

# The TAILSPIN



November 2007

ORLANDO YOUTH AVIATION CENTER

## EAA 74 Salutes Our Country's Veterans



### B-17 Vets Relive History *Aluminum Overcast* brings back memories

The Chapter started its veterans' activities a bit early to coincide with the visit of EAA's B-17 in October.

Jerry Lutz arranged a special media luncheon featuring WWII veterans recalling their experiences. One man told of how he was shot down over France and had to walk 300 miles to Switzerland, hiding from enemy troops. Chapter members Alan Wise and Joe Simonds related some of their memories of the war.

Mayor Buddy Dyer proclaimed Oct 26 as B-17 Day. Later, the members of the press and a number of veterans—including several from EAA 74—were given a complimentary ride on *Aluminum Overcast*.

Despite rainy weather, the weekend continued with tours and rides for the public. EAA 74 members manned the souvenir trailer, acted as docents at the plane and sold drinks and snacks. If anyone mentioned the drizzle, we told them it was planned that way because it was just like flying in England. It sure brought back quite a few memories for a number of vets who touched the plane and were touched by the experience.

A few lucky members got to ride on the transfer to Vero Beach—also in very wet conditions. For those who didn't know, the B-17 leaks like a colander sitting on the ground. Apparently, comfort is not part of mil spec. Debey Von took photos of the trip and posted them on the Chapter's Yahoo Group.

This was the second visit to Orlando by EAA's tour. Thanks to Bob and Kim Showalter, Rachel Haymes and the Showalter crew for providing ramp space and assistance.

**Next Meeting—Tuesday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m.**

*Guest Speaker—Scott Larsen  
former pilot for Blue Angels' C-130 "Fat Albert"*

Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Executive Airport  
400 Herndon Blvd.

### Upcoming Events

Chapter Meeting	Nov 20, Tues Meeting, 7:30 p.m. Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Young Eagles & Pancake	Dec 1, Sat Setup 7:30 am, Flying 9 am-11 am Showalter Flying Service, Orlando Exec
Chapter Christmas Party	Dec 18, Tues Open bar 6 pm, Dinner 7 pm Ventura Country Club



## EAA 74 Marches In Vets Day Parade

Once again, the Chapter participated in the Veterans Day Parade that marched through downtown Orlando.

Jerry Lutz organized the entry and pulled all the "troops" together. Bruce Hotz welded-up a special purpose trailer to carry Hector Ruiz's Kwiki II along the route. AIAA students from UCF helped decorate the plane and Bruce's PT Cruiser with red, white and blue streamers and the Young Eagles and OYAC banners. They threw candy to kids along the route escorted by cadets from the Civil Air Patrol.

Hector's Kwiki—with its unique, experimental design—attracted quite a few of the curious before the parade and turned heads along the route as well as capturing plenty of attention from local TV station camera crews.

It was great to be able to stand out in front of the community, especially in the company of plenty of real heroes. Hector summed it up best, when he said, "This is a great country! It's a real honor to be here."

# Put Christmas Party On Your Holiday List

Ventura Country Club, Dec 18

Get your reservations in by deadline

Share the Christmas Spirit with your flying friends as EAA 74 wraps up a very good year at our annual Christmas Party.

Once again, Mel and Bea Scherf have booked the Ventura Country Club where we had such a good time—and great food—last year. The main courses will be Breast of Chicken with a Lemon Basil sauce, and Grouper Picatta. The complete menu will be posted on the website.

Those who joined the fun last year remember that Ventura is a very nice location overlooking the golf course. The room is large, so we didn't feel cramped, and the service was very good.

In addition to dinner, once again Mel and Bea will also emcee our famous (infamous?) Pirate Gift Exchange. It's all about the fun, so try to make gifts suitable for flying-building types and please keep the value at \$10 or less.

Dinner and the party cost only \$25 per person. It's actually a bit more, but, as in past years, the Chapter pays the balance for members and spouses.

The party is set for Tuesday, Dec 18, our usual meeting date, so that we don't disrupt the usual schedule. But reservations must be made by Dec. 10. Mel needs to provide the country club with a head count and we have to give the name to the guard at the security gate.

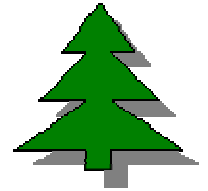
The announcement below has more details on the menu and the form to send with your check. Please make reservations early so plans can be made.

It's sure to be a nice evening of Christmas Cheer and hangar talk. What better way to celebrate the holidays?

Wassail!



## **EAA 74 Christmas Party** **Make Your Reservations Now** **Tuesday, December 18th—Ventura Country Club** 3201 Woodgate Blvd, Orlando Off Curry Ford Rd. between SR436 & Goldenrod Rd.



