



*Experimental Aircraft Association*  
**Chapter 631 - The Blue Hills Flyers**  
**Rice Lake, WI**



**Minutes of the Meeting of July 2nd, 2019:**

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Bob Gillette at Cumberland Airport Terminal Building at 5:57 pm. Thanks to Ric for hosting the meeting. Thanks to Maxine Dakins and Nancy Ostrem (and others that Brad cannot quite remember) for bringing excellent food.

**May 7th, 2019 Meeting Minutes (Rice Lake Airport), and June 8th 2019 Meeting Minutes (Warbirds North):**

President Bob asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Jeff Potocnik moved. Ed Knutson 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

**Treasurer Potocnik's Report for End of June, 2019**

Gerry Winch moved to approve. Kirby Crawford 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

**Young Eagles Discussion - Jack Langland:**

- Byron Ripplinger (and Dad Dan) are with us this evening. Byron just returned from the Air Academy. Byron talked a bit about his experience there:
  - Flew in a Bell 47 helicopter
  - Up close look at a P51 Mustang
  - Very Educational week
  - Yes, very good desserts (Question by Bob Gillette)
  - Worked on wing ribs made of foam, wood, and metal. Byron like the wood ribs best.
  - Lodging was good – bunk house
  - “Thank you very much for sending me to camp; it was great.”
- 631 has sent 31 kids to camp thus far!
- Gerry Winch recently received a call from a YE who earned his private 4 years after Gerry had given him a YE ride – excellent!
- New part of YE rallies – parents can check a box if they would like an Eagle Ride.
- “Flying Start” – a class before Eagle rides. 631 developing a waiting list.
- YE Rides at Shell Lake – Gerry will check if we can use Winston’s hangar that day to help get out of the sun and have more room than the Terminal for registration, etc.
- Still working the kinks out of our YE registration system
  - We need to assign a greeter who points folks in a direction to start process
  - Stickers with numbers for kids – problem? They can come off and then you have a sticker that will maybe gum up stuff in your plane. Maybe we could switch to lanyards.
- Chetek – 11 Aircraft; 54 YE rides!
- Hayward – 20 YE rides before the weather shut us down

- Radio traffic high, should we be on some other frequency other than CTAF? Discussed and agreed that we need to stay on CTAF.
- 123 YE rides so far this season
- Warbirds North – 47 YE rides
- Can still do the paper form if kids want rides on an odd day; or can go to [youngeaglesday.org](http://youngeaglesday.org) and go through that.
- Some families do not have an email address (unfortunately)
- We only used 2 of our 4 camp reservations for 2019. We did have one late in the game inquiry on openings but unfortunately we had given up our other two slots to other chapters at HQ's request. Reservations are in the February time frame; inquiries much after that will not work (sorry).
- BIG THANKS TO ALL THAT HELP WITH YOUNG EAGLES – on the ground, in the air, food, etc.!

### **Ray Foundation Scholarship Report – Brad Volker**

- Logan Henning, 631's Ray Foundation Scholar is started his lessons and hitting it hard. Easy to see that he is thrilled with the opportunity. He and Dad Brian have been regulars at most chapter meetings and YE Rallies.

### **Tech/Safety (Doug, and some noted by Ray in a call to Doug):**

- A Mooney in a lake in MN – ELT unarmed
- A Decathlon – accident on takeoff. Messing with trim on takeoff. Set trim before takeoff.
- T34 – gear up landing. Bob G. noted that it is hard to slow down with gear up, so hard to understand how folks land gear up.
- Kirby noted that there is a website that describes accidents well to laypersons. Unfortunately laypersons are quick to blame aircraft instead of human error. (apologies – Brad did not catch the website name or address to put here)
- Doug noted extreme costs of today. A typical crankshaft for a 90 HP aircraft engine 20 years ago cost \$900. Today that crankshaft is \$4500.

### **Old Business:**

- Jim Adams, NASA retired, of Cameron has agreed to speak at 631's November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Apollo 11 Moon Landing. Thank you John Ostrem for requesting this of Jim. Possible venues are:
  - Chetek School (Janis Volker could arrange; Jim has spent a lot of time in the Chetek Schools so is at home there; we could maybe invite public; maybe good publicity for 631 (not that we need that).
  - Cooper Engineering in Rice Lake (lunch room that is set up with a ceiling mount projector)
  - Shell Lake Gillette Hangar Shop
  - We'll figure out details soon
- Hayward meeting on August 6<sup>th</sup> – Dave Misner will present on his Sonex Build (thanks Dave!)
- Brad Volker noted that 631 received nice thank-you's from both Shawn Harris and Sean Hodkiewicz who were candidates for the Ray Foundation scholarship. They are both very appreciative of the opportunity to apply.

- July 3<sup>rd</sup> Fireworks at Shell Lake – 631ers invited to watch from airport ramp. Printed passes handed out that will get you past the blockade closer to highway. General public needs to stay up by highway.

### **New Business:**

- Janis Volker has done some work on the website (Ray handed such over due to his bakery commitments at this time). Check it out. Make suggestions. <https://631.eaachapter.org/> Thanks Janis – you’re hired!
- Food organization for various 631 gatherings. John Ostrem noted that he and wife Nancy are new to the chapter, they observe that food seems to be a very important part of the social aspect of the gatherings, and that it’s a bit unclear who’s responsible for such. It seems that some bring food to a lot of gatherings; some do not ever bring food. Could there be a standing order that the airport that hosts whatever event (meeting or YE rally) is responsible for arranging food, and that the costs for such be covered by the chapter? Others noted that some airports excel at that; some not so much. Some noted that it started out as snacks (simple) and has turned into meals (not so simple) – if the expectation can be snack/simple, then our haphazard “bring some thing if you want and don’t if you don’t works fine – don’t come to meeting expecting a meal (unless you want to bring the meal). On website (Links section) Janis has placed google spreadsheets for signing up for food for YE events; could do same for meetings but has not yet). Jeff noted that it used to be that he would bring \$75 cash to each meeting and divvy it out to the folks that brought food, so chapter not opposed to covering food costs. More recently, we’ve put out donation cans and then used the donations to divvy up \$ to food providers. Brad V. noted that when he became secretary he put some effort into ensuring that food was arranged for each meeting (because he thought that was being done before he joined the chapter, but such may be in error). Maybe Brad has contributed to making things more complicated than need be? No real concensus on what to do or not do (that Brad could tell). Suggestion – officers come up with a policy (a simple one) for 2020 : )
- John Ostrem noted that he recently met a fellow who has 4 very nice RC models available. Not sure if they are airworthy, or just for show, but very nice looking. Contact John for more info.
- Kirby noted that Rusk County Airport has its Fly-in and pancakes on Saturday, July 6<sup>th</sup>.

### **Quick Visit by Sandi Randall of Romeo Aviation:**

Sandi stopped into meeting for a few minutes to express thanks for the monetary support that 631 provided to help her with travel/lodging expense to attend DPE training recently in Oklahoma City (FAA). The training went well and she returned with more DPE credentials than anticipated: private, commercial, instrument, single engine land/sea. “631’s help very, very appreciated!”

Sandi also noted that CFII/DPE Woody Minar of St. Croix Falls/Osceola area is now in Hospice – this is his second battle with cancer. Woody has given many safety presentations in the area (including at Cumberland), so some may know Woody. : (

***Adjournment:***

Ed Knutson moved to adjourn. Gerry Winch 2nd. Approved!

*Respectfully submitted, Brad Volker – Chapter Secretary*  
[www.631.eaachapter.org](http://www.631.eaachapter.org)