



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



***March Announcements***

**Birthdays**

- Gerald Close** March - 1
- Byron Engle** March - 1

**Anniversaries**

- Byron & Betty Engle** March - 9
- John & Nancy Dockendorff** March - 29

***April Announcements***

**Birthdays**

- Jan Carter** April - 14

**Anniversaries**

***Events***

- March 18, 2017 8:30am
- Sun Valley Aviation  
Coffee & Donuts**
- guest speaker:  
**Gary Stamper**

The Chapter 595 March meeting was called to order by president Don Schwanke at 11:00 am, with 15 members and 1 guest attending. The members are as follows:

- |                  |                  |                     |
|------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Don Schwanke     | Byron Engle      | Robert Carter       |
| Jerry Gifford    | John Dockendorff | Ted Miller          |
| L.V. Howell      | Monte Vasquez    | Cindy Vasquez       |
| Geneda Schwanke  | Larry Wheelock   | Merle Jenkins       |
| Shirlene Jenkins | Debora Melvin    | Elizabeth Robertson |
- The one guest was:  
Brian A. Cheatham

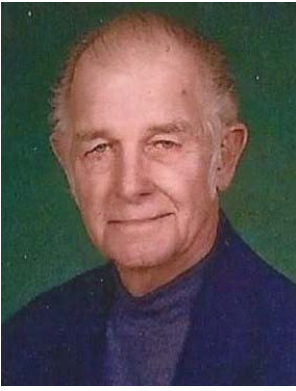
Don introduced Brian who gave a very interesting talk about his intentions. Brian used to fly, but as is with so many of us, life keeps getting in the way. He's the manager of the Red Lobster Restaurant in McAllen and is working on recurrent training and his commercial license. 'Way to go, Brian! We're behind you 100%! If you ever need any help, just call on any of the chapter members & we'll be there!



Since quorum was made, the chapter could attend to official business, including the treasurer's report given by Byron Engle. The acceptance of the report was moved by Jerry Gifford & seconded by Merle Jenkins. There were EAA coffee mugs from past president & charter member Beverly Klebert being sold for whatever

donation was given and some more of the aviation-oriented cloth carry bags donated by Evelyn Urban for sale via donations from the membership. They all went like hotcakes!

At this time, president Don called for any old business to be brought forward and Byron asked that the chapter instill Evelyn Urban with a lifetime honorary member to Chapter 595, as she has done so much to help the chapter. The motion was made by Ted Miller, Jr. and seconded by unanimous vote from the entire membership. She will also receive the monthly chapter e-mail.



It was with great sadness that the chapter has lost 2 previous Members:  
Max Cover and the previous secretary/newsletter editor Teresa Markle. They will be greatly missed and condolences go out to the respective families.

Another EAA'er has gone West: E.L. "Gene" Turner, the designer of the Turner T-40 & T-77 series aircraft and the T-100D Mariah ultra light passed from this earth March 2 of this year. These folks will be sorely missed. Keep their families in your thoughts, as their memories should live on.



Jerry Gifford gave a report on the powers that be of the Weslaco airport that they still plan to have a grand opening at T65 sometime in the future, but the date & time is still up in the air (pun intended). Chapter 595 will be represented at the opening whenever it is and hopefully many aircraft will be flying in. Details are still sketchy at this time, but as things progress, we will include them on the chapter webpage.



Elizabeth Michelle Robertson announced that she has received a \$2000.00 scholarship from the International Council of Airshows to be applied to her CFI training endeavors and that she has already passed the written exam for her commercial pilot's license. It was only about 1 year ago, that she received her private pilot's license and she's almost ready for her commercial & CFI ratings. 'Way to go, Elizabeth! You make us all proud! She has also applied for a scholarship to the 99's for more of her flight training. She's already a ground instructor for airplane/helicopter, sport pilot, recreational pilot, private pilot, instrument pilot and commercial pilot. She's an amazing person to have accomplished this much in only 1 year's time! She even works 2 jobs! Talk about good time management skills!

Don then gave a report on his trip up to the North Texas area (just outside of Justin, TX) to gain some instruction in the RV-12 from an airline pilot who give transition training and biennial flight reviews and he found out that after about a 24 year hiatus from flying, it takes a little time to refresh the ol' memory back to where it was "back in the day"! He will be going again later to continue his refresher training before he flies his RV-12, aka "Air Force One". One thing he had trouble with was that when reading information from a glass cockpit, one must not use Photo Ray lenses on his glasses because they and the screens on the Dynon D180s are polarized, which, if most people know from trying to fill the gas tanks on vehicles with polarized glasses, blanks out the screen. When he raised his glasses up, the screen became visible! (Maybe a good reason to keep some of the old school "steam gauges" in the panel?) Smart move on Don's part; the last thing one needs to do is try to be a test pilot without any refresher training at all. We appreciate your report, Don and keep us posted on your progress, OK?

Robert Carter mentioned that Sun Valley Aviation is having another "Coffee & Donuts" (aka an FAA safety seminar which also counts toward "Wings" credit) March 18 at 8:30 a.m.(a little earlier than in the past). The speaker will be the FSDO office's Gary Stamper, who ALWAYS gives a GREAT presentation! These are ALWAYS interesting and well worth the trouble & effort to go to!

Ted Miller gave a progress report on his RV-9 and is installing an interior in it. He's using the pieces from Classic Aero in Oregon and says that everything is first class all the way. He said that he's doing the baggage compartment because the kit for that was somewhat expensive, but he's very happy with the results of everything else.

At this time, a vote was taken on the location for our monthly luncheon and the chapter voted for the Texas Road House in Edinburg. The next chapter meeting will be at Gulf Aviation, April 8, which also coincides with the Sun N' Fun fly-in in Lakeland, FL. A motion to adjourn by Jerry Gifford, seconded by Merle Jenkins at 11:55 a.m. was made and the chapter moved on to bigger & better things at the Texas Road House. A big thanks to our guest Brian Cheatham, for calling ahead to reserve a corner just for the chapter. Thanks, Brian (hopefully to become a new member).

Submitted by Byron Engle, secretary/treasurer of EAA Chapter 595 Rio Grande Valley

In memoriam; Teresa Markle  
December 25, 1956-February 15, 2017

In memoriam; Max Cover  
April 17, February 13, 2017