

## AIAA Supports 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Amy Herdy Cancer Cure Tournament

by  
*Ken Philippart*  
*Images by Roger Herdy*

The Greater Huntsville Section supported the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Amy Herdy Texas Hold ‘Em Cancer Cure Tournament to raise money for cancer research on August 26, 2017 at AEgis Technologies. The tournament raised \$4,600 for METAvivor Research and Support, a non-profit organization that funds breast cancer awareness, research and support.

The tournament was conceived by and organized since 2013 by long-time section member, former Membership Director and Associate Fellow Roger Herdy in honor of his sister Amy, who is battling cancer (and winning!). Roger conducted classes before the tournament to introduce new players to the game and encourage wider participation. Seven players, never exposed to poker, have won prizes in years past. All money raised through registration fees, chip and prize ticket sales was donated to METAvivor. Players competed for prizes donated by local businesses, AIAA members and other organizations. Along with organizing the event, Roger donated a pair of tickets to a Three Dog Night concert. AIAA members Wally and Michael Kirkpatrick donated a major prize, a One-Hour Sea Plane Excursion over Lake Guntersville in their airplane, a fitting donation from AIAA members.



AIAA's Roger Herdy took 7<sup>th</sup> place.

This year, AIAA Greater Huntsville sponsored a chair during the tournament for the first time, compliments of an AIAA member who funded and donated the seat in honor of his sister who died from cancer. A call was put out for an AIAA volunteer to represent the section and play at no cost to the player. Several AIAA members had already committed to playing for their companies. Seeing no one else stepping up, Roger Herdy accepted the seat and played on behalf of AIAA, the first time he was able to play in the tournament since he had always been too busy organizing the event to play himself.

Roger did the section proud and finished seventh out of 50 initial players. Well done Roger for organizing this worthy charitable event and ably representing the Greater Huntsville Section! Big thank yous to all AIAA members who helped make the tournament successful through donations of money,

time and services. You showed once again how the Greater Huntsville Section's big heart makes our community a better place.