

EAA 297 – KITTYHAWKERS NEWSLETTER



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CHILLY FLY-IN and CHILI COOK-OFF SATURDAY MARCH 14TH

PRESIDENT SENDS

From: Ken Mcgee

The Chili Fly-in is upon us and the coldest months are behind us. It's now time to get ready for a little Sun N Fun, Lakeland Florida, beginning March 31. And just behind Lakeland, our spring Fly-In at Stag, the second week in May followed by Oshkosh. The calendar is quickly filling up with lots of flying and fun Aviation Events for 2020.

We have set up a new monthly meeting format this year to deliver a double dose of aviation humor, usable and needed safety tips, flying tips, we will call "Tune Up's" and interesting aviation speakers. Also, there will be new small segments to enhance our weather knowledge and review some of the important FARs that will keep us out of trouble and make us safer pilots. Our guest speaker for March will be Wilmington Air Traffic Control (ATC).

Soon you will see a significant effort to brand and market EAA 297. Along with our traditional spring fly-in we are going to invite our local law enforcement personnel and their families to express our appreciation. During the year we are also planning additional chapter events such as; a group trip to an aviation museum, a fly-out to an aviation event, or a local contest of our flying skills.

It is exciting to see such a strong group of pilots jump in and continue the adventure of our terrific chapter. I look forward to working with everyone to make 2020 another fun and memorable year for EAA Chapter 297. YOU will not want to miss a meeting!

Blue Skies, Tail Winds, and Good Rotor RPM.

Ken McGee,

Has-been Cook

FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

STAG AIR PARK - February 1, 2020

10:05 - The meeting was called to order by our President Aubrey Thompson.

10:07 - **Ratification of Officers.** Aubrey introduced the list of officers nominated by the leadership meeting. He stated that this is the same list that was published in the newsletter. He noted that as far as national is concerned we only need a certain number of officers, but that we have added additional positions in a local effort to spread the fun among our members.

10:15 - **Visitors and New Members Introduced.** Hope Henderson, Gary Henderson's daughter joined us for the meeting. Michael Byrd, a student pilot at Brunswick Air was introduced. Bill Vause is a new homeowner at Stag Air Park. He has a Cessna 150 and said that he would like to build an RV 12 or a Zenith. He is a retired Marine and is currently a Student Pilot. He is also certified to maintain Light Sport Aircraft. Bob Krieger was also introduced, but he reminded us that he was introduced at the last meeting.

10:20 - **Treasurer Report.** Bob McGowan reported the chapters financial status for the month of January.

Beginning Balance:	\$3,047.55
Income:	\$1,170.00
Expenses:	\$667.11
Ending Balance:	\$3,550.14
Young Eagles Fund	
Beginning Balance:	\$2,140.00
Contributed:	\$25.00
Ending Balance	\$2,165.00

10:22 - **Master Chef's Menu Report.** For our special Ladies Luncheon Ken announced that there would be a special menu including; Lime Sorbet, Stuffed Mushrooms,

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Stuffed Chops, Asparagus, and Red Potatoes. For dessert there would be Fruit with Gelato on a Tort with Chocolate Sauce. He also announced that because of the enormous amount spent on the ladies that the gentlemen would enjoy beans, sausage and corn bread.

10:30 - **Newsletter Correction.** Last month's speaker, Jerald Hurst, told us of wanting to build an airplane, but that he built a mahogany speedboat instead. It was reported that he had won four awards for his boat. That was inaccurate, he has won thirteen awards at different boat shows.

10:32 - **Safety Corner.** The gentleman that purchased Billy Hughes' Midget Mustang appeared to get caught in the "hurry up and go" syndrome at Topsail Air Park last month. He appeared to have some directional control problems on his initial takeoff run and he then attempted to try and lift into the air too soon. Without sufficient airspeed he stalled at tree top height and rolled into the trees. The aircraft was destroyed on impact but luckily the pilot escaped with only major bruises.

The Kobe Bryant mishap was the next topic of discussion. Aubrey Thompson told us how he found the radar track of the helicopter on the internet, and how he was able to superimpose it with the ATC transmissions from another website. He said it was very interesting to view. He believes that the initial news reports concerning the crash are incorrect.

