



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport
21870 Eighth Street East
Sonoma, CA 95476

SEPTEMBER 2009



JIM ROBERTS IS TOM SWIFTING AGAIN!

Congratulations to Jim for getting back into the Swift game.

He and Carolyn have N78012 back in their loving care.

Where she belongs.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Darrel Jones, 707-996-4494

Vice Pres: Jeannie Williams, 707-938-5234

Secretary: Frank Russo, 707-226-6535

Treasurer: Bob Avrit, 707-938-5818

Membership: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901

Building: Dick Sullivan, 707-996-0401

Young Eagles: BK White, 707-996-1335

Dinner Coord.: Roy Myers, 415-897-2983

Tech. Advisor: Eric Presten, 707-9939-8913

Flight Adv's: Eric Presten, 707-939-8913

Dean Thomas, 707-996-3671

FIRST THINGS FIRST

The August meeting will be this Tuesday, September 8, at 7 p.m. at the clubhouse. The program for this month will be a report by Air Explorer Chapter 1268 Air Academy participants Devon Watkins and Martin

Dolcini. They finished their week at the EAA Academy in time to experience the fly-in and airshow at Oshkosh. They will give you their version of how Skyrafter members conducted themselves.

Dinner will be roast chicken, chili and coleslaw, with a big load of help from Roy and Linda Myers. Dessert will be a birthday cake brought by our own Devon Watkins.

SOMETIMES OUR FRIENDS FLY WEST

If you haven't heard yet, we've lost our old and dear friend Hal Woods since the last meeting.

Hal passed away August 14 at the tender age of 85. He was a lawyer who made a lie of all those lawyer jokes. He was always a genial gentleman of great honor and good humor, and cheered everyone he met with his gigantic smile and hearty laugh.

I was always happy to stop whatever it was I was doing when Hal and Jeanette pulled up in front of the hangar to enjoy a short visit with them both through the rolled-down window of their car.

Hal served in a B-17 bomber as a waist gunner during World War II, was shot down over Germany and survived to father six children and help parent two stepsons, and grandfather many grandchildren.

Hal would fly his and Jeanette's Cessna 172 throughout the west and Sonoma Skypark is fortunate that they finally landed here.

Donations can be made in Hal's name to either the Aviation Explorers Post 1268, in care of Sonoma Skypark Airport, 21870 Eighth Street East, Sonoma, CA 95476, or American Legion Jack London Post, P.O. Box 578, Sonoma, CA 95476, or to the charity of your choice.

DINNER SCHEDULE

The schedule so far is:

Month	Cook 1	Cook 2
September '09	Darrel J.	Gary McD
October '09	Walt L.	Marilyn
November '09	?	?
December '09	XMAS	PARTY!

Roy Meyers generously volunteered to coordinate the dinners and is looking for cooks.

Let him know by email to Flyboyroy@aol.com or phone at 415-897-2983 which month you want and we will finish filling in the list for the rest of the year!

From Gary McDonald:

“I totally take back all those times I didn't want to nap when I was younger.”

HEALTH AND WELFARE REPORT

Our Vice President Jeanne Williams was the victim of a heinous attack by a set of stairs at her office. When she wasn't looking, they jumped out, tripped her and flung her down to the ground, breaking her hip and arm.

The good news is that nothing fazes Jeanne for long. She is already in the Skilled Nursing unit at Sonoma Valley Hospital working on her physical therapy and catching up on her work.

She is receiving visitors in room 101B, although you had better hurry if you want to catch her because she will probably be out very soon.

I have a hunch that as soon as she can get around well enough that she will be renting a jackhammer and taking her revenge on those shifty stairs.

YOUNG EAGLES

August Young Eagles will be this Sunday September 13 from 9 a.m. to noon here at Sonoma Skypark.

We always need two to three people to rotate to cover greeting the Young eagles and parents, as well as helping them register. Come out Sunday and give us a hand!

BK White has taken over as Young Eagles coordinator, so give him a call at 707-996-1335 or email him at BkandCarol@vom.com to let him know you will be flying and helping.

2009 CALENDAR

If you are going to one of these please let me know and we will find some pilots and planes to fly with you.

Sep 4-6, **McMinnville Aircraft Fly-In**, McMinnville, OR,
Sep 24-27 **Dawn Patrol Rendezvous**, Dayton, OH
Oct. 3, **EAA Chapter 1476 Pancake Breakfast and Fly-in**, Rancho Murieta, CA
Oct 4, **Wings and Wheels**, Rio Vista, CA
Oct 15-17, **Parade of Planes**, Hayward, CA

Send your information on any other fly-ins or destinations and we will update our calendar during the year.

EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES

Well, I wasn't at the meeting and neither was our Secretary, so I don't have minutes for August. We'll see if anyone remembers what went on and put something together for the next newsletter.

I would like to have the current officers and Board of Directors get together before the meeting Tuesday to talk about recruiting new officers for the coming year. This last year we pressed several of our officers into staying on in office for one more year, but that time is rapidly dwindling away.

The activity level of every organization ebbs and flows, and the number of members willing to help administer the club are what keep a group active and healthy.

We have been asking our members what they would like from this chapter. We are also asking that you, the membership, come forward with suggestions for activities, programs and speakers for the meetings, preparing the dinners for the meetings, and recruiting more young people into aviation through the Young Eagles and Next Step programs.

We will be asking everyone in the chapter to participate on some level. Think about what you really like about Sonoma Skycrafters and bring your ideas and suggestions to the upcoming meetings.

I participate because I love flying and old airplanes. I think we all share that same love of aviation. We are a special group that can do much to have fun and enjoy each other's company.

A good start is to come to the next meeting with your vision for the club and share that vision with the rest of us. You can do that best by becoming an officer, board member or committee chairperson.

You will have lots of support from the past officers when you decide to give a hand. (And think of the fame, fortune and adulation you'll receive!)



John Thomason's Waco at the Oshkosh seaplane base during Airventure. Photo from the EAA Airventure website.

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

**REMEMBER! THE SEPTEMBER MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA
CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, AT 7 PM, AT THE SONOMA
SKYPARK SKYCRAFTERS CLUBHOUSE, HANGAR B5.
DINNER STARTS AT 7 PM, SO DON'T BE LATE!**

SKYCRAFTER MEMBERSHIP

EAA CHAPTER 1268 Membership Dues: **\$15 per year.**

Name: _____ EMAIL: _____

Address: _____ APT: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

EAA MEMBERSHIP NUMBER: _____ EXPIRATION DATE: _____

AIRCRAFT OWNED OR BUILDING: _____

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

Please mail your dues to:

Bob Avrit
4479 Grove Street
Sonoma, CA 95476