

# FLYPAPER



*December 2010*

*The Official Newsletter for EAA Chapter 477, Charleston, South Carolina*

## The President's Corner

There is one thing I have learned over the years, you can't stop the calendar! Or the clock for that matter. The end of the year is here and most of us are focused on getting together with family and friends to enjoy the good times. And really, as bad as it might seem, there are always things to be thankful for.

Earlier in the year I reported on my daughter's lose of her fiancé shortly before their wedding day; an extraordinarily difficult time. I am happy to say that she is turning the corner and life is moving on; how grateful we are. Not to long after that, I seriously injured my hand with a power saw. It is mending nicely and I am grateful. The property I own in downtown Charleston that has taken so much of my time and resources is near closing; I am grateful. While my Cozy is languishing due to many things in my life, I have been able to fly other aircraft and am still physically able to do this; I am grateful.

By the time you read this, we will have celebrated Thanksgiving. I hope you did give thanks for all you have. A few weeks after you read this, we will be celebrating *Christmas*. Please, give thanks for the gift that we celebrate in this season.

Our November meeting was well attended and we picked up two new members. Welcome on board to Roger Medlin and Michael Grabowski! I would like to think that most of those attending came to hear the outstanding technical presentation that I did, but I am reminded that we had a great dinner that was catered by Stan's Barbecue. I don't want to take a vote, it might make me feel bad.

Upcoming is our second annual Christmas dinner at North Towne. All the information you need is on the website. If you have not reserved your place you need to do it now. Contact any chapter officer to do this. There is a limited number of places.

### My Cozy update:

Immediately after I got a little "fire" in the engine, life pulled me aside. I think that I got to the hanger two times since then, but only to pick up some tools that I needed at home. Need to really blow off the cobwebs in December!

*-Glen Phelps, President*

## Upcoming Events

**December 9 - Thur 6:30 pm**  
EAA 477 Chapter Meeting  
and Christmas Dinner at  
North Town Restaurant

**December 12** - SCBC at Rudy  
Branham Field ([6J7](#))

**December 26** - SCBC at Twin  
Lakes ([S17](#))



## November Meeting Report

Fourteen members & guests attended our November 11th meeting at the CAFB Aero Club, including "the usual suspects" plus a couple new faces; Michael Grabowski and his dad (sorry I didn't get his name). Roger Medlin, manager of Waltherboro airport also showed up, although he might have regretted it (more below).



Dinner was catered by Stan's Barbecue, and it was outstanding! Pulled pork BBQ, baked beans, coleslaw and wonderful banana pudding! Stan stole that 'nana pudding recipe from me, but I stole it from Paula Deen, so I guess I can't complain. Because it was Veteran's day Brett read a very moving prayer, blessing all military members who have served and are currently serving our country.



The next order of business was officer elections. Glen Phelps and Kevin Thorp were reelected as President & Vice President, respectively. Tony Cole is our new Treasurer. Roger Medlin our newest

member graciously accepted the call of duty as Secretary. Greg Horne offered his technical expertise as our Newsletter Editor & Webmaster, and Brett Grooms is the Young Eagles Coordinator.

We announced the Christmas dinner, scheduled for Thursday, December 9th at the North Towne restaurant. This will include a great meal, a great speaker (Waring "Butch" Hills), and great fellowship. Seating is limited, so if you want to attend please contact any officer ASAP, so we can get you on the list.

Glen gave a technical presentation on composite construction. This is the first of two parts. The second part will be given at the January meeting and will include some hands on experience for a few lucky people.

Epoxy materials contain isocyanates, a compound that has some hazards. If handled properly, these pose no risk to the the builder. The first thing one must do is have adequate ventilation when working with the material. Some people use chemical respirators when ventilation will be a problem. The second thing to ensure safe handling is the use of gloves. Three types of gloves were discussed, latex, vinyl and nitrile. Latex are the most common, but some people have or can develop an allergy to the material. Vinyl are not as flexible, so many people are using the nitrile gloves today. Any of these can be obtained from a number of different suppliers.

Allergies to the epoxy materials was discussed. The problem with one that develops an allergy to this material is that it accumulative. That is, once a person has become sensitized, the problem only becomes worse with more contact. This does not happen to a lot of builders, but when it does, it prevents many from completing their projects. So, always use the epoxies appropriately and with proper safety gear.

Several types of foams were presented and discussed. The most common thought is that polystyrene makes up the bulk of the composite project. This material is used for wings, but rarely in any other structural portion of the project. The other foam materials are, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) and urethane's of different

densities. Polystyrene can be cut with a "hot wire" technique, Other foams should never be cut with a "hot wire" due the release of toxic gases from the melting materials.

Two polystyrene materials were shown, the expanded type (think cheap coolers) and the extruded (think airplanes or Dow Flotation Billits). They are the same chemical compounds, only the manufacturing process changes. Don't use the white stuff on your wings, since you will not get the foam to fiberglass/epoxy bond required for strength. It can be used for cutting practice and demonstration though. Hot wiring the foam actually melts the foam, so that the cut surface will require a little light sanding, or spline sanding.



There were several other items demonstrated, to numerous to mention, along with tips and horror stories where people did not heed good practice or methods. But, the demonstration was not intended to teach everything we needed to know to build an airplane, but enough to wet our appetites for learning more. The process seems quite simple and we look forward to the second installation with some hands on in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30, but there were the usual stragglers & volunteers staying behind to help clean up and hanger talk. The Aero Club is very generous to let us meet there so extra care was made to be sure everything was left nice and tidy.

