



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 2024



PILOTS

Generally best kept on a short leash.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Robin Tatman, 707-553-2747

Vice President: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382

Secretary: Nelleke Cooper, 707-938-5587

Treasurer: Ray Gallarate, 650-421-3781

BOD: Don Booker, 707-938-9461

BOD: Marsi Allard, 415-686-5254

BOD: Roland Gangloff, 707-935-1832

Web editor/Young Eagles: Gretchen

McDougall gretchen.mcdougall@gmail.com

Speaker coordinator: position open

Dinner coordinator: Sindy Mikkelsen

sindymikkelsen@att.net

Saturday barbecue Chair: Marilyn Seibert,
707-479-5712

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

Membership Chairs: Don and Ligia Booker,
707-938-9461

FIRST THINGS FIRST

The January meeting is this **Tuesday, January 9**. 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 chef for the month will be Pres Robin Tatman and dinner will be spaghetti Bolognese, garlic bread and salad.

Our program will be a talk about flying the U-2 by one of the Sonoma Skypark shareholders and current United Airlines captain, Steve Silver. His bio is featured in this edition of the newsletter.

We have a new Treasurer, Ray Gallarate, and a new mailing address, EAA 1268, PO Box 234, Vineburg, CA 95487-0234. Please send your dues renewal checks to EAA 1268, PO Box 234, Vineburg, CA 95487-0234.

Now on to the serious stuff...food!

Sindy didn't get a response to her request for members to provide dinner for the year, so Robin stepped up to take the January meeting. Please contact Sindy at sindymikkelsen@att.net and let her know which month you can take. Let me know also and I'll put you on the schedule.

We didn't get all those end of year donations, but never fear. You can donate and take it off your 2024 taxes return. We are still looking for help for the restroom repairs and Pietenpol Chapter build project. Let me know how you can help and we'll get you a dandy thank you letter to show your accountant.

The report from Marsi was that the Christmas party was a great success. The Skypark and Chapter 1268 crew pitched in and turned George Bachich's hangar into a festive party venue. Skypark furnished the main courses and the rest was pot-lucked.

WOMEN IN AIRPLANES



Katherine Stinson, Ohio State Fair, 1913

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year!

I am very grateful to welcome in 2024. I've been away, but not far from our Chapter comings and goings over the last year or so. I have been so grateful to Don Booker to stepping up to the position. Besides being one of the sweetest people I have ever met, he is a tremendous aviator and has been enormously effective as Chapter President on many levels. Anyone who thinks life may be ending at retirement should talk to Don. I want to be just like him when I grow up! I am very happy that he and his lovely wife Ligia will be stepping in to the Membership Chair position. Thank you, Captain and Mrs. Booker!

I have been hanging around 1268 for nearly 13 years and that is due expressly to the quality, kindness, and generosity of its members and volunteers. I wanted to highlight just a few of you with the start of the new year.

Bill Wheadon is retiring as Treasurer after more or less 14 years doing a fantastic job keeping our books in order and working with Darrel to keep our charitable status with the IRS current (among LOTS of other things). There is much behind the scenes work to have done that all these years. Together Darrel and Bill do more than anyone else to keep our

Chapter alive and well! I am wishing Bill a happy second retirement with a very big THANK YOU for everything you have done for us.

I am very pleased that Ray Gallarate will be stepping in to the Treasurer position, and Bill will still be available for support as he takes over. Thank you, Ray! I am so happy you retired and have come back to Sonoma.

Our hamburger barbecue is alive and well thanks to the efforts of Marilyn Siebert and Maris Allard. This is a serious weekly commitment that brings important revenue to fund our scholarships for Air Academy. Sindy Mikkelson has been functioning as our Dinner Coordinator remotely - all the way from Washington state! Yayoi West and Michael Wray have been in charge of the very popular Pietenpol Build Project. This is providing a great outlet for our Ray Scholars and other youngsters to see what the EAA was founded for - building airplanes.

