

RAMP PAGE



The Newsletter of EAA Chapter 323

VOLUME XVIII, NUMBER 3 - March 2010

We meet at the Sherman (TX) Municipal Airport, the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM.

Visit us at: <http://www.eaa323.org>

March 18th Meeting

Engine Maintenance

Rich Worstell will continue a discussion on the proper maintenance of engines. The following Saturday, March 20th there will be a workshop at the hangar at Cedar Mills starting at 9:00AM. We will be having lunch at the hangar. All are welcome for some hands on experience on propellers and engines.

Bring a friend

President's Message



Weather or Not

Well we've 'bout made it to March and after all the snow now we get the rain. My airstrip is so wet- the crawdads are having their Olympics here, -or – the fire ants call it Land of 1000 Lakes- or- one special plane flew over and the pilot couldn't decide to extend the tundra tires, skis, or floats ... Needless to say I haven't had the bird out since the trip to Norman in late January.

But there is always the planning. I went to a Skywarn training session in Sherman with a group of Ham radio operators I sometimes run around with. I highly recommend this training to us as Pilots. They may all be completed by the time this goes to press but look it up on the Internet- Skywarn. The discussion of what you see and what that means was very interesting and enhanced my understanding of thunderstorms, hail and other bad stuff we try to stay away from while aviating. The wind flows around a storm and the cloud patterns really do tell us what's going on. There was also an offer to do tours at the National Weather service office in Ft Worth. These are the folks who create what we get from Lockheed when we call in for that WX briefing. Might be an interesting day trip.

Before I go – Thanks to everyone who came out to the meeting in Feb, great crowd and Rich's talk on Props was very interesting. He will be back this month on Engine Maintenance and a workshop at 3T0 on Saturday, bring a friend to both! Check the website and elsewhere in this newsletter for more info. See you on the ramp! Rick

Valentine's Party at Cedar Mills Lodge

A nice crowd showed up at the Lodge at Cedar Mills for the annual Chapter Valentine's party. Rich and Jan Worstell provided the accommodations and Rick and Pam Simmons provided the brisket and pork tenderloin. Once again we had a good variety of potluck dishes to complete the dinner. Lots of fun talking went on



with some dancing being accomplished, even by the least experienced left-footed folks. It was good time for us to get together in a social setting. Shown at the right is the start of our dinner. At left is some serious dancing going on by Leldon and Mary Locke. I wonder who is leading?



Boy Scout Troop Leaders Texoma Valley District,

Leldon Lock has started his Boy Scouts of America aviation badge series that will complete in conjunction with the EAA 323 Young Eagles flights at the **North Texas Regional Airport** terminal on March 27. No flying activity of any kind is required for the merit badge or included in the course. Volunteer pilots and ground crews are needed to support this effort. Please be at the terminal building by 8:00 AM for the set up and safety briefing. Come out and support this community effort – it can only be accomplished with your help.

Visitors

We had three visitors last meeting; Leif Batey from Denison, Karl Cox from Durant, and Clint Murphy from Whitewright. A warm welcome from Chapter 323!

New Member

Let's welcome new member Craig Simpson of Anna, TX. Craig holds a PPSEL and sea with instrument.

EAA 323 Sign

The Chapter has been working on a sign to be placed at the Sherman Municipal Airport on each side of the large maintenance hangar. Permission has been given by the Sherman Planning and Zoning Board and all we have to do is finish the design. We are working with sign manufactures in Denison and Whitesboro before we make the final commitment. The sign will provide information to people driving on Dewey Ave some quick (40 MPH speed limit) that we exist at the airport and when we meet. Permission was also secured from National EAA to use the EAA logo on the sign. When we get closer to completing the project a picture will be published in the newsletter.

Bring a friend

Try to bring a friend to the next meeting. They do not need to be a pilot, just someone interested in aviation.

Coming Soon, Avfuel From Algae?

From Avweb.com



Experiments by scientists at the Pentagon's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) <http://www.avweb.com/newspics/algaebiofuel.jpg> are moving forward quickly and could be producing jet fuel from algae at competitive prices by next year, the UK Guardian reported this week. "The claim ... has taken industry insiders by surprise," according to the news story. DARPA researchers have already produced oil from algae in ponds at a cost of about \$2 per gallon, and could be mass-producing as much as 50 million gallons a year in 2011. DARPA is funding the research to find an algae-based alternative to the petroleum-derived JP-8 fuel used by the Air Force. If an inexpensive fuel alternative is possible, it will be considered for Army vehicles as well. DARPA spokeswoman Jan Walker told America.gov last year that algae offer the advantage of growing easily in a lot of different places. All algae needs to grow rapidly is light, carbon dioxide and water -- even salty water or wastewater will do.

Tools Explained

Provided by Rick Simmons

DRILL PRESS:

A tall upright machine useful for suddenly snatching flat metal bar stock out of your hands so that it smacks you in the chest and flings your beer across the room, denting the freshly-painted project which you had carefully set in the corner where nothing could get to it.

WIRE WHEEL:

Cleans paint off bolts and then throws them somewhere under the workbench with the speed of light. Also removes fingerprints and hard-earned calluses from fingers in about the time it takes you to say, "Oh, sh*t!"

SKIL SAW:

A portable cutting tool used to make studs too short.

PLIERS:

Used to round off bolt heads. Sometimes used in the creation of blood-blisters.

BELT SANDER:

An electric sanding tool commonly used to convert minor touch-up jobs into major refinishing jobs.

HACKSAW:

One of a family of cutting tools built on the Ouija board principle ... It transforms human energy into a crooked, unpredictable motion, and the more you attempt to influence its course, the more dismal your future becomes.

