



BRAZOS AREA RECREATIONAL FLYERS BRAGGING AND GOSSIP

EAA Chapter 983 Newsletter
October 2003

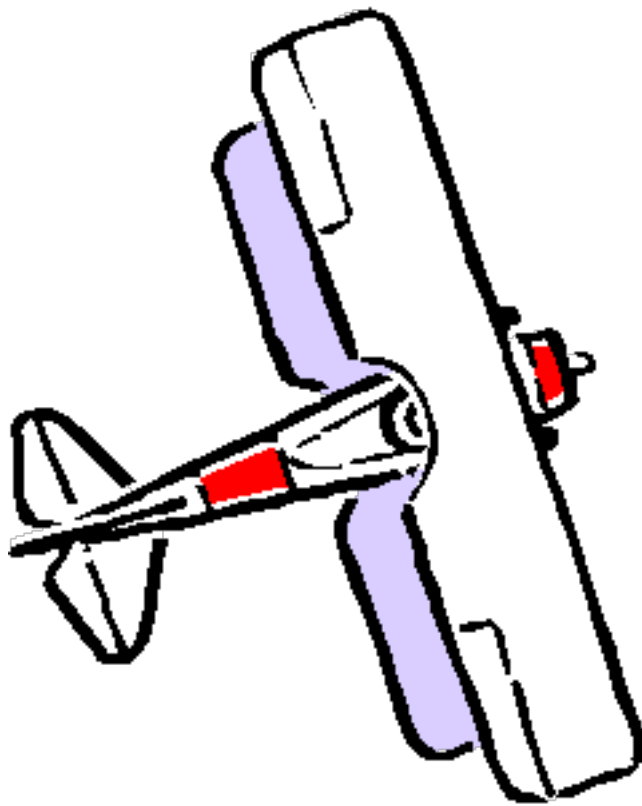
EAA Chapter 983, P.O. Box 5191, Granbury, Tx. 76049
Website <http://www.eaa983.org>

Chapter 983 meets on the second Saturday of each month at 10:00 AM. in Ken houseman's hangar. N.E. corner of Pecan Plantation Airpark.

[Air Salvage of Dallas](#)

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Chapter 983 Fall



FLY

IN

Saturday October 4th

I know you haven't forgotten, but remember to tell your friends that the

best little fly - in in Texas is here.

September Meeting Minutes

Good news from the Housemans, Ken is home and plans on staying there. He said his main complaint with the nursing home where he was recovering was that they gave him his shots with a grease gun!

Gary Bricker welcomed new member, **Ken Wallace**.

Project updates: Dwaine Jennings is working on his canopy and is getting rave reviews from visitors on his workmanship, **Gwen and Jason Hutchinson** are deep into the wings, **Bill Scanlon** says: “It’s too hot” (add your own whine to this cheese), **Steve Mottin** is about ready to dip his hands into the jug of Pro-Seal, **Tom Lewis** is getting tired of the lip he gets when reporting that he’s drilled two holes since last meeting, **Bill Steppling** sent his wings over to **Jim Matlock** for the white and is finalizing the engine set-up and panel, The Prez **Gary Bricker** had some excuse for not doing much but it wasn’t even worth writing down so I forgot what he said and **I’ve** finished making new rudder pedal assemblies.

Doug Crumrine bought a beautiful Christen Eagle at Osh Kosh and should have it home September 29th.

Debbie Keyt is looking for a few good men, formation qualified, to participate in a fly by at Granbury Muni on October 9th and over (actually “around”, Dear God don’t let anyone[FAA, uninformed busybodies] think we’d actually fly “over”) Mambrino School on the 10th. This coincides with an annual project sponsored by the Brazos River 99’s designed to introduce elementary school youngsters to aviation.

Les Staples proposed a Chapter purchase of aircraft scales, in light of **Green** moving to Ark. with the set we’d come to think of as our own. It will be considered at the next board meeting.

