



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport
21870 Eighth Street East
Sonoma, CA 95476

JULY 2020



WE SAY GOODBYE TO A LONG TIME GOOD FRIEND
John Thomason flew West in June. We'll miss that silly smile.

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

The January meeting is this **Tuesday, July 14,**
at 7:00 pm and will be by Zoom on the

Internet. The Board of Directors will meet at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner is at each of your own warm and cozy homes, and will be delicious I'm sure.

PRESIDENT'S/AIR EXPLORER REPORT

The President is on a secret mission and unable to communicate for fear of discovery. We'll have her report next month if she can evade capture.

EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER REPORT July 2020

Same ol', same ol'. We had money, we spent it and we're getting money back.

Bill has been dropping checks off at Mike Smith Aviation at the Napa airport for Nathan Wilson's flying lessons, but we're being reimbursed for most of that through the \$10,000 Ray Foundation aviation scholarship we received for Nathan's flight training and check ride.

We'll have more information in the next newsletter after the dust settles and the reimbursements are in our account at the bank.



I think we need more pictures in this newsletter, don't you? (I love dogs)

YOUNG EAGLES

I think this is a good place to put in some good news that relates to the Treasurer's report.

Nathan Wilson, one of our Young Eagles and Air Academy participants, passed his check ride for his private certificate July 2.



Nathan started coming to Skypark for Young Eagles rides and showed such enthusiasm that the Chapter sent him back to Oshkosh for the Air Academy two years. He started flight lessons with Richard Craig two years ago and was to the point that he almost ready for solo when we received word that we were getting a Ray Foundation scholarship.

The timing was perfect.

We interviewed Nathan and his mom, Anne-Andre' and got him started. Nathan took it from there and started flying with Mike Smith Aviation in Napa. Kimberly at Mike Smith deserves tremendous credit for making the outcome a resounding success.

The complication was that Nahtan is planning on leaving for college in Belgium in the first of August. He did the hard work of flying every chance he had to complete his training on a very accelerated schedule.



Nathan soloed June 10, passed his written June 30 and flew his check ride July 2.

Another Skypark pilot created, thanks to his hard work and the help and support of all of you in Chapter 1268 and at Sonoma Skypark.

I especially want to thank John Thomason again for his generosity in making his Tri-Pacer available for flight training, his monthly contributions to the Chapter 1268 scholarship fund and his unending enthusiasm in sharing his love of flying.

We will miss him.

MOVIE NIGHT AT SONOMA SKYPARK

Our regular fourth Saturday movie night is currently on hiatus (what a word).

Rafe did have a chance to emcee movies at Sonoma Skypark. He contacted the Sonoma International Film Festival folks and they put on a drive-in movie at Skypark on the evenings

of July 3 and 4. The reports were all positive so we may see more drive-in movies at Sonoma Skypark in the near future.

Bob had this to say:

I was there both nights. Well run and very enjoyable. Collin did a great job of representing SSP. I had the pleasure of spending time with Kevin McNeeley and his team (mostly because I was cooking hamburgers and serving free beer!) They had a somewhat slanted view of SSP BOD which I straightened them out on. They were very open and receptive to that. A very nice evening.

Bob

Of course they showed an aviation film the first night, screening Pixar's "Up" about an old man who attached helium-filled balloons to his house and flies away to another land.



This from the Pixar website:

A 78-year-old curmudgeonly balloon salesman, is not your average hero. When he ties thousands of balloons to his house and flies away to the wilds of South America, he finally fulfills his lifelong dream of adventure. But after Carl discovers an 8-year-old stowaway named Russell, this unlikely duo soon finds themselves on a hilarious journey in a lost world filled with danger and surprises.

The movie on the second evening didn't have a flying theme, unless you consider the experiences of Bill Wyman, the rock bassist and one of the founding members of the Rolling Stones, who might have "flown" at some point in his career. Maybe not.

I have a special fondness for drive-in movies since I am a product of the '50s. My parents used to go to the Sequoia drive-in down in Tulare county since then they wouldn't have to find a babysitter. I remember seeing "Shane" and coming home saying "come back Shane, mommy wants you" over and over. I think that didn't go over well with my dad.

I also remember being in the back seat of our Olds 88 and creating such a fuss that my parents had to leave before the end of the movie. "Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy" was really pretty intense when you're about five. I lost it when the Mummy reached out from behind a curtain toward Lou Costello.

Of course, Catherine and I took the kids to drive in movies when they were wee tykes in trundle bundles. I had an old Ford telephone van and we would load them in on top of a mattress in the back. I remember going to the Star-Vue in what was to become Codding Town in Santa Rosa to see the "Longest Day". Catherine made us a lasagna and we had just settled in when the fog rolled in. I think we had the lasagna back home that night.

At some point, we went to them all, the Star-Vue, the Village, the Midway, the Redwood and the Parkway. Saved us a bundle on babysitting.

We'll let you know what and when the drive-in at Skypark happens again. Until then, TCM has some great old movies. They might even have "Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy".

The Sonoma IT had a nice recap of the history of drive-in movies in Sonoma County at <https://www.sonomanews.com/article/entertainment/grab-your-parking-brake-sonoma-drive-in-movies-are-back/?sba=AAS>

DINNER SCHEDULE

We will reschedule our chefs when we start having meetings again. Contact Robin at robntat@aol.com or 707-553-2747. You can also let me know at wd6bor@vom.com and I'll put you on the roster.

