

**Warbird Report:** 2013 marks the 17th year for the Fort Worth Thunderbirds **Warbirds Over Lake Benbrook**. Although cold in the early morning (38 degrees), typical Texas weather prevailed as mid-day yielded sunny skies and temps in the 70 degree range. Alas, the winds varied from light to occasional gusts of 20-25.

There were 51 registered pilots with 94 aircraft. Attendance has been as high as 76 pilots with 120 aircraft representing all 5 states in AMA District VIII; Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, New Mexico, and Louisiana. In 2012 the event was held at our new flying facility located on the south end of Benbrook Lake. This is a premier flying facility leased from the area corps of engineers and maintained by the club's members.



The flying is low key, fly if you want or just visit with others that share your interest in warbirds while listening to great 1940s Big Band music. Oh, did I mention the great food prepared by Gary and Jeanie Alphin and this year assisted by Tab Bowlin. Hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, drinks, and chili. Lunch, give-a-ways, and promotions are free to registered pilots.



Jim Dietrick's beautiful Spad. Built from factory drawings and Balsa USA plans this 87lb beauty is a sight to behold. Jim is a precision scale builder and super nice guy. He said he prefers building over flying which is evident by his craftsmanship. The Spad has had six flights at the time of this writing. Spectators believed we were selling tickets for a ride.



