

THE STROBE



EAA 512 Placerville

December 21

Prez Sez...

DECK THE HANGAR WITH BOWS OF HOLLY. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

CHAPTER ELECTION

At our last chapter meeting, we elected the officers for the 2022 term. Incumbents were reelected as follows: Jim Wilson- President, Jim Pinkowski - VP, Judi Gordon - Treasurer, Rob Bulaga - Secretary. Our new Director are Neil Robinson and Dick Wampach, returning from a brief absence. Retiring Directors are Dave Lugert and John Crocker. The Board wants to extend our sincere appreciation for their work and service to the chapter for the last and prior years.

CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS

Our current EAA scholars, Nathan West, Jaeger Ruckman, and Aidan Andrews have been actively flying with CFI Will Mathews since the middle of September. Two of the three student pilots have soloed and continue with cross-country planning and flight.

Dues for 2022 are due

\$20/family

*Please contact Membership Chair,
Zane Ruckman at*

zaneaaa512@gmail.com

to pay your dues

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In total, they have flown 60 hours since mid-September.

- Nathan logged over 30 hours of flight training in Cameron Park prior to the final stage in preparation for his check-ride in December or January.
- Jaeger soloed and has started the cross-country phase and is preparing for the FAA written. For his solo, he received a LightSpeed headset.
- Aidan is very close to solo and on pace to complete flight training by this summer!

CHAPTER IMPROVEMENTS

The new stairway to the loft was completed in December. Dale put the final coat of paint and placed yellow caution tape on each step to improve visibility to finish the job. Tim applied his rigging skills as a sailor to the loft wire rail which opens the loft to let air and light penetrate.

The only remaining task is to reclaim the floor space by clearing out boxes of old records and moving and organizing furniture.

THE CHRISTMAS PARTY IS HERE, DEC 15

The party at the EAA hangar will start with a social hour at 5 pm and dinner at 6. Indoor seating is limited to 50 and the weather and temperature are unpredictable. Meat of tri-tip, turkey and ham will be provided by the chapter. Please RSVP to Jim or Judi by email with the number of guests in your party and the side dish you plan to bring. BYOB or drink is allowed. Coffee will be served. We are asking for a donation of \$5 per person to cover dinner costs and lost revenue from one less pancake breakfast during the season. Please wear your

name badge to help new members recognize people by name. We will have name badges available to print your name.

GIFT EXCHANGE - WHITE ELEPHANT

White elephant is a gift exchange, so each person may bring one wrapped present to the Christmas party. ... If they take the present from the first person, that person chooses another present to unwrap. The person with the number "three" may choose any previously unwrapped present or a new, wrapped one.

Participation is optional and the maximum cost for a gift is \$20. Kim Stein is the gift umpire!

EAA calendars will be available for \$19 each. The price includes a small profit for the chapter operating fund.

EAA 2021 CHAPTER SURVEY

John Eagan: The annual chapter member survey is now open to all chapter members.

Chapter members are encouraged to participate in this national membership survey. EAA would like to have everyone complete the survey by Sunday, January 1.

[Link to CHAPTER SURVEY](#)

Once the survey results are finalized, chapter officers will be sent their chapter's results, alongside the aggregate results from the entire chapter network. Chapters who participate in this survey will have the opportunity to use this feedback as a way to improve the chapter experience for local members. Additionally, this annual survey provides EAA with a snapshot of the chapter network as a whole.

Chapters having at least a 25% survey participation rate and a chapter membership recommendation score of 8 or higher (out of

10) will receive credit toward the 2021 Chapter Recognition program.

TEN CRITERIA FOR CHAPTER RECOGNITION

1. Attends a chapter leadership training session
2. Growing or steady membership
3. Offers IMC or VMC Club programs
4. Participates in Young Eagles or Flying Start programs
5. Has EAA-approved Flight Advisor or Technical Counselor
6. Participates in EAA's Annual Chapter Member survey
7. Participates in Young Eagles Build and Fly, Young Eagles Workshops, or sponsoring a youth to Air Academy*
8. Requests an EAA ChapterBlast email**
9. Hosts at least two public events each year
10. Owns/leases a facility
11. Extra credit activity, such as a chapter build project, youth build project, chapter scholarship (separate from Ray Scholars), a chapter tool crib, IAC competition, etc.***

**This criterion replaces ChapterGram readership*

***Requesting promotional material has been removed from this criterion.*

****Chapters will be able to submit for qualified extra credit criteria beginning in September 2021.*

In 2019, Chapter 512 received a Silver Medal. The award was suspended in 2020. Help us achieve a Silver or Gold this year by completing the survey which takes less than 2 minutes.

