



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport
21870 Eighth Street East
Sonoma, CA 95476

NOVEMBER 2019



HOW MANY OF YOU FLEW INTO CALISTOGA IN THE DAY?
Jim and Connie Indrebo ran the glider operation there for 21 years.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President/AE: Robin Tatman, 707-553-2747
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Secretary: Nelleke Cooper, 707-938-5587
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Young Eagles: BK White, 707-996-1335
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FIRST THINGS FIRST

The January meeting is this **Tuesday, November 12**. 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 \$8.00 per person. Our chefs for the month will be Richard, Sandra and George.

Our speaker will be Harlow Voorhess with the Oakland FSDO. Harlow will talk about “the impossible turn” and other flight safety subjects.

EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER REPORT
November 2019

For the month of October we had a deposit of \$119 which consisted of \$69 in dinner proceeds and \$50 in donations.

There were no disbursements from the checking account in October.

We now have chapter funds in the following accounts:

- \$7983.47 in checking
- \$105.68 in savings
- \$5071.86 in CD account

These three accounts total \$13,161.01 total chapter funds.

That’s all for now – see you at the meeting.

Bill Wheadon
EAA 1268 Membership Chairman and Treasurer

YOUNG EAGLES

Our last Young Eagles day for 2019 is Sunday, November 10. 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 November is **Saturday, November 23 at 6pm in the Sonoma Skypark clubhouse.**

Free admission. Pizza is always available for \$5 per person, including beverages, and complimentary popcorn just to whet your appetite (or spoil it).

See you at the movies on Skypark Movie Night, **SATURDAY, November 23** at 6 p.m.

DINNER SCHEDULE

We have our celebrity chefs for 2019 but let us know if you want to be listed as our emergency standby cookie. Hot dogs, chili or pizza are perfectly fine. 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	Cooks/Meal
2019 DINNER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Marsi, Abel, George, Les, Ruth, Howard
FEB	Bill & Jan W.
MAR	Nelleke & Rich
APR	Ernie Ganas
MAY	Jeanette W and Catherine S.
JUN	Don & Wayne
JUL	Darrel’s bbq
AUG	Robin T.
SEP	Ron & John’s roadkill special
OCT	Air Explorers
NOV	Richard, Sandra & George
DEC	XMAS PARTY
Month	Cooks/Meal

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
2019 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	2019 Air Academy & year's plans
FEB	Yayoi West- NASA-solar probe
MAR	John Shackford-F84/F86-Korea
APR	Miles Gerdard-flying elephants
MAY	Darren Stevenson-killer subs
JUN	Rich Cooper- Kai Tak
JUL	Glenn Gathright-FAA
AUG	Lew Jennings- author
SEP	Jeane Slone- author
OCT	Air Academy participants' report
NOV	Harlow Voorhess- FAA
DEC	XMAS PARTY

2019 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
11/10	Young Eagles 9 am
11/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm
11/23	Skypark Movie Night
12/6	Skypark Xmas Party
1/1/19	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

EAA 1268 Board of Directors Meeting
October 8, 2019

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Robin Tatman at 6:25 pm.

Present were: President Robin Tatman, ,
Treasurer and Membership Chairman Bill

Wheadon, Secretary Nelleke Cooper, Director Roland Gangloff and Young Eagles Coordinator B.K. White

Absent: Vice President Darrel Jones, Directors Jeanette Woods and Paul Siebert

Robin mentioned she has the checking account for the Air Explorers and they made a commitment of \$2000 to reserve slots at the Air Academy for 2020. There are 2 younger ir Explorers and there was discussion regarding having our own camp similar to the camp in Napa organized by Air Explorer coordinator Kristen.

Other possible field trips include a trip to the Hiller museum as well as a tour of the Doolittle museum at Travis.

Will Campbell showed pictures of Family Fun Day and Reno air races.

Board Meeting adjourned 7:00 pm

General Meeting called to order by President Robin Tatman at 8:40 pm

As the Air Explorers were in charge of dinner for the evening, Robin was multitasking by preparing a delicious dinner of tacos with all the trimmings, rice, beans, salad and dessert.

Our photographer Will Campbell took pictures at Air Venture and several of his pictures will be used for the EAA calendar for 2020. Price of the calendar is \$10 and Robin ordered 15 of them available for purchase.

Robin discussed the success of the September Family Fun day. She remarked that everybody seemed to know what they were doing and that we raised \$1400 with a donation of \$300 to the Mentoring Alliance for art work for kids. A full report on the events of the day and the extensive list of volunteers can be found in the President's Report in the September Newsletter.

Next year's Family Fun day to be held September 19, 2020.

B.K. White invited the Membership to come out for upcoming Young Eagles as volunteers are always needed for registration, ground school, ramp, etc. and nice weather was anticipated

Wayne Heyerly asked the date for the Christmas party, which is scheduled for Friday December 6.

Flying Club news: the Oakland Chapter's flying club is considering basing one of their airplanes at Skypark.

