

*Marietta N/L for AUGUST*

## *Chapter Contacts*

*Please forward to your members!*



*You may have noticed* .....that you very recently received the **SEPTEMBER** issue of Marietta's "It's Only a Newsletter" newsletter. But the **AUGUST** issue had somehow been missed! On checking with editor Rob Morales, the missing document was provided by return email. We haven't figured out what happened, but anyway, attached you'll find **AUGUST**, more than several days late....

*....and since it's a month late*, we note that it'll probably be our last report from the National Convention, with RC-3 and Chapter President Dave Lockhart reporting on judging at Omaha. Like everyone agrees who has tried it, judging is about the **BEST** way to improve your own modeling! So if you've never done it, ask to serve as a "trainee judge" at the next event you attend! (If nothing else, it'll keep you out of the vendor room frenzy and maybe save you some money! 😊 )

**In the September newsletter**, Dave had also written about how he takes his modeling with him “on the road” with business. Of course, there are limitations: for example airlines can’t understand why you want all those sharp instruments and flammable materials; at the same time hotels take a dim view of air brushing or spilled paint. But Dave found ways to work around those problems. In rebuttal to Dave’s column, long time friend and ex-USAF navigator, Chuck Davenport, found he had fewer problems to model-on-the-road when flying as a crew member in the “sneaky” RC-135’s” of our joint Uncle Sam. (Or maybe he just winked at the rules.) Chuck wrote the following comments on the subject:

“...really enjoyed David's "expose" on his modeling while traveling. I did the same thing when I was on active duty. Since I had a whole airplane to store my stuff, I built a large, wheeled travel case that held all my paints, equipment and even a compressor! That thing went around the world with me. Later, when I discovered paper modeling, I even built paper models while flying commercial! In the days before pre-boarding body cavity checks, I would bring a metal ruler, XActo blade and scissors on board with me! Try to top that for pure "geekery!" ”

**Needless to say, some of his chapter friends who know him best, have since made some pointed comments .....**

***Along with all the happy news* .....**that can be found in these newsletters, there is unfortunately the occasional sad news; in this case the jolt of a death in Georgia of which I had not heard. This time it came via a model brought to a recent “Show ‘n Tell” by Marietta member Paul Crawley. It’s his build of the old (1987) Monogram Snap-Tite kit of the Bell Jet Ranger in the markings of his friend, Atlanta’s “11 Alive” TV station and its pilot/reporter, **Bruce Erion**. Paul built the model in commemoration of Erion, who from discussion of this model I learned had died of cancer this past June.

**Even as a reporter and “helicopter jock” back in the seventies and eighties, Bruce was himself something of a celebrity in Atlanta ....sometimes having more Georgians flock to him at events he covered, than the “real” celebrity he was covering!**



While I only met Erion once, and that very briefly, it was obvious he was “the real deal” ....West Point graduate, a Ranger in Vietnam, and helicopter pilot/reporter extraordinaire. \*

<http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/atlanta/obituary.aspx?pid=185849024>



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\* My best Bruce Erion anecdote was the occasion of retired General Robert L Scott (of "God is My Copilot" fame and namesake of my old chapter in middle Georgia), flying the F-15's of the Georgia National Guard at Dobbins AFB.



**Reporting the event on Channel 11, Erion repeated the comments of the ANG pilots who had flown with Scott (above), then in his eighties; quoting them as saying the general was “...a good stick”. It’s the ultimate fighter pilot compliment for another pilot.**



Erion passed away at the age of 71. I have no way of knowing the full circumstances of his death from cancer, but I can't help but wonder if Agent Orange might have claimed another victim.....

<https://www.11alive.com/article/life/longtime-11alive-pilot-storied-journalist-bruce-erion-dies-at-71/449532626>