



The Official Publication of Ark-La-Tex Packards

SPECIAL EDITION

October 7, 2009

The purpose of this special edition is to let our members know of several upcoming events, per a request from our President, Nelson Bates. Those events are as follows:

Fire Ant Festival and Parade in **Marshall, TX on Saturday, October 10**. Parade begins at 10:00 a.m.

Also in **Marshall on the 10th** is the monthly Cruise Night from 5 pm to 9 pm. Several of our members attended this during the past two months and enjoyed it. There is special parking for our cars and it's a good time to show off those Packards and enjoy the camaraderie of fellow antique car collectors.

October 24th – Regular meeting of Ark-La-Tex Packards at the Gregg Historical Museum in downtown Longview at 12 noon! Please make every effort to attend this meeting and be thinking of names you may want to put in nomination for next year's slate of officers. My suggestion is to retain the current officers, if they are willing, as they have done a good job this year. The floor will be opened to nominations at this meeting. If a consensus is reached voting can either take place this month or at the November meeting with installation of officers at the December meeting.

In November, our club will have TWO events from which to choose; hopefully, you can participate in both of these. The first is the **Gilmer Air Show, scheduled for November 7th**. Information on this event follows on the next two pages. The following weekend will be the joint tour with the Houston Club, dates and information to follow when Wendall Spreadbury advises. Nelson Bates indicated the tour would be **November 12th through 14th**. Further information will be in upcoming newsletter, after the October meeting.

Also attached is the Kilgore Chamber of Commerce & Visitors Bureau's press release listing the activities in Kilgore for the month of December. Not listed is the date for the **Christmas Parade** which will take place on **Tuesday, December 1st**. Participants are to arrive at 5 p.m. with a scheduled start time of 6:30 p.m. The entry fee is \$25.00 for each club, regardless of number of participants. Again this year, Gene Brewer has agreed to coordinate this and indicated that if at least 5 of our members are interested, he will send in the necessary paperwork. Please notify Gene if you will participate; his phone number is 903-757-6866.

Saturday, December 19th – our Christmas Party at Johnny Cace's – 7 p.m. with dessert to follow at Gene and William Villyard's home.

Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend as many of these events as possible.

Contact Steve Dean
President/CEO
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Hanger One/Fox Stephens Field
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**Flight of the Phoenix
Aviation Museum**

Press Release

Warbird Air Meet and Classic Aircraft Fly-In coming to Fox Stephens Field (KJXI) Gilmer, TX celebrating Veterans' Day.....first Saturday in November, 2009

Saturday, November 7

Gilmer, TX, Release Date September 24, 2009 Fox Stephens Field and the Flight of the Phoenix Aviation Museum are thrilled to bring extremely rare and uniquely historical aircraft to East Texas to celebrate Veterans' Day on Saturday Nov 7th, the weekend before official Veterans' Day observances across the US and around the world. The tenth annual family-oriented patriotic event runs from 10 am til 4 pm at Fox Stephens Field, located on Highway 271 South in Gilmer, Texas. Admission for the show is free and gates open at 9 am.

Gilmer's Fox Stephens Field is named in honor of USAF Col. Robert L. 'Silver Fox' Stephens. Stephens served as the test director and chief test pilot for the super secret SR-71 Blackbird at Edwards AFB, California during the 1960's. Stephens is an honoree at the Test Pilot's Walk of Honor at Lancaster, CA and has a street at Edwards AFB, CA named for him. Produced by Lockheed's Skunk Works, the Blackbird was the first stealthy aircraft produced by Lockheed. It was then and still is the highest flying and fastest aircraft in the world. Stephens and his flight test crews set world absolute speed and altitude records on 1 June 1965. The Blackbird has since surpassed its own speed and altitude records numerous times, but no other aircraft has come close to challenging the marks first set by Stephens and his Blackbird test force. Gilmer Texas' Flight of the Phoenix Aviation Museum was founded to preserve and honor the contributions of Stephens and other hometown men and women who have served in uniform.

Military pilots from the 917th Air Force Reserve Group at Barksdale ABF, LA are scheduled to provide formation jet fly-overs in a flight of two Republic A-10 Warthogs, and a single high speed flyover by a Boeing B-52 Stratofortress. Vintage WW II trainer, fighter, and transport aircraft will be on static display for the pleasure of the attendees. A rare antique example expected to fly in is a beautifully restored Cessna T-50 Bobcat, also know as the Bamboo Bomber. In addition, three very rare vintage civilian airplanes, a 1929 Travel Air 4000, a Howard DGA 15-P, and a V-77 Gull Wing Stinson will be flown and displayed throughout the day. Warbird formations of Beechcraft T-34's, North American T-6's, and Cessna L-19 Bird Dogs will churn the skies over Gilmer, Texas to the delight of airplane lovers of all ages.

Honor guards from The International Alert Academy, from the USAF Junior ROTC, and members of the Gilmer High School Band will post the colors and provide the centerpiece for the military veterans' tribute portion of the day's program. This will occur during the noon hour in conjunction with the military aircraft fly-overs.

Mayor Buck Cross and the City of Gilmer are hosting a coffee for all Veterans at the airport terminal building beginning at 10 AM. The Gilmer Rotary Club will dedicate a new memorial marker at the airport terminal building Memorial Flower Gardens in memory of Amy Dean at 1030 AM. At noon the veterans will parade from the terminal building onto the airport grounds in a convoy of Vintage Military Vehicles. The "Veterans Tribute Ceremony" begins at 12:00 noon sharp with Mayor Cross assisting Congressman Louie Gohmert, Texas Senator Kevin Eltiffe, and Texas Representative Bryan Hughes.

Renowned aviation artist R.T.Foster from Oklahoma City, official artist of the museum, will demonstrate painting nose art on special warbirds in attendance. Vintage and classic aircraft, antique cars, and military recruiting displays, PT-17 'Stearman's' from the CAF Wing in Marshall, PT-19 'Cornell's' from the CAF in Corsicana, and the ETMC Air Ambulance will round out the patriotic feast for the eyes and ears.

Warbird rides are offered in the vintage warbirds: the T-6 "Texans", the Stearman PT-17's, and Cessna L-19 Bird Dogs. Airtours will be offered in the historic Travel Air 4000 passenger ship. Rides may be scheduled on line. Log onto www.flightofthephoenix.org to schedule and pay for your flight on-line.

Food, snacks, and refreshments will be served continuously throughout the day. The Commemorative Air Force will have a PX selling aviation memorabilia and the Historic Aviation Memorial Museum from Tyler, TX will offer a museum gift shop featuring aviation art and holiday gift ideas. Handicap and accessible accommodations provided. Just tell the parking attendant your requirements.

Rather than dun our loyal sponsors in a down economy, we've opted to fund our museum budget this year through a raffle. A 1989 Cadillac Sedan de Ville and a 1965 Piper Cherokee 140. The car and the plane are licensed and fully operational. Details for the raffle are available on the museum website. Raffle and event details are on line at www.flightofthephoenix.org. For further information please contact Steve Dean, Museum and Show Director, Flight of the Phoenix Aviation Museum at 903.790.7435 or email fofpam@gmail.com.



BRING YOUR CAMERA

KILGORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU



HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS IN KILGORE



WE INVITE YOU AND YOUR GROUP TO VISIT KILGORE, TEXAS AND WALK AMONG AN OUTDOOR MUSEUM OF THE ORIGINAL GIANT OIL DERRICKS, OVER 70 THROUGHOUT TOWN. IN SHARP CONTRAST TO THE THRIVING BOOMTOWN OF THE 1930'S, THE KILGORE OF TODAY IS A MODERN CITY THAT BLENDS ITS RICH OILFIELD HERITAGE WITH A VARIETY OF FASCINATING ATTRACTIONS AND EVENTS...YOU WILL STRIKE IT RICH WITH A VISIT TO KILGORE!

DANVILLE FARMS

CUT YOUR OWN CHRISTMAS TREE - NOVEMBER 27-DECEMBER 20

HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS IN HISTORIC HOMES

DECEMBER 5

TOUR SEVERAL HISTORIC HOMES BUILT DURING THE 1930'S "OIL BOOM."

MT. KILGORE SNOW HILL EXPERIENCE

DECEMBER 11 & 12

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON AS WE OFFER LIVE ENTERTAINMENT, VISIT WITH SANTA CLAUS AND HIS FRIENDS, WAGON RIDES, TRAIN RIDES, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES AND MT. KILGORE SNOW HILL

HOLIDAY TRAIL OF LIGHTS

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND THRU NEW YEAR'S DAY
SEE MILLIONS OF LIGHTS AND LIVE ENTERTAINMENT. VIEW MORE THAN 70 STAR-TOPPED, LIGHTED DERRICKS, CHRISTMAS MUSICALS AND PARADES.

KILGORE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & VISITORS BUREAU
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