EAA Chapter 302
Conroe, Texas

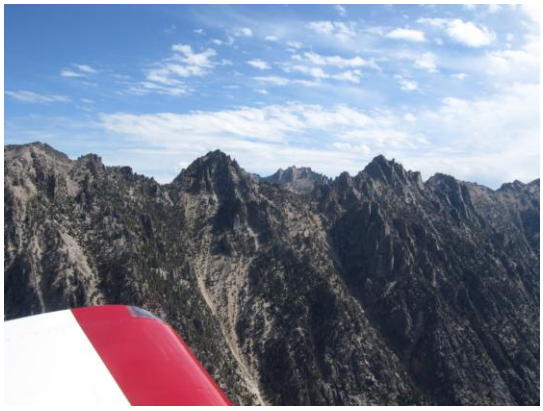
The program for the October 1 meeting will be a two part DVD about the "Idaho Man-Trip"—a week long journey by four of Chapter 302's members, who meet up with three others, for a total of seven airplanes.

This trip took place the last week of August, 2011 and continued into September, so its very current material. Much of the movie was captured in-flight with a helmet-cam, and is spectacular!

Be sure to attend so you don't miss Part 1. It is an account of the launch out of Conroe's Lonestar Airport, through Plainview, TX, to Cortez, Colorado and the overnight.

The next morning's flight to Monument Valley at sunrise is stunning, and then it continues on through the Lake Powell area, past Great Salt Lake, and on into Idaho's Sawtooth Wilderness Area.

This was a camping trip, with all supplies carried by each participant's aircraft. The base of operations was one of Idaho's premier backcountry airstrips—Johnson Creek. You can ride along each day as the pilots test their skills at mountain flying, high altitude airports, and limited distance runways. Definitely the "Trip of a Lifetime"! Make sure you attend, and plan to make November's meeting for Part II.



EAA Chapter 302 minutes for September 3, 2011

Shirley Park, Secretary

- Meeting was opened at 9:05 am by acting president, Bill Gipson with a welcome and acknowledgement of the passing of our Chapter President Dennis McCright.
- Several visitors were introduced to the chapter along with their projects in progress. Visitor's names are listed below.
- Project updates were given. Bill Gipson discussed his problem with the windshield on his RV10 and asked for possible solutions.
- It was announced that a program is scheduled for Saturday, September 17th at 0900 to 1100 hours located in the Wing Aviation hangar sponsored by the FAAST Team and CXO. Program and discussion will be on "ATC: Do You Know Your System?" featuring Jere Gardner, CXO Air Traffic Controller and the FAAST Team. All are invited to attend. This does qualify for the Wing points program.
- Also noted was a dedication of the tower to honor RA Mickey Deison on September 29, 2011 at 9:00am. All are invited to join in honoring Mickey whose dedication and vision made a major impact over airport development. The FAA has published new instrument approach procedures for runways 1, 19, 14. The approaches are similar to ILS yet use GPS signals. Check online at: www.faa.gov/ndbr/asp.
- Minutes were approved as written in the newsletter.
- There is no date set yet for a fly in.
- The by-laws require an election to replace the position of President's vacancy. Elections will be held next month. Nominating committee is activated and nominations from floor will be requested.
- The Compass Rose painting date will be October 8th. We will provide paint and food for the day.
- Treasurer's report states $3,548.20 in bank with $755.50 of that for the Compass Rose project.
- It was noted that income does not match the expenses, so that the bank balance is reducing steadily.
- Excellent program was presented by Denny Irvine on Oshkosh fly in.
- The swindle was won by visitor Sidney Ebert, daughter of Jae Ebert
- The T-shirt was won by Bob Van Vleet
- In attendance were 42, with five visitors. Visitors were Peter Lammetor, Andrew Eiland, Jae Ebert, Sidney Ebert, and Fernando Anduze. Rick Rausch rejoined our group today.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:45am.

September Meeting Presentation: Oshkosh Video by Denny Irvine

EAA 302 Members and visitors watching the Oshkosh slide show and wishing they were there!

Windshield crazing on Bill Gipson's RV10. What ??!!

Is this the solution using a 600 grit compound and orbital cutting wheel??

