



THE STROBE

EAA 512 Placerville

November 21

Prez Sez...

VETERANS DAY - Fellow chapter members Judi Gordon, John Crocker, Dave Lugert and Jim Wilson attended the Veteran's Day Memorial Service at the El Dorado County memorial site to honor our veterans and especially our dear friend and founder of Chapter 512, Robert O'Hara. The chapter



honored Bob who passed away on February

GENERAL MEETING

At the EAA 512 Hangar

Wednesday 17th at 6pm

Happy Hour, Picnic, and Meeting

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Prez Sez *p. 1-4*
- ◆ Solo *p. 3*
- ◆ EAA Christmas Party *p. 4*
- ◆ Memes and Things *p. 5-6*
- ◆ Greeting Cards *p. 6*
- ◆ GM Minutes *p. 7*
- ◆ BOD Minutes *p. 8-10*

14, 2020, with a memorial plaque and stones.



Bob visited this beautiful site every Memorial Day to watch the warbirds with big radial engines do the traditional fly-by and missing man formation. We held a memorial service for Bob at the EAA hangar on October 10, 2020.

CHAPTER ELECTION - This week, Wednesday evening starting at 7 PM, is our last meeting at the hangar before the Christmas Dinner on December 15. And according to our bylaws, it is also that time of the year when we elect officers and directors who serve a one-year term starting January 1, 2022. We published a "slate of candidates" and sent the ballot out in a MailChimp email on November 2. If you have not yet voted, you have until November 16 to cast a vote. You might think "it's no big deal". If nothing else, it is a small way to show your support of Chapter 512 and the officers who do their best to run it. Please come to the meeting to show your support.

CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIPS - We are making a big difference in young people's lives through our chapter scholarship program and the Ray Aviation Scholarship program. Last year, we applied for and won a scholarship for one of our chapter members, Andrew Gordon, who earned his Sport Pilot Certificate before he joined the Air Force in July 2021. With new knowledge and discipline, he just completed his training in the Air Force as an air traffic

controller! That is a great accomplishment that our chapter and his parents are very proud of.



With the success of our first Ray scholar under our belt, we applied for a second Ray Aviation Scholarship this year and were selected for a \$10,000 scholarship. We had three applicants but only one scholarship. The decision was not easy, but we awarded Jaeger Ruckman the Ray scholarship. Two additional \$1,500 Sonny Atkins scholarships were awarded to Nathan West and Aidan Andrews.

Then, unexpectedly and to our astonishment, the EAA Ray Aviation Scholarship program reached out to chapters who already had Ray scholars and asked if they could administer another scholar for the year. The chapter responded **yes, yes, yes!** and Aidan was selected, applied for, and was awarded the Ray scholarship for year 2021-2022. The chapter received a congratulatory letter that Aidan's scholarship was approved for funding on November 9. Aidan will start flight training this month with the goal of solo within 90 days, FAA written exam in six months, and his check-ride completed in less than one year.

The challenge for all student pilots in California is the high cost of flight training. Even if you have a scholarship, you want to stretch those dollars to get the maximum amount of flight training for every dollar. So where and how will these young aviators learn to fly? The answer is right here at the Placerville airport, just like I did eight years ago in my Cessna 150.

LOCAL FLIGHT TRAINING - When the chapter awarded money for flight training in 2020, there were no CFIs with aircraft on the field since the FBO closed shop several years earlier. We had to send the student pilots to Cameron Park. The biggest barrier to local flight instruction is the high cost of commercial aircraft insurance. At three times the cost of a normal business and pleasure policy, insurance accounts for one third the hourly rate. But now we have a Cessna 150 parked on the ramp for the use of chapter students!

Will Mathews is the CFI giving basic instruction to Jaeger and Nathan so they can obtain their private pilot certificates. This is not a chapter airplane nor is it a club airplane. With the acquisition of the plane in August, I started a business called Great Planes LLC for instruction and rent to young chapter members to advance their flight training. The plane has

limited use, if not exclusively dedicated to youth flight training at Placerville.

