



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport
21870 Eighth Street East
Sonoma, CA 95476

JANUARY 2021



JOHN MILES WITH HIS CHERRY '64 IMPALA CONVERTIBLE
He didn't park it in front of his sweet Taylorcraft BC12D

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President/AE: Robin Tatman, 707-553-2747

Vice President: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382

Secretary: Nelleke Cooper, 707-938-5587

Treasurer: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901

Membership: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901

Young Eagles: BK White, 707-996-1335

BOD: Jeanette Woods, 707-996-4563

BOD: Paul Seibert, 707-939-7491

BOD: Marsi Fahraji, 415-686-5254

BOD: Roland Gangloff, 707-935-1832

Web editor: Gretchen McDougall

BOD/Building/Newsletter: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382

FIRST THINGS FIRST

The January meeting is this Tuesday, January 12, at 7 p.m. The Board of Directors will meet at 6:00 p.m.

Use this link to join a Zoom test meeting to try out your connection.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115002262083-Joining-a-test-meeting>

I may show the January Chapter video if time permits. Yayoi West will be our speaker in February.

WOMAN ON A MOTORCYCLE

A Regular Feature of the Flying Times



Send me some photos of women in airplanes and I'll put them in also.

EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER REPORT JANUARY 2021

Membership Report – As a new year begins on hopefully a better one than the previous, I'm glad to report renewals are coming in even though our chapter activities have been curtailed by this Covid thing. I take that as a sign that we have optimists in our number, including me.

We do have one new member that included a descriptive message with his application that I'll pass on to you. His name is Ben Inglis who lives in Petaluma and has visited the Saturday burger fests in the past and has met some of our members. Ben is admittedly a "rusty pilot" who last flew in 2014 with 380 hours in mostly tailwheel and a fair amount in acro planes. The majority of his 1300 landings were in a Great Lakes, plus a few in Citabria, Super Decathlon,

and the venerable Cessna 172. He also has an ASES rating with 11 hours in floats. The following are the exact words from his membership application:

"I'm looking to get back into flying as a hobby (burning money!), ideally with some sort of new challenge – a part ownership of something interesting would be nice! Tailwheel heavily preferred, biplane preferred, performance optional – low 'n slow is just fine. Must have a big grin after every flight. Steam gauges & nostalgia are my thing. So, might there be a spot for me in your wonderful club?"

I think we can all agree that Ben is the type member that will be welcomed in our group.

Treasurer Report – For the month of December we had 6 renewals and one new member plus a \$100 donation to our Air Academy fund. However, I haven't made a deposit of those funds but will do so shortly (trying to minimize contact with the outside world. We had one expenditure - \$535 for our renewal with EAA National. We did earn some interest in our accounts: \$2.17 in the savings and \$12.05 in the CD accounts.

Our three accounts total \$13,886.40 in chapter funds. This is broken down in the following accounts:

Checking account - \$8535.09
Savings account - \$ 115.78
CD account - \$5235.40

That's all for now – any questions? If so, shoot me an email – bill.wheadon@gmail.com.
See you at the meeting,
Bill
Membership Chairman and Treasurer

YOUNG EAGLES

This from BK:

Once again, I don't have any "STUFF" to send. Just waiting in the warm-up area to get flying again. Jeez, by the time we get to fly again all our current planes will be antiques. Keep up the good work.....B.K.

We are all looking forward to flying Young Eagles again. As always BK White is looking for volunteer pilots, ground crew and registration helpers for our monthly Young Eagles events for when we get back in operation.

Let him know you will be joining us and helping out by sending him an email to eagle1@vom.com or by calling him at 707-996-1335.

MOVIE NIGHT AT SONOMA SKYPARK

We have talked about having a Zoom movie night but the details haven't been confirmed yet. We'll let you know when and if we get that program going.

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	Cooks/Meal
2021 DINNER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Dinner at home
FEB	?
MAR	?
APR	?
MAY	?
JUN	?
JUL	?
AUG	?
SEP	?

OCT	?
NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY - ?
Standby	?

SPEAKERS

We are always, continually, everlastingly looking for speakers for our monthly programs. Here's where I see if any of you are actually reading this newsletter or if it just goes into your spam folder.

We would like a member to be our speaker chairperson. EAA has a list of virtual speakers on the EAA website. You would just need to go through the list, chose some potential speakers and then contact them to schedule them for our Zoom meetings. Your help will be much appreciated.

