



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



Minutes of the Meeting of May 2nd, 2023 (at Carl's Field Airport, Rice Lake):

The meeting was called to order by Chapter President Jeff Potocnik at 6:01 PM at the conference room of the Rice Lake Regional Airport. President Potocnik led the members with the pledge of allegiance.

Welcome to some newer faces:

- KJ Johnston of New Auburn and his mom Brenda Sykora (KJ going to air academy this summer, and has taken a ride in Jack Perry's Brush Ape Champ).
- Carl Cooley of Rice Lake (fairly new private pilot – congrats!)
- Matt Hutzler of Chetek (private pilot with a champ at Y23)
- Harlan and Connie Loken of Rice Lake (Originally from Eau Claire, they lived many years in New Hampshire and were very involved with EAA, Young Eagles, flying there, built an RV12 with students!)

Welcome to 631! We are glad you have looked us up!

Meeting Minutes of 11/1/22 (Shell Lake); and of 2/11/23 (Shell Lake Potluck):

Gerry Winch moved to approve both minutes. Dave Nielsen 2nd. Motion passed.

Treasurer Gary Crisler's Report through March 2023 (and other financial business):

Gerry Winch moved to approve Treasurer's Report; Doug Karis 2nd. Motion approved.

Nancy Ostrem asked if chapter should consider putting a portion of its funds into a CD as they are earning 4-to-5% interest these days, and can be invested for terms as short as 6 months. Doug Schuebel moved that Treasurer Crisler place up to \$20,000 (at Treasurer Crisler discretion) into a CD w a local banking institution for six months. 2nd by Bob Gillette. Motion passed. Treasurer Crisler will discuss options of where with Ostrem's after the meeting.

Young Eagles Discussion, led by Pres. Jeff in the absence of YE Coordinator Jack Langland:

- Jeff noted that HQ offers a YE risk management training. Jack and Jeff have done that; others are very welcome/encourage to do that (available online Jeff guesses).
- The date for the Rice Lake YE event has been moved back a week to Saturday August 19th so it is not the day of the Rice Lake Fly-in of August 12th.
- Trailer Purchase for YE events (Bruce Dakins leading on this) – Bruce has been shopping. For the size/type of trailer desired, new is running about \$3,800 (includes a side entrance door). Previously, the chapter had approved an expenditure up to \$3,000 (new or used). After shopping, Bruce thinks prudent to lean towards the new side. John Ostrem moved that the chapter spend up to \$4,000 (at Bruce's discretion), rather than the previous \$3,000. Bob Triplet 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.
- First event for 2023 will be at Vetterkind Field, New Auburn, May 20th, weather permitting. "we'll knock the rust off."

Scholarship Committee Notes:

- 2023 631 Ray Foundation Scholarship – Sari Mavis selected from 3 applicants to be recommended to EAA HQ for approval as a recipient. We should hear ~~in early March~~ **very soon** HQ's verdict.
- 2023 Mark T. Schoonover Memorial Scholarship (first ever Mark T. Schoonover scholarship!) – Hunter Johnson of Shell Lake selected as the primary recipient of this exciting scholarship made possible by member Traci Schoonover and family. Hunter is well started on his private pilot training; this will help him to the finish line. The scholarship committee decided that if Hunter completes private and any funds from this scholarship remain that such funds would then be steered to Schoonover applicant Braeden Dennis who will be furthering his A&P training at Superior College.
- 2022 Ray (Byron Ripplinger) – Byron ready for checkride! Waiting on weather and schedules to align. Good luck Byron, you'll do great!
- John and Nancy Ostrem have drafted a summary of area aviation scholarships as not many know the details of when applications are available, etc. Thanks John and Nancy!
- Some discussion – Island City Aero Club has bumped the value of its annual scholarship up to \$1000. Should 631 collaborate with ICAC on that? Other discussion on scholarship ideas.

Tech/Safety:

- Matt R. noted that the chapter's new spray booth (thanks to Chris Felton tool crib donation) is inflated and works well. Matt recovering and painting his 120 wings with it now.
- CFI Dave Nielsen had a few spring tips for folks that may have developed rust over the winter
 - Study your checklist and use it
 - Take your time
 - Be deliberate

- Jeff P. noted that his tailwheel assembly on his 140 needed work. It reminded him that tailwheel assemblies take a lot of abuse and parts do wear out and can wear through. So, look at yours closely...

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Old Business:

- Tool Crib Update:
 - Thanks Chris Felton for donation to start tool crib and purchase spray booth! This currently in Chris's hangar at Cumberland and being used by Matt R. on his 120; and soon Chris on his Bearhawk project.
 - Niel Peterson donated his English wheel and metal brake.
 - Brad Volker donated an articulating borescope
 - Matt R. offered to be the tool crib coordinator. Steve Dennis offered to assist Matt with getting a checkout list/procedure made up.
 - Kirby C. and Bob G. both noted they may have some tools to donate to the tool crib – they'll look.
- Fundraising
 - Rose Johnson has worked on an application for raffle licenses, both Type A (sell tickets over a long time span) and Type B (one day events) – thanks Rose! \$25 application fees for each.
 - Our recent mass letter solicitation was a bust – 300 letters went out; only one \$150 donation. May try again in future but be more targeted.
 - Have applied for non-profit postage rates for mass mailings – postal service reviewing
 - Amazon Smiles program discontinued : (
 - Cumberland pancake breakfast will be Sunday August 27
 - Food sales at YE events???

New Business:

- Finance Committee desired – President Jeff discussed need/ideas – if interested please see Jeff, and/or Jeff may ask for help and make appointments.
 - Where to focus on fundraising
 - Expenditures planning
- Doug Schuebel noted that a former C-130 pilot (Mary _____) of Rusk County is organizing a 4H youth trip to AirVenture. Could/should 631 attempt to assist with this at all? Discussion that co-mingling of organizations is a problem with EAA HQ.
- Secretary Volker noted that member Dan Ripplinger is on Washburn County Fair Board. Per Dan the board recently decided to offer exhibitor space for free to first year exhibitors. Would 631 want to exhibit (July 27th -30th)? Same week as AirVenture : (Let Brad or Jeff know if anyone interested in spending time exhibiting at the Washburn County Fair.
- Similar discussion as above regarding Barron County Fair (July 19th – 23rd). If any interested let Brad or Jeff know.
- The 2023 Chapter Picnic will be held at Judy and Bob Gillette's Airstrip again this year, big thanks to Bob and Judy, Jan, others; and RAF! September 14-17.

Next Meeting:

Potocnik stated the next meeting will be Saturday June 10th, at Warbirds North Airfield west of Trego hosted by Dave Schmitz and family (thanks Dave!).

Adjournment:

Gary Crisler moved; Bob Gillette second. Pass unanimously!

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