Please join us in honoring R.A. "Mickey" Deison on September 29, 2011 9am

LONE STAR EXECUTIVE AIRPORT
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS

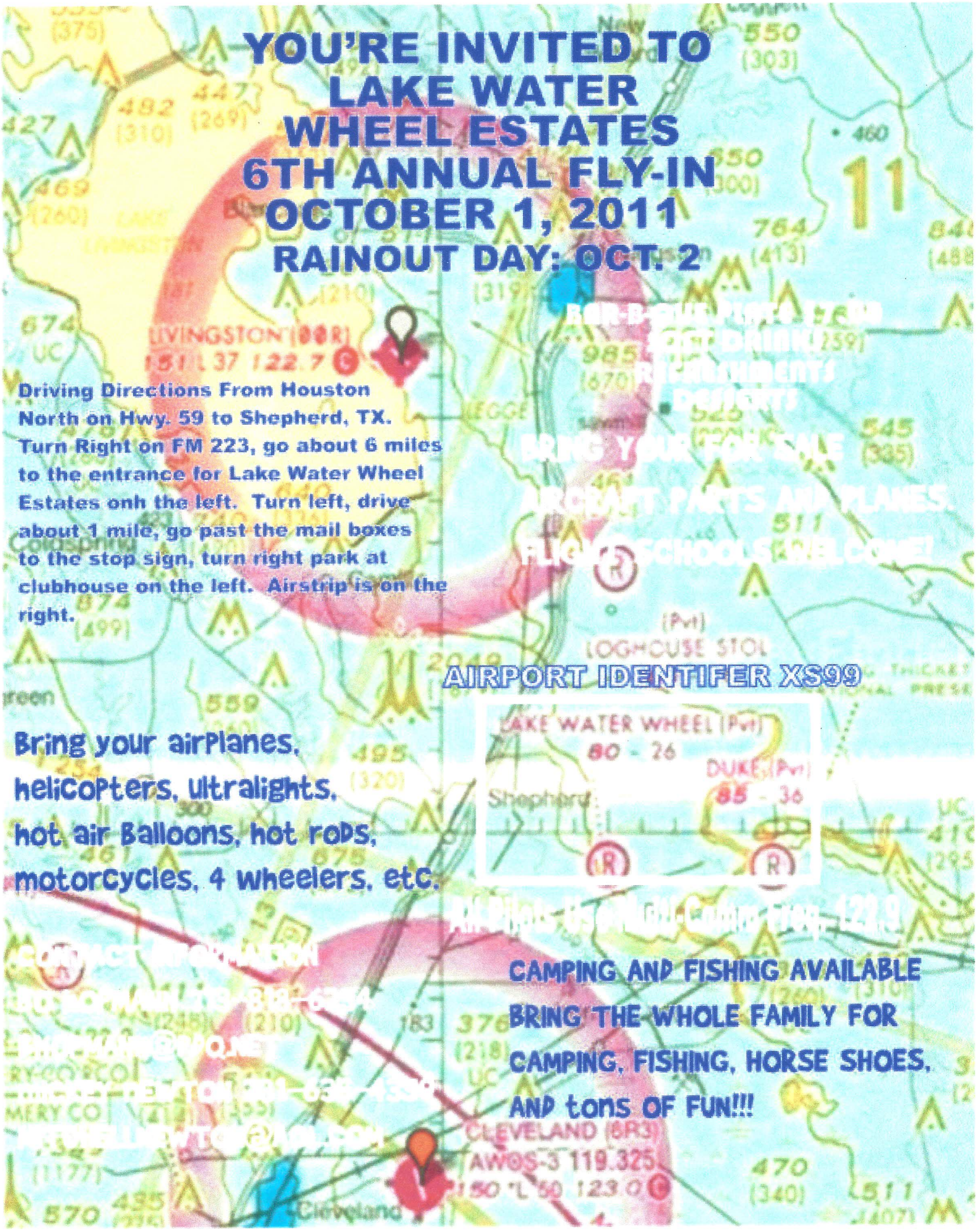
www.lonestarexecutiveairport.org

"Please join us in recognizing R.A. "Mickey" Deison for his many years of dedication and service to Montgomery County and the Lone Star Executive Airport in a ceremony on September 29th, 2011 9:00am to name the Lone Star Executive Airport Air Traffic Control Tower in his honor."

Directions: From I-45 N, take FM 3083 to Airport Parkway. Turn left and continue thru Airport Drive. Turn left on North Parkway and right onto Carl Pickering Memorial. Follow signs to the ceremony. RSVP 936-788-8311

YOU'RE INVITED TO LAKE WATER WHEEL ESTATES 6TH ANNUAL FLY-IN OCTOBER 1, 2011

RAINOUT DAY: OCT. 2



Letters to our EAA Chapter 302 Friends Departed

In Memory of Dennis McCright

I didn't know Dennis as long as many of us did, but I am grateful for the time I had with him. I met Dennis at the first EAA 302 chapter meeting that Mary and I attended in 2004. He invited us to his hangar to see the stunning RV-6 project that he and Dick Stevens were building at the time (it later won Grand Champion at Sun & Fun). After a few more visits, he invited me to move my RV-8 project to his hangar. I jumped at the chance to learn from an accomplished EAA Technical Advisor and hauled my aircraft project into his hangar that year. His steady guidance and patience allowed me to progress as I had time to devote.

