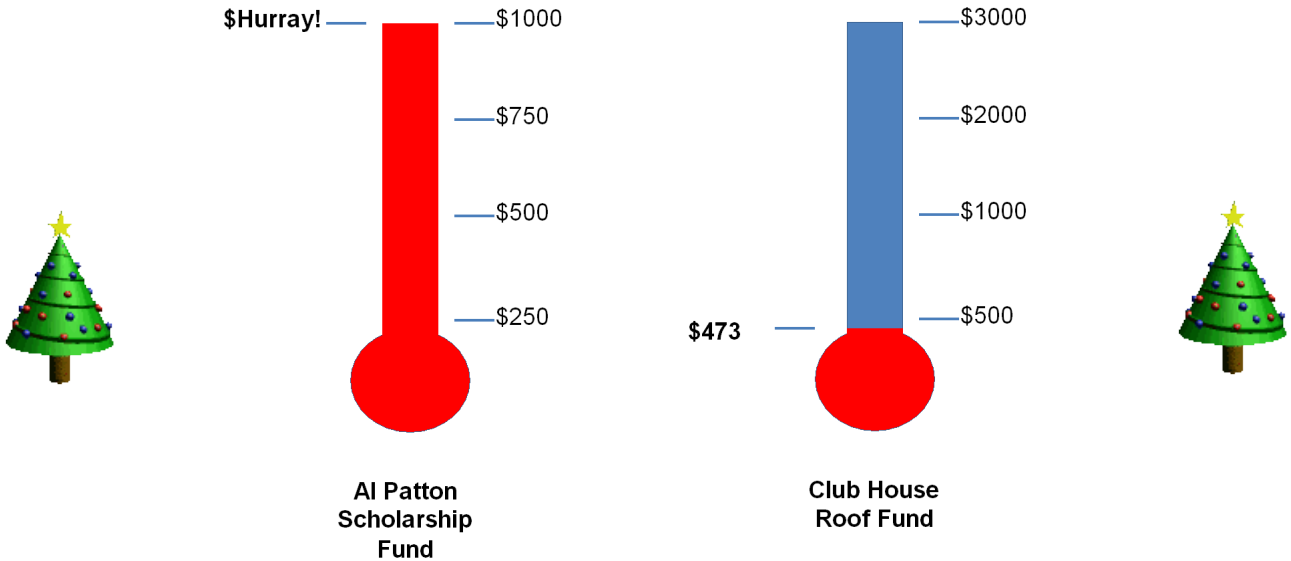


FUND RAISING STATUS

Many are already aware that we have two fund raising efforts going on: 1) Al Patton Scholarship and 2) roofing fund. We do solicit funds from those who attend the meetings, but most of our members cannot make all the meetings. I appeal to you also for support of these two funds. Please consider writing a check for whichever you want to support and send to Club Treasurer Don Bush (address is on the front page). Remember when writing checks, please make them out to **EAA 172** only. Other fancier titles only get us in trouble with the bank. I will be communicating our progress monthly as we move toward our goals. Again, thank you very much for your support! *Al*



Saturday, December 4: Christmas Party at the Hacienda De Gay

Don Gay is holding a Christmas Party at his house (Hacienda De Gay - 7GA3 CTAF 122.9). Food will be served starting at 5:30 PM. This will give time for those who also will be at the club Christmas Party earlier in the afternoon. The Filipino/American Association Choir from Augusta will be singing Christmas Carols starting at 6:30 PM. Remember to land coming in over the pond on runway 17, **NO MATTER WHAT THE WIND DIRECTION IS!** The runway is grass, 2000 feet long, and is 75 feet wide but has an open space of 100 feet on each side of the runway. The airstrip, starting at the pond edge, has a gradual incline for about 500 feet, then tapers off to a slight incline to the opposite end. After landing, taxi back down the runway to the pond and someone will guide you to parking. If no one is there, taxi between the little "outbuilding" and the pond to the parking area. The runway is located two miles EAST of Garfield off paved highway county number 289.

