



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Skycrafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport
21870 Eighth Street East
Sonoma, CA 95476

FEBRUARY-MARCH 2023



SCOTT GREEN'S GREAT PHOTO OF A PIETENPOL AT BRODHEAD

The annual Brodhead Pietenpol fly-in is July 20-23. Don't miss it!

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Don Booker, 707-938-9461
Vice President: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382
Secretary: Yayoi West, 707-364-9257
Treasurer/Membership: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901
BOD: Robin Tatman, 707-553-2747
BOD: Marsi Allard, 415-686-5254

BOD: Nelleke Cooper, 707-938-5587
BOD/Membership Chair: Roland Gangloff,
707-935-1832
Web editor/Young Eagles: Gretchen
McDougall
Dinner/speaker coordinators: ?
Building/Newsletter: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382

FIRST THINGS FIRST

The January meeting is **Tuesday, March 14** (I don't need to confuse you any further about "the January meeting". It's an old joke). The Board of Directors will meet at 6:00 p.m. Dinner is at 7:00 p.m. after the Board of Directors' meeting, and is \$10.00 per person. Our chefs for the month will be Marilyn and Bob Avrit.

Our speaker will be Yayoi West talking about NASA Asteroid Mission: Returning a Piece of the Ancient Solar System to Earth. OSIRIS-REx will bring back a sample in this fall from a potentially hazardous asteroid Bennu -Mars Rovers' findings and a future mission

WOMEN IN AIRPLANES



Our own beloved Jeanette Woods celebrating her 90th birthday. Jeanette was one of our first and most enthusiastic Young Eagles pilots, as well as being an invaluable member of the Sonoma Skypark family, and has flown over 300 Young Eagles flights.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The good news is that the restroom renovation fund is up to about \$5,000. As soon as we get to \$15,000, we can start work. Please send your donations to Bill Wheadon at the address on the last page of this newsletter. We are a 501.c.3 non-profit, so all donations are deductible as a charitable contribution.

I didn't have any responses to my request for volunteers for projects in the clubhouse, such as putting the rest of the insulation up, taking out the old sink and cabinet in the kitchen and installing a new stainless-steel sink and counter, and taking the old cabinets in the workshop hangar to the dumps and putting up new shelving to store the catering equipment. Cindy Mikkelsen donated to the Chapter.

We need:

2 people to take out the old cabinet in the workshop and put together two shelving units
2 to 3 people to remove the old sink, cabinet and dishwasher and install the new three compartment stainless commercial sink in the kitchen

2 to 3 people to put up the insulation in the kitchen and workshop

2 people to take the junk in the workshop to the dump

1 to 2 people to add and repair the gutters on the workshop hangar. We get a lot of water into the space when it rains.



We have one of the old carts someone built for the old black restaurant chairs that will go to

recycling unless someone wants it. The old shop cabinets can also go to someone's hangar. Let me know if you want them and I'll put them outside for you to pick up.

Please send me an email or give me a call to get on the list for the construction crew. I'll see what times work for the volunteers and then start scheduling dates for the work parties.

CLUBHOUSE UPGRADES

I found a good candidate sink in Hayward for \$500 used, so I took a drive down there last Tuesday to look at it and buy it if it looked good.

I got to the store on West Milton Way, which borders the Hayward airport, and gave Emad (just call him Eddy) a call. I had called before I left and told him I would be there in an hour and a half, and made it right on time.

The chain on the front door was unlocked and hanging from the handle, but the door was locked and Emad wasn't around. I gave him a call and he said he would turn around and come right back. I watched airplanes in the pattern while I waited.

It was starting to get interesting, but I'm always up for a good adventure.



Emad arrived in a beat-up pickup, with his sidekick in the passenger seat. He unlocked the door and proudly showed me the sink, which was 32 inches wide instead of the advertised 24. I had texted before I left asking him to confirm that it was 24 inches, and received an affirmative reply.

He seemed to be genuinely sorry for the mistake and offered to sell me a new sink for \$700. A number of thoughts ran through my head before I decided that the extra \$200 was still a bargain since I had been looking for a sink for the last year and saw most used ones that size selling for much more.

