



**NAME  
THAT  
PLANE**

**CLUB OFFICERS**

**PRESIDENT  
AL NODORFT**

5013 High Meadows Dr.  
Grovetown, GA 30813-8149  
706-955-1049

EMAIL: [Nodorft@hotmail.com](mailto:Nodorft@hotmail.com)

**VICE-PRESIDENT  
SID BROWN**

1447 Paradise Rd.  
Wrens, GA 30833-4313  
706-814-8853

EMAIL: [sid@thesidbrowns.com](mailto:sid@thesidbrowns.com)

**SECRETARY  
JOHN MAGNAN**

1616 Mosley Chapel Rd.  
Wrens, GA 30833-3905  
706-547-3607

EMAIL: [jcm2@earthlink.net](mailto:jcm2@earthlink.net)

**TREASURER  
DON BUSH**

3076 Old Waynesboro Rd.  
Hephzibah, GA 30815-6791  
706-554-5618

EMAIL: [donr.bush@yahoo.com](mailto:donr.bush@yahoo.com)

**CLUB DIVISION LEADERS**

**TECH COUNSELOR/EDITOR  
FLIGHT ADVISOR**

Aldine Patton  
706-738-2228

EMAIL: [aldinepatton@bellsouth.net](mailto:aldinepatton@bellsouth.net)

**TECH COUNSELORS**

Eddie Booth  
803-232-0088

EMAIL: [planefolk2@bellsouth.net](mailto:planefolk2@bellsouth.net)

Pierre Smith  
478-625-7453

EMAIL: [pierrejs@bellsouth.net](mailto:pierrejs@bellsouth.net)

**YOUNG EAGLES CO-COORDINATORS**

Sid Brown

EMAIL: [sid@thesidbrowns.com](mailto:sid@thesidbrowns.com)

Dan Scukanec

EMAIL: [dscukanec@knology.net](mailto:dscukanec@knology.net)

**LIBRARIAN  
Joe Miles**

**EAA 172 DOUBLE ACE**

Lt. Col. Philip Eddy Colman  
December 1, 1921 - April 28, 2011

**PEA PATCH & CLUBHOUSE**

**61GA 122.7 mhz**

4511 Boulineau Rd.  
Blythe, GA 30805-3605  
706-592-7244

**EAA172, Inc. WEBSITE:**

[EAA172.jcmservices.net](http://EAA172.jcmservices.net)

**e-mail: [EAA172@jcmservices.net](mailto:EAA172@jcmservices.net)**

**February, 2012**

**PRESIDENT'S DESK**

**Al Nodorft**

I am happy to say a lot of Club business went much better this year. We are finishing our membership drive and we accomplished it with a lot fewer errors than last year. Our retention rate is good and I appreciate everyone's support.

Our finances took a very positive turn as well. You can find the annual summary later in the newsletter. You may recall, we raised dues by \$5, started paying per plate for the meal, and have selected a cheaper, but still delicious meal plan. Finally, we have been saving postage by emailing the newsletter. These changes have made a tremendous difference in the financial health of the organization. We are not anticipating any more changes in the next year as we see how this plays out.

At the last meeting I spoke a bit about my trip to the Just Aircraft Company located in Walhalla, SC. I had provided some videos and business cards which were all taken. If you did not attend the meeting, but would be interested in such an aircraft, the company is willing to bring a demonstrator to one of our meetings. Company Website is: <http://www.justaircraft.com/news.php> If there is enough genuine interest I will invite them down.

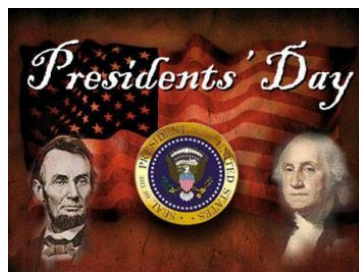
Valentine's Day is coming up and I think back to one of our better ones, at least for me... We were still living in Wisconsin and I rented a plane and we took another couple with us to Milwaukee for dinner. After the dinner the controllers let us fly around the city after dark to look at all the lights. It was great fun. Planned for it other years, but the weather never allowed it.

