



# Experimental Aircraft Association

## Chapter 1246, McKinney, Texas

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### **Don't Miss Our Next Chapter Meeting!**

**Thursday, March 11th 2010, 7 PM**  
**The Longest Cross-country**



Our speaker on Thursday will be Michael Combs who was featured in this month's AOPA. Michael Combs is a plugged-in pilot. After each flight, he posts an update on Twitter and his blog. While in flight, he uses a satellite-tracking device to let his followers know where he is at all times.

In most respects, Combs is no different than many of today's high-tech aviators. In one respect, however, he stands out. In April, Combs will launch on an ambitious 50-state tour of the United States in a Remos GX light sport aircraft. He's calling it The Flight for the Human Spirit, and for Combs, it is the ultimate expression of a personal philosophy: to live life with no regrets.

### **A new airplane and a dream**

Combs, a 50-something personal coach who lives in Denton, Texas, flew a brand-new Remos GX from his home to Tampa, Florida, for AOPA's Aviation Summit. At Summit, AOPA unveiled its 2010 Fun to Fly Sweepstakes airplane—which is the same model of Remos. It was November 2009; just a few weeks earlier, he'd passed his sport pilot checkride. The nine-hour cross-country was the longest he'd made. He had about 60 hours in his logbook and wasn't sure he'd reach triple digits by April 4, 2010.

### **See you there!**

All meetings are held at 7 pm in Conference Room D106A on the second Thursday of each month at the [Collin County Community College](#) in McKinney TX. It's just down the hall from our old location. Everyone is welcome. You don't have to be a pilot or a member to attend. Need more information? Feel free to contact any of our [Officers](#).

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**Got News?** Send it to the [Webmaster](#).

## Upcoming Events

**March 20, 2010** - This month's Flyout will be to KSEP (Stephenville – Hard 8 BBQ) we will try to meet at KSEP around 11:30 AM

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**April 17, 2010** - EAA 1246 Annual Fish Fry. More details to come!

## Other Aviation News

### The Latest News From EAA - Experimental Aircraft Association:

#### [Five New EAA Webinars Announced](#)

After a successful launch to its new webinar series this past Wednesday night, EAA has five more of the interactive, online programs lined up in the coming weeks.

#### [Women in Aviation, International 2010 Conference Wrap-Up](#)

Nearly 3,000 women and men, including more than double the number of past international participants, attended the 21st Annual International Women in Aviation (WAI) Conference held last week in Orlando, Florida.

#### [Don't Overreact to JFK Kid Controller](#)

While the FAA investigates widely reported actions of an air traffic controller that allowed his children to clear aircraft for takeoff at New York's JFK airport, EAA President Tom Poberezny says this isolated incident shouldn't prevent youth access to aviation opportunities while maintaining safety. EAA Radio's Fareed Guyot reports.

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### The Latest News From AOPA - Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association:

#### [Obama to nominate retired Army general to head TSA](#)

The White House will nominate Robert A. Harding, a retired major general with 33 years of Army experience, as head of the Transportation Security Administration, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano announced March 8.

#### [AOPA praises pilots willing to 'drop everything and fly'](#)

AOPA Foundation President Karen Gebhart traveled the Southeast this week to connect with pilots about helping general aviation serve their communities.

#### [Meeting could decide future of Vista Field](#)

AOPA is urging area pilots and businesses to support Vista Field by attending a March 8 meeting that could decide the facility's future.

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### The Latest News From Aero-News Network:

#### [Aero-TV: Safety Tip of the Week - CO Guardian, Every Pilot's Flight Surgeon](#)

Breathing Easier... And Safer Ash Vij's CO Guardian is the undisputed leader in carbon monoxide detectors for General Aviation, and are now included as standard safety equipment on all new Cessna 172, 182, 206, Columbia Aircraft, Diamond DA40 and Skycrane helicopters, and all Cirrus Aircraft. The CO Guardian product does one thing... monitor CO in the cockpit.

#### [Customer Nations, EADS Come To Principle Agreement On A400M](#)

Additional Provision to be Booked The Customer Nations and EADS have come to a principle agreement regarding the A400M military transport aircraft with the intention to amend the original contract accordingly in the coming weeks.

#### [Aero-TV: CJ4 Precision Assembly Pt. 4 - Final Touches on Cessna Production Line](#)

CJ4 Program Manager, Norm Baker, Provides an Exclusive Factory Tour At Cessna Aircraft, "safety begins with a durable airframe." Each airframe is stress-tested five times the aircraft's standard lifetime; yet, Cessna's renowned safety and reliability begins on the production line. State-of-the-art technology allows employees to create replicable, seamless assembly for each new aircraft on the line.

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### The Latest News From AVweb:

#### [15 Years and Now 15 Grand Giveaways ... It's Your Chance to Win a Garmin Aera 510 Handheld GPS](#)

Win a Garmin aera 510 handheld GPS as we celebrate our 15th Anniversary! All you have to do is click here to enter

your name and e-mail address. (You only have to enter once, and you'll be entered in our prize drawings for the entire year ? so if you've already entered, you're all set.)And no, we're not going to rent or sell your name, ever. Tell your friends, and invite them to sign up for AVweb so they can qualify for our 15 Grand Giveaways prize drawings, too. (We won't spam them, either ? but we hope they will sign up for our newsletters.)Deadline for entries is 11:59pm Zulu time March 12, 2010.Click here to read the contest rules and enter.Congratulations to Rod Anson of Camperdown, Victoria (Australia), who won 100,000 Air BP Bravo Rewards Points! (click here to get your own Rewards Points from Air BP)

#### [Northrop Grumman Drops Tanker Bid](#)

The next-generation military tanker will almost certainly be a Boeing. Northrop Grumman announced Monday it would not be submitting a bid in the \$35 billion sweepstakes to introduce a replacement for the KC-135 and KC-10 fleet. Boeing's bid is riding on a modified 767 platform while Northrop Grumman would use an A330 modified in the U.S. Northrop Grumman CEO Wes Bush effectively threw in the towel on the protracted battle. He said the company "will not protest" the outcome of the competition, which now appears to be down to one. Bush did suggest the odds were stacked in favor of Boeing, however. "We reached this conclusion based on the structure of the source selection methodology defined in the RFP, which clearly favors Boeing's smaller refueling tanker and does not provide adequate value recognition of the added capability of a larger tanker, precluding us from any competitive opportunity," Bush said.

#### [Sullenberger Retires To Advocate For Safety](#)

In a surprise move last week, Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger, announced his retirement from U.S. Airways and flew his final flight. Sullenberger, 59, has been the most famous pilot in the U.S. since he safely landed an A320 dead-stick on the Hudson River just over year ago. In a statement, Sullenberger said though he is retiring after 30 years on the flight line, he plans to continue to advocate for aviation safety and for the profession of airline pilots. "I will work to remind the entire industry -- and those who manage and regulate it -- that we have a sacred duty to our passengers to do the very best that we know how to do," he said. Retirement is sure to keep him busy -- on Sunday, Sullenberger was photographed at a Vanity Fair Oscar party in Hollywood alongside Tom Hanks, who looks like he could easily step into Sully's shoes to play him in a movie.

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If you wish to discontinue your membership with EAA Chapter 1246, please send an email to [treasurer@eaa1246.org](mailto:treasurer@eaa1246.org).

We welcome your comments and suggestions to [webmaster@eaa1246.org](mailto:webmaster@eaa1246.org).