



# THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter  
of the Sonoma Skyrafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport

21870 Eighth Street East

Sonoma, CA 95476

JUNE 2021



OSHKOSH IS COMING IN JULY, AND YOU KNOW WHAT THAT MEANS

Dinner at Ardy and Ed's! Join us for the meal and the fun.

Yes, the servers are on roller skates.

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

President/AE: Robin Tatman, 707-553-2747

Vice President: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382

Secretary: Nelleke Cooper, 707-938-5587

Treasurer: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901

Membership: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901

Young Eagles: BK White, 707-996-1335

BOD: Jeanette Woods, 707-996-4563

BOD: Paul Seibert, 707-939-7491

BOD: Marsi Allard, 415-686-5254

BOD: Roland Gangloff, 707-935-1832

Web editor: Gretchen McDougall

BOD/Building/Newsletter: Darrel Jones, 707-

799-6382

## FIRST THINGS FIRST

**The January meeting is this Tuesday, June 8.**

The Board of Directors will meet at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom.

The general membership meeting will start at 7 pm., also on Zoom.

Use this link to join a Zoom test meeting to try out your connection.

<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/115002262083-Joining-a-test-meeting>

**Our speaker this month will be John F.**

**Hanson**, Northwest Airlines captain, will speak about his love of aviation, his career flying with the airlines and a harrowing event over the Bering Sea. Below is the cover of John's book.



I wrote the Sonoma Skypark newsletter for June. Since it has information that I think would be interesting to our Chapter 1268

members, I'm including some of the material from that newsletter.

**AIRPORT HAPPENINGS** The great news is that enough people have been vaccinated that the state is planning on lifting COVID-19 restrictions June 15. Finally! This means that we can get back to normal activities at Sonoma Skypark this month. Rafe will have his first movie and pizza night in over a year on Saturday, June 26. EAA Chapter 1268 will resume Young Eagles rides and in-person dinner meetings on July 11 and 13. We will start Saturday Hamburgers at Skypark as soon as we can line up a coordinator and crew.

Free at last!

We bid goodbye for now to Colin Traynor who is moving on to new adventures and opportunities in Los Angeles. Colin started as a part-time airport attendant five years ago, worked his way up to Assistant Manager and then Airport Manager. All this after coming to Sonoma Skypark for Young Eagles rides and eventually earning his private and instrument certificates.

**The Board hired a new Airport Office Manager, Tina Masquelier.** Tina originated in Napa Valley, earned a degree in electronic technology there, and went on to work in the wine and aviation technology industries. She also has her own historical home renovation business, cuvee' 59.

Tina has moved into the airport mobile home on the east end of the hangars and is painting and sprucing it up for what we hope is a long stay. She starts this week and the Board members will be working with her to familiarize her with airport operations. We owe Colin a big thank you for putting together a comprehensive airport operation manual to help with the transition.

Stop by the office and introduce yourself and get to know the newest member of the Sonoma Skypark team.

Richard and Dennis will continue working as Skypark Airport Attendants, with Mark Shackford's son, Marcus, filling out the week. Marcus is completing an aviation degree at Pacific Union College in Angwin. He has earned his certificates through multi-engine and is set to graduate this month with a bachelor's degree in aviation. He and Mark will be hosting a graduation celebration on Sunday June 13 from 3 to 6 pm in their hangar F-1.

**Saturday hamburgers at Skypark** needs a coordinator and crew! Since Ron retired and is spending more time travelling and just enjoying his retirement, Sonoma Skypark doesn't have someone to organize the Saturday barbecue. The coordinator's job is to simply contact the volunteers who will cook and serve each week and figure out what supplies are needed.

Ron had everything down to a science, so it won't be necessary to reinvent the wheel. We will need a cast of characters to volunteer to do the cooking, take the orders and serve, with three people each Saturday between 11 am and 2 pm on a rotating basis. Please contact me at wd6bor@vom.com or 707-799-6382, if you can help out. We used the profits to pay for airfare for our EAA Air Academy participants each year and we also gave pilots a great excuse and location to fly out for that \$100 hamburger.

We would like to get the barbecue up and running by July 3.

**EAA Chapter 1268 will start holding in-person dinner meetings again on July 13** if the State of California lifts the COVID-19 restrictions on June 15, as promised. We will also start flying Young Eagles rides on Sunday, July 11. If you

are a Sonoma Skypark pilot, we would love to have you join us at the meeting and join the Chapter. Dues is only \$15 per year and the company is terrific!

**We have chosen two Ray Aviation Scholarship recipients this year**, Sebastian Johnson and Philip Lachman. Both young men have been taking flight lessons with Richard Craig, with their parents paying for the lessons so far.

We have been awarded \$10,000 in Ray Aviation Scholarship funds and have the option to divide those funds between two students, with the Chapter making up the balance of the cost of their private pilot certificate.