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Speaker/Member/Subject
2020 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Gene Marcinkowski- Hamilton
FEB	Bruce Jamigian- Jimmy Doolittle
MAR	Yayoi West-NASA
APR	No meeting
MAY	No meeting
JUN	No meeting
JUL	Dinner at home(s)
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	Air Academy reports
DEC	XMAS PARTY

SPEAKERS

We are always, continually, everlastingly looking for speakers for our monthly programs.

Send an email to me at wd6bor@vom.com so we can get your program or speaker information into the newsletter.

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JAN	Gene Marcinkowski- Hamilton
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MAY	No meeting
JUN	No meeting
JUL	Michael Wray- Vickers Gun Bus
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	Air Academy reports
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2020 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

Send me any exciting, thrilling, terrifying or just plain fun events you have for the calendar.

DATE	EVENT
7/12	Young Eagles 9 am- cancelled
7/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm- Zoom meeting
7/16-19	Brodhead Pietenpol Fly-in cancelled
7/20-26	EAA AIRVENTURE at Oshkosh cancelled
7/25	Skypark Movie Night-cancelled
8/9	Young Eagles 9 am ?
8/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm ?
8/22	Skypark Movie Night ?
9/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm ?
9/12 ?	Skypark Family Fun Day! cancelled
9/13	Young Eagles 9 am ?
9/16-20	Reno Air Races ?
9/26	Skypark Movie Night ?
9/29-30 ?	Wings Over Wine Country ?
10/11	Young Eagles 9 am ?
10/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm ?
10/24	Skypark Movie Night ?
11/8	Young Eagles 9 am ?
11/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm ?
11/28	Skypark Movie Night ?
12/4	Skypark Xmas Party ?
1/1/20	New Years' Day 1 st Flight
Every Saturday Noon to 1:30 pm (someday) Skypark Hamburgers and Hot Dogs in the clubhouse! Currently cancelled	

EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting
June 9, 2020

What?! We didn't have a meeting in June?! We'll have to do something about that. Maybe a Zoom meeting at 7 pm on Tuesday, July 14. (I sure wish I had bought stock in Zoom back in January).

THE GOOD STUFF

If you've held on this long, I'll reward you with some news from our members.

Anna Mayfair Diaz sent me the news that Emmanuel Burke, one of our Young Eagles and Air Academy participants, is now a proud father of a bouncing baby boy, Sebastian.



From Anna:

Thank you again for always being so diligent in any news regarding our beloved pilots. And

some brighter news as one of ours sails into the blue skies for eternity, a baby is born and future Skypark member to follow in his father's EAA Chapter 1268 footsteps. Emmanuel Berke had a baby boy on May 29th born in St. Paul, MN weighing almost 10 pounds and 22 inches long

and named Sebastian Manuel in honor of my father. Mom and baby are doing great, and dad too! I'm sure you and our fellow members and friends in Skypark will love to read about it in your news.



Thank you, Jim Roberts, for sending the pictures of John for this month's newsletter. I have another photo showing Jim but I'm waiting for the blackmail payment before I publish it in the newsletter.

This photo was from Oshkosh 2018 and the one on the cover is from 2014. The cast of characters here, standing left to right behind John in the chair, are Sigmund Frazzell, derelict, Colin Traynor, the new Sonoma Skypark manager, Ron Willis, John's sidekick and bodyguard, Ron Price, the retiring Sonoma Skypark manager, although he doesn't look all that retiring in this photo, Jim Roberts, out on parole, although I heard that they caught up with him since this was taken, EAA Chapter 1268 president and big airplane pilot Robin Tatman, Travel Air pilot Major (airport bum) Bob Berwick, and the most normal looking of the bunch, Josh Brownel, although he also flies airplanes. They're all pretty harmless, although I wouldn't lend them money. Not much, anyway. Maybe five dollars. If they share the beer. They are pilots, after all

See you on the Ethernet tonight.

Send me your news for your newsletter!

Sonoma Skycrafters
EAA Chapter 1268
358 Patten Street
Sonoma, CA 95476

MEMBERSHIP **DUES ARE DUE** IN JANUARY, AND MEMBERSHIP RUNS FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER. DUES ARE STILL A MODEST **FIFTEEN BUCKS**, SO BRING SOME CASH FOR DINNER AND A BIT MORE TO **PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2020!** SEE YOU THERE!

REMEMBER! THE JULY MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, JULY 14 AT 7 P.M., ON ZOOM!
AN EMAIL WENT OUT TO THE MEMBERS WITH THE LINK TO THE ZOOM MEETING. DOWNLOAD THE SOFTWARE AND CLICK THE LINK.
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE 6 P.M. BEFORE THE MEETING
SKYCRAFTER MEMBERSHIP

EAA CHAPTER 1268 Membership Dues: **\$15 per year.**

Name: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone number, home: _____ work: _____

EAA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____

AIRCRAFT OWNED OR BUILDING: _____

Your check should be made payable to: **EAA 1268**

Please mail your dues to:
Bill Wheadon, Treasurer
1021 Stonebridge Drive
Napa, CA 94558