Marty Sidener recommended **Dan Costello** (new Pecan resident) as an aircraft painter.. Marty says Dan is doing **Steve Williams’** airplane right now..

Gene Keyt purchased a supply of surfacing slurry to test on the asphalt turnaround and asked for volunteers to help apply it.

Kevin and Karla Ross are having Chapter member **Jim Matlock** paint their RV 6A. So far it looks terrific.

Barb Wilson has arranged another Young Eagles event on October 25th and is expecting a “big” group and would like more help, both pilots and ground folks.

Let me digress for a few lines and remind everyone what an outstanding job Barb has done with the Young Eagles program since she took it over. With about a year left in the stated goal to fly 1,000,000 Young Eagles, Barb has spent an incredible amount of time and energy getting Chapter 983 to the forefront of chapters around the country. All of the Chapter volunteers have done a great job and as always, a few shouldering most of the load. No one has been more focused than Barb and she deserves a hearty thanks from all of us. Let her know how you feel the next time you see her.

Got this message from Chapter founder and recent defector from the chapter, Gary Green: “The Beer Supply expired August 21st. I had hoped it would last all the way to Sept 1st (my birthday) but it just didn't have the stamina to stay the course.. If I hadn't had some help by some of the neighbors, it might have made it. With a tear in my eye, I saluted the last surviving can and then passed it through my kidneys. It was good while it

lasted, but you must remember that nothing last forever.:

I will keep a watchful eye on the southwestern sky, hoping to see a pallet of refreshment drifting below a billowing ‘chute’.

Rob Zboril, Our Representative to the 2003 Air Academy at Osh Kosh

I’m not amazed or even surprised by the accomplishment, motivation and commitment of young men and women in our area any longer. The last few years of our Chapters sponsorship of deserving men and women to Osh Kosh and articles I’ve been fortunate to write, covering the Civil Air Patrol and 99’s programs have made me quite aware that there is no dearth of talented and focused people in our schools today.

That is why it gives me such pleasure to write about Rob Zboril, our most recent selectee to the Osh Kosh Air Academy. Rob came to the September meeting carrying his airfoil section and aileron for the obligatory “Thank you for sending me” speech in front of the Chapter. What we got was a highly entertaining, energetic and laugh filled half hour of Rob’s Adventures in Airplane Heaven.

He began by saying it was his “Best summer ever” and gave us his first impressions of the size and scope of the event. The first two days were spent at the show where he got to sit in the performers tent and rub elbows with the likes of Tucker, Franklin and Poberezny. After those first days began the meat of the program, academics in the mornings and workshop in the afternoon. It was no surprise that Rob endured the classroom the part in order to get to the workshop. Some of his first impressions were: “Airplanes made with foam?” “Are you sure?”, “Fiberglass = Itching” “Long sleeve shirts are good” , The morning after laying up wet sheets of fiberglass, discovering that “Gravity never sleeps”, and finally: “Gas welding is a BLAST”.

After a few days of building the wing section each of the members discovered where their talents lay, be it woodwork, glassing, fabric or stitching. Rob found his calling at the end of a welding rig and became the assembly line welder for brackets and wing bows.

When asked about the number of girls in the group he responded that there were about half a dozen and they wasted no time at all telling the boys to “Back off, we know what we’re doing!”.

Rob got the nickname ”Texas Busboy” for his habit of cleaning the tables after meals but that paid off when he won the drawing for the leather bomber jacket with nose art! He didn’t want us to feel left out so he brought back a patch and lapel pin for all of us in the Chapter to share.

I’ve listened to my share of motivational speakers and preachers and I enjoyed Robs entertaining and off the cuff presentation a heck of a lot more than most of those guys.

Once again those of you in the Chapter have found a deserving and talented young adult who represented us well and is someone we can be proud of. (Oh yeah, Mom and Dad were in the audience and every time I looked over there they had grins as big as Texas on their faces, they’re pretty proud too.)



