



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport

21870 Eighth Street East

Sonoma, CA 95476

May 2006



EAA B-17 ALUMINUM OVERCAST IN NAPA MAY 12-13-14

Chapter 1268 beauties with General Chuck Yaeger at the Santa Rosa B-17 event in 2004
Sonoma Skyrafters has been asked to help host and give Young Eagles rides at Napa

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Vice President: Darrel Jones, 707-996-4494

Secretary: Ashley Gravatt, 707-996-2984

Treasurer: Bob Avrit, 707-938-5818

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Building Chair: Don Youngs, 707-538-2288

Young Eagles Coordinator: Rich Cooper,

707-938-5587

B-17 AT NAPA THIS WEEKEND

Aluminum Overcast is visiting Napa Airport this weekend, and Sonoma Skyrafters members are getting the chance to see this magnificent girl up close and personal.

Chapter 1268 has been asked to help host the EAA B-17 during its three day stay, and to help people on and off for their rides.

Having helped do this same job during their 2002 visit to Sonoma County Airport, I can say that they couldn't pay me enough...to stay away. Volunteers, of course, need to take turns giving tours of the ship and helping riders on and off. If you've always wanted to know, up close and personal, what the inside of a B-17 looks like, give Eric a call.

President Eric Presten is coordinating the hosting volunteers, so call him if you can help Friday, Saturday or Sunday.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

The officers and staff of Sonoma Skyrafters, EAA Chapter 1268, have put together the 2006 Membership Directory and are including it with this edition of the Chapter newsletter.

If you didn't quite get it together to send your membership dues in to Bob Avrit, don't worry. All is forgiven. Bob's address is just below and he is still eagerly accepting dues checks or twelve dollar bills from the procrastinators in the club. Just fill out the membership form on the last page of this newsletter, stick it in an envelope with that twelve dollars, and send it on in.

We will update the membership roster throughout the year through this newsletter

Send your dues to:

Bob Avrit
4479 Grove Street
Sonoma, CA 95476

You can also bring a twelve dollar bill to the May meeting Tuesday. While you're pulling

out that wallet to pay for dinner, just pull an extra bill or two out and hand it to Bob.

That way we won't have to mug you on your way to your car.

THE CLUBHOUSE PROGRESSES! **(The sun is FINALLY out!)**

The roof is on and everything is drying out.

The next phases of the clubhouse project are to get walls up around the kitchen area, to wire for lights and receptacles, and to get a sewer line run to the building.

The lumber is already on-site for the walls, so you should be receiving an email with the schedule for the work party.

The Sky Crafters' electricians will meet sometime later this month to put the wiring in and to barbecue some hamburgers.

The sewer line will be run to the buildings as soon as construction starts on Gardner Cook's new hangar, since the airport will be using that work crew to get the trench dug.

May should be a busy month. With many volunteers and a little effort, the chapter will have a comfy meeting place shortly.

Please give Don Youngs a call to volunteer, and let him know what your invaluable construction skills are.

B-17 COMES TO NAPA AND YOUNG EAGLES RIDE!

The EAA B-17, Aluminum Overcast, will be in Napa selling rides on May 12, 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. 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 April Young Eagles Day was also rained out. Below is the calendar of upcoming Young Eagles flights.

May 13, at Napa
May 14 at Sonoma Skypark
June 11 at Sonoma Skypark

MAY MEETING PROGRAM

We will have a double program at the May 9 meeting.

As part of the business meeting, we will be finalizing plans for the B-17 and Young Eagles rides at Napa this weekend.

Young Eagles Coordinator Rich Cooper sends the following:

Hello Young Eagle Volunteers,

I just talked to our coordinator, Bill Wheadon, at the Napa chapter in regard to the Young Eagles program on Saturday, May 13th. So far they have two four place airplanes with pilots to supplement our group. We will be briefing the passengers inside the terminal and each pilot will escort his Young Eagle charge to and from the airplane. This should make for a clean operation. There will also be a boy scouts pancake breakfast as well as the B-17 schedule.

So please let me know that you will be at Napa airport 08:45 Saturday, May 13th. The program runs until 14:00.

Sunday, May 14th is also our regular Young Eagle day in Sonoma. If you can only do one

day, let it be Saturday if possible. Please call me with any questions.

Thanks for your support,
Rich

Right after the planning meeting, Sky Crafters member Jeanette Woods will tell about her experiences living in the Philippines during the Japanese occupation during the war (that's World War II to all you kids out there.

Hal Woods was our guest speaker at a previous meeting when he talked about flying as a waist gunner in a B-17 over Europe, being shot down and spending time as a POW guest of the Germans.

Jeanette's talk will round out our history lesson on both theaters of the war. Should be interesting!