By Jim Wilson



CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dec 15th

RSVP to Jim or Judi

LIMITED SEATING

5pm social hour, 6pm dinner

Tri-tip & Hams, bring a side dish, \$5 donation per person





Chapter 512

2021

Achievements

MEMBERSHIP

At the start of the year, we set the goal of increasing membership during the pandemic by a modest 5%. We started the year with 73 members. During the year 11 members failed to renew; a loss of 15%. However, at the same time we signed on 22 new members; a net gain of 15%! Currently ¼ of our 84 members have been with us for less than 1 year.

MEETINGS

- **Board Meetings** - During the pandemic, in-person meetings were curtailed. Our goal for normalization was to revive in-person meetings, while complying with the county health department to ensure that we follow all safety guidelines. In-person meetings resumed in June. Since then, we have discovered that Zoom meetings are more convenient for our Board Meetings.
- **General Meetings** - Like the Board Meetings, General Membership Meetings stopped during the height of the pandemic. In-person meetings began again in May.
- **IMC/VMC** - Following suit, the IMC/VMC resumed in-person in May

- **Guest Speakers** - A bright point due to our virtual meetings was that we discovered EAA National's list of available Guest Speakers. We have taken advantage of this resource to revitalize our meeting presentations.

FACILITIES

- **Stairwell** - The stairwell to our loft was steep and hazardous. We designed and built a new stairway.
- **Loft** - The loft was dirty and cluttered. We have cleaned it up, removed unnecessary items, revamped the flooring, and installed new furniture. Additionally, we opened up the loft by removing the old plywood wall and installed an open railing barrier with stainless steel wire attached to a wood structure that allows air and light in.
- **Tool Crib** - The tool crib has been itemized, categorized, and put into working order. New tables and cabinets have been installed. EAA members may check-out expensive tools, including four high quality and accurate scales for weighing an airplane.

SCHOLARSHIPS

- **James Ray Aviation Scholarship** - Our first Ray Scholar successfully completed flight training last spring. The chapter was awarded a second scholarship early in the year and was selected for a third scholarship in October at the end of the award period. Only 37 chapters out of over 800 got two scholarships of \$10,000 in one year
- **Sunny Atkins Scholarship** - We awarded two, \$1500 Sunny Atkins Scholarships

this year. The money for this scholarship comes from chapter activities, like pancake breakfasts and recycling efforts.

- **Brag Board** – We built a “Brag Board” of pictures mounted on foamboard documenting the progress of our scholarship awardees. Another folding board is being constructed for display on a recycled tri-pod and easel.

FUND RAISING

- **Pancake Breakfasts** – Pancake Breakfasts were reinstated in May. This is by far our biggest fund raiser.
- **Raffle** – We raised \$1400 through Julie Clark’s generous donation of the flight with her.
- **Recycling** – We continue to recycle metals and batteries for additional chapter income.
- **Fund Raising Committee** - Fund raising requires a sustained effort by chapter members to continue to find new ways to provide an income stream for the chapter. For this reason, the board is seeking to start a new committee with a chairperson and two additional members to work on the committee. We encourage members to join us in this very important effort to build a legacy for the chapter.

EDUCATION

- **Flight Simulator** – The Chapter flight simulator has been a huge success at Chapter events. This year a larger curved monitor was purchased by the chapter to improve utilization of the limited space.

- **Training Aircraft** – With the closing of various flight schools in the area, training for new pilots has become problematic. Our president purchased a Cessna 150 and created a new company for the sole purpose of supporting flight training. The success and continuance of this operation will largely depend on the scholarship funds available to the chapter.
- **Fly-Outs** – We promoted a joint camping location for our members at AirVenture 2021. 20 people attended.

