

# TEXASAAA



TEXAS CHAPTER • ANTIQUE AIRPLANE ASSOCIATION • NEWSLETTER • JANUARY 2015

## HAPPY NEW YEAR YOU GREAT ANTIQUERS,

Our December meeting at the Golden Corral in Denton was a huge success with great fellowship and nearly 50 members present. Margaret Cook kept us entertained with another Christmas game, which we all struggled with. I failed miserably. Phil had a big table of door prizes and a lot of folks took home some great "stuff". Our primary agenda item was the election of our 2015 officers and we would like to welcome Lee Truitt as our new Chapter President. Also be sure to thank Gary Sublett for serving at that position for the past several years. Gary will still be on the board as the "Past President" so we will still be putting him to work. Ken and Linda Robbins modeled our new AAA shirts and they look great. Thanks Ken for keeping us in great looking threads. I wear mine to bed every night. Our January meeting will feature a Mexican restaurant in Grapevine and our February event will be at the Meacham museum, former home of the B-17. A special treat will be the CAF B-29 "Fifi" and the CAF B-24 which are both currently in that facility for maintenance and winter storage. I stopped there last week and they are indeed just sitting there, flanked by a couple of Douglas A-26 bombers and a host of other interesting airplanes. It will be another great event. That's it for now. The Chapter is doing great and we are getting ready for an exciting 2015.

*Star Price, Vice President,  
(Gary was attending his son's  
graduation from SMU  
Graduate school)*





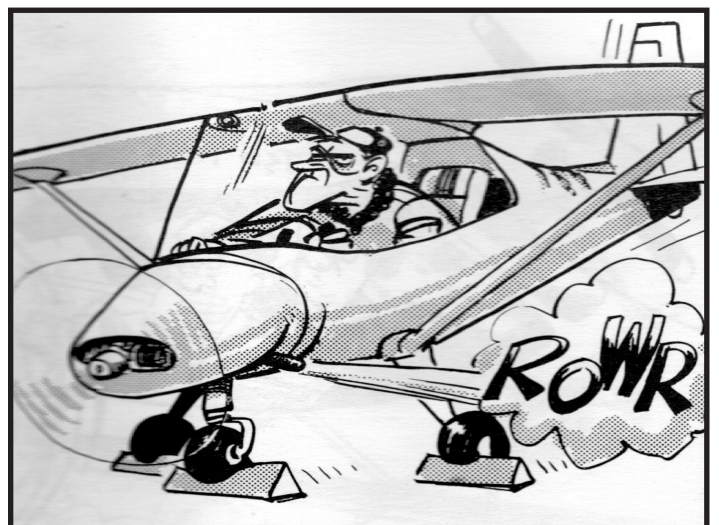
# JOETTA WINS THE FLAGSHIP BOWL!

I would like to express my thanks to Phil and Margaret for selecting me for the Flagship Bowl!

Thank you to Terry Wallace and Dick Ramsey for encouraging me to become more involved with the AAA by accepting the Treasurers position.

Thank you for the membership for supporting my family over the years. Our daughters, Schylene and Alexandria, have many fond memories following Dad around at the meetings and parking airplanes at the Annual Fly In. Schylene has also helped with Registration at the Fly In.

I am humbled to be selected for this honor. I am following many AAA members who are legendary! Thank you!



**CHOCKS** - Those funny-looking pieces of wood slipped in front of the wheels when you're not looking!

# SUBJECT: THE NAVY CARRIER BASED J-3 CUB.....

Like most red-blooded Americans, the Piper J-3 Cub was called to serve in the military. Classified as the L-4 by the Army but most commonly called "Grasshoppers," more than 4900 were used to help spot and correct the fall of artillery shells over enemy lines and otherwise help coordinate troops.

Well, it turned out that the Army needed these planes in some pretty inaccessible places, and that's where the Navy came in.



## ***The problem.....***

During the first part of World War 2, the Allies were on the defense, falling back and able to use their local airfields to house and feed their planes of all types. Then in 1943, the tide soon turned as the Allied forces in the Pacific, starting at Guadalcanal, as well as in the European theater, with the invasion of Sicily, started taking the war to the Germans, Japanese, and Italians.

