

November/December 2021

EAA CHAPTER 377



# fly paper

EAA—Our mission: To grow participation in aviation by sharing the spirit of aviation.

## LAST MONTH

## THIS MONTH



**BILL JONES (& WALDO HALE)** enjoyed their time at the Syracuse fly-in, especially seeing the P51A on display.

**KRISTA NORTON/SYRACUSE JOURNAL** graciously gave me permission to include their news from the fly-in. You can view the article on **FP Page ???**, as well as photos by **BILL ROYER**.



**November 6**

## Noon Potluck @ Southwest Family Farms/Stan Reiss

Join us Saturday, **November 6th (FIRST SATURDAY)** for our monthly potluck lunch at Stan Reiss Family's Southwest Airfield. They plan to serve chili, please bring a side dish to share.

18 miles on the 36\* radial from the Liberal VOR.

37.27\*N/100.72\*W

FE 2800'

18/36 100' x 3500'

Please announce your arrival in the pattern on 122.75

### DIRECTIONS FOR DRIVE-INS:

6.5 miles west of Plains on HWY 160

8.5 miles east of HWY 83&160 junction

5 miles north of Kismet

1/2 mile east of HWY 160 & Kismet HWY

Our address is: Southwest Family Farms, HWY 160, Plains, Kansas 67869

We are 1/2 mile east of the 3M bushel high moisture corn pile if you get lost.

**For more info call Stan Reiss 620-629-3604**

## NEXT MONTH

**EAA Chapter #377 Christmas Party**  
**Saturday, December 11, 2021 – 11:00 AM**  
**Spencer Flight & Education Center**  
**Scott City, KS Airport (KTQK)**

Saturday, December 11th, will be a fantastic day to fly, drive, sled, or just magically appear at the Scott City Airport for the last Fly-In of 2021 and Chapter 377's Christmas Party. It is being sponsored by the Spencer Flight and Education Center located on the South edge of the tarmac.

We'll open the doors by 11:00 AM and at Noon we will serve a tasty Christmas Feast. As always, you are welcome to bring something for dessert.

President Bill Cotter is going to try and attend, but if unable to do so, he requests that we have a business meeting, an election of Officers for 2022,

—Continued on Page 3

# F.Y.I.

Chapter 377 normally meets on the second Saturday of each month. "Meetings" are normally fly-ins to different member airports, with a potluck at noon and short meeting following. December is the Club Christmas Party. Contact any of the officers listed to confirm meeting date and place. Anyone interested in recreational flying or building is encouraged to attend.

FLY PAPER is published monthly, normally mailed a week before each meeting/fly-in.

Annual membership in Chapter 377 includes one year subscription to FLY PAPER. Send \$15 (\$7.50 after July 1) to Randal Loder, Treasurer,

Readers are encouraged to contribute articles, photos, etc. by submitting them to the Editor/Publisher.

**Deadline for the January 2022 issue is December 31, 2021**

## OFFICERS:

**President**—Bill Cotter, 936-499-8042, wmpcotter@aol.com

**Vice President**—Matt Rome, 620-544-6331  
matthewrome33@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor / Publisher**—Mary Shortridge  
620-272-4379 (receives text messages, photos)  
maryshortridge@gmail.com  
12401 Yankee Hill Rd, Bennet, NE 68317

**Tech Counselor**—Bill Anton, 620-649-2797 or (c)649-7172, bnanton@pld.com

**Treasurer/Secretary**—Randal Loder, rloder@ssbscott.com  
Work Phone: 620-872-7224 Ext. 231, Mobile: 620-214-3877  
508 S College St, Scott City, KS 67871

**With the state of Covid19 stuff, who knows what will happen on a day to day basis. President Bill Cotter is working on 2022; please confirm times/locations as some changes may occur. Sure hope to see you on the ramp some day soon!**



## COMING UP...

6 November—EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Stan Reiss family. Plains, KS. 620-629-3604 **PLEASE NOTE THIS IS NOT OUR "NORMAL 2ND SATURDAY."**

11 December—Christmas Party. Scott City SFEC, TQK Airport.

15 January— EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Matthew Rome. Hugoton, KS (KHQG) 620-544-6331

12 February—EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Lyddon Aero Center, Liberal, KS(KLBL) 620-624-1646

12 March— EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Crotts Aircraft, Dodge City, KS KDDC3)

9 April—EAA 377 BBQ Cook-off, hosted by Dennis Tevebaugh (620-360-6100) Bill Cotter (936-499-8042)

14 May—Young Eagles Step 1, Elkhart airport.

11 June—EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Logan Aviation, Lakin, KS.

9 July— EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Marshall Watson Family. Sublette, KS 19S.

13 August— EAA 377 9am BREAKFAST, hosted by Hooker, OK Airport.

17 September— EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Mid America Air Museum/Bob Immel, Liberal, KS KLBL

1 October—Syracuse/Hamilton CO (3K3) Annual Classic Fly-In. Steve Phillips 620-384-5835 (Remember Syracuse is on Mountain Time)

5 November— EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by hosted by Stan Reiss family. Plains, KS. 620-629-3604

December—EAA Christmas Party.