10:35 - **Project Reports.**

Billy Johnson has completed the construction of the scaffold that will allow him to work on his Seafire engine. But he also reported that he is not quite ready to tackle that yet.

Aubrey Thompson has done some work on the strut fairings for his C-150. He never had the lower fairings, and the upper ones are in bad shape. He plans on using a fiberglass epoxy grout to form molds to make new fairings. He is planning to work on the molds this next week.

Chris Montefusco reported that the left wing on his Rans is almost complete. He needed to cut the hole in the leading edge for pitot tube and he is trying to find the best way to do that. He has figured that he will probably use a Dremel tool to make a smooth hole. Then he just needs to install the fuel tank and then the wing will be complete. Then he will need to figure out where to store it.

Mark Thoman reported that his Citabria is once again standing on its landing gear. During the month the landing gear struts were stripped, primed, and given a finish coat of paint. Then they were attached to the fuselage. The axels and wheel assemblies, with new tires and tubes were installed. The aluminum "wrap around," that mounts on the fuselage, aft of the engine cowling, was also stripped, primed and finish painted. It was installed on the fuselage and riveted to the firewall. He has been sanding and making repairs to the fiberglass cockpit door. And then he will be waiting for the temperatures to get above 60 degrees so that he can do some more painting.

Phil Ellison reported that the paperwork for the Legend Cub is complete and has been submitted. The flying club needs to get together to discuss insurance

11:00 - **Change of Command.** With his last meeting completed, Aubrey Thompson, our outgoing President passed the chapter's gavel to our new President Ken McGee. Mark Thoman officiated and presented Aubrey with an appropriately engraved plaque recognizing his two years of service as our president. Aubrey's tenure included six successful fly-in's and the efforts involved in two years of successful chapter operation. But Hurricane Florence left considerable damage to the clubhouse and kitchen. That was the moment when Aubrey's leadership, and his skills as a repairman really shone. He successfully brought our chapter through a tough period and he proved to be the right President at the right time.

Then a surprise award was given to our new President, Ken McGee, for his dedicated service as our Master Chef. As a fund-raising effort, Ken started preparing lunches for



Chef” trophy. It was noted that as our President Ken may find his new duties a bit easier.

11:10 – The meeting was adjourned as the chapter prepared for the annual Ladies Day Luncheon.

LADIES DAY LUNCHEON

NO WHINING SALOON – It appeared by the smiles and chatter that the ten ladies who joined us for the Ladies Day Luncheon enjoyed themselves thoroughly. The ladies included; Jane Johnson, Ella Rhodes, Cindy McGee, Melissa Primm, Hope Henderson, Nancy McGowan, Robin Jones, Nancy Thoman, Flo Holbrook, and Cynthia Burnett.



The dining table was set with the finest that we could offer, and if you didn’t notice that it was largely plastic... it looked pretty nice. The affair started with a selection of wines and then Chef McGee began with an appetizer of fresh baked bread and chicken salad arrayed on a bed of lettuce. The main course was stuffed baked pork chops, baked red potatoes, and sautéed asparagus. The meal was finished with a delicious dessert that included a tasty gelato with fresh strawberries and blueberries.



Master Chef Ken McGee was aided in the galley by Wade Hanchey and John Wood. Later Tom Primm helped with the cleanup. The meal was expertly served by Mark Thoman. (Well, if you ignore one “minor” disaster... Sorry Cindy. Luckily it was only water.)

The ladies expressed their appreciation and said that they had an enjoyable time.

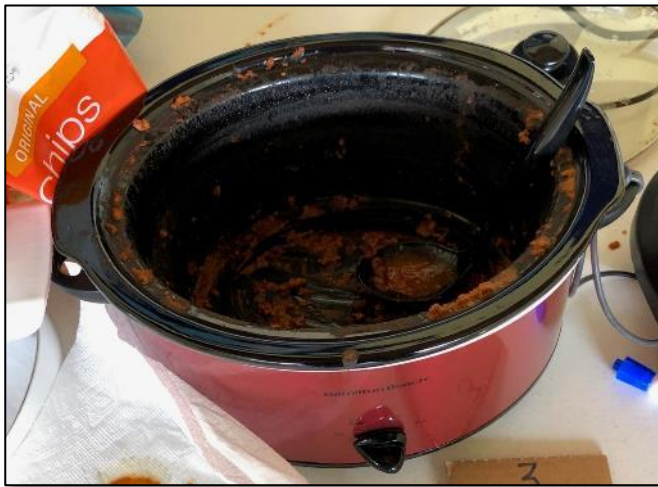
While not the center of attention, the gents got to enjoy beans and sausage with Ken’s famous pan of cornbread. But the highlight of the gent’s lunch was the surprise pot of chili that John Brois prepared. He admitted that he thought he was making a contribution to the