It was in these invasions, however, that the Army soon realized that their fleet of small, fixed wing L-4 Pipers and L-5 Stinsons were out of service until airfields could be captured or built in these new areas. This put the generals on the ground blind and reliant on long-range reconnaissance aircraft and Navy planes to provide their eyes.

However, there soon became a fix for this in place.

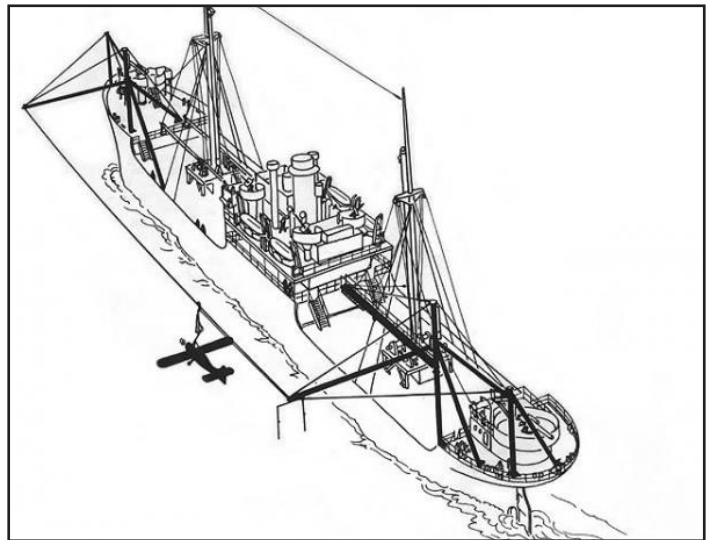
## ***The solution.....***

In late 1943, an Army Transportation Corps Captain by the name of James H Brodie was busy with a solution. Stationed in New Orleans and detailed to work supervising the loading of cargo ships with war materials, he sketched out a design for a boom and line system

with a release that could hold a small aircraft fitted with a corresponding hook along the top of the wing roots.

With the boom, a small plane (Cub!) could be lifted into the air, then the engine worked up, and, when rpms were high enough to be reasonably sure of lift, released to fly away. To land, the system worked in reverse, capturing a passing hook-equipped Grasshopper by wire and allowing it to spin down.

Of course, we all know that the Cub is a tail-dragger and to make that three point landing pilots pull the stick into their belly. However, doing this on the hook just north of that 38-ish knot stall speed took some getting used too. And if the stick was pressed forward at the stall, but not on the hook, then the pilot is going to eat dirt. So don't try this at home, kids!



The Brodie System was invented during World War II. A pilot could take off or land with the aircraft hooked to a trolley that ran along a cable. On landing, the trolley provided braking for a smooth stop. The cable and trolley could be rigged on very short jungle fields, or even on ships. This picture shows how a light aircraft could take off or land on a ship using the cable. Image Credit: National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution NASM-9A001183



In the previous picture, a Piper L-4, engine running, is ready for take-off while suspended from its cable. Image Credit: National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution Image Number: SI83-16835

This meant that by using Brodie's system, a Cub or even a larger Stinson could be launched and recovered in a very small area, without a landing strip, allowing it to operate from a clearing, a small field, or even the deck of a medium-sized ship.

### **Use.....**

The Navy had by early 1944, several hundred ships they classified as "Landing Ship, Tank." These purpose-built vessels were built to carry several hundred tons of cargo, as well as vehicles and up to 160 or so soldiers or marines into combat, landing them on the beach where giant doors would open up and spit them out on to the sand.

The Navy built so many of these ships, so fast, that they didn't even bother to name them although they were some 328-feet long and crewed by a 7 officers and 104 sailors. As such, they just had numbers, such as USS LST-16, etc.

Big blue had enough of these LSTs around that they agreed to allow the Army to use a few of them in 1944 as tiny aircraft carriers. While L4s and L5s had flown off big deck Navy carriers earlier in the war, the Navy really didn't like Army planes on their flattops, so the arrangement worked out nicely.

The idea would be that 6-10 small Cubs or Stinsons would be loaded on an LST, modified with a 220' x 16' flight deck. From the top of this tiny ersatz carrier, they would take to the sky over an invasion beach, scout out enemy locations, and call artillery strikes in on said bad guys. Once the GIs moved inland and acquired access to more real estate, especially airfields, the grasshoppers could leave their LST behind and relocate to drier accommodations.