You don't have to be an instrument pilot to benefit from the IMC Club meetings at SFEC. Meeting is 7-8pm CT, with dinner offered at 6:45. Come join in on the discussion on the second Monday of each month (not meeting in June). For More Information you can contact

**Elizabeth Vulgamore,**  
**Volunteer administrator**  
**620-874-8325**  
**Spencer Flight &**  
**Education Center (Located**  
**on the**  
**Scott City, KS Airport)**  
**300 S. Mesquite Rd**  
**Scott City, KS 67871**  
**Phone: 620-872-3000**  
**Email:**  
**info@spencerflightcenter.com**

The Ponca City Airport (KPNC) is now open for fixed wing traffic (as well as rotorcraft).

Enrique's Mexican Restaurant is open with regular hours.

Ponca City Aviation Booster Club Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast – 7-10AM  
Ponca City OK Regional Airport (KPNC) on the FIRST SATURDAY of each month.

**Due to Covid, please CONFIRM it will be held before planning your flight. (September's was cancelled, AND October's was cancelled.)**

# 2022 MEMBERSHIP

## PLEASE PLAN TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN EAA CHAPTER 377

For Annual Membership in Chapter 377 Send \$15 to

Randal Loder, Treasurer

508 S College St, Scott City, KS 67871

Work Phone: 620-872-7224 Ext. 231

Mobile: 620-214-3877

rloder@ssbscott.com

Please include your email address and your snail mail address.

## THANK YOU!

—Continued from Page 1

and conduct any other business necessary. One item that I've heard floated by several members is replacing the Chapter's trailer which serves as storage for the Chapter's tables, chairs, etc. that are used at most Chapter Fly-In's. Bill has been working on the schedule of Fly-In dates and locations for 2022 and that should be finalized by then.

Don't forget to check that Christmas shopping list to make sure you have your aviation themed present ready for the NAUGHTY SANTA gift exchange. You ask is the "regifting" of treasured aviation themed items from prior years allowed? Well, you bet it is! Should your supply of Christmas wrapping paper be stuck in some shipping container off the Port of Long Beach, Santa will be sure to have some gift bags and tissue paper on hand. —Randal Loder

## FROM THE FLY PAPER EDITOR

I recently became concerned that our newsletter might be an "old fashioned" way of communicating information within our group of members and friends. The newsletter had evolved some over the years, but the purpose has remained the same. FLY PAPER is meant to communicate an enthusiasm for general aviation and the people that are passionate about airplanes. I think that our group is an amazingly diverse bunch of people that are friendly and willing to share their knowledge and resources.

So much communication is done today via email and facebook, but after a request (via email) I was very pleased to have so many respond. The consensus was that everyone was happy with the FLY PAPER the way it is, and the way it is distributed. At the end of 2020 we ceased mailing printed copies, and distribute via email, and sharing on our website and Facebook. Some responders did not realize we had these options, so I will make sure to include this info regularly.

Since we aren't limited by weight, postage, and ink I have taken to including almost all photos and info received, which can make for quite a lengthy document. I don't want that to turn off our readers. The most pertinent info will always be on page 1 and 2.

I do not want our group to die out because FLY PAPER does not keep us together, so we need to revisit this periodically. The world may be changing, but I don't think our group will ever lose sight of the importance of General Aviation and it's people.

Please, drop me a note or give me a call ANY TIME and let me know of ideas you have to improve our newsletter and/or our organization.

That brings us to leaders of our organization: December's meeting will include an election of officers for the 2022 year. PLEASE consider whether you might be able to help our group somehow. We are a pretty laid back group, in case you hadn't noticed!

