



EAA Chapter 595 December 11th, 2021

Website: www.595.eaachapter.org/
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Minutes / Meeting of EAA Chapter 595 Rio Grande Valley

January Announcements

Birthdays

Sharon Lung

January - 12

Anniversaries

February Announcements

Birthdays

Betty Engle

February - 6

Anniversaries

Robert & Carol Heiser

February - 4

Events

Notices

*Our next meeting is Saturday,
January 8, 2022 at Gulf Aviation
in Harlingen @ 11: a.m*

The Christmas banquet/meeting was held at the Schwanke “mansion” with the beautiful Geneda and her amazing husband Don hosting. Before we had our meeting we sat around enjoying some wonderful fellowship and waiting for the members to arrive. At 11:45 we had our meal, which was fabulous. A hearty thanks to Ted Miller Jr. for bringing the meats. We ate to our hearts content and tummies full, ready to move on to the meeting.



President Don Schwanke called an informal meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. with 8 members and 2 guests in attendance.

Members were as follows:

Don Schwanke	Cindy Vasquez
Byron Engle	Monte Vasquez
Robert Silva	Geneda Schwanke
Phil Bowers	Ted Miller Jr.

Mrs. Betty Engle and Ruth Silva were our guests

Don asked Byron Engle for the treasurer’s report and the chapter is solvent.

Old business:

The RV12 is gone after looking for a good home for it and found a Florida Teen Builders company and they have already built 4 RV12’s and are on their 5th one, but they were running into problems. It seems they have a lot of people to supervise and a lot of kids eager to learn and help build, but they had a problem with Van’s backlog and they thought they were going to have to disband for a while to get parts, but



Chapter 595 had many of the parts they needed, plus the fuselage kit that Don had already ordered. This actually turned out to be a deal made in heaven for them. Four gentlemen flew in to Weslaco to retrieve the RV12 kit while two of them flew back to Florida. The other two drove back in a rental truck with the empennage, tail cone & wings. They will receive the fuselage kit a lot sooner than if they had ordered it now. Don asked if there was anything to discuss

and since there was nothing, we moved on to the awards ceremony.



The first award was to Cindy Vasquez for chapter secretary. The next award to Cindy Vasquez for newsletter editor. Cindy Vasquez accepted the Technical Advisor award on behalf of Larry Wheelock (as he was unable to attend). Next was Phil Bowers for Vice President. Byron Engle received awards for being the Young Eagles coordinator, treasurer, Flight Advisor, Eagle Flight coordinator and IMC/VMC presenter.



The very next award is probably the most prestigious award in the world of aviation. It is the FAA Master Pilot Award, also known as the Wilbur and Orville Wright Award. One must be a pilot in good standing and be accident and incident free for 50 years from the time of solo. Part of the requirement for nomination is one must have 3 other pilots to recommend that person and if one succeeds, then one can be nominated pending FAA approval.



Don called Betty and Byron Engle to the front to present them with the awards because the FAA recognizes that if you are a pilot, you have a long, suffering wife who supports you. The award consists of 2 pins and a certificate and a beautiful plaque that must be paid for by the recipient. One of the pins is for the spouse because the FAA calls it the "Wife and Pilot Award". Congratulations to Betty and Byron Engle.



Don presented Byron with a plaque saying, "50 years of Dedicated Service to Aviation Safety; Department of Transportation: Federal Aviation Administration". "The Wright Brother's Master Pilot Award is Presented to Byron Clark Engle in Recognition of his 50 Years of Exemplary Aviation Flight Experience, Distinguished Professionalism, and Steadfast Commitment to Aviation". Byron thanked Don for his support and appreciated the recommendation by Don, Robert



Carter and Mike Baker, who were not present at this time. Congratulations again to Byron and Betty.



Don never got a plaque for his 50 years of dedication to aviation but did receive the 2 pins and the certificate, so Byron presented Don with the Master Pilot's Award plaque as well. It was to Donald L. Schwanke and co-recipient Geneda Schwanke. Bravo! Very well deserved! Don is the second in our chapter, Byron is the 3rd, but Larry Wheelock is the first to receive this special award. Congratulations Don and Geneda, Larry & Norma, Byron & Betty.



Don entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting and Phil Bowers moved, seconded by Byron Engle. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Our next meeting is Saturday, January 8, 2022 at Gulf Aviation in Harlingen @ 11: a.m. (be there a little early for the bull session!).

See y'all there

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Vasquez

Secretary