



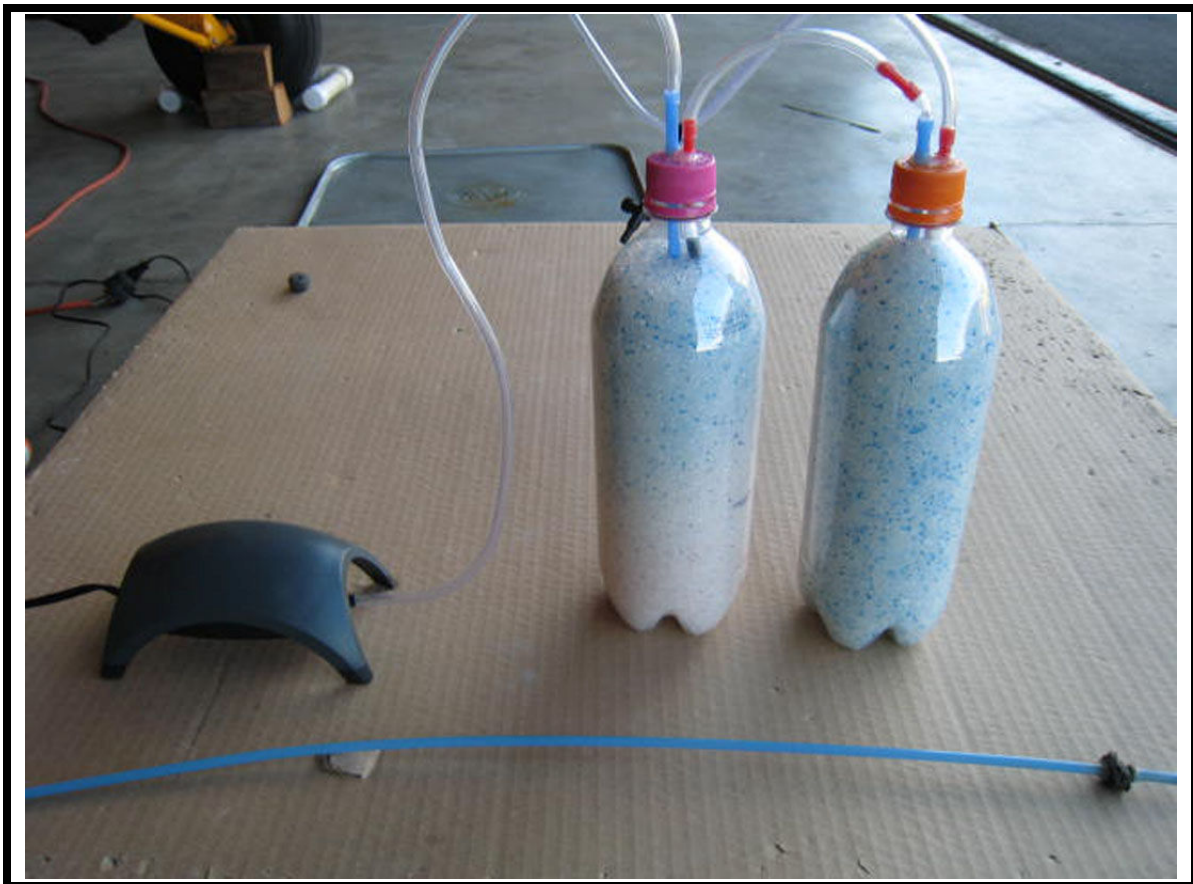
# THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter  
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport  
21870 Eighth Street East  
Sonoma, CA 95476

MARCH 2007



## FRANK RUSSO HITTING THE BOTTLES DOESN'T MEAN WHAT YOU MIGHT THINK!

Frank gave a great presentation last month about his home built engine air drier. He very generously wrote up a "how-to" article for this month's newsletter.

### **CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President: Darrel Jones, 707-996-4494  
Vice President: Andy Smith, 530-306-9870  
Secretary: Frank Russo, 707-226-6535  
Treasurer: Bob Avrit, 707-938-5818

Membership Chair: Marilyn Poggensee,  
707-939-7491  
Building Chair: Don Youngs, 707-538-2288  
Young Eagles Coordinator: Rich Cooper,  
707-938-5587

### FIRST THINGS FIRST

The next meeting of the Sonoma Skycrafters will be this Tuesday, March 13, at the Chapter clubhouse at Sonoma Skypark.

Dinner will start at 7 pm with the meeting immediately following. Marilyn Poggensee has arranged for the speaker and sent these details:

Here is the scoop on our speaker for March 13th. March is Women in Aviation Month, and our speaker has a display of photos covering this subject.

