

Tail Wind Times

Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1246
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McKinney, Texas
November, 2006

Alex De Dominicis
Air Traffic Control
7:00 PM, Pike Hall,
Collin County Community College,
McKinney, Texas

I Have Trained Numerous Future RVers

By Alex De Dominicis

63% of the pilots I have trained are professionals; airline and military pilots. They understand the benefit of RV transition training for their safety. One of these pilots stated, "Every time I flew a new aircraft I spent many hours of training. This is the most important airplane in my life, my personal airplane. I could not see flying it without proper training."

I have over 1800 hours of RV time; began giving flight training in 1991 in the Chicago Area, and have been a Van's Insurance-preferred RV flight trainer since 2001. My RV was completed in 1998. I did not anticipate that my wonderful flight machine would end up being used as a tool for others' flying safety.

. This is not my full-time job; rather, it is my passion. I am an Air Traffic Controller at the Fort Worth Center. I live at Eagles Nest, a fly-in community just 23 miles south of Dallas



We're looking for a few great photos for the EAA Chapter 1246 Christmas Party. I know all of you have one—or a hundred. I'm talking about photos of your airplane. Yes, that's right. I need photos of your 'baby.' The photos have to be of the airplane only, no people, in JPEG format because we're going to showcase them at the Christmas Party. Everyone that submits a photo by December 1st will be eligible for a prize. Winner will be determined from a random drawing from all photos submitted. Send the photos to tom@origtech.com. Include with your submission the aircraft year, make and model.

Also, from now until December 14th, pay attention to what kind of airplane everyone else is flying because if you can match the airplanes to the pilots, you'll be able to win some great prizes.



Christmas in November?

by Thomas Mitchell

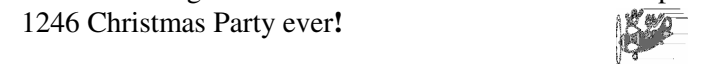
(An important- enough-to -repeat article)

The weather is finally turning cool, and the EAA 1246 Christmas Party is just around the corner. This year the Christmas Party will be held on December 14th at the Eldorado Country Club. There will be great food, games, gifts, interesting conversation, and lots of fun. Don't forget to mark the date on your calendar.

To make this the best Christmas Party ever, we need a few good men and women volunteers. The first volunteer position we've got to fill is the creator of the annual "EAA Chapter 1246 Year in Review" slide show. Folks, this is your time to shine, to showcase your computer talent, and to remind everyone about all of the fun things the chapter has done this year. We also need volunteers to set up a sound system to play Christmas music, wrap some really great gifts, and to give a reminder call to the members. This is also a call to all of our photographers, if you've got a picture or pictures that you want to have included in the slide show, send them to Tom Mitchell.

So, if you're interested in helping us out by volunteering to put the slide show together, pulling a sound system together, displaying your artistic talents in wrapping some gifts, or making a brief reminder call to some of our members, please contact Tom Mitchell at the October meeting or email to Vicepres@EAA1246.org.

Let's work together to make this the best EAA Chapter 1246 Christmas Party ever!



...a well-set table coupled with delicious chili delighted both the judges' and the guests' eyes and palates.



This Rocky Mountain Red Baron Chili won both 2nd prize and the people's choice. The pleased cooks are Ken and Majorie Kelly. (More pictures on page 4)



I am excited to announce we will have a SR-71 print to raffle at our Christmas Party. Rich Graham, chapter member and SR-71 pilot, has donated the "Habu 972 at Mach 3.0" print. The artists name is Philip West from England. It is a limited edition print and will have a Certificate of Authenticity with it. It is signed by the artist and Rich.

Raffle tickets are \$3.00 each or six tickets for \$15.00. Tickets are available at the November chapter meeting, and at the Christmas party. If you would like to mail your completed tickets to me, please send to:

Susan Wilson
2718 Sylvan Way
McKinney, TX 75070
Good Luck



A Halloween Theme at the Chili Cook-Off Took-Off

Contestants tempted the judges with clever Halloween signs at the 1246 Chili Cook-Off. One enterprising lady even had home-made cornbread. Though all the soups were of the highest quality and taste deserving a prize...



Planes, Trains, and Mountains ! — *By Dick Flunker*

Ok, the title isn't quite right – there was only one plane, mine, and one train - but wow were there mountains! As I have written at other times, Barb and I enjoy mountain scenery, and this trip ranks with the best. We were looking for a long weekend flying trip for the last weekend in September and had asked several folks for recommendations when Andy and Sue Cowan mentioned Durango – a great recommendation.



Durango is located in the southwestern corner of Colorado. There are mountains between McKinney and Durango, but there is a wide gap between Sante Fe and Albuquerque that allows navigation at reasonable altitudes without a large deviation from a direct path. We chose to land at Four Corners Regional Airport at Farmington, NM, and then drove the 40 miles to Durango. Farmington has a tower and at 5506 feet MSL is over a thousand feet lower than Durango. The La Plata airport is also very nice and is located a bit closer at about 10 miles out of Durango. I used Bisti Aviation at Farmington – no tie-down charge, competitive fuel prices, and very accommodating service.



