



THE FLYING TIMES

The Official Newsletter
of the Sonoma Sky Crafters

EAA Chapter 1268

Sonoma Skypark Airport
21870 Eighth Street East
Sonoma, CA 95476

JANUARY 2025



1933 LOCKHEED VEGA- PHOTO BY WILL CAMPBELL

One of the Ala Doble Flying Collection

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: Robin Tatman, 707-853-2220
Vice President: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382
Secretary: Nelleke Cooper, 707-938-5587
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Speaker coordinator: **position open**

Dinner coordinator: Sindy Mikkelsen
sindymikkelsen@att.net

Saturday barbecue Chair: Marilyn Seibert,
707-479-5712

Building/Newsletter: Darrel Jones, 707-799-6382, wd6bor@vom.com

Membership Chairs: Don and Ligia Booker,
707-938-9461

Flight Advisor: Steve Silver,
skyparksteven@gmail.com

Pietenpol Chairperson: Yayoi West, 707-364-9257

Pietenpol Build Team Leader: Michael Wray, mdwray33@gmail.com

FIRST THINGS FIRST

This month's meeting is this **Tuesday, January 14**. 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 Sindy Mikkelsen, who will serve up Spanish paella, salad and dessert. This from Sindy:

Hi Darrel

I'm as always looking for our monthly chefs, but you're welcome to share (and hope it encourages members to attend) I will be our chef for Tuesday's meeting. I'm flying down and will have 2 special pans in tow. I will be preparing Spanish paella, and salad for dinner... and dessert too. I might be able to offer some lovely wine to go with the paella, just because they go together well.

See you Tuesday
Sindy

Our program will be a presentation by Ken Wayne of Flying Tails Animal Rescue, a non-profit organization dedicated to flying at-risk animals to safety and sharing their stories.

We have a new Treasurer, Ray Gallarate, and a new mailing address, EAA 1268, PO Box 234, Vineburg, CA 95487-0234. Please send your dues renewal checks to EAA 1268, PO Box 234, Vineburg, CA 95487-0234.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Happy New Year!

It's hard to believe that 2025 is here. With the holidays behind us, the Chapter has already had 3 official events - two Saturday barbecues and the Young Eagles rally yesterday. While all EAA Chapters are good, this is a clue to

how unusually active and special our chapter is compared to most. All organizations, especially non-profits are as good as their members, and we are especially fortunate to have many committed, talented, and long-term participants among us.



I received the Chapter Awards for 2024 from EAA National last week. I will be presenting those at the meeting this Tuesday, but I wanted to highlight a few of them here for those of you who might not be there. (That would be a shame to miss as Sindy and Tim are cooking a fabulous dinner, and we have an intriguing guest speaker who will talk about his fun combining two passions - flying and rescuing animals.)

The Saturday Barbecue has been a long-standing staple of the airport providing much more than just a great hamburger. It gives us community, a fly-in destination, and most importantly: our primary fund-raising venue for the chapter. The money raised supports our annual scholarships to Air Academy at Oshkosh and now private pilot training through the Ray Scholar program. Over the years the Chapter has introduced countless kids to aviation. Without the barbecue it would be difficult for us to do this.

For many years, Ron Price ran the barbecue as part of the Airport Manager position. The airport and the chapter collaborated sending the kids to Air Academy with the Chapter paying the tuition, and Ron donating the proceeds from

the barbecue for the airfare. After retiring, Collin continued to tradition until the Chapter assumed responsibility for the entire process.

Marilyn Siebert graciously accepted the coordinator position 2+ years ago. She has gotten more help the latter part of this year, (she will talk about that and her amazing helpers in another page or so) but has done an absolutely fantastic job managing and keeping the barbecue going in that time. While running a little weekly barbecue may sound simple, it is enormous task - especially when you rely on volunteer labor. And the event is in the middle of EVERY Saturday - most people's busiest "off" day of their week whether they work or are retired. Besides the actual setting up, cooking, and cleaning up after each event, there is planning, shopping, stocking, and scheduling - for every week, about 52 Saturdays per year.

