



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport

21870 Eighth Street East

Sonoma, CA 95476

AUGUST 2021



Frank Schelling and Jim Roberts in front of Frank's 1928 Travel Air
See inside for more on Frank's airplane.

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

The January meeting is this Tuesday, August 10. The Board of Directors will meet at 6:00 p.m.

The general membership meeting will start at 7 pm.

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>

WOMAN ON A MOTORCYCLE



Ready for a road trip

PRESIDENT'S/AIR EXPLORER REPORT

Hi everyone

Big news around town this week is the change in the mask mandate that has been occurring all over the Bay Area counties. This has impacted all 3 of our monthly activities, and all when they were just picking up steam.

While everyone has been watching the news, there a few of us that have some insider information through friends that are practicing epidemiologists and reps for pharma companies that are involved in the treatment of COVID. I am happy to say that their information is jiving with the news on TV, which most importantly seems to be stressing:

People who have been vaccinated are less likely to get the Delta variant; however! They can get the virus but have mostly more mild symptoms, or

Have no symptoms but are contagious to others.

To date there have been no known deaths of persons vaccinated from COVID (as of 2 days ago).

People who have not been vaccinated are very susceptible to either form and have worse symptoms and are frequently hospitalized or worse. Since nearly all young children have not yet able to be vaccinated, this puts them at a particularly high risk.

With the numbers of new infections climbing daily in the Bay Area (and everywhere else), wearing a mask indoors continues to be a simple and effective way of curbing the numbers of new infections and hospitalizations. Over 83% of the eligible population in Sonoma County is vaccinated. That is impressive - well ahead of the national

curve. After reading the County Mask Mandate, I was impressed that they really want to keep everything - businesses, schools, churches, etc. open

After much discussion we decided to:

1. Postpone the Saturday barbecue for 1 week. We are looking in to making it more of an outdoor event. Look out Richard Craig!
2. We are postponing Young Eagles on a month-by-month basis. August was cancelled, and we will put notices on the web site and hopefully in the paper by the first Thursday of every month letting people know.
3. This month the EAA meeting will be a Zoom meeting. I am hoping that some of you who went to Oshkosh (Darrel, Ron, Rafe for example), will be tuning in and giving us their personal highlights of the event, which set a new attendance record of over 608,000 people. WOW.

September, Roland Gangloff will be our speaker giving a presentation on the condition of the Arctic Shelf. I have some ideas of how to make it an in-person meeting and comply SAFELY with our current mask mandate. Either way, I wouldn't miss it! If it doesn't work, we will continue with the Zoom format going forward.

News of our fledglings:

We have had some exciting news the last couple of months of our Sky Park "kids". Daniel Shulte (the guy who made the movie "For The Love of Flight"), got a corporate job flying a jet (not sure which one yet - Citation or Global), for a great company (as in in business for many years!) out of the Centennial Airport. He should be done with training soon. Amir Fahraji graduated from college and joined the Army! Bootcamp was challenging, but he passed with flying colors. He is on his way to

becoming a nurse. His curriculum is extremely compacted and tough, but he loves it and is doing extremely well. His mom (Marsi) is really proud of him, and I am too!

Jorge Oros, who was a guest speaker for us several months ago, is going to work for a subsidiary of FedEx flying a Caravan in the mid-west. If all goes well, he could have a real leg up getting on with FedEx main line in the future. Sounds like he did a great job instructing down south, and I'm glad to see he's back to flying in the left seat. I want to have him as a speaker again after his first winter flying back there!

I want to extend a special thank you to Robert and Kasey Dodson for many hours of volunteer work with the Saturday Barbecue over the last few months. Kasey is a private pilot with a passion for tail wheel aircraft (she really wants a Luscombe). Ditto for Robert except that he just started flying for FedEx last year. And they got married last October. Big year!! Robert is based in Hong Kong officially, but due to politics has been forced in to Nomad mode until things get more stable over there. They are literally bouncing around checking places out to live, AND WE WANT THEM TO COME BACK HERE! Our Sky Park charm has been rubbing off on them, but they are making their way up north to Portland and Seattle to check things out up there. So, do what you can to convince them to stay. Robert has a lovely Stearman that would really like it here!

I am on reserve this month, and am writing to you from Los Angeles. My 90-day currency expires on the 19th and I am banging on the door of the training department to get in the sim for takeoffs and landing. No response from them yet, but I may miss the meeting Tuesday heading to Atlanta. Hope not though!