Although some 25 "L-Bird carriers" were to be created from the teaming of Navy LST's and Army L-4s and L-5s, just eight ships received the conversion. This included USS LST-16, USS LST-337, USS LST-386, USS LST-525, LST-776, and USS LST-906. Not all of these did so and not all of these used the Brodie system.

On some ships, the Grasshoppers would take off once and land ashore at a location that

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2015

### **Monthly Meetings : 2015**

**January 17th:** El Fenix , 401 Hwy. 114 , Grapevine TX. - 12:00pm.

**February 21st:** Vintage Flight Museum, Meacham Airport, Ft. Worth. - 12:00pm.

**March 21st:** Clark Airfield, Al Hilton's hangar, Dish TX. 12:00

**April 18th:** Texas Regional Airport, Sherman, TX. Airport office. - 12:00pm.

**May 16th:** Fairview Airport, Rhome, TX. Pellegreno's hangar. - 12:00pm.

**June 13th:** Kezer Airfield, Springtown, TX. Weiland's hangar. 9:00 am brunch

**July 18th:** Pelican's Landing, Cedar Mills TX. Airport, Lake Texoma, TX. - 12:00pm.

**August 15th:** Northwest Regional Airport, Roanoke, TX. Jim Austin's hangar. 9:00 am pancake breakfast

**September 19th:** Bowie Municipal Airport, Bowie, TX. Mark and Megan Breeding's hangar. 12:00

**October 9th and 10th:** AAA 52nd Annual Fly In, Gainesville Municipal Airport, Gainesville, TX.

**November 21st:** Fairview Airport, Rhome, TX. Ken & Linda Robbins hangar. 12:00 Bert Mahon Annual Chili Cook Off

**December 19th:** TBA

★ **All meetings are covered dish except January, July, & October.**

★ **June meeting is one week early due to Fathers Day on the week ending June 20, 21.**

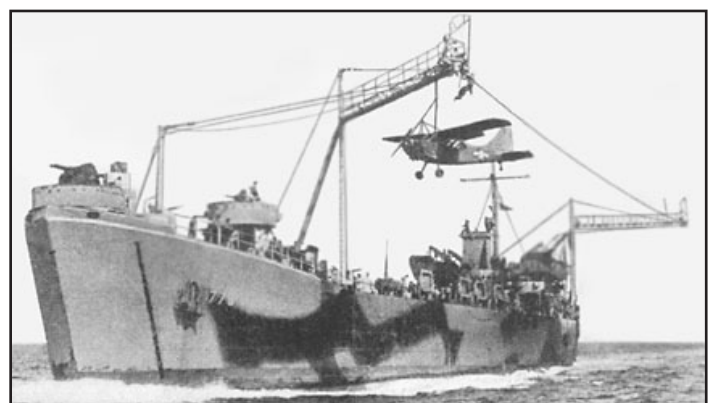
### **Fly-Ins of Interest 2015:**

**March 6 - 7:** Arizona Chapter AAA Annual Fly-In, Casa Grande, AZ.

**September 3 - 7:** National AAA Fly-In, Blakesburg, IA.

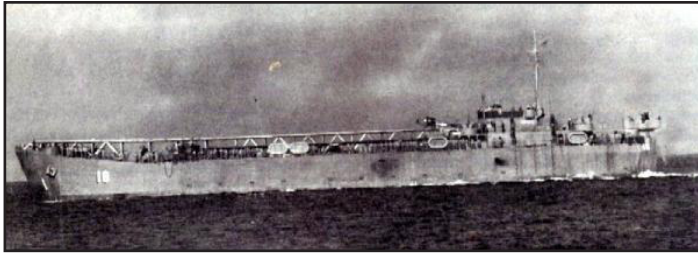
**October 9 - 10:** "Fall Festival of Flight" TXAAA Annual Fly-In, Gainesville, TX.

**October 21 - 24:** Flying M Ranch, Reklaw, TX. □



**Continued on the next page...**

had been captured and designated. While this was not ideal, it did get the small planes ashore and ready to operate rather than land them in boxes and reassemble them on the ground.



