



# THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter  
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport  
21870 Eighth Street East  
Sonoma, CA 95476

MARCH 2012



## **BEN PRESTEN SOLOED THE FAMILY GLIDER AFTER TURNING 14**

Bad weather delayed his solo from his birthday to a couple of days later. I'm impressed. He will have to get his IFR rating for his 16<sup>th</sup> birthday just in case. Congratulations Ben !

### **CHAPTER OFFICERS**

President: Travis Morton, 707-812-4818  
Vice Pres: Jeanette Woods, 707-996-4563  
Secretary: Marsi Fahraji, 415-686-5254  
Treasurer: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901  
Membership: Bill Wheadon, 707-224-3901  
Building Chair: Darrel Jones, 707-996-4494  
Young Eagles: BK White, 707-996-1335  
Dinner Co-ord.: Roy Myers, 415-897-2983

Tech. Advisor: Eric Presten, 707-939-8913

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

BOD: Paul Seibert, 707-939-7491

BOD: Gardner Bride, 707-778-2377

BOD/Air Exp: Walt Lewis, 707-664-8457

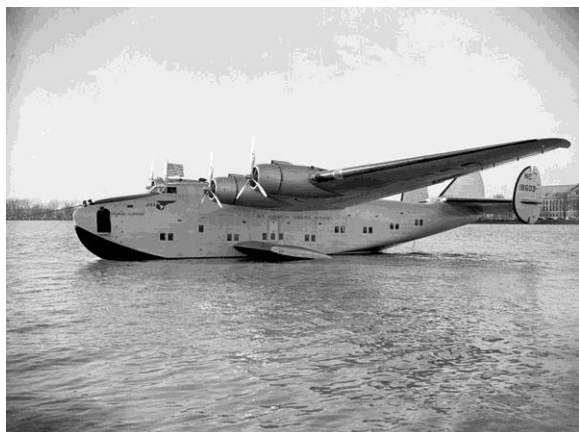
### **FIRST THINGS FIRST**

The March meeting will be this Tuesday, March 13, with dinner starting at 7 p.m. in

the Chapter 1268 clubhouse, B-5, at Sonoma Skypark.

Dinner will be courtesy of Robin Tatman, probably with a little help from Tat.

Our presentation will be by Rich Cooper who will talk about his experiences flying those big airplanes for Pan Am. I hear that he and Juan Trippe were best buddies. We'll see what Rich has to say about that.



Here's a shot of Rich waving out the pilot's window of one of Pan Am's airliners.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Travis has been busily giving flying lessons, so he will have to give his President's report at the meeting.

Just a reminder that Sonoma Skypark now has a weather camera! It's mounted up in the flight school, and takes a picture of the view to the south every 30 seconds. You can see it at [www.sonomaflying.com/weather](http://www.sonomaflying.com/weather). The top of the hills it's pointing at are 916' MSL, so you can use that to figure out the ceiling. How high does it have to be to be legal to fly? You'll have to come to the meeting to find out!

Click on this link to see a day at Skypark in a one minute video. Just select the date, click on the "view video" link and then click on the play button.

<http://www.wunderground.com/webcams/SonomaSkypark/1/show.html>

Travis

### **MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN AND TREASURER'S REPORT**

EAA Chapter 1268

March 2012

**Treasurer** – According to America West Bank we have a checking account balance of \$4170.31. Three deposits totaling \$797 were made since the last bank statement. These funds were derived from member's annual dues and dinner excess in February. Two checks were written – one for dinner reimbursements and a larger one for \$2104.73 to reimburse for clubhouse remodel supplies.

**Membership** – We currently have 44 members who are current with their 2012 dues and 33 members who were last current in 2011. If you're not sure whether you're current, check the color of your name badge – if it's blue, you're current; if it's white you are not current. If you think you're wrongly not credited, talk to me – in person, by email or phone. It may be hard to believe, but I do occasionally make mistakes.

There are membership forms in the basket under the name badge board (in the envelopes) and also in the newsletter – please put any changes to your personal information (email address or tel# changes) on these forms so I can update the membership roster.

That's all for this month,  
Bill Wheadon  
([bill.wheadon@gmail.com](mailto:bill.wheadon@gmail.com))  
707-224-3901

### **YOUNG EAGLES, MARCH 11**

Young Eagles was this Sunday, March 11 from 9 a.m. to noon. BK was out of town so

the rest of the crew was present to pick up the slack. If only it hadn't rained.

Well, we will be there again next month. The advantage of rain and no kids is that the pilots and ground crew got to eat all the donuts. Who says there isn't a little silver lining to every cloud.

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

**MOVIE NIGHT AT SKYPARK**



The February movie night will be Friday, March 23, with popcorn and an exciting aerial adventure serial at 6 p.m. and the 1941 film "Dive Bomber" as our feature film starting at 7.

Directed by Michael Curtiz and starring Errol Flynn and Fred MacMurray, the story is about a military surgeon who teams with a ranking navy flyer to develop a high-altitude suit which will protect pilots from blacking out when they go into a steep dive.

There will be pizza for \$5 per person, and popcorn just to whet your appetite (or spoil it).

See you at the movies on movie night, **FRIDAY, MARCH 23** at 6 p.m.

**DINNER SCHEDULE**

We are lining up our celebrity chefs for 2012 so let Roy know if you would like to be one of our sugar cookies. Roy can be found at [Flyboyroy@aol.com](mailto:Flyboyroy@aol.com) or by phone at 415-897-2983. You can also let me know at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) and I'll put you on the roster.

