

# FLAPPINGS

The Greatest Hicks Airfield Related Newsletter On The Planet  
Almost 300 In Circulation Worldwide!  
May 2008



*Area Pilots honor Medal of Honor recipients over Gainesville*

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# Contacts

*(Who to Contact about What)*

<u>President</u>		
Gene de Bullet	817-335-4767	<a href="mailto:thebulletfortworth@hotmail.com">thebulletfortworth@hotmail.com</a>
<u>Board Of Directors</u>		
Stuart Davis (Vice President)	817-439-5162	<a href="mailto:stuart.davis@att.net">stuart.davis@att.net</a>
Jim Usher (Treasurer)	817-236-7506	<a href="mailto:jcusher@sbcglobal.net">jcusher@sbcglobal.net</a>
Don Browning (Secretary)	817-439-3240	<a href="mailto:71whiskeytango@att.net">71whiskeytango@att.net</a>
Ted Kelso	817-721-4861	<a href="mailto:tedkelso@hotmail.com">tedkelso@hotmail.com</a>
Stephen Ramsey	817-439-3300	<a href="mailto:ramzee@airmail.net">ramzee@airmail.net</a>
Coy Surles	817-439-2007	<a href="mailto:coy@medicalinstrumentspecialties.com">coy@medicalinstrumentspecialties.com</a>
John Unangst	817-581-5031	<a href="mailto:unangst@hasletwireless.net">unangst@hasletwireless.net</a>
<u>Asst Secretary</u>		
Melana Sinclair	817-306-8750	<a href="mailto:hapa_asst_sec@yahoo.com">hapa_asst_sec@yahoo.com</a>
<u>Principal Management Group</u>		
Carol Moran	817-451-7300 x205	<a href="mailto:cmoran@principal-mgmt.com">cmoran@principal-mgmt.com</a>
<u>Architectural</u>		
Phase I: Stuart Davis	817-439-5162	<a href="mailto:stuart.davis@att.net">stuart.davis@att.net</a>
Phase II & III: Don Davis	817-656-1040	<a href="mailto:jlddr@sbcglobal.net">jlddr@sbcglobal.net</a>
<u>Septic</u>		
Ted Kelso	817-721-4861	<a href="mailto:tedkelso@hotmail.com">tedkelso@hotmail.com</a>
Stephen Ramsey	817-439-3300	<a href="mailto:ramzee@airmail.net">ramzee@airmail.net</a>
<u>Safety</u>		
Larry Partain	817-319-2829	<a href="mailto:larry@pmsolutionsgroup.com">larry@pmsolutionsgroup.com</a>
<u>Runway/Taxiway Lights &amp; Repair</u>		
Stephen Ramsey	817-439-3300	<a href="mailto:ramzee@airmail.net">ramzee@airmail.net</a>
Bob Avery	817-439-8400	<a href="mailto:bavery@averytools.com">bavery@averytools.com</a>
<u>Welcoming</u>		
Don Browning	817-439-3240	<a href="mailto:71whiskeytango@att.net">71whiskeytango@att.net</a>
<u>Website &amp; Directory</u>		
Michael Reddick	817-439-0234	<a href="mailto:michaelreddick@yahoo.com">michaelreddick@yahoo.com</a>
<u>Newsletter</u>		
Ron Sinclair	972-345-3279	<a href="mailto:flappingseditor@yahoo.com">flappingseditor@yahoo.com</a>

## Table & Chairs

The HAPA Tables & Chairs are available to any current HAPA Member for personal use on the Airport Property for activities such as parties, family reunions, meetings, etc. *Please contact Melana Sinclair to enter your reservation for the Table and Chairs. 817-306-8750*

## Submittal Policy

The deadline for submission of articles, advertisements, minutes, and reports will be the 15th of the month. This should provide sufficient time to edit the layout of the newsletter so that it can be mailed & posted to [www.t67.org](http://www.t67.org) by the first of the following month. Please provide input in MS Word format, if possible. Flappings will be available online on or about the first of every month. All ads should be submitted in writing to Ron Sinclair, 155 Aviator Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76179 or by email to Ron Sinclair at [flappingseditor@yahoo.com](mailto:flappingseditor@yahoo.com).