Robin

**EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND
TREASURER REPORT**

August 2021

Treasurer Report For the month of July we had no disbursements of chapter funds and no deposits due to the fact that I didn't make a deposit until the first week in August. Therefore, I'm estimating what our July 31st holdings are based on that late deposit of \$4955. The deposit consisted of \$235 in dues renewal, \$220 in dinner proceeds and \$4500 in a donation to the scholarship fund Our estimated balance is \$21,048.49 in the following accounts:

Checking account - \$15185.61
Savings account - \$ 122.24
CD account - \$5285.64

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

With the worsening COVID crisis, the Board of Directors have decided to resume EAA Chapter 1268 meetings on Zoom. Young Eagles and Saturday hamburgers are also on hold for the time being, and will resume when the COVID infection rate comes back down and it is safe to meet indoors in person.

It was wonderful flying Young Eagles in July, and we are all looking forward to flying Young Eagles again as soon as it is safe to do so.

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.

THIS FROM JIM ROBERTS

On Monday, 7-5-21, I flew Frank Schelling from his home in Sweetwater, TN, over to Weakley Airfield, Northwest of Nashville, so we could help Mark Lightsey hang the wings on Frank's 1928 Travel Air 4000.

It had been a while since Frank was in a plane, and as we cruised along in the Swift, he looked around for a while, then said, "Your plane is really nice. And it's ENCLOSED!"

This struck me as hilarious, considering Frank's love affair with antique biplanes. We had a great day working with Mark, and the highlight for me was when, after I finished tapping in a wing attach bolt with a hammer, Frank said to me, "Congratulations. Now you're a Travel Air mechanic!"

Mark is doing a beautiful job with the "Lindbergh Travel Air" which was flown by Lindy when he was an airmail pilot with Robertson Aircraft Corporation.

Hopefully, it will be flying for Frank's birthday on 10-13-21.

Take care, and have a safe trip to OSH. See you in a couple of weeks!

PS... Hi to all the Skypark gang!

MOVIE NIGHT AT SONOMA SKYPARK

Rafe had a great movie night in June, with movies postponed during July for AirVenture. Unfortunately, crowding into an enclosed clubhouse for several hours with the highly communicable delta variant of the COVID virus

surging wouldn't be safe. We are hoping movies can resume soon, but we will have to wait until the infection rate drops as more people are vaccinated.

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	Dinner at home
MAR	Dinner at home
APR	Dinner at home
MAY	Dinner at home
JUN	Last dinner at home!
JUL 13	Darrel, barbecue
AUG 10	Dinner at home, again
SEP 14	?
OCT 12	?
NOV 9	?
DEC 3	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	Socially distanced gathering
FEB	Yayoi West - Mars mission
MAR	Kerry McCauley - ferry pilot
APR	Flight scholarship discussion
MAY	Robin- You Tube video
JUN	John F. Hansen
JUL	Ivy Morrison – balloon camp
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
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 - cancelled
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- on hold for now	

EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES
JULY 14, 2021

EAA 1268 Board of Directors Meeting

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Robin Tatman at 6:30 pm.

Present: President Robin Tatman, Vice President Darrel Jones, Treasurer Bill Wheadon, Secretary Nelleke Cooper, Director Roland Gangloff and Young Eagles Coordinator BK White

The Board Meeting was held in the atrium area of the club house while a delectable meal was being prepared by our Chefs, Darrel Jones on the newly acquired catering BBQs obtained by Rafe, and Bob Berwick shucking lots of oysters, picked up by Darrel that very day at Bodega Bay. Tina Masquelier (Sonoma Skypark new office manager) got all the supplies and Robin brought salad and had several helpers setting up.

The two candidates for the Ray Scholarship, Philip Lachman and Sebastian Johnson will be asked to volunteer for the Saturday BBQ at Skypark, which was recently resumed. Each candidate will receive \$5,000 from the Ray Scholarship. Our Chapter and the Petaluma Pilots Assoc. will contribute to make up the additional \$5,000 per student.

Bill Wheadon will send updated Treasury Report information electronically and received a check from Robin for \$4,500 from donations received over the past few years.

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned 6:50 pm.

General Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm

President Robin Tatman welcomed the members of Chapter 1268 back to our first In-Person meeting after the Covid-19 lockdown.

She thanked Darrel for the planning and preparing a wonderful meal of BBQ'ed chicken, sausage and barbequed oysters – all shucked by Bob Berwick! A big thanks to Bruce and Marcia McGlothin for providing us with lamb and our Kasey, (husband Fed Ex) for helping with all the preparations. Robin brought salad, homemade key lime pie and ice cream sandwiches.

The officers gave the report of the Board meeting to the General membership.

Mark Shackford introduced Jeremy, who recently bought Kyle Cooper's Champ. Gene Marcinkowski introduced his grandson Vince, who soloed in a PA 38 Piper Tomahawk a few weeks ago and is in an ROTC program.

Will Campbell's photographs, including Cal Fire and other pictures taken last year were on display on the large screen.

Robin gave a report to the Members on the Ray Scholarships as discussed at the Board Meeting. She mentioned our great instruction base with both Richard Craig and Mark Ashton available.