the monthly chapter meetings in 2003. Since then he has prepared and served over one hundred and sixty meals for our enjoyment. And it was estimated that his efforts earned approximately \$7,000 dollars for the chapter. For his conspicuous dedication, Ken was awarded the “Master

upcoming chili contest. We gents got to taste test his chili early. And if John enters another batch of the same, delicious chili in our cook-off, on March 14th, he will have a great shot at the first-place award.

CHILLY FLY-IN AND CHILI COOK-OFF

Next week, on Saturday, March 14th, we will host our annual Chilly Fly-In and Chili Cook-Off. The event is published to open at 11:00 AM. Let’s hope that the weather allows for some adventurous flyers to join us. The highlight of the fly-in will be our annual Chili Cook-Off. In years past we have had more than a dozen batches of every different kind of chili. Our imaginative chefs have prepared classic chili, white chili, Texas chili, and Caribbean chili. The competition has always been exciting. Captain Chris Montefusco is our reigning champ. Is there someone out there who can challenge his chili skills and become the new “Chili King” (or “Chili Queen” which ever the case might be).



CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

STAG AIR PARK – At our February meeting the membership approved the following slate of chapter officers for this year 2020 AD. Thank you all who were willing to devote their time and effort to our chapter’s success.

President	Ken McGee
Vice President	Allan Bobbe
Secretary	Kristen Montefusco
Treasurer	Robert McGowan
Newsletter Editor	Mark Thoman
Safety Officer	Phil Ellison
Web Editor	Wade Hanchey
Food Coordinator	Mike Barri
Events Coordinator	Allan Bobbe
Young Eagle Coordinator	Drew Holbrook
Eagle Flight Leader	Drew Holbrook
Membership Coordinator	Aubrey Thompson
Technical Counselor	Vernon Pitts
Technical Counselor	William Johnson

Technical Counselor	Don Rhodes
Member - Board of Directors	Tom Goodwin
Member - Board of Directors	Garry Brown
Member - Board of Directors	John Wood

SUN N FUN PARTICIPANT CONTACT ROSTER

Membership Coordinator, Aubrey Thompson, will be circulating a roster at our March meeting to collect contact information for those members who will be at Sun N Fun in April. If you are not planning to attend the March chapter meeting, and want to add your name to the roster, email Aubrey at: aubrey.thomp@gmail.com with your phone number and the days of the week you will be at Sun N Fun. When the roster is finalized, Aubrey intends to send a copy back to everyone via email.

2020 CHAPTER DUES ARE BEING COLLECTED – NOW

Our treasurer, Bob McGowan, is continuing to collect dues for the 2020 year. Your \$35 dues check can be mailed to: EAA, 91 Aviator Lane, Burgaw, NC 28425.

EAA SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Do you know someone who dreams of becoming a pilot, or wants an additional rating? **Tell them to apply for an EAA scholarship!** Through many generous donors, EAA awards more than \$1 million in aviation scholarship money via various programs each year. They can learn more about the scholarship qualifications at:

EAA.org/Scholarships

The scholarship deadline is **June 1, 2020**.

ILM PILOT’S ASSOCIATION - FBO UPDATE

ILM INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – Tom Goodwin

During the February 5th Airport Authority Meeting, the General Aviation Committee reported they had investigated two responses from the Airport’s September Request for Proposal (RFP). After reviewing AVFLIGHT’s proposal, it was dismissed as not viable. However, the proposal from Marathon FBO Partners seemed to meet the requirements. The GA Committee asked Marathon thirteen questions and they responded. These questions and responses were shared with the Airport Authority, but not the public.

An overview of the proposal includes building a 5,200 square foot terminal building and two 100 x 100 ft hangers with 28 ft door openings. They will also build a fuel farm with a storage capacity of 20,000 gallons of jet fuel and 10,000 gal of Avgas. The total investment will be \$954,000 for the terminal, \$1,746,000 for the hangars, and \$660,000 for the fuel farm - for a total cost of \$3,354,000. It was reported that Wilmington Aero Center would be operating within 180 days of a contract.

