



“Riddle Roarin’ in the ‘20s” at OctoberWest

Alumni celebrated a “Riddle Roarin’ in the ‘20s” during 2007’s OctoberWest celebration.

At the annual reception at the Hassayampa Inn, alumni reunited with friends and networked with industry professionals. They kicked back and relaxed to live music during the Alumni Party at Spruance House. More than 100 people teed off in the sold-out Golf Tournament, supporting the Champions of Character scholarship program. Alumni also enjoyed a great view of the Prescott Air Show, where the Golden Eagles Flight Team was featured in the Embry-Riddle VIP tent.

Visit the eaglesNEST at www.ERAUalumni.org to see photo albums of alumni at OctoberWest.

ALTIMETER

Want the latest alumni news? Go to alumni.erau.edu/eaglenews.

• Can’t find your photo from Homecoming or OctoberWest? Check out the eaglesNEST at www.ERAUalumni.org and select “Photo Albums.”

Message from the Executive Director

“Welcome Home!” was a common phrase heard across the Prescott and Daytona Beach campuses during the OctoberWest and Homecoming Weekends. We enjoyed hosting you at the special events and hearing your personal and career success stories, and we invite you to come back “home” anytime. To our Worldwide alumni, we welcome your suggestions for future Worldwide reunion events.

To the Fall 2007 graduates, we extend a “Congratulations!” and encourage you to keep in touch with us as you pursue your careers around the globe. Be sure to visit the eaglesNEST online community at www.ERAUalumni.org for upcoming events, mentorship opportunities and more.

We also share a profound debt of gratitude to the 20 alumni who have given their lives in the current war in Iraq. The Embry-Riddle community was saddened yet proud to have dedicated the Alumni War Veterans Memorial Plaque in honor of their service. (See the full article on page 22.) We also are grateful to the ROTC students who contributed to this project.

And finally, we know we will “see you soon!” Whether it’s during the Presidential Tour or a local event in your city, we look forward to celebrating our unique Embry-Riddle heritage.

Sincerely,

Wayne Munson
Executive Director of the Office of Alumni Relations



Alumni in Dubai More than 60 Embry-Riddle alumni, friends and students gathered at the Sheraton Dubai Creek in the United Arab Emirates for a special gala on Nov. 14, 2007, during the Dubai Airshow. The event, sponsored by Khalid Al Mulla of Al Mulla Group of Companies—whose son attends the Daytona Beach Campus—provided an opportunity for alumni to network and become involved with the UAE Alumni Group.

Michele Berg, associate director of Alumni Relations, recognized nine alumni for their career achievements and presented them with a special award. In addition, Obaid Hableel ('87, DB) (pictured here) received an award for his positive leadership of the UAE Alumni Group.

Alumni and guests also enjoyed a message by Associate Chancellor Dr. John Watret, who spoke on behalf of University President Dr. John P. Johnson.



Daytona Beach Campus goes 'Prime Time'

Alumni joined students, staff and friends in Daytona Beach to celebrate Homecoming Weekend Nov. 7-10, 2007. Kicking off at Red Tail Bar and Grill on Wednesday evening and winding down at the Alumni Breakfast on Sunday morning, the reunion was fun-filled and action-packed. At the Hangar Party and all over campus, alumni reunited with old friends. "It certainly was a joy to return to the Daytona Beach Campus and see all the positive changes," says Jesse Clark ('92, PC), leader of the San Diego Alumni Group.

The Homecoming Parade featured Grand Marshal, retired Col. Richard "Rick" G. Harrington ('76, DB), a President's Advisory Board member and former Trustee.

Other weekend highlights included a formal beachside Alumni Dinner Dance, an aerial demonstration by Embry-Riddle acrobatic pilot Matt Chapman in his Eagle 580, and a special Memorial Plaque dedication to honor alumni veterans (see story on page 22).

Visit the eaglesNEST at www.ERAUalumni.org to see photo albums of alumni during Homecoming Weekend.



Seven students—including two each from the Prescott and Daytona Beach campuses and one ROTC student—were selected to attend the Wing's Club Luncheon in New York City on Thursday, Dec. 13, 2007. This annual event, sponsored by Dorothee Miller, president of Aero International Associates, provides students with an opportunity to meet aviation industry leaders and is part of the Alumni-Student Connection program.



British Flyers in Lakenheath Members of the No. 5 British Flyers Training School (SBFTS) joined local alumni and Embry-Riddle students and staff from the Worldwide Campus at Lakenheath Air Force Base for a special luncheon at the Officers Club on Sept. 16, 2007. The SBFTS members shared stories and experiences of their training at Embry-Riddle in Clewiston during World War II with the alumni and students.



An artful graduation Nearly 60 graduates from the Embry-Riddle Worldwide Campuses at Luke, Sky Harbor and Williams Gateway celebrated their commencement at the Phoenix Art Museum on Oct. 27, 2007. Following the ceremony, graduates and their guests were invited to a luncheon co-hosted by the Office of Alumni Relations. The new alumni also enjoyed a complimentary tour of the art museum.

Rick Hale shows his American Spirit

Rick Hale ('84, DB), CEO of Winner Aviation located in Vienna, Ohio, received the National Business Aviation Association (NBAA) American Spirit Award in recognition of his service to the business aviation community.