*Blue skies,*

*~Mary Shortridge*

*maryshortridge@gmail.com*

*620-272-4379*

## ANOTHER ISSUE

**THANKS TO:** Bill Anton, Bill Jones, Bill Royer, Jim Kirk, John Jenkinson III, Krista Norton, Paul Fiebich, Randal Loder, Stan Reiss, Steve Phillips, Syracuse Journal, Tom Auerbach. **THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

*Find us on*

**facebook**

**EAA 377**

**[www.eaa377.org](http://www.eaa377.org)**

**DO YOU ENJOY BEING INVOLVED  
IN SOCIAL MEDIA?**

**EAA 377 needs someone to keep  
our Facebook Page up to date, and  
encourage participation from our  
members.**

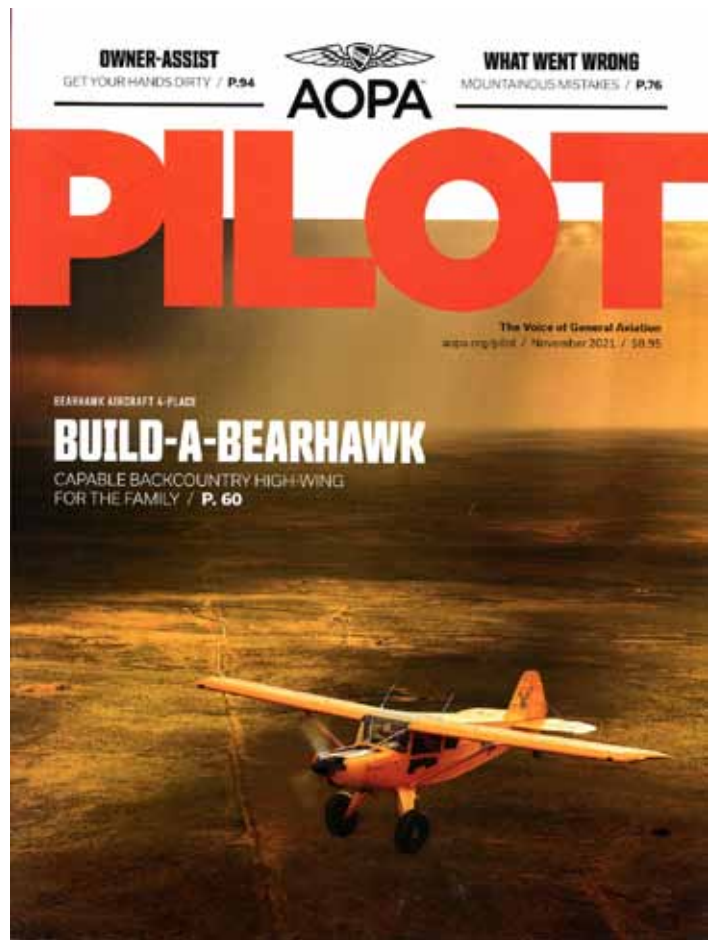
**Interested?**

**Please contact Mary Shortridge. I am  
not giving it the attention it needs.**



# HEARD IN THE HANGAR

**PAUL FIEBICH** was wishing he had a prop to decorate a space in his freshly painted living room. He mentioned that he had a wood prop from his airbike that wasn't useable anymore. With a little encouragement, look what he came up with! He created a "hub" to hold the blades; the original hub is being used on the airbike. He is now crafting a board to mount this assembly on, and will look for an opportunity to mount it in the living room.



What a delight it is to get mail with a cover that allows me to brag "I know that guy!" Thanks for the bragging rights, **BILL ANTON!!!** More great photos and article in the magazine... Check out EAA 377 Facebook page for a link to an interview with Bill.



**FROM MARY SHORTRIDGE**—Last weekend I went with Ron to the Nebraska/Purdue game. The stadium sits a short distance from the KLNK Airport, so there are often fly-overs of some type. This day there were five "jumpers", each representing a military branch of service, and lastly "Old Glory". Great way to start the game! (Too bad the ending wasn't better....)



**FROM JOHN JENKINSON III**— I got a ride in the right seat of the C-45, and was hooked. I knew then that I wanted to be involved with WW2 aircraft.... and joined the Commemorative Air Force. Photos from the Great Bend Air Show September 18.



▼

# THE SYRACUSE JOURNAL

[Menu](#)

## Fly-In Success

by Krista Norton | October 7, 2021

*photos by Bill Royer*

For the first Saturday in October for over 25 years, community members have been awakened or greeted with the buzz of airplanes flying in to the Hamilton County Airport for the Annual Classic and Antique Fly In.



Whether at a cross country meet, playing youth football or simply enjoying a Saturday morning, the sound is familiar as people hear planes and look up to catch a glimpse of the planes. Curious spectators and families venture up to the airport to see what the buzz is about.

