

EAA, Chapter 565
General Membership Meeting
September 6, 2023

Call to Order: 7:03 pm Adjourn: 8:02 pm Attendance: ~26

The meeting was called to order by President Larry McClure immediately followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Larry asked if there were any visitors present and two individuals spoke up. Will is a new pilot and currently plans to build an RV-10. Jim Duran introduced himself as the Young Eagles coordinator from EAA Chapter 66 in Ft. Myers.

Larry McClure noted that the hurricane repairs to the building are complete. The airport's insurance covered most of the repairs and insurance paid over \$25K for the existing repairs. Larry summarized the repairs that were completed.

In Dick Solar's absence Larry provided the Safety Talk discussing recent NTSB findings on a couple light aircraft fatalities.

Jim Kaletta introduced Amanda Fox who is currently running the A&P school on the airport. Amanda gave a brief presentation on the school and their plans for the future. The A&P school is part of Charlotte County's Charlotte Technical College and offers day and evening classes for both airframe and powerplant certifications. Numerous individuals have completed the program and they also have numerous organizations they are partnering with for internships and potential jobs for graduates. The hangar they are currently using on the airport is in disrepair and they are planning on constructing a new facility over by the new FBO. The new facility is estimated at \$8M and they already have grants for \$3M.

Stan Smith provided an update on the Florida International Airshow scheduled for November 4&5. The USAF Thunderbirds will be the headline performers with numerous other military and general aviation aircraft already committed to perform. Potential visits by two F-18's, a C-130, and an F-22 are in negotiations. Additional performers and static displays are in the works. The airshow will be looking for volunteers and also would like the support of our EAA chapter as we have provided for past airshows. The details of the support from our chapter still need to be worked out. A volunteer sign-up sheet for individuals from our chapter was circulated. They are in particular need of individuals with badge access to the airport gates such as individuals with Tenant Badges.

Larry McClure reminded everyone that the pancake breakfasts will resume this month on Sept 9 from 8:30 till 10:30 at a cost of \$8 per person. Membership dinners will also resume this month on Sept 16 with a social hour at 5:00 and dinner at 6:00. The main course for this month is beef tenderloin at a cost of \$15 per person.

Larry McClure noted that elections for next year's officers and board members will be coming in the next couple months. We will need to replace the secretary and treasurer positions and will potentially be looking for one or more board members at large.

Ray Romeo, who is an active member of both EAA Chapter 565 and EAA Chapter 66 in Ft. Myers, noted that Chapter 66 is looking for pilots to fly Young Eagles flights. Their chapter flies Young Eagles the first Sunday of every month. They currently fly about 13 or 14 Young Eagles a month but they are limited by pilots. They could probably fly twice as many flights if they had the pilots and aircraft. If you would like to volunteer you can visit their web site for a list of individuals to contact including both Ray Romeo and Jim Duran.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 by President Larry McClure who reminded everyone to "Enjoy every day."