



# THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter  
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport

21870 Eighth Street East

Sonoma, CA 95476

2023



**LUIS MEMBRILA MARTINEZ, OUR NEWEST PRIVATE PILOT**

His instructor, Dustin, looks pretty pleased

## **CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President: Robin Tatman, 707-553-2747

Vice President: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382

Secretary: position open

Treasurer/Membership: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901

BOD: Don Booker, 707-938-9461

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 gretchen.mcdougall@gmail.com

Speaker coordinator: position open

Dinner coordinator: Cindy Mikkelsen  
sindymikkelsen@att.net

Building/Newsletter: Darrel Jones, 707-799-  
6382, wd6bor@vom.com

## **FIRST THINGS FIRST**

The January meeting is this **Tuesday, October 10**. 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 Marsi Allard and Ligia Booker. They will be preparing chicken enchiladas in red sauce; rice, black beans, salad and FLAN for dessert.

Our program will be a presentation by Anne-Andree Wilson about her son Nathan's journey from young Young Eagle to flight instructor in Arizona. Nathan will try to join us on Zoom to talk about his plans as an aviation professional.

## **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

It's getting late Monday evening, so this will be brief.

The minutes have quite a bit of detailed information, so I'll just hit a couple important points.

First, just like Dracula, we have a constant need for new blood. We need a few good people to conduct a vigorous membership recruitment drive. I have information and resources to help that and can support the effort, but we need some of you to step up to get the job done.

We need a new secretary. I'll help with the correspondence, so you can start out just taking and writing up the minutes, and we'll go from there. It's not that hard.

I had hoped one of you had won the lottery and would give us the whole amount needed for the building fund, with some extra for our scholarships, but we'll just have to ask for some smaller donations to the building fund, instead of having one person give us a big check. I'm not ruling out the "one big check" though. Your help is always appreciated.

Darrel

## **EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER REPORT OCTOBER 2023**

One bank deposit was made in August totaling \$1,700.00. Included in the deposit was \$1,025 in donations for the Richard Cooper Memorial Fund, \$30 in dues renewal, \$145 in receipts from our September dinner, and \$500 from our Saturday BBQ fund raiser. We also received a check from EAA National in the amount of \$1650 as a final reimbursement for the flight training one of our Ray Scholars received at Mike Smith Aviation. This brings our total deposits for the month to \$3350.

Our CD account earned \$15.27 in interest and our savings account brought in another \$2.89.

Expenses totaling \$2850 were for a check to Mike Smith Aviation (\$1650) for the flight training of one of our Ray Scholars. Another check in the amount of \$1200 to EAA was a tuition deposit for candidates attending the 2024 Air Academy.

Total chapter funds are \$39,996.55 distributed in the following accounts:

Checking account	- \$ 26,936.26
Savings account	- \$ 7,651.54
CD account	- \$ 5,408.75
Total account funds	\$39,996.55

Our bank did make a mistake on our monthly account by charging our account \$5,000 for a check that was written on another account with a similar account number – I'll remedy this tomorrow when I call the bank. The above numbers have taken this error into account.

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 was Sunday, October 8. Our pilots were George Bachich, Ken Thronton, Steve Crawford, from Petaluma in his gyrocopter, and Darrel Jones. Gretchen couldn't attend, so Anne-Andree Wilson and Ken Mercer came out to handle registration. Our newest private pilot, Luis Membria, handled marshalling, although he was able to squeeze in a gyrocopter flight with Steve during the morning.

The crew flew fourteen flights, with some of our Young Eagles getting a second flight since it was a light turnout. We talked to several of them about Air Academy and scholarship opportunities for flight training.

As is usual, we are looking for volunteer pilots, ground crew and registration helpers for our monthly Young Eagles events. Let us know you will be joining us and helping out by sending an email to Gretchen at [gretchen.mcdougall@gmail.com](mailto:gretchen.mcdougall@gmail.com) or me at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com).

**2023 DINNER SCHEDULE**

We have our celebrity chefs for 2023 but let us know if you want to take an unfilled month in 2024. Hot dogs, chili or pizza are perfectly fine. Our meal coordinator is Sindy Mikkelsen at [sindymikkelsen@att.net](mailto:sindymikkelsen@att.net). Let her know you can provide the meal for a meeting and she will put you on the schedule. Copy me at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) so I can include you in the newsletter dinner schedule.

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Cooks/Meal
<b>2023 DINNER SCHEDULE</b>	
JAN	Will Campbell, Nelleke Cooper
FEB	Sindy Mikkelsen
MAR	Marilyn and Bob Avrit
APR	Don and Wayne (+Ligia and Cecilia)
MAY	Sindy Mikkelsen (again)
JUN	Marsi Allard
JUL	Darrel- barbecue chicken/sausage

AUG	Rony Kurniawan-tikka masala
SEP	Darrel-roast chicken
OCT	Marsi and Ligia- enchiladas +
NOV	Gene Marcinkowski
DEC	XMAS PARTY
Standby	?

**SPEAKERS**

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

Contact Vice President Darrel Jones at 707-799-6382 or send an email to me at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) so we can get your program or speaker information into the newsletter.

We're still looking for a permanent speaker coordinator, so let us know if you can help out by taking on this important job. We can give you contact information for other local Chapters so you can find speakers they have had.

