



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



**Minutes of the Meeting of April 10, 2021 (with corrections/update (red) resulting from brief meeting 5-4-21):**

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Bob Gillette at 10:03 am, at the Chuck Lewis Terminal Building at Shell Lake Airport. 25 members present. Thank you, Bonnie and Gerry for providing rolls and coffee! Thanks to Maxine for providing a gavel for the meeting that her father had made.

**Meeting Minutes of November 3rd Meeting, 2020:**

Ed Knutson moved to approve; Kirby Crawford 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

**Treasurer Potocnik's Report for End of March, 2021:**

Treasurer Jeff talked through the report. Sean Hodkiewicz has used the \$10,500 available for his Ray Scholarship. He is all done except for the check ride! Some folks owe dues yet; let Jeff know if wondering if you've paid or not. Ric Brekke, Lynn Melin and Bob Triplett paid 2021 dues today – thanks guys. Bob Rand moved to approve; Tom Elliott 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

**Young Eagles/Ray Foundation Scholarships - YE Coordinator Jack Langland (Via phone - Jack and Sally have not yet returned from Arizona), with a bit from Brad Volker also:**

- There is quite a change of faces at EAA HQ for the Young Eagle program
- HQ has developed a new IPAD program for pilot signatures, parent signatures, etc. A newer IPAD is required to make use of the program, but use of the program not mandatory. We'll discuss this more in the future.
- Starting this year YE's will get badges (kind of like boy scouts). We'll learn more about this soon.
- Weather permitting, Vetterkind Field will be our first 2021 event on May 15<sup>th</sup>. There are 8 youth registered at this time.
- For 2021 HQ will be awarding double points for rides given (during the months of June, July, August). So 631 will get \$10 credit per ride given rather than \$5. These credits offset the costs of future expenditures to send YE's to camp, but...
- Like 2020, Air Academy (Camp) is cancelled again for 2021 due to COVID : ( We get to keep banking our credits, and YE's we had scheduled to go in 2020 we'll still send in 2022 but they may be bumped up to a more advanced camp.

- 631 recently applied for the opportunity to nominate another Ray Foundation scholarship recipient for 2021, and luckily we've learned recently we were successful! Logan Henning (2019) doing well helped we'd guess; and Sean Hodkiewicz (2020) is all done except for a check ride that weather has been delaying. Sean had some hurdles beyond his control, but is still finishing well under the one year requirement – we'd guess that has helped us in our bid for a 2021 slot. So, look for an email soon with information/application for applying for 631's 2021 Ray Foundation flight training scholarship! The basic requirements:
  - Ages 16-19 at start of flight training
  - 631's nominee will be vetted by EAA HQ; being 631's nominee does not guarantee approval by HQ
  - Before 631 nominates 631's selected candidate to HQ the candidate needs to secure both a 3<sup>rd</sup> class medical, and a student pilot certificate.
  - Look for an email from Brad Volker, and then ask any questions. Steer the application/info to any youth you feel may be good candidates.
  - Must be able to complete flight training in a 12-month time span
  - Should costs to earn private pilot license exceed the Ray Foundation award amount of \$10K (not uncommon) then family needs to be prepared to cover the costs over \$10K.
- Brad V. noted that John and Nancy Ostrem have helped Logan Henning and family quite a bit navigating the process to enroll at Mankato state for the aviation program there. Thank you John and Nancy.
- Jack noted that he has some awards to present to some folks when he returns, so please allow him adequate time at our Warbirds North gathering for that.
- Maxine noted that she will not be available on May 15<sup>th</sup> for the Vetterkind YE rally, so we may need to find a volunteer to replace her.
- John Ostrem proposed that to keep Logan sharp between now and his start at Mankato that different pilots do some flying with Logan. John plans to, and John thinks Gary Gannon will be able to take Logan up in the Archer to do some instrument approaches. Good idea – please consider. Let Brad know if you need contact info for Logan.
- Maxine noted that there is a glitch on the 631 website. Registration is open for the Vetterkind event, but the 631 website somehow makes it look like not. Brad V. will look into and get help from Sean H.

### **A New Fundraiser! – “Garage” Sale during our Shell Lake YE Rally**

- Judy Gillette's idea (thank you Judy)
- Please go through your stuff and round up the stuff you don't want any more. Not the garbage; the stuff that somebody would want. Donate it for sale with the proceeds going to 631's scholarship fund.
- We'll do this the day of the Shell Lake YE Rally, at Shell Lake Airport, assuming OK with city. Gerry Winch will check on that.
- Bring your stuff. Please have it pre-priced. We'll find volunteers to sell items if the owner of the items is busy with the YE rally.
- There was talk of setting up a tent for this NE of the terminal building towards the road (keep folks that are shopping only out of the YE rally airplane movement area).
- Judy, Jan and Bonnie offered to chair this event (thank you Ladies)

- Assuming OK w city – Bob Rand motioned to do the garage sale on the Saturday of the Shell Lake YE Rally (July 10<sup>th</sup>) with the proceeds of all sales going to the 631 Scholarship fund. Gerry Winch 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

