

The next meeting of EAA Chapter 1268 will be this Tuesday evening, January 10, with dinner served at 7 pm and a short business meeting at 7:30. The speaker for the evening will be Don Grey from the Chrissy Field Museum in San Francisco. Don will be giving a talk on the history of Crissy Field, which began as an Army aviation field around the time of World War I. The following is information copied from the Chrissy Field website:

Originally a rich salt marsh and gathering ground for native people, Crissy Field was later the landing site of Spanish explorers and Russian, English and Boston traders. In 1915, the Panama Pacific International Exposition was held here, and shortly after, the area became one of the country's foremost military airfields and part of a U.S. army post. With generous community support, Crissy Field has been transformed into a spectacular national parkland. The 100-acre site is included within the Golden Gate National Recreation Area and the Presidio of San Francisco. Along with the entire Presidio, it was designated a National Historic Landmark in 1962.

As part of the site restoration effort in 1998-2000, individuals and groups from schools, corporations and civic organizations put in more than 100,000 native plants to help restore natural systems at Crissy Field. Community volunteers continue to play an important role in sustaining long-term stewardship of this national parkland.

Bev Morgan is back in town and will be serving her tasty stew as the main course. Marilyn Avrit will have her delicious desserts, of course, and Marilyn Poggensee will have breads and salads. Be sure to thank them as you go through the food line, and remember to ask what you can bring for the next meeting. Dinner will be five dollars per person.

The outgoing and incoming officers will meet at 6 pm before the meeting to make an orderly transition of power. A coup de tata had been suggested, but no one had the energy to organize one. They will outline plans for activities throughout the year with the hope of making flying from Sonoma Skypark an even more enjoyable experience. Any interested chapter members are invited to attend and offer their suggestions for upcoming meeting programs and speakers, fly-ins and fly-outs, and, of course, Any Excuse For a Barbecue excuses. A big thanks go to Don Cooley, outgoing President, Brent Smith, outgoing Secretary, Tim Bennett, outgoing Treasurer, and Marilyn Poggensee, outgoing Vice President. Our new officers are; Eric Presten, President, Darrel Jones, Vice President, Bob Avrit, Treasurer, and Ashley Gravatt, Secretary. Marilyn Poggensee will be Membership Chairperson for the upcoming year.

A new office may need to be created for one of Chapter 1268's members. Working titles under consideration are "The Energizer Buddy" or "The Guy Who Just Keeps Doin' Stuff." I'm voting for that last title, and of course you all know that we are talking about Don Youngs. Don is the "Guy" who built the mobile TV stand, as well as the table and chair carts that we use at every meeting. Don's latest project is organizing the crew, and actually doing most of the work, to expand the new Chapter clubhouse, formerly a T hangar, on the south end of A and B rows. Progress so far includes a new concrete slab poured with the help of Rafe Thomset and Randy Reis, and a lot of demolition and

construction with the additional help of Rich Cooper and a cast of, well a few more members.

The problem is that Don could use a few more folks to get the rest of the structure put together. He has most of the welding done, but is ready to start putting sheeting on the roof and side. Give Don a call at 707-538-2288 to see when he will be out at Skypark, and to offer to give him a hand. You can be certain that if it isn't raining, Don will be there. Thanks Don!

Dues are due for the new year! Chapter 1268 local dues are only \$12. Dues can be paid directly to Treasurer Bob Avrit at the meeting, or you can drop a check into the mail to him at: Robert Avrit, 4479 Grove Street, Sonoma, CA 95476. Please get your dues in during January so we can concentrate on having a good and sociable time, instead of tracking you to your lair and collecting the paltry, measly twelve smackeroos.

The chapter will be posting the 2006 calendar on the website following the January meeting. The calendar will be continually updated throughout the year as we add your suggested activities to the list. How about another poker run, or a monthly breakfast fly-out? Let us know what you would like to do and we will somehow find the means to grant your requests.

The chapter is planning to mail an up-to-date roster to the membership, hopefully before the end of March. It is especially important that we have all members up-to-date with their dues so we can make the roster complete. Planning is also already under way for another group trip to Oshkosh. It would be nice to have a planning meeting in April or May. If you missed the great exodus in 2002, you have another shot at a wonderful trip and a lot of fun. We are a recreational flying organization. Let's aviate!