# Presidents Corner

By Gene de Bullet

I hope everyone survived the recent "back to back" storms complete with hail and 50 mph wind. The torrential rain did not help our growing septic problems. It appears that, for the most part, each owner will be responsible for their own septic problems. A central system has been discussed and alternatively the City of Fort Worth sewer line is allegedly a couple of miles away. (Cost is a big factor)

As a result of wind and weather taxiway striping has been delayed but I have personally requested it as a priority, so we shall see.

Speaking of taxiways, we must help safety chairman, Larry Partain to insure airport safety and security for pilots, their aircraft and people who wander about. Folks, whether we like it or not Hicks Field is an airport open for public use. We have a radio frequency, airport designation, traffic pattern and FAA regulations that we must follow.

As your President I worry about position reporting by pilots in our pattern, taxiway incursions, dogs, children, bicycles, golf carts and illegally parked vehicles (less the 15' for taxiway edge.) Students or 30 year plus pilots must remember the rules and protocol before someone gets hurt or reported.

We have now determined who needs to "sign off" on the Southgate real estate issue and are moving ahead on it (stay tuned.)

The Board of Director's Attorney is drafting the ballot for the Assessment issue (6<sup>th</sup> Amendment) but I don't have it or a date for the election to publish as of this newsletter.

Lastly and very important, we try to have some educational events yearly. We are scheduling a "visit with the FAA" on Thursday, May 15, and Bob Avery has generously offered the use of Avery Tools, Hangar #111 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Topics will include various issues germane to Hicks Airport and air safety.

We need a good presence as these folks are hard to book, have the latest information and are in a position to help us be an even better airport. We will have some eats and drinks so come join us, please!

Help us to keep our airport safe and friendly.

Regards,



*Visit with the FAA*

Join us May 15th at Avery Tools Hangar 111 for a questions and answers meeting with the FAA on many subjects concerning the safe operation of our airport. Enjoy snacks and drinks on the house.

***BE THERE!!! 7PM-9PM***

Cover Photo by Ron Sinclair (actually, every photo in this newsletter by Ron Sinclair)



# In the spotlight

By Ron Sinclair

The Congressional Medal of Honor, **the single greatest honor a soldier can receive...** Those very words alone invoking thoughts of incredible heroism in the face of certain death. Since the introduction of the Medal of Honor in 1861, there have been 3447 recipients. A large number of those were awarded posthumously.

One Hicks Field pilot has been doing his part to honor those recipients for the last two years with the organization of a flight of captured and exploited former communist bloc aircraft. Former A-10 Warthog pilot Lt. Col. Mike Bruno (right photo) leads a flight of Russian Yak 52s and Nanchang CJ-6s over the City of Gainesville's annual Medal of Honor Parade each year to make the event a memorable one for eleven of **the 105 surviving MOH recipients.** I've been lucky enough to act as Mike's co-pilot/photographer these past two years and **feel it's time to shed a little light on those** that take the time and expense to make this event special in the hearts of our bravest soldiers.



Mike Bruno: HAPA Member, Yak Pilot, & American Airlines Captain



Since 2001, the City of Gainesville has organized a parade honoring these men. The only city in the country to do so annually. Many do **not realize that Gainesville is the nation's only Medal Of Honor Host City** until they notice the distinctive blue and white, star spangled ribbon emblazoned on the city's water towers. We all enjoy Gainesville's fine airport from time to time, but there's more to this town than cheap fuel and a nice FBO. The City of Gainesville supports General Aviation (GA) in many ways, including hosting the annual **Antique Airplane Association's state wide event.** It's nice to know that GA gives back to the city and those men of valor.