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

Month	Speaker/Member/Subject
2021 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Chapter video
FEB	Yayoi West- NASA
MAR	?
APR	?
MAY	?
JUN	?
JUL	?
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY

2021 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
1/10	Young Eagles - cancelled
1/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm- Zoom
1/22	Skypark Movie Night- cancelled
1/31	Air Academy application deadline
2/14	Young Eagles cancelled
2/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm - Zoom
2/26	Skypark Movie Night cancelled
3/14	Young Eagles cancelled
3/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm - Zoom
3/26	Skypark Movie Night cancelled
4/11	Young Eagles - ?
4/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
4/23	Skypark Movie Night - ?
5/9	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
5/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
5/28	Skypark Movie Night - ?
6/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
6/13	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
6/25	Skypark Movie Night - ?
7/11	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
7/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
7/21-25	Brodhead Pietenpol Fly-in - ?
7/26-8/1	EAA AIRVENTURE at Oshkosh - ?
7/23	Skypark Movie Night - ?
8/8	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
8/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
8/27	Skypark Movie Night - ?
9/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
9/11 ?	Skypark Family Fun Day!
9/12	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
9/15-19	Reno Air Races - ?
9/24	Skypark Movie Night - ?
9/18-19	Wings Over Wine Country - ?
10/10	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
10/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
10/22	Skypark Movie Night - ?
11/14	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
11/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?

11/26	Skypark Movie Night - ?
12/3	Skypark Xmas Party - ?
1/1/22	New Years' Day 1 st Flight
Every Saturday Noon to 1:30 pm Skypark Hamburgers and Hot Dogs in the clubhouse!	

EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES

EAA 1268 Board of Directors Zoom Meeting
December 8, 2020

The Board Meeting was called to order by Vice President Darrel Jones at 6:05 pm.

Present online were: Vice President Darrel Jones, Treasurer Bill Wheadon, Secretary Nelleke Cooper, Director Roland Gangloff. Absent: President Robin Tatman, Board members wore Christmas head gear. Darrel had several hats and Roland was Rudolf the Red nosed Reindeer as a substitute for a REAL social Happy Hour.

Darrel mentioned that he did not have confirmation for reserved Air Academy slots he sent in last year to be transferred over to 2021. However, Evan Buckley has been confirmed for (2021) this year. The age limitation for him has been waived. If we have slots available Darrel can make the applications available via our electronic Newsletter. The other issue is that we can't foresee the impact of the vaccine on this year's Air Academy.

Roland asked if Bill Wheadon still preferred to have separate categories for the Ray and the Flight Scholarships and Bill Wheadon concurred.

Bill moved the money for the Club House improvements from the Checking into the Savings account, to get some interest. Darrel will discuss other funds in our Treasury such as the Jack Strehl Memorial at the Skypark Board

meeting. The Jack Strehl fund is specifically designated for projects at Sonoma Skypark such as a picnic table and bench in Jack's memory.

Membership report by Bill Wheadon. For 2020 we had 54 paid-up members and for 2021 there are currently 12. Recruitment for members in the Covid era is more challenging and Bill would like to have a position created for an Assistant Membership Chair as well as an Assistant Treasurer. He would continue with his current duties, but be more comfortable with a back-up. Marsi Allard would be an excellent choice to recruit Members. Also mentioned was Ann-Andre, Nathan Wilson's mother. Darrel suggested getting a geographic list of our area of EAA members and get 3 or 4 people to contact them by email or phone to inform them of our Chapter and recruit them. In addition, we need more help organizing the Skypark Flying Club. Try to recruit kids from local HS, help with washing airplanes, etc. If we had 3 or 4 airplanes and a pool of CFI's this goal would be self-fulfilling. However, we would need more than 3 or 4 people to get this going.

Our California Non-Profit status has lapsed. The special CA form 3500 to re-establish this status has been sent in by Darrel. Once we have our California non-profit status reestablished it's a matter of sending in a annual postcard return

As for the Flying Club, Roland suggested that adults at our Young Eagles events could be more involved with their kids. Darrel suggested publishing stories in the local newspaper of individual flights of kids and their pilot once we start Flying Young Eagles again. Roland also suggested posting the story of Jorge Oros and Fabiola Chavez in the local paper, with their approval.

Meeting adjourned 6:40 pm.

General Meeting called to order by President Robin Tatman at 7:00 pm

Present: Board members: Robin Tatman, Darrel Jones, Bill Wheadon, Roland Gangloff and Nelleke Cooper
Chapter Members: Rafe Tomsett, Mark Shackford, Ron Price, Frank Russo, Anne-Andre Wilson, Nathan Wilson, Gardner Bride, Sam McIntosh, Connor Richey, Yayoi West.

The officers gave their reports to the Members.

Nathan Wilson has been in school in Ixelle, Belgium for the last semester and will be returning to Belgium on January 8. Nathan established a relationship with a pilot in Northern France and his Mom was telling us that he got to fly his friend's ultralight airplane.

Ron Price had the pleasure of visiting Jorge Oros at Cochise College in Douglas, AZ. The airport was developed in the 1920's and is right on the border with Mexico. The Powderpuff Derby of 1929 landed there. Jorge's airplane is in one of the hangars they actually used! Robin will send Jorge's email address to Roland so he can contact him in order to publicize his story in the IT. Ron told us that a lot of history took place in the area. In Columbus, New Mexico, the 1st US Air force (Air Corps) was established there. They had a total of 11 pilots and 8 airplanes, which they used to chase Pancho Villa back across the border!