OUTREACH

- **Young Eagles** – Two YE events were held in June and October.
- **Flying Start** – A Flying Start events was held in May.
- **Display Days** – We have energized Display Days by coordinating them with our Pancake Breakfasts on six weekends from April through October. Hours are from 9 AM to 1 PM on Saturday and Sunday.
- **Website** – Our website, chapters.eaa.org/ea512, has been updated and improved.

SUPPORT

- **Airport Maintenance** - To show good relations for our \$1 per year lease, the Chapter rented a high weed mower to mow the grass on the north side of the airport grounds.
- **Tech Counselor** – We added a new Tech Counselor, Glenn Gordon, to our ranks.

By Rob Bulaga

The History of "CAL-DOOR"

During the California Gold Rush, a settlement called Dogtown was established, and a sawmill was built. In 1900, long after the town had been abandoned, the California Door Company bought a 30,000 acres (50 sq mi) tract of forested land in the El Dorado County Hills. This tract included the former Dogtown townsite, and the company built a town on site to house the workers needed to operate the mill, which they soon replaced with a much larger one. Worried about the connotations of the name "Dogtown" and the effect such a name would have on the reputation of the company, the company directors renamed the town Caldor – California Door Company.

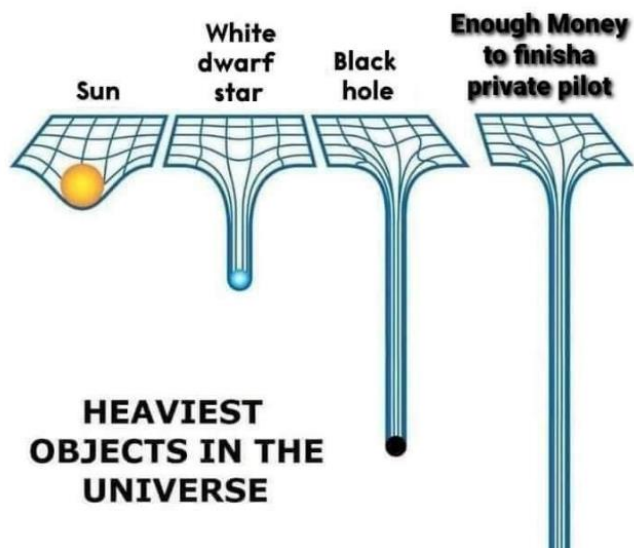
In 1904, the company built a railroad from Caldor to the town of Diamond Springs. From then on, hundreds of men were employed in Caldor, producing 20 million board-feet of lumber a year. In 1906, the town housed 120 men and their families.



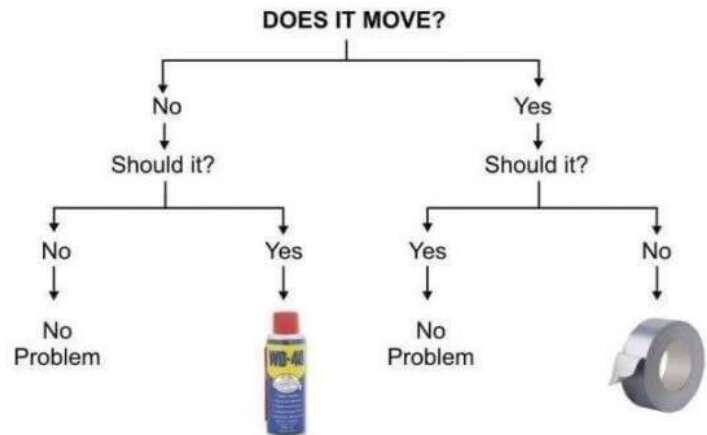
In 1923, the sawmill burnt down. It was not replaced. After the fire, the company transported the logs to a mill in Diamond Springs, about 30 miles away at the other end of the railroad.