### **Chapter 631 Non-profit status – discussion led by Treasurer Jeff**

#### **Potocnik:**

- We thought we were 501(c)(3)
- Jeff did an EAA webinar recently and learned some info that made him wonder “are we really 501(c)(3)? After some digging he is sure that we were incorporated as 501(c)(7) – “7” is for social activities and donations to such are not tax deductible (we’ve been misinforming donors for some time).
- EAA HQ has a tax professional volunteer who helps chapters with these kinds of matters. Jeff has discussed our situation with her. We can fairly easily convert our status to “3” instead of “7”, which will allow that any donations to us are tax deductible, but the one downside is that doing this will require a \$600 IRS processing fee.
- “What do members think?” asked Jeff.
- Lynn Melin moved that 631 spend up to \$600 to pursue 501(c)(3) status. Ric Brekke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Discussion – John and Nancy Ostrem noted (as one example) that folks can make donations to 501(c)(3) from tax deferred funds (IRA) directly from the fund account – but it has to be a “c3”, thus John and Nancy if stayed with “7” status donations (up to \$500?) are still deductible if the donation is an RMD (required minimum distribution) from a retirement plan. But, they still believe pursuing “3” status is warranted. Motion/second approved.

### **Presentation/request by Kirby Crawford/others regarding events, associated insurance, etc.:**

- Whereas EAA Chapter 631 is unique in that we have several home airports rather than just one; and whereas our membership is comprised of aviation enthusiasts associated with these several airports:
- ~~Kirby Crawford moved that for fly-ins/breakfasts or other similar effort aviation events in our chapter membership area, when there is adequate 631 membership interest in organization/implementation of the event, that EAA Chapter 631 be the sole sponsor/organizer/insurer (via the normal event insurance provided to chapters through EAA HQ) of such fly-ins, and that most of the net proceeds (up to “net proceeds, less \$250”) may be donated by EAA Chapter 631 to like-minded local entity(s) of the airport where fly-in held for use in aviation-related expenditures that benefit the region’s aviation community (examples [list not exhaustive]: aviation scholarships, airport mowing equipment, airport grounds improvements, airport courtesy car maintenance, etc.). Bob Rand 2<sup>nd</sup> Kirby’s motion.~~
- (corrective action of 5-4-21) - Kirby Crawford moved, and Ric Brekke 2<sup>nd</sup> – to rescind the action of April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2021 above regarding Chapter 631 sponsorship of Fly-in’s and Flight Breakfasts and further to replace the action with the following:
  - EAA Chapter 631 is authorized to sponsor and provide EAA insurance for approved Fly-in’s and Flight Breakfasts according to EAA rules and procedures. Chapter 631 will share the financial proceeds for aviation related purposes with the local aviation group and may retain 10% of the net proceeds not to exceed \$250 per event. Approved unanimous 5-4-21.

- Discussion:
  - Any Chapter approval of above motion/2<sup>nd</sup> shall be contingent upon EAA HQ review/approval of above motion – just to make sure Chapter not proposing something that HQ may see a flaw in. (all agreed this contingency and associated check with HQ warranted). **At brief 5-4-21 meeting Treasurer Jeff Potocnik noted that he had discussed this topic with EAA HQ and EAA HQ approves.**
  - The 631 members organizing/leading any such events will need to give 631 Treasurer adequate time to request event insurance from EAA HQ (at least 30 days prior, normally).
  - Airshows not allowed? Correct!
- Approval (with contingency) unanimous. Brad V. will type up the motion/2<sup>nd</sup>/discussion. Jeff P. will lead on running it by HQ.

### **September 631 Picnic/Camping:**

- September 9-12
- Dave Misner suggested that we should have a work list to help Bob/Judy get ready and then clean-up/wrap-up after. Good idea – lets try to lessen the burden of the event on Bob and Judy. Dave volunteered to chair this effort. Judy and Jan will help him figure out where help is needed. Thanks Dave, Judy, Jan!

### **Tech/Safety:**

- Dave Misner noted that recent ultralight that ended up in the powerlines down by New Auburn – don't do that!
- Doug Karis noted that he is winding down on working on aircraft engines, but is assisting on at least one more (for 631 member Bob Triplett and his A&P).

### **New Business:**

See items above regarding “garage sale” fundraiser; and aviation events/insurance/etc..

### **Next Meeting Gathering:**

Tuesday May 4<sup>th</sup> at Rice Lake Airport Terminal Building conference room. No business meeting. Boyceville Airport Manager Joel Timblin will speak on Boyceville High School being the first Wisconsin high school to use AOPA's aviation curriculum that has been developed for high school. Joel will also speak a bit about the PolyFiber aircraft fabric system. Thanks Joel for presenting! Brad V. will send letters out to area high schools and invite them to the presentation in hopes that maybe Joel/631 could interest more schools in the curriculum.

### **Other aviation future events:**

Shell Lake Airport Manager Gerry Winch noted that KSSQ will be doing its Hamburger Social on June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please mark your calendars, and help appreciated.

### **Adjournment:**

Ed Knutson moved to adjourn. Ric Brekke 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved!

Respectfully submitted **(and resubmitted)**, Brad Volker – Chapter Secretary  
[chapters.eaa.org/ea631](http://chapters.eaa.org/ea631)