



Experimental Aircraft Association
Chapter 631 - The Blue Hills Flyers
Rice Lake, WI



Minutes of the Meeting of November 1st, 2022 (at the Chuck Lewis Terminal Bldg. at Shell Lake Airport):

The meeting was called to order by Chapter Vice President Gerry Winch (Pres. Jeff Potocnik unable to attend) at 6:00 PM. Gerry led the members with the pledge of allegiance. Big thanks to Lake Point Aero Club for providing food for the social hour!

Meeting Minutes of 8/2/22 (at Cumberland Airport):

Thanks to John Ostrem who took minutes as Secretary Brad Volker unable to attend. Ed Knutson moved to approve the minutes by John Ostrem. Dave Nielsen Second. Motion passed.

Treasurer Gary Crisler's Report through October 2022:

Given the gloriousness of today Treasurer Crisler opted to go flying, arrived at the meeting a bit late, and did not have a printed/formal treasurer's report. We did really finally latch onto a smart Treasurer! Gary noted that there was only very minor inputs/outlays from the accounts since the end of September. Deposited was a Ray Foundation installment towards Byron Ripplinger's Ray scholarship. A payment to CFII Dave Nielsen was made for same. A roughly \$130 payment was made to EAA Chapter 1095 for a recent order of 14 nametags (the nametags shipped today and will be received soon). Bob Gillette moved to approve the Treasurer's report as reported. Jan Kittinger 2nd. Approved.

Brief Update by Ray Foundation Scholar Byron Ripplinger:

- Recently passed the written with a score of 82 (way to go Byron)
- Some more solo flying, including yesterday and today
- Working on getting ready for X-country
- Also on Ray Scholarships: The application period of chapters to apply for 2023 Ray scholarships opened today, with a deadline of January 31st. Short discussion on applying for 50/50 vs. 100%. Volker will check into and apply for both if possible. If both not possible, there seemed to be consensus to apply for a 100% as we now have Byron doing a 50/50. It was noted, though, that we could be guaranteed a 50/50 if we apply for it and Byron doing well (he is). Brad will look into a bit more and get signed up for the annual webinar by Chris Gauger at HQ.

Young Eagles Items (various):

- Simon Rodriguez gave a report on his attendance of EAA camp this summer:
 - Flew in a helicopter!
 - Toured the museum
 - Learned a lot
 - Built wing ribs
 - Built foam models
 - Thank you for helping me attend camp!
- Young Eagle Hunter Johnson also took his written exam recently- scored an 85 (way to go Hunter!)
- Big thanks to Dave Nielsen who has been helping Byron and Hunter with ground school!

Tech/Safety:

- Matt Rybarczyk and President Jeff have submitted paperwork to HQ for Matt to be our chapter's formal Tech/Safety advisor. It's in the works; should be approved soon. Thanks Matt! Matt, apologies if I have your name misspelled a bit here!
- Dave Misner noted a recent trip he took where he did some light sport lesson time in a Ukrainian center stick aircraft. He also spent some time with a gentleman who showed him the Stuart water-based painting system that he plans to use on his Sonex project (actually painted the project's wheel pants during the instruction). Dave is interested in borrowing or buying a large compressor for that task.
- Quite related to above – Matt Rybarczyk is planning to repaint the wings of his Cessna 120 soon using the Stuart System of water-based paint. Anyone that has seen Matt's Pitts knows that Matt is very experienced with this paint! Any are welcome to watch if wanting to learn. Matt is using heated space in a hangar at Barron to do this.
- Cherokee hit a deer on landing at SSQ. Pretty bad damage to a wing. Noone hurt.
- Bob Gillette advised to be alert for icing and noted a recent accident where the tail feathers of an airplane iced up and the aircraft crashed into a parking lot (sorry, I missed the details)

Old Business:

- Past business anyway – Gerry Winch recently attended an in-person Leadership Training session at HQ in Oshkosh. 3 days; stayed on the EAA grounds. The training was very good. Was valuable to hear firsthand from other chapters how they do some things. Gerry noted that 631 is well known by HQ which is good (reasons: strong YE program, Jack L./Gerry/Bob/Others who have spent time volunteering or participating in programs at AirVenture, etc.). Gerry was asked how 631 does so well with YE, sending kids to camp, scholarships – answer: many, many dedicated members!
- Mark Thomas Schoonover Memorial Scholarship (update)
 - The scholarship committee recently worked on a summary document and application form. Shared this with the membership (including member Traci Schoonover) for review.

