

Franklin EAA Aero Club

Volume 3, Issue 1

January 2005

December Meeting and Christmas Party

The chapter gathered at the Franklin Airport Terminal Building on December 18 for our monthly meeting and annual Christmas Party. President Buz Rich dispensed with all the normal meeting stuff and invited us to partake in a table load of food in the conference room. Melissa Darden had organized a superb spread of goodies that tempted our taste buds and made 2005 "I gotta lose weight." resolutions mandatory.

After lunch, Buz passed out numerous awards for the work that our members have done the past year. Chapter officers received certificates and pins from EAA: President, Buz Rich; Vice-President, Bryson Trumble; Secretary, Parker Darden; and Treasurer, Karen Bradshaw. Other chapter leaders also received certificates: Young Eagles, Jimmy Howell; Flying Start, Everett Williams; Technical Counselor, Folis Jones; Newsletter Editor and Website Editor, Christie Trumble. Parker Darden was given the Golden Flipper award for producing the World's Greatest Pancakes for the October 16 fly-in. Dale Fowler was given a certificate for acting as "Air Boss" for the First Annual Tidewater Virginia Tri-Chapter Fly-in. And last, but certainly not least, I am sure most of you have heard of the "X" prize that was recently given out for the first private team to build a low cost, efficient craft for space tourism. Ed Pinney was given the "Z" prize for the developing the first intra hangar rocket. Unfortunately Ed was not present to receive the prize. Maybe he was in his "skunk works" developing an enhanced rocket....?

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JANUARY CHAPTER MEETING

FRANKLIN MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

JANUARY 15, 2005, 10:30 AM

Program: B-17 Pictures

It is time to pay annual dues to the chapter. See or contact Karen Bradshaw. Let's continue to grow this great chapter and make it the best!

The Technical Counselor and You!

Folis Jones, Technical Counselor #3510

The Technical Counselor (TC) program was developed to accomplish two distinct goals; first, increase safety by improving the mechanical reliability of amateur built and restored aircraft, and second, to promote the building and restoration of aircraft by making the process easier and more readily accomplished by the craftspeople.

The TC Program is a concentrated effort by the EAA to develop a bridge between those who are just learning a craft and those who are experts in the areas of question. The program deals with all technical aspects of building or rebuilding (what most of us call) Sport Aircraft. The program does not extend to the maintenance of certified, modern aircraft, nor does it touch upon any aspect of the flying of any aircraft. This program was developed as a parallel to the Flight Advisor (FA) Program.

Until the Flight Advisor Program began enhancing safety, the number of accidents during first flights was appalling. The causes were partially due to pilot inadequacies (low proficiency, lack of experience in type and category, etc.), however, some form of airframe or engine failure precipitated a sizable number. The Flight Advisor Program was developed to combat the human part of the equation, and the Technical Counselor Program has been developed to deal with the mechanical factors.

In the coming months I will be covering the various objectives of the Technical Counselor program. Included will be the different aspects of what you should expect from your TC visit and what his/her roles and responsibilities are to you and the EAA. In my opinion the TC program, like the FA program, are untapped sources of information and safety that many builders don't know about. The TC has a very unique role in any project if you ask for the help. I personally used the TC and the FA programs when I was building and I feel their expertise contributed significantly to my trouble free FAA/DAR inspection and first flight. Look at your TC as a knowledgeable friend with another set of eyes. Their purpose is to advise, inspect, and educate. It is a win/win situation.

Observations

Linda and Joe Mathias flew to the December meeting in their newly restored J-3 Cub. Joe said he tried to make it as original as possible, and it is a beauty.

It was nice to see Tony Spicer's Sonex featured in the December 2004 Sport Aviation (see [Spicy Sonex](#), page 50). That was the aircraft that won "Best Experimental" at the Tri-Chapter Fly-in.



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After the awards were presented, there was a spirited gift exchange with the most popular gifts being "stolen" time and again until they were declared safe. For a "goofy gift" exchange, there were some very nice gifts under that tree. □

Focus on a Member by Jeff Hopkins

Tim Riddick is originally from Gates County, N.C. and currently lives in Smithfield, VA with Rachel, his wife of twenty-three years, and Jeremy, Melissa, and Hilary, their three children. He is employed as a Quality Assurance Technician with Muller Martini Manufacturing in Newport News, makers of book binding and packaging machinery and systems.



2005 Chapter Vice President

Tim's boyhood interest in model airplanes led him to begin flight training in July of 1977. He first soloed on August 9, 1977, building 44 hours in a Grumman AA-1. Twenty-four years later he began flight training again and on February 23, 2001 attained a private license. He has accumulated a total of 438 hours. Tim once owned a 1966 Cessna 152 and is currently flying a Cessna 172 in which he enjoys low and slow flight. Tim would like to own a Cherokee 180. On February 7, 2004 after taking off from Suffolk for a local flight in his Cessna, the number three engine cylinder broke into two pieces. Tim executed an off airport emergency landing from which he was able to safely walk away. □

Newsletter - Dale Fowler

Thanks to Christie Trumble for editing the Newsletter since the chapter started. I will try my hand at editing this year with help from Folis Jones and Jeff Hopkins. Our goal is to have a format of: Last meeting news, articles on building and maintaining our aircraft, flying, focus on a member, and a calendar of events. We can also include items for sale, tools available to loan and other subjects in which the membership has interest. We plan to distribute via email, the website, and snail mail where necessary.