



# Southwest Bonanza Society

## May 2017 Newsletter

### 2017 ANNUAL FLY-IN NEWSLETTER

**MAY 6, 2017**

By

Cam & Lorrie Gulley



We couldn't have asked for better weather conditions for our 2017 annual meeting held in Eastland, Texas. The result was that we had 28 airplanes on the ramp which made for a wonderful back-drop to the day's activities. **Whit Hickman** from ABS and Max Routh from Textron even flew down from Wichita, Kansas to be part of our day's event.

A number of members flew down on Friday afternoon to enjoy the weekend for a little longer. **Glenn and Bonnie Beavers, John and Elizabeth Hawley, Mike and Mary Kirk** joined **Lorrie** and I for dinner at Pulido's Mexican restaurant on Friday evening. I think they were all a little taken aback at how busy it can be on a Friday night in Eastland, Texas. Thankfully, we had reservations or we would have been waiting for quite a while to be seated.



Friday night dinner at Pulido's

Thanks to **Glenn and Bonnie** for serving as "hosts" at the La Quinta Inn for the Friday arrivals. **Mike and Mary (along with Bonnie)** also deserve a big "thank-you" for their help in getting things ready on Saturday morning. **Elizabeth** was the official photographer for the day and her services were much appreciated.

It was so much fun watching the planes fly in on Saturday morning as more Bonanzas than I ever remember filled the ramp. **Shirley Roberts** was the first to arrive at approximately 8:30 am in her A36 and **Thomas Fankhauser** was the last to arrive at approximately 12:00 noon in his V35. There were 24 Bonanzas, 3 Cessnas and 1 Piper in all for the day and a total of 45 members (including companions) who took time out of their schedule to attend.

I invited a friend of mine who serves on the Eastland City Commission to bring his two children to watch the planes arrive on Saturday morning. His son, Ben, brought a friend along with him and he and Conner had the good fortune of getting a ride with **Scott Gunter**. It was the second time ever for Ben to fly and first ever for Conner. Needless to say, they had a fun time.

At 11:45, we assembled the food line in the terminal building and all went upstairs with their food for the meal and meeting to follow. The meal was prepared by Double M Barbeque and included brisket, sausage, beans, potato salad, rolls and peach cobbler. All seemed to get their fill of a very tasty fare.

After lunch, we all headed outside to the upstairs balcony overlooking the field for a group picture. **Bill Smith** secured the SWBS banner on the railing as we all squeezed together for a photo.

We then cleaned the tables and prepared for our meeting which started at 12:30 pm. **Glenn** began the meeting by having **Whit** bring us up to date on the happenings at the ABS. **Shirley** then presented the annual financial condition. I read the minutes of last year's annual meeting which were approved by the membership. We discussed our involvement at the ABS anniversary event in Wichita, KS and the AOPA event in Norman, OK both of which will be in September as well as the Christmas event scheduled at Pecan Plantation in December.



**Sue Lewis** and **Konnie Sasser** were recognized as outgoing board members. **Glenn** was recognized as outgoing two-year president and presented a replica V35 in appreciation for his dedicated service.



**Jon Taylor** presented the three new board members: **Chuck Fronce**, **Wayne Lohmeyer** and **John Whitehead**. Finally, a brief discussion was held concerning bank account balances, weekend fly-in costs, and future emphasis on more educational activities (all of which will be addressed by the new board of directors).

It was quite an enjoyable day and went by way too quickly. By mid-afternoon, all had departed and the ramp was empty once again.

The day wouldn't have gone so smoothly without the assistance of Bode Zietz, our airport manager. He did a remarkable job of marshaling all the planes and even gave a discount on his posted fuel price.

Thanks to all of you who flew into our small-town airport of Eastland, Texas. We are proud of what we have and hope to see you here again soon.