OFF TO OSHKOSH!!!

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 something like that again.

As with all good plans, there are several plans floating around. The first plan is to head out in time to make the Prospect Fly-in, July 15 and 16, at Prospect Airport just over the border in Oregon.

The fly-in is sponsored by the Jackson County Search and Rescue, and will feature a steak and chicken barbecue Saturday evening and a pancake breakfast Sunday morning, all for \$20. There is camping at the airport, as well as hotel space in town. Fly-in information is available by email from jpdevore@grrtech.com or jjdotindfors@grrtech.com.

We are planning on continuing north to Cavanaugh Bay airport, where some of the group stayed during the 2002 trip. From there we continue past Kalispell through Glacier Park, across Montana, North Dakota and on

to Brodhead Wisconsin by July 21 or 22 for the Pietenpol Fly-in.

We will head out from Brodhead on Sunday, July 23 for the short trip up to Oshkosh. Some of us will be camping on the airport, but if any of you want a real bed inside a real building, you should go to the EAA.org website and start tracking down a dorm or hotel room.



Ashley and Ron chatting over pancakes at Brodhead during the 2002 flight to Oshkosh

Sky Crafters Secretary Ashley Gravatt will be helping plan the trip, as well as planning the planning meetings to plan the trip. Ashley has started taking flight lessons this year, and just might be ready for her first solo just after we return.

This will be one of those “the more the merrier” trips, so call Darrel Jones at 707-996-4494 to get your name on the list.

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

EAA Chapter 1268
Sonoma, California

Minutes of the April 11, 2006 Meeting

President Eric Preston called the meeting to order, and started off first and foremost thanking John Thomason for the use of his hanger for the meeting. Also thanked were Marilyn Avrit and Marilyn Poggensee for their exceptional culinary skills. Roy Meyers was back to flip burgers and everyone was appreciative of the meal.

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Eric Preston reported that he successfully delivered an airplane earlier in the month.

Vice President Darrel Jones asked whoever might be interested in going back to Oshkosh this year to join us for a planning party later in the month of May. Ideas to draw people in were BBQ or pizza night?

Also, the VP wants to know if you want to get your newsletter/minutes delivered by snail mail or e-mail. If you want it delivered by e-mail, can you receive PDF files or Word files?

Treasurer Bob Avrit reported that there is \$5545.47 total, \$3440.47 in the chapters' account and \$2105.00 in the Harry West Memorial Fund. Reminder: PAY YOUR DUES!!!

Don Youngs needs help finishing up the soon-to-be clubhouse. Please, any one who can lend a hand on Saturdays is welcomed.

The B-17 is visiting May 12-14th. There is a sign up sheet that will circulate, and you can contact Rich Cooper for more details. There will be a pancake breakfast put on by the local boy scout troop on Saturday. If we put in enough help, we can receive a third of the total income.

There are two new members and no guests.

Dream Machines at Half Moon Bay has been cancelled because of unseasonable weather.

Paul Siebert reported that there may possibly be a new category of airplanes for antiques and classics. Paul is the club expert on the issue, so contact him for more information.

Marilyn Poggensee thought that it would be a nice gesture to give Cam Fraser, the donator of the cabinets for the clubhouse, a thank you card.

Our presenter was Alan James, who works for the Sonoma County Chapter Red Cross and is a pilot at Petaluma airport. He gave a great presentation on the PBY flying boats

from World War II, and showed pictures of
PBVs in the Pacific during the war.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ashley Gravatt, Secretary

FLY-IN SEASON IS HERE!

Golden West EAA Regional Fly-In, June 9-
11, 2006, Yuba County Airport (MYV),
Marysville, California
<http://www.goldenwestflyin.org>

The Golden West EAA Regional Fly-In is
coming soon!

Visit the web site www.goldenwestflyin.org
for arrival/departure procedures with a
temporary tower in place. Also sign up to
volunteer - the best way to enjoy a fly-in! On
the home web page click on volunteers at the
bottom and then either open the pdf version
or go to the on-line sign up version.

Also coming up:

Watsonville Antique Fly-in, May 26-28.

Merced Antique Fly-in, June 2-4.

Northwest EAA Fly-In
July 5-9, 2006
Arlington Municipal Airport (AWO),
Arlington, WA
<<http://www.nweaa.org/>>

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, July 24-30, 2006
Wittman Regional Airport (OSH), Oshkosh,
WI, <<http://www.airventure.org/>>

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

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

**REMEMBER! THE MAY MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER
1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, MAY 9, AT 7:30 PM, AT SONOMA SKYPARK, HANGAR N3!
DINNER STARTS AT 7 PM, SO DON'T BE LATE!**

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
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Sonoma, CA 95476