In a testimony before Congress, Hale responded to funding proposals to implement new user fees for small to midsize businesses. According to NBAA President and CEO Ed Bolen, Hale "illustrated for Congress what business aviation is all about and explained the real impact of user fees on businesses across the country."



Hale advocated general aviation's support for air traffic control modernization, but called for "pay at the pump" fuel taxes rather than user fees or new taxes.

"It is an honor to be recognized as someone trying to make a difference in our industry," says Hale, pictured at left (center) with Dan Montplaisir (right), Embry-Riddle's vice president of Institutional Advancement, and Jamail Larkins ('07, DB). "I am strongly involved with general aviation and was willing to represent other small to midsize business aviation companies like mine."



A high performer Peter Zaccagnino ('92, DB), CEO of High Performance Aircraft Training (HPAT), takes to the air in an L-39, one of the aircraft he uses for civilian flight training and aircraft testing. In addition to the L-39, Zaccagnino uses, among others, Lancairs and Mig-21s to conduct supersonic research, unusual-attitude and upset-recovery tests.

Honoring Embry-Riddle's fallen heroes

With ROTC cadets in rank and a full color guard from all services, Air Force ROTC Wing Commander Ken Sturgis led the dedication ceremony for the Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University Alumni War Veterans Memorial Plaque at the Daytona Beach Campus.

Dedicated on behalf of alumni from all campuses during the concluding event at this year's Homecoming, the plaque honors Embry-Riddle's 20 alumni who have died in the war against terrorism since Sept. 11, 2001.

The plaque, conceived by U.S. Air Force 2nd Lt. Robert Clark ('07, DB), lists the names of Embry-Riddle's fallen, along with logos from the Department of Defense, the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice. The memorial

will be permanently placed at the center of Daytona Beach Campus near the Legacy Walk and the Miller Instructional Center. "We wanted to commission a memorial plaque to be dedicated in a place of honor on campus as an inspiration to all," Clark says.

The plaque also speaks powerfully to Embry-Riddle's mission to educate and support those who defend the nation. Dr. Thomas Connolly, chancellor of Embry-Riddle's Daytona Beach Campus, says, "The names of our fallen alumni will be forever visible to all of our students, faculty, staff, alumni and visitors as a statement of our appreciation for their professional and personal sacrifices, and as a reminder of the cost of our freedom."

In speaking to the cadets and students attending the dedication, Alumni Relations

Executive Director Wayne Munson said, "Since 1926, our alumni have done their jobs in both good and challenging times. They have participated in all our nation's conflicts, giving selflessly to our defense. This plaque is a statement of what is. But you, who are a statement of what will be, must draw from this day and this plaque the strength of your convictions, the confidence of your professionalism and the hope of your youth. While today we mark a reflective moment in the continuity of our university, we also create a moment of hope for the future."

Chancellor Connolly authorized the plaque—designed by Granite Art Design of New York—on behalf of the president and other chancellors. The Office of Alumni Relations will maintain and update the plaque when necessary.

Fallen Heroes

2001

David M. Charlebois ('83, DB)
Bachelor's in Aeronautical Science
Co-Pilot, American Airlines

2002

Christopher M. Blaschum ('98, WW)
Bachelor's in Professional Aeronautics
Lieutenant Commander, U.S. Navy

Curtis D. Feistner ('02, WW)
Master's in Business Administration
Major, U.S. Army

2003

Tamara L. Archuleta ('02, WW)
Study in Aeronautical Science
First Lieutenant, U.S. Air Force

William R. Watkins III ('02, WW)
Master's in Aeronautical Science
Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Air Force

Aaron J. Contreras ('94, PC)
Bachelor's in Aeronautical Science
Captain, U.S. Marine Corps

John D. Smith ('03, WW)
Master's in Aeronautical Science
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

Eric B. Das ('03, WW)
Master's in Applied Aviation Systems
Captain, U.S. Air Force

Kyran E. Kennedy ('02, WW)
Master's in Aeronautical Science
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

Brian D. McGinnis ('02, WW)
Certificate in Aviation Maintenance
Sergeant, U.S. Marine Corps

2004

Patrick Dorff ('99, WW)
Bachelor's in Professional Aeronautics
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

Travis W. Grogan ('04, WW)
Bachelor's in Professional Aeronautics
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

Patrick D. Leach ('92, WW)
Bachelor's in Professional Aeronautics
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

2005

Christopher J. Scherkenbach ('05, WW)
Bachelor's in Aeronautical Science
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

David Ayala ('06, WW)
Bachelor's in Aeronautical Science
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

2006

John S. Vaughan ('06, DB)
Bachelor's in Aviation Business Administration
Second Lieutenant, U.S. Army

Jamie D. Weeks ('05, WW)
Bachelor's in Professional Aeronautics
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

2007

Charles E. Wyckoff Jr. ('02, PC)
Bachelor's in Aeronautical Science
Sergeant, U.S. Army

Keith Yoakum ('03, WW)
Bachelor's in Professional Aeronautics
Chief Warrant Officer, U.S. Army

Joey D. Link ('07, WW)
Bachelor's in Professional Aeronautics
Technical Sergeant, U.S. Air Force