Robin has offered \$3,000 from the Aviation Explorer treasury and the Board has committed additional scholarship funding from the Chapter treasury.

We will be appealing to our members to add to the scholarship account as we go along so we have funds available for future scholars. John Thomason contributed monthly to the fund and was instrumental in Chapter 1268 receiving the first Ray Aviation Scholarship grant for Nathan Wilson.

I just spent nearly \$100 for dinner for Catherine, my daughter Lolly and husband Zac, and myself, and that was just for take-out Thai food. I will be contributing \$100 a month to the fund and challenge all of you to contribute whatever you can.

Call or email Bill and let him know you will be helping out. You can make your contribution an automatic monthly payment directly to our checking account. Best of all, Chapter 1268 is a non-profit and all contributions are tax deductible.

Give Bill a call.

**Airport maintenance and upgrades.** Sonoma Skypark Board member Peter Gauthier has been working with a paving company on the airport runway, ramp and taxiway needs. The Board is talking about doing the necessary repairs and maintenance over a two-year period to spread out the cost and limit the disruption to regular airport activities. Peter is on his way back from the east coast, so we will have more information for you next month.

As Ron always said, "We run an asphalt farm."

We are progressing with the planning and permitting for the airport office remodel. The office building was built in 1967 and there haven't been any major repairs or upgrades other than a bathroom upgrade and some repairs to the deck. Ron and David Meeks started working with FIGO Construction Drawings over three years ago on plans to upgrade the restrooms to meet ADA requirements, and to repair the deteriorated parts of the building. We will let you know how the project is progressing as it develops.

Come out to Sonoma Skypark and join the fun!

### **WOMEN ON A MOTORCYCLE**



These are the best-dressed motorcycle riders I've ever seen.

### **EAA 1268 MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER REPORT** **JUNE 2021**

**Membership Report** – Renewals for 2021 are running behind the historical average for this time of year with just a little over 42% of our current members having paid their \$15 that allows them to be in the "current" category and likewise sporting a blue badge. Since you haven't been able to be in the clubhouse recently to check your badge color (blue badge paid, white badge not paid) I'll accept that as a reason for the tardiness. Even though we haven't been meeting in person, club expenses go on with the primary expense being our annual dues to EAA national. This year's dues are \$535 with most of that sum going for chapter insurance. As a follow-up, I'll be sending out an email to those who are not paid up – please don't take it personally, even some of our officers and board members haven't paid yet!

If you've recently changed your email address, phone number, mailing address, new airplanes or projects acquired, etc., there is a membership form on the last page of this newsletter which allows you to update the roster. You can mail the forms or your dues to me at my address listed on the last page of the newsletter or email membership information to me at [bill.wheadon@gmail.com](mailto:bill.wheadon@gmail.com)

**Treasurer Report** – For the month of May our three accounts total \$15,833.66 in chapter funds. This is broken down in the following accounts:

Checking account - \$10432.43  
Savings account - \$ 118.40  
CD account - \$5282.83



We had one deposit to checking for \$515 which consisted of a donation to the scholarship fund for \$500 and one dues renewal of \$15.

There were no disbursements from the checking account

That's all for now – any questions? If so, shoot me an email – [bill.wheadon@gmail.com](mailto:bill.wheadon@gmail.com).

See you at the meeting,  
Bill Wheadon  
Membership Chairman and Treasurer

### **YOUNG EAGLES**

It looks as if we can start flying Young Eagles again on July 11. We will coordinate with BK on contacting pilots, arranging registration and ground crew and lining up the pilots.

I'll put an item in the local paper when the details are confirmed. We've had many eager young would-be pilots asking when we will be starting up this very popular and successful program to introduce young people to aviation.

We are all looking forward to flying those Young Eagles again. As always BK White is looking for volunteer pilots, ground crew and registration helpers for our monthly Young Eagles events for when we get back in operation.

Let him know you will be joining us and helping out by sending him an email to [eagle1@vom.com](mailto:eagle1@vom.com) or by calling him at 707-996-1335.

### **MOVIE NIGHT AT SONOMA SKYPARK**

Movie and pizza nights are back! Rafe will open the doors to the Sonoma Skypark clubhouse on Saturday, June 26, at 5:30 and the evening's entertainment will begin at 6. If

you're not on the movie contact list, contact Rafe at [strafe55@icloud.com](mailto:strafe55@icloud.com) to get more details.



Maybe not the movie Rafe will showing, but a nice poster, all the same.

### **DINNER SCHEDULE**

We **ARE NOW SCHEDULING** our chefs for the rest of the year, starting with the July meeting. Since I usually take July, I'll take July. Send me an email at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) or call or text me at 707-799-6382 and I'll put you on the roster.

If anyone wants to give me a hand frying abalone or BBQing oysters for July, give me a call. I don't think I can do all that by myself.