The event has grown in popularity each year. Last year four Yaks and Nanchangs made the trip with one T-6 Texan and two Cessna Birddogs. This year, upon landing at GLE, I was amazed at the sight of five T-6's, three Cessna Birddogs, a Vietnam era Huey helicopter and five Yaks and Nanchangs! Hearing ten radial engines running at one time is something you won't soon forget.



Yaks & Nanchangs lined up, ready to Honor our Heroes

A few of the more able-bodied Medal of Honor recipients always come out to the airport to personally **thank each of the pilots participating in the fly over. I can't describe the feeling that comes over you** when you shake the hands of these true American Heroes, men who have been to hell and back for our country and flag- thanking **us...**



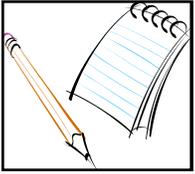
***Six recipients of our country's highest honor pose before a T-6 on the GLE ramp***

Local GA airports & pilots from all around North Texas support this worthy cause, here is just a few of those who help make this a memorable event; The T-6s are all members of the Phoenix Escadrille Formation Flight Team, and consist of Phoenix 01 Steve Dean of Gilmer, Phoenix 02 Mark Case of Hidden Valley Airpark, Phoenix 03 is Scott "Gunny" Perdue of Bourland Field, Phoenix 04 is Carl Best from Plano, and Phoenix 05 is Tom Martin of Aero Country. Unable to participate in the Gainesville formation this year is Phoenix 06 Jason Railsback based at Lancaster's CAF hangar.

The Yak formation team is made up of members of the Red Star Pilots Association and consist of Lead Pilot, Mike "Mustang" Bruno of Hicks Field, Jim "Shankeroid" Shanks of Northwest Regional, Forrest "Flush" Johnson in third position and Missing Man also from Northwest Regional, Jon "Crash" Boede from Lancaster in fourth position, and Jim "Blue Four" Bernier of Granbury in fifth position.

Three Cessna Birddogs also participate and cap off an impressive display of military aircraft from around the world. The three Birddogs pilots are Tom Schad of Gainesville, Fred Mooney of Northwest Regional, and Steve Trotter, also from Northwest Regional. At the time of this writing I was unable to find the name of the Huey pilot. He had quite an impact on the Viet Nam vets present.

Hopefully, this event will continue to be a tradition, and hopefully next year will be even better as our North Texas aviation community pulls together to honor these larger than life men.



# HAPA Board of Directors

## March Meeting MINUTES

*By Stuart Davis, Vice President*

A regular meeting of the Hicks Airfield Pilots Association Board of Directors was held in accordance with the association's declaration and bylaws. Board Members and Officers attending were Gene de Bullet, Stuart Davis, Ted Kelso, Coy Surles, Stephen Ramsey, John Unangst, Jim Usher, and Don Browning attended via conference call. No one was absent. Also present were HAPA member, Taxiway Repair Chairman Mike Olson, Airport Safety/Security Chairman Larry Partain, and Carol Moran, representing PMG.

### Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 P.M. by President, Gene de Bullet.

Gene suggested that we postpone the reports for our guest speaker Gary Wilson of Oncor Electric Delivery to give us an update on what Oncor has been doing on Hicks Airfield. Gary gave the current status of the electrical survey and the legal requirements behind correcting the current electrical line setback violations around the airport. He also gave us the issues behind the two options available, either taller poles or 100% buried lines. While the survey and cost analysis (\$1.8 million) of buried lines was complete, the survey and cost analysis for taller poles was not, **and that it would have to include the FAA's requirements for lighting on top of the poles. Most questions were centered on the impact of taller poles.** The taller poles would be 16 inches in diameter and 55 feet tall of either wood or fiberglass, or 12 to 15 feet taller than the current poles depending on location. Gary was very informative and answered many questions but did not have any conclusions to offer as the taller pole survey was not complete. The primary consideration for Oncor was cost, i.e. which one would be cheaper. Gene asked Gary to return with an update once everything was complete.