Decades later, in 1953, the railroad was no longer being heavily used, the logs instead being transported by truck, and so it was removed. Around this same time, the California Door Company had almost used up its timber resources in the land it owned around Caldor, so the community's life began drawing to a close. In 1955, to supplement the dwindling supply of wood from Caldor, the company began importing mahogany logs from the Philippine Island of Mindanao, 8,000 miles away across the Pacific Ocean to be processed at Diamond Springs.

By Jason Eastlick w/permission (Facebook)



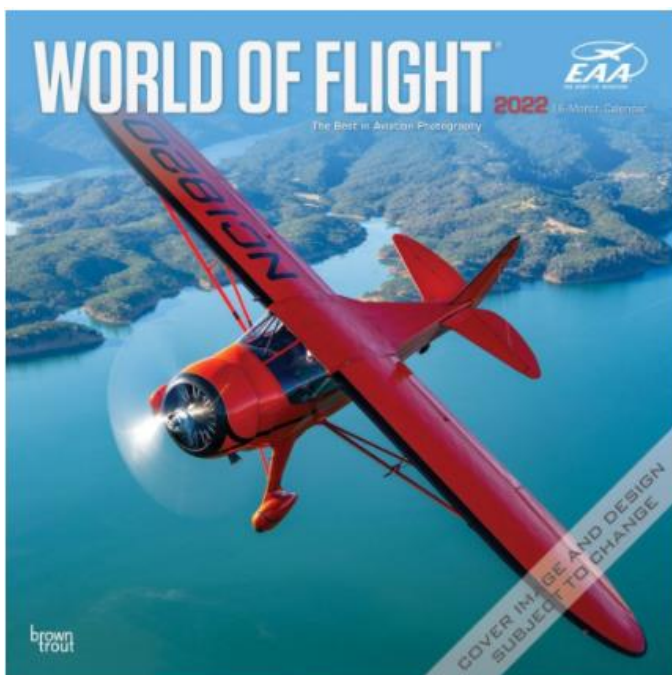
Aircraft Mechanic Troubleshooting Chart



Taken during the Christmas of 1918, months after the creation of the RAF

[First day as car salesman]
 Customer: Cargo space?
 Me: Car no do that. Car no fly.
 Manager: Can I see you in my office?





EAA CALENDARS

The chapter is selling the EAA 2022 World of Flight 16-month calendars for \$19 as a fundraiser for the chapter. Please contact Judi at judieaa512@gmail.com if you would like to purchase a calendar.

Dues for 2022 are due

\$20/family

Please contact Membership Chair,
Zane Ruckman at

zaneaa512@gmail.com

to pay your dues

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Dec 15th

RSVP to Jim or Judi

LIMITED SEATING

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Tri-tip & Hams, bring a side dish, \$5 donation per person



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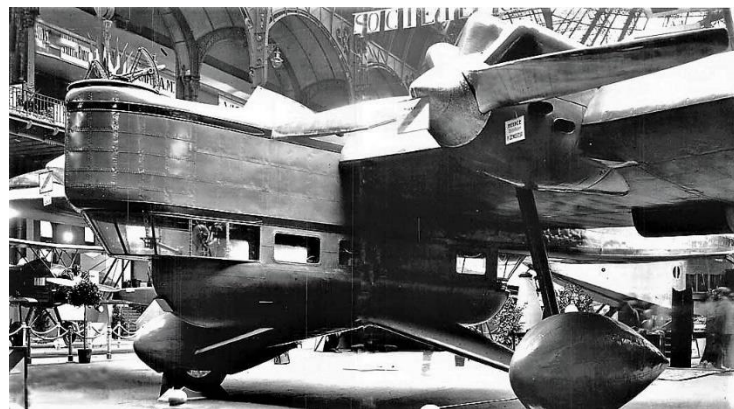
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HOLIDAY CARDS

SUPPORT EAA 512

Original aviation-themed greeting cards available online at www.ordinarypencils.com

20% of the proceeds go to EAA 512, and the artwork is by a chapter member. Support EAA 512 and keep in touch with friends and family this holiday season!

SHOP AVIATION CARDS

www.ordinarypencils.com



MERRY CHRISTMAS!