Then he made a call to order the sink, and I told him I wasn't driving back to Hayward to pick it up. Oh, no, he assured me, the warehouse is just down the street. He hopped into his pickup, I into mine, and off we went about a mile. There was the warehouse, stacked to the rafters with restaurant equipment, contractors from Sacramento and beyond waiting outside to load their orders, and our new stainless commercial sink sitting on the forklift.

I paid Emad (cash only), loaded the sink, and drove back to Sonoma thinking that, all in all, the traffic was light, the weather good and it was a successful day.

The Board approved \$500 for a sink and another \$250 for the shelving at the last meeting. I may look at a stainless prep table for \$200 to \$300 to replace the old granite topped cabinet with the loose doors that we currently have as a work table. If you have a line on a table 5' to 6' long by 24 inches wide, let us know.

Darrel

EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER REPORT

February 2023 Treasurer Report

For the month of January 2023, we had one deposit of \$5115 and one disbursement of \$1000 for a net increase of \$4115 in our checking account. The deposit consisted of \$285 in dues renewal, \$3800 in donations for the planned clubhouse renovation, \$100 donation for the Pietenpol project, \$650 in proceeds from the Saturday BBQs in December

and January, and \$280 from the sale of the ice cream cart.

The lone disbursement of \$1000 was to Mike Smith Aviation to cover flight training expenses for Kate Llodra.

Total chapter funds are \$35,345.29 distributed in the following accounts:
Checking account - \$27,549.74
Savings account - \$ 7,642.96
CD account - \$ 5,322.59
Total account funds \$40,525.29 - \$5180
Clubhouse renovation funds =
Total Chapter funds \$35,345.29

March 2023 Treasurer Report

February has been a quiet month in terms of chapter financial activity.

We had one deposit in checking for \$201 and one disbursement of \$1000 to Mike Smith Aviation to cover flight training for one of our Ray Scholars, Thomas Rickard. The deposit consisted of \$45 for member dues, \$131 in receipts for our monthly dinner (thank you Sindy). We also received \$7.38 in Amazon rewards funds

Total chapter funds are \$34,545.30 distributed in the following accounts:
Checking account - \$26,758.12
Savings account - \$ 7,642.96
CD account - \$ 5,324.22
Total account funds \$39,725.30 - \$5180
Clubhouse renovation funds =
Total chapter funds \$34,545.30

That's all for now – any questions? If so, shoot me an email or give me a call – bill.wheadon@gmail.com. 707-224-3901
Bill

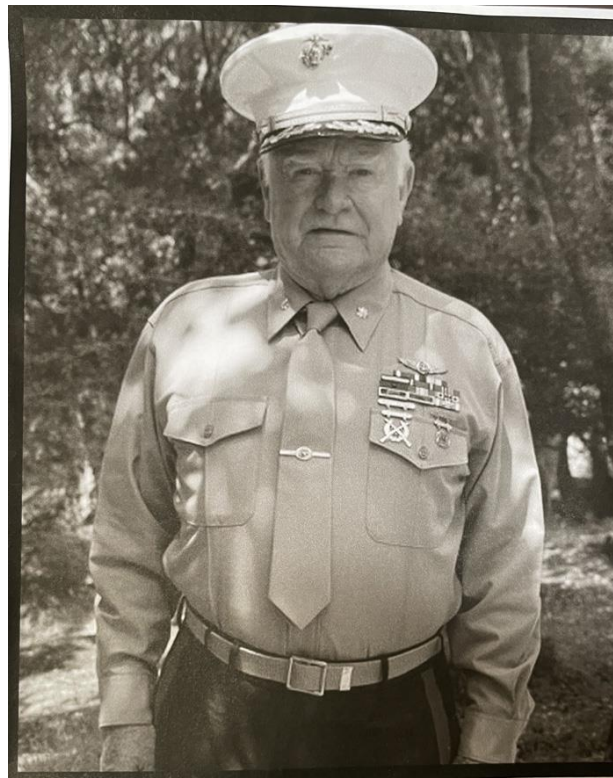
YOUNG EAGLES

Young Eagles Day is Sunday, March 12. This month, the weather gods aren't smiling on us, so we are cancelling until April.

We were planning on having a Girl Scout troop with us in addition to our regular Young Eagles

from the community, but they will reschedule to fall.

The February 12 Young eagles saw Skypark pilots flying 18 Young Eagles and 3 adults by pilots Tim Bloodgood, George Bachich and Darrel Jones.



