

HEAVEN'S LANDING

Like no Place on Earth

January 2012

**Christmas in
Heaven**

A Christmas to Remember

With a bit of a cool nip in the December evening air, the full moon rising over the runway, and stunning stars blazing in the Heavens, the Heaven's Landing Christmas Party began in Heavenly Glory. The Clubhouse rooms were filled with merry guests and in every corner of the beautifully decorated facility, you found laughter, warm hugs, and wonderful conversations from a community that interacts like a loving extended family. "It is amazing to go from floor to floor in the Clubhouse and see all the people enjoying themselves," remarked Mike Ciochetti, "What a testament to the strong relationships in the General Aviation community, the love of Heaven's Landing, and to all the blessings we share."

**Year in
Review**

**Billy Bob at
CJP**

Aero Club

Owners, their guests, and friends from far and wide feasted on a beautiful meal catered by [Valley Café & Catering](#) (in Dillard, Georgia) which included chicken, pork roast, vegetables, and a variety of delectable desserts. Holly Ciochetti, with the assistance of Kathy Blalock, made sure every detail from table décor to trees to the multiple fireplace mantles were all adorned to perfection.

Headlines

Super Bowl

**New Year's
Baby**

To the delight of all, the evening certainly did not wind down after dinner. Not long after the fantastic meal, deep in the stairwell there "arose such a clatter" and up bounded a jolly large elf "so lively and quick, ...dressed all in fur from his head to his foot,

...we knew in a moment it must be St. Nick!"

**Coming
Home**

**Currahee
Military
Museum**

Best Friends



Santa came not with his sleigh and eight tiny reindeer, (who were preparing for their big night), but rather Mike was honored to fly in the celebrated visitor to Heaven's Landing in his Cessna 210! "I'm a huge supporter of General Aviation," exclaimed Santa, "I am after all a very seasoned pilot myself. What a treat it is to fly with Mike over one of my favorite spots on Earth," he said with a sweet little laugh.

Events

With his twinkling eyes and those cute little dimples, Mr. Claus gathered the children around the Christmas tree. Each one, young and old, came with wonder in their eyes as they whispered their secret wishes for Christmas morning and in return, they received a little gift from Santa.

Community

Trainer

When all dreams were shared, Santa entered the dining room greeting guests and exchanging great bear hugs and handshakes with all his grown admiring fans. Ginger Tomaszewski was singled out for being extra good this year and Santa sat on her lap!

**H Landing
Services**

Thank you all for making this truly the best and most memorable Christmas Party EVER! We will see you again next year. See [Smugmug](#) for more photos of this delightful evening.



**The Wait is Over...Billy Bob LIVES
- Just What Went on at the CJP Convention in October?!?**



It doesn't take much to encourage Mike Ciochetti. If there is a challenge, if there is something he can dive into— he will.

As we reported a few months ago, the Citation Jet Pilot's held their annual convention October 26-29 at Amelia Island, Florida. The days were filled with presentations, seminars, vendors, classes for pilots and companions, and lots and lots of activity. But there was one event that brought down the house... It took a little time to gather the eagerly awaited, notorious photos, but here they are! Our Mike is a legend at the now infamous CJP **Rock'n Sixties and Riding Motorcycles** party held at the Ritz Carlton (in honor of Daytona's Biketoberfest held during the same week). Mike, in a reprised role, lead the delighted guests in "grand style" into the banquet hall zooming through the crowd on a Honda 50R! "The only ones who knew it was going to happen," Mike says, "were the organizer, Bill Alberts, his son, Bill Jr., and Holly." The crowd went nuts!



As stated, this isn't the first time Mike has "dressed" for a party! The story actually begins years ago, at the Malibu Mirage Owners Association annual meeting held at Ponte Vedra, FL. Bill Alberts was also the organizer, all those years ago, when he threw a similarly themed event which included a keynote address from the Harley Davidson President. Attendees were invited to a presentation and banquet and asked to dress up in their best Harley gear or 60's garb. Mike and his buddy, Skip Higley, dressed "geeked-up" -think biker nerds with pants rolled up, thick glasses, and "Billy Bob" teeth. Skip, who had brought two Vespa Scooters with him as a joke, and Mike were sitting together when they witnessed the Harley President ceremoniously ride a "smoking" Harley onto the stage. "Skip and I looked at each other and without a word, we knew... We quietly left the banquet and in minutes got the two Vespa Scooters, not knowing what the reaction would be—or if we'd be kicked out of the whole convention. We boldly road through the banquet, completely unannounced, and right up onto the stage," recalls Mike. The guests, and the Harley President, loved it!