Gary also informed the Board that Oncor was planning to install a secondary feed line to the airport on the south end as a backup to the current (and only) feed line to the airport grid that comes in on the north west side of the airport. This would allow Oncor to restore emergency power to the airport quickly if anything were to happen to the current feed line and while it was being repaired.

### **Approval of Prior Month's Minutes:**

The Secretary's Report was waived due to Don Browning being out of town. Don said, via his conference call in, that he would submit the February Minutes via email for everyone's approval to put in the April Flappings.

### Reports of Officers:

Treasurer Jim Usher gave his report and after a short discussion a motion was passed to approve the report with all in favor.

Jim also reported that the IRS audit with the CPA firm went very well as did their visit to Hicks Airfield. No official conclusion was available yet but everything seemed to be fine. The official conclusion of the audit should be available soon.

### Reports of Committees:

Architectural – Stuart Davis, Chairman – Stuart reported that Hangar 101 and the empty lot north of it had been purchased by Ray Spencer with no plans to build anything new on the empty lot. Also, one of the owners of hangar 230/232 wanted to start rebuilding. Concerns of the strength of the steel beams after the fire need to be addressed with a test of the metal by a certified lab before any decisions could be made.

Electrical – Robert Avery, Chairman – Bob reported on the current 4 issues. 1) That progress was made on switching power for two runway lights and septic pumps near hangar 210 to a new meter to correct the electrical billing to HAPA, and should be completed soon by Morgan Electric. 2) The two new taxiway lights near the north end should be completed soon. 3) The lockout box for doing runway and taxiway light maintenance on the outside of the well house should also be completed soon. 4) Bids for replacing the burnt out wires on the septic tank pump near hangar 141 should be in soon and will be turned over to Jim Usher. Work on this should start soon.

Also Bob reported on the purchase price of the Safe Hit reflector posts and it was decided to get a case of 25 for the runway areas and see how they do before planning to buy anymore.

Safety/Security – Larry Partain, Chairman – Larry reported that he would be getting information from Stephen Ramsey on security services after the meeting, and look into getting that started as soon as possible. Larry also got the budgeted allotment for contracting a security service he needed to stay within.

Septic – Ted Kelso and Stephen Ramsey, Co-Chairmen – Ted reported that work on repairing broken septic lines would start this Saturday with favorable weather forecasts. Bad weather, snow and rain, had been the cause of delays in starting repairs for the previous three weeks.

South Gate – Jim Usher, Chairman – Legal ownership of the south entrance property is still in debate with Stabach Properties (BNSF representative) still claiming they cannot determine who owns it. Ted Kelso reported that his contact at BNSF knows which land grant gives them ownership. Tarrant County records show that BNSF owns the property too. Jim suggested that HAPA hire a title company to re-search it in the interest of pushing the issue forward.

Taxiway Repair – Mike Olson, Chairman – Mike reported that after doing a review of the taxiway conditions and repair needs he needed some guidance from the board as to the best way to proceed and what his current budget was and plans for funds in future years. After discussing the options and listening to suggestions from past asphalt repair volunteers Mike got the guidance he needed to get started as soon as possible.

Welcoming – Don Browning – No report

Social/Educational – Coy Surlles – No report

Old Business:

Ted Kelso said that the website domain name of HicksAirfield.org was available and would be secured if the domain name was acceptable. The domain name was approved and design of the new website would move forward.

Carol Moran reported that David Surratt has drafted a proposal for the ballot to vote on the License Fee as ordered by the court. Gene asked Carol to have David email or fax him a copy to review.

New Business:

Neither past President Jim Rockwood nor past Secretary Carol Burns were able to provide any information on the previous 5 year plan drafted for the FAA. Gene de Bullet contacted Steve Buchner of the FAA to find out the best way to proceed. It was determined that Gene and Stuart Davis would try to set up a meeting with Steve on April 4<sup>th</sup> and go over what HAPA needed in order to move forward with a new 5 year plan for Hicks Airport.