John, Scott, Hallie, Shirley, Sue



Eastland Terminal Building



Shirley Roberts & Whit Hickman



Whit Hickman, Sue & Ray Lewis



Hallie & Scott Gunther





Cam & Glenn getting ready for meeting



Glenn Beavers & Jack Taylor



Lisa Clement & John Whitehead



Randy Starbuck & Cam Gulley



Pat & Ron Casey



Denise Pride & Dana Perez



Ron & Meredith Lessley



Glenn with model Bonanza & Bonnie Beavers





Walter Coppage



Glenn & Cam with Sherlock Holmes cap



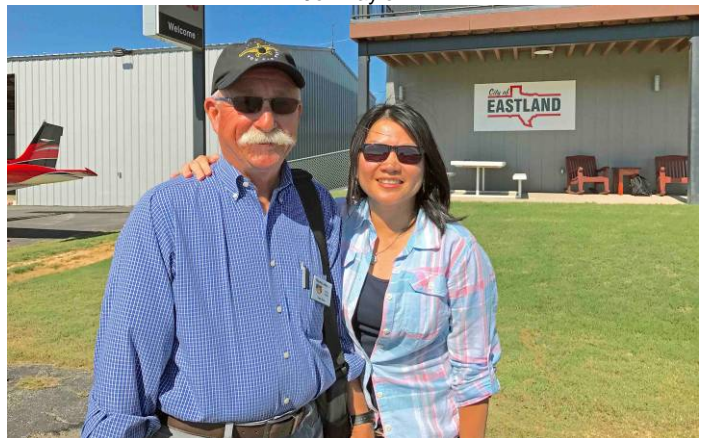
Tommy Fankhauser & Mike Barnett



Jon Taylor



Lorrie Guley with wine gift, Shirley, Sue, & Glenn



Wayne & Sceptra Lohmeyer



Glenn & Cam conducting meeting

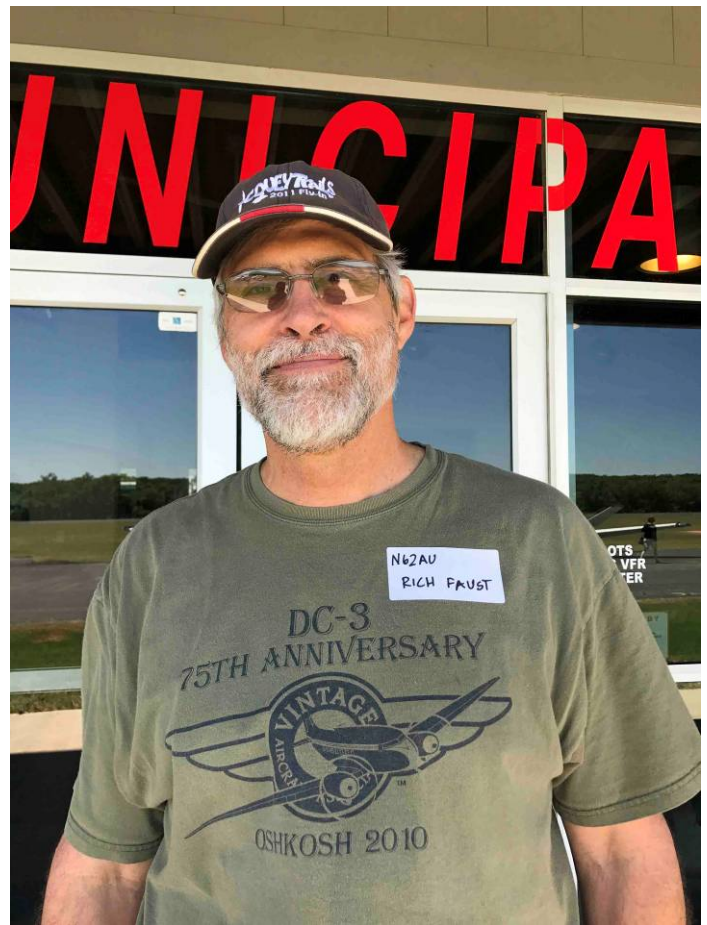


Bill Smith, Whit Hickman, Tommy Fankhauser, Mike Barnett





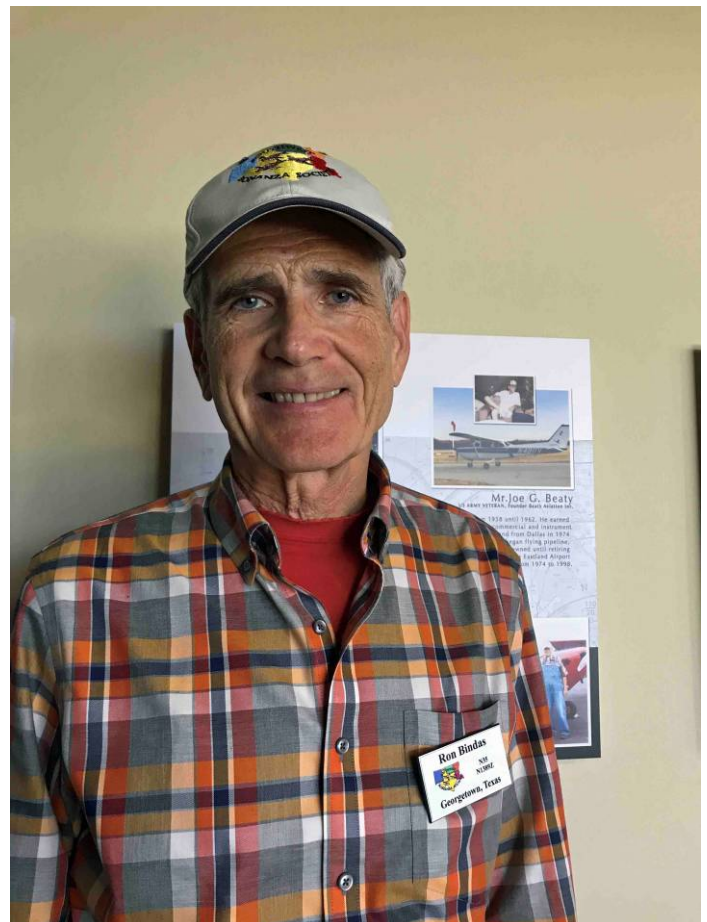
Don Jones



Rich Faust



Richard Boyd



Ron Bindas



## **NEW PREZ SEZ**

(Incoming Prez)

I cannot express enough my appreciation to Glenn Beavers, Sue Lewis and Konnie Sasser for their work and efforts as outgoing board members and officers who collectively served for 14 years on the SWBS board of directors. Their experience and leadership will certainly be missed as the new board and I carry on in their stead.

