



Southwest Bonanza Society

October 2017 Newsletter



SWBS UVALDE FLY IN

by
John Whitehead



While the event officially started on Saturday morning, several members elected to come in early on Friday just to catch up. The flight down from my home field (southwest of Ft. Worth) was pretty much in the clear but with a solid undercast all the way. Approaching Uvalde, ATC advised there was three of us converging over the airport so several had to hold overhead while I flew an approach. We broke out about 1,000ft above the airport which allowed me to quickly cancel my clearance so the next person holding could come in.

Joe and Konnie Sasser arrived right after B.J. and I allowing us to eat lunch together at the airport cafe. This Hangar 6 Cafe is quite an interesting place, decorated with wall art and photos from the beginnings of the Uvalde Airport as a WWII training base. It had an extensive menu with excellent food. After lunch we checked into the hotel and then proceeded to the local grocery to obtain items for the hospitality room. Later we ate dinner at a local diner before going to the airport to pickup Cam and Lorie Gulley.

Saturday brought another morning of overcast skies which, unfortunately caused some members to cancel. As inbound had to hold and then fly an approach, the arrivals were staggered. Once everyone was safely on the ground, we proceeded to the Briscoe-Garner Museum near downtown. We were treated to a talk on the history of Uvalde and the surrounding area presented by a docent provided by the Visitor's Bureau. She was a real treat. We then toured the museum before heading to lunch at Jack's Steak House. This is a log cabin style structure with a nice menu and good food.



Lunch at Jack's Steakhouse

Once our bellies were full we took Joe Sasser back to the hotel so he could have his afternoon nap (yes, you're exposed here Joe) while the rest of us proceeded to the retail area. OK OK ... I wanted to take a nap as well but I crumbled under pressure. The ladies quickly found a unique place with women's clothing while the men sat on a sidewalk "Bench of Shame" and waited for their retirement funds to be drained. In truth, the shopping was fun for the ladies and the men spent the time telling tall tales about how great a pilot they used to be.



Ladies shopping

Now it was time to go back to the hotel and get ready for our dinner at the Uvalde Country Club. We first gathered in the bar for about an hour before going into the dining room. During dinner, Ron Bindas presented his wife Catherine with a special made card commemorating the 40th anniversary (to the day) of her Private Pilot checkride.



Ron Bindas presenting Catherine with card

After dinner it was back to the hotel where we set up an impromptu hospitality room in the hotel lounge. It was quiz show time where Beechcraft trivia questions were asked with correct answers being rewarded with ABS logo items. After answering too many correctly, Ron Bindas was disqualified from answering any further questions. He's a walking talking library of Beechcraft history.



Jim Clement, John Whitehead, Sandy Fulton—Hospitality room

Sunday morning we met for breakfast at the hotel before proceeding to the airport for tours of two air museums and the Lancair factory. This complete, we all gathered at the airport cafe for lunch after which we all said our goodbyes and started for home. I would say the primary purpose of the gather was accomplished – to enjoy the company of old and new friends. 😊



Dinner at the Uvalde Country Club



Dinner at the Uvalde Country Club



Catherine, Bonnie, Conrad, Konnie, Glenn at the Huff Air hangar



Glenn, Bonnie, BJ, Sandy, Lisa at the Huff Air hangar



SWBS Fly In Uvalde, Tx., October 21, 2017



SWBS members at the Huff Air hangar, Uvalde, Texas



John Whitehead & Conrad Huffstutler at the Huff Air hangar



John, Conrad, Ron, Joe at the Huff Air hangar

PREZ SEZ

Well, summer has passed and in only a few weeks we'll be gathering for our Christmas event at Pecan Plantation. As an organization, we've had plenty going on the past few months. In August, a quickly-organized event to chase the total eclipse in Missouri was quite the experience. Many flew to Wichita, KS for the American Bonanza Society's 50th anniversary celebration in September. That event was very successful from an outreach perspective as we signed up 14 new members during that weekend's festivities. And, finally, we just concluded a weekend get-away to Uvalde, TX where we enjoyed the sites of the community, the Lancair factory and warbird hangars.

My schedule these days has precluded me from getting out a newsletter from the Missouri Eclipse event. In this newsletter, though, you'll find a couple of photos from that event. For those of you who made the journey, thank you for coming. A special note of thanks goes out to **Mike and Anne Parrish, Sue Knolle and Ron Lessley**. Your thoughtfulness and encouragement will never be forgotten.

The hurricane-ravaged areas of Southeast Texas touched the lives of several of our membership. We continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers as they strive to overcome the destruction and devastation from that natural disaster. I was personally overwhelmed by the outpouring of support to them by our membership. It just goes to show what a fantastic group we have that is the Southwest Bonanza Society.

Hope to see you all at Pecan Plantation on December 1st and 2nd!

Safe flying,

Cam Gulley, president
Southwest Bonanza Society

Eclipse photos from the SWBS fly in to Jefferson City, Missouri



Capitol Dome, Jefferson City, Missouri



Total Eclipse



Just past total eclipse showing the diamond ring



From left to right: Sue Knolle, Cam Gulley, Mike Parrish, Anne Parrish, Keith Rutherford, Donna Rutherford, Mackenzie Gulley (Lorrie behind her), Walt Williams, John Whitehead, BJ Whitehead, Maria Williams, Dee Williams
Not pictured:

Jon and Kacie Taylor, Alan and Betty Gillis, Randy and Rebecca Starbucks

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FUTURE FLY INS

Dec., 2, 2017 SWBS Annual Christmas Party, at Pecan Plantation (0TX1)

Feb., 23-24, 2018, BPPP weekend clinic hosted by Wayne Lohmeyer. It will be at the West Houston Airport (KIWS).

Here is the tentative plan (formal information will be forthcoming once Wayne finalizes it all):

Friday, February 23

Afternoon arrivals - Shuttle from Wyndham can pick-up as well as return and drop off participants that want to get checked in and cleaned up before party

6:00 - 9:00 PM - Hospitality party at West Houston Airport - Heavy Hors d'oeuvres and variety of beverages

Saturday, February 24

9:00 AM - 4:00 PM - BPPP Live @ West Houston Airport

6:00 - 8:00 PM - Dinner at Wyndham Hotel



Konnie Sasser & BJ Whitehead with caricature of Jonathan Goldsmith

PHOTO CREDITS

Thanks to John Whitehead, Cam Gulley, and Konnie Sasser for all the nice photos.

That's All Folks



Fly Safely