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Cooks/Meal
2021 DINNER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Dinner at home
FEB	Dinner at home
MAR	Dinner at home
APR	Dinner at home
MAY	Dinner at home
JUN	Last dinner at home!
JUL 13	Darrel, barbecue
AUG 10	?
SEP 14	?
OCT 12	?
NOV 9	?
DEC 3	XMAS PARTY
Standby	?

### **SPEAKERS**

We are always, continually, everlastingly looking for speakers for our monthly programs. Here's where I see if any of you are actually reading this newsletter or if it just goes into your spam folder.

**We would like a member to be our speaker chairperson.** We can have either a member or local pilot speaking in person, or we can have a speaker on Zoom on the TV in the clubhouse.

EAA has a list of virtual speakers on the EAA website. You would just need to go through the list, chose some potential speakers and then contact them to schedule them for our Zoom meetings. Your help will be much appreciated.

Send an email to me at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) so we can get your program or speaker information into the newsletter.

Month	Speaker/Member/Subject
2021 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Socially distanced gathering
FEB	Yayoi West - Mars mission
MAR	Kerry McCauley - ferry pilot

APR	Flight scholarship discussion
MAY	Robin- You Tube video
JUN	John F. Hansen
JUL	?
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY

### **2021 EAA 1268 CALENDAR**

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

DATE	EVENT
6/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
6/13	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
6/26	Skypark Movie Night - ?
7/11	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
7/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
7/21-25	Brodhead Pietenpol Fly-in - ?
7/26-8/1	EAA AIRVENTURE at Oshkosh - ?
7/24	Skypark Movie Night - ?
8/8	Young Eagles 9:30 am
8/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm
8/28	Skypark Movie Night!
9/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
<b>9/11 ?</b>	<b>Skypark Family Fun Day!</b>
9/12	Young Eagles 9:30 am
9/15-19	Reno Air Races – it's a go!
9/25	Skypark Movie Night!
9/18-19	Wings Over Wine Country - ?
10/10	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
10/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
10/22	Skypark Movie Night - ?
11/14	Young Eagles 9:30 am - ?
11/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm - ?
11/26	Skypark Movie Night - ?
12/3	Skypark Xmas Party

1/1/22	New Years' Day 1 <sup>st</sup> Flight
Hopefully starting July 3, every Saturday noon to 1:30 pm, Skypark Hamburgers and Hot Dogs in the clubhouse!	

**EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES**

April 13, 2021

Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Robin Tatman. Present were Treasurer Bill Wheadon, Secretary Nelleke Cooper and Vice President Darrel Jones

DJ reported that Megan Hart, Ray Scholarship coordinator said we could divide the \$10,000 Ray Scholarship between scholars Sebastian Johnson and Philip Lachman. The Board scheduled interviews with both candidates for May.

Sonoma Skypark management asked Chapter 1268 to take over the Saturday hamburger barbecue. The Chapter receives the funds from the barbecue and uses them to pay for travel expenses for Air Academy participants sponsored by Chapter 1268. Robin will reach out to Chapter 1268 members to ask someone to coordinate the barbecue.

There being no further business, the Board meeting was adjourned at 6:40.

General membership meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by President Robin Tatman. The officers gave their reports to the members present.

The program for the evening was a discussion on flight scholarships for local area youth. The meeting was adjourned at 7: 50 pm.

Minutes of the May 11, 2021 meeting

The Board meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by President Robin Tatman. Present were Treasurer Bill Wheadon, Secretary Nelleke Cooper and Vice President Darrel Jones.

Interviews for Sebastian Johnson and Philip Lachman are scheduled for Monday, May 17, at 7:00 and 7:30 pm.

Nelleke informed the Board that she needed to resign as Chapter Secretary. President Robin Tatman thanked her for her service and will reach out to the membership to find a new Chapter secretary.

Board Meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM

Robin called the general membership meeting to order at 7:00 pm for a short business meeting. Officers gave their reports to the members present.

The program was a video commentary by Dan Gretskey about the recent TBM emergency landing during an airshow and the maintenance and operational failures that contributed to the crash.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm after a brief discussion of the video.

**Life begins again after June 15**

Fly-ins, fly-outs, Saturday hamburgers (with a little help from our members), Young Eagles, Family Fun Day, real in-person dinner meetings, telling lying flying stories with our flying friends, Oshkosh, and everything else.

If you haven't gotten your vaccination, get it done so we can all get back to our normal life.

See you at the airport.

**Send me your news for your newsletter!  
(and photos, also!)**

**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, PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2021!** JUST MAIL A CHECK TO BILL AT THE ADDRESS BELOW.



L-19 by John Severin

**REMEMBER! THE JUNE MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, JUNE 8 AT 7 P.M., ON ZOOM. LET ME KNOW IF YOU NEED HELP GETTING ON ZOOM. THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WILL BE 6 P.M. BEFORE THE MEETING**

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**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**