So well received was this impromptu display, that Bill always knew he would have to revise the spectacle. When he saw Mike at this year's CJP, the props were quickly gathered and history was once again made.

Oh Mike, you wear it well and make Heaven's Landing ...proud? Holly, you are a truly loving wife!



Top: A beautiful Holly and her date? Bottom (l to r): Bill Alberts (in white) and Bill Jr. (in black at right) calmly walk in to the CJP banquet hall as Mike enters on the Honda. Mike "putts" around the guests and leads the way to the food (Holly is sporting a white bandana). Finally, Mike is an instant celebrity posing with some very happy guests!

All photos by Ricardo "Rick" Reitmeyer
Photoshop Artist/Illustrator, Photographer
Cessna Visual Media Group

Atlanta Aero Club—December 8



Together We Can



Craig Fuller, President and CEO of the [Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association](#) visited the Atlanta Aero Club on December 8 emphasizing how members can be active in protecting their flying freedoms, the latest on [user fee legislation](#), and promoting the efforts of [GA Serves America](#).

“It is always a pleasure to attend the Aero Club meetings,” comments Mike Ciochetti. “We enjoy the camaraderie with those who share the passion for aviation as we do....the presentations are always well thought-out and meaningful. I was truly honored when Craig Fuller brought attention to us and highlighted his visit to Heaven’s Landing’s 10th anniversary last October. “You owe it to yourself to see Heaven’s Landing,” Fuller told the room. “His endorsement means so much to Heaven’s Landing, as well as to Holly and I, we are very proud of what we have created in the mountains.”

The Aero Club of Metro Atlanta holds bi-monthly meetings at the Grand Ballroom at the Capital City Club in Downtown Atlanta. If you are not currently a member, please see their website for further information. The group welcomes those who come from “all walks of life” to “share a passion for aircraft and flight in their work and play.”



AOPA President Fuller, Holly, and Mike enjoy the pre-holiday meeting.

Aviation News Headlines

Scanning the aviation headlines here are a few stories you might have missed as we finish out 2011:



Starting with Heaven’s Landing news!
We are proud to be featured internationally on Germany’s Aeromarkt!
Click the logo for the story link.

- [WWII-era Curtiss Helldiver SB2C Found in Waters off of Jupiter, FL.](#)
- [Applications Open for 2012 Scholarships](#)
- [Cutshall Passes](#)
- [Costly Trip to Super Bowl](#)
- [Winners and Sinners of 2011](#)



Save the date. We’ll see you on February 5th.

Join Us for Our Annual Super Bowl Party at Heaven’s Landing!

Starting at 4 pm until after the game, bring a pot luck dish to share and celebrate your favorite team. Everyone is welcome to this annual event. Call Holly for details 706.982.5245 if you can join us.

~ Haven’t been to Heaven’s Landing yet? What a great time of year to visit! The views are spectacular from the land and air. For a tour of Heaven’s Landing anytime call (800) HEAVEN 2 (except game day). ~

Fly-in, have a great time, and celebrate life in the mountains.



Happy Birthday to Kara Hood



Heaven’s Landing wishes to extend happy birthday wishes to Kara Hood, our own New Year’s Babe. Mike and Holly joined husband Doug and family surprising Kara on her birthday that began on New Year’s Eve into the wee hours of New Year’s Day at their home near Virginia Beach, VA.



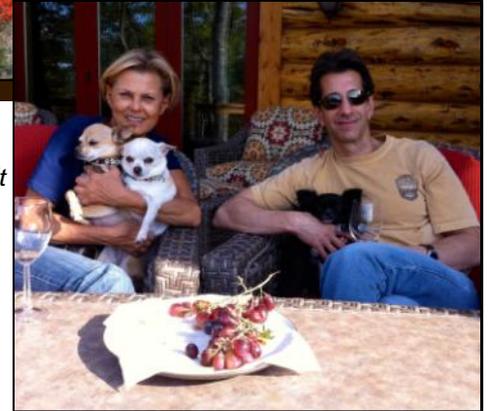
Coming Home to Heaven's Landing

In a perfect segue leading into a festive weekend, Dr. Tom and Jan Nasser threw a Christmas Party and House Warming Party on Friday before the Heaven's Landing Christmas Dinner. Here is a note from Tom about the night's festivities:

We finally moved into our dream Montana Log Home at Heaven's Landing, and the holidays are a perfect time to celebrate!