On November 10, Jaeger Ruckman soloed the 150 after less than 16 hours of instruction. **Congratulations!**

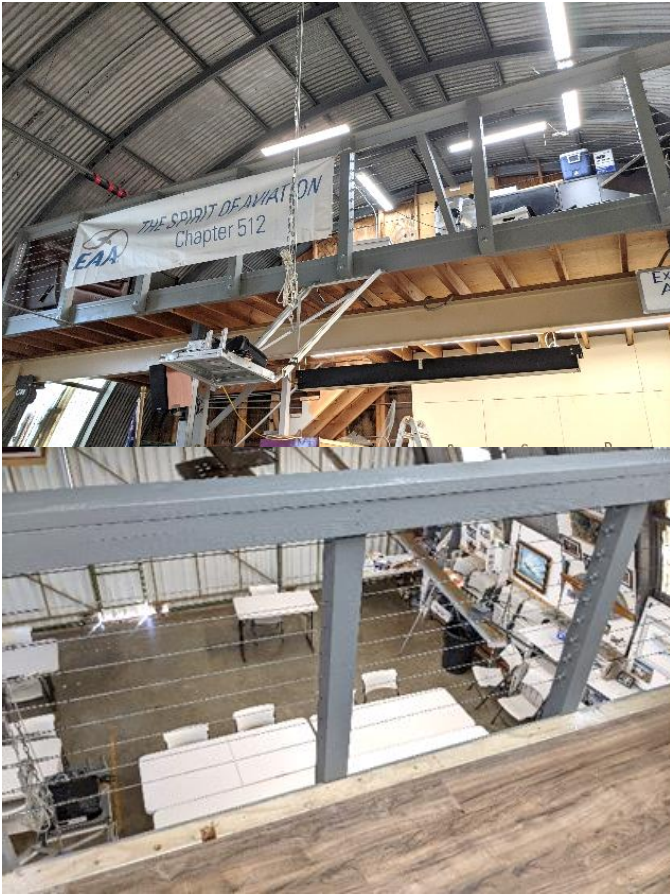
Solo



What is the future for Great Planes? My hope is to continue to graduate new pilots and offer a primary trainer to chapter members. The plane arrived at the field in early August and was used as a static display at the October Young Eagle rally.

CHAPTER IMPROVEMENTS - The new stairway to the loft is nearly completed. Dale and Jim will put a final coat of paint and place yellow caution tape on each step to improve visibility to finish the job. Additionally, Tim tore down the old loft rail and with the assistance of Dale and Jim, new posts were fastened to the floor and a cap rail placed between posts. Tim followed with a high wire act by stretching 1/8-inch stainless steel wire spaced 3.5 inches the full nine yards! Yes, just over 27 feet from end to end.





General Meeting

At the EAA 512 Hangar
 Wednesday 17th at 6pm.
Happy hour, Picnic, and Meeting
 (Indoors of course)

EAA **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



CHRISTMAS PARTY DECEMBER 15

The party will be at the EAA hangar starting with 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 and ham 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. 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.

CHAPTER PRESENTATION

Judi Gordon's friend, Bob Starr, will present "ICING - A Case Study" at the general meeting.

Jim Wilson

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HOLIDAY CARDS

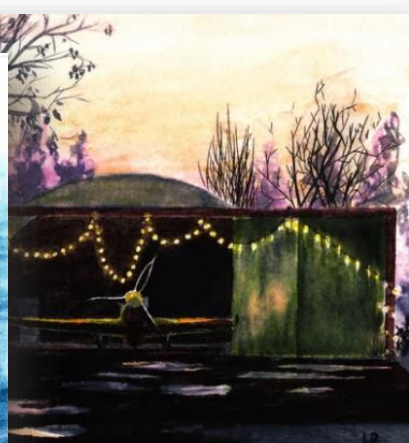
SUPPORT EAA 512

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

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**EAA Chapter 512
Monthly General Gathering
Oct 20, 2021
Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 7:01 PM by: Jim Wilson

