

WINDS ALOFT

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Newsletter of EAA Chapter 790 December 2010

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DECEMBER'S MEETING

On the agenda for our December 28th general meeting are a potluck dinner, white-elephant gift exchange, and some very good visiting. Bring a dish to pass along with any wrapped white-elephant gift. It all starts at 7 PM at the Barrington Public Library.

PRESIDENT ELTON'S MESSAGE

As we look back on 2010, it's been a good year for Chapter 790 with a lot of different activities that made it a fun year to be a chapter member. Now, I hope everyone is getting ready for the next event, our Christmas Party at the Barrington Library. What could be better than to eat and talk Flying! We're also having a "white elephant" gift exchange, so bring a wrapped gift for this event.

This meeting is also an excellent opportunity for you to bring others in your family that would not normally come to the meetings. This could also be a good time to bring a friend that would enjoy just meeting new friends in the aviation field. Only thing you need to do for the party is to remember to bring a dish to pass! Come around 7:00. I'm looking forward to seeing you there and having an enjoyable evening.

Elton

TWO WORKSHOP VISITS PLANNED

February 12 Home Workshop Visit to Paul Ranieri's Glstar workshop at 10 AM. Paul has the wings and tailfeathers finished, the fuselage well along, and is getting close to engine installation. His instrument panel is finished and is quite glassy. A map to Paul's house in Palatine will be in the January newsletter.

March 19 Home Workshop Visit to John Peroutka's Cozy Mark IV. John is building a Cozy Mk. IV at his home in Algonquin.

ANNUAL BANQUET

The date for our annual banquet is set for February 26th, once again at the marvelous Crystal Lake Country Club, 721 Country Club Road, Crystal Lake. The cash bar and visiting will open at 6 PM. Dinner will be served at 7:15.

Dennis Fitch will be our speaker. He was the dead-heading pilot who manned the throttles on the ill-fated DC-10 that crashed at Sioux City Airport. The regular flight controls had been rendered inoperative by the disintegrated center engine fan stage, and the throttles on the wing mounted engines were the only control they had. You might recall that Dennis is suffering from brain cancer and had to cancel his presentation last year; this year he is doing better and Dennis always gives a very dynamic and moving presentation.

The choices are Prime Rib of Beef for \$37, a Chicken dish for \$30, and Chamomile Scented Salmon for \$30. Included are salad, rolls and butter, vegetables, potatoes (or wild rice for the Chicken and the Salmon), Tiramisu dessert, and tea or coffee. Clip and send the coupon to Lon Danek along with your check. Tax and gratuities are included in the listed amounts.

If you'd like to see an interview featuring Dennis, click on [Dennis Fitch Interview](#).

CHAPTER ELECTIONS

Elections for chapter officers will be held at the December 28th meeting. The slate is as follows:

Elton Eisele, president
Ole Sindberg, vice-president
Lon Danek, treasurer
Open, secretary

If you have an inclination for the position of secretary, please call Ron Liebmann.

THANKS FROM DON

Don Jenerick would like to thank Chapter 790 members for expressing condolences for the loss of his wife of many years, Lois, and for the flowers sent on behalf of Chapter 790.

DEBRIEFING – NOVEMBER'S MEETING

November's guest speaker was Andy Meyer, chapter member and Illinois Air National Guard pilot. Andy regularly flies a KC-135 and told how air-fueling intercepts and rendezvous are accomplished. Several of his PowerPoint tips for all of us armchair tanker pilots: "Fighters – easy – they'll find ya if you're where you're supposed to be. Enroute – be on time at the point and don't screw up."



After flying F-16s and being on the other side of the boom, you might not think Andy would consider the KC-135 much of a performer. However, the upgraded KC-135 with an EW of 120,000 pounds and 88,000 pounds of thrust has achieved several time-to-dimb records.

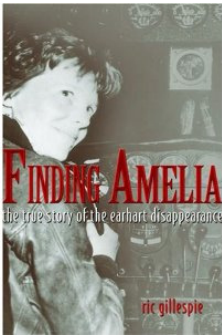
Many thanks to Andy for flying his Long-Ez from Indiana to give us this presentation.

BOOK REVIEW

Finding Amelia by Ric Gillespie

You might have heard recently several artifacts possibly belonging to Amelia Earhart and Fred Noonan have been discovered on Gardner Island in the south Pacific. Finding Amelia presents very excellent evidence of what might have happened to the flight, and even after 63 years following scientific evidence, the trail is quite warm.

