



## THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter  
of the Sonoma Skycrafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport

21870 Eighth Street East

Sonoma, CA 95476

April 2006



**EAA B-17 ALUMINUM OVERCAST IN NAPA MAY 12-13-14**  
Sonoma Skycrafters EAA Chapter 1268 asked to help host and give Young Eagles rides

### **HOW DO YOU WANT YOUR NEWS?**

Sonoma Skycrafters is working hard to make sure a regular newsletter gets out to the members. March was the first mailing in over a year, and most of the current, as well as some of the not-so-current, members received their newsletter courtesy of the USPS.

And a fine job those mail carriers do, too.

The only problem we have is that it costs about seventy dollars a month to print and mail the newsletter. Those of you Twenty-First Century pilots who get their information on-line through electronic media can help the club reduce costs by emailing the editor at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) and asking for the electronic version of the newsletter. The added benefit of receiving the email version is that it will contain the occasional color photo not available in the print version.

The default format will be to send the newsletter as a MS Word document. If you are unable to receive and open it in that format, let us know and we will make an Adobe pdf version available.

Let us know. Your wish is our command (within reason, of course!)

### **MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY**

The officers and staff of Sonoma Skycrafters, EAA Chapter 1268, are planning on having the current Membership Directory (notice how I capitalized the title to make it seem more important?) out with the May newsletter mailing.

It is important that you all have your check for that paltry twelve dollar membership dues in to our beloved treasurer, Bob Avrit, before May 1<sup>st</sup> so we can get your information in the Directory.

The member Directory Data form included with this newsletter is doubling as your membership renewal form. You can fold it, tape it shut with your twelve dollar (\$12) check inside, and send it off to our honorable and patient treasurer:

Bob Avrit  
4479 Grove Street  
Sonoma, CA 95476

You can also bring a twelve dollar bill to the April meeting Tuesday, give it to Bob, fill in a little info on the form, and, jes' like magik, you're done.

### **THE CLUBHOUSE PROGRESSES!** **(As weather permits)**

Not too much news to report on the Chapter clubhouse. As everyone is well aware, March has been the wettest month in several years. Work had progressed up to getting the roof on, but we haven't had a confluence of dry days and volunteer availability since the last meeting.

As soon as the weather breaks and the roof is complete, we will build interior walls along

the kitchen side, panel them, paint them and start putting the kitchen cabinets in.

We have been working with the Sonoma Skypark Board of Directors to extend the sanitary sewer to the hangars so we can put indoor plumbing in and tie the kitchen sink into the sewer system. Since the clubhouse will also serve as a meeting place for other activities at Sonoma Skypark, part of the cost of the plumbing will be borne by the airport.

Let Don Youngs know of those valuable construction skills you are eager to use, and he will let you help, in his best Tom Sawyer fence-painting way. You shouldn't have to pay too much for the fun and privilege.

We may get civilized yet.

A last note; the cabinets are still sitting on the airport trailer in the adjoining hangar. Please come out to the meeting Tuesday at about 6 pm to help unload them so the airport can get their trailer back. With enough people, it shouldn't take more than fifteen minutes.

### **B-17 COMES TO NAPA**

The EAA B-17, Aluminum Overcast, will be in Napa selling rides on May 21, 13 and 14. The Napa EAA Chapter 167 is the official host, but they have asked Chapter 1268 to help them co-host the weekend.

Sonoma Skycrafters very successfully hosted the B-17 at Sonoma County airport a couple years ago, but Sonoma County's demand for a \$1000 "user's fee" to allow the B-17 to operate there resulted in the EAA moving the operation to Napa.

Sonoma Skycrafters had been able to put about \$2500 into the treasury as our share of the revenue generated by the rides. The Napa Chapter has generously offered to split the proceeds with us if we help co-host.

We will be asking for a B-17 coordinator from the club to arrange scheduling with the Napa club. Call President Eric Presten at 939-8913 if you would like to be that person.

For those members who didn't get a chance to help on the previous visit, you have no idea

what you missed! We got to crawl all over the B-17, hangar talk with the pilots and crew all weekend, and a few of the lucky one were able to get a once-in-a-lifetime ride in that historic, magnificent beauty. Well, except for poor Hal Woods, who didn't seem that enthusiastic after having bailed out of one over Germany a few years ago.