This past Saturday, the sound of airplanes flying in was not heard, the cloud cover and the rain delayed and even cancelled their plans. One plane in particular, Jack Roush's P-51 nicknamed "Gentleman Jim", nicknamed after local hero, Captain James F. Browning, was unable to fly in, due to weather between Detroit and Syracuse.

There was a different kind of buzz, inside one hanger, preparations were being made for the Chamber of Commerce chili cook off and hamburger feed while the second hanger was the sight of the ceremony honoring Browning.

The rain was gently falling on the roof of the hanger, providing a quiet, somber, feeling inside. This seemed appropriate looking over the medals, a footlocker containing a uniform and personal items which once belonged to Browning, a Los Angeles Times Newspaper subtitle saying "Allied Postdam Ultimatum Accepted, In Message Nips Declare is Coming Soon" and the Victory Extra with the headline, "Japan War Ends". The west wall contained a beautiful new sign honoring Browning along with the bronze plaque.

Memorial dedication began with a welcome by Mark Davis, thanking the airport board members Rick Dikeman, Joe Englert, Dexter English, Chairman, Dusty Dowd, and Steve Phillips, Airport

manager, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, Michael Roberts, former Marine, led the prayer, and soon the sound of planes beginning to fly in as the sun was peeking through the clouds.

Relatives and descendants of Browning present were Lianne McPhail, Lois McPhail's daughter in law, Ann Browning, Jim Browning's brother in law, wife of Don Browning. Lois (Browning) McPhail, only living sibling, Brice McPhail, Lois's grandson, Earl Brownlee, grand nephew in law, and two Syracuse residents, Rick and Bryan Schmidt, sons of Jackie (Browning) Schmidt, daughter of Francis Browning, James Browning's brother, their spouses, Kim and Michelle, and Bryan's son Brayden.

Brigadier General Ed McIlhenny, began by explaining how the idea to honor Browning came about, "It was first brought up to me by Jeff Davis, months ago, and I had flown with Mark's brother Ray in the Kansas Air Guard, and I told him I would be happy and honored to help honor Browning." McIlhenny had been to the Fly in and knew what a great event it was.

"We are here to honor a hero, your brother, Lois, who gave his life for his family and was also close friend and wing man of Colonel Bud Anderson," said McIlhenny. "Guys like this made me want to be like them, a fighter pilot."

McIlhenny introduced Connie Bowlin, former president of the War Birds EEA and P-51 pilot and explained she has flown the plane that was supposed to be here today. He told the story of when he and Bowlin were having supper with Jack Roush, telling him about the dedication ceremony and Jack looked at Ed and said, "Hey Ed, you want my airplane there?" Ed was shocked and said, "Absolutely!", so it would have happened except for the weather."

Connie said the words that come to mind are, "Gone but not forgotten. The people of the community have chosen to honor James and that says a lot for the community."

"Friendship and patriotism also come to mind and Bud Anderson was Jim's very good friend, he honored him by naming his son after him," adding, "The second word, patriotism, Jack Roush was committed to have his airplane here, as a patriot, there is not another person in this country that is more patriotic than Jack Roush."

In closing she said, "I have been fortunate to fly the P-51, I enjoyed flying the airplane but the real treasure is the friendships and the people I have met along the way," adding, "To the people of Syracuse, I am honored to meet you and glad you have chosen to honor James Browning."

Jim Anderson began by saying, "My father is a very typical WWII veteran. The way I found out I was named after Browning and Eddie Simpson is when my father handed me a box which contained a manuscript for his book, To Fly and Fight, and I learned about Browning and Simpson, I had never heard of them until I was in my 50's. You see, WWII veterans just did not talk about those days," said Jim. He then explained his quest to find Browning wreckage and



presented Mark Davis with a piece of aluminum from “Junior Miss”, the plane Browning was flying when he was last seen in the midair attack.

Present via Zoom was 99-year-old Colonel Clarence E. “Bud” Anderson, USAF Retired. He began with a strong, confident voice, saying, “What I am about to do is to thank everyone who is there.”

“Jim was a cheerful guy, glad to be and he spent a lot of time in town off duty, kind of where he got his name, Gentleman Jim,” said Bud, “Sometimes he was late, so I let him go for a while, figured he’d find out by my actions as I started assigning him tail end Charlie all the time.” He explained “This is the worst and hardest place to be, especially during flight and an attack!”

Bud told him, “We need to depend on each other in combat, if you’re late helping someone, it’s disastrous!” Browning got the message and shaped up really fast. “When we got to combat, Jim Browning was one of the better pilots in my group in flight, I can’t say enough about Jim Browning as a dependable excellent fighter pilot.”

