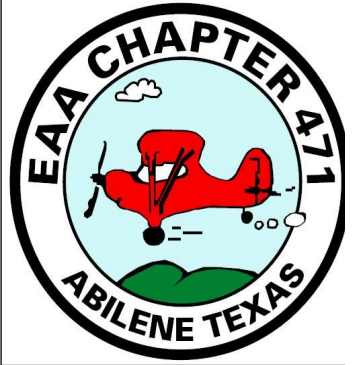


# Hangar Flyin'



January 2008

## Monthly Breakfast

The regular monthly breakfast will be held at the Golden Corral Restaurant until at least April. So come on down to the Golden Corral on January 12 at 9AM.

## Southwest Regional Fly-In Cancelled For 2008

Representatives of the Southwest Regional Fly-In, Inc., also known as the EAA Texas Fly-In voted to cancel the fly-in scheduled for October 10-11, 2008 and to ultimately cease operations. In addition to dwindling attendance numbers and difficulty in attracting volunteers for the annual event in Hondo, TX, in the end declining support from the Experimental Aircraft Association for the regional event spelled trouble for SWRFI... and may portend similar problems for other regional fly-ins. "EAA headquarters decided to cease branding regional fly-ins as EAA events," SWRFI officials said, "[and] EAA will no longer insure regional events. The board felt that losing the EAA brand would make it increasingly difficult to obtain sponsors, exhibitors, and volunteers."

**Chapter dues and hangar rents for 2008  
are now due**

**Dues are 30.00 T hangar & Hangar 3 rent is  
695.00. Please remit to:**

**EAA 471  
PO Box 2585  
Abilene, TX 79604**

## Christmas Party Great Success

*By Charlotte Rhodes*

Our Christmas Party turned out pretty well despite the cooler weather. We had the hanger a little decked out, with music playing, children laughing and folks chatting the time by. There was good attendance and thank goodness because we had a bunch of food. It appeared that everyone was enjoying themselves. The Chapter officers and advisors all received their EAA Certificates for 2007 and the Chapter 471 award winners were: High Flyer Award – David Bradshaw, President's Award – Audie Gill, Golden Eagle Award – Tim Walker.

Photos next page

## New Newsletter Editor

David Bradshaw will now be the newsletter Editor. He will need help from all the members by submitting items for the newsletter. Please feel free to send articles, announcements, events, or any item that would be of interest to the membership. Items must be submitted by the end of the first week of every month. Email would be the preferred method to 2667033@sbcglobal.net. Items can also be mailed to PO Box 5374, Abilene, TX 79608

# CHRISTMAS PARTY 2007



## Mother, son solo on same day

Completing your first solo flight is a special memory. Especially if you solo on the same day as your mother, like Steve Poteet of Fort Worth, Texas, did. "It really is an awesome thing to share with her," said Steve, 43. He watched his 64-year-old mother Sylvia solo on Nov. 29 at Seymour Municipal in Seymour, Texas, where she resides. "Then we hugged, high fived, and I got in and did mine," he added. "We came to the realization about a month ago that we were at about the same place, skill-level wise, and it might be possible to solo at the same place on the same day," said Steve. Their flight instructor, John Coon, agreed they were both ready—Sylvia with 30 flight hours and Steve with 14. "At first I was really excited and keyed-up," said Sylvia, a nurse anesthetist. "But once I got ready I became quiet and focused. I wasn't nervous. Once I got through I felt a rush of excitement."

Airplanes have fascinated Sylvia since she was nine years old. For years, she dreamed of learning to fly but never had the opportunity. That is until her son partnered with a friend and purchased a Cessna 172. He brought Sylvia out to the airport to see his new toy, and she was hooked. She is now part owner of the airplane. "She sat down in the cockpit and was interested in everything about the airplane," said Steve, who works in church ministry. "I was surprised when I found out she had always wanted to fly."

Steve encouraged his mother to take lessons and coordinate their flying, even sharing an instructor. Often, Steve flies to Seymour with their instructor and lets Sylvia take a lesson before taking his own lesson and flying back to Fort Worth. They see each other about every two to three weeks. "It was special to see her pursue a lifelong passion," said Steve. "Taking her first solo flight was a major step toward that goal."

## 2008 Officers

President - Hobby Stevens  
Vice-President - Steve Johnson  
Secretary - David Bradshaw  
Treasurer - Tim Walker  
Director - Tim McMurray  
Director - Steve West  
Director - Steve Krazer  
Director - Audie Gill  
Past President - Charlotte Rhodes

## President's Message

*by Hobby Stevens*

It's Wednesday afternoon after Christmas and I'm back in the office. I flew back to Abilene this morning from Pagosa Springs, Colorado (KPSO). It was the kind of flight that you hope for and enjoy. I had a tailwind of 25 knots and up to 35 knots at times. It's 466 nm and the flight time was 2:40. There was no turbulence and the sky was crystal clear. We flew at 13,500 feet, using the new 2-place oxygen system that I received as a Christmas present. At that altitude, we were able to fly direct KABI, right over the mountains at Taos, NM (you can see Taos airport in the foreground of the picture below). The autopilot (and the heater) worked perfectly, and I spent most of the time looking at the vastness of New Mexico and Texas. There was quite a bit of snow, too.



What made it special was that I flew in a plane that I had built (with a lot of help) over the last 10 years and recently gotten certified. I still have work to do on the plane, like installing the interior panels and finishing the gear fairings. I hope to have these items done before long, as my wife has a long list of places that we plan to visit next summer in the plane.

I've owned airplanes before. What this plane has done is to once again give me the ability, the freedom to expand my horizons to more distant places. I plan to use this ability as much as possible, and whenever able, I will share with the Chapter some of the highlights of flying an airplane that you built yourself



## Calendar of Events

January 12	EAA Chapter 471 Breakfast Golden Corral 9AM
February 9	EAA Chapter 471 Breakfast Golden Corral 9AM
February 23	Fly-in Breakfast 9AM Granbury Municipal Airport
March 15	San Angelo Airshow Featuring USAF Thunderbirds
April 8-13	Sun n Fun Lakeland FI

July 28-Aug 3 Oskosh

EAA Chapter 471, Inc  
PO Box 2585  
Abilene, TX 79604