The principals involved in the business include Martin Hiller of Marathon Aviation Associates. Marathon Aviation Associates provides aviation fuel and related aeronautical support services at the Marathon airport (KMTH) located

in the heart of the Florida Keys. The second principal is Michael Scheeringa, co-founder of SAR Trilogy Management, LLC. SAR is an investment firm focused on aviation support. Scheeringa is also a past president of Signature Flight Support. The final principal is Sanjay Aggarwal. Sanjay is also a co-founder of SAR Trilogy Management, LLC.

It was requested, in writing, by Modern Air Service that the airport decline to accept Marathon's offer. In an effort to ensure all FAA regulations were met, the Airport Staff consulted with the FAA's Airport Section regarding the Airport Compliance Manual, Section 8.7, which deals with Denying Requests by Qualified Providers. The FAA determined that the airport could not deny the proposal by Marathon.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to proceed to contract negotiations.

FUTURE EVENTS

March 2020

- Sunday 1st South Carolina Breakfast Club, Mount Pleasant Regional Airport, (KLRO)
- Saturday 7th **EAA 297 - Chapter Meeting, 10:00 AM in the clubhouse. Lunch in the No Whining Saloon 12:00 PM**
- Saturday 14th **EAA 297 – Chilly Fly-In and Chili Cook-Off, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, Stag Air Park (7NC1)**
- Sunday 15th South Carolina Breakfast Club, Lexington County Airport, (6J0)
- Saturday 21st EAA Chapter 1047 Charity Poker Run, Wilson Industrial Airport (W03) *See flyer for details.
- Friday 27th thru Sunday 29th "Uncle John's Fly-In" Triple Tree Aerodrome (SC00)
- Sunday 29th South Carolina Breakfast Club, Lee County Airport, (52J)

April 2020

- Wednesday 1st thru Sunday 5th Sun-n-Fun, Lakeland Florida
- Sunday 5th South Carolina Breakfast Club, Holly Hill Airport, (5J5)
- Saturday 11th **EAA 297 - Chapter Meeting, 10:00 AM in the clubhouse. Lunch in the No Whining Saloon 12:00 PM**
- Sunday 19th South Carolina Breakfast Club, Broxton Bridge Plantation Airport, (SC55)

May 2020

- Saturday 2nd **EAA 297 - Chapter Meeting, 10:00 AM in the clubhouse. Lunch in the No Whining Saloon 12:00 PM**

- Sunday 3rd South Carolina Breakfast Club, Rock Hill/York County/Bryant Field Airport, (KUZA)
- Saturday 9th **EAA 297 – Spring Fly-In and Car Show, Stag Air Park, (7NC1)**
- Thursday 14th thru Sunday 17th EAA B-17 and B-25 Tour Stop, Cape Fear Regional Jetport, (KSUT)
- Friday 15th thru Saturday 16th Warbirds Over the Beach Airshow, Virginia Beach Airport, (42VA)
- Sunday 17th South Carolina Breakfast Club, Whiteplains Airport, (SC99)
- Sunday 31st South Carolina Breakfast Club, Palmetto Air Plantation Airport, (SC41)

HUMOR

A pilot dies and goes to Hell.

As he is waiting for the Devil, he notices three doors. The Devil is no where in sight so he sneaks over to door number one and peeks inside. There he sees a lone pilot, sweating over emergency after emergency. He is enduring nonstop bells and horns.

Quickly closing that door, he creeps to door number two. There he sees a pilot going over checklist after checklist, after checklist. Slamming closed that door he slinks over to the third and last door. Inside he sees a pilot relaxing in an easy chair accompanied by three flight attendants. The attendants are pouring his coffee, serving his dinner, and gently applying cold compresses to his forehead.

Smiling the pilot slowly closes the door and sits back down. The Devil finally arrives and demands that the newly arrived pilot choose a door. The pilot laughs with a confident smile and chooses door number three. "Sorry," says the Devil. "Door number three is not for pilots. That is flight attendant's hell. Choose again."

- stolen from Aviation Humor by Ziva Bergman