BK WHITE
December 27, 2022

Another photo of BK, this time in his Marine uniform and medals.

CHAPTER BUILDING PROJECT

Yayoi is keeping the Chapter 1268 Pietenpol building project organized and moving along smoothly. She has a tech counselor attending the March 4 building session.

The group is meeting every Saturday from 9 to 11:30. Michael Wray and Mark Shackford are heading up the building team. Our Ray scholars for 2023, Kate Llodra and Luis Membrila, are attending most sessions and diving in to keep the project progressing.

The crew is starting with the vertical stabilizer to learn the construction skills and techniques necessary for building a wooden fuselage airplane.



The vertical stabilizer going together in the Chapter workshop

The workshop has been nearly cleared out to provide the space needed, but there is still a bit to do. Call, email or text me if you can give me a hand. I picked up some shelving to replace the old cabinet in the workshop hangar.

We have some rigid insulation slated to go on the kitchen ceiling, with the leftover insulation going in the workshop. We still need a few volunteers who can put up the insulation, so let me know if you can help out.

Stop in if you come out for a hamburger Saturday and check out the facility and the project.

We will start building the fuselage table within the next week or two. We have two solid doors, so we will build a 2x4 frame and use them for the top.

Yayoi asked me to put these requests in the newsletter:

*Wish-list from me

-Clamps and vises of any sizes. If anyone could donate or let us borrow them for a year would be appreciated. For return, please write down your name and phone number clearly.

-Donation of used E6B flight computer of any kind for ground school



Yayoi showing an example of our current project.

SATURDAY HAMBURGERS

Marilyn Seibert continues to do an outstanding job of coordinating the barbecue. I talked to her recently and she said she was hoping that she had someone who would co-chair with her.

Marilyn also needs someone who can come in after the barbecue and clean the kitchen and clubhouse.

I saw George Bachich doing the cooking this Saturday. Please give Marilyn a call at 707-479-5712 or send her an email at Windsong21@comcast.net to let her know which Saturday you can help with.

2023 DINNER SCHEDULE

We have some of our celebrity chefs for 2023 but let us know if you want to take an unfilled month. Hot dogs, chili or pizza are perfectly fine. Let me know at wd6bor@vom.com and I'll put you on the roster.



Sindy Mikkelsen offering a little libation to go with her Danish meatballs, potatoes, cabbage salad and chocolate cake.

We still need a meal coordinator, so please let me know if you can make some phone calls and fill in the schedule for 2023

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Cooks/Meal
2023 DINNER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Will Campbell, Nelleke Cooper
FEB	Sindy Mikkelsen
MAR	Marilyn and Bob Avrit
APR	Ernie Ganas-lasagna + salad
MAY	?
JUN	?
JUL	Darrel- barbecue
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY
Standby	?



George Bachich enjoying what you missed if you weren't at the February meeting.

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.

We're still looking for a speaker coordinator, so let us know if you can help out.

Month	Speaker/Member/Subject
2023 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Yayoi West- Chapter build project
FEB	Pietenpol video "Finding Flight"
MAR	Yayoi West- total eclipse Apr 20
APR	?
MAY	?
JUN	?
JUL	?
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?

NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY

RAY SCHOLARS/AIR ACADEMY

We're thrilled to report that Thomas Rickard passed his check ride February 12 and is now a fully licensed private pilot. He is continuing right on and is working on his instrument rating with Kimberly and Michael at Mike Smith Aviation in Napa.



Thomas and his instructor, Tad Sigman, at Mike Smith Aviation.

Our new Ray scholars, Luis Membrila and Kate Llodra, have both been approved for a Ray scholarship by the Ray Foundation at EAA. Luis had already soloed before applying for his scholarship, so he will be receiving 60%, or a combined Ray and Chapter award of \$6,600. Kate is eligible for the full combined \$11,000, with EAA providing \$8,250 and Chapter 1268 \$2,750.

Kate is nearly ready to solo, and both Kate and Luis are working on their written exam prep.

We are sending three Young Eagles to the Air Academy this year, with a possibility of a fourth applying.

We reserve six slots in Basic and Advanced camps. This year we are sending two campers to Basic camp and one, possibly two, to Advanced camp. Tuition, room and board for Basic camp is \$1,300 and for Advanced camp \$1,650 each. We ask each camper to apply for an EAA campership scholarship to help make our Chapter funds go further. The Chapter pays travel expenses as well, with most of the funding coming from the Saturday barbecues.