Brigadier General Robert Titus, spoke explaining he was invited by Joe Thibodeau, P-51 Mustang owner, “It’s a great airplane, that I have flown over 1,000 hours in and have been privileged to know Bud Anderson, one of the greatest guys I’ve ever known,” adding, “This is a great tribute to a mustang guy who gave his life, this makes us all humble to know what people did in the past and what they gave of themselves for this great nation,” Titus said in closing, “If we could only get that spirit back today, we’d be a much better country, God Bless America!”

Following the ceremony the crowd made their way to the runway, anticipating the F-16’s flyover from Buckley Air National Guard Bureau. Flying the two-man formation was Mark Davis’ nephew, Andy, son of his late brother Ray Kim, and John Toliuszis, husband of Ray Kim’s daughter.

The tarmac was lined with twenty planes, mostly from southwest Kansas and southeast Colorado. Airport manager Steve Phillips said, “I want to thank the community for supporting the event, sponsors and volunteer for making it possible.”

With only a few minutes of anticipation, the F-16’s could be seen on the west horizon, just about the runway, they came in at speed and at altitude. At first it was a hum but the sky exploded with noise as they made their way over the airport. They went back out, returned and Andy did the missing man pull, signifying their respect and honoring the late Capt. Browning.

To further connect the local airport, Browning, and Bud, Andy flew his first small airplane at the local airport, later received the Top Gun Award by the American Fighter Ace Association in San Diego, CA, and was given the award by Bud Anderson.

The crowd then made it’s way to the south hanger while the disc jockey played hits from the 1940’s, further adding to the festivities, to enjoy hamburgers, hot dogs, polish sausages and

sample the fourteen different kinds of chili prepared for the annual Chamber of Commerce chili cook off. The top five prizes were awarded to Crosswind Flight Service, Stacey Howland, Griselda Zapata, Kayla Norton, and Kerstin Mitchell.

As pictures of Browning's family were taken, local pilot, Dusty Dowd, rolled out his P-51 A, explaining it is the oldest P-51 flying in the world. Dowd explained they were used to escort bomber because they could not fly at high altitudes, while the P 51 B, C and D's were used as fighters because they could fly at high altitudes.

Speaking of WWII pilots, Dowd said, "This is the greatest generation who gave, so we can be free." Dowd added, "Mark Davis did a remarkable job organizing the event today." Although he was apprehensive, knowing there needed to be something to honor Browning, "Mark got ahold of it, and it went viral!"

Davis thought the day went extremely well, although the weather prevented the "Gentleman Jim" from coming, he felt it was far more important to get all the distinguished guests here. "It was great to see so many people pitch in to make it happen."

The day was filled with a family reunion of Browning family, comments from Browning's flight trainer, a piece of his wreckage was presented, all things which left you feeling you had just been a part of a local hero's life, cut short on that fateful February day in 1945. Though not all the people were present on Saturday, many were intertwined by what some might call coincidence and others, divine intervention.









# CHARLIE COMPANY 1ST BATTALION, 12TH REGIMENT AIRBORNE 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION HOMECOMING REUNION OCTOBER 13-24, 2021

By Paul Fiebich



**Host Wayne Bormann**

For the second time, Wayne Bormann, an Experimental Aircraft Chapter 88 member, held a homecoming reunion for Veterans engaged in the 1st Cavalry during the Vietnam War. The 1st Cavalry Division was an experimental unit that numbered in excess of 2000 men. Some of the 20 attendees are also EAA members.

Wayne joined the Army in December 1964 at age 17. He was assigned to a test unit established to determine if the Vietnam War could be fought with helicopters. The hostile environment of swamps; jungle, flooded fields, and constant vulnerability to attack made conventional ground transportation unfeasible. The 1st Cavalry Division of Korea was reactivated and Wayne's division became known as the 1st Cavalry Airborne Airmobile Air Assault. To get from place to place, they would be airlifted by Huey helicopter from one landing zone to the next. As Wayne says "We would get off and we would patrol. Some encounters with the enemy would be light, others were heavy."

Wayne's role was as a weapons specialist; trained to handle whatever weapon was given to him included those of the enemy. He carried an M-16, an M-79 grenade launcher and a 45 caliber pistol strapped to his hip. Most soldiers carried an M-16 rifle, side arms, grenades, and ammo belts strung criss-cross over their shoulders (al-la-Poncho Vila). Some carried machine guns. They wore jungle camouflage fatigues, boots, and helmets as they fought their way through jungles, swamps, and open areas. They called in air strikes from F-4 Phantoms and AD-4 Skyraiders. Their injured and dead were evacuated via Huey helicopters.