The book sifts through various bits of evidence that range from mean-spirited evidentiary hoaxes all the way to a young girl in Florida operating a shortwave radio who quite likely heard Amelia's desperate attempts to contact the ship *Itasca* as fuel ran low. It brings forth the strong possibility that during the final takeoff the lower fuselage antenna wire was ripped loose, making radio communication on the long-range radio impossible.



Far from another "pet theory" book, the author knows what's he's talking about – he's done many years of research and more recently has lead search expeditions to islands in the Pacific in search of evidence. This book is a fascinating technical drama for anyone with an inclination to look past the popular crash-and-sink theory and consider the likely possibility of a landing on a tiny, sweltering, windblown island in the Pacific.

Write your own newsletter book review. Send to mike.perkins@rauland.com.

SAFETY CORNER – TAKEOFF CONTINGENCIES

I am a fan of custom checklists. I guess it started while renting airplanes; I'd see various items scribbled on the checklist for the aircraft's particular radio configurations and other easily-forgotten items. After being caught off-guard a few times by things that could have been done before departure, I came to the conclusion that there's no checklist that's too good.

Last month's safety moment was about adding a checklist item for deciding what to do if you experienced an engine failure during a takeoff roll or early climbout. During the presentation, I mentioned the possibility of turning back, which started the discussion down a different path. As good as it was, it didn't leave much time for getting back to the topic, so here's how I would like to have finished.

Naturally the engine is very stressed at take-off. So is the pilot. He or she is thinking about other traffic, correcting for drift, maintaining attitude and airspeed, and perhaps reconfiguring flaps and landing gear. My point was very simple. A few moments of consideration to engine-out prior to run-up might make a big difference if the engine decides at that moment to give you a handful of trouble. I've added three checklist items prior to run-up:

Plan Contingencies

1. Plan – Pre-rotation abort procedure
2. Plan – Post-rotation engine-out landing procedures.
3. Plan – Return to airport criteria.

It is so easy these days to use a computer to create a custom checklist, there's no reason not to have your own, even if you fly several rentals. Purposefully-considering a faltering engine before each departure is worth a few moments, isn't it?

- Mike Perkins

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

No minutes were kept at the informal board get-together at Nancy and Larry Blazyk's house in Crystal Lake. The hors d'oeuvres and liberating spirits were excellent as usual. Many thanks go to Nancy and Larry for hosting us.

OVERHEARD

Unknown Pilot #1 (on guard frequency): Hey, Greg. Are you up?

Unknown Pilot #2: You're on guard!

Pilot #1: Really?

Pilot #2: Really.

Pilot #1: Well, so are you!

George Bora via e-mail from AvWeb

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EAA Chapter 790 Annual Banquet Reservation
February 26, 2011 at the Crystal Lake Country Club

Name: _____

Spouse/Guest: _____

Menu Choices:

Member	Guest	
_____	_____	Prime Rib of Beef (\$37)
_____	_____	Bistro Chicken (\$30)
_____	_____	Chamomile Scented Salmon (\$30)

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____
(Make checks payable to "EAA Chapter 790")

Send To: Lon Danek
C/O EAA Chapter 790
PO Box 1206
Barrington IL 60011

Pre-meeting Checklist

- ✓ **Name Tags**
- ✓ **Article(s) For The Newsletter**
- ✓ **Program And Outing Ideas**

The Newsletter is always looking for interesting articles and pictures by our chapter members. If you have written anything or would like to write something or have pictures that you believe would be of interest to the chapter members, please submit what you have. The newsletter staff prefer that you e-mail your articles to michael.perkins@rauland.com or trlegates@comcast.net. We prefer text written in Microsoft Word, however, you may submit the material any way that is easiest for YOU! We also accept hand-written copy, floppy disks (IBM format), Zip disks (IBM format), and CD's. Bring your article to the meeting or mail it to Mike Perkins at 17787 Sherwood Forest Rd, Havana, IL 62644.

EAA CHAPTER 790 2011 Dues Payment

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I would like to receive the newsletter by U.S. Mail _____ Email _____ (Check One)

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 \$10 Out of state (Email Only) **\$10.00 Student**

*Part of your dues payment may be used
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Thank you for your support

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TO:

