

Hi Everyone



Friday saw the convention co-chairs, with Roscoe, Luann and Phil, putting up protective fencing and parking area markings. There were 8 planes tied up Friday evening. Steve Peach gets the first welcome photo of the convention.



Don, with his Grumman Sierra



The entrance to the Red Deer Airport



Cliff Daugherty and Bob Hess with Cliff's Traveler



John and Louise Brouillette with their spiffy Tiger



Ronnie and Cyndi Mowery with their Cheetah



Saturday evening saw a total of 9 planes tied down. Charlie and Carol Adams were the only arrivals today. The tent, tables and chairs are in place, thanks Bert and Ken. About 40 conventioners are in Calgary today enjoying the Calgary Stampede. A large group even managed to get in a nice dinner at Ed's, just off Stampede Park.



Sunday evening saw 29 Grummans tied down at days end. There was a risk of thundershowers and maybe hail this evening. The hail suppression team managed to thwart the evil storms. We may have some moisture Monday.



Mike Wei showing off his new Red Deer Convention toque (this type of hat is more commonly referred to by other names: *knit hat* or *knit cap*, *sock cap* or *stocking cap*, *watch cap*, *(to)boggan*, *skull cap*, *snow hat*, *snow cap*, *ski cap*, *tossle cap*, *wooly hat*, *chook*, or *beanie*.)



You do not want to mess with the Red Toque gangstas presently running around the streets and skies of Red Deer.



Sunday evening we were treated to a barbecue by our host hotel, The Capri Centre.



Your board members had a long day on Monday, the meeting lasted until 6:20 or so. Proposed changes to allow more scholarships to be awarded was passed and election procedures are being updated. A small committee will look into changes desired on the website. The 2011 convention was awarded to- (its a secret till Thursday night.)





Most of the First Timers were present for the welcome meeting hosted by Luann and Roscoe. Everyone was introduced to the AYA way of having fun and we had a few door prizes also. Several members of the board were introduced as well.



Monday's Welcome Reception covered the necessary information so that everyone would have a good time. Door prizes capped off the evening.



It was a treat to be piped in by our resident piper, Eric Peach, while replenishing the AYA tent refreshment tub at 0630 Tuesday morning. Actually he was probably just practicing when I drove up...





Tuesday morning was cool with a north wind and 1500 foot ceilings. Anyone who was lucky enough to be awarded a limited edition AYA 2009 Toque was pretty happy. The Air Race and Air Rally-Wetaskiwin fly-out was canceled at 10:30 due to the low ceiling. Wednesday looks much better, with a good forecast to at least Monday.



Wednesday dawned clear and calm. Rigged pre-flight was kindly hosted by Sharon Spence and Jim Harmel. Ashley Porter was the big winner, again, I believe.



You win some, and you lose some...Kelly Wallace was the winner of this event.



Precision Parking was also held Wednesday. Again, Kelly Wallace cleaned up, with bonus Style Points.





The Cockpit Cool flights took place today. Shown are the volunteer instructors, with the Cockpit Cool participants who were not shy.



Wednesday evening was the Heritage Ranch hayride and barbecue. An ice cream social followed the main events.



Some of the Spot Landing/Flour Bomb competition staged and ready to go. The local flight school limited flights during this event and we basically had the sky to ourselves. Thank you Sky Wings.





Jim Viola Jr cleaned up in the judged aircraft event with wins in Best in Show, Best Tiger 90s Forward and Best Avionics Suite. Jim Jr. and Sr. are in the photo.



Gil Alexander won for Best Exterior



Steve Peach won for Best Interior



Carol and Charlie Adams won for Best 4-Place, Pre-90s



RaDann Dawson won for Best 2-Place



John Coze won for Best Firewall Forward and People's Choice



Melanie, of Tipitina fame, was presented with a plaque in appreciation of the extended hours for breakfast, a fun attitude and a delicious airport lunch. Down Ni.



Joe Nagy, from the Red deer Airport Authority, was a tremendous resource and provided excellent support for our operations. Airport CEO Liam O'Connell also supplied great support. Thank you, Joe and Liam.





On behalf of Todd and all the NavCanada Flight Service Specialists who helped make our convention safe and fun, Bob accepted a plaque with our gratitude. Thank you Todd, Bob and the whole crew. The airport movements climbed from a daily average of 300 to more than 500 during our stay.



The final banquet was started by Eric Peach and his bag pipes.



Last year's winner, Don Metz, presented the 2009 Lauren Larsen Memorial Award to Don Cochran.



Ken Blackman presented the Dicey Miller award to Liz Lane, a life member and early AYA pioneer.



Heading Home...



Thanks to everyone who attended, volunteered and helped out in so many ways. The convention team appreciates all the help and support we received.