*-Kevin Thorp, Vice President*

## Next Meeting

Thursday at 6:30 pm EAA 477 Chapter Meeting and Christmas Dinner at North Town Restaurant



This is our annual Christmas Dinner. We are having the Chicken/Gyro Buffet that was so popular last year. Includes slow roasted chicken, beef and lamb gyro, tossed salad or Greek salad, pita bread, chopped vegetables, tzatziki sauce, oven roasted potatoes, and soft drink or tea. The cost is \$18.00 per person. This covers the dinner including an 18% gratuity and helps pay for dinner and a gift for our guest speaker.



Retired naval flight officer Waring Butch Hills will be our guest speaker. He will give a presentation on on supercarrier flight operations. That should be fascinating! Seating is limited so please RSVP to any Chapter officer before Monday

## Poker Run

Our first attempt at putting on a poker run was fogged out early in October, so we rescheduled the event for the last Saturday of that month, too late for a report in the November newsletter. So this is the official recap of that event.

We have no idea how many people might have been present for the originally scheduled event, but the turnout on the 30th was rather light. We were twisting arms up until the last minute, and managed to sign up a couple on the field that looked like they needed to have a purpose to fly. In the end, we had five aircraft in the air. Two twins, two 172s and a piper 140. The weather could not have been any better. Clear skies and balmy temperatures



The event had been designed so that everybody could participate, not just the pilots. We then made more modifications to the plan so that any participant could purchase additional hands (we had a way to keep them separate, not anybody would cheat) and sold two more hands with that change. This was done to get the pot as big as possible to benefit not only the charity, but to make the cash prizes more attractive.

The route of flight took us from RBW to MKS, then LRO and JZI before returning to RBW. After returning to RBW, the cards were evaluated, some elected to draw (purchase) additional cards and the

hands evaluated. Then we enjoyed a good hot dog and fixings lunch provided by the folks at the Lowcountry Regional airport. Five places were awarded and in the end, we did send \$52.00 to the MUSC Children's Hospital fund.



In the end, it was a great day that everybody enjoyed and we learned a lot. We will probably try this again in the future too.

## Recent sightings at RBW

One of my complaints during the month was that I didn't have the time to spend at the the field that I wanted. One the few days that I got down there I find an aircraft sitting next to the fuel pumps that I don't recognize. So I took some photographs.



This aircraft is a BT-13 Valiant trainer made by the Vultree Manufacturing Corporation. There were around 11,500 produced and used by the various

military branches of the United States prior and during World War II. It was interesting to learn that the manufacturer wanted to produce fighter aircraft, but kept failing to produce a concept aircraft that the military wanted, or would choose. They even had a little trouble with producing a trainer that the military was interested in until this model. The first order was for 300 copies in September 1939.

To “keep it simple”, the horsepower was reduced from 600 to the Pratt & Whitney R-985-AN-1 Wasp Junior radial engine rated at 450hp. Also, the gear became fixed rather than retractable.



## Treasurer's Report

November 2010 Beginning Balance	\$1635.85
Monthly Receipts	\$208.00
Monthly Expenses	\$221.63
Petty Cash	\$30.00
End of Nov. 2010 Bank Balance	\$1621.92

--Rich Hassell, Treasurer



It served as a second phase instructional aircraft in a three phase program for training pilots.

This aircraft belongs to the Commemorative Air Force and was flown by TR Povon. We had a chance to chat for a while after he has fueled the plane, prior to his leaving for North Carolina. This wing of the Commemorative Air Force has three aircraft in their inventory. This BT-13 and Two T-6 planes. As we look towards the planing for the next Walterboro Wings and Wheels, we are going to see if we can get them to bring them down for display. I think everybody would enjoy that!

**Low Country Sport Aviation, Inc.**  
**EAA Chapter 477**  
P.O. Box 62582  
North Charleston, SC 29419  
[EAA477.org](http://EAA477.org)



## Membership Application

*You must be a current EAA Member to join Chapter 477*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ EAA # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp.Date \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone; Cell \_\_\_\_\_ Home \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Send you meeting notices, newsletters, etc. via your e-mail? Yes [ ] No [ ]

Today's Date \_\_\_\_\_ Adult Membership [ ] Student Membership [ ]

Annual dues: Adults \$25.00 (if paid by Dec. 31 only \$20.00). Students \$12.

New members after Dec 31 pay dues pro-rated at \$2.00/month adults, \$1.00/month students.

Make checks payable to **"EAA Carolina Lowcountry Ch. 477"**

EAA 477 membership dues paid; Cash [ ] Check [ ] Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Date Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Pilot Ratings (if applicable ) \_\_\_\_\_ Types \_\_\_\_\_

Total Hrs. PIC \_\_\_\_\_ Experimental \_\_\_\_\_ Last Flight Review \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ Hrs. since last \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft you have owned or own now \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft you have built or building now \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft you would seriously consider building/restoring \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Skills you would be willing to share/help other members in their homebuilt project \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Other skills/talents that can help our chapter \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Comments/suggestions, including membership in other EAA Chapters \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*Thanks, and welcome to Chapter 477!*



**LowCountry  
Sport Aviation, Inc.**

P.O. Box 62582  
North Charleston, SC 29419



President: Glen Phelps  
Vice President: Kevin Thorp  
Secretary: Brett Grooms  
Newsletter Editor, & Webmaster:  
Greg Horne  
Treasurer: Rich Hassell  
Membership Chairman:  
Ed Hensel  
Young Eagles: Ed Roberts  
Web Site: [eaa477.org](http://eaa477.org)

*You're Welcome to Join or Visit  
EAA477!*

*If you're not already a member of EAA Chapter 477 we'd love  
to have you join us!*

*Fill out the application included in this newsletter, or just drop  
in on one of our meetings & see what we're all about.*

*For more info go to [eaa477.org](http://eaa477.org)*

