



*April 2017*

***NEWSLETTER***

***NEXT GENERAL MEETING:***

***APRIL 21ST***

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**Upcoming Wednesday Meetings:**

***May***

3rd Board Meeting 7pm

21<sup>st</sup> General Meeting 6:30pm

***June***

7th Board Meeting 7pm

28th General Meeting 6:30pm

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**President's Notes:**

**By Bill Bower**

Well, Spring is upon us once again and hopefully clear weather for those flying days we all dream about.

We just held our first Young Eagles Rally and with 7 pilots and 30 kids flown and appears to have been a great success to start off the year. We also will be having a joint meeting with MDPA featuring dinner by MDPA and EAA 393 member Scott Davis as the chef with your choice of Prime Rib or Champagne Chicken. That will be on the 21st of this month at the Club House. Hopefully everyone has received the e-mail to sign up. Cost is \$20. The night will be feat using a great speaker LTJG Ret Willie Sharp who was shot down in the Gulf of Tonkin, captured by VC, escaped and went back and flew more combat missions after being repatriated with American forces. Should be a great evening.

Also don't forget AirVenture 2017 is fast approaching. If you plan on attending now is time to make your plans and reservations. Looks like both flyable B-29's will be there, Doc and FIFI. That is something not to be missed. A sight that has not been seen for over 50 years.

Our membership keeps growing and now is over 70 members. Keep up talking with fellow pilots and invite them to our meetings and we will keep growing. Have a great month and hopefully see you on the 21st.

## 393 Board Meeting Minutes:

April 5.2017

In President Bill Bower's absence, VP Ron Lem called the meeting to order at 19:00. Also present Secretary Pete Mitchell, Newsletter Editor Bill O'Brian, Webmaster Renee Robinson, YE's coordinator Stephen Tucker, Dinner Coordinator Rich Bourgeois, Safety Officer Rich Sperling and members Guy Jones, George Grech and Tracy Peters. Guest Graham Wiseing representing Acalanes High School, Lafayette. Also absent, Treasurer Harvard Holmes, Tech Counselor Bob Sinclair, and Membership Coordinator Vi Jenkins.

Acalanes High is holding a Wellness Fair lunch hour April 27<sup>th</sup>. One of the events is a Paper Airplane contest. Graham is requesting we provide a flight for the winner, possibly two of the contest. Stephen motioned and the Board agreed to accommodate the winner(s) on a Wednesday fly-out.

### Treasurers Report – Harvard

Via email, we have \$11,894 in the bank plus \$500 in the Renato Simone Fund.

### Secretary – Pete

Membership stands at 72 plus an application awaiting funds. Thirteen have not paid 2017 dues. I deposited the \$4,033 B-17 check from National.

### Clubhouse – Tracy

A Tough Shed is on order. Our chapter is responsible for installing nine concrete piers, 24" deep, 6" in diameter, plus a ramp. Volunteers will be needed. Think first weekend in June. Lighting will be solar. Tracy will be installing PA amps and outdoor speakers as time permits.

### NLE – Bill

Bill will be out of country 19 April till the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. Material needs to be in early. A request was made to include a list of coming events, meetings, YE's etc in the Cleco.

## B-17 – PSA

Our chapter needs to present PSA with a thank you document (letterhead) for their substantial contribution of ramp services during the B-17 weekend.

### Future Speakers – Ron

A combined meeting with MDPA. Friday April 21. Speaker will be William “Willie” Sharp, Lieutenant, United States Navy. Willie will primarily focus on his being shot down over Gulf of Tonkin, ejecting, being captured by the VC, and his escape. The presentation includes some video, still shots, and radio recordings that were made during the incident.

### Young Eagles – Stephen

For April 15<sup>th</sup> seven aircraft have pledged, seven ground are confirmed. Pilots and ground staff available, please check in with Stephen. 925.586.5977 The June event will be at Byron, Patriots hanger.

### April Meeting – Dinner

Rich has the month off. We have a combined meeting with MDPA.