Over these last few years, I came to regard Dennis as my best friend at CXO. Besides his willing advice and assistance, he welcomed me into his group of many friends which I continue to greatly appreciate to this day.

As opposed to Dennis, most of us have a predisposition to hold our friends close, but are reluctant to accept newcomers into our lives. Not Dennis. I remember many-a-day working on my RV-8 in Dennis's hangar when a stranger would walk in. Dennis would drop whatever task he was engaged in and welcome each visitor with the enthusiasm and the magnetism that was his style. His willingness to answer either inane or expert questions with informative answers and explanations was indicative of his patience and concern for others. His respect for everyone he met was a life lesson to me.
I think we all had the gut-wrenching feeling that we lost our best friend that tragic day. Dennis brightened our days and enlivened our lives. We all miss him terribly. We can honor his spirit by continuing his commitment to not just our group of aviators, but to all the new friends we have yet to meet and welcome into our hangars and our lives as he would have if he were still with us.

Dennis lives on within each of his friends because of what he taught us. It was an honor to have been his friend.

Brent Crabe

Reflections of Three Friends Gone West.....

I hurried out to Crosby Field to watch a friend test fly his RV6. It was a late spring day in 2006. It was the first time I ever met Dennis McCright. He & Dick were there to help my friend as chase plane and there they were like mother hens giving last minute instructions, inspections and good wishes to my friend. I briefly met Dennis that day, never realizing what a tremendous effect he would later have in my life or how good a friend he would become. There he was helping a fellow Rver with all effort and vigor anyone could give, but that was Dennis. He was everyone's "best friend", always helping, caring and giving that extra measure of confidence each of us needed. It was that day that I decided to build an airplane.

A year or so later is really when I met Dennis. I had moved my airplane to Conroe from

Crosby. He came over one day to Larry's hangar and started looking at my plane. He was very nice with helpful advice, but during the course of our conversation, he realized that I was building this plane and didn't have a license to fly. After a few hmm's and pressed lips, he finally said, "Well, it will be okay, well get you past that." I could tell by the look in his eyes that he really meant, "You damn fool, building an airplane and you don't know how to fly!" Dennis from that day on always looked at me with one brow a little high and a little skepticism, but as our friendship progressed, I really felt like he believed in me. It was with his confidence, instruction, and enthusiasm, I achieved one of my life's dream. I flew with him many times, both in his airplane and mine, I always told him he had "the Golden Voice" while giving instruction.

Last year our chapter needed a new EAA President, being on the nominating committee, I approached Dennis to be president. After weeks of talking and trying to persuade him, he finally came back in his Captain McGruff style and said, "Okay, I'll do it for **one year**!" We elected him president.....I never told him it was a **two year term.**

Dennis was the "Glue" that held our group together. If you feel you lost your "Best Friend", it is because you have.....Dennis was everyone's best friend.

I met Bud Warren by chance one hot summer day. I was trying to find some brake fluid. Someone told me to go down to General and find Bud, he could help. There he was knelt down sweating trying to figure out how to fit a fuel pump on a converted Mooney. "Excuse me sir are you Bud, I'm trying to find a quart of brake fluid." He looked up at me from the job, his first words to me were, "Well, what are you going to do, put it in your hand?" My answer was quick, "I du no, you got it in your pocket?" With two wry grins our friendship started . Later he moved over to Larry's hangar, always keeping an eye on my airplane as I built. He use to tell me while wiring my plane, "Chuck, your wiring is so pretty, you need to put it on the outside of the plane so everyone can see it" It was his way of saying, "You sure waste a lot of time."

Over the years, Bud and I became good friends. I did his fiberglass work, he did my welding. He was the best welder I have ever met. We had coffee about every morning early. If you needed help and could stand a little "heat", Bud was always there for you. I was very happy he used my place for his twenty-fifth wedding renewal vows. We had good times, loud conversations and shared a lot of stories I will never forget.

Phyllis Ridings was the sentinel of her father's dream. I met Phil (I always called her Phil) a few years back, while we were compounding a demo cowl trying to get her dad ready for Sun N Fun. I have never met anyone who was so single minded to the success of Bud's business. She was loyal, hardworking and one of the most straight up people you would ever meet. She had not had any easy life, but greeted each new day with the vigor that most of us have forgot. Now that she has past, I fear that Larry's hangar will never be the same, because cleaning and organization were certainly part of her game.

Friends Gone West.....

Sometimes we fly so fast & true
our souls leave the earth behind.
With no regret, God chose our course
so be easy on your mind..
So we've flown West to catch a fading sun,
one day you will fly to follow us
and we will be as one..
We'll laugh, we'll cry and speak of days gone by,
but most of all continue to fly in God's majestic sky.
My heart moved a bit further West last month,
maybe yours did too.
It moved to be a little closer to old past friends,
it had to pay its due..