The experimental aspect of this division soon proved vital to the total war effort. The helicopters were the "war horses" of the Vietnam engagement. From 1965 on, the Cavalry was vital to the seemingly endless conflict. In 1966, Wayne was shipped out and sent home, his duty time was over. Enroute, he learned that most of his platoon had recently been killed in a fire fight. Survivor's guilt bothered him tremendously; PTSD was part of his life for the next 36 years.

In 2019, Wayne Bormann hosted his first homecoming reunion at his home hangar located at Hidden Valley Airport in Valley Center, Kansas for the remaining forty-three Charlie Company members. About 20 veterans and their spouses made it this year. Wayne says "it's my way of saying thanks to the guys. They, plus counseling helped me work through my PTSD. The homecoming is four days of food, fun, entertainment and a memorial ceremony." He plans similar reunions in the coming years.

The hangar was the base of operations, in it was held food service for all the catered meals, military displays, "snake bite medicinal wagon," soft drinks, the Head, seating and tables. Using a podium and PA system, announcements were made, honors bestowed, and recognition announced.

On display outside the hangar were military vehicles and airplanes. There were several vintage WWII Jeeps, a M-38 post-WWII Jeep, a Kaiser M-35 Series Duce & a Half, M-37 Dodge Power Wagon, a M151 Jeep outfitted with roll bars, a WWII Bantam Jeep produced by Willys, and a Willys truck. Wayne's military-looking Cessna 150 and Fairchild PT 19 added to the vehicle display.

The homecoming event began on Wednesday as people arrived and socialized throughout the day. They



***Cessna 150 and PT-19 on display***



***Typical Duce & a Half used in Vietnam***



***Wayne Bormann's Cessna 150 detailed as a military plane***

were encouraged to explore various Valley Center restaurants and the local parks on their own.

Thursday lunch was pizzas from Knolla's Pizza. In the afternoon a Wichita group of traditional Hawaiian hula dancers performed with such enthusiasm that several Veterans got out of their chairs and danced with them! They then put on their own impromptu display of "hula dancing" complete with grass skirts and leis. Imagine

their enthusiasm! A shrimp and sausage boil for supper was followed by music from the Triple Play Band.

On Friday the All American Beef Battalion from Great Bend donated and served huge Rib eye steaks for the noon meal. Zach Braum spent days preparing and providing all the ingredients for his homemade spaghetti sauce, meat balls, and noodles for supper. It was a real Italian meal complete with garlic bread. Side dishes were also provided by the caterers and participants. All kitchen preparations, table settings, and clean up services were provided by numerous volunteering friends.



***Rib Eye steaks hot off the grill and to the serving line***



***Dining area, stage, and wall memorabilia***



***Table setting for eight Veterans and their spouses***



**Greater Wichita Area Quilters of Valor presented hand made quilts to each Veteran**

A raised stage served as a platform for the Greater Wichita Area Quilters of Valor to present their hand-made and designed quilts that were given to each individual Veteran. Even Veteran Pete Bailey's Service Dog Gus, received a quilt! Wayne received a special quilt recognizing his major contribution for many years of hosting and organizing the reunion.



**Singer/Entertainer Patsy Cline singing to Paul**

clothing and almost 100% accurate voice. If you close your eyes and listened, it wasn't hard to imagine that Patsy was actually right there singing her classic hits, of "I'm Walking," "Crazy," "Feeling," "I Fall to Pieces," and many more.

As an entertainer, Patsy mixed with the crowd, singing directly to Veterans, sitting on their laps, running her fingers through their hair (what was left of it) all the while singing and looking into their eyes. She had a special slow dance with Wayne that he will never forget! The Lucky People Band provided the evening's musical entertainment.

Saturday morning, transportation was provided for those wanting to visit Vietnam Moving Wall which is a half scale replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. A special ceremony including the Veterans was complimented with the Missing Man Fly-over. Being there and feeling the emotion the memorial evokes, one soon realizes that wall is indeed a personal "moving" experience as well as one that moves about



**Re-enactor Patsy Cline performing during U.S.O. show**

Friday evening's program brought some comedy by Wayne, an announcement by the local Veterans Hospital, and a special guest singer; re-enactor Patsy Cline! Professional singer/entertainer Cindy Summers was a dead-ringer for Patsy Cline wearing her cowgirl style



**Replica Vietnam Memorial Wall**





***Charlie Co. Vets---Veterans posing with the Blackhawk helicopter***

the country. Perhaps it was intended to have that double meaning?