This year Ivy Morrison and Finley Skaggs are returning to camp, and Iris Morrison, Ivy's younger sister is going for her first year.

2023 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
3/12	Young Eagles 9:00 am
3/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
3/11	NAF El Centro Air Show
3/28-4/2	Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, FL
4/9	Young Eagles 9:30 am
4/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
4/22	Skypark Movie Night TBA
4/?	Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show- Half Moon Bay, CA
5/?	Estrella Warbirds Wings & Wheels- Paso Robles, CA
5/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm
5/14	Young Eagles 9:00 am
5/?	Thunder Over the Bay Air Show- Travis AFB, Fairfield, CA
5/?	Oregon Int'l Air Show- Hillsboro, OR
5/27	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
5/?	Skypark Family Fun Day! (?)
6/11	Young Eagles 9:00 am
6/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm
6/24	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
7/9	Young Eagles 9:00 am

7/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
7/20-23	Brodhead Pietenpol Fly-in
7/24-30	EAA AIRVENTURE at Oshkosh
7/22	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
8/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm
8/13	Young Eagles 9:00 am
8/26	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
9/10	Young Eagles 9:00 am
9/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm
9/13-17	?Reno Air Races- Reno, NV
9/22-24	MCAS Miramar Air Show- San Diego, CA
10/7-8	California Int'l Airshow- Salinas, CA
9/23	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
9/?	Wings Over Wine Country
9/22-24	California Capital Air Show- Mather AFB, Sacramento, CA
10/6-8	San Francisco Fleet Week- San Francisco, CA
10/8	Young Eagles 9:00 am
10/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm
10/?	Benton Air Fair- Redding, CA
10/13-15	Central Coast AirFest- Santa Maria, CA
10/?	Planes of Fame Air Show- China, CA
10/28	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
11/12	Young Eagles 9:00 am
11/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
11/25	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
12/2	Skypark Xmas Party
1/1/24	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 January 10, 2023 Minutes

The Board meeting was called to order at 5:58pm on January 10th, 2022 at Harry F. West Jr. Memorial Clubhouse.

Officers present were Donald Booker (DB), Darrel Jones (DJ), Bill Wheadon (BW), Yayoi West (YW) Nelleke Cooper (NC), Roland Gangloff (RG)

BW presented the Chapter 1268 annual financial report and reported that Chapter 1268 received two donations from Travis Jungroth through his employer of \$8,739 and \$5,000, totaling \$13,739. The clubhouse remodel donations total \$2,700 to date.

DJ reported that Gretchen McDougall and Darrel Jones are Young Eagles co-liaisons. RG has volunteered to do marshalling at Young Eagles rallies. Young Eagles was cancelled for January because of rain.

DB volunteered to be back up for Saturday barbecue and Chapter dinner, if needed.

BW will send copies of the Chapter roster for the last five years to RG for membership renewal/recruiting purposes. We will send a current roster to all active members. Chapter 1268 student memberships are available to Young Eagles at no cost until they turn 21.

YW asked about reimbursement of the Chapter Pietenpol building project. The Board asked her to bring a budget to the next meeting for further discussion. The airplane will be sold after completion since the Chapter can't own and airplane. Scott De Bel has donated a complete fuselage materials kit to the Chapter. DJ may have an engine that he would donate to the project. The build team members will meet Saturday mornings from 9:00 until 11:30 before the barbecue to work on the project. YW will start an on-line builder's log and a Signal social media account for the group.

DJ will ask EAA about liability coverage for the build project participants and other volunteers.

RG brought a condolence card for Carol White for BK's passing.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 6:56pm.

Dinner was barbecued tri-tip steak provided by Will Campbell, with Nelleke bringing salad and cheesecake and Darrel bringing corn and tater tots.

The program for the evening was a presentation by Yayoi West on the Pietenpol building project and a video of the "\$1 Piet", featuring Andrew King and Dewey Davenport.

It was announced that Jeanette Woods recently celebrated her 90th birthday.

EAA 1268 February 14, 2023 Minutes

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:17pm on February, 14th, 2022 at Harry F. West Jr. Memorial Clubhouse.