Jan and I had our very first open house party on Friday, December 9 for all of our HL friends and family. I invited the builder, foreman, and all the workers who put their heart and soul into our new home. Many brought their spouse or significant other, and I was delighted to extend the invitation to some of those who are known in our community that we haven't previously met, like the photographer, Peter McIntosh.

That morning, we flew down from Indianapolis with my brother Tony, who has never seen our home. It's only about a 2 hour flight from my local airport, and we arrived about 11am in Heaven's Landing. Once here, I spent most of the day trying to get our internet connection going with the service techs, to make sure we would have music for the party and could watch TV. I headed to town for the finishing touches and made a very large purchase at Mike's ABC Liquor Store to stock up the house's bars.



While in town, I stopped to have lunch at Ishy's Grill. I got them to do the catering for the party, and it was just excellent! I highly recommend them. I ordered a lot of appetizers for about 45-50 people but I think we ultimately had closer to 60. We ran out of food but had plenty of drink to enjoy. We all had a great time and a lot of fun. I must admit, I think the best part of the evening was when I started dancing on the bar listening to "Duel'n Banjos" full blast on the stereo. It wasn't long before everyone was dancing and yee-hawing as well. We rocked and rolled all night with the party lasting well past after midnight.

Still giddy from the party, with a full moon shining in our bedroom all night (since we don't have our window treatments yet), Jan and I got up the next morning sleep deprived and hurting, but it was worth it and a great way to celebrate with friends and welcome them to our new home.



It was definitely a great social event. The party will certainly be remembered for years to come. Jan and I look forward to flying down at least once a month and probably more in the spring and summer, and I plan on throwing many more parties when the weather warms up next year. There are still some people I haven't met at HL, and we are looking forward to calling this place home.

Wherever I go, I'm constantly meeting new friends who want to build. I think that is a good sign, and despite the current economic turmoil in this country, I believe Heaven's Landing will continue to attract more and more people in the coming years because the community and lifestyle is so perfect.

I don't plan on retiring any time soon since I'm only 50, but when I do, this is definitely where I want to live full-time. You only live once, and I plan on "Living my Dream." Jan and I have been blessed with good health and I have a successful career and practice as an endodontist. I am blessed to have married my best friend. Jan and I have 3 Chihuahuas, Sophia, Deenie, and Dolly who we truly love. Life is good and we enjoy sharing it with our friends and family. Let the good times roll.



We wish everyone all the best in health, happiness, and success in the years to come.

Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all.

Tom and Jan Nasser

Part II—Currahee Military Museum Toccoa, Georgia

Last month we featured the small town of Toccoa just southeast of Heaven's Landing, and the rich World War II history of Currahee Mountain and the surrounding area. Part II of that story is about the amazing work of the individuals at the Toccoa Stephens County Historical Society and their tireless efforts to bring the past into a tangible, living, exhibit for generations to cherish a history rich in honor, sacrifice, and glory.



Sitting prominently in downtown Toccoa is the recently renovated and incredibly historic 1915 train depot. This is the same depot that welcomed young men to Camp Toccoa 70 years ago—many of whom would ultimately become the famed “Band of Brothers.” The beautiful quaint facility now serves as an Amtrak train station, and houses the Welcome Center, the Chamber of Commerce, a historical Toccoa room, and the pride and joy of the Historical Society - the [Currahee Military Museum](#).



The Military Museum is a trove of the past, with poignant displays on all of the US wars and conflicts; but dominating the visitors' attention are the origins of Camp Toccoa and displays featuring World War II memorabilia. It is in honor of these heroes who became a part of the 101st Airborne and the notoriety this time in history has received that bring visitors in great numbers from all over the world.

Taking center stage in the Museum is a large and extraordinary artifact, a stable, (circa 1922) from Aldbourne, England. This structure resides fully intact in the 6,000 sq. foot museum hall. In 1943, members of the 506 PIR were stationed in England, and as all available accommodations were filled, the stables were used for the remaining members of Able and Easy Companies as they prepared and then returned from Operation Overlord (D-Day). Four or more men bunked comfortably in each stall as the recreated barracks depict. Seeing the actual stable reassembled inside the Museum can only be described as an emotional and awe-inspiring experience. Here the walls actually talk—letters, artifacts, and graffiti recall the past and the men who made history. ...Continued on pg 7.