Durango has an interesting history and a well kept historic district including some classic hotels. And then there is the train – the Durango to Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. The train is quite famous and has appeared in several movies. The rail follows the Anas river and gains some 2800 feet over the three-and-a-half hour, 42 mile ride between Durango and Silverton. As the train follows the river, there are

times the track is along a cliff with a 400' drop right next to the track.

Did I mention the scenery??? Wow! In addition to the train ride, we drove the “million dollar” highway to Silverton and beyond. The vistas are spectacular. We had especially good fortune to see the peak of fall colors. There had been a snowfall the week before, so there were the white mountain peaks, the bright yellow aspen, the red scrub oak, the green pines, and all the varying colors in between set in front of a clear blue sky. I can't imagine how it could be any better.



Will we go back? You Bet!



Deck the Halls Christmas Party Time!

By Thomas Mitchell



Come one, come all to the 2006 EAA Chapter 1246 Christmas Party. Don't forget to put the best EAA event of the year on your calendar. It's time to relax and enjoy yourself after a busy year of working and volunteering. The festivities begin on Thursday, December 14th at 6:30 pm at El Dorado Country Club. If you don't know how to get to El Dorado Country Club, don't worry, it's at 2604 Country Club Road, just north and west of the intersection of 75 and El Dorado Blvd in McKinney.

We'll have a cash bar that will be open starting at 6:30, and a delicious buffet-style dinner will be served at 7 pm. The entertainment will begin after dinner. We're thinking up some cool, new, entertaining ideas, so be prepared to have a great time and win some fantastic prizes. This is one party you do not want to miss!

We'll need an accurate count for dinner, so please let us know if you plan to attend by December 1st. You can either make your reservations in person at the November meeting or contact Patti Morris by email at treasure@eaa1246.org (972-378-5699). You can either pay when you make your reservation or pay at the event. The cost for the Christmas party is \$15/person or \$30/couple for all members. Non-members and additional guest are \$25/person.

The Chili Cook-Off Winners



First Place: Sue Cowan for "Sue's Chili"



2nd Place & Peoples Choice

Majorie and Ken Kelly for "Rocky Mountain Red Baron Chili"

The Chili Cook-Off judges



The Diners



Third Place

Nita Bertram for "Witches Brew"

(President Susan Wilson with the microphone)



Not Pictured: Kathy Brown for "Jatto"

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 **Timothy Smith**
 972-679-0674
email: timsmith@kw.com

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(Items in **bold** are Chapter 1246 events)

Nov 2	Business Aircraft & Jet Preview Dallas Love Field (DAL) Paul Lips 866-202-0096
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Nov 3-4	Herbert Manning Memorial fly in Manning Field (6F7) Glenn Watson 318-925-9786
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Nov 9	7:00 PM Chapter meeting CCCC Alex De Dominicis—Air Traffic Control
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Nov 11	10:00—2:00 Fajita fly in Angelina County Airport (KLFK) Jack Porbeck 936-674-6370
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Nov 15	7:30 PM Officers Meeting TKI
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Nov 18	10:00 AM Fly Out Clark Field (SEP) Hard Eight Pit BBQ
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Dec.14	7:00 PM Christmas Party EIDorado Country Club
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Dec 20	7:30 PM Officers Meeting TKI
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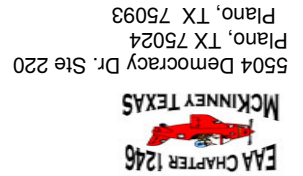
nitabertram.worldventures.biz

November

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McKinney EAA Chapter 1246 Membership Application or Renewal

New Member: _____ or Renewal: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: Wk () _____ Hm () _____

E-Mail Address: _____

* EAA Number: _____ * Exp. Date: _____

Pilot/A&P Rating: _____

Notes/Comments/Projects:

Membership dues are \$20 per year due Jan 1. New memberships pro-rated to Jan 1. Make checks payable to **EAA Chapter 1246**.

Mail applications to:
Patti Morris
5504 Democracy Dr. Ste 220
Plano, TX 75024

* National EAA membership required.

National EAA Offices:
EAA Aviation Center
P.O.Box 3086
Oshkosh, WI 54903-3086

Chapter Officers:

Susan Wilson (President)	972-359-0578
President@EAA1246.org	
Tom Mitchell (Vice President)	972-548-8488
VicePres@EAA1246.org	
Tom Moore (Secretary)	214-491-8481
Secretary@EAA1246.org	
Patti Morris (Treasurer)	972-378-5699
Treasurer@EAA1246.org	

Chapter Volunteers:

David & Nita Bertram (Newsltr)	972-562-5967
davnit@comcast.net	
Dick Stephens (Flight Advsr)	972-517-1647
Dave Bertram (Flight Advsr)	972-562-5967
Mike Pollock (Tech Cnslr)	972-530-8400
Ann Asberry (member Profile)	972-995-0372
Chuck Godber (Bulletin Bd)	972-491-6717
David Godber (Bulletin Bd)	903-532-3577
Jim Smith (Flight-Out Co-ordinator)	214-906-7701