Moreover, we thank them for their sea-going service as the Army's unsung fleet of carrier-based airplanes. □

## TEXAS CHAPTER ANTIQUE AIRPLANE ASSOCIATION

### **Minutes of the General Meeting held: December 20, 2014**

The General Meeting was held at the Golden Corral in Denton Texas. The meeting was called to order at 1230 by Vice-president Stan Price. There were 44 members and guests in attendance. The attendance list is in the Chapter Records. Stan thanked Phil and Margaret Cook for planning the Christmas activities for the day.

**Agenda:** Announcements: It was announced that the next meeting will be at El Fenix Restaurant in Grapevine, TX.

**Treasurer's Report:** The December Treasurer's Report was presented by Joetta Reetz and was approved as read.

**Previous Meeting Minutes:** Minutes from the November meeting were published in the December

issue of the Newsletter and were approved as written by the members.

**Old Business:** Cups are still for sale at \$5.00 while they last.

**New Business:** Stan introduced the officer nominating committee and presented their suggestions for the 2015 officers. No other nominations were presented and the committees' choices were elected to serve in the next year.

### ***The following members were elected as officers for 2015:***

President - Lee Truitt , Vice President - Stan Price , Secretary/Website Coordinator - Terry Wallace , Treasurer - Joetta Reetz , Activities Chairman - Terry Doyle, Historian - Dennis price , Newsletter Editor - Barry Wallace

*Joetta Reetz was awarded the Chapter Achievement silver bowl and plate award for her dedication to the chapter and her hard work as the association treasurer.*

### **Door Prizes were drawn.**

**A motion to adjourn was made and seconded.  
The meeting ended at 13:10.**

*Respectfully submitted  
Terry Wallace, Secretary  
Texas Chapter AAA*

□

## HI ALL,

Our meeting in January will be at El Fenix located at 401 E. Hwy. 114, Grapevine, 817-421-1151. It is a good central location and the food is good and reasonable. (Best chips and salsa anywhere!) They will have a special menu with four dishes for 8.99. We can also order from the regular menu if desired. Stan went by and checked it out and there will be an area secluded just for us. I will try to have all the meeting locations for 2015 finalized by the end of December. □

## TEXAS CHAPTER ANTIQUE AIRPLANE ASSOCIATION Membership Application - Renewal Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Aircraft Type: \_\_\_\_\_ National  
AAA No. \_\_\_\_\_

(Ownership of an aircraft is not required)

To start or renew membership in the Texas Chapter of the Antique Airplane Association please furnish the above information and send it with \$25.00 (payable to Texas AAA) to: Treasurer, Texas Antique Airplane Association, 5209 Glen Canyon Rd., Ft. Worth, TX 76137

# CLASSIFIED

**FOR SALE:** 1 Jacobs R-755-9 245 Hp 165 Hr smoh, 1 Stearman 220 Cont. motor mount, 1 Leise Nevill 50 amp gen, 1946 Cessna 120 airframe. Contact at (940) 367-4480 Bob Landrum 1/15

**FOR SALE:** 1941 Fairchild 24, 15 hours on a 185 Warner, with an Airomantic or Curtis Reed prop. Beautiful airplane, good fabric. Asking 65K with 185 Warner or 50K with 165 Warner. Also low time Warner and Ranger engines with some accessories. Contact Ken at (314) 324-1804 1/15

**FOR LEASE:** 3 miles from Bird's Nest Airport/Austin Executive Airport off FM 973: Large workshop, 25' x 65', double doors, abundant windows for a good cross-breeze. Two separate rooms at one end for office/storage, Ideal for restoration projects, wing building, hobbies, etc. Contact Bill and Shirley Girard at Shirley@mudflap-aviation.com 1/15

**T HANGER FOR RENT:** At Clark Airport, Justin, TX. \$75.00 per month. Contact Al Hilton 972-741-4520 1/15

**FOR SALE:** Wright W-760-8 engine O SMOH 235hp \$17.5K. Curtis-Reed prop, make offer. Cowlings, Stearman seats and engine mounts..... cheap 30X5 wheels and tires, old instruments & radios for displays 40 year collection call Reb Stimson 817-343-7556 av8reb@aol.com 1/15

**FOR SALE:** (2) 0235 engine cores \$2000.00 each. G35 Bonanza \$28,500. (2) Cessna 195 projects \$20,000 for both. Pat Pockrus 940-325-5971 hillier@mesh.net. 3/15



## SEND PICTURES....

I know there are members out there that are proud of their airplane projects and would like to show them off in the news letter. Every issue we are looking for interesting articles so please send pictures and a history of your pride and joy. If you don't have an airplane baby pictures are great too!

