



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport

21870 Eighth Street East

Sonoma, CA 95476

APRIL 2017



AIRPORT KID IN THE MAKING AT SKYPARK.

Tom Palmer driving & Cal Whittaker observing. 4/1/17

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President/AE: Robin Tatman, 707-553-2747
Vice President: Don Booker, 707-938-9461
Secretary: Nelleke Cooper, 707-938-5587
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FIRST THINGS FIRST

The April meeting is this **Tuesday, April 11**. 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 \$6.00 per person. Our chef for the month will once again be Ron Price. Nelleke Cooper had planned to do the April dinner but is in the hospital with a bout of diverticulitis. She is on the mend and hopes to be home later this week.

Our program will be the EAA Chapter video.

BIG FAMILY FUN DAY UPDATE!

Due to some serious scheduling conflicts, Sonoma Skypark's annual Family Fun Day has been rescheduled to Saturday, May 13, from 11 am to 3 pm.

Because Family Fun Day had become less fun for the many generous volunteers, we have returned to the original mission of having a low-key family event to let the Sonoma Valley community know who we are and what we do for the community.

We won't be having a silent auction or raffle, but will instead have complimentary hamburgers and hot dogs for our guests and volunteers, and have as many fun activities as we can think of.

We will be sending out an update with more information and a list of the activities you can help with later this month.

EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER REPORT

April 2017

Bill will give his report at the meeting.

AIR EXPLORERS

Air Explorer Update

For the activity in March we went on a tour of the Oakland Center facility. It's a bit confusing because you would think the facility is at the Oakland Airport, but it actually is on Center Avenue in Fremont, just south of the Dumbarton Bridge. They were very strict about not letting us take pictures, even of the sign in front of the facility. We had a good turnout of 11 Explorers and parents. Unfortunately only 10 of us could go in.

Oakland Center handles traffic all traffic above 18,000 feet from the Nevada/Utah border, north to the California border, continuing west to 160 degrees west (bordering Japan) and south past the Marshall Islands and includes Guam and Fiji. That's a lot of square miles!

We all got to listen in to several sectors - Oceanic traffic around Hawaii, local over Skypark/Santa Rosa, east over Arizona, and north around Red Bluff. Several controllers were in training. They showed us all of the cool tools that they, how they hand off traffic to different sectors, and explained how the different traffic flows were managed. That day they were switching to a south operation because of the incoming storms.

It was a bit like going in to a dark library - very quiet and dim, and there were piles of sugar and caffeine everywhere. Cupcakes, hard candy, chocolate, coffee, and tea to keep everyone awake.

Our guides were 3 new trainees just out of school, so they briefed us on their backgrounds

and how they found their way to becoming controllers. The staff could not have been nicer. All in all, a very informative and fun tour. They prefer small groups, and I have contact information if anyone wants to set up a tour.

Movie Update

Daniel Shulte's movie, *For The Love of Flight* will be showing soon at a theatre near you! Mark your calendars - Sunday, April 23rd at 12:30 pm. We will be having a special screening of the film on the big screen at our own Sebastiani Theatre on the Sonoma Square downtown to promote the film as well as give us a fundraising opportunity for aviation scholarships.

Daniel's involvement in the EAA is a great example of everything the Young Eagles Program is trying to accomplish. He took a demo flight as a birthday gift around 12, got hooked up with the Sonoma Skypark Young Eagles Program, joined Air Explorers, went to two Air Venture camps, soloed on his 15th birthday, got his PPL on his 16th birthday, and is now working on his instrument and commercial ratings. In the meantime he got an idea to make a documentary to promote interest in general aviation. One successful Kickstarter fundraising program and 18 long months later, a film is born. The movie flyer is below.

Every ticket purchased (\$5.00 suggested donation) will be entered in a raffle for a scenic air tour with Coastal Aviation. A big thank you to Bob Berwick for donating the flight, and to Kathy Carmichael for coming up with the idea!

We hope to see you there!

Robin

EAA CHAPTER 1268 WEBSITE IS UP!

With many, many thanks to one of our Aviation Explorer mothers, we are delighted to announce

that the EAA Chapter 1268 website is alive again.

We are partnering with Sonoma Skypark since we share so much information. Click the "EAA 1268" tab on the title bar to go to the Chapter 1268 information.

