



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport
21870 Eighth Street East
Sonoma, CA 95476

JULY 2023



PAUL HOLLINSWORTH AND LUIS MEMBRILA IN PAUL'S GYRO

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FIRST THINGS FIRST

The January meeting is this **Tuesday, July 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 \$10.00 per person. Our chef for the month will be yer editor, who is planning bbq'ed chicken and sausage, salads and dessert. Come on down and fill up. We only had about fifteen people at the June meeting, so there were lots of delicious leftovers.

Our program will be a talk by Bruce Janigian: ret. U.S. Navy Captain; on his experiences in Ukraine and Crimea, Russia. Bruce has given a presentation to us before and is always interesting and informative.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I'm going to start out by encouraging all of you to visit and bookmark the website for the surrounding EAA Chapters and PAPA, the Petaluma Airport Pilots Association.

We all represent general aviation in the North Bay, and checking in with these other organizations reinforces the sense of community we share with our love of aviation.

Each group has activities and meetings that we can participate in, and information and camaraderie unique to our interest in flying. Each group is about a half hour or less away from us here at Sonoma Skypark.

Check out their website, consider joining their Chapters and subscribe to their newsletters. There is a lot happening here in the North Bay.

Santa Rosa EAA Chapter 124,
<https://www.eaa124.org/>

Petaluma EAA Chapter 1534
<https://chapters.eaa.org/eaal534>

Petaluma PAPA,
<https://www.papapetaluma.org/>

Gnoss Field EAA Chapter 1232
<https://chapters.eaa.org/eaal232>
<https://gnossfieldcommunityassociation.org/>

Napa EAA Chapter 167
<https://www.eaa167.org/>

I'm putting this information on page 2 so you don't fall asleep before you get to it.

Other news is that we have another Chapter 1268 Ray Scholar who has successfully completed his private pilot checkride and is now loose in the skies.

Sebastian Johnson had a challenging time finishing up and getting ready for his checkride because he is also a competitive gymnast and had a heavy practice and competition schedule in addition to his usual school work and flight training. We may see him in a future Olympics.

We'll have Sebastian at a future meeting to talk about his training and checkride.

One of our other successful Ray Scholars, Thomas Rickard, is currently working on his instrument rating with Mike Smith Aviation in Napa.

We are getting closer to having enough contributions to start the restroom upgrades. Robin donated funds personally and from the John Carmichael Memorial Fund totaling \$4,600. We have some money left in the building fund, so as soon as we reach the halfway point of our goal of \$30,000, we'll rent a Port-A-Potty and start work. It would be nice to have this project done before the weather gets cold, wet and grey. Send your donations to Bill Wheadon, address at the end of this newsletter.

More good news is that Marsi Allard has volunteered to help coordinate the Saturday 'burgers with Marilyn. They still need cooks, servers and cleanup help. Give Marilyn or Marsi a call so they can fill out the schedules.

Roland has also volunteered to coordinate our speakers, in addition to his membership chair duties and Young Eagles marshalling. He took on BK's most important duty when he also volunteered to pick up donuts for Young Eagles Day.

David Kendall and Rony Kurniawan have the new donated flight simulator up and running in the clubhouse, just in time for Yayoi's instrument training ground school. It's not approved for logging simulated flight time, but it is good for teaching and practicing the approaches, departures, navigation, holds and other maneuvers required for an instrument rating.

David will also start inventorying the donated tools in the Clubhouse shop so we can get the tool crib ready for members to borrow tools from the Chapter.

Darrel

**EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
AND TREASURER REPORT**
July 2023

Activity in the treasury department of EAA 1268 was subdued in June. We had two dues renewals totaling \$30 and three fundraising activities that brought in \$181. Expenses for our monthly dinner slightly exceeded proceeds (by \$6) - the key to making our dinners consistently profitable is to increase turnout.

Other income included a check from EAA in the amount of \$1650 to be used by one of our Ray Scholars for his flight training. We also received interest income in our savings and cd accounts totaling \$18 for the month.

Total chapter funds are \$42,495.53 distributed in the following accounts:
Checking account - \$ 29,484.82
Savings account - \$ 7,648.65
CD account - \$ 5,362.06
Total account funds \$42,495.53

That's all for now – any questions? If so, shoot me an email or give me a call – bill.wheadon@gmail.com. 707-224-3901
Bill

YOUNG EAGLES

Young Eagles Day was this Sunday, July 9. Gretchen drove up from Half Moon Bay to again do an incredible job of organizing and registering our Young Eagles. Roland was there early again with donuts and to make coffee, and moved right into marshalling and ground school for the Young Eagles and their parents.