**Carol Moran was asked to check into and verify the insurance company's maximum speed limit requirements for the taxiways.**

Adjournment:

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stuart Davis  
HAPA Vice President  
On behalf of Don Browning



# Financial reports

-Submitted by Jim Usher, HAPA Treasurer

## HAPA Income Statement

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>February 2008</b>	<b>YTD 2008</b>
Scheduled Income		
Regular Assessments	20,754	40,102
Other Income		
Late/NSF Fees	233	456
Fines	0	25
Miscellaneous Income	0	0
Interest Income	53	147
Gate Income	91	91
Total Other Income	377	719
Total Income	21,131	40,821
<b>EXPENSE</b>		
Administrative Expenses		
Answering Service	0	0
Bad Debt Expense	65	765
Bank/Check Charges	0	5
Collection Services	(100)	(217)
Copies & Postage	2,986	3,415
Data Processing	0	315
Rental/Storage	257	813
Licenses/Permits/Inspection Fees	0	0
Meetings	0	0
Supplies	0	0
Printing	0	411
Member Relations	0	0
Professional Services		
Accounting/Audit	20	20
Legal & Professional	2,130	4,007
Management Fees	854	1,708
Taxes and Insurance		
Directors and Officers Liability	0	0
General Liability Insurance	0	0
Taxes - Other	0	0
Property Taxes	2	51
Utilities		
Electricity	1,290	3,315
Telephone	7	33
Contracts		
Courtesy Patrol Contract	0	0
Septic Field Contract	0	0
Repairs and Maintenance		
Mowing	0	0
Electrical/Lights	0	0
Fences/Gates/Walls	0	0

Equipment/Tractor Repairs	0	0
Sign Repair	0	0
Pavement Repairs	0	0
Plumbing	0	0
Septic Field Repairs	200	1,500
Gas/Oil	0	0
Other Expenses		
Misc. Expenses	0	0
Capital Improvements		
Airport Drainage	0	0
New Taxiways, Repairs/Patching	0	0
<b>Total Expense</b>	<u>7,710</u>	<u>16,140</u>
<b>Net Income/(Loss)</b>	<u>13,421</u>	<u>24,681</u>

*BALANCE SHEET—HAPA As of February 29, 2008*

**ASSETS**

Current Assets

Operating Cash - PMG F A Bank	135,966
Runway Fee Reserves - PMG CAB, Countrywide & FAB	1,207
Operating Cash - BOD Justin State Bank Cash-MM-Beal Bank Beal Bank Clearing Account - PMG	2,138 19,156 0
Total Cash	<u>158,468</u>
Accounts Receivable*	43,415
Total Current Assets	<u>201,883</u>

Other Assets

Prepaid Expenses	0
Total Assets	<u>201,883</u>

\*Note:

Assessments less than 30 days	7,401
Assessments 30 - 90 days	5,291
Assessments over 90 days	30,723

**LIABILITIES**

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	0
Prepaid Assessments	60,560
Accrued Expenses Payable	0
Total Current Liabilities	<u>60,560</u>

Other Liabilities

Collection Cost/Other Escrow	4,736
Total Other Liabilities	<u>4,736</u>

Total Liabilities	<u>65,296</u>
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**OWNERS' EQUITY**

Reserves	
Deferred Maintenance Reserve	21,818

Equity	
Retained Earnings	90,088

Total Owners' Equity	<u>111,906</u>
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Net Income/(Loss)	24,681
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Total Liabilities and Owners' Equity	<u>201,883</u>
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# Fly Ins & Outs