Number Present: 29

Guests and first time members:

Name:	Interest in Attending:	Contact Information (if tendered):
Mike Williams	Learning to fly	

PICNIC

- Social hour at 6:00
- Food served at 6:15

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Calendars
 - EAA Calendars for next year are once again available. Sale of calendars is a small fund raising activity for the Chapter. 8-10 members at the meeting signified that they were interested in purchasing calendars. The Chapter will order 20, in anticipation of further interest.
- Election of Officers
 - A slate of candidates for our Chapter officers is being put together. All of the incumbent officers, except John Crocker) are willing to serve again next year. (John will be out of the country most of the time). Neil Robinson has volunteered to run for John's Director's spot. Jim Wilson called for additional volunteers, particularly from our newer, younger members.
 - Once the slate is completed, Jim will send out ballots via MailChimp. Election day (distribution of ballots) will be November 2nd. Votes must be in prior to the 17th. Results will be announced at the November General Meeting on the 17th.
- Christmas Party
 - Our annual Christmas Party is scheduled for December 15. It will be held in our hangar. The Chapter will supply meats and decorations. Members will bring sides and deserts.
 - Social Hour will start at 5PM. Dinner will be served at 6PM
 - We will be doing a gift exchange again this year. Please observe a \$15 limit for gifts.
- Scholarships
 - Nathan West (Atkins scholarship), Jaeger Ruckman (Ray Scholarship), and Aidan Andrews (Ray Scholarship) all reported on their respective progresses.
- Julie Clark Raffle
 - As of the General Meeting twenty-five \$50 raffle tickets had been sold, raising \$1250 for the Chapter. (By the final drawing on the 21st, \$1400 had been raised.)

PROGRAM

- Chris Silva presented "Bay Area Tour in a Gyroplane".

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 PM by: Jim Wilson

EAA Chapter 512
Monthly Board of Directors
MINUTES
Nov 10, 2021

Meeting called to order at: 7:02 p.m. by: Jim Wilson

Board Members Present:

Jim Wilson, *President*
Jim Pinkowski, *Vice President*
Judi Gordon, *Treasurer*
Rob Bulaga, *Secretary*

John Crocker, *General Director*
Dave Lugert, *General Director*
Al Herron, *Past President*

Others Present:

John McPherson

Dick Wampach

Approval of Minutes - Approved

Board Member Reports

○ **Jim Wilson – President**

■ **Chapter election**

- 25 people have voted to date. Close of election is Nov 16. Results will be presented at the Nov 17 General Meeting.
- Currently the Chapter By-Laws require the Nominating Committee to present a list of candidates at the October General Meeting and the election of new officers to occur at that same meeting. It was proposed that we consider revising the By-Laws to spread the nominating and election process out over a broader timeframe.

■ **Chapter Renewal**

- At the end of each year, all chapters must renew their charters and purchase insurance for the coming year. Part of that renewal is deciding whether or not to donate to the Peter Burgher Chapter Development Fund, and if so, how much? In 2020 we donated \$50. The Fund provides dollar for dollar matching funds for the sole purpose of supporting EAA Chapter development by providing tools to enhance training and chapter growth. Our Board voted to donate \$50 again this year.

■ **Chapter Annual Survey**

- EAA National has sent out (or will be sending 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 (15 out of 73 members) to respond to this survey. We will bring this topic up at the Nov 17 General Meeting.

■ **Pancake Breakfast**

- Next year’s Pancake Breakfast schedule will be from April through Oct 2022.
- We discussed the possibility of holding a hoagie style lunch similar to that held at the Yuba City fly-in. This could be in conjunction with a Pancake Breakfast (pancakes 8-11, hoagies after 11) or on a separate date, like a Federal holiday. We will have further discussions at future meetings.