So Marilyn, her co-coordinators Marsi and Rony, and her group of dedicated core volunteers George B, Phil, Tony, Ken, Ray, Alex, Jack, Calvin, Luis, Julia, and Ethan, are the Chapter 1268 Saturday Hamburger Allstars. I cannot express enough my personal gratitude, appreciation, and admiration for their dedication in keeping this event going. My sincere thanks to the many others who have volunteered when able as well. Marilyn is always looking for new help and previous volunteers to give her core group a much-needed break.

The money that you all have helped raise is critical to the chapter's activities/scholarships that it collectively wants to support. The Barbecue itself is a wonderful link between those that are at the airport itself often and EAA Chapter members. And there is always that great cooked to order burger waiting for you!

I hope to see you at the meeting on Tuesday where I get to recognize a bunch more of our hard working and long-standing volunteers, as well as a few new ones.

See you then!
Robin

VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT

First item is that we have applications for our Chapter 1268 Air Academy scholarships available. The deadline for submitting them is February 28 this year. They can be either mailed to EAA Chapter 1268, P.O. Box 234, Vineburg, CA 95487 or scanned and saved as a PDF and emailed to me at wd6bor@vom.com.

The EAA Air Academy is an aviation themed summer camp held at the Air Academy lodge at Oshkosh. Camps this year are for groups of youth ages 14 to 15 and 16 through 18. Camps start in June and run into August, with the advanced camps overlapping AirVenture.

Send me an email and I'll reply with a copy of the application as a printable PDF file. You can also go to the EAA Chapter 1268 website at eaa1268.org for a downloadable copy of the form.

We need someone to find and schedule speakers for our monthly meetings. EAA has a speakers bureau with speakers who can do a Zoom presentation, and the surrounding local EAA chapters also have people they can reference, I can help our new speaker coordinator get started. All it will require is making some phone calls and sending some emails.

Please let me know if you can help.

Thanks,
Darrel

EAA 1268 TREASURER REPORT **January 2025**

Treasurer's report as follows...

Checking	\$2,546.68
Savings	\$22,993.30
CD	\$16,132.15

Deposits:

Saturday Burgers \$620.00
Donations \$400.00
Member Dues \$140.00

Expenditures:
PO Box \$170.00

The final accounting for the Clubhouse Restroom Renovation is as follows.
Total Project Cost \$19,091.38
Total Donations \$10,720.00
(Send me an email if you would like a spreadsheet of the project expenses.)

We would like to acknowledge the following members for their generous donation of money and labor to the project. A big THANK YOU to Darrel Jones for spearheading the renovation!!

Project Labor:
Ray Gallarate, Calvin Wojciechowski, George Bachich, Ed Sammon, Robin Tatman, Bob Berwick, Kevin Mulvey and Mark Shackford

> Gold Level Contributors:
Toby Bright
Aviation Explorers
Mike Smith Aviation
Bob Berwick
Robin Tatman
Tim Steers

>
> Silver Level Contributors:
Bill Wheadon
Don & Ligia Booker
Marilyn Seibert
Bob & Marilyn Avrit
Michael Wray
Kathy Carmichael
Yayoi West

>
> Bronze Level Contributors:
Stan Russell
Gene Marcinkowski

Regards,
Ray Gallarate
650-421-3781 cell

YOUNG EAGLES

Young Eagles Day for this month was Sunday, January 12. The day started out clear, but with winds forecast. Boy, was that correct!

Gretchen was up earlier than usual and was joined by Ligia Booker and our current Ray scholar, Grace Warden, both helping with registration. They were setting up when the rush began. By the end of the morning, Chapter 1268 had flown thirty Young Eagles, with three Eagles flown afterward, with a record eight pilots helping out.

The wind didn't pick up until about 10:30, but when it did, we were seeing a 90-degree crosswind from the north that was gusting 10 to 15 miles per hour. I didn't do too badly on the first few landings, but the wind shifted favoring 08 for the last one. I'm logging that one as three landings for one approach.

Everyone made it down safely and the air was much calmer at altitude, so everyone had a good time.

A big thank you to Gretchen, Ligia, Grace for registration, Calvin W. and Mark S. for marshaling, and George Bachich, George Belden, Dan Roseland, Robin Tatman, Ken Callander, Paul Hollingworth in his gyro, and Luis Membrila, one of our former ray scholars, for flying.