Richard Craig, Skypark flight instructor, discusses Safety Minutes and the length of time it takes for the final report to come out. The report on an accident which took place in July 2017 just came out and the report of an accident with an RV6 in Petaluma has not been completed.

Safety feature reminder regarding Traffic Patterns:

Standard traffic pattern approach is left pattern. However, due to noise abatement at Skypark and Petaluma, the pattern is Right traffic. Both Gness field, which has mountains and Healdsburg have Right traffic. Suggested pattern for Skypark is to fly over the field at 500' for wind check and then fly a heart shaped teardrop pattern into the 45.

Marc Ashton, from the Petaluma Flight School mentioned that the SRJC no longer offers ground school. Ground school is now offered in Petaluma held at the Community Center, Thursdays from 7-9:30 pm. Class will repeat in January. Limited space is available, price \$295. Info at <https://www.petalumapilottrainingcenter.com>

Robin introduced Fabiola, our scholarship recipient who gave a report on her experiences at the Air Academy.

Fabiola is currently a freshman at UC Davis. Her major is Chemical Engineering and she hopes to incorporate new concepts in aviation such as creating a new type of airplane paint to improve fuel efficiency.

She described her week at the Academy starting out with a walking tour of the Air Venture field and a helicopter flight. The next day they had a skills lab and visited the Museum. She learned to build a wing rib, which was too big to transport back home. She brought up the role of women and their accomplishments in aviation and that she got to sit in a 1918 Curtis jenny JN 4-D. She learned to safety wire and on the Fifth day attended the first Air Show. Getting to know other aviation enthusiasts and networking were important features for her. It is her intention to have a reunion with her friends at UC Davis in the future.

Ron Price, our airport Director, asked Fabiola what her favorite activity was and she replied "Skill welding." Ron also mentioned that her counselors at the Academy had nice things to say about Fabiola and her local Counselor Sindy conferred.

Robin mentioned the new building going up across the runway and that the height of the building did not comply with being in the proximity of our airport. Earl Broderick, the owner will make sure the roofline will not be too high. The building permits being issued are often incorrectly approved.

Our assistant airport manager, Colin Traynor has given notice and will be leaving his position as of November 1. He will be travelling for a year starting out in New Zealand. We will miss him greatly.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 pm.

THE LAST LITTLE BIT

The photo on the first page is recent and doesn't look at all like the building that housed the glider ride operation in the 80's.

Then it was a bustling operation that did over a million dollars (in 1980's dollars) of business every year.

I flew in not long after I bought my Pietenpol variant with my younger daughter Jenny in the front seat.

The airplane, the Pfeifer Sport #2, had a Corvair engine and induction system that just loved to ice up as soon as you pulled the throttle back.

I landed and rolled out to the sounds of silence as the engine died. Since it didn't have an electrical system, I had to jump out and pull the prop through furiously since I was right in the middle of the runway. Needless to say, I wound up pushing it off just as the tow plane turned final after its last tow.

The ice melted while I was introducing myself to Jim and Connie, and it was not a problem starting the engine when we were ready to leave.

Commerce crept into the fair city of Calistoga in the form of a developer planning to build a slew of vacation homes where the runway existed. After twenty-one years of giving glider rides over Calistoga, Jim and Connie lost the lease on the land and had to relocate. The development never was built.

They first came to Sonoma Skypark, in what we felt would be a great enhancement to the airport.

Someone in the neighborhood decided otherwise and distributed anonymous fliers in all the mailboxes in about a two mile radius. The fliers warned of the danger of gliders flying over and crashing into our local schools, leaving playgrounds strewn with the bodies of innocent young children.

Naturally the neighbors besieged our county supervisor representing Sonoma Valley and she

offered us the choice of getting rid of those dangerous gliders or having the county close the airport.

Reluctantly for all, Jim and Connie left.

Jim and Connie were able to find some land up in Lake County out of Middletown and built Crazy Creek soaring. I went up in the mid-2000's and got my glider rating and thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I've heard that they are closed, but I haven't talked to them so I can't confirm that.

Robin has been working diligently to get a flying club going here at Sonoma Skypark so we can offer low cost flight instruction to Sonoma Valley youth. As part of that effort she has been talking about sponsoring local girls and boys so they can get introductory glider lessons.

Noel Mayes and her husband Rex run the Williams glider operation. Noel grew up here in Sonoma and has been flying since she earned her private pilot's license here at Sonoma Skypark with Harry West.

We will be talking to Noel about training our young pilots in gliders to give them a good start on what we hope will be a rewarding career in aviation.

Calistoga Glider port is gone, Lagoon Valley in Vacaville is just a memory, but there hopefully will always be somewhere that will offer us the chance to soar on thermals rising from warm fields and circle with feathered compatriots of the air. (That sounds a little more poetic than "hanging out with the vultures.")

I'm looking forward to flying over to Williams with some of our Young Eagles and Air Explorers to share our love of flight with them.

It's been too long.

Send me your news for your newsletter!

Sonoma Skycrafters
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 2020!** SEE YOU THERE!

**REMEMBER! THE NOVEMBER MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12 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!
THE 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