Currahee Military Museum ...Continued.

The love and dedication to get the stable 4,000 miles to Georgia is also readily present in the volunteers and staff of the Historical Society. On any day you will find these folks on-site and they will tell you their first-hand accounts of the tireless efforts during fund raising, the detailed arrangements and political contacts that were made, their joy upon arriving in England, the development of life-long friendships, how they oversaw the packing of the structure and its reassembly, and now, the joy they feel as each domestic and international visitor witnesses this permanent exhibit for the first time.



The stable in transport on board the C-17. Click the photo above to enter the 506infantry.org site. It has a gallery of fantastic photos of the stable from in England and now in Toccoa.

The journey the stable took from Aldbourne, Whitshire, England to Toccoa, Georgia took shape on November of 2004 as master carpenter and local Englishman Keith Sowerby and his crew carefully disassemble the structure. With extreme reverence, they labeled every piece of the building precisely in order to reassemble it once it arrived in the USA. The team took absolute pride and joy in the work. It didn't take long for Mr. Sowerby and his team to find surprises along the way in the form of items hidden in the walls and near the foundation. Many of these items are on display as well.

For these people involved it was truly a labor of love. Their strong wills and deep passions made what seemed an impossible dream a reality. Former Society President Ray Ward speaks of current Executive Director Brenda Carlan jokingly as "just crazy" and a person who doesn't know the word "can't." "She simply gets things done," Mr. Ward states. With this remarkable dedication and determination by Ms. Carlan and her core group at the Historical Society, including Mr. Ward, former President of the Chamber, Cynthia Brown, along with their partners in England, the building was crated and transported to Dobbins Air Base in Marietta, Ga. It all came together with last minute phone calls and being at the right place with the right contacts. Ms. Carlan was able to have the tons of pallets, prepared by the Royal Air Force, shipped on a C-17 Globemaster III in the care of the Mississippi Air National Guard 172nd Airlift Wing under the command of Lt. Col. Jim Conway. Once the precious cargo arrived in Toccoa, Sowerby and his team simply reversed the process and resurrected the building inside the Museum's new addition, built specifically to house the stable.

Visiting the depot complex is a must if you are in the Northeast Georgia area. As stated in last month article, take the day out to visit what remains of Camp Toccoa, drive up Currahee Mountain, take in the dramatic view, and spend the afternoon living history at the Currahee Military Museum. It is open an extraordinary seven days a week (only closed during Christmas and New Years). Another calendar event happens each October when the Toccoa Stephens County Historical Society's hosts the Currahee Military Weekend with reenactments and notable veteran guest speakers. See their [site](#) for directions and details.

Our Best Friends — Heaven's Landing Says Good-Bye to Demi and Caty

Two of our beloved Heaven's Landing canines passed away last month. Claudette Kingery's beautiful Catarina (Caty) and Holly Ciochetti's sweet Demi will be sorely missed. Holly reports that Demi died of old age at 14 and was lovingly named for her small stature. Caty was a Bernese Mountain Dog who followed Claudette and Fish all around Heaven's Landing with unbelievable devotion. Caty died from complications from a growth.

As we all know when we lose a pet the sadness is great. Our thoughts go to Holly and Claudette.

"I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me they are the role model for being alive."

- Gilda Radner



Upcoming Events

Heaven's Landing:

Heaven's Landing Super Bowl Pot Luck

February 26

Never a dull moment in a room full of opposing fans! Join us at the Heaven's Landing Clubhouse for a fun-filled evening. Call [Holly](#) for details at 706-982-5245.



Area Events:



First Day Hike

What a great way to start the New Year- Go for a Hike! Join a ranger on a moderate 3.5 mile hike along the rim and through the woods. Bring water and snacks. \$5 and \$5 parking. For more information call 706-754-7981 or www.gastateparks.org/TallulahGorge.

January 1

Yonah Mountain Vineyard

Join winemaker Joe Smith for a tour of Georgia's only wine cave followed by barrel sampling. Cost is \$25 per person which includes a beautiful wine glass. Contact the tasting room to pre-pay and reserve your spot, 706-878-5522.

January 14



Beginning Bee Keeping

Learn the basics about bee keeping and how to start a hive at Smithgall Woods State Park. Instructor Bill Wright will review the equipment and provide all the resource you will need to get started. There is an optional trip to an apiary. \$15 including parking. Call to register 706.878.5522.