Month	Speaker/Member/Subject
<b>2023 SPEAKER SCHEDULE</b>	
JAN	Yayoi West- Chapter build project
FEB	Pietenpol video "Finding Flight"
MAR	Yayoi West- total eclipse Apr 20
APR	Stephen Brosseau. 5000hrs flying w/o an engine
MAY	Art Hayden, Mt. Flying, South Africa, Alaska &etc.
JUN	George Bachich. Acrobatic antics; inverted spin recovery
JUL	Bruce Janigian: ret. U.S. Navy Captain; Experiences in Ukraine and Crimea, Russia
AUG	Paul Hollingworth: Gyrocopters, history of development and his history of flying them. What he flies and why he loves doing so
SEP	Air Academy/Ray scholar report
OCT	Anne-Andre Wilson- Nathan's Young Eagles experience
NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY

## 2023 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
10/7-8	California Int'l Airshow- Salinas, CA
10/6-8	San Francisco Fleet Week- San Francisco, CA
10/8	Young Eagles 9:30 am
10/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm
10/13-15	Central Coast AirFest- Santa Maria, CA
11/12	Young Eagles 9:30 am
11/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
12/2	Skypark Xmas Party
1/1/24	New Years' Day 1 <sup>st</sup> Flight
Every Saturday Noon to 1:30 pm Skypark Hamburgers and Hot Dogs in the clubhouse!	

## EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES

September 12, 2023

Board of Directors Meeting

Board meeting called to order at 6 pm

Present were new President Robin Tatman, Vice President Darrel Jones, Treasurer Bill Wheadon, incoming Treasurer Ray Gallarate and Board members Roland Gangloff and Nelleke Cooper.

Darrel asked that the Board approve Hayden Holbrook as one of the Chapter 1268 2024 Ray scholars. He had sent Hayden's application and school transcripts to the officers before the meeting. The Board voted to approve Hayden's scholarship for 2024.

Bill reported that Redwood Credit Union will be converting all accounts and that the chapter will need to update the controlling individuals and account signers at the end of the year.

Yayoi West had informed the Board that she would be stepping down as secretary as of

October. The Board discussed the need for a new Secretary. Darrel will perform the duties until a volunteer is found as the new Secretary.

Robin brought up the need for a Standard Operating Procedures manual for the Chapter to make the transition of officers go smoothly. The officers will write up a description of each of their duties and Darrel will compile them into a SOP manual before the new year.

Bill reported that he will get the final statement of charges for Kate Llodra and will pay Mike Smith the balance of the funds available in her Ray scholarship account. Kate will be responsible for any costs above those covered by the scholarship.

Robin reported that Luis has his checkride scheduled for the first week of October. (He took and passed his checkride October 3).

The board discussed a possible second candidate for the Chapter's 2024 Ray scholarship. Young Eagles candidates will be considered at future meetings.

Darrel reported that He will apply for our 2024 matching funds Ray scholarships as soon as the application period opens November 1. He will also submit Hayden's application as soon as those applications open January 1, 2024.

Darrel estimated that the roof repair on the shop hangar could run \$2,500. The Board approved spending up to that amount. The roof leaks badly now and risks ruining the Pietenpol building project and the tools donated to the Chapter during the winter rains.

Robin suggested asking Sonoma Skypark for a donation of some of the Jack Strehl funds given by the Chapter to Ron Price to go toward renovating the restrooms. The clubhouse building fund has collected \$10,930, of which \$3,793 has been spent on the kitchen upgrades, leaving a balance of \$7,136. The budget for the restroom renovation is \$30,000, leaving the

Chapter \$22,864 short of the funds needed.  
(hint, hint)

Robin suggested asking George Bachich to put a request into the Sonoma Skypark newsletter asking for donations to the clubhouse building fund.

Darrel reported that President Emeritus Don Booker is doing well and recovering nicely. Several of the other Chapter members have been having health issues as well. Darrel will try to have more information in the upcoming month.

Darrel reported that he has made the reservations for EAA Air Academy for 2024, with two Basic camp in each session, for a total of four Basic slots for campers 14 to 15 years old, and one Advanced reservation in each session, for a total of two Advanced slots for campers ages 16 through 18. Because of the popularity of the Advanced camps, each Chapter is limited to one slot per session in the Advanced camp.

Board Meeting adjourned at 7 pm

General meeting called to order at 7:30 pm

The officers gave a brief report on the business discussed during the Board meeting.

General Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm

Because of a change in plans, dinner was provided by Darrel Jones and consisted of roast chicken, scalloped potatoes, tossed green salad and apple and pumpkin pie. Since the attendance was rather light, there were lots of leftovers to send home with members.

The program for the evening was presentations by our 2023 Air Academy participants, Ivy and Iris Morrison, Finley Skaggs and James Kurniawan, and Ray scholars Thomas Rickard, Kate Llodra, Sebastian Johnson and Luis Membria. They talked about the highlights of their experiences at camp and earning their

private pilot licenses, and thanked Chapter 1268 members for their support, both financially and emotionally. The Ray scholars were presented with their polo shirts and pins for completing their training.

## OTHER NEWS



Marsi had lunch with John Knebel and Howard Hall recently. As you can see, John has a thing for fruits and vegetables. Always smiling!

**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 and 2024! SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!**

**REMEMBER! THE OCTOBER MEETING OF SONOMA SKYRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10 AT 7 P.M., AT THE SKYRAFTERS' 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**  
**SKYRAFTER 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**