EAA Chapter 512
Monthly Board of Directors
MINUTES
Dec 7, 2021

Meeting called to order at: 7:07 p.m. by: Jim Wilson
Meeting via Zoom

Board Members Present:

Jim Wilson, *President*
Jim Pinkowski, *Vice President*
Judi Gordon, *Treasurer*

Rob Bulaga, *Secretary*
Dave Lugert, *General Director*

Others Present:

Neil Robinson, *General Director elect*
Zane Ruckman

Tim Sullivan

Business from the Floor

- **Tim Sullivan** - 99ers have offered to paint a compass rose and lettering on the taxiway at Placerville Airport. Tim presented examples of their work. He will follow up with airport management and the 99s.

Approval of Minutes – Correction to November 2021 Minutes: For those who have not received notices of the El Dorado Airport Advisory Committee meetings dates and times and wish to, you should contact Jeremy Gutenberg @ Jeremy.gutenberg@edcgov.us.

Board Member Reports

- **Jim Wilson – President**
 - **Chapter election**
 - 25 people in our board elections. Results were presented at the Nov 17 General Meeting. They are:
 - Jim Wilson – President
 - Jim Pinkowski – Vice President
 - Judi Gordon – Treasurer
 - Rob Bulaga – Secretary
 - Dave Lugert – Director
 - Neil Robinson - Director
 - John Crocker, a current Director, will be stepping down to live abroad. Dave Lugert plans to retire at the end of 2021 and will also step down. Dick Wampach has offered to fill Dave's empty seat.
 - **Chapter Renewal**
 - At the end of each year, all chapters must renew their charters and purchase insurance for the coming year. Judi completed our online renewal on 11/18/21. We paid \$633 in total.
 - **Chapter Annual Survey**
 - EAA National has sent out a survey to determine our "Net Promoter Score". The question is, "How likely is it that you would recommend your chapter to a friend or colleague?" We need at least 20% of our membership (17 out of 84 members) to respond to this survey. A link to the survey will be published in Strobe.
 - **Pancake Breakfast**
 - Next year's Pancake Breakfast schedule will be from April through Oct 2022.
 - Last month we discussed the possibility of holding a hoagie style lunch similar to that held at the Yuba City fly-in. We will have further discussions at future meetings.
 - **Ray Aviation Scholarship Status**
 - Jaeger Ruckman

- Jaeger's first flight was on Sep 12 in C-150. By the end of Nov, he had ~23 total hours.
- Great Planes LLC invoiced the Chapter on Nov 20 for \$870 (for 8.7 hours) for Jaeger's C-150 rental. The board approved this expense from the Scholarship Fund (EAA National deposits Ray Scholarship funds into the Chapter's account).
- Will Mathews (CFI) will invoice the Chapter separately.
- Jim presented Jaeger a new LightSpeed headset for his solo.
- **Aidan Andrews**
 - Aidan was awarded our second Ray Scholarship of the year in Nov. His first flight was on Nov 15.
 - Great Planes LLC invoiced the Chapter for \$590 (for 5.9 hours) for Aidan's C-150 rental. The board approved this expense from the Scholarship Fund.
- **Sunny Atkins Scholarship**
 - **Liana Round**
 - The Scholarship Committee has awarded Liana \$1,500. Her goal is to be able to solo by her 16th birthday this summer.
 - **Nathan West**
 - Nathan continues to fly Jim's C-150 with Will Mathews as his instructor. He currently has ~56 hours, 22.5 in the C-150. His check ride should be scheduled for Dec or Jan.
 - Great Planes LLC invoiced the Chapter for \$488.72 for Nathan's C-150 rental. This amount depletes his \$1500 Atkins award. The additional balance that he owes for his aircraft rental will be billed directly to Great Planes.
- **Hangar Use Request by Lt Col. Andrew Peters CAP**
 - Civil Air Patrol's Placerville Squadron 85 would like to begin meeting semi-regularly at the EAA Chapter 512 Hangar starting in January 2022 on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays each month. They will continue meeting on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays at the Veteran's Memorial Hall.
 - They would like to obtain keycode and vehicle gate access card. They would also like to occasionally use the AV system and store a few items in a storage area.
 - They have kept the EAA Chapter 512 active on their insurance coverage with National HQ since their original agreement in 2006.
 - They plan to continue supporting Young Eagles events and may have the need for an occasional weekend training exercise at PVF as arranged with EAA's and airport schedules.
- **Upcoming Events**
 - **Holiday (Christmas) Party**
 - Party will be held on Dec. 15. Social Hour at 5:00. Dinner at 6:00.
 - Gift exchange will be held. \$15 limit on gifts.
 - **Under-25 Gathering**
 - The Gordon's held an event on Nov 20 for our members under 25 years old. This was intended to promote and strengthen younger membership to our Chapter. 8 people attended.
 -
- **Jim Pinkowski – Vice President**
 - **General Meeting Presentation** - No presentation at December Christmas Dinner. Jim plans continue accessing remote presenters from EAA National's list. However, we would appreciate any other sources that we may provide.
- **Judi Gordon – Treasurer, Membership**
 - Banking account balances as of 11/30/2021:
 - Cash and checks on hand: \$6314.78
 - Chase Checking # 6001: \$12105.15 (\$11351.90 of the total is earmarked for scholarship funds of which \$2168.52 is Ray Scholarship funds earmarked for Jaeger Ruckman, \$686.28 is earmarked for Nathan West, and \$1,500 is earmarked for Liana Round)