Gardner Bride learned to fly in the area when he was 15 years old. He flew Taylorcrafts, Luscombes and Stinsons. His instructors were 2 women who had been WASPs.

Mark Shackford asked if anyone knew of a company that could rebalance the Propeller on his airplane as it had developed a vibration.

The company in Hayward apparently went out of business. Ron suggested a company in Paso Robles and Robin said to ask Peter Gauthier and Bob Berwick.

Yayoi to be our speaker in February to give us a presentation on a Nasa expedition to Mars.

Mark Shackford wondered if we would be able to resume our Saturday BBQ's with outdoor dining. Rafe suggested making some changes in our set-up and we may be able to qualify, like it was with the Drive-In movie. Robin said that it would only be possible if there wasn't a lock-down.

Ron gave an update on the flying at Sonoma Skypark. Some individual pilots, the Balloon Company and Bob Berwick fly on occasion, and gasoline sales at Skypark are only down a little bit this year.

The price of gasoline at Skypark is \$4.10/gallon, but much cheaper in other parts of the country to which Ron attested when driving Walt Bowe's motorhome across the country.

Sam McIntosh told us a story of how he flew into Las Cruces, New Mexico amid a melee of T-34's landing and taking off as he fought his way into the pattern for landing. In those days, Las Cruces was a favorite training spot for aspiring Naval aviators.

More fascinating aviation stories were told by different members.

Meeting adjourned 8:20 pm

Minutes submitted by Nelleke Cooper
EAA Chapter 1268 Secretary

HOMEBUILDERS WEEK – ONLINE EVENT
STARTS JANUARY 26



An online opportunity to learn about all aspects of building your own aircraft

By Charlie Becker, EAA Homebuilt Community Manager

EAA is launching a new online learning event for aircraft builders: (www.EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek). It will be five straight days of educational forums covering a broad spectrum of aircraft building topics. It will launch on Tuesday, January 26, 2021, and run until Saturday, January 30, 2021. The live online presentations will be open to everyone interested in building their own aircraft. Sessions will start at 1 p.m. CST and run until 8:30 p.m. CST daily.

This event is an opportunity for a new person to jump in with both feet and learn a lot about the wonderful world of homebuilding. We will cover areas like getting started successfully and techniques when building with sheet metal, composites, steel, and wood. But it won't be just for the newbie; we are offering in-depth talks on panel planning, engine selection, FAA certification, flight testing, and selling a homebuilt aircraft. There will be something for every builder, whether you are

just starting out, knee deep in a project, or just received your airworthiness certificate — it is going to be a great learning opportunity.

EAA is working with industry experts, kit manufacturers, and other subject matter experts to provide top-notch material for builders. The sessions will be live and allow plenty of time for attendee questions. Recordings will be archived and available to EAA members for review.

The launch of EAA Homebuilders Week coincides with the 68th anniversary of the founding of the Experimental Aircraft Association in 1953. Those founding members of EAA lit the fuse on the homebuilt movement that provides affordable access to aircraft ownership and today has spread worldwide.

EAA Homebuilders Week is possible through the generous sponsorships of Aircraft Spruce & Specialty Co., Dynon, Scheme Designers, Inc., and Van's Aircraft, Inc.

Visit [EAA.org/HomebuildersWeek](https://www.eaa.org/HomebuildersWeek) to review the schedule and sign up for a session.

OTHER NEWS AROUND THE AIRPORT

I recently learned that John Miles passed away on Christmas Day from COVID.

John was a long-time regular at Sonoma Skypark and flew his Taylorcraft all over the country, including a trip to Alaska with Ron Price, Steve Alsterlind and some other pilots.

John was one of those perpetually smiling guys who brightened your day as soon as you laid eyes on him. He didn't talk about himself much

so I was surprised when I first saw him drive by in his beautiful 1964 Chevy Impala convertible, cap on his head and looking quite dashing.

John's Taylorcraft is the one Robin, Richard Craig and I bought in partnership to get the Skypark Flying Club off to a good start. Richard is using it for tailwheel instruction. We'll be transferring it into the flying club as soon as we get that going

Contact Richard if you need some tailwheel instruction.

New Years Day at Sonoma Skypark was a good flying day. The sun was shining with a little fog down the bay toward San Francisco.

I got the Stinson out after putting it together after the annual and took a little tour down to San Pablo Bay, out to Tomales Bay, up to Bodega to circle the Hole in the Head and Spud Point Marina, back through Bennett Valley to circle a friend's house and home to Sonoma Skypark for a good enough landing that the airplane was still usable. Not bragging, just sayin'.

There were a number of other people getting the year off to a good start. As soon as we get our vaccinations, we can get back to Saturday hamburgers, Movie Nights and actually having dinner together again in the clubhouse.

I can hardly wait.

That's it for tonight. I'll see you Tuesday.

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 2021!** SEE YOU THERE!



REMEMBER! THE JANUARY MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, JANUARY 12 AT 7 P.M., ON ZOOM. LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED HELP GETTING ON ZOOM. 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