



## Minutes / Meeting of EAA Chapter 595 Rio Grande Valley

### January Announcements

#### January Birthdays

**Sharon Lung**  
January 12<sup>th</sup>

#### January "Meet & Eat"

January 18<sup>th</sup> @ 1:30pm  
Arturo's in Weslaco

#### January Events

**CAF Play** ([see flyer](#))  
"Billy Bishop Goes to War"  
Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

**Coffee & Donuts**  
January 17<sup>th</sup>  
9:00am  
Sun Valley Aviation  
Harlingen

### Upcoming Announcement

#### February Anniversaries

**Robert & Carol Heiser**  
February 4<sup>th</sup>

#### February Birthdays

**Betty Engle**  
February 6<sup>th</sup>

**John "Doc" Dockendorff**  
February 13<sup>th</sup>

The meeting was called to order by president Don Schwanke @ 2:10 p.m. 15 members were present, (finally) giving quorum so business could be discussed. Since the secretary/treasurer was out of town, president Don gave the treasurer's report and Bob Carter did the duties of the secretary by taking notes (thanks, Bob!). At this time, Don reminded the membership that since the minutes are posted on the chapter website, the monthly minutes do not have to be read & approved by the attending membership.

Bob Carter announced that a survey was going to be sent out to all members for their input for improving the chapter and its content, location, dates & times of meetings. This was approved by the membership and went out Monday, Jan. 5. Please take the time to fill out this questionnaire, as the direction of the chapter depends on the input of the general membership. Your input will be noted and if possible, inserted into the chapter itinerary. We are still a democratic society and will sway to the majority of the membership's wishes. That being said, Ted Miller, Jr. moved that the next chapter meeting be held at the Edinburg International Airport in the FBO February 1 at 2:00 p.m., which was approved by the membership. After the business meeting, the program will be held at Ted's hanger to view his RV-9 and his 'glass panel upgrade (still in progress, I think).

President Don reminded the membership (those that are confused) that there are several webinars from EAA headquarters to be viewed about everything aeronautical and we should take advantage of those.

Don handed out awards to 2 people who were not at the Christmas banquet. They were: Merle Jenkins, technical counselor and Robert Carter, web editor (and NLE). Thanks to both of you for your continued efforts to the betterment of the chapter and its membership.

Jerry Gifford announced that he had been working with the Navy on a possible program for the future, probably on a weekday. He also spoke with Nick Lung and Nick has sold his property in the Valley and will probably never return to the Rio Grande Valley.

Good luck Nick and God speed.

J.R. "Doc" Dockendorff announced that Bill Sandlin had passed away January 2 at 7:30 p.m. He spoke of motorcycle trips they had been taken together in the past and what fun it was to be with him. On a personal note, I (your secretary) rented hanger space from him for about 10 years at Rebel Field (where the CAF began), and he was a gentleman in all respects. I will miss him greatly. The funeral will be held at the Church of Christ in La Feria, Saturday, January 10 at 2:00 p.m. The visitation will be at Buck Ashcraft Funeral Home Friday, January 9, from 5-8 p.m.

On January 17, Sun Valley Aviation in Harlingen will be sponsoring a "Coffee & Donuts" get-together at the hanger and Paul Chapman will orate part 2 of his plan to get more people interested in aviation by flying them as either Young Eagles (for kids from 8 to 18 yrs. of age), or as an Eagle Flight (for adults beyond 18 yrs, if age). It begins at 9:00 a.m. and goes until 11:00 a.m. This is a good try at expanding the pilot population, so we should all try to help in some way. "Be there, or be square", as they say.



President Don gave an oration on his project, including the new wing tanks (and the problems ensued, such as the siphoning of the fuel through the tank vents and the new (3<sup>rd</sup> try's a charm) spinner on the front of his engine (see photos).



Bob & Carol Heiser from San Angelo attended this meeting and talked about the pneumatic cleco tool for their Zenith CH750 Cruiser project, which should save Carol (& Bob) from a bad case of carpal tunnel syndrome while working with clecos. They also spoke about the engineering review being done in Great Britain because of a weakness in the wings, so Bob & Carol will have to disassemble some of the wings and install an upgrade (better safe than sorry) kit to strengthen the wings, which will also increase the V<sub>NE</sub>. Sounds like it's worth the effort, to me!

Gerry Close announced that the CAF in Brownsville will present a play entitled “Billy Bishop Goes to War” with 2 showings on January 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>. Check the CAF [website](#) for more information.

The chapter voted for the next meet-‘n-eat to be at Arturo’s in Weslaco (see map on the chapter website). Doc Dockendorff then moved that the meeting be adjourned at 3:08 p.m. Motion carried.

Thank you Geneda for your wonderful refreshment / hors d’oeuvres. They are a necessary part of life (not to mention hungry EAA’ers).

While I wasn’t at this meeting, I would like to announce that there will be another Corvair College in San Marcos February 27<sup>th</sup> through March 1<sup>st</sup>. If anyone is interested in going (either as a participant or as a guest), please contact me @ 425-5214 or [bengle@rgv.rr.com](mailto:bengle@rgv.rr.com) for details. I will be going to try to run my Corvair engine conversion this time. It will either explode in situ or run well; either one will provide entertainment for the onlookers.

Don Schwanke has a few items for sale: A Harbor Freight air compressor that has been repaired to like new condition for \$60.00, a couple of Smart Phones (he and Geneda have upgraded) for sale. See Don for details.

Respectfully submitted with thanks to Robert Carter,

Byron Engle, secretary/treasurer  
Chapter 595 Rio Grande Valley