- Chase Savings # 8668: \$2,922.44 (Airport security account held in trust. Not property of EAA 512)
- Current total: \$18419.93 plus \$2,922.44 in Airport Security Account.
- After this reporting date, on 12/1, we received \$4,000 from EAA National for Ray Scholarship funds for Aidan Andrews.

Committee Reports

- **Membership** – Zane Ruckman
 - Zane has volunteered to take over membership from Judi - thank you Zane!
 - Judi updated the membership application to better match the National roster management system and MailChimp. The new applications include sections for licenses, ratings, skills, aircraft owned, aircraft projects, aircraft built, and interests in the Chapter such as IMC/VMC, Young Eagles pilot or ground volunteer, pancake breakfast volunteer, administrative volunteer, and board member.
 - The 2021 roster ended up with paid membership of 84 (which is represented by 75 groups, and 132 individuals). This includes 20 new groups, 22 new members, and 31 new people in 2021. As a reminder, each paid group counts as 1. Each additional pilot (spouse, child) per group counts as 1. So, the Gordons count as 3 (Glenn, Judi, Andrew) and a family with no pilots or one pilot counts as 1.
- **Fund Raising** – Judi Gordon
 - Winner of the Julie Clark raffle was Manny Cotton who gifted the flight to Zane Ruckman. Zane flew with Julie on 11/27 and had a great time. He will write an article for the Strobe, and has already put together a video of the flight. A link to the video will be in the Strobe, along with pictures. We raised \$1,400 for the scholarship fund.
 - Judi re-certified our Benevity eligibility on 11/22/2021.
 - Calendar fundraiser: Last year we sold 29 calendars for \$8.95 plus a donation of any amount. This year, due to increases in prices from National, we are selling them for \$19 each. We have sold 22 so far. Judi ordered 40 from National, and they will be here in time for our Holiday Party on 12/15.
- **Scholarship** – Dave Lugert, John Crocker, Jim Wilson, Judi Gordon
 - The Scholarship committee needs to meet regarding how to fund scholarships vis a vis the proposal we presented to the board which was adopted, which is good for 2021 only. The proposal stated that the Sunny Atkins Scholarship Fund will be maintained by allocating 50% of all Fundraising Income and donation income and 100% of all Recycling funds, gear sales, Helen's card sales, and funds specified "scholarship fund" retroactive to 1/1/21 through 12/31/2021.
 - The Scholarship committee has worked on the wording for the Sunny Atkins Scholarship Guidelines. These recommended changes were presented to the board. The Board needs to review these modified guidelines within 30 days and approve/disapprove. A special meeting of the Board, for this purpose, has been set for Dec 28th.
- **Facility Improvements** – Jim Wilson reporting for Tim Sullivan
 - **Loft Improvement Project** - The loft improvements, including railing wires and paint, are nearly complete.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m. by: Jim Wilson