The schedule for this year so far is:

Month	Cook 1	Cook 2
<b>2012 DINNER SCHEDULE</b>		
MAR '12	Robin T.	Tat
APR '12	Rich C.	Nelleke C.
MAY '12	Catherine J	Darrel J.
JUN '12	?	?
JUL '12	?	?
AUG '12	?	?
SEP '12	?	?
OCT '12	Air Explorers	?
NOV '12	?	?
DEC '12	XMAS	PARTY

**SPEAKERS**

We are still looking for speakers, so send Travis an email at [Jungroth@gmail.com](mailto:Jungroth@gmail.com) and copy an email to me at [wd6bor@vom.com](mailto:wd6bor@vom.com) so we can get your information into the newsletter.

Month	Speaker	Subject
<b>2012 SPEAKER SCHEDULE</b>		
MAR	Rich Cooper	Pan Am
APR	?	

MAY	?	
JUN	?	
JUL	?	
AUG	?	
SEP	?	
OCT	Air Academy	OSH report
NOV	?	
DEC	FROSTY	ICING OPS

**EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES**

EAA Chapter 1268 BOARD MINUTES  
February 14, 2012

Officers present: Pres. Travis Morton, VP Jeanette Woods, YE BK White, BOD Walt Lewis, Treas. Bill Wheadon, BOD Darrel Jones and BOD Paul Siebert.

President Travis Morton called the meeting to order at 6:11 p.m.

Travis reported that the weathercam is operational from the flight school office and shows current weather conditions at Sonoma Skypark.

He also reported that Air Academy applications will be due by February 29.

Jeanette Woods reported that there is an insurance rate increase this year.

BK White reported that there were 21 Young Eagles flown by 7 pilots.

Walt Lewis reported that there were six new members of the Air Explorer Post 1268 at Sonoma Skypark. He also reported on the scholarships available from the local 99's Chapter. Walt is discussing helping the 99's with their concession stand with Air Explorer Post members at the August Wings Over Wine Country air show this August. Walt reported that Eric Presten is selling the family glider for possible use of prospective young pilots at Sonoma Skypark. The Post also has had clubhouse clean-up days to organize the adjacent work space hangar.

Paul Siebert raised the issue of Young Eagles pilots running-up their airplanes while facing the public across the ramp deadline being a possible safety issue. It was agreed that there would be a pilot briefing for all Young Eagles pilots at each Young Eagles Day and that pilots would be directed to conduct all operations consistently and safely.

Treasurer Bill Wheadon reported that 24 members have renewed with approximately 40 members still needing to renew.

The Board of Directors meeting was adjourned at 6:48.

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

President Travis Morton called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

Dinner was furnished by Bill and Jan Wheadon with chili, corn bread and salad, with desserts brought by Robin Tatman and Marsi Fahraji.

Guests included Tom Hegy from Hartford, Wisconsin. Tom was involved with the Cubs to Oshkosh event and has a homebuilt PA-12.

Officers gave their reports to the membership, covering the topics discussed during the Board of Directors' meeting.

It was reported that John Thomason is in Queen of the Valley Hospital in Napa recovering from an infection.

Robin Tatman told the members about a book written by her friend, Kariene Pettit, "Flight for Control", which is available electronically and as a hard copy.

Ron Price announced fly-ins at Casa Grande, Arizona and Half Moon Bay coming up. He also urged members to bring

photos of their airplanes to hang on the clubhouse walls.

The Friday night movie this month is the 1927 Academy Award winning feature "Wings". Movie night will be February 24 at 6 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 8:29 p.m.

The program for the evening was Travis Morton of Sonoma Valley Flying Club speaking about the Light Sport aircraft and the Sport Pilot license.

Minutes submitted by Darrel Jones, BOD

### **NOTES:**

As you can see from the front photo, Ben Presten soloed the family glider on his fourteenth birthday. There was a nice write-up in the local newspaper that is on their website at the following linked location. Take a look by clicking the link.

### **[Hanna Center Boy, 14, Takes a \(Solo\) Flight](#)**

### **FROM PAUL SIEBERT: MOTION INDUCED BLINDNESS**

For all you pilots out there... and duck hunters too... and folks who drive cars... and I'm not sure who this would not apply to?

It works exactly like it says, and is one major reason people in cars can look right at you (when you're on a motorcycle or bicycle)

---AND NOT SEE YOU.

From a former Naval Aviator - This is a great illustration of what we were taught about scanning outside the cockpit when I went through training back in the '50s. We were told to scan the horizon for a short

distance, stop momentarily, and repeat the process. I can remember being told why this was the most effective technique to locate other aircraft. It was emphasized (repeatedly) to NOT fix your gaze for more than a couple of seconds on any single object. The instructors, some of whom were WWII veterans with years of experience, instructed us to continually "keep our eyes moving and our head on a swivel" because this was the best way to survive, not only in combat, but from peacetime hazards (like a midair collision) as well. We basically had to take the advice on faith (until we could experience for ourselves) because the technology to demonstrate it didn't exist at that time. Click on the link below for a demonstration ...

<http://www.msf-usa.org/motion.html>

Bill Smith had also sent the link. Thanks to Paul and Bill.

There was also an article on Sonoma Skypark in the Santa Rosa Press Democrat. The link for that one is:

[Skypark-airport-a-haven-for-airplane-enthusiasts](#)

### **AIRPLANE FOR SALE**



1967 7KCAB, TT 1856, 150hp, VAL Com 760+VOR, new annual 1/12. Hangared last 34 yrs, wheel pants, 8:00/6 tires, greenhouse, parachutes, inverted flight gas/oil. \$26,000 obo Fred Dickson (707) 322-2017 cell

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. SEE YOU THERE!

**REMEMBER! THE MARCH MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, MARCH 13 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**