Through Wayne's special connections as a Veteran, the Salina Air Guard responded to his request and flew in and landed a Blackhawk helicopter 2:00 that afternoon. The crew enjoyed the activities until their departure in the early evening. Later that afternoon, as TV's Ed Sullivan would say, was the "Really Big (USO) Schouw." Carolyn Hagerty sang the Star Spangled Banner, America, then later, a host of '50s & '60's songs popular with Veterans' generation. Patsy Cline again performed and wowed the crowd.

Later, re-enactor Bill Johnson came on stage as; who else, but Bob Hope! He too was a dead-ringer with his mannerisms, stride, stance, rapid-fire one-liners, and golf club prop. Bob Hope had the crowd reeling with laughter to his jokes that went well and even those that bombed. He ended his act on a somber note as the original Bob Hope did at every tour by singing the first verse of Silent Night. Some people were so choked-up they couldn't sing. This was all too real a memory for them.



The last individual performers that afternoon were bag-

***Re-enactor duplicates Bob Hope's U.S.O. show***



***Bagpiper & Bugler---Musicians each struck a chord with the audience***



***Carolyn was a hit singing '50's and 60's songs***

piper John Noonan playing Amazing Grace followed by bugler John Bierens playing the somber notes of Taps. As the sun was setting the Blackhawk helicopter crew warmed up their chopper and took off amid a windstorm of blown recently cut, but dried grass. The chopper blades beat the air with their familiar thumping sound as they flew the flight line then made a huge high-altitude circle. Coming out of sight from behind a row of buildings, it made a low and high speed pass in front of the crowd much to their cheers and those of the runway neighbors.



***Lively music provided by the Sweetwater Band***

After thirty minutes of collecting ourselves, those who could and would, listened and danced into the wee night hours to the music of the Sweetwater Band.

This homecoming was for the purpose of sharing the friendship and downright camaraderie of those soldiers who lived the same military experiences. Some fought together; many had their service time overlap with others. This was a time of enjoying each other, talking about their lives after Vietnam, their successes, difficulties and in many cases, recovery. The camaraderie was intense---for the entire four days! These men faced death together, they watched other soldiers die; they had each other's six. They survived combat.

Never again would any of them experience the intense feelings they had for each other as they did during that conflict. These feelings were intensified during the re-

union. In my observation, there was a definite manly love for each other and an unending spousal support. I personally have never observed or experienced such an intense emotional time as I did for these four days, I often had tears in my eyes and was choked-up to the point of not being able to talk or sing.

By Sunday morning, the hangar was empty, and the event was being knocked-down. People hugged, shook hands, and patted, each other on their backs, as they said their good-byes, each returning to their places of origin a week earlier. Some of those places were Oregon, California, Pennsylvania, Florida, and Kansas. It is gratifying to be in the midst of such true red-blooded Americans who have an unfathomable love of America, their fellow man, and the duty they performed. THIS is what makes America great!

Paul D. Fiebich  
10-31-2021



*Ceremonial dinner seating display for  
Missing Soldier*

# UPCOMING EVENTS

**TOM AUERBACH** of Ponca City, OK does a GREAT job of keeping a list compiled of upcoming aviation events. Looking for an excuse to fly? Here you go! Remember to verify as part of your preflight! Covid issues as well as weather issues can cause last minute changes.

## **Saturday, November 6, 2021**

EAA 377 Noon Potluck, hosted by Stan Reiss family.

## **Saturday, November 6, 2021**

Haskell OK: Coffee & Donuts  
Haskell Airport (2K9)      AirNav.com      CTAF:  
122.9  
EVERY SATURDAY - 8:00 am - 10:00 am

## **Saturday, November 6, 2021**

OAAA Fly-In and Car Show – Pauls Valley OK Municipal Airport (KPVJ)  
We have Norma's Food Truck coming to serve tacos and burgers and we will continue to sell beverages inside. We are expecting a few hundred cars to show up so we will be asking for lots of help, not only with the cars but airplane parking as well. It was decided to allow people to sell items if they bring a booth to do so and we will charge \$20 a booth and \$20 per car. The Young Eagles program from Ada will come and help with whatever we need help with. We will have new T-shirts made that feature airplanes as well as the car show.