Officers present were Donald Booker (DB), Darrel Jones (DJ), Yayoi West (YW), Robin Tatman (RT, by zoom), Nelleke Cooper (NC)

DB would like to start a Chapter lending library with books he wants to share. He would also like to put a 1955 aeronautical chart up in the clubhouse. We will ask the members for a volunteer to be the Chapter librarian. We already have a good library and cabinets for the books, so all someone needs to do is get them organized and start a check-out list.

YW reported on the Pietenpol Chapter building project. Chapter Ray scholars Kate Llodra and Luis Membrilla have been attending, with Luis staying after the building session to help Marilyn Seibert with the barbecue. Michael Wray and Mark Shackford are working with the building team, with the first project being the vertical stabilizer kit YW purchased as a learning experience for the team. The builder's log is on the EAA website and was started by yayoi and is maintained by Luis and Kate.

YW presented the project budget with the cost estimated to be between \$14,327 and \$17,908.

The finished aircraft should sell for \$10,000 to \$12,000, for a net cost to the Chapter of \$5000 to \$7,000. The donation by Scott De Bel is valued over \$7,000. The Chapter will solicit donations specifically to cover the cost of the project. Mark Shackford and Darrel Jones have been providing tools in addition to the tools owned by the Chapter. DJ repaired the Chapter belt sander, band saw and table saw. The value of building the airplane is the educational opportunity it provides the young Chapter 1268 members.

YW reported that Rolf, a tech counselor from Petaluma, would come to Skypark march 4 to inspect the progress and offer advice on building methods and procedures.

YW is continuing to tech a Monday evening ground school. The sessions are well attended by members as well as Kate and Luis, with an average of eight people attending each class. Yayoi is a certified Ground Instructor. She is asking for donations of E6B flight computers, as well as other flight planning materials for use in the classes. DJ obtained a United States sectional chart that is now up in the clubhouse.

YW volunteered to give a presentation at the March meeting on the total solar eclipse coming in April 20. She will be travelling to view the eclipse.

DJ reported that Chapter 1268 flew 18 Young Eagles and 3 adult Eagles with three pilots; Tim Bloodgood, George Bachich and Darrel Jones. Gretchen McDougall did registration and Roland Gangloff handled marshalling and ground school. March Young Eagles will have a Girl Scout troop attending, in addition to the regular Young Eagles.

DJ repeated that we still need a program coordinator and meal coordinator.

DJ has been looking for a stainless-steel commercial sink for the kitchen to replace the current sink and counter due to sanitary considerations. The Board approved \$500 for a

sink and \$250 for shelving for the workshop. He will schedule work parties for the installation as soon as the sink and shelving are purchased.

RT relayed Marilyn Seibert's question asking who is responsible for cleaning the clubhouse after meetings and Saturday barbecues. Skypark staff has been cleaning the restrooms. The Board will ask for volunteers to help clean the clubhouse and kitchen so Marilyn doesn't have to deal with that in addition to coordinating the barbecues.

The REACH helicopter landed for a medical transfer during the Board meeting. REACH is using Sonoma Skypark for these transfers as a safer alternative to the public landings they had to make previously. Sonoma Skypark invited REACH to use the airport as part of Skypark's community service.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Dinner was provided by Sindy Mikkelsen and consisted of Danish meatballs, potatoes, salad, beets, chocolate cake and libation.

The program for the evening was an update on the Chapter Pietenpol building project and the Pietenpol film "Finding Flight", shared by Ron Price.

OTHER NEWS



Phil Danskin sent me an aerial photo of Sonoma Skypark in 1948. Yeah...



I think this may Schellville/Sonoma Valley Airport in 1965. Wally Reichel bought himself some property after returning from Europe after WWII, bought a grader, and made himself a nice little airport. I'll need to confirm that with Phil.

There are some nice aerial photos of Sonoma Valley from years ago on the Sonoma Valley Historical Society at <https://sonomavalleyhistory.org/aerial-images/>

WOMEN ON MOTORCYCLES



Not sure if I put these two in before, but they deserve another look.

Send me your news for your newsletter!

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 2023!** SEE YOU IN JANUARY!

REMEMBER! THE MARCH MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, MARCH 14 AT 7 P.M., AT THE SKYCRAFTERS' CLUBHOUSE, HANGAR B-5 AT SONOMA SKYPARK AIRPORT.

DINNER STARTS AT 7 PM, SO DON'T BE LATE!

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