

# THE MONTHLY BARK

## OCTOBER 2008

### A MESSAGE FROM THE IBDA PRESIDENT:

Members:

Mary and I want to thank each and everyone of you for your kind words, best wishes, cards, E-mails, and certainly your prayers during my recent surgical event and hospital stay. I am home now and on the road to a full recovery although I am told it will take a couple of months before I'll feel close to normal again.

In the meantime, I will be working at my goals of walking around the block, reading, sleeping, being very kind to my nurse, and staying close to my family.

Thank you. All of you!  
Larry Flinn

### **IT WAS INDEED A GOOD DEED THAT OUR.....**

intrepid Birddoggers were performing. Kindling memories for the FAC Association at their 2008 reunion in Colorado Springs is the type of stuff the Birddog does well. IBDA member Troy Cobb, from Newport Beach, CA and Safety Director Fred Mooney, from Double Oak, TX flew their dogs to Colorado Springs to honor and participate in this fine event ( see attachment "FAC Reunion"). Numerous rides were given and untold stories were told. It was obvious that the Birddog had left a deep impression on the men that flew and worked on her in combat. Thanks guys for taking the time and effort to keep the memories of the Birddog alive.

### **SPEAKING OF GOOD DEEDS ITS NEVER TOO EARLY.....**

to place one on next years calendar. The volunteers who work the Texas State Hospitals will be honored on April 18th, 2009 at Wichita Falls, Texas. We have been asked to provide a fly-by during their ceremonies on Saturday. Anyone who works at one of these facilities and does it as a volunteer, definitely deserves our gratitude. So all of you North Texas Birddoggers put a little red "X" on the calendar and

save that date!! For any additional information and to confirm you participation please contact IBDA member Dan Kelly at [dankelly@gvec.net](mailto:dankelly@gvec.net).

**AND SEEING HOW Y'ALL GOT THE CALENDAR OUT ANYWAY.....**

there is a Veterans Day fly-in, Tuesday 11/11/08 at North Pickens Airport, 3M8, Reform, AL. They would like planes there by 0900 hours and depart mid-afternoon. For your efforts the FBO will furnish gas. Event contact is Dennis Pittman at 205/366-4511 or Sam Dawson 850/582-9667. Anytime the doggies get fed for free it sounds like a good time will be had by all!!

If your calendar goes all the way to April 24 - 26, 2009, its not to early to put the Fort Worth, Texas, Cow Town Warbird Roundup on the agenda. Free food, fuel and just downright Texas hospitality for all Birddogs flying in. Plus plenty of magnificent aircraft to share the tarmac with. See y'all there!

**AND WHILE ALL THIS STUFF IS OUT, FIND THE .....**

checkbook and invest in some great reading for those cold winter nights heading our way. Not only did the FAC Association have a fine reunion this year, they also used the opportunity to introduce a mighty fine book called "Cleared Hot". This is no little skimpy wimpy girly-man paperback novel. As a matter of fact, it encompasses 572 pages, with lots of black/white pictures, and contains 230 stories from the daring days of yesteryear when men were men, ships were wooden and women were..... well, never mind.

Just log on to <http://www.lulu.com/content/2813093> and follow the prompts. If you are asked by the prompts for a "Bookstore", type in Bob Gorman. Right now cost is \$25 US Dollars, which will increase to \$30 by the end of November. Shipping is usually around \$8. Having just received my copy, having perused it on a cold, windy night deep in the Heart of Texas with and adult beverage and trusty dog at my side, life does not get a whole lot better.

**NEED MORE TO READ????????????????**

get a copy of Cessna Flyer Magazine, October 2008! Great 4 page article on the Birddog by Walt Shiel. Lots of great pictures too. You can get a glimpse of the magazine by going on their web site at

[www.cessnaflyer.org](http://www.cessnaflyer.org) . Thanks to Jim and Dona New for bringing this to our attention.

**THE MONTHLY SAFETY MINDER.....**

this months installment is offered by our Safety Director from an anonymous source (see attachment "Groundloop"). Although offered tongue-in-cheek, the subject is very serious. Sit back, grab an adult beverage, and learn from this months Safety Briefing.

**LEST WE FORGET.....**

our monthly installment of looking at combat losses in Vietnam from 1961 to 1973 as reported by Author Chris Hobson in his book "Vietnam Air Losses";

1. O-1E 56-2494

19th TASS, 6250 TASS, USAF, Bien Hoa

2 crew, names unknown, survived

Bad weather (a constant companion to airmen in Southeast Asia) caused the accidental loss of an O-1 aircraft as it took off on a FAC mission.

2. O-1F 57-6274

6253 CSG, USAF, Nha Trang

Captain George Harold Norton (KIA)

A2C Jerry Wayne Toon (KIA)

Two airmen were killed when ordinance fell off their Birddog and exploded as the aircraft took off on an FAC mission over Quang Tri province.

**CHARACTERISTICS AND PECULIARITIES OF THE BIRDDOG.....**

This is our fine aircraft as described in an Army publication from Fort Stewart, Georgia. This months section focuses on the rear cockpit:

**Forward Visibility:**

The instructor forward visibility from the rear cockpit is very limited. Important for student to realize his responsibility for clearing the area ahead.

**Instrument Location:**

Instructor cannot see the instruments from the rear cabin

**First Aid Kit:**

Instructor cannot see the right hand fuel gauge because of the first aid kit

**Fuel Selection Location:**

Instructor cannot reach fuel selector valve, battery and generator switches or the trim tab wheel from the rear seat.

**Ignition Switch:**

Instructor cannot turn ignition on from back seat. The emergency magneto switch in the rear cockpit only turns the ignition off. The safety cover on the emergency magneto switch should not be wired down. If it is, have the wire removed before flying the aircraft dual.

**Brake Operation:**

Instructor cannot release the brakes from the rear seat. If the student applies an excessive amount of brakes in the front cockpit, there is nothing the instructor can do to prevent a nose over.

**Fouled Controls:**

If twisted the front seat lap belt attachment brackets can foul the instructors pedals and prevent application of the instructor brake and or rudder pedals.

More on the rear cockpit errata next month!!

**NOW THAT WE KNOW WHAT WEIRDNESS GOES ON INSIDE.....**

the dog, lets take a look at some fine pictures taken in Vietnam of an Army Dog. See attachment Army Dog 1 & 2 above. Thanks to Jon McLinden for sharing these great photos.

**SPEAKING OF UNUSUAL THINGS.....**

here's something for the man that truly has everything and is looking for that unusual Birddog gift. How about one each genuine Birddog sticker! Take a look at [http://stores.ebay.com/flightline-fabrications\\_aircraft\\_w0qqcolz4qqdirz1qqfsubz5528861qqftidz2qqtzkm](http://stores.ebay.com/flightline-fabrications_aircraft_w0qqcolz4qqdirz1qqfsubz5528861qqftidz2qqtzkm). Yup, you can get one of them there Birddog stickers and the next time someone tells you to stick it..... well, you get the idea. Thanks to Ken Hinks for finding this merchandise.

**NOW THAT WE ARE SPENDING SOME MONEY.....**

maybe that drippy factory quick drain on the bottom of your sump has been bugging you lately. Most of them have some seepage and will drip over time. Those of you that have simply a plug may be tired of wrenching with oil soaked arms.

SAF-AIR oil drain valves to the rescue! Apparently this company is making them specifically for Birddog drains, Model # S1014 ( 1" x 14 thread) and they are sold on a first come basis. If you have a Chief Aircraft catalog and look on page 73, item SA1000, that's pretty much what they look like. Cost for the Birddog specific units is around \$70 plus \$1.26 for postage. If your ready to take the plunge you may contact Ron Dryer at 707/546-7614 for information or call SAF-Air direct at 734/522-8360. Thanks to Ron for passing this along.

**AND WHILE THE STOCK MARKET IS PAYING Y'ALL SUCH.....**

big dividends, it might be time to stock up for Christmas. The IBDA Merchandise store is always open for business and ready to take your order. Santa says y'all been good boys and girls this year so treat yourself to some of our fine merchandise. Great books to read, apparel to wear and much, much more. Go to our web site and click on Merchandise. You'll be a happy camper on Christmas Day!!

**NOW THAT THE HELMET WON'T FIT ANYMORE.....**

it may be tough to be humble when General Aviation News does a 3 page spread on you and your dog. Yes siree, none other than Mike and Samantha (Sam) Weinfurter grace the pages of the September edition of General Aviation News. Resplendent with lots of color photo's, the orange dog is truly in the lime light. Congratulations Mike and Sam for hitting the big time. Did you say autographs on Sunday??

**THE ANNUAL RAVEN FEST IN SAN ANTONIO, TX.....**

has passed and a good time was had by all. No calls from the gendarmes, so the boys must have taken care of their own. On Thursday (10/16) and Friday (10/17) IBDA members supported the event by offering rides to the Ravens and their family members. We fielded five Birddogs and even allowed a couple of T-28's and a Duck to join us. After the flights there were lots of positive comments from the participants. Several of the IBDA members joined the Ravens for dinner and the rest is history.

**NOT TO BE FORGOTTEN IS THE CHANGING.....**

of the guard at our Editors desk. In recent months David Jester has handed the reins of the BOWWOW editorship to Steve Stires. David is still a working guy and the IBDA sincerely appreciates his diligent efforts in cranking out our fine magazine. The last couple of issues have been superb and we wish him well in his new endeavors.

Stepping to the plate is Steve Stires, whom we might say has a bit of experience in this realm. Steve has diligently edited and produced the BOWWOW since 1998 and took a well deserved hiatus from 2006 till now. As a matter of fact it was Steve's innovation that moved us from a black and white newsletter to the outstanding publication we have today. Welcome back Steve!!

Now we have the introductions out of the way, here is the same old soap box one more time. Please take the time if you have had any kind of experience in the Birddog or know something about the Birddog or have pictures of the Birddog to share them with Steve. We are not looking for Shakespeare, nor a novel the size of War and Peace. Just a simple little story telling us something related to our favorite flying machine. It will not only make the Editors job simpler, it will make our members much more informed.

**THAT'S ALL THE NEWS FIT TO BARK AT, SO BOWWOW FOR NOW!!**