-  Saturday, May 3rd—Abilene, TX. Dyess/Abilene Big Country Airfest and Air Race Dyess Air Force Base (DYS) 0800-1500, 150 NM Cross Country Air Race for all classes, experimental and factory. Sanctioned by the Sport Air Racing League. Pilot brief mandatory-no brief, no race! Because we use a military base, pre registration is required and access will be granted by the Air Force. No last minute registrations will be accepted. Contact Mike Thompson for info(512)838-0779 127.1 NM
-  Saturday, May 3rd—Waco, TX. EAA Chapter 59 Breakfast McGregor Municipal Airport (PWG) Pancakes and Sausage every 1st Saturday from 7AM till ? 86.9 NM S
-  Saturday, May 3rd— La Grange, TX. EAA Chapter 1347 Central Texas Squadron Monthly BBQ Luncheon (3T5) Come out and see some airplanes, talk to some pilots & eat good BBQ! Suggested donation of \$7.00 Contact Skip Caldwell 972-242-4056 182.9 NM S
-  Saturday, May 10th — Bowie, TX. Free Brunch for pilots & crew every weekend before the second Monday each month. Also free transportation to the Trade Show/Flea Market. (OF2) 9:00AM-11:00AM 44.2 NM NW
-  Saturday, May 10th— Lufkin, TX. EAA Chapter 1219 & Angelina County Airport Fajita Fly-In (LFK) Every 2nd Saturday 10.00-2-00 Discount fuel for fly-ins. 169.3 NM SE
-  Saturday, May 10th—Granbury, TX. EAA Chapter 983 Spring Fly-In Pecan Plantation Airport (OTX1) 0900-1500 Come join us for lunch and share your pride and joy for more info, contact Doug Crumrine (817) 573-1220 37.1 NM S
-  Thursday, May 15th—Addison, TX. Parade of Pistons Addison Airport (ADS) Come out and compare most of the new piston aircraft displayed by manufacturers and dealers, including exciting new LSA and high performance piston singles and twins. Buyers Resources (tax advisors, finance specialist, insurance agents and brokers) will be available to answer your questions. To learn more and see a list of the exhibitors visit [www.paradeofpistons.com](http://www.paradeofpistons.com) 10 AM– 5 PM 29.0 NM E
-  Saturday, MAY 17th— Tyler, TX. Tyler Composite Squadron Pancake Breakfast & Fly-in Tyler Regional Airport (TYR) Pancake breakfast and Fly-in every 3rd Saturday at CAP hangar 8:00AM–11:00 AM Contact Lt. Col. Louis Thomas 903-561-4764 107.3 Nm ESE
-  Saturday, May 17th—Grand Prairie, TX. Wings Over Grand Prairie Grand Prairie Municipal Airport (GPM) Fly-In held by the Civil Air Patrol and will take place at Aviator Air Center. Sponsors include CareFlight, the EAA, Van Bortol, and the City of GP. Faa Wings seminar, AOPA and Air Safety Foundation door prizes and handouts at the Safety Briefing. There will be flight contest and a hot dog lunch. It is Armed Forces Day, and the military will participate in a Salute To Armed Forces. 9:00 AM-3:00 PM Contact Lindy Jackson for more info (972)988-8609 23.1 NM SE
-  Saturday, May 24th—**Ranger, TX. Ranger Airport's Annual Memorial Day Fly-In** (F23) The 3rd oldest and most original airport in Texas. See a hangar with a brick floor! Amelia Earhart herself visited here. Two well maintained grass runways. Antiques, Classics, Warbirds, Homebuilts, ALL are welcome. RSVP requested. 9 AM-4 PM Contact Jared Calvert (254) 433-1267 70.3 NM WSW
-  Saturday, May 24th— Eastland, TX. Eastland EAA Chapter 956 Annual Fly-In Eastland Municipal Airport (ETN) This will be the first Fly-In at our new location in Eastland which has an excellent 4020' paved runway. All aircraft are welcome (even helicopters) Door prizes and a fish fry are part of the fun. RSVP's welcomed at (254) 379-1311 77.1 NM WSW

