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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**  
DAVE DENT

5478 Hereford Farm Rd.  
Evans, GA 30809  
925-337-0115

EMAIL: [davedent@comcast.net](mailto:davedent@comcast.net)

**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**

**FLIGHT ADVISOR**  
Pierre Smith

478-625-7453

EMAIL: [pierrejs65@yahoo.com](mailto:pierrejs65@yahoo.com)

**TECH COUNSELOR**  
Dave Dent

925-337-0115

EMAIL: [davedent@comcast.net](mailto:davedent@comcast.net)

**YOUNG EAGLES COORDINATOR**

Nandi Shetty

706-414-1340

EMAIL: [airnandi@gmail.com](mailto:airnandi@gmail.com)

**MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR**

Ronna Hiltz

203-710-4300

EMAIL: [ronnam501@gmail.com](mailto:ronnam501@gmail.com)

**MEDIA COORDINATOR**

Sandy Walther

610-470-7212

EMAIL: [sandywalther@yahoo.com](mailto:sandywalther@yahoo.com)

**EAA 172 FOUNDER**

Aldine "Al" Patton - "Baldo"

February 21, 1923 - December 9, 2015

**PEA PATCH & CLUBHOUSE**

61GA 122.7 mhz

4511 Boulineau Rd.

Blythe, GA 30805-3605

**EAA172, Inc. WEBSITE:**

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

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

February, 2017

President's Desk

Al Nodorft

Hope all have been enjoying our relatively warm winter this year. I just got my airplane back from the avionics shop. I had ADS-B installed now to take advantage of the government rebate. I was most worried about getting the validation flight profile correct so the government would accept it. Guess I did everything right as they confirmed the installation was working correctly. One feature of ADS-B is the traffic awareness. It worked on my way home to keep me out of the path of a Cirrus that I likely would not have seen. Also had a new engine monitor installed which is much nicer than having all the engine instruments way over on the RH panel. Now I need to find places to fly!

I am trying to take stock of the tools the chapter owns. Secretary John Magnan has a good list, but a few tools are in parts unknown. Things that we are trying to locate are: aircraft scales, floor standing drill press, and air compressor. Probably these things were loaned out several years back and just sitting in a corner of someone's hanger. Please let me know if you have one of these items and if possible can bring it back to the Pea Patch shop. In a little bit I would like to publicize the tool list that our members can borrow for their projects. Thanks!

Our club house is in need of a deep cleaning. We will have a cleaning day on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am. We would like around 10 volunteers, so please consider it and let me know.

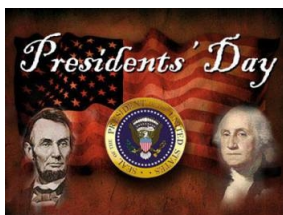
Normally I am near the head of the food line and get anything I want. Last meeting I was working on getting the projector working and went through last. I was surprised that there was very little left, especially in the way of sides. I am guessing that this is a common experience for those at the end of the line. Please consider bringing sides if you don't currently and if you already do - thank you.

Media Coordinator Sandy Walther has taken time to create an EAA 172 chapter [Facebook page](#). Perhaps she can tell more about it, but if you are on Facebook please look it up [*see above right*] and share it with your friends.

The February meeting is on the 11<sup>th</sup> and we will be having soup. Our guest speaker will again be our Vice President Dave Dent. He will continue his story regarding his work with Burt Rutan as well as tell about another aircraft project that was going on simultaneously. If you were there last time you know this will be worth attending. With luck we will be able to see pictures this time as well.

**Fly Safe!**

*Al*



## Minutes of the Meeting of EAA Chapter 172 Members for January 14, 2017

### Chili Cook-off

The weather was warm under cloudy skies with the temperature in the mid-70s. There was some rain around 1:00 PM. Five planes flew in. Before the club get-together, 42 members, their families, and visitors enjoyed socializing and camaraderie in the comfortably cool clubhouse. They looked forward to sampling various chili dishes brought in by club members. At 12:40 PM Sid Brown gave the invocation and everyone enjoyed the excellent chili recipes prepared by five club members. The chili dishes included plain chili, deer meat, mild chili-Mac, “good old chili,” and traditional chili with beans. Club president Al Nodorft welcomed visitor John Sullivan, a neighbor of VP Dave Dent. Members sang “Happy Birthday” to George Weiss while he was being presented a cake for his 90th birthday.



President Nodorft asked for a vote approving the minutes of the December 10th meeting. The members approved the minutes unanimously.

Virginia Bush said that our next social eat-out for EAA 172 will be on January 26, 2017. It will be at the French Market Grille, 425 Highland Ave, Augusta, Georgia. Frances Weiss requested that for each meeting all members should consider helping out setting up for the meal as well as cleaning up afterward.

Al Nodorft discussed having soup for our February 11th meeting. He asked for volunteers to bring in a favorite soup. Among the volunteers who might be able to share their soup recipes with us next month were Dave & Carol Dent, Charlie & Sheila Connell, Harry & Bonnie McGahee, Carl & Sandy Walther, and George & Frances Weiss.



Bibiana Christian, née Falatova reminded everyone that now that she is married to Ed Christian her name is officially Bibiana Christian.

There was a discussion about meeting times – 10:00 AM, 11:30 AM, 12:30 PM or whenever. Al Nodorft indicated that having a meeting at 12:30 PM cut too much into a person’s other planned activity for that day. Others said that a 10:00 AM meeting should be called a brunch rather than a breakfast or lunch. One said that the meeting time should change to coincide with the change of time from standard time to daylight savings time and back which happens in March and November. After more deliberation the members decided that April through August would have a 11:30 AM meeting time. September through March would have a 12:30 PM meeting time. These times would change for special events such as Young Eagles rallies and fly-ins.

A vote was taken to choose the best chili recipe at the meal today. There was a three way tie: #1 plain chili, #2 deer meat chili, and #4 “good old chili.”

Then we had a very interesting program in which our newly elected club vice-president Dave Dent talked about his experience in working with the building of unmanned air vehicles (UAVs). He related information about his work at the [Sandia Laboratory](#) on the [UAV Raptor project](#). At Sandia the Raptor Demonstrator high-altitude, long endurance, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) program was conducted under a contract from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory to [Scaled Composites, LLC](#). Dave was working for Scaled Composites along with Burt Rutan. Dave talked about the methods used to produce the Raptor starting with a model produced with a sophisticated 3-D printer. He showed us one of the models. He then related to us many vignettes of developing the large prototype, the construction of a 16-foot propeller for the 100 hp, highly modified Rotax engine, and its testing by putting the assembly on top of a large van. He told us about having a test pilot ride on the normally “unmanned” aircraft to take over if something went wrong. In 2004 Dave Dent and Burt Rutan were included in a [Group Achievement Award](#) from NASA “For outstanding success in pioneering uninhabited aerial vehicles and their associated systems.”



Our Chili Cook-off, meeting, and presentation adjourned at 2:25 PM.

BOARD MEETING: 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Before the meal the officers met and decided to have soup for the February, 2017 meeting. The officers approved the purchase of a video projector for our meetings. They also firmed up more of the 2017 calendar. One scheduling problem remained - whether we would have the March 11th meeting at the Pea Patch or Daniel Field. Vice-president Dave Dent is working on contacting Augusta Aviation personnel about this. Treasurer Don Bush shared that so far 58 members had paid their 2017 dues. He might be getting about 15 - 16 more dues payments by the next meeting.