Vintage Mooney Group (VMG)
Press Release
VMG South East Chapter

Released on January, 2010 by Phil Corman & Colin Bitterfield

We are pleased to announce the formation of the Southeast Chapter of the Vintage Mooney Group (VMG). The new chapter is being formed by Colin Bitterfield, of Atlanta Georgia, and Rob Gray from Savannah, TN. Says Phil Corman VMG USA and Colin VMG South East, "This brings us closer to a vision of regular Mooney Fly-Ins within 1-2 hours of every Mooney owner in the United States".

"We have been interested in Vintage Mooneys and Mooneys in general for years" said Colin Bitterfield co-founder of Southeast Chapter. It started for me when we first attended Oshkosh in 2005 with our 1965, M20E. We got a great parking spot in Vintage aircraft and loved the camaraderie of the Vintage Groups. Over the next few years we made many friendships and traveled extensively. Rob had just bought a 1966, M20E and we are in the process of renovating it right now. After saw that the VMG group was expanding from the Southwest we contacted the VMG to see if there interests and ours at Mooniacs were similar. We are exited to find out that they are and to be part of the VMG. We have been planning Mooney fly-ins for the last 6 months with about a 50% mix of vintage and new aircraft. Our families are also excited about Mooney flyins. My wife, Rachel provides spouse and kid activities at our fly-ins to encourage more family attendance. Says Colin, "I am thrilled to be heading up the VMG South East Chapter".

About the VMG Southeast Chapter founders

Colin began his love of Flying in 2000 at the age of 35. He had no idea what that passion for flying would lead to. In 2004 he bought a 1965 Mooney M20E, Super 21 because it looked "Cool". He had no idea the love affair with Mooneys that day would bring. Starting in 2004 he and his family flew to Sun and Fun as well as Oshkosh and attended the Southeast Mooney group fly-ins. In 2007 he started a year long renovation of his M20E that involved everything from a new engine, to new avionics, paint and an interior upgrade. He uses the plane to "Go Places" with the family. Almost every trip is accomplished with his Mooney. In 2008 he sold the 1965 Mooney and purchased a 1984 Mooney 231/262 Trophy conversion to provide more space for the growing family and fulfill the need to "GO FASTER".

Rob Gray received his license in 2004 in Florida at the age of 31. He love of aviation grew and his is an active Civil Air Patrol member participating in Search and Rescue operations in the Southeast. In 2009 he purchased a 1966 Mooney M20E from an estate sale and with Colin's assistance is in the process of a complete renovation. The airplane is currently receiving a new

windshield, interior and avionics upgrade. Rob purchased the aircraft to provide an economical vehicle to travel for business and is excited to be a part of the VMG.

Both Colin and Rob are committed to the idea that every Mooney owner should be within an hour and half of a fly-in each month. They have fly-ins scheduled through 2010 and are planning a convention in Atlanta this May.

The overall VMG was formed by Richard Todd back in August of 2003. At the time, he focused on the Southwest states including California, Nevada, Arizona, and Utah. In 2008, Phil Corman, Chief VMG Mooniac, extended the chapter to include Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, and Colorado and renamed it Vintage Mooney Group West. The VMG South East chapter is the fourth chapter to be established.. The VMG has become the largest flying group in the world over the past year" says Corman. "The VMG is really about the camaraderie between Mooney owners and families". It's about sharing Mooney tales, maintenance practices, modifications and more. There are no dues or fees. To be a member, simply show up at a fly-in. "By the way, all Mooneys are welcome, it's the pilots that are vintage."

To sign up for the new VMG South East Chapter, simply go to www.vintagemooneygroup.com and click on the South East Chapter.