

Mr. Roland Gilliam was born in 1947 and raised in Virginia Beach, Virginia. The last forty-five years Roland and his wife, Nancy, have enjoyed Carthage, North Carolina as their home. During his time in Moore County, Mr. Gilliam has been a successful a businessman with a passion for Aviation.

Mr. Gilliam has been a general contractor for sixty-five years and is a retired Fireman from the Town of Carthage. He is the Owner and builder of Pik-N-Pig Restaurant and Recreational Vehicle Park, that are located on Gilliam-McConnell Airfield which he owns and manages. In addition, he is the President and Founder of the James Rogers McConnell Air Museum which is currently being relocated to the Gilliam-McConnell Airfield.

Roland's personal aviation career spans sixty-seven years, and he still maintains his Commercial Multi-Engine Pilots License. He has been awarded the Federal Aviation Administration Wright Brothers Master Pilot Award for more than fifty years of piloting experience. He is the President of Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1220, which provides more than 6,000 free plane rides through the Young Eagles flying program. Other programs associated with the Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 1220 are Eagle Flights that provide introductory flights for adults, and the Ray Aviation Scholarship for youth that aspire to become aviators. We want to welcome this year's guest speaker and Member of the Moore County Airport Authority, Mr. Roland Gilliam.