**6:30 pm Social—7:30 pm Dinner**  
**\$25 per person**

Please reserve your seats today using the reservations form below  
**Reservations must be made by Dec. 10.**

### **Christmas Buffet Menu**

*Subject to Change*

Sliced Roast Beef or Grouper Picatta

Rosemary Roasted Potatoes

Seasonal Vegetable Medley

Tossed Garden Salad with Choice of Dressings

*includes Fresh-Brewed Coffee, Tea, Sodas, Water, Rolls & Butter*

Alcoholic Beverages & Wine available at Club's Lounge

### **Pirate Gift Exchange!**

Bring a gift for Guys, Gals, or just anyone (maximum value \$10, please). Then the fun starts! People choose gifts by number. When it's your turn you can pick a new gift of steal someone else's! But look out—a gift can be stolen up to three times!

### **Cut Out This Section and Mail It With Your EAA 74 2007 Christmas Party Reservations**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Number Attending \_\_\_\_\_ Amount Enclosed (\$25 per person) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to EAA 74, and bring to the Chapter meeting or mail to:  
Bob Kosar, Treasurer,  
2319 Springs Landing Blvd.  
Longwood, FL 32779

**See the menu and get directions at [www.EAA74.org](http://www.EAA74.org)**

## **A Veteran's Story**

### **Remembering those who didn't come back**

*Sometimes, those who served in combat tell us of the price for freedom paid by so many. In the month we especially salute our veterans, here is one recount that reminds of us of the ultimate sacrifice exacted by all wars.*

**T**his month is the anniversary of the battle of the Chosin Reservoir in North Korea.

Fifteen thousand Americans were trapped by 125,000 Chinese troops in those frozen mountains. Outflanked, out-gunned, and 90 miles from the sea, they made an epic stand that was unparalleled in modern history. For those who think Americans are soft, read this.

When it became apparent that a major battle was underway and that ammunition and firepower were desperately needed, I was ordered to lead my armored platoon north in a counterattack to break through to the troops around the reservoir. We never made it. Just south of a village named Hagaru, we ran headlong into three Chinese divisions.

At 1:30 in the afternoon, the fight started. Within 10 minutes we were completely surrounded and under heavy attack from all sides. Cut off from all help, hopelessly outnumbered, in 30 below zero weather, those men fought through the day, through the night, and into the next morning.

When the enemy poured in so close the tank guns could not

depress low enough to fire into them, those men opened the hatches, got out on the ground and fought hand to hand until they fell.

They fired until the guns were empty, then fought on with clubbed rifles. They never stopped. They never surrendered. They fought to the last gun, the last bullet, the last man. There were no prisoners. There were almost no survivors.

When the Marines and remnants of the 7th Division broke through on their fight to the sea, they found hundreds of enemy dead, with clumps of them around each American body, and a line of burned-out tanks. They also found two of us alive on the ground, and brought us out with them.

Of the 15,000 Americans in the battle around the reservoir, there were more than 13,000 casualties in 10 days and nights of non-stop combat.

The snows of many winters have covered them since: they still lie where they fell. All young men. All with much to live for, giving all that they could give.

Take a moment with me to honor their memory. May they rest in honored peace.

*Bob*

### **October Meeting Update**

## **Customs Comes To ORL**

### **Pilots protesting new overflight rules**

**T**hanks to U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officer Jim Crisp of the new Customs office at Orlando Executive for joining us last month.

Jim went over the procedures for securing an overflight permit so pilots can fly direct to ORL from the Bahamas without having to stop first at a point of entry, typically Ft. Pierce. None of it seemed hard, but it was pretty clear that strict enforcement—not to mention inconvenience, embarrassment or worse—could result from not following procedures to the letter.

The forms most GA pilots will need can be found on the Customs website: [www.cbp.gov](http://www.cbp.gov) and go to the Forms page. For a user decal, the form is 339A. For an overflight permit, use form 442.

Right now, there is a general concern about new CBP requirements to file a complete passenger list via the internet 24 hours prior to returning to the country. Securing the country's borders is a laudable goal. The problem is that internet connections can be hard to establish offshore. Imposition of that restriction could stop a lot of people from flying to the Bahamas at all—and it would be a shame to have to forgo one of the most enjoyable flying destinations.

Pilots wanting to comment have been invited to do so by AOPA. The deadline has been extended to Dec. 4, 2007. For more information, log onto [www.aopa.org/advocacy/customs/index.html](http://www.aopa.org/advocacy/customs/index.html).