Gretchen McDougall has been our steady Young Eagles Coordinator driving all the way from Half Moon Bay once a month to register kids and process the paperwork for the EAA that gives us valuable credits for our Air Academy participants. She also is our Web Editor and last year redesigned our web site and does a great job keeping it up and running.

I'll continue to highlight more of our star volunteers throughout the year.

I am finally finished with training and am fully qualified as a line captain at Delta on the A350. Currently I am flying mostly to Sydney and Auckland, and am looking forward to going back to Seoul, Tokyo, Paris, and Amsterdam as the Spring and Summer schedules roll out. I am very junior on the fleet and will be flying Reserve, working most weekends. I will do my best to get time off to be at the monthly meetings and Young Eagles.

We have a great speaker, Steve Silver on Tuesday, and I'll be the cook with lots of Spaghetti Bolognese, Garlic Bread, and Salad. Hope to see you there!

Robin

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

My vice president's report is scattered throughout the newsletter. Other than my repeated, ad nauseum, request for donations of time and money, there's not much more to say here.

Our scholarship fund is in good shape at this time, although it will be depleted dramatically as we start giving scholarship out for the Air Academy and flight training. Our most pressing needs right now are the restroom and Pietenpol funds.

EAA 1268 TREASURER REPORT **January 2024**

Activity in the chapter checking account was minimal this month. There was one deposit of \$30 for member's dues renewal.

Expenses for the month was one check for \$3,039.79 which was written to reimburse Darrel Jones for purchases of supplies for the clubhouse shop and kitchen plus parts for the Pietenpol, our chapter build project

Total chapter funds are \$39,889.51 distributed in the following accounts:

Checking account - \$ 26,779.21
Savings account - \$ 7,654.43
CD account - \$ 5,455.87
Total account funds \$39,889.51

This is my last report as your Treasurer. After 14 years in this position, I think it's time to pass the baton to someone a little younger. I've enjoyed being a member of the 1268 community and hope to see you around Skypark for years to come.

Bill

YOUNG EAGLES

Young Eagles Day for January is Sunday, 14. 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 or me at wd6bor@vom.com.

Unfortunately, my 182 is down for an engine overhaul and panel upgrade. I've been able to take up some of the slack in the past when we didn't have enough pilots, but we will especially need a good turnout of pilots and planes for the next couple of months.

CHAPTER PIET BUILDING PROJECT

Michael Wray is forging ahead on the Pietenpol project. He has ordered the additional metal fittings to be fabricated at the shop in Napa and is ready to start the wing.

We had the ribs donated completed and have some straight-grain Douglas fir for the spars. I will mill the spar blanks when the fuselage is done so the build team can go to work on the wings.

When you come out for your Saturday hamburger, be sure to check in next door and see how well the project is progressing. We still need funds for the project for the materials, so consider sending a check to the treasurer earmarked for the Pietenpol build project.

We are offering a wonderful opportunity for our local Sonoma Valley youth to learn what goes into building an airplane. Let Michael know you would like to participate in this great project.

SATURDAY BARBECUE

Marilyn and Marsi will back with the regular Saturday barbecue starting up again January 6.

This is Chapter 1268's major fundraiser for scholarships for sending our local Young

Eagles to the EAA Air Academy in Oshkosh each summer.

Thanks again to Marilyn and Marsi for their very valuable, and enjoyable, contribution to the Chapter.

They always need additional volunteers to help with the barbecue, so sign up with Marilyn or Marsi for a Saturday once a month when you go out for your hamburger or hot dog.

Richard Craig and George Thomson wanted to continue the Saturday barbecue while Marilyn and Marsi took the month off. They, with the help of other Skypark denizens, not only kept the Saturday barbecue going, George made sure that the kitchen was left spotless after every Saturday. Not only were Skypark folks able to get a hamburger or hot dog while Marilyn and Marsi were taking their well-earned vacation, but they raised \$789 for the EAA 1268 scholarship fund. They even left flowers, balloons and cards for Marilyn and Marsi on their return.

