



# THE *SPORT FLYER*



December 2001

**NEW DATE AND TIME for December Chapter Meeting  
>>> West Houston Airport, Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm <<<**

**Want Back-Issues? See Chapter 774's Website at: <http://freeweb.pdq.net/gcraze/eaa774/>**

**Disclaimer:** The monthly newsletter is published by EAA Chapter 774 and provides a means of communicating with the chapter's members and other interested parties who have expressed a desire to receive it. Additionally, it serves as a forum for the sharing of ideas, opinions, and personal experiences that might be of interest to the readers. Anyone using any information, ideas, opinions, etc. included in this publication does so on their own volition and at their own risk. Therefore no responsibility or liability is expressed or implied by the officers and members of EAA Chapter 774, the editor or any contributor whose material may be included in this publication, and you are without recourse to anyone if you choose to make use of it in any form. Further, the announcement and/or listing herein of any event or activity is done only for the sole purpose of providing information and does not constitute approval, sponsorship, involvement, control, or direction of such event or activity.

EDITOR:  
Gary Craze  
7538 Ralick Ct.  
Spring, TX 77379  
281-514-1317  
[gcraze@pdq.net](mailto:gcraze@pdq.net)



**Pat's Patter**  
By Pat Fulco

Saturday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, we had our Young Eagles event and flew 62 youngsters safely. This year, in spite of the disaster of September 11<sup>th</sup> and unusual weather, we still managed to fly over 200 kids, so we should be proud of the pilots and volunteers who have been dedicated since 1994 to keeping this chapter supportive in this program. We have had new pilots and volunteers take the place of those who could not or no longer have their planes available, so the interest is still there. So thanks again

for all of you for another successful day and especially to you Woody for giving us a great place to fly and all the donations you provide.

**NOTICE: Our December meeting will be on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at West Houston Airport.** (one week earlier than normal). We are moving the meeting up one week due to Christmas so mark your calendar for December 13<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker will be Roger Hoestenbach with great words of wisdom to finish our year off. Be there !

**NOTICE: Our Annual Dinner and January meeting will be on Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at West Houston Airport** (Upstairs). Dinner will be a buffet and cost will be \$25 per couple or \$13 per individual. The ladies will be in competition for best table decoration (\$100 for best table) and we will also have some other fun things happening. Again, cost is \$25 per couple or \$13 per individual. We need to have the money in advance by January 15<sup>th</sup> for food preparation. This is always a treat for everyone so try to come and get to know your fellow members. Money can be given to me or mailed to:

Pat Fulco  
20250 Smithfield Crossing  
Katy, TX 77449  
Tel. 281-492-8450

All ladies are invited to enter for table decorations, but let me know.

Johnnie Deel called and said that Red is progressing along and would really appreciate your going to see him or mailing him a card. Johnnie's telephone number is 936-372-5105. Call for address of rehab for Red.

Still need suggestions for programs !

See you on the 13th, Pat.



**Chapter Dues Coming Up: Get an EAA Calendar !!**

Chapter dues are due at the first of the year. With your renewal is a 2002 EAA Calendar (Family Plan gets one calendar). Rick Human now has the calendars and they will be available at the next meeting. This year we have purchased some additional calendars that may be purchased for \$5.00 each while they last. (about 15 cents over the chapters cost.) Make your \$20 check payable to EAA Chapter 774.

**Send to: Rick Human 15803 Knoll Lake, Houston, TX 77095 (281)463-6769**

**TEXAS AVIATION CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

For the most current list, go to the online calendar at [www.smartcal.com/calendar/1601515](http://www.smartcal.com/calendar/1601515)

2001	DECEMBER	COMMENTS
Dec 12	Chapter 12 Meeting	Houston Southwest Airport, 7:30pm
Dec 13	Chapter 774 Meeting DATE CHANGE !!!!	West Houston 7:30pm
Dec 15	Giddings Pancake Breakfast	Giddings Airport
Dec 16	Chapter 2 Vintage Association Meeting	Dry Creek Airport 2pm

---

## From the Editor's Desk...



I had an opportunity to see my cousin over Thanksgiving. This is a rare opportunity indeed, especially at this time, since my cousin flies KC-10 tankers for the Air Force. He went to reserve status earlier this year to fly for American Airlines after serving over 10 years in the skies during times like the Gulf War and Bosnia. Fate spared him by a day in September as he was scheduled to make the same ill-fated run out of New Jersey, but was rescheduled a day later to Sep 12<sup>th</sup>. God bless the luck of scheduling and the man upstairs.