"Doc" Ross was a Navy doctor for 30 years. He started out in bacteriological warfare, then went into diving and sub medicine. He worked on "Cities in the Sea" during the Cold War, a probable safe place in a nuclear attack(?) He did under sea research on making fresh water and fresh air from salt water for these cities. He has been interested in guns all his life and has a gun & parts business. Somewhere along the way, he has put together this collection of "Women in Aviation" photos, which has been displayed in museums.

He will require three 8' tables to display his pictures and the DVD player with the TV screen to show a short movie on the first woman fighter pilot. He has been invited to come at 6:30 and set up his display, and then join us for dinner. He may bring his wife, Glenda, whom I worked with at UCSF in my other life.

Thanks,  
Marilyn

### ARE YOU MISSING SOMETHING?

Fellow member Steve Holifield found someone's aviation headset on the corner of Second Street East and Patten here in Sonoma. If you put a set on the roof of your car and drove away, these may be yours. Give Steve a call at 933-9100 and identify

them (and yourself) and you can have a reunion. If the owner has already flown into the sunset, then I guess Steve has a new set of headphones.

### MAKING A AIR DRYING SYSTEM FOR YOUR ENGINE BY FRANK RUSSO 2/14/07

Items required

1 5LB container INDICATING SILICA GEL (veritemp.com) cost with shipping 28.15

1 aquarium air pump (Wal-Mart Tetra whisper pump for 10 to 30 gal aquariums) 13.97

1 aquarium air supply line (Wal-Mart 8 ft) 1.33

1 aquarium air diffusers filters (Wal-Mart) one package contains four and they look like white hollow tubes about 2 inches long and pencil size in diameter with one end plugged 1.97

2 packages, one red & one blue Sullivan or Goldberg Golden push rods for model airplanes

(Sonoma Hobbies on Broadway Street ) or can be any hard plastic line 4 to 5mm(3/16-inch) OD

Cost can vary on length of line and your scrounging abilities, need about one foot per bottle 9.00 ?

2 clear plastic soda bottles 24 OZ to 33-Oz size 0.00

**Total** (prices are approximate 2007) max cost to make \$ 54

There is enough silica gel to make four bottles if you want to reduce the number of recharging cycles.

Just add another package of air diffusers and make them up.

Schematic

[Air pump]-----[desiccant silica gel] ----  
-----[engine oil cap or engine vent]



**To make the desiccant bottles:** Drill two holes in the soda bottle caps, a tight fit for the air inlet and outlet lines will assure a good seal. The air inlet line (blue) should reach to the bottom of the bottle. The outlet line (red) only needs to be long enough to clear the neck of the bottle so that the filter diffuser will be within the top portion of the bottle. The blue inlet line needs to be lightly sanded where the hot glue will have to adhere to the inside of the diffuser filter, about the last ½ inch of one end that will be at the bottom of the soda bottle. Hot glue the filter diffusers at the bottom of both the inlet tube and the outlet tube.

After adjusting the tubes in the empty soda bottles where you want them, hot glue them on the outside top of the cap to make a good seal and to keep them in place.

Load the bottle with silica gel to approximately the base of the neck allowing space for the long inlet tube and the outlet filter diffusers. Gently insert the blue line into the loaded bottle twisting it in and insert the outlet filter diffuser, then screw on the cap.

Attached a short length of line from the air pump to the blue inlet line and turn on the pump to check that the same amount of air going into the blue inlet is coming out at the red outlet end. You should make sure that the outlet line has a filter that is adequate enough for keeping silica dust from getting into your engine. This is the reason for the filter diffusers on the in and out lines, you can use any other method you like. I have

used a bubble stone only on the outlet line before with success, but now with double protection it really does not matter what line is used for in or out, and you really do not need to color code them. I prefer to have the inlet air from the pump going to the bottom of the bottle and the outlet air exit the top, with the bottles in the upright position. You could actually lay the bottles down or in any position and it will work fine.

**Assembling the system:** I use two bottles ganged in series so that when the first bottle is all pink and the second bottle is just starting to change in color to pink I then know to change the first bottle and recharge the desiccant. Attach an airline from the outlet of the bottle to the engine oil tank, or vent line in some way, tape for a temporary system is one way. When going into the vent you will need a hard plastic line with foam plug about 4 inches from one end, to get above your ice relief hole that all engine vent lines should have. Make sure that the foam plug is completely removed from the vent before you go flying. Also if you go through the vent you should crack open your oil cap for the dry air to have an exit.