GROUND SCHOOLS

Yayoi is pausing ground school at Sonoma Skypark in the clubhouse on Monday evenings until she gets more students. Several of her students were Chapter 1268's Ray scholars who have completed their private pilot flight training and taken their check rides. Call or text her at Yayoi West, 707-364-9257 for information on when she plans on restarting the classes.

If you have any flight planning gear, such as a plotter, E6B, old sectional charts or anything usable for ground school classes, please bring them to the meeting or drop them off at the clubhouse.

Mike Smith Aviation at Napa Airport is also holding free ground school classes on Saturday mornings.

Contact Kimberly Sanders Smith at 916-607-4023 for more information.

The classes are held at the flight school at 2000 Airport Road, Napa 94558, 200 yards north of terminal building.

This free ground school coaching session for the Private Pilot Knowledge test is for student pilots, rusty pilots, anyone interested in learning to fly. Everyone is welcome! You'll need to purchase a book, available on site: Gleim Private Pilot Test Prep, \$22.95.

CHAPTER 1268 SCHOLARSHIPS

We have one applicant for one of Chapter 1268's two matching funds Ray scholarships. Hayden Holbrook has been at Sonoma Skypark for the past several years and started his training for his private pilot's license last fall.

Chapter 1268 is just waiting for approval from the Ray Foundation office to go ahead with the funding for his flight training. I'll keep you all informed about his progress.

We also have opened up the applications for our annual Air Academy scholarship given to our Young Eagles and other young people wanting to learn more about aviation and the possible careers that profession offers.

It usually costs the Chapter \$2,500 to \$3,000 each to send our Air Academy scholarship recipients back to Oshkosh for the aviation summer camp. Thanks to the very generous support of our members, we've been able to send up to four young people to the various camps each summer.

Send me an email if you would like a copy of the application for someone you know, and I'll get it back to you. Deadline for applications is January 31.

2024 DINNER SCHEDULE

We have some of our celebrity chefs for 2024 but let us know if you want to take an unfilled month. Hot dogs, chili or pizza are perfectly fine. Our meal coordinator is Sindy Mikkelsen at 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 so I can include you in the newsletter dinner schedule.

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Cooks/Meal
2024 DINNER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Robin- spaghetti, salad, dessert
FEB	
MAR	
APR	
MAY	
JUN	
JUL	Darrel- barbecue
AUG	
SEP	
OCT	
NOV	
DEC	XMAS PARTY
Standby	?

SPEAKERS

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

Contact President Robin Tatman at 707-553-2747 or 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 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
2024 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Steve Silver, U-2 pilot
FEB	?
MAR	?
APR	?
MAY	?
JUN	?
JUL	?
AUG	?
SEP	?

OCT	?
NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY

2024 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
1/1/24	New Years' Day 1st Flight
1/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm
1/14	Young Eagles 9:30 am
1/31	Air Academy application deadline
2/11	Young Eagles 9:30 am
2/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm
3/10	Young Eagles 9:30 am
3/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm
3/9	NAF El Centro Air Show
3/16-17	Wings Over Solano- Travis AFB, Fairfield
4/9-14	Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, FL
4/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm
4/14	Young Eagles 9:30 am
4/28	Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show- Half Moon Bay, CA
5/11	Estrella Warbirds Wings & Wheels- Paso Robles, CA
5/12	Young Eagles 9:30 am
5/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
5/18-19	Oregon Int'l Air Show- Hillsboro, OR
5/?	Skypark Family Fun Day!
6/9	Young Eagles 9:30 am
6/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
6/22	Truckee Tahoe Airshow, Truckee
7/13-14	California Capital Air Show- Mather AFB, Sacramento, CA
7/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm
7/14	Young Eagles 9:30 am
7/18-21	Brodhead Pietenpol Fly-in
7/22-28	EAA AIRVENTURE at Oshkosh
8/11	Young Eagles 9:30 am
8/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm
8/17-18	Wings Over Camarillo Airshow
9/8	Young Eagles 9:30 am