He has been given notice of pending re-activation, so he is waiting to see what God has planned for him next. Most of the air action in Afghanistan is being run from carriers so they currently have not needed much additional air tanker support. However, the ugly specter of Iraq may yet raise its head again and we might be in Gulf War II. So he continues to fly for American providing an unflagging spirit of support for tense travelers while waiting to be called up to active status, while at home he has a wife and two small children, a young daughter with Downs Syndrome and a newborn healthy baby boy. These are the types of people that go in harms way for us every day, both here in the US and overseas. Some of the nation cries out in indignation when our servicepeople fall in combat. But these servicepeople will tell you that this is their choice and they will not, can not, and that we should not, have it any other way. God bless them all and protect them. We owe them so much.

Blue Skies ! - Gary



## An Update for Sport Pilot Enthusiasts

Updated - 11/30/01 - In recent days EAA has been receiving an increasing number of telephone and e-mail inquiries wondering about the status of the sport pilot/light-sport aircraft proposal.

The latest news on the proposal is that it currently remains at the Department of Transportation (DOT) for review prior to being passed on to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for final approval. Recall that the proposal had been approved by DOT and forwarded to OMB in early July.

After reviewing the document at that time, OMB recommended that DOT and FAA amend various parts of the proposal. FAA then spent approximately six weeks refining the document. FAA Administrator Jane Garvey signed off on those changes in late September, and the amended proposal was then forwarded to the DOT for approval. To date, that is where it remains.

Obviously, the events of September 11 have changed the priorities of many facets of our society. Realistically, the DOT, FAA, and others have rightly focused their attention on returning U.S. airspace to near normal operations and making air travel safer. EAA applauds those efforts and has been an active participant in those discussions. At the same time, DOT and FAA have given no indication that their support of the sport pilot/light-sport aircraft proposal has wavered.

EAA remains committed to its goal of seeing the proposal developed into a workable rule. In fact, that goal continues to be one of the top four priorities of EAA's Government and Industry Relations staff. EAA believes strongly that the sport pilot/light-sport aircraft proposal will be a significant boost to sport aviation.

Considerable energy has been expended and continues to be expended by EAA personnel on a near daily basis in regard to this proposal, but with an appreciation of the climate under which various governmental agencies are currently operating and with an understanding of the apprehensions and perceptions many citizens have about aviation safety at this time.

EAA's plans to hold a joint meeting between industry and FAA personnel following the release of the document as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) remain in place. A final date for that meeting will not be established until the NPRM is published.

As always, we will report any movement on the issue via the sport pilot website-[www.sportpilot.org](http://www.sportpilot.org), as well as via e-Hot Line. Copies of the two EAA Sport Pilot newsletters that have been published are available on the website. The next newsletter will be published when the proposal is published as a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

Further questions regarding the proposal can be directed to EAA's Aviation Information Services Department-1-888/EAA-INFO, Ext. 4821; e-mail: [infoservices@eaa.org](mailto:infoservices@eaa.org).

---

## The Future of Aviation: Kitty Belle Nimmons -- Age 8 (from Texas AAA Nov. 2001 Newsletter)

*Introduction by Marge Richey*

I met Kitty Nimmons at Meacham Airfield on Sept. 10, 2001. She climbed out of a Culver Cadet piloted by her father, Johnny Nimmons, calmly walked across the parking area and into the pilot's lounge, paying no attention to the crowd of people sitting around on the grass and concrete, gawking at her as she passed by. The crowd was patiently waiting for "The Amelia Flight" to arrive, and Kitty Nimmons had flown all the way from Houston to meet Carlene Mendieta, the pilot. A little later I saw Kitty sitting in the pilot's lounge, quietly listening to Mendieta answer questions from the crowd. Bending down I whispered, "are you a pilot?" and she replied, "yes, and I also crew on hot-air balloons." I was intrigued. Who was this tiny little red-haired girl wearing a stylish leopard skin dress? Her dad was happy to give me all the information I needed to introduce her to you:

In Johnny Nimmons' own words, then,

"Kitty is eight years old and has been living with me in our hangar at Sport Flyers (outside of Houston) since she was three. She has always been a genuine help working on planes. In the early days, we were working on one of our airplane projects one evening and she asked me the following.... "Dad? Do you think we could buy a plane already put together?" It was hard to argue with the reasonings that she presented, so since one of our projects was a Culver, we decided to find a flying one in the meantime. The Culver V we found in Chicago is the one that earned us the Texas Chapter Antique Airplane Association "Judge's Choice" award in 1998.

"Kitty is getting very good at fabric covering and her small size makes her the natural selection when anybody on the airport needs help in small confined spaces (i.e... fuselages, behind instrument panels, etc.). She would much rather fly somewhere than drive and she loves going to overnight fly-ins where she gets to camp-out by the plane. We were eating barbecue in Dave Mason's hangar at Reklaw one year, and she started looking around and then asked me..."Do you think we will ever have a hangar this nice?" You gotta like someone who appreciates a nice

hangar!

"Living on an airport has given her the opportunity to ride in many different types of aircraft with open cockpits being her favorite choice. In addition to the Culvers, we have a replica Nieuport 17 of which she has claimed ownership (although she does let me fly it) She also really likes helicopters, but hot-air balloons are her favorite. She crews on the "Gin Runner" hot-air balloon and is very knowledgeable on setting them up and taking them down. She considers herself a skydiver since she has grown up around drop zones and because her mother was pregnant with her while making a skydive (Kitty says that counts for her, too).



"In September she was following Carlene Mendieta's re-creation of Amelia Earhart's Transcontinental Flight on the web and giving updates to her classmates at school, and one evening while looking over the map of the flight, she asked if we could fly up to Fort Worth so she could meet Carlene. I told her it was a little further away than it appeared on the map and that is when she reminded me that "that is why we have airplanes". Again it was hard to argue with her logic, so I played hooky from work and she played hooky from school. Playing hooky with my daughter that day was one of the best adventures I have ever had."

Johnny Nimmons



## AEROSHELL ANNOUNCES RECALL / REPLACEMENT OF PRODUCTS

Updated 12/04/01 - The following is the list of bottle and case identifiers for recalled Aeroshell oil products. If you suspect you have some of the product in question, first try to take it back to place of purchase it for replacement. If this is not possible, call Donna Schneidewend at 618.255.3213. If you have a technical question, call 800.231.6950. You can also visit the Aeroshell website at <http://www.aeroshell.com/recall.html> for more information and a list of questions and answers.

Product	Bottle ID	Case ID	Package
80	EWA012022310051	WR100501	Quarts
100	EWA011442610051	WR100501	Quarts
100	EWA011442610081	WR100801	Quarts
100	EWA012157211051	WR110501	Quarts
W 65	EWA0111736209201	WR092001	Quarts
W 80	EWA011609009071	WR090701	Quarts
W 80	EWA012028310081	WR100801	Quarts
W 80	EWA012022310081	WR100801	Quarts
W 80	EWA012240511071	WR110701	Quarts
W 80	EWA012157211061	WR110601	Quarts
W 100	EWA012157310231	WR102301	Quarts
W 100	EWA012322711071	WR110701	Quarts
W 100	EWA012157310221	WR102201	Quarts
W 100 Plus	EWA011943810021	WR100201	Quarts
W 100 Plus	EWA012421710231	WR102301	Quarts
W 100 Plus	EWA012448411051	WR110501	Quarts
W 15W-50	EWA011481809211	WR092101	Quarts
W 15W-50	EWA10011481810021	WR100201	Quarts
W 15W-50	EWA0118136100401	WR100401	Gallons
W 15W-50	EWC011813610051	WR100501	Quarts
W 15W-50	EWA012028610231	WR102301	Quarts
W 15W-50	EWA012357811131	WR111301	Quarts
W 15W-50	EWA012028610241	WR102401	Quarts
W 15W-50	EWA012357811141	WR111401	Quarts



**May the Peace and Joy  
of the  
Holiday Season  
be yours  
Today and Always**