■ **Processing Payments**

- Currently, the Chapter By-Laws require two signatures, the President’s and the Treasurer’s, on checks for over \$500. Jim Wilson’s aircraft is being used for scholarship flight training. Scholarship funds are in the Chapter’s accounts. Jim’s company, Great Planes LLC, invoiced the Chapter for \$1,156.48 to cover Jaeger Ruckman’s flight training. In order to avoid conflict-of-interests, or any semblance of impropriety, we discussed altering the By-Laws to allow the Vice President to also be a counter-signer.
- As an interim solution, the Board voted to transfer funds to Jim to cover his invoices.

- **Ray Aviation Scholarship Status**
 - **Jaeger Ruckman - 2021 RAY SCHOLAR**
 - Jaeger's first flight was on Sep 12 in C-150. By the end of Oct, he had 13.5 total hours.
 - Jaeger did his first solo flight this morning on Nov 10. Jim and Will Matthews presented Jaeger his Ray Scholarship ball cap and solo tee shirt.
 - **Aidan Andrews – 2021 RAY SCHOLAR**
 - Aidan received his congratulatory letter with training agreement on 11/9.
 - We will schedule a meeting with the scholarship coordinator, his CFI, Aidan, and a parent to sign the training agreement letter.
- **Sonny Atkins Scholarship**
 - **Liana Round**
 - Using our new, online scholarship form, Liana applied for our Sonny Atkins Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee awarded Liana \$1,500.
 - We need to send a confirmation letter. **ACTION REQUIRED**
 - **Nathan West**
 - Nathan continues to fly Jim's C-150 with Will Mathews as his instructor.
 - Great Planes LLC invoiced chapter scholarship fund on Nov. 9 for \$488.72.
- **Scholarship Dinner**
 - A dinner for our scholars, their families, Will Matthews, and the Scholarship Committee was held at the Gordon's hangar. 23 people attended.
- **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 discussed at the Nov 17 General Meeting.
 - Sign-up lists for setup and teardown will be circulated at the Nov 17 General Meeting.
 - In order to gauge attendance, we will send out MailChimp invitations, with RSVP by Dec. 1.
 - **Under-25 Gathering**
 - The Gordon's will hold an event on Nov 20 for our members under 25 years old. This is intended to promote and strengthen younger membership to our Chapter.
- **General Meeting Presentation**
 - Judi Gordon's friend, Bob Starr, will present "ICING – A Case Study"
- **Judi Gordon – Treasurer, Membership**
 - Banking account balances as of 10/31/2021:
 - Cash and checks on hand: \$5,963.28
 - Chase Checking # 6001: \$15,617.38 (\$13,997.10 of the total is earmarked for scholarship funds of which \$4,000 is Ray Scholarship funds earmarked for Jaeger Ruckman, \$1,500 is earmarked for Nathan West, and \$1,500 is earmarked for Liana Round)
 - Chase Savings # 8668: \$2,922.41 (Airport security account held in trust. Not property of EAA 512)
 - Current total: \$21,580.66 plus \$2,922.41 in Airport Security Account.
 - Judi would like somebody to take over the role of membership in 2022. The Board will canvas volunteers for this task.
- **Dave Lugert – General Director**
 - The El Dorado Airport Advisory Board meeting will be held on Nov 17 at 6 PM. Meeting notices have gone out, but not everyone that should have has received one. Anyone that has not received a notice but would like to attend should contact Dave.

Committee Reports

- **Facility Improvements**
 - **Loft Improvement Project** - The new railing wires are in place.

Old Business

- **FTB 199N** - Past due Statement of Information, for Tax Year 2018, has been completed.

New Business

- **Great Planes LLC Rental Rate**
 - Jim presented spreadsheets detailing the breakdown of the rental rate for his C-150 and comparing that rate to Foothill's.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m. by: Jim Wilson