



# Southwest Bonanza Society

## April 2021 Newsletter

### SWBS NATCHITOCHESES FLY IN

APRIL 15-18, 2021

by  
Lisa Clement



One thing is for sure, the weather is one thing you can never plan on. Spring fly ins in the southern U.S. are never a given. Such was the beginnings of the Southwest Bonanza Society first weekend event of 2021 in Natchitoches, LA.

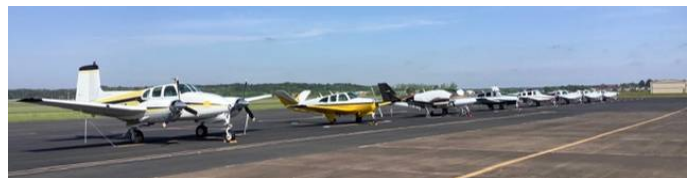
Plans were to meet Friday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at Natchitoches Regional Airport (KIER) at 3pm with 40 members and their aircraft. But the weather changed it all. With some scrambling we had 7 aircraft arrive Thursday evening. Our hosts at our 5 different Bed & Breakfasts in town were most gracious and took us all in a day early. The airport manager, Larry Cooper, and his line crew stayed late and met us. We all got stowed away safely in a hangar after being fueled and they provided us transportation to our accommodations with 2 crew cars and a pickup truck to haul all the luggage.



Driving in on Friday

On Friday the balance of our members arrived by ground some driving 4 plus hours to join us. All except our members Robert Macaluso and

Sandra Simmons who flew in between storm cells in their Twin Bonanza. Another couple joined us Saturday morning and yet another arrived just before we departed on Sunday. We all were determined to get back to something we loved, friendship and flying.



Everyone settled in to one of their Bed & Breakfasts we were staying at in Natchitoches. The Good House, Judge Porter House, Creole Cottage, Jefferson House and Rusca House were all a new experience for our fly ins. Each one was within walking distance of each other and beautifully appointed & welcoming.



The Good House B&B

Natchitoches is a lovely little town in Northwest Louisiana, the oldest city in the Louisiana Purchase. In the heart of the city is the National historic Landmark District along the banks of the Cane River. It was in this town the movie *Steel Magnolias* was filmed.

Friday was a lazy day of rain, thunderstorms and playing cards while waiting for our members to arrive. We all gathered at The Good House to travel downtown to our first

dinner of 34 members along the Cane River. After dinner we all gathered back at The Good House for a social hour and to celebrate Joe Sasser's Birthday. It was quite the surprise for Joe and a lot of fun for all of us too.



Kacie, Konnie, Nancy

Saturday morning, we all enjoyed our full southern breakfasts at our B&B's then gathered to make the short trek to the historic downtown area of Natchitoches. Many enjoyed shopping, sitting on a bench chatting with friends or learning of the history of Natchitoches with its numerous historic buildings. We were all on our own picking a place to grab lunch and it wasn't hard to find a place for a famous meat pie or bowl of gumbo. Right after lunch we all meet at the Riverfront stage area to travel to The Melrose Plantation and its annual Arts & Crafts festival. Many members toured the plantation building and grounds while other enjoyed looking at the 70 plus craft booths. The Melrose Plantation was founded in 1796, so there was a lot of history to learn. Some members choose to try out the Cane River Brewing Company for tastings in a refurbished cotton gin building. The evening found us all heading to Lake Sibley for dinner. Great friends, Great food and plenty of conversation with the bonus of a beautiful sunset over the lake.



Sunday Morning as always was bittersweet as we gathered for our traditional group picture before heading back to Natchitoches regional Airport. Time to say good-bye to friends and start our trips home until out next SWBS adventure.