WISE-GRIPS:

Generally used after pliers to completely round off bolt heads. If nothing else is available, they can also be used to transfer intense welding heat to the palm of your hand.

OXYACETYLENE TORCH:

Used almost entirely for lighting various flammable objects in your shop on fire. Also handy for igniting the grease inside the wheel hub out of which you want to remove a bearing race.

TABLE SAW:

A large stationary power tool commonly used to launch wood projectiles for testing wall integrity.

HYDRAULIC FLOOR JACK:

Used for lowering an automobile to the ground after you have installed your new brake shoes, trapping the jack handle firmly under the bumper.

BAND SAW:

A large stationary power saw primarily used by most shops to cut good aluminum sheet into smaller pieces that more easily fit into the trash can after you cut on the inside of the line instead of the outside edge.

PHILLIPS SCREWDRIVER:

Normally used to stab the vacuum seals under lids or for opening old-style paper-and-tin oil cans and splashing oil on your shirt; but can also be used, as the name implies, to strip out Phillips screw heads.

STRAIGHT SCREWDRIVER:

A tool for opening paint cans. Sometimes used to convert common slotted screws into non-removable screws and butchering your palms.

PRY BAR:

A tool used to crumple the metal surrounding that clip or bracket you needed to remove in order to replace a 50 cent part.

Pilot fatigue

Pilot fatigue has made the news in recent months. This article, http://www.faa.gov/news/aviation_news/2010/media/JanFeb2010FightingFatigue.pdf, from the FAA points out some ways to fight fatigue - and keep from becoming the next news headline. You can go to the Chapter website and copy and paste the above into your browser.

Proper care helps aircraft battle the elements

From AOPA ePilot

It shows up first as a whitish or gray “dulling” of the aluminum surface of your aircraft. Then it may progress to more and more severe pitting, until it eventually destroys the metal. Left untreated, corrosion can make an aircraft unairworthy in just a few years. If you base your aircraft in a coastal area where the air is moist, it may be particularly prone to corrosion, but you can take steps to help protect it. Hangaring, frequent washing, and regular treatment with rust inhibitors can slow the deterioration of aircraft from corrosion significantly. Find out where to check for damage from corrosion in the AOPA Pilot Information Center’s Aircraft Corrosion (http://www.aopa.org/members/files/topics/corrode.html?WT.mc_id=100305epilot&WT.mc_sect=sap) subject report. For more tips on lengthening the life of your aircraft, take the AOPA Air Safety Foundation course Aging Aircraft (http://flash.aopa.org/asf/agingaircraft/swf/flash.cfm?WT.mc_id=100305epilot&WT.mc_sect=sap).

EAA E-Publications

There is a good commentary by Mary Jones in the March 2010 issue of *Sport Aviation*, page 6 or electronically here (<http://www.sportaviationonline.org/sportaviation/201003?pg=8&pm=2&fs=1#pg8>) regarding the various resources on the internet. This is worth reading. We are an EAA organization but AOPA also has several e-publications and valuable information on their website also. As pilots, we should learn from these two great organizations. There is a wealth of information out there. I know we are all busy, but take some time and explore.

FAA ‘Aviation News’ becomes ‘Safety Briefing’

From AOPA ePilot

The publication FAA Aviation News is changing its name to FAA Safety Briefing starting with the March/April 2010 issue, available now (http://www.faa.gov/news/safety_briefing/2010/media/MarApr2010.pdf) on the FAA Web site. “We’re changing the name to more accurately reflect the magazine’s mission: safety,” said John Allen, director of FAA flight standards service. The bimonthly publication focuses on general aviation.

Business Cards

The *Ramp Page* publishes business cards for \$20.00 per year. This is to help the chapter with the costs of mailing the newsletter and our general fund. If you have a business card, please send it to Ross Richardson at the return address on the newsletter along with a check made payable to EAA Chapter 323 and memo business card.

2010 Calendar of Programs and Events

Month	Programs	Events
Mar	18 – Engine Maintenance	20 – Engine Maintenance Workshop @ 3T0 27 – Young Eagles at Grayson County Airport (KGYI)
Apr	15 – RV-12 Light sport	
May	20 – High Altitude	TBD Altitude Chamber Tour
Jun	17 – Pilotage Training	19 – Pilotage Practical
Jul	15 – John’s Program	6 – BoD Meeting Planning update
Aug	19 – U.S. Thunderbird’s Crew Chief presentation and discussion	
Sep	16 – Summer Fly-in Reports	
Oct	21 – Leldon’s Program	2 – Brushy Creek Fly in 15 / 17 – 3T0 Splash in
Nov	18 – Danny’s Project Construction	
Dec	16 – Annual Christmas Party @ Richardson’s	

Looking for newsletter contributions. Places you have flown, flying experiences, where to eat, anything –send it in! Send to rprichardson@verizon.net.

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Did you know...?

- § that your membership **expiration** date is printed on the mailing label. If your membership has expired please see Ross Richardson during the meetings to renew or go to the Chapter Web site and print the form and mail to Ross Richardson. Dues are a cheap \$20.00 per year.
- § that you must also be a member of the National EAA to belong to a local Chapter. This protects the Chapter for insurance. If you are not a National Member please join now and let Ross know your EAA # for the records.
- § Board of Director minutes are published on the chapter website.

Chapter Officers

Name	Position	Telephone Number
Rick Simmons	President	903-564-4334
Bud Smith	Co-Vice President	903-892-6568
Billy Dollarhide	Co-Vice President	903-870-0521
John Procter	Secretary	903-893-3536
Danny Offill	Treasurer	903-482-6651
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Joe Nelsen	BoD	903-433-1534
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