

# Greater Huntsville Section Participates in Moontown Airport Fly-In

The Greater Huntsville Section participated in the annual Moontown Airport Grass Field Fly-In on September 20, 2014. The section was invited for the first time to set up a display table by the fly-in organizer, Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 190.

Project Officer Neal Allgood, Greater Huntsville's Liaison to Student Branches, led the section's planning and logistics preparations. Neal provided a canopy and table and ventured out to the airport the day before the event to secure a prime location for the display. His initiative paid off and he obtained one of the most desirable locations, center field and near the food vendors.



The section's display featured a scrolling PowerPoint presentation, recruiting literature, copies of *Aerospace America* magazine, AIAA penlights, key chains, stickers and candy to lure visitors to the table. Especially popular with families and children were the foam gliders the section handed out. Almost 100 gliders were given away and the supply was exhausted by early afternoon. Many families commented that they

visited the table specifically because they had heard about the gliders.

Besides collecting freebies, fly-in visitors had the chance to guess the functions of an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle propeller and an old fan blade from Purdue University's wind tunnel that Neal had brought. Few visitors guessed correctly and Neal used the opportunity for some on-the-spot aerospace education.



The section's display had a steady stream of traffic throughout the day, providing numerous opportunities to explain the AIAA mission and reach out to the flying community. Several former AIAA members visited and indicated interest in rejoining AIAA. Over a dozen prospective members signed up for follow up contact and information. Likeminded aerospace organizations in attendance networked with AIAA members and



discussed future collaboration.

When not manning the display table, section volunteers roamed the flight line to check out the 100 aircraft in attendance and watch the aerial displays on a beautiful, sunny day. Seminars were presented on aircraft owner maintenance, homebuilt aircraft flight testing and building and certifying experimental amateur built aircraft. A hearty breakfast and lunch were also served.

Section volunteers included project officer Neal Allgood, Ken Philippart, Naveen Vetcha and Dr. Arloe Mayne. Region II Director Alan Lowery and other AIAA members stopped by to say hello and visited throughout the day.

The section's outreach to the Huntsville flying community was a success and will lead to future initiatives. The Greater Huntsville Section thanks EAA Chapter 190 for their hospitality and the opportunity to publicize the AIAA. Sun, airplanes and AIAA...a perfect combination!

