



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



## **Minutes of the Meeting of June 10, 2023 (at Warbirds North Airport, Trego):**

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Jeff Potocnik at 12:40 PM in Dave Schmitz's hangar. President Potocnik led the members with the pledge of allegiance. Attendance in the high 40s. Big Thanks to Dave and Ted Schmitz for hosting and providing a great Economart broasted chicken meal w sides!

### **Welcome to some newer faces:**

- John Hedland, Spooner – student pilot, refurbishing a Champ!
- Shad Torgerson, Turtle Lake
- Jack Perry's Niece

Welcome to 631! We are glad you have looked us up and/or reacquaint!

### **Meeting Minutes of 5/2/23 (at Carl's Field (Rice Lake Airport)):**

President Jeff noted a needed correction – we will hear “very soon” rather than “in early March” whether or not Sari Mavis's Ray Scholarship nomination to EAA HQ gets approved. Dan Mersel moved to approve as corrected. Bob Rand 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.

### **Treasurer Crisler's report through May 2023 (and other financial business):**

Highlights:

- Byron Ripplinger has expended all that he can from his Ray Scholarship (he made it to Private without going over!) – sorry Byron : )
- Schoonover Scholarship \$5,000 deposited (thank you Traci and Family). Being steered to Hunter Johnson.
- \$50 from Amazon Smiles deposited (but that program now done)
- \$20K was invested into a 6-month CD at 5.01% per Nancy Ostrem's suggestion.
- May Ending Overall balance of \$35,899
- We have received a tax exempt #, so if making a big purchase remember to request that number to use.
- Sari Mavis Ray Scholarship approved by HQ. We'll dip into chapter funds a bit to get her going before we receive the first installment of \$ from Ray/HQ.

Kirby Crawford moved to approve Treasurer's Report; Bob G. 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion approved.

**Young Eagles Discussion, YE Coordinator Jack Langeland:**

(Thank you to Jack for all his 2022 YE coordination efforts!)

- 10,388 YE rides by the chapter thus far!
- Vetterkind – 30 rides
- Chetek – 43 rides, plus 2 more by Winch at SSQ that day
- John Ostrem has done a couple rides on paper forms recently
- Rides today at Warbirds North after our meeting – 51 kids preregistered
- Karis Field north of Rice Lake next weekend
- We get \$10 credit per YE ride until AirVenture
- Camp/Academy
  - Bennet Nelmens (Ostrem)
  - Kyle Johnson
  - Sari Mavis
  - Hunter Johnson
  - That will make 37 sent to camp thus far
- Boyceville – not on the YE schedule. It sounds like the Boyceville group may do YE rides on July 15<sup>th</sup>. 631 could help if folks interested, but if we do help we need to do it by the book w insurance arranged. Jack not hearing interest yet. Talk to him if so. Stay tuned. Jack recommends 631 pilots not partaking if it is not an insured event. HQ has rules – if more than 2 kids in line it is considered a rally, rallies need to be held by chapters (Boyceville does not have a chapter).
- Young Eagle equipment trailer update – Bruce Dakins was waiting for the chapter to receive its tax exempt number which we now have. Bruce will act on a purchase soon.

**Scholarship Committee Notes:**

- Sari Mavis - 2023 631 Ray Foundation Scholarship – Sari approved by HQ. Sari soloed on Thursday (in the same shirt that her grandmother soloed in!)!
- Hunter Johnson - 2023 Mark T. Schoonover Memorial Scholarship (first ever Mark T. Schoonover scholarship!) – Hunter just did his tower solo, he has his night flying done, working on overall solo.
- President Jeff noted that there is an effort taking place to collaborate with the Island City Aero Club on a joint scholarship as 631 has done in the past. Jeff and John/Nancy Ostrem working on this. Criteria is being reviewed/likely tweaked. Maybe bump up to \$1,000 from each organization (\$2,000 total). Used to be 2 x \$500 = \$1,000. Some discussion on revising the eligible age brackets. Stay tuned for more info/proposal.

**Tech/Safety:**

- Matt R. reminded that he is working on recovering his C120 wings and if anyone wants to see what's involved see him.
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- Tool crib continues to grow – Kirby Crawford has donated a die for cutting 3-1/8-inch holes in instrument panels. Nicopress cable connector swage tool, and cable cutter – Bob Gillette. Small drill press – Niel Peterson. Thanks guys!!!

### **Old Business:**

- Jeff P. reported on the formation of a Finance Committee (discussed in past; interest solicited)
    - Where to focus on fundraising
    - Expenditures planning
- Kudos to John and Nancy Ostrem who were the only members to express interest in a finance committee. Given the small interest Jeff suggested we continue on with Chapter officers being the main group to perform finance committee duties. With that, though, please continue to speak up with finance concerns/ideas John/Nancy and others.
- Fundraising
    - President Jeff led a discussion in an attempt to nail down the particulars of a proposed 50/50 raffle that the chapter plans to do this summer. Need start and end dates, need to figure out how many tickets to print, drawing to be held when/where (chapter picnic?)?, Etc. There was some concern that just a 50/50 with no other prizes would be problematic. Others expressed that a raffle with only 50/50 would be great as it avoids all the headaches of finding other prizes. Dave Nielsen moved that Chapter Officers sit down at another time and figure out the details. Dan Ripplinger 2<sup>nd</sup>. Approved.
    - Chapter has applied for non-profit postage rates for mass mailings – postal service reviewed and rejected our submittal due to confusion in the various names we use (EAA, Chapter 631, Blue Hills Flyers, Flambeau Flyers, etc.). Postal Service implied we were helter-skelter with our names, but yet they sent us a rejection letter that was addressed to a church. President Jeff bit his tongue and politely asked for a rejection letter addressed to our chapter. A fiasco. We may apply again in the future – TBD; not urgent.
    - 631 exhibit at Washburn County Fair? Dan Ripplinger who is on the fair board had noted that exhibitor fees are free for first time exhibitors. Last week in July (same week as AirVenture). If any have interest in manning a booth please let President Jeff know. In the meantime, Jeff will look into marketing materials that we could get from HQ for such.
    - Barron County Fair – similar to above. Would anyone want to champion that? July 19-23 (the week before AirVenture).

### **New Business:**

- Secretary Volker will put together a nametag order for Chapter members who do not yet have an EAA 631 nametag. See or call Brad if a nametag needed/desired. First nametags are free to new members (cost of approximately \$10 per nametag covered by Chapter). Replacement nametags or nametags for family members who are not technically members are also available – at cost of approximately \$10. Call or email Brad if nametag desired.  
[bvolker@cooperengineering.net](mailto:bvolker@cooperengineering.net); or cell 715-651-5979.

### **Next Gathering:**

Next gathering will be on Tuesday July 11<sup>th</sup> at Sawyer County Airport. Jurg Grossenbacher of FAA will do a safety presentation. This will be hosted by the Hayward Aviation hangar (Derek Leslie). Social at 5; presentation at 6. **Note – this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday (to avoid July 4<sup>th</sup>).**

***Adjournment:***

Bob Gillette moved; several members 2nd. Passed unanimously!

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