Reprinted from the Chapter 59 *Flight Advisor Corner* by Mike McMains.

“This life is a test. It is only a test. Had it been a real life, you would have been issued instructions on where to go and what to do.”

I know you don’t like tests. If you were like me you probably didn’t like school much either. They were always testing you. Made you want to raise your hand and ask ‘Teacher, may I be excused? My brain is full.’ Then you went and got a pilot license. It was fun until you had to take the test. Maybe you went on to get advanced ratings, with more tests, or maybe you would have, but you didn’t want to have to deal with even more TESTS!

Well, the good news is that if you don’t fly for a living, you don’t have to take any more tests! Sure, you have a Biennial Flight Review every two years, but that’s not really a test. It’s just a review. You don’t have to study or practice for it and there’s no pass or fail. If you scare the instructor sufficiently, he may not sign you off, but that’s just between you and him.

The *bad* news is that if you aren’t taking tests or aren’t testing yourself, you probably aren’t getting any better at flying. In fact, your skills may be deteriorating (“rusty” is the kind word for it). At least one pilot at the recent RV fly - in was “rusty” at short field landings and go - around procedures.

What are you “rusty” at? Do you still practice those emergency procedures and power off approaches? How about short and soft field takeoffs and landings? Do you think you’ll be just as good a pilot by not practicing those maneuvers?

Yes, you passed those tests once, but that doesn’t mean those skills remain at the same level forever. Test yourself. When the rust gets really thick, it doesn’t come off as easily, so keep working at it. If you aren’t confident enough to try certain maneuvers, get with an instructor or other qualified help.. It’s worth a few bucks. Consider it insurance, the kind that prevents accidents instead of just paying for repairs.

I’ve got a proficiency check coming up, and I’m not looking forward to it.. I’ve got to study up on a bunch of stuff I relearn and forget every year.. But, I’m glad I have to do it, because if I didn’t I wouldn’t get any better at flying. I might get worse. It’s kind of like going to the dentist. You may not look forward to it, but you’re glad you did it afterwards. But here’s a big difference: you can have fun testing your flying skills. If you go into it relaxed and prepared, knowing you’re going to make mistakes, you will see yourself improve with repetition and feel good about your accomplishments. Go for it!

There is nothing wrong with waiting for your ship to come in, but you can be sure that if it ever does, the IRS will be right there to help you unload it. David Biggs

Chapter Projects

Lee Clements	Glstar	Ray Stewart/Charles Williams	RV-6
Bill Orcutt/Jim Erskine	RV-7A	Gary Bricker /Jim Matlock	RV-7A
Dick Keyt	Thorp T-18	Jim Erskine	RV-9A
Marv Jensen	Lancair 4	William Bird	RV-6
Bill Stepling	Rans S-7	Mike Monninger	Shoestring
Eddie Meier	F-1 Racer	Tom Lewis	RV-6
Jimmie Cash	RV-6 & T-18	Nathan Capps	Seawind
Gary & Susan Brandon	RV-6	Gary Cotner	CUBY
John Darby/Arnie Schecht	Waco UBF-2	Jay Pratt	North Star
Wes & Millie Ragle	RV-6A	Andy Shane	Republic RC3
Les Staples	BD 4	Sid Tucker	DHC-1
Roe Walker	Murphy	Barbara Wilson	Swift
Tom Wood	Midget Mustang	Bill Scanlon	RV-7
Gene Chiappe	Aeronca Chief	Ray Naspany	RV-8
Gwen & Jason Hutchinson	RV-6	Jim Matlock	RV-4
Steve Mottin	RV-9A	Ron Schuster	Mustang II
Brian Sowell	RV-9A		

*Call me and I'll add your project to this list. Experimental or not. **Bold** letters mean completed projects.*

[Classifieds](#)

[Schedule of Chapter 983 Events](#)

[Chapter 983 Officers and Contacts](#)