

Experimental Aircraft Association

Chapter 471

P. O. Box 2585

Abilene, Texas 79604

December 8, 2009

As the year comes to an end, there are a few things that we want to present to the membership. It has been a good year – we've had our air show – wonderful Young Eagles activities – T-hangers refinished and plans to finish #3 hanger. Abilene has the opportunity to add another aircraft business to the West Side of our airport. Looks like we have great opportunities for 2010.

Chapter Officers for 2010 - We will soon be electing new officers for his next year. As we approach this objective, we need to ask that members who have not held offices in the past to please step up and take an active part in the operations of the chapter. There is a core of older members who have always been there to hold these offices and do the work of the chapter. We simply need new people to hold these offices. If you will consider holding one of the offices, you will have the assistance of the older members who have held that office. The offices to be filled will be announced at this Saturday's breakfast.

Dues and Hanger Rent Fees – Membership dues and hanger rent fees are due as of December 31. (Membership = \$30) (Hanger Rent = \$695) We want to collect all our dues and hanger rents by the middle of January. Right now, the City of Abilene will leave our rent expense the same. This could change by June of 2010. The change is tied to the CPI index so this will not be a big change.

Hanger #3 – We have a bid from Steve's Mobile Wash to steam clean and refinish the sides of hanger #3. This work will be completed sometime in the spring when we again have acceptable weather. For years, there has been talk about the meeting room for the back of Hanger #3. Money has been donated for a part of this expense. It is something that will need to be finished in 2010. The first priority will be to erect the framework for the walls and roof. Then we can complete our projected cost of finishing the room. I have tried to get the city to abate our rent for #3 like I did for the T-hangers. The local economy will not allow this. Therefore, this expense will come out of our own funds. May I suggest that we form a committee that can complete these plans and start this building program?

Young Eagles – We have all seen the dedicated work that Gary Potter has put into this very important function of EAA. This activity is of national importance to the EAA organization. Because of the work of **Gary Potter**, EAA Chapter 471 has done an outstanding job with this objective. We also want to thank all the pilots/owners who have donated their time – expense and planes to the objective. If you have never taken part in any of these events, please make every effort to be a part of this important event in 2010.

Experimental Aircraft Association

Chapter 471

P. O. Box 2585

Abilene, Texas 79604

EAA 471 – News Letter - In this past year, Mr. Ben Mallon has published our newsletter. His newsletters have been outstanding. Ben has taken on additional responsibilities at Eagle Aviation. He also has two teenage boys that need his attention. He will no longer be able to be responsible for publishing our monthly letter. This job really needs about three people who will work together to produce **Hanger Flying**.

Members' Projects – We have several members who are building new aircraft kits or rebuilding older aircraft. We want to encourage all members to go out to the airport and observe these projects. Most of the work is done on Saturdays or after work. We will publish a list of members who have projects so you can call them and arrange to meet them at the airport so you can observe their work. One of the important objectives of EAA is to teach and assist members in the construction and repair of aircraft.

Breakfast – If you have looked at your e-mail, you now know that this Saturday our breakfast will be at the **Golden Corral** at 9am. This location and time will be repeated through the cold winter months. When we get back to hanger #3 in the spring, could you please think about programs that we could include with our breakfast meeting?

In 2010 I will be taking a less active part in the chapter. I will still be a member and I will still work on the hanger restoration program. Hobby Stevens has volunteered to take the job of treasurer/secretary. At the age of 78, I want to spend more time in my cabinet shop. I must complete some of the projects that I have promised family members for years. They are saying that their projects have to take priority.

Merry Christmas!!

Jim Snelgrove

Jimsawdust@nts-online.net

669-1596