This event will be a slightly upscale dinner, with Prime Rib, Champagne Chicken, all the fixings, and dessert for \$20.

### Speaker – MDPA

In April 1965, Willie Sharp went into combat in North Vietnam.

On 18 November 1965 he was shot down, ejected over the Gulf of Tonkin, was captured, escaped, and was rescued. All in one day.

He returned to Navy duty, and later joined United Airlines as a Captain.

### Air Academy Selection

Letters have been sent to eligible Young Eagles, none have been returned to date. We have one academy reservation, additional slots are not available.

We should look into Chapter Leadership Academy, interactive workshops held at EAA Headquarters in Oshkosh, WI provide an immersive experience that will help you be a better chapter leader and learn a tremendous amount about EAA.

Meeting adjourned 20:45

PJM



This plane is so incredibly bad-ass, I considered keeping it for the end of this list.

Although the Blackbird last flew in 1999, (after coming out of retirement for a few NASA missions) it still holds the world record for the fastest air-breathing manned airplane in history, which it first achieved in 1976. If you think you misread that, you didn't: An Airplane built in 1964 is the fastest airplane in the world, beating the record in 1976 and left unchallenged ever since.

Not only could its pilots see the curvature of the earth, but it's been said that the cockpit is so silent you could hear a pin drop.

The Blackbird's stealth characteristics and ability to operate at ludicrous speeds and altitudes enabled the SR-71 to perform the most dangerous scouting missions: If the plane were ever engaged by a surface-to-air missile (this happened) standard protocol was to accelerate and outrace any threat. It has never been hit by a missile, and in fact a special kind of fuel had to be created for it just so it could work at such crazy speeds and altitude.

Since its retirement, rumors of the possible development of the SR-72 have circulated, recently Lockheed Martin has shifted toward stealthy and lethal unmanned aerial warplanes which is expected to replace the need for such a complex and costly aircraft like the proposed SR-72.

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## *Young Eagles Quotes:*

**These are comments the young eagles wrote about their flights in the Fall of 2016.**

“It was really an interesting and fun experience getting to fly in a 4 man plane. It was really neat to be able to be next to a large window.”

By Levi, 13

“I really enjoyed my experience partially because we got the nicest plane, but also the guy, Stewart, our pilot was real chill and that was pretty cool. So thank you!”

By Jake, 13

“When we’re taking off, I got REALLY nervous. It felt like a bird’s view when we’re high up. In the middle of the flight, I was confident and not nervous anymore. During the flight, we were talking about the flight. In the end of the flight, I had a BLAST! It’s fun riding on an airplane.”

By Ben, 12

“The flight was AMAZING!! It was like I was looking at a scale model of everything! And the awesome feeling of flying is unforgettable.”

By Isaac, 11

“Thanks to Tony, I had a great flight experience and always felt safe. It was a rough ride, but was a comfortable ride. Thank you, Tony.”

By Midshipman, Martinez USNSCC

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“This is my first flight ever, had a lot of fun.”

By Tim

***THERE YOU HAVE YOUR FEEDBACK, PILOTS. I HOPE THESE  
COMMENTS ENCOURAGE YOU TO KEEP FLYING THE  
YOUNG EAGLES.***

(more comments to come in future issues)

**WANTED!  
HANGAR SPACE FOR RENT!**

**This local EAA Chapter 393, Concord (Buchanan Field), California is looking to rent a hangar  
large enough in which to build a kit plane.**

**Anyone who has any information regarding this plan, please contact this person:**

*Ron Lem*

*925 532-6561*

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## The Experimental Aircraft Association Chapter 393 of Concord, CA

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*Please let me know what you think of the newsletter and also to offer ideas  
for future issues. Your Newsletter Editor, Bill*

***THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!***



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Our meetings are open to the public. Join us for dinner at 6:30 pm (\$7 donation) with the general meeting at 7:30 pm on the above dates in the building at 161 John Glenn Drive north of Sterling Aviation. Enter from the airport side of the building.

Chapter 393 fly-outs are open to chapter members and guests. See the newsletter for arrangements.

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