We will also have the chance to give Young Eagle rides at Napa on Saturday, May 13, from 9 am to 2 pm. Rich Cooper, our Young Eagles coordinator, is looking for all the Young Eagles pilots he can find for the weekend, since Chapter 1268 will also be giving their usual second-Sunday rides at Sonoma Skypark on May 14.

If you play your cards right, you might be able to get your ten Young Eagle rides in over that one weekend.

Give Rich a call at 707-938-5587.

### **YOUNG EAGLES CALENDAR**

Chapter 1268 will fly Young Eagles again this Sunday, weather permitting. Unfortunately, the March Young Eagles Day was rained out. Below is the calendar of upcoming Young Eagles flights.

April 9  
May 13, at Napa  
May 14  
June 11

### **APRIL MEETING MENU**

The April meeting dinner will be our old standby of hamburgers and trimmings. Currently, Marilyn Poggensee had been coordinating the meals, but she is also doing several other things for the club and would like some help with this responsibility. If you can make a few phone calls each month to help organize the meals, give Marilyn a call at 707-939-7491. Also, give her a call if you can bring a salad, side dish or dessert Tuesday.

### **APRIL MEETING PROGRAM**

The featured speaker for the March meeting will be Alan James, a Petaluma pilot who is

trying to put together a PBY museum and foundation to be based at Petaluma.

Alan is quite the aviation enthusiast. He will talk about the PBY "Dumbo" rescue amphibian aircraft of WW II, and about his plans for setting up a foundation that would support a PBY touring, like the EAA B-17, to educate the flying public about this valuable warbird.

The program will begin after dinner at 7 and the business meeting.

We are still looking for members or people the membership suggests for program speakers for our meetings. We are currently scheduled through the May meeting, but need suggestions or volunteers through the rest of the year.

If you have project, planned, in progress or completed, or have a particular skill or interest, please share them with the rest of us.

Remember, each speaker gets a free hamburger and bottle of wine. Who can pass up an offer like that!

Give Pres Eric a call at 707-939-8913. with your program suggestions.

### **UPCOMING TOPICS OF INTEREST...**

Oshkosh! We're going to Oshkosh again this year. There are already several pilots planning the trip, and we're looking for many more. The 2002 trip saw twenty-three planes leaving here, and we would like to see that again.

Call Darrel Jones at 707-996-4494 to get your name on the list.

### **MARCH MEETING MINUTES**

EAA Chapter 1268  
Sonoma, California

Minutes of the March 14, 2006 Meeting

The meeting was called to order by President Eric Preston. He reminded us to thank

Marilyn for dessert, Nelleka for the salad, and Bev for the corned beef and cabbage.

Treasure Bob Avrit reported that there was \$3210.49 in the Chapter's account, and about \$2000 in the Harry West Memorial fund. Important, there are 24 unpaid members. It's only \$12 dollars for a whole year of membership.

Marilyn Poggenesse was awarded a certificate of achievement for being the co-VP in 2005.

The Napa EAA chapter will need help during the weekend on May 12-14th, 2006 because of the EAA's visiting B-17. Young Eagles will be flying out of there for May, so any pilots willing to go over there and fly kids, that would be awesome. Contact the office or VP Darrel Jones for more information. They are willing to share host rights and money earned if we get enough people out there.

The Napa Chapter also meets the 1st Tuesday at Jonesy's Restaurant at the Napa airport.

Guests were Tom, whose last name we didn't catch, and Barry and Diane Danelli. Barry is a glider pilot who soloed at age fourteen.

The speaker for the night was John Volkober and his wife Tarol was present as well. He has his power license and has about 2000 hours in gliders. He also talked about local glider ports and showed a video on soaring.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Gravatt  
Secretary

Well, that's enough for this month. Please send your news to: [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com).

**Sonoma Skycrafters**  
EAA Chapter 1268  
358 Patten Street  
Sonoma, CA 95476

**REMEMBER! THE APRIL MEETING OF SSONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA  
CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, APRIL 11, AT 7:30 PM, AT SONOMA SKYPARK,  
HANGAR N-3! DINNER STARTS AT 7 PM, SO DON'T BE LATE!**

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**SKYCRAFTER MEMBERSHIP**

**EAA CHAPTER 1268**    Membership Dues:    \$12 per year.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ APT: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

Your check should be made payable to:    **EAA 1268**

Please mail your dues to:

Bob Avrit  
4479 Grove Street  
Sonoma, CA 95476