We had four pilots flying today, with George Bachich flying his Cub, Paul Hollingsworth coming over from Petaluma in his very popular gyrocopter, Bill Banner, Gardner Bride's nephew, bringing his 182, and my 182. Altogether we flew 25 Young Eagles and seven adult Eagles.

Gardner Bride came over with Bill in the 182, but when he saw Paul's gyro and learned that it was based back at Petaluma, his eyes lit up and he started scheming to figure out a way to hijack it. He and Paul came up with the next best solution. Gardner got to ride as check pilot from Skypark back to Petaluma. That gyro is one popular aircraft.



We've lost one of our regular, dependable Young Eagles pilots from our lineup since Tim Bloodgood and Sindy Mikkelsen moved up near Bremerton, Washington, so they could be

near Tim's elderly parents when they need help. Tim and Cindy will be coming down to visit Ivy and Iris, two of our Air Academy scholarship recipients this summer, so we will see them around Skypark occasionally.

Sindy is still coordinating the meeting cooks, so give her a call or email to let her know what month you can provide a meal. All costs of the food are reimbursed by the Chapter.

As is usual, we are looking for volunteer pilots, ground crew and registration helpers for our monthly Young Eagles events. Let us know you will be joining us and helping out by sending an email to Gretchen at gretchen.mcdougall@gmail.com or me at wd6bor@vom.com.

CHAPTER PIET BUILDING PROJECT

Michael Wray, the Pietenpol team leader, reports that both fuselage sides are done and ready for gussetting. They are ready to assemble the sides, top and bottom of the fuselage, which will be exciting to see it taking shape. After the seats and floor are in, the team members can pose for a photo sitting in the completed fuselage.

We will need to pick up a couple more sheets of plywood, but the project has most of the materials otherwise. We are still looking for donations to offset the estimated \$7,000 additional costs of completing the airplane. If anyone has a good small Continental engine they would be willing to donate, it would save having to build up a new engine.

GROUND SCHOOLS

Yayoi is continuing ground school at Sonoma Skypark in the clubhouse on Monday evenings. She will be advancing to instrument ground school for the Chapter 1268 scholarship recipients and all others who are interested in learning instrument flying procedures. Call or text her at Yayoi West, 707-364-9257 for details.

If you have any flight planning gear, such as a plotter, E6B or anything usable for ground school classes, please bring them to the meeting or drop them off at the clubhouse.

Mike Smith Aviation at Napa Airport is also holding free ground school classes on Saturday mornings. The schedule for those classes is:

July August Schedule:

Saturday July 8th: Airplanes, Aerodynamics, Atmosphere

Saturday July 15th: Airports, Air Traffic Control, Airspace

Saturday July 22nd: More Airspace, Chart Symbolology

Saturday July 29th: Airspace Regulations

Saturday Aug. 5th: Airplane Performance

Saturday Aug. 12th: Weight and Balance

Saturday Aug. 19th: Airplane Instruments

Saturday Aug. 26th: Airplane Engines and Systems

Contact Kimberly Sanders Smith at 916-607-4023 for more information.

The classes are held at the flight school at 2000 Airport Road, Napa 94558 200 yards north of terminal building.

This free ground school coaching session for the Private Pilot Knowledge test is for student pilots, rusty pilots, anyone interested in learning to fly. Everyone is welcome! You'll need to purchase a book, available on site: Gleim Private Pilot Test Prep, \$22.95.

2023 DINNER SCHEDULE

We have some of our celebrity chefs for 2023 but let us know if you want to take an unfilled month. Hot dogs, chili or pizza are perfectly fine. Our meal coordinator is Sindy Mikkelsen at sindymikkelsen@att.net. Let her know you can provide the meal for a meeting and she will put you on the schedule. Copy me at wd6bor@vom.com so I can include you in the newsletter dinner schedule.

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Cooks/Meal
2023 DINNER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Will Campbell, Nelleke Cooper
FEB	Sindy Mikkelsen
MAR	Marilyn and Bob Avrit
APR	Don and Wayne (+Ligia and Cecilia)
MAY	Sindy Mikkelsen (again)
JUN	Marsi Allard
JUL	Darrel- barbecue
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	Roland Gangloff
DEC	XMAS PARTY
Standby	?