**November 6** - Morrilton, AR - Morrilton Municipal Airport (KBDQ) 9:00 AM until all food is gone. Full Breakfast with Petit Jean Sausage & Bacon. Sponsored by EAA 1590. EAA Meeting will follow breakfast. This will be a recurring event on the first Saturday of the month. Contact: 501-472-1197

**November 6** - Springdale, AR - Springdale Municipal Airport (KASG) 9 AM - 4 PM Flightline Bar & Grill Breakfast all day with free pancakes with each meal. 479-318-2523 Flightline's new hours: We're open Tuesday-Friday 7-2, and ALL Saturdays 9-4. We will continue to offer free pancakes on the 1st Saturday of the month

**November 6** - Russellville, AR - Russellville Regional Airport (KRUE) a lunch Fly-In from 11am-2

pm serving Hot Dogs and Chili and soft drinks will be available. Balloon Pop, Flour Drop, and Spot Landing competitions and a STOL demonstration. For more information call Keith Frazier @ 479-857-0362

**November 6** - Blytheville AR - Arkansas International Airport (KBYH) Fly-In.

The Commemorative Air Force is giving rides that day in a B-29, B-24, T-6 and a P-51 Mustang. The USAF will be there with a B-52, KC-135 and a C-130. You can tour the BAFB Exhibition and learn more about the military history of the airfield. The Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall will also be on display Nov 4-7. Plenty of Great food served that day. For more information call Barry @ 870-780-5871.

## **Sunday, November 7, 2021**

ALVA, OKLAHOMA - DONUTS AND COFFEE -  
Every Sunday 8am – 10am  
Alva Regional Airport (AVK)      CTAF: 122.8  
No Cost. Donations appreciated.  
Derrick Courson -Manager  
(580) 327-2898 – Airport  
(580) 748-2709 – Cell  
2875 College Blvd.  
Alva, OK. 73717  
Website <http://alvaok.org/ara.htm>  
<https://www.facebook.com/alvaregionalairport>

## **Saturday, November 13, 2021**

Wichita EAA Chapter 88 - 2nd Saturday Breakfast Monthly Breakfast 8 - 11 AM. Eggs, Pancakes, grilled Sausage, Coffee and Juice!!  
11+ \$7 - 4-10 \$5 - 3 under Free  
Fly in to Colonel James Jabara Airport in Wichita KAAO

## **Saturday, November 13, 2021**

Haskell OK: Coffee & Donuts  
Haskell Airport (2K9)      AirNav.com      CTAF:  
122.9  
EVERY SATURDAY - 8:00 am - 10:00 am

**November 13** - Carlisle, AR - \*\*\* PAUSED UNTIL SPRING \*\* Carlisle Municipal Airport (4M3) EAA chapter

122 UL will host their monthly 2nd Saturday Fly-in/ Drive-in breakfast 8:00-until food is gone This will be a full menu breakfast: Waffles, hot cakes, bacon,

eggs, sausage, biscuits, gravy, bacon. Pilots flying in eat free. For additional information contact Dave Johnson, (501) 230-5469

<https://www.facebook.com/alvaregionalairport>

**Sunday, November 14, 2021**

ALVA, OKLAHOMA - DONUTS AND COFFEE -  
Every Sunday 8am – 10am

Alva Regional Airport (AVK)      CTAF: 122.8

No Cost. Donations appreciated.

Derrick Courson -Manager

(580) 327-2898 – Airport

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2875 College Blvd.

Alva, OK. 73717

Website <http://alvaok.org/ara.htm>

<https://www.facebook.com/alvaregionalairport>

**Saturday, November 20, 2021**

Haskell OK: Coffee & Donuts

Haskell Airport (2K9)      AirNav.com      CTAF:  
122.9

EVERY SATURDAY - 8:00 am - 10:00 am

**November 20** - Berryville, AR - Carroll County Airport (4M1) Third Saturday BREAKFAST Event. Serving 0800 - 1000. Breakfast is back on the menu: \$7.00 suggested donation. ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT - scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, flapjacks & always a mess of homemade sweet treats made by the airport wives. Call 870-423-8393.

**November 20** - Pine Bluff, AR - Grider Field Airport (KPBF) fly-in breakfast 3rd Saturday of every month. Our specialty is eggs anyway you want them, from fried to eggs Benedict. You should try our omelets. Come enjoy your breakfast in our WWII style Officers Club. A \$8.00 donation gets you all you can eat. Contact: Sara Works (870-543-9933) email: [works\\_sara@yahoo.com](mailto:works_sara@yahoo.com)

**Sunday, November 21, 2021**

ALVA, OKLAHOMA - DONUTS AND COFFEE -  
Every Sunday 8am – 10am

Alva Regional Airport (AVK)      CTAF: 122.8

No Cost. Donations appreciated.

Derrick Courson -Manager

(580) 327-2898 – Airport

(580) 748-2709 – Cell

2875 College Blvd.

Alva, OK. 73717

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