

# HIGH FLIGHT

LAKEWAY AIRPARK

JANUARY 2007



## MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

Happy New Year!

As I write this we are finally getting a good rain. Maybe the grass seed I threw on the hill 2 months ago will finally sprout.



Jeff Klaas  
Airpark President

The Airpark contributed \$10,000 to the ASOS project at Lago Vista. We do not have a time line for the station to be operational. The goal is to be able to receive the station on the ground at Lakeway.

The Airpark improvement list was extensively discussed at last months meeting. We went through all the proposals and discussed priorities. A run up turnout on the north end was the clear favorite. I walked out there for a look. We have plenty of space on the west side that is reasonable flat already. The next step is to figure out how big it should be.

Thanks to the following gentlemen for doing ramp checks the last month: Ken DeBower, Terry Priestap, and Chip Freitag.

My calendar says the next workday/ meeting is January 13. See you there.

Jeff

## ISABEL & CLINT BEACHAM

New members of the Lakeway Airpark are Isabel and Clint Beacham, who live on Mariner in Lakeway. Clint grew up in Houston and Isabel in San Antonio. They met going to school at the University of Houston and have been married for thirty three years. They have two children, ages 29 and 26, who live in the San Francisco Bay Area, where the Beacham's lived for sixteen years. Clint and Isabel moved back to Texas four years ago and settled in Lakeway. They enjoy entertaining at their home on Mariner, boating on Lake Travis, scuba and recently, they've gotten back to aviation flying "Tweety", their yellow Cardinal RG. Isabel and Clint bought "Tweety" in Placerville, California near Lake Tahoe. With the instruction of Kim Clonts and the logistics support of Donna Klaas, they flew the Cardinal back to Lakeway in October. The trip was truly an adventure with stops in Palm Springs, Phoenix, Tucson and beautiful Ft. Stockton. Watch for Isabel and Clint in the "Tweety" around Lakeway, but try to ignore the long and multiple landings while Clint gets to know the airpark.



## The Toilet Bomb

### An example of the wit and wisdom of Naval Aviators

#### USS Midway VA-25's Toilet Bomb

In October 1965, CDR Clarence J. Stoddard, Executive Officer of VA-25 "Fist of the Fleet", flying an A-1H Skyraider, NE/572 "Paper Tiger II" from Carrier Air Wing Two aboard USS Midway carried a special bomb to the North Vietnamese in commemoration of the 6-millionth pound of ordnance dropped. This bomb was unique because of the type... it was a toilet!



The following is an account of this event, courtesy of Clint Johnson, Captain, USNR Ret. Captain Johnson was one of the two VA-25 A-1 Skyraider pilots credited with shooting down a MiG-17 on June 20, 1965. "I was a pilot in VA-25 on the 1965 Vietnam cruise. 572 was flown by CDR C. W. "Bill" Stoddard. His wingman in 577 (which was my assigned airplane) was LCDR Robin Bacon, who had a wing station mounted movie camera (the only one remaining in the fleet from WWII).

The flight was a Dixie Station strike (South Vietnam) going to the Delta. When they arrived in the target area and CDR Stoddard was reading the ordnance list to the FAC, he ended with "and one code name Sani-flush". The FAC couldn't believe it and joined up to see it. It was dropped in a dive with LCDR Bacon flying tight wing position to film the drop. When it came off, it turned hole to the wind and almost struck his airplane.

It made a great ready room movie. The FAC said that it whistled all the way down.

The toilet was a damaged toilet, which was going to be thrown overboard. One of our plane captains rescued it and the ordnance crew made a rack, tailfins and nose fuse for it. Our checkers maintained a position to block the view of the air boss and the Captain while the aircraft was taxiing forward. Just as it was being shot off we got a 1MC message from the bridge, "What the hell was on 572's right wing?"

There were a lot of jokes with air intelligence about germ warfare. I wish that we had saved the movie film."



**EMBRY-RIDDLE FLEET RAVAGED BY TORNADOS**



Photo: Steve Abreu

About 60 airplanes were damaged or destroyed when tornadoes tore through the Daytona Beach, Fla., campus of Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University on Christmas Day. Two tornadoes with winds of about 120 mph tore a 100-foot-wide swath through the center of campus as a line of violent thunderstorms passed across the region.

The maintenance hangar was destroyed and there was damage to a high percentage of the fleet of planes. There is substantial damage to several buildings on campus, including the administration building, Spruance Hall, and the Student Center. The recovery is already under way and every effort is being made to have everything operational when classes resume in January -- including using rental planes for the flight line.

The school operates about 85 aircraft. The campus was closed for the holiday, and nobody was hurt. "Thank God," ERAU President John Johnson told the [Daytona Beach News-Journal](#). "It's a real blessing it happened when it did. No one was injured." A few students were staying in dormitories, but they were not hit.

**AIRPARK SOCIAL**  
**Lakeway Inn**  
**6:30 pm — Thursday—January 11th**

**AIRPARK WORKDAY**  
**Saturday**  
**January 13—8:30 am**  
**Board Meeting**  
**Immediately Afterwards**

**LAKEWAY AIRPARK BOARD OF DIRECTORS**



President.....(512-261-5996).....Jeff Klaas  
 Vice President....(512-261-4320).....Ken DeBower  
 Secretary.....(512-261-8051).....Kim Clonts  
 Treasurer.....(512-2615859)..... Roger Haney  
 Maintenance .....(512-801-9934).....Jesse Beckett  
 Member.....(512-261-3313).....Jim Anderson  
 Member.....(512-914-6682)... .....Robert White

**Committees**

Social Functions..(512-266-3227)....Bonnie Thompson  
 Web Page.....(512-261-5613).....Joe Bain  
 Newsletter.....Joann Anderson  
 (261-3313, Fax 261-3933, Yakjim@aol.com)

**FEB NEWSLETTER DEADLINE**

Please have all articles in for the February newsletter by January 25th.

**ACCIDENT IN OSHKOSH**

Submitted by Wayne Wagner