GPS coordinates are: 32 39.82'N / 82 04.47'W. Elevation is 300 feet and the CTAF is 122.9.

Land directions: If coming into Garfield from Millen on Highway 23 go into Garfield and turn left (east) at the signal light. Go through Garfield up the hill. At the top of the hill turn left on Augusta Road. Follow that road for a mile or so until you see 6250 Elam/Airstrip Road (or may be called Don Loves Langga Airstrip Rd.) -- Turn left there and follow the runway to the house.

EVERYONE IS INVITED! BRING YOUR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND GUESTS.

Come enjoy the food, friends and camaraderie!

Don's phone number is: 478-982-8526. His e-mail is: dgay.savannah@glsp.org

Member Spotlight

Sam and Pam Hart

This Month's Member Spotlight is on Sam and Pam Hart. Sam was born in Nashville, Tennessee, while his dad was still in school and his mother was working as a nurse. Sam says he grew up a city boy. Sam's father tells the story of taking his mother up in a T-6 and doing loops and rolls while she was expecting Sam. He thinks that had something to do with his long time love of flying. At that time Sam's father was flying P-51's in the reserves.

Pam was born in Aynor, South Carolina. Her father was a farmer. She grew up there on the farm while Sam grew up all over the Southeast, although mostly in Birmingham, Alabama. They met here in Augusta.

Pam has one daughter, Jennifer, who is married and living in Washington, North Carolina. They have one girl – “a beautiful little grandchild, Ashley. She is six; and we are crazy about her of course!” Sam has two children. His daughter, Betsy, is here in Augusta and working at Plant Vogtle as a Chemist. His son, Mathew, is living in Houston and is a flight controller with NASA. Sam is justifiably proud of them both.

Sam moved here to Augusta in 1989 to go to work at Plant Vogtle where he still is. According to Sam, Pam has a real job as an Elementary school Principal. “She is amazing with all of the responsibilities of her job. I would lose my mind in one day! Don't know how she does it.”

Sam cannot remember a time when he was not interested in flying. This could be a sign of a poor memory ... or a lifelong interest like many of us. His first flight (after he was born) was with his dad as a kid in a Cessna 170. He also remembers getting to go with him on business trips in a Twin Beech his company flew at the time. He was on top of the world! Sam finally got his Private License in the 1970s after getting out of school and being generally bored with everything else.

Sam joined EAA 172 sometime around 1999 because he thought at the time he could start a home-built project and maybe get good help and advice. But work and too many other things got in the way! Sam thinks the EAA is a great organization, and our chapter is one of the best. “I am almost awed at every meeting to be associated with the caliber and background of the people in this group. I am old enough now to begin to appreciate the real scope of the accomplishments and the history of the members of this chapter.”

Sam has a single-engine land private rating, but has flown gliders, and once even a Lake amphibian! He has about 450 hours now and recently bought a flying RV-6A. He only has about two hours in the RV so far. The first airplane he owned was a Swift GC-1B C-125. It was so much fun he never even knew it was underpowered. He later bought a flying Varieze and flew it for about eight years until recently when it met an unfortunate demise over on Palmetto Parkway after he forgot to remove the fuel tank vent covers and encountering a power line! Sam says “You have to pick yourself up; give yourself a break, and get back in the game!” He says he was extremely appreciative of the EAA friends who stopped by to visit during recovery from that little incident. He is also a little in debt to Pam for a lot of care and understanding.

Sam's favorite thing to do with an airplane is go somewhere and enjoy the experience of getting there quick, and the pleasure of enjoying the ride. Since Sam's Dad had many hours in the Mustang, he says that would be his dream airplane ride. He says it would be great to fly one to see how that felt! Pam likes flying too, especially when the airplane can be used to cut 4 hours off of the trip to see the grandbaby up in North Carolina.

Besides flying, Sam enjoys helping Pam around the house, and home improvement projects. They both try to stay involved in church and the community. So with all that, and work, he keeps pretty busy!