January 21

Rabun Rendezvous

The [Rabun County Chapter of Trout Unlimited](#) celebrates 25 years. Dillard House Conference Center at 5 pm adults \$30 youth 15 and under \$25. See website for details.

January 21



The Sock Hops

Take a drive down memory lane with The Sock Hops as they perform live at the Smoky Mtn. Center for the Performing Arts. Enjoy hits from all your favorites from the '50s, '60s, and '70s. Show begins at 2:30; tickets are \$12.

January 22

Dulcimer Making Class

Another great class at Smithgall Woods State Park. Assemble, sand and finish an all-wood Appalachian dulcimer with dulcimer maker and musician Bob Thomason. All tools and supplies are provided. No woodworking experience is required. Thomason has been making and playing fine Appalachian dulcimers since 1981. Register by January 20. \$95 plus \$5 parking. 706-878-3087.

January 28

Winter Dinner in Provence

Celebrate Valentine's a little early. On Friday Night we will offer hors d' oeuvres and French Wine at 5:30pm. On Saturday Night we will offer a full feast from the South of France, featuring rare and wonderful wines. Saturday Dinner and wines is \$75 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Aperitif at 6:30, dinner is served at 7:00pm.

February 4



FAITH Sweetheart Ball

Enjoy the night dining and dancing at the Rabun County Civic Center with all proceeds going to an amazing organization. This is FAITH's (Fight Abuse In the Home) annual fund raiser gala providing care to local women and children. Cost is \$65 per person and \$100 and up for reserved tables. Evening includes silent and live auctions and live music by the O'Kaysons!

February 11

The Letterman

Take a trip down lover's lane on Valentine's Day at the Smoky Mtn. Center for Performing Arts. Show starts at 7 pm; tickets range from \$18-24.

February 14



Our Community



- **Weather Link.** Stay up to date on the Clayton, GA weather conditions and forecast from NOAA. <http://forecast.weather.gov/>



- **Wi-Fi** is available at the Clubhouse. Stay connected with your personal devices as you enjoy the amenities.



- **What's New with You?** Share photos and stories of what is new in your flying circles. Please send submissions to janclay@windstream.net. (All submissions are subject to editing and the evaluation of content.)



- **Go Green!** Please update your contact information with our office at 706.212.0017 or sales@heavenslanding.com and make sure we have your latest email address, so you will stay informed.

- **Stay in Touch.** "Like" us on [Facebook](#), "Heaven's Landing".



- **Let us Know About Your Aviation Groups.** Give the office a call and share what groups and organizations you belong to, the website address, and the organization's contact information. (800) HEAVEN 2.



- Fish year round and enjoy our local lakes. It is always time to go boating! We wish to remind all owners and visitors to take advantage of our area lakes. Rentals are available at [Anchorage Boat Rentals](#) at 706-212-0534 or [LaPrades Marina](#) at 706-947-0010.

Personal Trainer—Elisa Hopkins



Heaven's Landing welcomes Elisa Hopkins. Elisa is a certified Personal Trainer and tailors training for men and women to the individual's interest and goals. Elisa currently conducts five classes ranging in aerobic, kick-boxing, dance aerobics, and strength training at the dance studio at Rabun Gap Nacoochee School. She has offered to conduct classes and specialized instruction for Heaven's Landing owners and their guests in the Clubhouse fitness room.



Contact Elisa at 706-982-2302.

Heaven's Landing Services

Heaven's Landing Concierge Service

We offer the finest, personalized, and professional services to meet your needs. Whether it's scheduling a trustworthy service to clean your home, picking up groceries, or keeping up with routine maintenance, Heaven's Landing Concierge Service will maintain your property, so you can fully enjoy your Heaven's Landing home. Please contact our office for an estimate: 706.212.0017 or sales@heavenslanding.com.



"Work with someone you know and trust."

Our Current Fuel Prices



Self Serve Pumps

AV GAS	\$5.65/ gal*
JET A	\$4.95/ gal*



**Prices Subject to Change. Prices as of January 1, 2012*

Thank you for being a part of Heaven's Landing. For an archived electronic library of our Heaven's Landing Newsletter showcasing the year's local and aviation events as well as the amazing beauty of Heaven's Landing and surrounding areas, please see www.heavenslanding.com and "[newsletter](#)" link.

For questions or comments regarding the newsletter please contact Jan at janclay@windstream.net.



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