presenting an idea. Please be creative and have fun!

Announcing TWO Fabulous B-17 Fly-In Festivity Raffles!

This just in:

- 1) WHAT A BARGAIN! \$1 per ticket gets you a chance for one of several prizes, including 2 prints by noted aviation artists Sam Lyons and Marc Stewart. You need not be present to win one of the main prizes.
- 2) SPECIAL LIMITED RAFFLE! Only 200 tickets at \$10 each will be available for this special raffle. The prize? A seat in Sunday, May 14th's last regular flight of the B-17 at Gwinnett County Airport, Briscoe Field.

Please talk up the Victory Fly-In and Dance—We need the business!

**More late-breaking news!
In addition to B-17 rides,
we will be offering rides
in AT-6s and Stearmans!**

Larry Bishop
6527 Rosecommon Drive
Norcross, Ga 30092



Chapter Calendar
April 22: Chili Cook-Off at the Wilcox Spread, 2-6 pm. 978-2403
May 12: Victory Hangar Dance at the Gwinnett Cultural Center. 938-3515
for tickets
May 12-14: Victory Fly-In at Gwinnett County Airport. 442-0988 FM.

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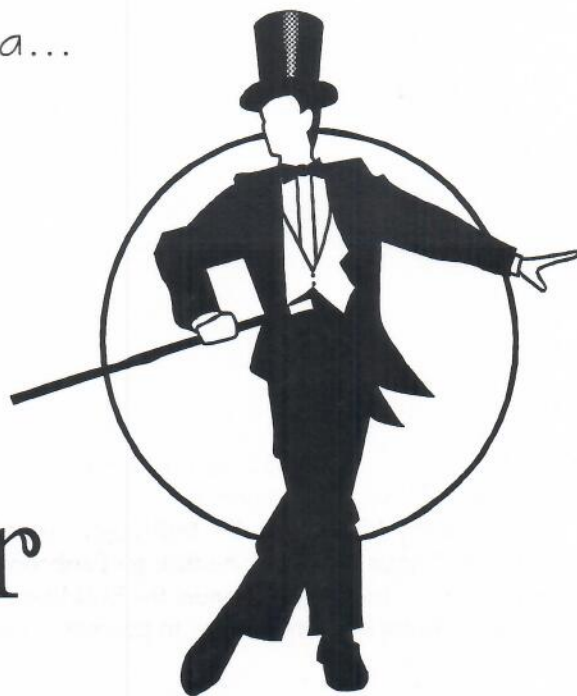


Newsletter of EAA Chapter 690
Editor: Jeff Boatright 2293 Sanford Road
Decatur, GA 30033; jboatr@emory.edu

The NavCom

EAA Aviation Foundation Presents a...

Victory Hangar Dance



An Evening of Big Band Music & Dancing
Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of VE Day
& the role played by Aviation in the Victory

Featuring the sounds of the Atlanta Blue Notes
and Heavy Hors D'oeuvres by

Proof of the Pudding

With a Contest for Best Period Dress (c. 1940s)

The Evening of Friday, May 12, From Eight O'Clock until Midnight
at the Gwinnett Civic & Cultural Center (Exit 42 on I-85)

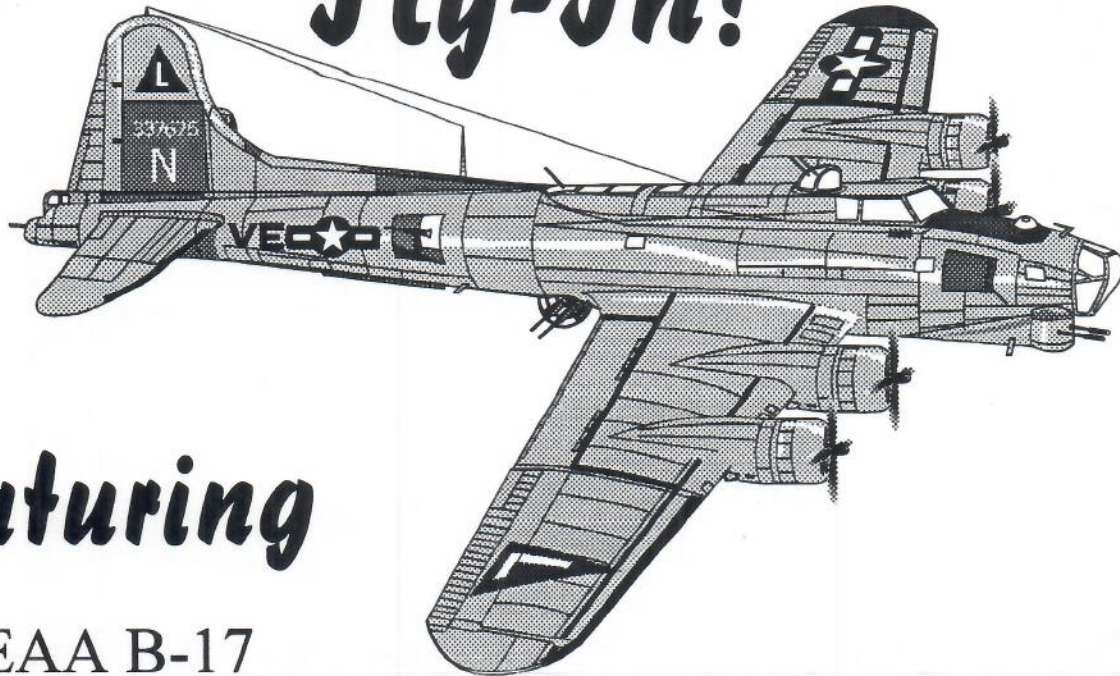
Tickets by Advance Purchase Only, \$30 per Person

For more information, Call Bobbie Estes at 938-3515.



VE DAY Celebration

Fly-In!



Featuring

The EAA B-17

Aluminum Overcast

P-51 Mustangs DC-3 Gooney Birds

Many Other Airplanes & Activities

Pancakes Breakfasts & BBQ Lunches

May 13 & 14

Gwinnett County Airport

FMI: David Posey at 442-0988