- Traci suggested a minor tweak; John Ostrem suggested a few minor tweaks (thanks Traci and John)
- Package look ok to unveil to membership? Yes.
- Potocnik and Volker had at one time discussed with Traci that possibly the 631 Warren Lewis fund could match the Schoonover funds, but more recently concern was expressed that if doing a Ray match every other year (hopefully), along with sending kids to camp, we would deplete the 631 Warren Lewis Scholarship fund very quickly. Scholarship committee agreed with this concern and thus noted to Traci that we'd have a hard time matching.
- Scholarship Coordinator Volker will address the minor edits soon and get the info/application out to the membership with an application submittal deadline of January 31st, 2023, which will give any applicants time to secure medical and student pilot cert if they do not have that already.
- Thank you, Traci and family, – 631 feels very lucky to be able to assist the Mark Schoonover family in finding deserving/needing applicants.

New Business:

- Scholarship/Etc. fundraising
 - Jan K. noted that her and Judy G. are formally retired from the fundraising that they have spearheaded for many years to create and grow 631's scholarship fund that was started in honor of the late Warren Lewis who was one of the chapter's early Young Eagle pilots. This was many years of excellent picnics/campouts, but other efforts as well such as the recent "garage" sale at Shell Lake Airport. Huge thanks to Judy and Jan (and Bob? Yes, Bob) for all your hard work, caring, example, and extreme hospitality for many years!
 - Others are going to have to step up. Ideas include:
 - 50/50 raffle – Gerry Winch discussed this some including the great success that a community in Michigan's UP has doing this to raise money for fireworks.
 - Amazon Smiles Program – Jack Langland had noted this program to chapter officers. Ben and Ashley LaBarre will look into implementing this for 631. When purchases made on Amazon, a small percent of the purchase price can be steered to charity of choice. Ben noted that if he steers the construction materials he buys for his carpentry business just that may make it worth it. Thanks Ben and Ashley for looking into this!
 - Draft a solicitation letter to area businesses. It was noted that businesses get flooded with such, but aviation scholarships are a very good cause (maybe we are a bit biased?) and we might as well be one of the entities doing the flooding. With the pilot/mechanic/controller shortage we can make a strong case for donating to our scholarship program. John Ostrem and Brad Volker offered to draft a letter and distribution list.
 - It was noted by VP Winch that we could really use someone to chair fundraising efforts. Rose Johnson asked what that might entail and noted that she would willing to make an effort but would need help. Dave Misner noted "That sounds motion-worthy" and moved to appoint Rose as our fundraising chair. Hunter Johnson 2nd (will Hunter be walking home after the meeting?). Approved unanimously!

- The chapter could use an enclosed trailer to store and transport all of its Young Eagle/other stuff to our many home airports for YE events, pancake breakfasts, etc. (was that Jack L's idea in an attempt to make life easier for Bruce and Maxine who have been very generous with time and vehicle space to load/unload/store so much stuff for many events?). Thanks Bruce and Maxine; you have outdone yourself and a trailer should have been thought of sooner. We want a trailer that is large enough, but small enough that it could be pulled by folks with vehicles that are less than a ½ ton pickup. Bruce will do a bit of research into preferred trailer size. **In the meantime, keep your eye out for any good deals you might see on an enclosed trailer. Anyone have a trailer they no longer use much?**
- A note that Don Fiedler has revived the chapter's FaceBook page and is posting some info here and there. Others – please visit/post. Thanks Don!

Election of Chapter Secretary:

Secretary Brad Volker's term is ending. Nominations are welcomed for chapter secretary. Volker noted that he is willing to be chapter secretary for another term if the chapter will have him, but that he would welcome passing the torch also. Dan Ripplinger moved to close nominations and re-elect Volker. A number of 2nds. Approved.

Next Chapter Gathering:

Christmas Party – Wednesday, December 7th at Lehman's in Rice Lake. Maxine noted that she attempted to get a Tuesday but not available, sorry. Chicken and Ribs. Maxine will snail mail invites (along with 2023 dues request) to all very soon. Thanks for organizing this, Maxine! Others helping with this (Perrys, Potocnik, others?).

Adjournment:

Ed Knutson moved the meeting be adjourned at 7:02 PM sharp. No 2nds – everyone just rushed for the door (no one trampled luckily). Wow, Winch kept the meeting to 1 hour, more or less, with Knutson's help! Is he vying for President?

Respectfully submitted, Brad Volker – Chapter Secretary
chapters.eaa.org/ea631