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

From Michael:

Nothing new to report... cold wet weather has not been encouraging for gluing!

BTW: has Ray talked to you about sources for cables and fittings? We are ready to start on installation.

best wishes,
Michael Wray

SATURDAY BARBECUE

Skypark Burgers completed another successful year and would like to report that we were able to donate at least \$600 into the EAA Treasury every month in 2024, for a total of \$7,400.

I would like to give heartfelt thanks to all who helped make it possible. Marsi and Rony volunteered as expert co-coordinators. Chefs George Bachich, Phil Danskin, Tony Mackinnon, and Ken Thornton went above and beyond cooking for us. Ray Gallarate graciously filled in also. We had Alex Gosselin, Jack Lamborn, Calvin Wojciechowski, Luis Membrila, Julia & Ethan come to give us a much-needed hand. If I'm forgetting someone, my apologies.

Words cannot express my appreciation to these willing volunteers for their dedication, commitment, and service for the Saturday Burgers and EAA Scholarship program. I could not do it without their help. They are the ones that keep me going.

Sonoma Ballooning Adventures has donated 19 gallons of propane to the EAA Chapter Saturday Burgers.

Thank you all and big hugs, Marilyn Seibert

This is Chapter 1268's major fundraiser for scholarships for sending our local Young Eagles to the EAA Air Academy in Oshkosh each summer.

Thanks again to Marilyn and Marsi for their very valuable, and enjoyable, contribution to the Chapter.

EAA 1268 FLIGHT ADVISOR



Last month we looked at Eastern Airlines 401 that crashed in 1972 while trying to fix a landing gear indicator problem. That crash resulted in the death of 101 passengers and crew.

This month we will look at another accident that again was the result of poor crew interaction and not due to an unmanageable aircraft malfunction. This accident was the impetus for United Airlines to recognize the importance of CRM, its vital role in aircraft incident and accident mitigation, and resulted in a major change in training priorities and incorporation of CRM training into its curriculum.

United Airlines Flight 173 was a McDonnell Douglas DC-8 enroute from Denver, CO to Portland, OR on Dec 28, 1978. During the approach in Portland, when the gear was lowered, an unsafe gear indication was displayed on the flight deck.

The crew correctly elected to terminate the approach to investigate the status of the gear. While in a holding pattern while they were trying to ascertain the status of the gear, the crew failed to monitor the fuel supply, and ran out of fuel and crashed. During the investigation, it was determined that the gear was in fact down and locked, and the unsafe gear indication was only a faulty indicator. The crash resulted in the death of 10 passengers and crew.

Based on the findings of the accident investigation, crew interaction was cited as the major contributing factor in the accident. As in the case of Eastern Airlines Flight 401, an aircraft accident was caused by human factors and crew interaction, and not the direct result of an aircraft malfunction.

Based on the findings of the accident investigation, United Airlines was the first major airline to incorporate Crew Resource Management (CRM) into its training program. Now all airlines are mandated by the FAA to include CRM training into its curriculum.

Of particular note in this accident is the experience of the crew. The captain had 27 years of experience at United and over 27,000 hours of flight time. The First Officer had 13 years at United and over 5,000 hours of flight time. Crew interaction and decision-making errors are not limited to inexperienced pilots. These concepts are applicable to all of us, and we need to be vigilant and practice good CRM principles every time we fly.

Next month, we will discuss some of the principles of CRM, and how they can be applied to our safety mindset and awareness as we continually improve as aviators.

For a more detailed description of United Flight 173, please see link below:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_Airlines_Flight_173

Steve

GROUND SCHOOLS

Yayoi is pausing ground school at Sonoma Skypark in the clubhouse on Monday evenings until she gets more students. Several of her students were Chapter 1268's Ray scholars who have completed their private pilot flight training and taken their check rides. She currently has only one student attending. Call or text her at Yayoi West, 707-364-9257 for

information on when she plans on restarting the classes.

If you have any flight planning gear, such as a plotter, E6B, old sectional charts 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.

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.

2025 DINNER SCHEDULE

We have some of our celebrity chefs for 2025 but let us know if you want to take an unfilled month. Hot dogs, chili or pizza are perfectly fine. I've reprinted the list of suggested meals Jan Wheadon had shared with us at the end of this newsletter.