## **Chapter Elections This Month**

**S**o you think you have a better idea of how to run things?

Well, you probably do. Experience in life is hard earned and you may well have thought of things in a way no one else has.

Here's your chance to put use that experience for something you really enjoy: all the good stuff that comes with being a Chapter member. Chapter elections are this month and three directorships are open: two for 2010 and one for 2009.

EAA 74 has had a pretty good year. There has been a lot of participation in Chapter activities and plenty of fellowship with fly-outs, picnics and new faces joining the group.

You can help continue the good times. Think about joining up. It's more fun than you think, and a great excuse to get out of the house.

# OYAC Awards 1st Barbara Fritschi Scholarship

Fall class graduates 15; Winter '08 scheduled

It's nice to be a winner.

The Youth Aviation Class taught through the Orlando Youth Aviation Center (OYAC), has been a winner since it started. So far, almost 100 kids have taken the "next step" after flying Young Eagles.

Now, a new dimension has been added in OYAC's mission to attract kids to explore their own potential through aviation.

Recently, the organization created the Barbara Fritschi Scholarship in honor of one of OYAC's greatest benefactors. The scholarship pays the tuition of one young woman for each Youth Aviation Class. The award is based on an essay written by the student describing her interest in aviation.

This year, the first scholarship was awarded to Kali Hair in the fall class following the graduation flight.

The class for Winter 2008 has been set to start on January 12. A maximum of 18 kids can participate and the seats are filling up fast. If you know of a stu-



Louie Turek, OYAC president, congratulates Kali Hair on winning the first Barbara Fritschi scholarship.

dent between ages 10 and 17 with an interest in aviation, let them know about the Youth Aviation Class.

Complete information on the curriculum and schedule is posted on the Chapter website at [www.EAA74.org](http://www.EAA74.org).

Also, volunteers are needed for some classes, such as model building, aircraft construction, chart reading and others. Classes are Saturday mornings from 9 am to 12 noon. Please contact Louie Turek at ([aerospace\\_pilot@yahoo.com](mailto:aerospace_pilot@yahoo.com)) or Barbara Phillips ([flypatbarb@aol.com](mailto:flypatbarb@aol.com)) if you'd like to participate.



## Boss Bus

Touring the Airbus 380

How lucky can you get?

Jim Thomas got a call from the American test pilot of the new Airbus 380. Would we like to take some of our kids on a tour of the plane when it comes to Orlando International? Jim tried not to answer too quickly, but said "YES!" somewhere between "tour" and "Orlando".

So, 15 kids, some from the OYAC class (along with their parents) and some from our AIAA friends at UCF, were joined by Jim, Louie Turek, Ed Rockwell and Tom Carveth on a private tour of the monster plane.

The Airbus pilots guided our group around the giant, through the two cavernous passenger levels (where a few tried out the electric business-class seats that recline into a full bed) and onto the impressive, all electronic flight deck.

The kids were thrilled (as were we) and we appreciate Airbus' hospitality.

## Young Eagles

### Wx Cancels Oct Rally

Dec 1 set as rain date

Weather and logistics have not been kind to our Young Eagles plans last month

Rainy skies washed out our rally on October 20. Fortunately, there were low clouds all morning, so only a few kids took a chance and showed up. Too bad all around as we had plenty of volunteers. The local "Women In Aviation" chapter had offered to help with our pancake breakfast and about seven ladies showed up. Hopefully, they'll come back the next time.

Due to the cancellations, a rally has been planned for Saturday, Dec. 1 on the Showalter ramp at Orlando Executive. Mike Sills is looking for pilots



([mikepilot1@earthlink.net](mailto:mikepilot1@earthlink.net)), and Tim Sweeney is putting together the ground crew ([sweenet1953@yahoo.com](mailto:sweenet1953@yahoo.com)). Please let them know if you can be there.

Dates have also been set for spring 2008 rallies:  
Jan 19 at Kissimmee Gateway.  
Mar 29 at Fantasy of Flight (just for Boy Scouts)  
May 24 at Sanford Southeast Ramp

Dates and places are still to be confirmed with the host facilities and any changes will be posted in this newsletter and on [www.EAA74.org](http://www.EAA74.org).

### Fantasy of Flight Moves Boy Scout Rally To Spring

The special Young Eagles rally for the Boy Scout Camporee at Fantasy of Flight has been rescheduled.

Originally planned for this month, Fantasy of Flight officials chose to postpone the event due to a low number of registrations. Steve Gatlin, who is coordinating for the Chapter, said that the Camporee and rally would be held March 29, 2008 on the Fantasy of Flight campus.

This would have been the fourth time we flew at the Scouts' Camporee and the second time flying at Fantasy of Flight. The first time there, we flew about 150 kids.