

# RED RIVER SWIFT WING FALL GATHERING

## FREDERICKSBURG, TX. 1-4 NOVEMBER 2012

Come and experience the ultimate in aviation accommodations with the RRSW at the Hangar Hotel at Gillespie Co. Airport, (T82) Fredericksburg, TX. Where else can you park your Swift and walk into the lobby of a '40s era hotel? On the ground floor adjacent to the lobby, there is a lounge with "bomber jacket" leather covered easy chairs and atmosphere plus. The RRSW keeps going back due to the superb ambiance and the flight line restaurant next door.

Call the Hangar Hotel and make your reservation now: 830-997-9990. Be sure to mention that you are with the Swift group.

Other hotels are available in the Fredericksburg area including the Sunset Inn 800-880-9581 or Days Inn 800-320-1480. If desired, transportation is available at the Motor Pool 830-990-0562 next to the Hangar Hotel. Reserve a vehicle early as they are limited. Enterprise will also deliver vehicles to the airport.



Thursday is for early arrivals and a great opportunity to just hang out and visit. There will be a SMF formation ground school on Friday with lots of formation practice to follow. This will be a good time to get your SMF formation qualification requirements updated for next year. And we'll do a fly-out on Saturday. We'll tour, from the air, such points as Willy Nelson's Lukenbach, TX, then the LBJ Ranch Park, Llano Airport (possible fuel stop), Enchanted Rock State Park then return to T82 for lunch. And of course there will be a wonderful banquet on Saturday night.

The town of Fredericksburg has lots to offer as well. Great restaurants and antique stores. The National Museum of the Pacific is a must if you have not yet visited this treasure of American History. And although not yet completely finalized, the ladies will also enjoy a special program on Friday and Saturday.

Come join us in Fredericksburg. Its going to be a great time.

Ed Lloyd

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As the West Coast Swift event gets underway, we have less than a month to get reduced room rates at the Hangar Hotel for the RRSW event 1-4 Nov 2012. As of Tuesday of this week, there are only 10 rooms left in our block of 30 rooms. Last year we had to go begging for more rooms and I hope the same happens this year. If you are thinking about flying to Fredericksburg, TX. for the event, I would encourage you to go ahead and make reservations while rooms are available. The reduced price goes away 30 days prior, however, you can cancel with no penalty up to 48 hours prior if there are weather problems, you forgot to do your annual, or whatever pops up. Also, if you plan to be here and just haven't made reservations yet, I'm putting together an order for Fly-in "T" shirts. Let me know the size you need and it will be ordered. We found this to be a muck better method than guessing the sizes and the total.

Barbara and I drove to Fredericksburg Tuesday of this week. We have poured the concrete for the event. We have a couple of back-up hotels if the Hangar Hotel fills up which is quite likely... this has happened in prior years. Stan Price will conduct a formation ground school Friday morning if we have any takers. If not, he will conduct a formation review of procedures to refresh everyone's knowledge for the upcoming 2013 Formation Card Certification. There will be plenty of opportunity to practice formation during the three day event. Saturday morning following breakfast, we will brief the gaggle flight tour through the hill country to see the sights. We'll view Lukenbach TX that Willy Nelson made famous and put on the map. Then on to the LBJ Park to fly around the ranch and see his strip and the Lockheed parked there he used to commute to and from the Western White House during his presidency. Then on North to Lake Buchanan and Round Mountain Park. This view of Buchanan will show the dire effects of the extended drought over the past two or three years. From there we'll swing southwest to Llano and a fuel stop for cheaper fuel than T82 if you want. Then on back to T82 for lunch at the Airport Diner.

We decided on the location for the ladies luncheon at the Peach Tree Restaurant and gift shop located on the main road to the airport. We also rented a 15 pax van at Enterprise for the exclusive use of the ladies as long as they agree to allow us to shuttle folks downtown on Friday night to the Brewery for dinner. The ladies can shop or do a wine probe at the Grape Creek Winery just out of town on Saturday.

Saturday evening we'll do a two hour **Happy Hour** in the main bar before a catered buffet next door at 7:00 PM in the main Exhibition Hall. After the meal we have about a ten minute DVD we'll show of the three Swifts and the Alaskan adventure the latter part of June. Four members of the flight will then talk about the exciting flight and answer any questions from the audience.

***BIG PS:*** Starting Thursday night, there will be a Happy Hour starting promptly at 5:00 PM. We'll depart from there for dinner each evening about 6:30-7:00. Come enjoy the relaxed atmosphere in the overstuffed leather easy chairs. Makes it easier to tell 'stories'.