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
2025 DINNER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Sindy Mikkelsen- paella
FEB	?
MAR	?

APR	?
MAY	?
JUN	?
JUL	Darrel Jones- barbecue
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	?
DEC ?	XMAS PARTY
Standby	?

SPEAKERS

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

Contact President Robin Tatman at 707-553-2747 or send an email to me at wd6bor@vom.com so we can get your program or speaker information into the newsletter.

We're still looking for a permanent speaker coordinator so Don can take a rest, so let us know if you can help out by taking on this important job. We can give you contact information for other local Chapters so you can find speakers they have had.

Month	Speaker/Member/Subject
2025 SPEAKER SCHEDULE	
JAN	Ken Wayne – Flying Tails Animal Rescue
FEB	?
MAR	?
APR	?
MAY	?
JUN	?
JUL	?
AUG	?
SEP	?
OCT	?
NOV	?
DEC	XMAS PARTY

2025 EAA 1268 CALENDAR

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

DATE	EVENT
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DATE	EVENT
1/1/25	New Years' Day 1st Flight
1/11-12	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
1/12	Young Eagles 9:30 am
1/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
2/8-9	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day – 12 to 4 pm
2/9	Young Eagles 9:30 am
2/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
2/28	Air Academy application deadline
3/8-9	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day – 12 to 4 pm
3/9	Young Eagles 9:30 am
3/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
	NAF El Centro Air Show
	Wings Over Solano- Travis AFB, Fairfield
	Sun 'n Fun, Lakeland, FL
4/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm
4/12-13	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day – 12 to 4 pm
4/13	Young Eagles 9:30 am
	Pacific Coast Dream Machines Show- Half Moon Bay, CA
	Estrella Warbirds Wings & Wheels- Paso Robles, CA
5/10-11	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
5/11	Young Eagles 9:30 am
5/13	1268 Meeting 7 pm
	Oregon Int'l Air Show- Hillsboro, OR
5/?	Skypark Family Fun Day!
6/7-8	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
6/8	Young Eagles 9:30 am
6/10	1268 Meeting 7 pm
	Truckee Tahoe Airshow, Truckee
	California Capital Air Show- Mather AFB, Sacramento, CA
7/8	1268 Meeting 7 pm
7/12-13	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
7/13	Young Eagles 9:30 am
7/17-20	Brodhead Pietenpol Fly-in

7/21-27	EAA AIRVENTURE at Oshkosh
8/9-10	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
8/10	Young Eagles 9:30 am
8/12	1268 Meeting 7 pm
	Wings Over Camarillo Airshow
9/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm
9/13-14	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
9/14	Young Eagles 9:30 am
	MCAS Miramar Air Show- San Diego, CA
	California Int'l Airshow- Salinas, CA
9/?	Wings Over Wine Country
9/9	1268 Meeting 7 pm
9/13-14	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
9/14	Young Eagles 9:30 am
	MCAS Miramar Air Show- San Diego, CA
	California Int'l Airshow- Salinas, CA
9/?	Wings Over Wine Country
	Central Coast AirFest- Santa Maria, CA
	San Francisco Fleet Week- San Francisco, CA
10/11-12	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
10/12	Young Eagles 9:30 am
10/14	1268 Meeting 7 pm
	Benton Air Fair- Redding, CA
	Planes of Fame Air Show- China, CA
11/8-9	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
11/9	Young Eagles 9:30 am
11/11	1268 Meeting 7 pm
12/?	Skypark Xmas Party
12/13-14	Sonoma Skypark Historical Aircraft Display Day- 12 to 4 pm
1/1/26	New Years' Day 1 st Flight

Every **Saturday Noon to 1:00 pm**
Skypark Hamburgers and Hot Dogs in the clubhouse!

EAA CHAPTER 1268 MINUTES

Because the Sonoma Skypark holiday party was held in December, there was no Chapter 1268 meeting in December.

OTHER NEWS

Here is a report on one of our former Air Academy participants, Andrew Daigle, from his father Rane:



Hello Robin and Darrel,

Here are a few photos Robin requested.

We really miss you guys. Sonoma Skypark and all people associated with it will always be positively etched in our hearts.

