
“THE TAILDRAGGER”

EAA Chapter 972
Gladewater, Texas

July 2008



Next Meeting: Thursday, July 10, 6:30 p.m.

Gladewater Airport Office

“New” Guadalupe’s for dinner at 5:30 p.m.

Roger That

By: Roger Wieting

“Gentlemen, this is not a drill!” Somehow these words came to mind and seemed to offer the possibility of smoothing any ruffled feathers created by the tardiness of the Chapter President and Vice President, who were both running late on a Pancake Breakfast morning. “Yeah—*that’s the ticket!*” I thought, as the idea continued to evolve in whatever part of my brain was working Saturday morning while I rushed toward the airport. “If we can just make the guys see how well they managed in the face of such adversity, then maybe, just maybe, they’ll get to feeling so good about the recovery that they’ll forget about the very conspicuous absence of their fearless leaders thus far.” But this face-saving, slight-of-hand strategy quickly waned as I pulled onto the airport grounds and saw the flurry of activity beginning to unfold while the Chapter trailer was being pulled into position. I was late (still suffering the effects of changing domiciles during the week-plus prior), Garnet was late (didn’t ask why...), but the reality was that there was work to be done, quickly, and there were capable people clearly up to the task and already fully engaged.

The trailer door was opened upon my arrival, at around 7:35am. Out came the tables, the utensils, the propane tanks and the, shall we say ‘*well-seasoned*’, gas griddles, as well as the drink tub, trash cans, service items and of course, the kitty. Our core group for the day was humming along, focused on having breakfast ready for visitors (not to mention...US), even as the low clouds rolled in. And I’m here to tell you that bacon started coming off the grill at 8:02am, followed

quickly by pancakes and sausage. And what a dynamic team on the pancakes: Robert mixing and dropping the batter, Elo flipping’ ‘em up light & fluffy and Bart coaching (“not yet, not yet—not until the bubbles break!”). And it was all good, too. Well done, gentlemen—you have turned a potential disaster into a resounding success! Ahem...

We really did have a nice morning at the airport and we were pleased to greet a few visitors from outlying areas in spite of the patchwork scud of the morning. We had visitors from Airpark Dallas, from the Denton area and from Shreveport, and at least one gentleman who drove in, from the Tyler area, I believe. I heard several comments about folks having found out about our little event from the Internet—Bob’s efforts are clearly paying off! Thanks to all who participated in this first Pancake Breakfast of the summer.

One thing to note—we actually have a Breakfast scheduled for July 26th but in discussion this past Saturday morning, we realized that a bunch of us will be out of pocket that weekend (think OSH...). So it quickly began to look like we might want to forego the July event. Something to talk about at our Chapter meeting on the 10th...

And so here we are, on the cusp of another Oshkosh season and it sounds as if we are going to have a substantial migration of folks and planes from Chapter 972. I like that. With all we’ve had going on in my family lately, I’m not sure yet whether I’ll be able to make it, but I’m going to try. Others I recall talking about their plans include Garnet, who plans to go up “early”; Steve Garrett, who will be meeting up with a friend in Missouri and then going on from there...

Robert and Gene, in Gene's Tri-Pacer and Denny, pulling the camper (at least I *think* I heard that...). Who else is going? Let's compare notes at the meeting. Also, don't forget that August will bring the third annual Chapter 972 Ladies' Dinner in Gladewater.

The time is getting close enough now for us to start applying some detail to our planning—another good topic for Thursday, July 10th's meeting. I look forward to seeing each of you there—in the meantime, fly often & fly safe!

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Coming Aviation Events

July 10 EAA 972 Monthly Meeting (07F)

July 26 EAA 972 Pancake B'fast (07F) Pending discussion at meeting about conflicting plans with OSH

July 28—Aug 3 EAA AirVenture Oshkosh

1st. Saturday *La Grange BBQ Fayette (3T5)*

2nd. Saturday *Fajita Fly-in Lufkin (LFK)*

3rd. Saturday *BBQ Lunch Jasper (JAS)*

3rd. Saturday *Breakfast CAP Tyler (TYR)*

4th. Saturday *fly-in Lunch Leesville, LA. (L39)*

4th. Saturday *Fly-in Lunch Shreveport (DTN)*

Check out: EAA's Calendar of Events at:

www.eaa.org/calendar/

July Local AvGas Prices (07/05/08)

07F (gladewater)	\$5.01
KJXI (gilmer)	4.89
F12 (Henderson)	4.62
KJDD (wood co.)	4.90
4F2 (carthage)	4.75
KOSA (mt pleasant)	5.12
GGG (KRS@longview)	5.75

Chapter Officers

President **Roger Wieting**

Secretary **Denny Renwick**

Vice Pres. **Garnet McClure**

Young Eagle Co-Or. **Bill Vawter**

Treasurer **Robert Caldwell**

Newsletter/Historian **Jerry Gardner**

July Refreshments: Elo Zinke

July Newsletter: Elo Zinke

God Bless Our Troops!!