



Experimental Aircraft Association
Chapter 637 - The Blue Hills Flyers
Rice Lake, WI



Minutes of the Meeting of June 11th, 2022 (Warbirds North Airstrip west of Trego), corrected 8/4/22:

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Jeff Potocnik at 12:40 pm, at Dave Schmitz's hangar, after all were seated and enjoying a very nice chicken lunch provided by Dave Schmitz. Thank you Dave for the hospitality! Approximately 44 members/guests in attendance.

Welcome guests/Newer Members!

- Mom Christa with Shalome, Alex and Simon
- Peter Wise of Chetek, Young Eagle who came with Jack Perry
- Theresa and Max Elliott, with Tom and Gloria Elliott
- Byron, Lawson, and Raylee Ripplinger with parents Dan and Heather
- Not a guest or new member but good to see Logan Henning on hand!

Meeting Minutes of 4/12/22, and of action taken by an email vote in May of 2022:

Dan Mersel moved to approve. Kirby Crawford 2nd. Approved.

Treasurer Gary Crisler's Report through May 2022:

Treasurer Crisler summarized financial activity in May. Gerry Winch moved to approve; Tom Elliott 2nd. Approved.

Jack Langland requested that Gary send \$ to EAA Oshkosh for the Air Academy youth trips that are planned.

Brief Update on Ray Foundation Scholar Ty Zeller, etc.:

- Ty has his checkride scheduled for Monday! Good luck Ty. If any are available, please fly up to offer support/encouragement. Bob Gillette noted that there was a nice photo of Ty in the newspaper recently as Ty had won a golf tournament.
- An application has been submitted to HQ for Byron Ripplinger to be 631's next Ray Scholar – we hope to hear an “approved” very soon.

Young Eagles Discussion, YE Coordinator Jack Langland:

- 2022 is the 30th anniversary of the Young Eagles program

- HQ is soliciting interest in 30 Young Eagles to take Young Eagle rides during AirVenture, mostly on Thursday July 28th. If interested see Jack.
- Weather for Young Eagle rides today not cooperating – sorry, canceled.
- Air Academy Young Eagles going this year:
 - Simon Rodriguez – last week in June
 - Joe Barret (Jan's grandson) – June 20-24
 - Linsey Balts of Barron – July 5-10
- Vetterkind event – flew 32 kids. Thanks to all that were able to help!
- Impromptu YE event – Hayward gifted and talented class (4th Grade)
 - 6 G&T kids
 - 3 CAP kids
 - 3 airplanes
 - Apologies – this event came about fast and happened very fast; not all pilots made aware of opportunity to help
- Chetek YE – 42 kids flown! Again, thanks to all that were able to help!
- Karis Field YE a week from today.

VMC/IMC Club (Dave Nielsen – CFII, and Coordinator (at least temporarily):

- Had our first meeting. Thanks for attending.
- Next meeting will be June 21st; IMC focus; Shell Lake Airport; look for email
- See Brad or Dave if wanting to get these emails
- Thanks Dave for spearheading this!

Old Business:

- 501(c)(3) Status of Chapter:
 - Lots of effort by Jeff Potocnik, and also by Scott Warwick of Cumberland/Island City Aero
 - All the stuff submitted to IRS in early June by Jeff
 - There was a \$600 fee
 - What kind of IRS turnaround? Hope for 2 months, but not sure.
 - Jeff suggests we do something nice for Scott Warwick to thank him for a lot of help
 - John Ostrem moved to provide \$200 each to Scott Warwick and Jeff Potocnik. Jack Langland 2nd.
 - Dan Mersel moved to amend to be \$200 to Scott Warwick only. Bonnie Carlson 2nd. Approved.

New Business:

- Mark Schoonover Memorial Scholarship funding opportunity
 - Mark was a Chetek area pilot and retired Navy Pilot who passed away a few years back; some of you knew Mark. A very busy, driven, successful man (family owns several Subway sandwich shops). Wife Traci and daughter are starting an aviation scholarship fund in memory of Mark as a way to give back to a hobby/career that Mark was so passionate about, funded primarily by sale of one of the family's aircraft.
 - The family is setting up a fund with Edward Jones in Chetek.
 - Traci has been discussing with 631 that 631 could be one recipient of scholarships from the fund as they become available and could then steer

the scholarships to quality fledgling aviator candidates who may need a monetary boost to “make it happen.” The family and fund manager Kyle Jerman of Edward Jones may steer scholarships to other entities as well. Traci has a desire to steer the scholarships to rural communities/recipients as more of such opportunities tend to be more available in bigger population centers.

- 631 receiving scholarships via this exciting opportunity will require our Chapter’s 501c3 efforts to be finalized/accepted by IRS, so hopefully we’ll hear from IRS on that soon.
 - Traci Schoonover has joined the chapter and she may be pursuing flying lessons at some point in the future; she is very busy with the family business.
 - If the opportunity presents itself please thank Traci for considering EAA Chapter 631 as a conduit to help steer flight training scholarships to quality candidates in rural NW Wisconsin soon.
 - Very exciting!
- Would any 631 folks be interested in securing and using a designated 631 camping area at AirVenture? Per Gerry there would be a \$250 flat fee associated with that. A lot of folks either knew they had other plans to camp in certain areas (traditions); and/or were not sure of the time frames they were able to be at AirVenture. Thus, the consensus seemed to be “Not this year; possibly start discussing earlier for next year to see what shakes out.”
 - It was decided to cancel our 631 July meeting as the month will be very busy with AirVenture and Young Eagle events.
 - Gerry Winch noted that Shell Lake Airport is having its hamburger social this Tuesday (June 14th), 5-7 pm. Please come. You are welcome to bring food.
 - Dan Mersel expressed thanks for all that Jeff Potocnik and Brad Volker do with Chapter business. Bob G. 2nd.
 - Need eggs? See Sharon Nielsen :)

Adjournment:

Tom Elliott moved to adjourn. Don Fiedler 2nd. Approved.

Respectfully submitted, Brad Volker – Chapter Secretary
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