Andrew attends Montana technical university close to full-time while working part time at an engineering firm. He is majoring in environmental engineering. He also is a husband and father of two beautiful children.

He is president of the Montana tech club rugby team and continues to enjoy playing the sport. We are extremely blessed to be living in the Rocky Mountains, and try to take advantage of the outdoors as often as possible!

So grateful for all of you!!!

Thank you for keeping me on the newsletter.

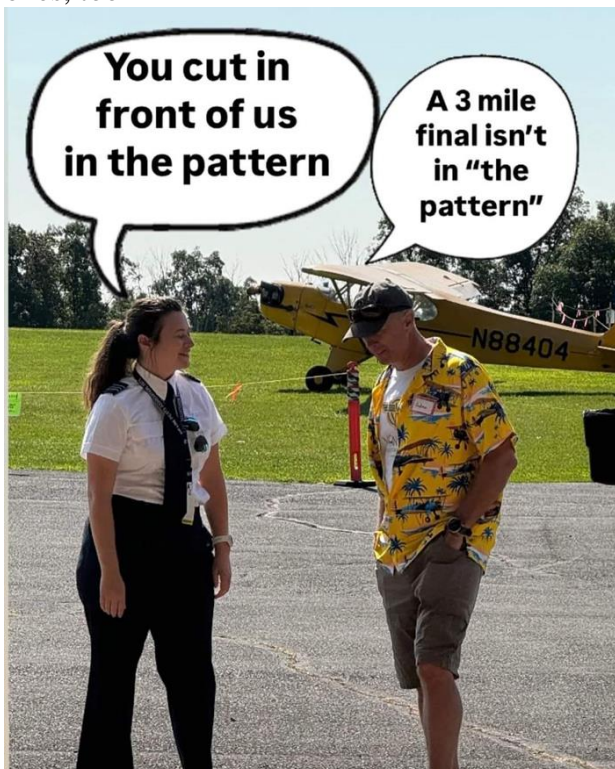
Sincerest regards,
Rane Daigle

You Can Always Go Around

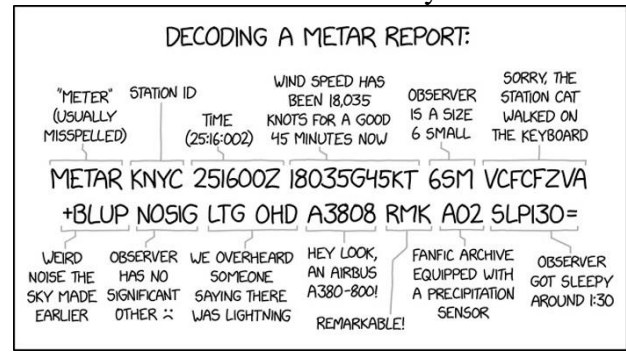
Here is a video I thought about while on final during the later morning Young Eagles. The tune is catchy, and the video certainly reinforces the point of the song. It's something I tell younger pilots, as well as reminding myself when I'm landing.

<https://youtu.be/lr5d3sGxSXQ?si=6IWil42Qs53k8yJj>

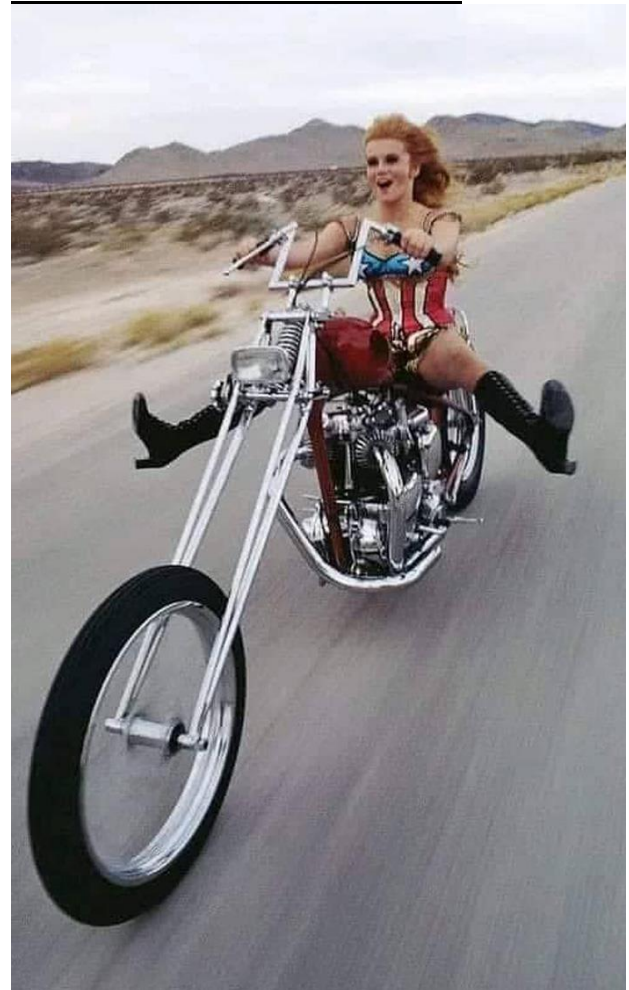
Just a little something for those of us who fly slow airplanes, and for those who fly the fast ones, too...



