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ALAMO LIAISON SQUADRON NEWSLETTER

*Alamo Liaison Squadron
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ALS Bluebonnet Picnic 6 May 2006

Set your calendars! For those of you with the WWII Ghost Squadron Calendars, that's the page with the P-51 Mustang on it...the date for this year's 26th Annual Bluebonnet Picnic is May 6th. Stan Pennington will be this year's official Picnic Chairman. Stan along with the picnic committee of Woody Roberts, Richard Roberts, Tiny Trendera, Gene and Sami Jensen, Casey Fox, Ryan Short, and Gib Powell have graciously accepted the task of putting on our annual fund raiser. Clean -Up Week and preparation will be April 29th thru May 5th. Please plan to come out and cut grass, wash planes, and clean the area. As most of you know, the annual Bluebonnet Picnic started at Cannon Field when Hardy and Sarah Cannon had a vision to turn an old pasture into what is now Cannon Field. Over the years, we have collected hundreds of picnic pictures for the squadrons' official "Scrap Book". One very noticeable commonality exists in each of these pictures. That is, everyone is smiling! I do mean everyone...this year will be no different. We hope you will tell all of your friends and family. Let's make this the largest gathering ever! (For more details - see the enclosed flyer.)

Elections Results

On December 31, 2005 the annual elections for the 2006 ALS Board of Directors was held. By unanimous decision, all of the 2005 board members were re-elected back to the board. Please welcome back, Henry Whitmore, Stan Pennington, Alton Kenne, and Richard Roberts. All positions remained the same. I (Ron Dennis) have agreed to remain as Leader. It is our vision to continue to grow interest in the Alamo Liaison Squadron through membership and visibility at local events. We hope to make Cannon Field an even better facility for members and the public. We are continuously looking for donations, which will allow us to eventually build an enclosed hangar/museum facility. In this way, we will be able to set up static displays of aircraft, display cabinets with story boards, and can tell the Liaison Pilots' history.

New Members

It is our pleasure to welcome the following new members to the Alamo Liaison Squadron. Ryan Short hails from San Antonio and has already been busy at work helping with the picnic. He is a member of the Army Air Forces Reenactors List who portray Army Air Forces aircrews such as the Doolittle's Raiders. Ryan has agreed to help with our web site, and has a lot of experience in web development. Next is Vincent Greene, Vincent is a retired Air Force Senior Master Sergeant who was a real Flying Sergeant. Vincent enjoys coming out to Cannon Field and said it's the best way to spend a Saturday afternoon. He personally can recall a lot of history about the role light aircraft

Inside this Issue

- 1 ALS Bluebonnet Picnet
6 May 2006
- 2 Elections Results
- 3 New Members
- 4 New Fence Line Improves
Appearance and Security
- 5 Rules and Regulations
Change
- 6 Pilot Currency Board
- 7 Annual Dues Reminder
- 8 Nose Art Needed for L-2M
- 9 ALS Web Site a Reality

played in the military. David Koehler lives just down the road about two minutes from Cannon Field. David has visited Cannon Field off and on since the mid 1980's. He is building his own experimental plane at his house, and has been diligently helping Wayne Meadows with his Champ restoration and Gene Jensen with the Cessna 170 restoration project. Rodney Claiborne is a retired army man, and former Bexar County Deputy. Rodney lives near Poteet Texas. He discovered Cannon Field through the Southlake RC Aircraft Club. Rodney has an RC Helicopter and can do things I didn't even know helicopters could do. Welcome Gentlemen! We know being a member of the ALS will be a great experience.

New Fence Line Improves Appearance and Security

The next time you are out at Cannon Field, take a moment to stop at the front entrance and look down the fence line. Thanks to Ron and Allen Powell for the great work on cleaning up the fence line and erecting the new one. Also, I want to personally thank all of those who donated money to this project to keep the cost down. Our field looks great and is now more secure. It is these types of improvements, which keep Cannon Field alive and vibrant.

Rules and Regulations Change

During the January Board of Directors Meeting, the board voted and agreed to amend the ALS Rules and Regulations. The change applies to all owner pilots who participate in ALS flying activities. The change reads as follows: Members who own their own aircraft participating in ALS flying activities and flying in and out of Cannon Field are required to have aircraft liability insurance to cover \$1,000,000 each accident/\$500,000 property damage. The member will

provide a file copy to the ALS for its records.

Pilot Currency Board

A few weeks ago, all pilots were mailed a letter requesting that they submit a photocopy of their current insurance, bi-annual flight review, and current medical. As of the January board of directors meeting, there were still several outstanding replies to this request. Let's be prudent and get this information in as soon as possible. This is imperative in the event of any liability issues.

Annual Dues Reminder

Just a reminder to please submit your 2006 annual membership dues. Remember, all donations are tax deductible and are greatly appreciated. Any donations above the annual membership fee will certainly help us to continue to carry on the ALS mission. Thanks in advance for your continued support!

Nose Art Needed for L-2M

The ALS is soliciting its membership for anyone who has artistic abilities to submit nose art for our squadrons L-2M. The art should be of the historic period of WWII and family friendly. We would like to change the current "Whispering Hope" art on the front cowling to something catchier. Please contact a board member with your suggestions. Of course, we would like to find someone handy with a paintbrush that could paint the selected art on the planes nose.

ALS Web Site a Reality

We finally have an official web site! The ALS purchased a domain name and space on a web hosting server. Here is the link: www.cannonfield.com. We hope you will find it useful.

Around Cannon Field

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to Matt Van de Walle and his wife Stephanie on their NEW BABY GIRL! Her name is TESS named after Matt's grandmother. This is their first child and we have been promised pictures are forthcoming.

SECOND L-2M WING READY FOR RIB STITCHING...

Thanks to Richard Roberts, Tommie Thompson, Henry Whitmore and Alton Kenne. The second L-2M wing on our restoration project donated by Tilman Thomas is in the pink. The men worked hard (as usual) to get the fabric on and shrunk. The first coat of Polybrush has been applied and the chalk lines have been marked for rib stitching. If you would like to learn this art, please call Richard Roberts. There are hundreds of stitches to practice at getting it right. Great job guys!

CESSNA C-170B HAS FEATHERS

The C-170B project belonging to Tiny Trenda, Gene Jensen, and Wayne Meadow now has tail feathers and has been rigged. The men have installed the windshield, put in the control panel, and are now working on the center console. The four-place tail dragger as you know, has a relative L-Bird. That's right! The C-170 has many of the same parts as the L-19 Bird Dog. It came off from parallel assembly lines at the Cessna plant. Keep up the hard work gentlemen! We hope to see the plane flying this summer.

UP COMING EVENTS

March 18 – Heritage Airfield Bi-Planes and Taildraggers Fly-In – New Berlin Texas. Visit www.heritageairpark.com for more details.

April 8th – Poteet Strawberry Festival Fly-Over - If interested in participating, please see Tommie Thompson for details. Visit www.strawberryfestival.com for more details.

SAFETY HINT!

Remember, unless you are "dead stick", you do not have to land. If it's not right, go around. It's much easier, and safer, to do it over rather than try to salvage a bad approach.