Chuck Elsey, September, 2011

Blue Skies...Dennis, Bud & Phil.

2011, The Longest Year

2011 has been and will be the longest year for Lynell and I. We have tragically lost three close, mutual friends in Bud, Phyllis, and Dennis. Two days after the accident that claimed Dennis, my Mother passed away. It's enough to make a grown man cry. Yes, we've shed tears for all. For all will be missed.

The accident that took Bud and Phyllis from us back in early May was especially gut wrenching for me. Bud and I had worked hard to perfect the Geareddrives RV10 over the last 3 years. Thru several major changes, and many more tweaks, we felt we had a handle on things. I thought the world of Bud and Phyllis and on May 7, that world came crashing down. It was about this time that Mother came down with a severe blood infection and spent the summer in and out of hospitals and advanced nursing care facilities. We spent countless hours and nights with her to let her know we were there for her until the end. Then came the call from Larry Perryman on a Saturday morning telling us of the fatal crash of Dennis McCright. It was literally a kick in the gut. Dennis, as an EAA tech counselor, had helped me greatly during the building of my 10 getting the plane ready for the FAA inspection. His presence and expertise will be sorely missed.

Let's fly safe out there friends. Don't think we can take any more bad news in 2011, in this, the longest year.

Bill and Lynell Gipson

EAA 302 2011 Officers and Contact Information

President:		
Vice Pres:	Bill Gipson	(281)814-6006
Secretary:	Shirley Park	(281)460-2946
Treasurer:	Lynell Gipson	(713) 825-4090
Young Eagles:	Bill Gipson	(281)814-6006
Website:	Shirley Park	(281) 460-2946
Program Chairman	Denny Irvine	(936)856-2929
Newsletter:	Bill Gipson	(281) 814-6006

Calendar of Events

- 1st Sat., La Grange BBQ Fly-In, Fayette Regional **(3T5)**
- 1st Sat., Fly-In Lunch, Leesville, LA **(L39) EAA Chapter 1356**
- 3rd Sat., BBQ Lunch, Disc. Fuel, Jasper Apt. **(JAS)**
- 4th Sat., Fly-In Breakfast, 8-11 am, Tyler Pounds Fld, **(TYR)**
- 4th Sat. Fly-in Drive-in Beauregard Regional **(DRI),** DeRidder, La

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- Sept. 30th – Oct 2 , Centerville, TX, Critters Lodge Fall Fly-in, Dillard Ranch **(TE01)** www.Critterslodge.org
- October 1, Lake Water Wheel Estates, 6th Annual Fly-in, **(XS99), see page 4**
- October 8, Lufkin, TX Cook's Choice Fly-in, 11:00 – 1:00, Angelina County Airport **(KLFK)**
- October 15, Canton, TX Tailwind Airpark Fly-in, www.tailwindairpark.com **1TA7**
- October 15-16, Houston, Texas Wings over Houston Airshow, Ellington Airport (KEFD)
- October 21-23, Reklaw, TX, 27th Annual Flying M Ranch Fly-in and Campout, **7TA7,** www.reklawflyin.com
- October 29, Dallas, TX, Society of Experimental Test Pilots Test Symposium, Swsetp@hotmail.com
- November 5th, Bryan, TX, 9th Annual Great Southern Sonex Gathering, Coulter Field (KCFD) gssg.robebarber.com/index.htm
- **For Louisiana EAA Fly-in Series please see www.LaFlyins.com**

NEXT MEETING:

OCTOBER 1ST

9 AM

HANGAR 41

EAA 302 regularly meets @ 9 AM on the 1st Saturday of the month, Lone Star Executive Airport, (CXO), Lone Star Builders Center, 10150 Dorbandt, Hangar #41

Visitors are always welcome!

Take IH-45 Exit 90, follow the signs 3 miles east to the airport.

Disclaimer: Chapter 302 assumes no responsibility or risk for use of products occasionally listed for sale. This is a service to members and does not constitute an endorsement of such products by the Chapter, its members, or the EAA. All building tips and suggestions put forth in the newsletter or at chapter meetings are informational only. The Chapter assumes no liability or responsibility for the accuracy of such material. Anyone applying such information to their flying or project does so at their own volition and risk.

Engine: superior quality used Japanese carbureted Subaru motor 1.8 liter 8 valve EA81 4 Cyl. from Unitex trading company see website www.unitextrading.com
This engine was donated to EAA 302 by a former member.

For Sale: RV-6 Empennage Kit – New Parts
For information call 281-359-9111. Leave name and number. Will return call.

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