A little educational material for you...



WOMEN ON MOTORCYCLES



Ann-Margret on a Harley chopper outside of Las Vegas. She's still riding her Harley at 82.

Send me your news for your newsletter!

A Dozen Easy Dinner Menus For The Napa Airport Pilots' Association Courtesy of Jan Wheadon

How much to buy? You are aiming for 32 servings –

1. Costco Chicken, Potato Salad, Green Salad, Bread and Butter, Ice Cream (aka the Norm Special)
2. Sliced ham; heat and serve macaroni and cheese casserole; green salad; bread and butter; cookies
3. Costco frozen meatballs in a bag heated up in gourmet spaghetti sauce from a jar; bow tie pasta; green salad; bread and butter; cookies
4. Sloppy Joes, green salad, dessert
5. Baked potatoes with toppings: grated cheese, sour cream, canned chili heated up, sliced green onions; green salad; dessert
6. Chili beans with corn bread; green salad; ice cream
7. A variety of pre-cooked sausages, heated up on your grill at home; Costco potato salad; sauerkraut from a jar; rolls and butter; green salad; dessert
8. Pre-made lasagna from Cost-co; salad; bread and butter; dessert
9. Salad Bar – good for a warm evening: Anything goes: Tuna salad, egg salad, chicken salad, sliced deli meats, macaroni salad, potato salad, any other salad from a deli; bread and butter; green salad; cheese cake for dessert
10. Sandwich Bar – Also good for a warm evening: sliced deli meats, sliced cheeses, sliced tomatoes and onions, lettuce, sliced bread or rolls, mayonnaise, pickles, mustard. Something chocolate and decadent for dessert.
11. Nachos -- Heat up a huge can each of: bean less chili, nacho cheese, refried beans, black beans and corn. Put a large bag of Cost Co tortilla chips out. Also have: grated cheese, chunky salsa (two different kinds) sour cream, hot sauce, chopped green onions, sliced olives. Ice cream for dessert.
12. Birds Eye Garlic Chicken – Complete meal in a bag from Costco; green salad; bread and butter; dessert
13. Corned beef and cabbage, carrot, potatoes, salad and dessert



Sonoma Skycrafters
EAA Chapter 1268
PO Box 234
Vineburg, CA 95487-0234

MEMBERSHIP **DUES ARE DUE** IN JANUARY, AND MEMBERSHIP RUNS FROM JANUARY TO DECEMBER. DUES ARE STILL A MODEST **TWENTY BUCKS**, SO BRING SOME CASH FOR DINNER AND A BIT MORE TO **PAY YOUR DUES FOR 2025!** SEE YOU AT THE MEETING! MAIL YOUR CHECK TO: EAA 1268, PO BOX 234, VINEBURG, CA 95487-0234 IF YOU WON'T BE AT THE MEETING.

REMEMBER! THE JANUARY MEETING OF SONOMA SKYCRAFTERS EAA CHAPTER 1268 IS THIS TUESDAY, JANUARY 14 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: Regular - **\$20 per year.**
Student, through 18 - **FREE**

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:
Sonoma Skycrafters EAA Chapter 1268
PO Box 234
Vineburg, CA 95487-0234