9/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm
9/27-29	MCAS Miramar Air Show- San Diego, CA
9/28-29	California Int'l Airshow- Salinas, CA
9/?	Wings Over Wine Country
10/12-13	San Francisco Fleet Week- San Francisco, CA
10/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm
10/13	Young Eagles 9:30 am
10/?	Benton Air Fair- Redding, CA
10/11-13	Central Coast AirFest- Santa Maria, CA
10/?	Planes of Fame Air Show- China, CA
11/10	Young Eagles 9:30 am
11/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm
12/?	Skypark Xmas Party
1/1/25	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

There was no formal meeting in December, so no minutes. The November minutes were in the December newsletter sent out in late December.

Here's our January speaker Steve Silver's resume:

CAPTAIN STEVEN B. SILVER,
JANUARY'S SPEAKER'S- RESUME

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Commercial Flight Time:

B747 B777 B756 A320 B737

CA 0 2100 0 1113 5323

FO 5757 931 1607 0 1595

Military Flight Time:

U-2: 535 T-37: 1400 T:38: 533 HH-60: 425

United Airlines Flight Officer

United Airlines, San Francisco Intl, CA 1992 to Present

- Quality Control Line Check Airman: Boeing 777

Operations Group Commander 2012 to 2014

California Air National Guard, 129th Rescue Wing, Moffett Federal Airfield, CA

- Commanded 235 Airmen assigned to 4 combat rescue squadrons, and operations group staff
- Responsible for 5 HH-60G helicopters, 4 MC-130P aircraft, and special forces equipment valued at \$0.5B
- Managed annual operating budget exceeding \$3M to organize, train and equip combat rescue forces
- Strategic planning and operational oversight for compliance ensured readiness for life saving missions

Inspector General for California Air National Guard 2009 to 2012

California Air National Guard, 129th Rescue Wing, Moffett Federal Airfield, CA

- Implemented USAF Inspector General complaint resolution, and fraud, waste and abuse programs
- Assessed morale, welfare and discipline to determine impact on operation and mission execution
- Mediated and used Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) for efficient, timely complaint resolution
- Authored statistical reports and briefed findings to Wing Commander and The Adjutant General on results of inquiries and investigations Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) Subject Matter Expert (SME) 2006 to 2009

United States Air Force Reserve, Detachment 11, Beale AFB, CA

- SME for all Air Force U-2 and RQ-4 pilot, mission planner and sensor operator training programs
 - Ensured courseware complied with Instructional System Development (ISD) approach model
 - Quality assurance evaluator for all ISR academics, simulators and computer-based training products
 - Validated training requirements through U-2 and RQ-4 graduate evaluation programs
- ADDITIONAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

- Evaluator Pilot U-2, Aircraft Commander T-38 - California Air National Guard HH-60 Rescue Pilot

- Planned and conducted high-altitude worldwide missions - All-weather rescue operations over land and water
- Piloted nationally sensitive operational missions - Rapid deployment to conduct vital search missions

WOMEN ON MOTORCYCLES



Betty and Nancy Deebham. Fun people.

OTHER NEWS

Week ago, my Mother-in-law began reading, "The Exorcist". She said it was the most evil book she ever read. So evil in fact, she couldn't finish it, took it over to the beach and threw it into the ocean off a fishing pier.

I went and bought another copy, ran the faucet over it and left it in the night table drawer by her bed.

I'm going to Hell

It's late Sunday evening, so my sense of humor is a little warped. I thought this was funny.

Send me your news for your newsletter!

Sonoma Skycrafters
EAA Chapter 1268
PO Box 234
Vineburg, CA 95487-0234

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 2024! SEE YOU AT THE MEETING! MAIL YOUR CHECK TO: EAA 1268, PO BOX 234, VINEBURG, CA 95487-0234 IF YOU WON'T BE AT THE MEETING.

REMEMBER! THE JANUARY MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, JANUARY 9 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:
Sonoma Skycrafters EAA Chapter 1268
PO Box 234
Vineburg, CA 95487-0234