SPEAKERS

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

Contact Speaker Coordinator Roland Gangloff 707-935-1832 and 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
2023 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Yayoi West- Chapter build project
FEB	Pietenpol video "Finding Flight"
MAR	Yayoi West- total eclipse Apr 20
APR	Stephen Brosseau. 5000hrs flying w/o an engine
MAY	Art Hayden, Mt. Flying, South Africa, Alaska &etc.
JUN	George Bachich. Acrobatic antics; inverted spin recovery
JUL	Bruce Janigian: ret. U.S. Navy Captain; Experiences in Ukraine and Crimea, Russia
AUG	Paul Hollinsworth: Gyrocopters, history of development and his history of flying them. What he flies and why he loves doing so
SEP	?
OCT	?

NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY

2023 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
7/9	Young Eagles 9:00 am
7/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
7/20-23	Brodhead Pietenpol Fly-in
7/24-30	EAA AIRVENTURE at Oshkosh
7/22	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
8/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm
8/13	Young Eagles 9:00 am
8/26	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
9/10	Young Eagles 9:00 am
9/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm
9/13-17	Reno Air Races- Reno, NV
9/22-24	Clear Lake Splash In
9/22-24	MCAS Miramar Air Show- San Diego, CA
10/7-8	California Int'l Airshow- Salinas, CA
9/23	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
9/?	Wings Over Wine Country
9/22-24	California Capital Air Show- Mather AFB, Sacramento, CA
10/6-8	San Francisco Fleet Week- San Francisco, CA
10/8	Young Eagles 9:00 am
10/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm
10/?	Benton Air Fair- Redding, CA
10/13-15	Central Coast AirFest- Santa Maria, CA
10/?	Planes of Fame Air Show- China, CA
10/28	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
11/12	Young Eagles 9:00 am
11/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
11/25	Skypark Movie Night-TBA
12/2	Skypark Xmas Party
1/1/24	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

June 13, 2023

EAA 1268 Board of Directors Meeting

The Board Meeting was called to order by President Don Booker at 6:15 pm. Darrel Jones set up the Zoom meeting.

Present: President Don Booker, Vice President Darrel Jones, Treasurer Bill Wheadon, Directors, Robin Tatman, Roland Gangloff, Nelleke Cooper and Marsi Allard
Absent: Secretary Yayoi West

Darrel reported that Sebastian Johnson had successfully passed his Private Pilot check ride. Sebastian is a talented gymnast who, someday, may be competing in the Olympics.

Kate Llodra soloed and Luis Membrila passed his written test. Another prospective scholarship recipient, Hayden Holbrook, is motivated to become an airline pilot and has been helping with activities at Skypark, including Saturday BBQ's, Christmas party etc.

Roland and Michael Wray have been working with Teen Services to foster interest in aviation and introduce them to Skypark airport. Roland and Michael participated in a meeting at the newly created career center at the Sonoma Valley High School.

Robin also believes in the value for young people to get a Private Pilot license whether they want aviation as a career or not as it would open up other doors and opportunities and help them with future endeavors.

Young Eagles report is in the June Newsletter. 3 pilots flew 17 Young Eagles. (Luis was the first one to fly in the gyrocopter.)

Darrel mentioned that we have an influx of young people at the airport. He suggested sending out a request to pilots in our area to start a fund to help aspiring young pilots. With the Flying Club already established this could be quite successful.

In order to increase our Membership, Roland and George Bachich made phone calls to previous years members from lists provided by Bill. Darrel sent out the Newsletter to all shareholders.

Robin suggested having sign-up sheets to recruit members for our Chapter at the Young Eagles meetings as many parents have shown interest in participating.

Marc Ashton discussed the seriousness expected for recipients of scholarships. Today's young people are involved in multiple activities and are often overwhelmed. Their Petaluma flight school has a rule that parents of students under 18 and/or are college bound are required to attend periodic meetings to understand the commitment needed to be successful to obtain a Private Pilot's License. Marc mentioned the FAA changed the rules and made it much more difficult. Often the oral exam is now 4 hours and the flight portion of the exam 2 hours.

In addition to being the Membership chair, Roland has agreed to be the Speaker Coordinator.