Dinner at the Maglieux Friday night



Dinner at the Maglieux Friday night



Dinner at the Maglieux Friday night



Dinner at the Mariner Saturday night



Dinner at the Mariner Saturday night



Dinner at the Mariner Saturday night



Breakfast at the Good House



Breakfast at the Creole Cottage



Brewery tour--Boyd, Glen, Nina, Jon, Randy, Rebecca



Brewery tour—Rebecca, Asst Brewmaster, Randy, Glen, Nina, Jon



Brewery tour—Rebecca and Glen



Lisa making announcement—Cam, Lisa, Ron, Kacie



Hospitality room—Glen Beavers & Jim Clement



Cam Gulley, Ron Bindas, Ron & Espi Nelson



Hospitality—Steve, Jay, Jon, Robert



Richard, Anita, Nancy



Konnie, Bob & KK Powers



Cathy, Robert, Mary, Bonnie, Kathy



Hospitality—Jon, Robert, Sandra, Cathy, Joe



Randy, Konnie, Jim, Bob, Nina, Steve



Jay, Jon & Kacie Taylor



Mike Watson taking bags to airport helped by Espi Nelson



Mike Kirk & KK Powers



Nina Proctor & Anita Watson



Bonnie Beavers & Kathy Burris



Jim Clement



Lisa & Jim Clement, Cathy, Konnie, Nina, Ron Bindas



Richard Faust



Jay Burris



Ron & Espi Nelson



Lisa Clement—Fly In sponsor & President



Bonnie, Nina, Anita



Jon & Kacie Taylor



Mike Watson was kept busy driving a van and hauling bags



These signs were displayed in front of each SWBS B&B



SWBS Natchitoches Fly In April 15—18<sup>th</sup> 2021

## PREZ SEZ

This is the first newsletter of 2021. Again, it's been a tough year for fly ins and large gatherings. That being said we have as a board planned some smaller one-day lunch events and some combined with an in-person board of directors meeting. They have been well attended and it appears our members are ready to catch-up with friends.

We just finished our 1<sup>st</sup> weekend gathering in Natchitoches, LA and it was very successful despite the weather not cooperating. Read all about it in the article in our newsletter. A special thanks to Mike Watson, Ron Nelson, Glenn Beaver and Joe Sasser for transporting our members.

The board continues to look at new opportunities to promote the SWBS and find new ideas for events both social and educational. We hope to have more weekend events later this year and have some one-day fly ins already on the calendar. Please check our website for new and fun things coming soon.

Our Annual meeting is the next on the schedule. It is May 8<sup>th</sup> 11-3pm at The Clement home & hangar at Bourland Field(50F) in Cresson, TX. We will have members parking aircraft and transporting to our ramp. Walking is also an option as it is not a long distance. We will have a BBQ luncheon catered by Rooster's BBQ of Cresson. After lunch we will hold our Annual meeting and update all attending of the plans for the SWBS future. After which members are welcome to gather and visit while the Board holds their Executive meeting to choose the new officers for 2021-2022. We do have two directors retiring this year and we would like to thank Chuck Fronce & Shirley Roberts for there years of service and dedication to the SWBS. Our two new directors will be introduced at the meeting, Mike Parrish and Randy Starbuck.

We are looking forward to seeing as many of you in the next year as possible. Please plan to join us on one or more events planned for 2021. Here's to a better and safe 2021 with fun, friendship and flying our goal!!

Fly safe,  
Lisa Clement, President  
SWBS

## Officers & Directors

Lisa Clement- President

[lisadclement@gmail.com](mailto:lisadclement@gmail.com)

Mike Watson-Vice President

[mikewatson85@gmail.com](mailto:mikewatson85@gmail.com)

Ron Nelson – Secretary

[renflyr@yahoo.com](mailto:renflyr@yahoo.com)

Rich Faust-Treasurer

[rich.faust@coveytrails.org](mailto:rich.faust@coveytrails.org)

Members at Large

Shirley Roberts  
Chuck Fronce  
Konnie Sasser

Boyd Proctor-Newsletter Editor

[boydproctor@att.net](mailto:boydproctor@att.net)

## ***FUTURE FLY INS***

May 8, Annual meeting Clement home & hangar 50F  
June 12, Lunch and BOD meeting Gate 12 College Sta  
July 26, Gathering at B2OSH tent, Oskosh North 40  
Oct 13-16 Tullahoma Beech Party

## ***PHOTO CREDITS***

The Newsletter photos were contributed by Lisa Clement and Boyd Proctor



This beautiful paint job belongs to Ron Nelson

## **SWBS Annual Meeting**

Clement Home & Hangar  
Bourland Field Airport

May 8th  
11am-3pm

Lunch at noon: catered BBQ  
Annual meeting 12:45-2pm, followed by an executive board meeting.

\$14 per person paid in advance will be refunded *only to members who attend the meeting*. All members and guest/spouse/companion who plan to attend must register by April 30th.

Airport code: [50F](#)  
CTAF/UNICOM Frequency: 123.00  
Runway: 17/35 (4049' x 60' good asphalt)

We will have aircraft parking attendants and transportation to the Clement home/hangar at:  
118 Citation Drive  
Cresson, TX 76035

Lisa: 303-807-2115  
Jim: 303-596-8838

Gate Code is #1977 for anyone driving. We will have directions for car parking as we get closer to the event.

Please provide your N-number and expected arrival time when registering.

## **Fly-in for Lunch & BOD meeting**

College Station (KCLL)

FBO, Astin Aviation

Landing fee waived for Av gas or restaurant purchase

**Gate 12 Bar & Grill**

Noon-3

This is a casual get together for anyone who would like to get together for lunch.

Everyone is on their own. Just thought it would be fun to try a new place.

We would like a tentative head count to give the restaurant.

Looking forward to seeing you there!!

***THAT'S ALL FOLKS***