**To recharge the desiccant:** Evenly spread, up to ½ inch thick, the silica gel in a metal container. I use a broiler drip pan or deep sided cookie sheet and place in the oven at 250 to 300 degrees for 2 to 3 hours until they turn back to a blue color. Allow cooling, I usually try to cover them, out of the oven, so that they don't absorb more moisture than necessary while cooling. Place the recharged silica gel in an airtight container until needed.

The MSDS sheet on silica gel said that it is non-toxic, however the cobalt chloride blue crystals are harmful. Avoid ingesting or breathing the dust.

**Web sites for more information:**

[www.veritemp.com](http://www.veritemp.com) , [www.drypak.com/](http://www.drypak.com/) ,  
[www.flyingsafer.com/2039.htm](http://www.flyingsafer.com/2039.htm)

**(commercial version)**

[www.jakesmp.com/CSD\\_Silica\\_Gel/CSD\\_Silica\\_008\\_M.html](http://www.jakesmp.com/CSD_Silica_Gel/CSD_Silica_008_M.html)



I will try to answer your questions and have photos to send at [fdmrusso@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fdmrusso@sbcglobal.net)

**ALSO, DUES ARE DUE! SEND 'EM IN!  
(WITH YOUR EAA NUMBER)**

Dues are once again due for the year. We include a renewal form on the last page of the newsletter each month. What is different is that there are places for your EAA membership number and expiration date.

Please take a moment to fill out the renewal, include a check for a *paltry* twelve dollars and send the whole thing to Bob Avrit at the address on the renewal form.

EAA National needs this information from each chapter when we send in our renewal paperwork. If you have already renewed your Chapter 1268 membership, please send our Membership Chair Marilyn Poggensee an email at [Windsong21@comcast.net](mailto:Windsong21@comcast.net) with your EAA membership number.

**MINUTES**

EAA Chapter 1268  
February 13, 2007 minutes

1900 hrs. Great dinner of breaded chicken, bake beans, rice pilaf, salad, and desert of apple pie, ice cream, and cookies were served.

1946 hrs President Darrel Jones called meeting to order.

Andy smith passed out an Oshkosh flyer-requesting sign ups for a July 23-29 trip to Airventure 2007.

Bob Averit treasurers report stated that there is \$2105.00 in the Harry West Memorial fund and \$ 4409.03 in the chapter general fund for a total of \$ 6514.03. Expenses for Flowers \$63.41, Book case \$50.00, and clubhouse materials \$ 327.60. At this time there are 32 paid up members at \$ 12 for a total of \$392 with \$8.00 in donations. We had 61 paid members in 2006

Roy Meyers and Marilyn were thanked for the meal preparation Nelica Cooper made chicken Bob Averit brought cookies and ice cream.

Marilyn Poggensee requested that any one that would like to help set up, clean up or assist in any way for the meeting to sign up on the Kitchen List so that the tasks can be cycled around to different people through out the year. Marilyn also requested that members check the Master Members list to up date their information and make any corrections and to send her your latest EAA expiration date.

Rich Cooper gave the Young Eagles report and said that 16 young Eagles flew on a day that turned out much better than expected considering what the weather was earlier in the day. He also said that Nierio flew 4 young Eagles to make that a total of 100.

Don Youngs gave the club a nice framed picture of the newly resurrected wind tee and its history to be hung in the club or at the airport office. . Jorge Oros took it around to all the tables for a better look.

Don Cooly donated a book to be either lent out or as a raffle prize in the future.

President said that this Saturday at 0900 hrs a work party is scheduled to work on the rest rooms and kitchen.

BK will do the sheet rock taping along with many of his other talents he has been exercising on the project

Jim Clark volunteered to install the dishwasher.

Ron Price will bring the coffee and doughnuts.

Frank Russo will bring some more pavers for the walkway to the rest rooms in the atrium

President encouraged all those wanting to attend the Bob Nuckolls seminar to go to his web site and sign up. They expect to have 20 to 50 people.

Don Cooley volunteered to chair some fly outs for the proverbial \$\$\$ hamburger.

Marilyn Poggensee recommend that the club consider doing a Golden Eagles day like Jim Roberts had done in the past with the Yountville veteran's home.

Darrel Jones showed the new clip on name badges that will be kept on the wall by the door.

Guest Ray Spangler was introduced as the new flight school operator with a C172 and Stinson available for tail dragger training. Ray said that he had a laminator that could be used for making the name badges for the club.

Guest Travis Moor and Jasmine were introduced and Travis will be a new airport employee picking up where Andy Smith leaves off.

Guest Walt Lewis was introduced and he is looking for a Champ project or?

