

Hangar Flyin'



March 2007

President's Message Charlotte Rhodes

We have a **new door** at our Hanger! The west side has a door now and all members who do not have a badge can access our Hanger functions by this entrance. Thanks Don for tag teaming with me while it was being put in. The door will remain locked when nothing is going and no one is around. Parking will have to be in the grass near the door or on the old concrete slabs north of the Hanger. We will make every attempt to keep an area mowed for when we have a function. You will have to drive past the hanger toward FedEx and turn left just past hanger one, go left around the little building and come along the back of the hangers to ours (there is a little road there).

The **Collings Foundation "Wings of Freedom Tour"** will be in Abilene on April 9th thru 11th. They are bringing the B17, B24 and B25. Abilene Aero has agreed to let us partner with them in hosting this event, thanks David. We will park the aircraft in front of our hanger and entry will be through TSTC gate (like AirFest). The Foundation pretty much takes care of everything for the tour. Chapter 471 will provide some concessions during this time in an effort to raise some money for our Hanger. Seymour has agreed to Chair this project so if you would like to help out give him a call at 692-1561. I hope everyone has heard the good news about Dyess Appreciation Day being combined with AirFest this year at our airport. This is a great opportunity for all parties involved. Thanks Gray for doing an outstanding job.

Last but not least I would like to welcome again **Scott Koeckritz** to the Chapter. Scott has taken over Don Bledsoe's T-hanger and will be picking up his Robins Sport aircraft the middle of this month.

March Breakfast

The March 10th breakfast will be at Golden Corral at 9am. In April we will attempt breakfast at our Hanger if it isn't too cold. Those who do not have a badge will be able to come in the new west side door.

Several Member Dues Not Paid

We have approximately 14 members who have not paid their Chapter dues for 2007 and one member who has not paid hanger rent. These are due by the end of this month. If not paid, you will be dropped from the membership list, **asked to turn in your badge and to vacate the hanger**. March 31st is a hard deadline.

DYESS CHANGES APPRECIATION DAY VENUE; PARTNERS WITH ABILENE EAA FOR 2007 BIG COUNTRY AIRFEST

DYESS AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Dyess officials have re-examined the date for this year’s Big Country Appreciation Day and have decided to change the date and venue due to budget reductions, the multiple university graduations, Mother’s Day weekend, and other local events happening May 12 that may affect attendance here.

However, Dyess has capitalized on the great relationship it shares with Abilene and Taylor County and has partnered with the Experimental Aircraft Association at Abilene Regional Airport to provide aerial and ground demonstrations for the 2007 Big Country AirFest on August 18. Beginning this year and continuing indefinitely, the new partnership will consist of the base and the AirFest alternating between locations and venues to provide a high-quality event for the community each year. Teaming with the EAA at the airport will also help Dyess and the Air Force save thousands of dollars.

“Whether we are holding the Big Country Appreciation Day on the base or providing support to the Big Country AirFest, we will find a way each year to express our immense gratitude to the community for their amazing and steadfast support,” said Col. Timothy Ray, 7th Bomb Wing commander. “This new partnership is a win-win situation for both the base and the community; if we can’t hold a Big Country Appreciation Day on the base each year, we still get to support the AirFest with our own aerial and ground demonstrations, and the community still gets to see first-hand some of the Air Force’s premier weapons systems and Airmen that are making a major impact in the Global War on Terror.”

For more information, contact Public Affairs at 696-2863.

Calendar of Events

- March 10th - Breakfast at Golden Corral 9am
- April 9th-11th – Wings of Freedom
- April 14th – Breakfast at our Hanger 9am (if not too cold)
- April 28th – Movie night at our Hanger (if not too cold)

EAA Chapter 471 Officers & Directors

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