



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



Minutes of the Meeting of June 12th, 2021:

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Bob Gillette at 1:08 pm, at the Dave Schmitz hangar at Warbirds North Airfield. 38 members/guests present! Thank you, Dave and Ted Schmitz and Family for providing an excellent broasted chicken lunch! And thank you Dave and Ted for hosting the meeting today, along with Young Eagle rides after the meeting.

Meeting Minutes of April 10th, 2021 Meeting (corrected at 5-4-21 meeting/presentation at KRPD):

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

Treasurer Report for End of May, 2021 (Treasurer Jeff Potocnik not able to attend today; Sec. Volker summarized report for all):

Gary Gannon moved to approve; Gerry Winch 2nd. Approved.

Young Eagles/Ray Foundation Scholarships - YE Coordinator Jack Langland:

- No camps (academy) for 2021 (same as last year unfortunately)
- 631's 2nd YE rally of 2021 today
- 9823 YE rides to date for 631
- 24 rides given at Vetterkind
- Bob G. noted that Jack Langland is up to 1776 rides! Jack noted that there is a fellow at KOSH that has him beat by a long shot - but that fellow flies one of EAA's airplanes using EAA's fuel :)
- Hayward YE next Saturday (will be at Hayward Aviation Hangar compliments of Derek Leslie); Chetek YE in two Saturdays

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. Gerry Winch OK'd such with the city.

- 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.
- Will do this in the lawn 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 have offered to chair this event (thank you Ladies)
- Flyer to post – Judy will do or arrange.
- Kathy and Jeff Potocnik have offered to grill brats to sell at the SSQ YE event on Saturday; with help of others maybe we can extend this for most of the “garage” sale time.
- Camping at SSQ for garage sale volunteers/helpers/donors – Wednesday, Thursday, Friday nights.

Chapter 631 Non-profit status – notes by President Bob in the absence of Treasurer Jeff Potocnik who is leading this effort:

- Thank you to Jeff Potocnik who is pursuing this effort (we thought we were 501(c)(3), but learned that we have technically been (c)(7))
- Dan Mersel questioned – is it really worth the IRS \$600 fee to convert to (c)(3) rather than (c)(7)? Volker thought in the long run it would be worth it so that the Chapter could, correctly now, note to potential donors its non-profit status. Gary Gannon noted that it matters to him and he is interested in supporting funds like 631's scholarship fund.
- This is an ongoing effort. No action needed. Stay tuned for more on this as Jeff gets further into it.

Tech/Safety:

- Bob G. and others commented a bit on the Cirrus/Swearingen mid-air collision at Denver, CO.
- Bob G. advised to pay attention to density altitude this time of year
- Brad V. noted that he made calls for wrong runway end recently going into Voyager Village which created confusion for Brad and another pilot in the pattern – don't be like Brad was that day.
- Charlie Becker noted that while departing on 31 at KRPD he had the LifeLink helicopter take off in front of him, had to dive and re-land. Was not 631 member Dave N.
- Gerry W. noted that a Blackhawk helicopter doing training landings at SSQ was doing right hand traffic. Dave N. and Doug S. noted that helicopter traffic is supposed to avoid the normal traffic flow – we didn't get into details on this due to a time crunch (maybe we could discuss further in the future).

New Business:

Brad Volker and Gary Gannon made a request of the Chapter:

- Gary Gannon has decided to personally donate a scholarship for flight training to Leah McGrane of Milltown.
 - Leah was a close runner-up to Braeden Dennis for 631's 2021 Ray Foundation Scholarship for flight training
 - Island City Aero Club and others have added to Gary's cause and collectively, they have amassed \$6K to provide to Leah as a scholarship.

- Would Chapter 631 be willing to donate to this cause to get the amount available any bit closer to the magnitude of a Ray Foundation scholarship (\$10K)?
 - Gary had requested a copy of Leah's 631 scholarship application from Volker; Volker provided. Leah is an impressive young lady that Gary/Brad feel worth an investment by 631. Gary and Brad suggested that 631 consider adding \$2000 or similar to the effort/collaboration started by Gary.
 - Gary noted that Leah (with help) has researched CFI options and to her credit has made a somewhat uncomfortable switch to Hawk Aviation in Rush City, MN after pressing a bit to get a feel for total costs between the various CFIs/Flight Schools researched.
 - Volker noted that following the selection of Braeden Dennis, the scholarship committee members discussed getting hold of EAA HQ to inquire if there would be any possibility of 631 latching onto a 2nd Ray scholarship for 2021 since Leah's application so good. Volker did make that request of EAA HQ, but was told "Sorry, we have more applicants than spots; we will add you to a list of chapters desiring more but don't hold your breath waiting on it."
 - Chuck Aldrian moved that \$631 contribute to this effort to help Leah McGrane with flight training to the amount of \$2000 with the \$2000 being a reimbursement to Ms. McGrane if/when she earns her private pilot license (similar arrangement as other past 631 scholarships for flight training). Dan Mersel 2nd the motion.
 - Jack Langland advised that he feels it would be more prudent to continue on with requesting Ray Foundation Scholarships and providing scholarships to youth in that manner if we can latch onto more of those opportunities in the future. The Ray Foundation scholarships are well-structured with milestones (solo in first 3 months; pass written in first 6 months; earn PP in 12 months or less).
 - Dan Mersel noted that if he knew more about any strategic plan for the chapter's scholarship fund such would be helpful.
 - Volker noted that if 631's contribution to the cause was a reimbursement contingent upon Ms. McGrane earning her PP license, that provides a level of protection for the investment more than the typical Ray Scholarship milestones. Brad noted that maybe there is not a need to vote on the matter today (the meeting is running long, some are scrambling to get set for the YE rally, kids/families are waiting for YE rides).
 - Bob Rand called for a vote on the matter.
 - President Bob G. called for a voice vote of Yays/Nays. The Yays have it. Approved.
- Dick Leitner's funeral service is scheduled for July 16th. The obituary notes it will be a private service. There was minor discussion of whether 631 friends of Dick's would be able to attend. If not attend, maybe a fly-over? Let's discuss more before July 16th.

Next Meeting Gathering:

Tuesday July 6th at CAP Hangar at Sawyer County Airport – no business meeting; 631 member Kelly Nelson of Cable will give an informal talk on his career with Air Traffic Control, and how he became interested in aviation/flying. **Note – at the time of writing these minutes the July Sawyer County gathering/presentation has been moved to Tuesday July 13th to avoid conflict with the July 6th Cable Airport Hamburger Social.**

Adjournment:

Don Fiedler moved to adjourn. Jack Langland 2nd. Approved.

Respectfully submitted, Brad Volker – Chapter Secretary
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