There are several ways to make donations towards the scholarships for flight instruction and Air Venture:

- For Amazon Prime members, signing up under smile.amazon.com and selecting our Chapter 1268 Amazon will donate to us each time we make a purchase under smile.amazon.com

- For our members to make a monthly donation to the scholarship fund.
- A one-time or yearly donation etc.
- Chapter 1268 is a 501-c3 organization – nonprofit, tax deductible.

Robin expressed her appreciation to the members for their contributions.

Treasure report by Bill Wheadon. Deposits of \$325 which included \$255 in dues and a \$70 donation to youth aviation education. A check for flight instruction to Richard Craig for \$250 Darrel asked for volunteers to help with the Saturday hamburger barbecue.

BK White gave the Young Eagles report. It was the inaugural Young Eagles event after the Covid lockdown and the pilots flew 11 flights. The pilots were Don Booker, Darrel Jones and Tim Bloodgood. Gretchen did the registration, which is a critical component as EAA will give us \$5 credit for every form send in that we can use for Air Academy scholarships. The weather was beautiful, with great coffee and donuts. BK invited anyone interested in helping to come out every 2nd Sunday of the month.

15-Year-old Ivy Morrison was the Speaker for the evening. Her presentation about attending the High Sierra Ballooning Camp through the BFA Balloon Federation of America was detailed and technically amazingly accurate. Daily wake up time was 3:00 am; they would have a safety pilot briefing, with emphasis on fire extinguishers. They launched from Prosser campground and learned all about balloon flying from certified hot-air balloon pilots. Interesting fact about balloons is that the shape does not necessarily has to have aerodynamic qualities as vertically it is controlled by the hot air produced by the burner and the wind is a big component of direction. There are different sizes balloons.

The weight of the passengers and the size of the balloon are closely related. Average balloons carry 8 people, but 16 person capacity and up are available as well.

Balloon burners are loud and Ivy explained that burners have a whisper as well as a normal function. In the future Ivy hopes to get her ballooning private pilot license and eventually her Commercial license. She is also interested in getting her fixed wing licenses in the future.

In the question-and-answer period Richard Cooper, who used to own Sonoma Thunder with Don Booker and Wayne Schake, told a story of an unplanned landing at the Sonoma Race Track.

Membership meeting adjourned 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Nelleke Cooper, Secretary

WOMEN IN AIRPLANES



Ruth Elder

THE RANT

Disclaimer: don't read this if you are easily offended, have sensitive feelings, or don't give a hang about my crackpot opinions. You've been warned!

I've been thinking about the fact that we are falling back to a more troubled time in this pandemic than we were just a short month ago.

In July, I celebrated the fact that I was vaccinated and the mask mandate had been lifted by cooking a barbecue for the July meeting. I also flew our first Young Eagles Day in over a year. We started Saturday hamburgers again. Life was good and getting back to normal.

Then the delta variant showed up, and because enough people hadn't gotten their vaccination, we were headed back to the bad old days of lots of seriously sick people being hospitalized and dying.

Ignorance is not knowing. Stupidity is having the information and ignoring it. As Forrest Gump said, "Stupid is as stupid does."

We have had to cancel our in-person meetings, our Young Eagles days, our Saturday hamburgers and our return to some semblance of normalcy because a lot of people believe the ravings of unhinged commentators pushing insane conspiracy theories instead of dedicated health professionals who have dedicated their lives to keeping us healthy and safe.

I'm vaccinated, but I could still be infected with COVID by someone who's not. I might be

asymptomatic, but I could infect my daughter, who is also vaccinated. She could infect my granddaughter, who is also vaccinated and would probably not be seriously affected. My granddaughter could pass COVID on to her children, ages seven to one, all of whom are too young to be vaccinated.

The one-year-old, Ford, is a bright, loving child. He has just learned to walk, loves playing with his older siblings, gives out smiles easily and generously, and has asthma. If he is infected, there's a good chance he will die.

So, to all the unvaccinated who refuse because they claim that vaccination infringes on their personal liberties, or is unproven and untested (it's not), or who think Bill Gates is using vaccinations to inject microchips into them, I say: get vaccinated! Let's get our lives back!

My family's safety, your family's safety and everyone else's family's safety depend on it.

This editorial represents my opinion only, and does not reflect the opinions or position of EAA Chapter 1268.

I could have gone on for several more pages, but I think you get the drift.

BLOG MONSTER

I wrote a blog during the Oshkosh trip that Gretchen has put on the Sonoma Skypark website under news. Take a look at

www.sonomaskypark.com

Send me your news for your newsletter!



Shireen, Jeanette and Kathy at John's bench, Shireen and Jeanette with Bob's Travel Air

Sonoma Skyrafters
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! (This message is for when we are back in the clubhouse. For now, just mail a check to Bill at the address below.)

REMEMBER! THE AUGUST MEETING OF SONOMA SKYRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, AUGUST 10 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