Your board for the coming year will be: Cam Gulley, president; John Whitehead, vice president; Wayne Lohmeyer, secretary; Shirley Roberts, treasurer; Chuck Fronce, director; Mike Kirk, director; and Robert Winkler, director.

Some of the issues that we will tackle in the coming months were brought up at the meetings on Saturday: (1) how to minimize the costs for future events, (2) how to be better stewards of the SWBS treasury, (3) how to incorporate fly-in events which are both fun and educational, (4) how to expand our membership and (5) how to improve our transparency to the entire organization.

To be honest, our membership has stagnated over the past few years. We need to find ways to revitalize our membership and to show better value of what the SWBS offers.

One thing that the board immediately implemented which should put more emphasis on that revitalization process was installing Konnie Sasser as "event coordinator". We hope that this liaison will help facilitate and promote future events and encourage membership involvement.

I look forward to the challenges ahead as we work to make the SWBS as good an organization as possible. I promise to be diligent and to listen courteously to all. Please be patient with us as we work for you.

Respectfully,  
Cam Gulley

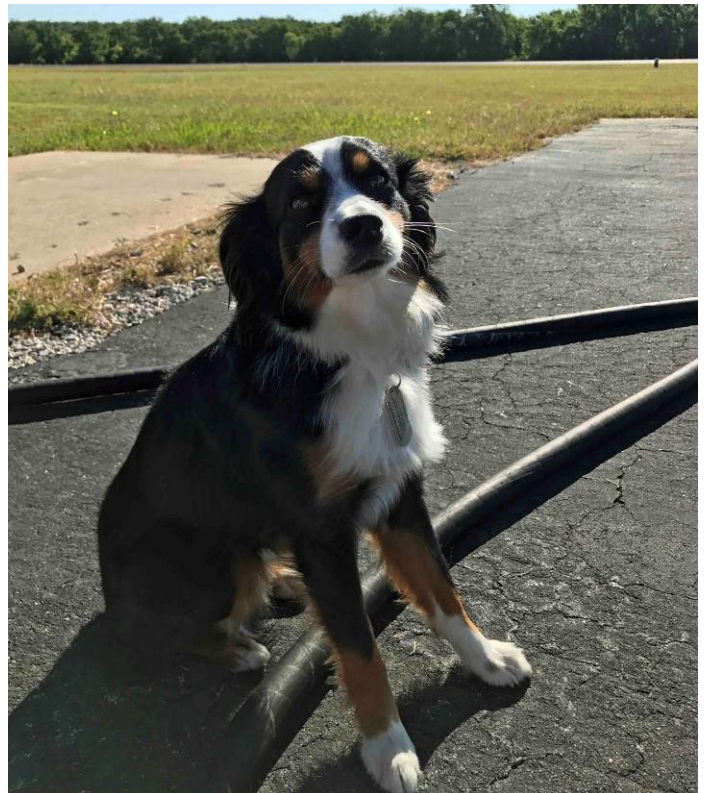
## **OLD PREZ SEZ**

(Outgoing Prez)

We had an excellent Annual Meeting at Eastland, TX Saturday May 6, 2017. Perfect flying weather, good food, great friends--an unbeatable combination. The Eastland Airport offers a runway in excellent condition with RNAV approaches, a terminal building second to none for a city this size, good service, and reasonable fuel prices. The airport dog, Flint, is one of the cutest little fellows you've ever seen, and enthusiastically greets all arrivals.

It has been a privilege to be your President for the last two years. I will miss the day-to-day operation of the Society, and the interaction I had with my Board of Directors, and the general membership. Your new President Cam Gulley is a personable, energetic, extremely capable guy. He will be assisted by some very good people serving on the Board of Directors. I am confident SWBS will be an even better organization in the ensuing months and years.

Glenn Beavers



Flint



SWBS 2017 Annual Meeting, May 6, Eastland, Texas



SWBS 2017 Annual Meeting, May 6, Eastland, Texas



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Mike Kirk - Board of Directors  
Robert Winkler - Board of Directors

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## ***FUTURE FLY-INS***

Sept 8-9, 2017 AOPA Regional Fly-In (KOUN) Norman, OK  
Sept 21-25 2017 ABS 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (KBEC) Wichita, KS  
Dec 2017 Annual Christmas Party-Pecan Plantation

## ***PHOTO CREDITS***

Thanks to Elizabeth Hawley for these nice photos



1963 P-35, Bram & Debra Johns, Katy, TX



A-36, Mark Kotnour, Granbury, TX



V-35B, Al Lavenue, Edmond, OK



A-36, Bill & Sue Halpain, Bethany, OK

# **That's All Folks**