Our domain names are both eaa1268.com and eaa1268.org. We have renewed the domain names for the next ten years so we don't have to worry about them for a while.

If you haven't met Gretchen McDougall, she is the mother of an Air Explorer that the Chapter sponsored to the Air Academy at Oshkosh last year. She is a professional website developer who has donated many, many hours of her valuable knowledge and expertise.

After having our website languish for years, we are finally up to date again. Welcome to the 21st century! Our back issues of our newsletters are on the site as well as is current information on activities and topics important for Chapter 1268 members.

Thanks again Gretchen, for your generous donation to Chapter 1268!

YOUNG EAGLES

Young Eagles day was last Sunday, April 9. The Chapter 1268 pilots flew 21 Young Eagle flights with five pilots, Walt Eastland, Tim Bloodgood, Frank Russo, Colin Trainor and Bill Wheadon. BK will give a full report at the meeting.

As always BK White is looking for volunteer pilots, ground crew and registration helpers for our monthly Young Eagles events. Let him know you will be joining us and helping out by sending him an email to eagle1@vom.com or by calling him at 707-996-1335.

MOVIE NIGHT AT SONOMA SKYPARK

Movie night for April is **Saturday, April 22 at 6pm.**

Free admission. Pizza is always available for \$5 per person, including beverages, and complimentary popcorn just to whet your appetite (or spoil it), courtesy of Walt Lewis and his Amazing Real Movie Theater Popcorn Popping Extravaganza Machine.

See you at the movies on Skypark Movie Night, **SATURDAY, April 22** at 6 p.m.

DINNER SCHEDULE

We are lining up our celebrity chefs for 2017 so let us know if you would like to be one of our famous chefs for the upcoming year. Contact Robin at robntat@aol.com or 707-553-2747. You can also let me know at wd6bor@vom.com and I'll put you on the roster.

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Cook	Meal
2017 DINNER SCHEDULE		
APR	Ron P.	Lasagna
MAY		
JUN		
JUL		
AUG		
SEP		
OCT		
NOV		
DEC	XMAS	PARTY

SPEAKERS

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

Send an email to me at wd6bor@vom.com so we can get your program or speaker information into the newsletter.

Month	Speaker/Member	Subject
2017 SPEAKER SCHEDULE		
APR	EAA Chapter Video	

MAY		
JUN		
JUL		
AUG		
SEP		
OCT		
NOV		
DEC		

2017 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
4/9	Young Eagles 9 am
4/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
4/22	Skypark Movie Night
5/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm
5/14	Young Eagles 9 am
5/20	Skypark Family Fun Day
5/27	Skypark Movie Night
6/11	Young Eagles 9 am
6/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm
6/24	Skypark Movie Night
7/9	Young Eagles 9 am
7/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
7/22	Skypark Movie Night
8/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm
8/13	Young Eagles 9 am
8/26	Skypark Movie Night
9/10	Young Eagles 9 am
9/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm
9/23	Skypark Movie Night
10/8	Young Eagles 9 am
10/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm
10/28	Skypark Movie Night
11/12	Young Eagles 9 am
11/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
11/25	Skypark Movie Night
12/?	Skypark Xmas Party
1/1/17	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

March 14, 2017

The Board meeting was called to order by Darrel Jones at 6:13 pm. Present were Bill Wheadon, Treasurer; Don Booker, Vice President; BK White, Young Eagles liaison; Nelleke Cooper, Secretary; Paul Siebert, Darrel Jones and Jeanette Woods, Board Members, Guest Richard Cooper.

Bill Wheadon, Member Chair reported that the new roster was emailed out to the members. He wasn't sure whether all the email addresses were correct and hopes to hear from those who changed their email addresses in the last year. BK mentioned to shred the old roster or destroy to keep the information from being compromised.

Our checking account has been successfully transferred to Redwood Credit Union and new checks are in our possession.

Treasurer Report: Our account at Redwood CU has \$9704.38 in the checking account and \$100 in the savings account (required to maintain that balance as a credit union). There was no activity other than the initial deposit of \$290 to get the account opened.