It was brought up that people don't know where Skypark is and confuse it with Schellville airport. Prominent signage will be needed pointing toward Skypark and there should be signs at Skypark itself pointing to the location of the Clubhouse.

Board Meeting adjourned 7:00 pm

Membership meeting called to order by President Don Booker at 7:45 pm

Guest present: Steve Crawford

David Kendall mentioned that the flight simulator is up and running and he will buy the software for it.

Marsi Allard, with help from Legia Booker, provided an exquisite dinner of salmon with a special sauce, rice, broccoli and cake with a mixed berry sauce and whipped cream.

Marsi Allard and Marilyn Siebert are co-sharing the responsibility for the Saturday BBQ's.

The inventory of tools in the Pietenpol hangar will be available for members to use. The EAA shop still needs some cleaning out.

Bill Wheadon reported the treasurer report is in the newsletter.

Darrel gave a report on the Young Eagles as discussed in the Board meeting. Marc Ashton mentioned events at the Petaluma airport: Petaluma EAA meets 2nd Wednesdays of the month; Display Day next Saturday; the Two-Niner Diner restaurant will re-open by the end July; two flight training scholarships will be available next year.

Marc also reported that there has been heavy mixed traffic at Petaluma which has caused problems as faster corporate aircraft often do a direct approach cutting off slower traffic.

George Bachich gave a fascinating report on flying his Pitts in an abbreviated spin recovery procedure which almost killed him. His advice was to make sure you always follow the procedure process.

Respectfully submitted,
Nelleke Cooper

WOMEN IN AIRPLANES

Join us in remembering Stefania Cecylia Wojtulanis-Karpińska, born on this day in 1912.

In January 1, 1941 Stefania was appointed as the first foreigner (along with Anna Leska) to the British ATA (Air Transport Auxiliary), which provided airplanes from factories to the airports of individual units and damaged machines to repair factories or scrap yards. Flights were carried out without radio communication, navigation maps, often in bad weather, and it also required learning about the piloting of various types of aircraft supplied, including twin-engine bombers like Vickers Wellington.

She was married to a pilot, colonel Stanisław Karpiński.

Lest we forget 🌸

Colour by Richard James Molloy, RJM See less



OTHER NEWS

GNOSS 4TH OF JULY PARADE

Gnoss Field put together a Fourth of July float for the Novato parade. We used to do that here at Skypark and over at Schellville. Maybe we could do something for the Vintage Festival parade in September.



GFCA's float in yesterday's Novato 4th of July parade was a big success! Not only did Frank Woolard's giant scale R/C PT-19 attract a LOT of attention, but several members who walked along with the float handed out 500 foam gliders to kids along the route while the announcer provided some facts about GFCA, EAA, Marin 99s, and the airport.



Thanks to Sue Royce for the idea and for providing her considerable organizing experience, to Rick Beach for using his truck to

pull the float itself and for putting in a lot of work to create signs, decorations, and mount a windsock/"distance indicator", and to Elliot Juilliard, Vicki Martinez, Bob Minkin, T.J. Neff, Rick Palumbo, and John and Bridget O'Connell, who all walked the route greeting parade-goers and handing out gliders.

This was part of GFCA's ongoing efforts to raise awareness of Gness Field in the surrounding community and indeed all of Marin.

The photos are courtesy of Bob Minkin Photography.

TOP SECRET

We have just uncovered some classified photos from the Chinese spy balloon that flew over the United States and that was shot down by an F-16 over the Atlantic.

The first photo is an intercepted transmission of a photo from the spy balloon over Missouri, and the second is from the F-16 just before the balloon was shot down.





Don't tell anyone where you've seen these.
You might never hear from me again.

NOT OFTEN YOU SEE A DOG SPEAK
FOR THE WORLD.



Not to get too political, but as a dog owner I thought I should share this. I have great respect for dogs' opinions and intelligence.

OK, just one more to fill out the last page. Then you have to go right to bed.

If you think you are smarter than the previous generation...50 years ago the owners manual of a car showed you how to adjust the valves. Today it warns you not to drink the contents of the battery.

My 182 is going down for annual tomorrow. My IA told me to just stand over there and don't speak or touch anything.

I helped him last year.

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 2023! SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!

**REMEMBER! THE JULY MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, JULY 11 AT 7 P.M., AT THE SKYCRAFTERS' 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**