Bruce Wiltse introduced his wife Anna and said she will start to train in the Travelair when it is ready.

Guest Jorge Oros 14 years old was introduced by Ron Price and said that he has filled up his Young Eagle log book and would like to attend Airventure 2007. He is also busy around the airport doing little jobs like painting the centerline of the runway.

Rich Cooper said that Young Eagle Michel Portman who had gone to Oshkosh in the past and gave the club a report a few years ago is interested in going again and that the older group (16 to 18 yr.) attends around July 29 during Airventure.

President Darrel requested for any one with interesting stories or a presentation on their project for one of the meetings to contact him or Andy Smith.

BK donated five videos on many interesting aviation subjects to be used in the club library for loan to members.

Frank Russo did a show and tell of the dry air system he is using to keep the air in the crank case of his engine dry enough that rust will have a difficult time forming on the metal parts.

Nelleke Cooper presented a well-done slide show with great music that she produced on the Frank Shelling Jenny.

2104 hrs. Meeting adjourned by Darrel Jones.

### **CLUBHOUSE REPORT**

BK White has finished the sheet rocking, taping and texturing on the restrooms, and we are arranging for the linoleum to go down so the fixtures and vanities can be set

The restrooms may not be quite ready for use by this meeting, but they will be in operation before the airport annual shareholders' meeting later in March.

Jim Clark put in some serious time getting the dishwasher and water heater going. Tim Steers cut and nailed some fine plywood. A lot of our other members have also pitched in to work on the electrical, trim, patio and organizing. It's been a great group effort!

### **BOB NUCKOLLS SEMINAR A GO!**

46 years experience in aircraft systems maintenance, design, troubleshooting and fabrication. Publisher of the *AeroElectric Connection*: The definitive work in *owner-built and maintained* (OBAM) aircraft electrical systems. 20,000+ readers in 30 countries for 20 years.

#### **Schedule For Saturday**

8:00 - 8:30 Registration

- Hand outs, getting acquainted . . . there might even be coffee and donuts . . .

8:30 - 11:30 morning session:

- Parts Selection - "What's all this 'aircraft quality' Stuff Anyhow?"
- Failure Mode Effects Analysis - Confidence by Design
- DC Power Fundamentals - Understanding "the Force"
- Batteries
- Engine Driven Power Sources
- Voltage Regulators
- Grounding
- Over Voltage Protection
- Electrical System Instrumentation
- 

11:30 - 12:30 Break for lunch

12:30-5:00 Afternoon Session

- Wire Selection and Installation
- Wire Termination and Connectors
- Circuit Protection
- Switches Relays and Contactors
- Lighting and Lighting Controls
- Antennas and Feedlines (including antenna analyzer demonstration)
- Engine Instrumentation

#### **Saturday Evening**

Depending on location, facilities and local host's planning we may get together to share an evening meal and swap a few stories . . .

#### **Schedule for Sunday**

8:00-12:00 morning session:

- Noise - Antagonist, propagation paths and victims . . . .
- Tools, Wiring Techniques and Parts Selection Philosophy
- Hands-on demonstrations of useful crimp tools and soldering techniques.

Be sure to go to the following website to pre-register and get the information about the course and textbook:

<http://www.aeroelectric.com/seminars/Sonoma.html>

#### **OSHKOSH, B'GOSH!**

Leaving Sonoma July 15 and returning by August 4. We have pilots with airplanes looking for co-pilots to share expenses, and pilots without airplanes looking for an empty seat.

Let's get them together at the next meeting. Email me at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) to get on the lists!

#### **MISSING LINKS**

Here are more amazing Web sites that contain fascinating video footage and more.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sdUUX5FdySs>

[http://raindesert.com/great\\_war/210\\_battle\\_of\\_somme.htm](http://raindesert.com/great_war/210_battle_of_somme.htm)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGorCSnIHF4>

[http://www.weather.com/multimedia/ideoplayer.html?clip=4801&collection=videocoll26&from=vid\\_brws2&tab=3&nav=141](http://www.weather.com/multimedia/ideoplayer.html?clip=4801&collection=videocoll26&from=vid_brws2&tab=3&nav=141)

Send your news to [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com).

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

**REMEMBER! THE MARCH MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA  
CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, MARCH 13, AT 7:30 PM, AT SONOMA  
SKYPARK, SKYCRAFTERS CLUBHOUSE, HANGAR B5!  
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: \_\_\_\_\_

EAA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_ EXPIRATION DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Please mail your dues to:  
Bob Avrit  
4479 Grove Street  
Sonoma, CA 95476