Terry 



**Are you looking for airport properties?**

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**Maybeth Nunn, Broker**

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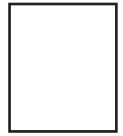
A&P / IA / FCC GROL

website: ExpAircraft.com email: Walt@expaircraft.com

Cell: 972-746-5154 FAA CRS# 1E4R827B

NorthWest Regional Airport (52F), Roanoke, Texas

Texas Chapter  
Antique Airplane Association  
2417 Stonegate Dr. N.  
Bedford, TX 76021



*“KEEP THE ANTIQUES FLYING”*

## MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

### OWNERSHIP OF AN AIRPLANE IS NOT REQUIRED.

The only Requirement is a Love of Airplanes and the Fellowship of those who share that Passion.

Membership and Dues for the Texas Chapter of the Antique Airplane Association are \$25.00 per year. Visit our Website at [www.texasantiqueairplane.org](http://www.texasantiqueairplane.org) or [www.txaaa.org](http://www.txaaa.org) for details and a printable Application Form. New Members Dues are PRO RATED, contact an Officer for correct amount.

**NOTE: Membership expires on September 30 each year. Send dues and address changes to TXAAA Treasurer, 5209 Glen Canyon Rd., Ft. Worth, TX 76137.**

The Texas Chapter supports and encourages membership in the National Antique Airplane Association.

For Information about joining the National AAA, Visit their Website at [www.antiqueairfield.com](http://www.antiqueairfield.com) or Email [antiqueairfield@sirisonline.com](mailto:antiqueairfield@sirisonline.com) or you may write:

Antique Airplane Association, Antique Airfield,  
22001 Bluegrass Road, Ottumwa, IA 52501-8569

**See a color newsletter on our website at [www.txaaa.org](http://www.txaaa.org)**



## Newly elected board members

### President:

Lee Truitt  
7 Salida Dr.  
Trophy Club, TX 76262  
(817) 600-5871  
[lee@bellaitaliabylee.com](mailto:lee@bellaitaliabylee.com)

### Vice President:

Stan Price  
3005 Creekview Dr.  
Grapevine, TX 76051  
[stanpricetexas01@verizon.net](mailto:stanpricetexas01@verizon.net)

### Secretary/Website Coordinator

Terry Wallace  
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Bedford, TX 76021  
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### Treasurer:

Joetta Reetz  
5209 Glen Canyon Dr.  
Fort Worth, TX 76137  
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[joetta.reetz@yahoo.com](mailto:joetta.reetz@yahoo.com)

### Activities Coordinator:

Terry Doyle  
2946 Oak Forest  
Grapevine, TX 76051  
(817) 488-6662(Home)  
(817) 637-8732(Cell)  
[res05093@msn.com](mailto:res05093@msn.com)

### Website Designer

Marianna Sokolich  
4308 Lavaca Drive  
Plano, TX 75074

### Newsletter Designer:

Barry Wallace  
197 Sandridge Drive  
Collinsville, IL 62234  
(618) 409-2090 (Cell)  
[wallacebarry1@gmail.com](mailto:wallacebarry1@gmail.com)

### Historian:

G.R. Dennis Price  
P.O. Box 141219  
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(512) 873-7259  
[grdprice@yahoo.com](mailto:grdprice@yahoo.com)

### Past President:

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(817) 430-1311 (H)  
(817) 791-6602 (C)  
[garysublette@charter.net](mailto:garysublette@charter.net)

### Fly-In Chairman:

OPEN

### National Director:

Joe Haynes  
4544 Royal Lane  
Dallas, TX 75229  
(214) 351-5845  
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### Texas State Director:

Terry Wallace  
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[wallacete@cs.com](mailto:wallacete@cs.com)