***Humor***

A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport. After it reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom, "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, nonstop from New York to Los Angeles. The weather ahead is good and, therefore, we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax... OH, MY GOD!" Silence followed, and after a few minutes, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier. While I was talking to you, the flight attendant accidentally spilled a cup of hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!" A passenger in Coach yelled, "That's nothing. You should see the back of mine!"

***February Meeting***

The next meeting will be on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Food will be a chili cook-off. The cooks will be the Rhodes, Sheila Connell, Virginia Bush, Jim McBurney, and Steve Thompson. After the meal our guest speaker will Al Newman telling us about his experiences during WWII.



Fly safe!

*Al*



## Minutes of the Meeting for EAA Chapter 172 January 14, 2012

Before the meeting 44 members, their families, and visitors enjoyed delicious Green Chili prepared by Don Murphy. The Aerospouses set out the side dishes. Five planes flew in. We welcomed visitor Hank Williamson, a guest of Frank Christian. At 12:26 PM Al Newman gave the invocation and everyone enjoyed the meal. Club President Al Nodorft called the business meeting to order at 1:07 PM. Al thanked Don for preparing the chili. Al welcomed visitors. He also reminded members about the club dues for those who have not yet paid.

*Old Business:* Richard Fender moved to accept the minutes for the last meeting. Don Bush seconded the motion and it was approved.

*New Business:* Al Nodorft gave a very interesting report about his visit over the holidays to Just Aircraft in Walhalla, South Carolina. They produce kits for the Highlander LSA (Light Sport Aircraft) at a very reasonable price. Just Aircraft also offers an “in house” build plan at the factory. Al talked about their light plane work and suggested that if we wanted, someone could give a presentation to us about their aircraft.



Members were asked who could participate in the chili cook-off for the February 11th club meeting. A couple members volunteered. Al asked if there were more volunteers to contact him or Sid Brown.

Don Bush talked about the next South Carolina Breakfast Club meeting which would be at Lake City Municipal Airport (51J) Evans Field, Lake City, South Carolina, on January 22nd. The next EAA 172 eat-out would be January 26th at the Mt. Vintage Plantation Restaurant, North Augusta.



**Al Nodorft talking about Just Aircraft.**

President Nodorft presented Chapter Service awards for 2011 to Newsletter Editor, Flight Advisor, and Tech Counselor Al Patton, Tech Counselor Eddie Booth, Vice President & Young Eagles Coordinator Sid Brown, Treasurer Don Bush, and Secretary and Web Editor John Magnan. Secretary Magnan presented the Service award to President Al Nodorft.

**Secretary Magnan presenting Service Award to Al Nodorft.**



Al Newman moved that the business meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded by Richard Fender and the business meeting adjourned at 1:19 PM. Members then stayed to listen to Joe Miles talk about his P-51 Mustang “adventures” during the Korean War.

*Program:* Joe Miles gave a vibrant recounting of his P-51 experiences in the Korean War. He discussed in detail his 120 missions in the P-51, including 101 combat missions. See more about his exploits in a separate article.

There was also a Board Meeting after the regular meeting. During that meeting a modification to the 2012 EAA 172 Calendar was made changing the Wrens Fly-in date from May 12 to June 9. Also the Board discussed the current club finances and the possibility of member name tags.

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DUES NOTE: IF YOU PAID THE 2012 DUES BY DECEMBER 31, THE DUES WERE ONLY \$30! AFTER THAT DATE THE DUES INCREASED TO \$40.

***MAIL YOUR DUES TO DON BUSH – ADDRESS ON THE FIRST PAGE.  
MAKE CHECK OUT TO “EAA 172”***

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**The meal for Saturday (February 11) will focus on chili. Please bring some side-dish or salad or a sweet (cake, pie, rolls, cookies, etc.) that will enhance the meal for your fellow club members. It seems that lately there have not been as many side-dishes as at past meetings. Having a wide selection of sides at a meal certainly embellishes our club fellowship!**

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### **Words of Wisdom From Aviators**

An old pilot is one who can remember when flying was dangerous and sex was safe.

Airlines have really changed, now a flight attendant can get a pilot pregnant.