BK reported that the weather was beautiful for the March Young Eagles meeting. We flew 23 kids with 3 airplanes. Pilots were Ron Price, Frank Russo and Walt Eastman. Walt has the advantage of being able to fly 3 kids at the same time in his Bonanza, which came in handy considering the # of kids that came out. John Thomason handled the registrations and Paul Siebert was there to assist with the line. Our Chapter 1268 is one of the few and maybe the only one, who gives Young Eagle rides monthly. There was discussion of one of the volunteer pilots, Bill Somers, who has participated in our Young Eagles program in the past, who was written up in the Grass Valley Union Newspaper. Bill has personally

given 1400 free flights to kids all over the country.

Air Academy. Since our last meeting we have added 1 more participant, Julian Ducarroz, for the Air Academy for a total of 4. Tuition for the week is \$5210. Each applicant has applied for a Scholarship from EAA National, and last year all were approved. BK brought \$645 in credits received for flights for 2016. We also had sent in a deposit of \$1200 which will be applied to the costs. Ron Price arranges for the airfare to which a fee for unaccompanied minors may be added.

There was concern about an article in Sonoma Index Tribune regarding a crash in Fresno, referred to as "Aviation Sonoma Style." BK wrote a letter to the editor pointing out that the pilot was not in any way associated with Sonoma Skypark, while promoting our Young Eagles Program and Air Explorers program. He mentioned our safety record by never having had an incident or accident in the ± 220 rides we give every year.

Ron Price informed us that George Petanque is willing to donate a Cessna 150 to the Chapter under the 501-3c program to give young people the opportunity to learn to fly. Robin Tatman has the paperwork for this and Paul Siebert will contact EAA National on how to proceed.

Ron Price also told us that Michael Brantsig was in Sonoma Valley Hospital last week and most likely has cancer. He will go to UC Davis for further analysis. Our sincere wishes for a successful treatment and complete recovery.

Board meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm
Ron Price and Frank Russo provided us with a superb St. Patrick's day dinner of Corn beef, red and green cabbage, and Ron's special potatoes. For dessert there was a beautiful St. Patrick's day cake with lots of frosting. George Thomson brought the wine and Marsi a container of delicious Peet's coffee.

Regular meeting called to order by Vice President Don Booker at 8:00 pm.

Items discussed at Board Meeting were presented to the Membership, including Young Eagles report, discussion on BK's letter to Index Tribune and Air Academy.

Bill Wheadon informed the members that if a member didn't pay dues for 2 years their name would be dropped from the membership list.

Concerning the Air Academy there will not be a contribution from the Air Explorers this year as in the past the funds came from the Auction and Raffle at Family Fun Day. However, we have members who contribute regularly towards the scholarships, which is greatly appreciated especially with the loss of the Family Fun Day resources. Ron Price's hamburger fund has been able to pay for most of the airfare, but parents are asked to contribute \$200. Rafe Tomsett's movie fund pays for jackets and hats with 1268 logo for the camp participants.

BK brought up the fact that not only do we give YE flights once a month, but we also encourage kids to come back. As a result we have

produced private, military and commercial pilots. This brought up our Chapters mission, which is to try to get young people involved in all aspects of aviation.

Family Fun Day will be held on May 20 this year. Ideas for Family Fun Day. Free hamburgers and all the trimmings, paper airplane contest, Travel Air rides, hay rides, hopefully face painting etc.

Regular meeting adjourned 8:30 pm. A short movie was shown about Pan Am's flight around the world after the attack on Pearl Harbor in WWII. The Pan Am Boeing-314 flying boat under the command of Captain Robert Ford with a crew of 11 was caught in Noumea in the Pacific. They had a perilous flight of 31,500 miles and reached New York 31 days later. Everybody thought they had vanished and the tower didn't know who they were. An incredible feat chronicled in the book "The Long Way Home," by Ed Dover. A great read for anybody interested in aviation history.

Respectfully submitted,
Nelleke Cooper, Secretary

Send me your news for your newsletter!

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

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 2017!** SEE YOU THERE!

REMEMBER! THE APRIL MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, APRIL 11 AT 7 P.M., AT THE SKYCRAFTER'S CLUBHOUSE HANGAR B-5 AT SONOMA SKYPARK AIRPORT. DINNER STARTS AT 7 PM, SO DON'T BE LATE! 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:

Bill Wheadon, Treasurer
1021 Stonebridge Drive
Napa, CA 94558