 Saturday, May 24th—Hobart, OK. Wild Hog Fly-In 2008 Hobart Municipal Airport (HBR) 2nd annual fly-in and pancake breakfast. Air Force jet on display, Original Flying Tiger pilot to sign autographs, CAF aircraft, National Guard aircraft along with Private aircraft on display. Tractor Show, Auto Show, and RC demos. Locally trapped Wild Hogs on display! Firemans BBQ, Prize Drawings, Airplane Rides, and much more. 8:30 AM-5:00 PM Contact Norman Preston for more info (580) 752-4005 148.1 NM NNW

 Saturday, May 31st—Liberty, TX. Hope Flies BBQ Benefit Fly-In Liberty Municipal Airport (T78) DPS Trooper Jamie Neault and wife, Catrina, gave birth to two baby girls, Hope and Faith on Feb. 5th. Faith did not survive; Hope weighed 1 lb at birth. Today she is nearly 3 lbs. and is in Texas Childrens Hospital. The DPS Officers Association is sponsoring a benefit fly-in for the family to help with enormous medical expenses. Come join us for a great lunch, sign the Hope Quilt, and bid on silent auction items, including tail wheel training, and a helicopter photo tour. More info soon with our new web site [www.libertyairport.org/hopeflies](http://www.libertyairport.org/hopeflies) 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM Contact Linda Street Ely (281)734-0330 220.4 NM SE

 Thur-Sat June 5th-7th Bartlesville, OK. 22nd Annual Biplane Expo Frank Phillips Field (BVO) The worlds largest gathering of Biplanes. Exhibits, Museum Complex open to public, Type club gatherings, Seminars, Aircraft judging, Biplane rides Contact Charles W Harris, Expo Chairman (918) 665-0755 Virgel E Gaede, Expo Director (918)336-3976 240.1 NM NNE

Fri-Sun, June 6th- 8th—Mountain View, AR. South Midwest Ercoupe Fly-In Wilcox Memorial Field (7M2) A gathering of Ercoupe enthusiast for a weekend of fun activities. Contact Larry Snyder (634) 234-5954 316.7 NM NE



## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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**FOR CONTINENTAL (TCM) ENGINES AT ANNUAL OR 100 HOUR INSPECTION  
(Or any time a suspect cylinder is in doubt)**

TCM Service Bulletin SB03-3 states: "TCM requires a cylinder bore scope inspection be accomplished in conjunction with the differential pressure test." (This is NOT an FAA mandate.) With the development of recent bore scopes, this inspection becomes an excellent tool that will affect your decision on a suspect cylinder, regardless of engine manufacturer.

**We have a solution: a bore scope based here at T67.**  
For an appointment please call  
**Jim Usher @ 817-236-7506 or Robert Read @ 817-439-0757.**



# Your May 2008 FI appings!

*The Official Newsletter of Hicks Airfield Pilots Association*



## Notices:

- If you would prefer *NOT* to receive a paper copy (and view FLAPPINGS online at [www.T67.org](http://www.T67.org)) please send an email to Melana Sinclair at [hapa\\_asst\\_sec@yahoo.com](mailto:hapa_asst_sec@yahoo.com)
- We are continually updating the online version of the HAPA membership directory. If your info needs updating please email Mike Reddick at [michaelreddick@yahoo.com](mailto:michaelreddick@yahoo.com)
- **If you haven't yet provided an email address, please do!** We would like to be able to contact as many **HAPA** members as possible via email
- This is YOUR newsletter- Please submit articles, pictures, thoughts, etc to Ron Sinclair at [flappingseditor@yahoo.com](mailto:flappingseditor@yahoo.com) by the 15th of the month.
- If you have an issue and would like to address the HAPA BoD during a Board meeting, Please contact Gene de Bullet, Stuart Davis, or Don Browning.
- *Visit with the FAA- Safety Seminar, Thursday May 15th, at Hangar 111, 7-9pm, refreshments provided*

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