



**January 25, 2012**

Our speaker will be announced at the meeting.

### **New Newsletter Editor**

by Kevin Hoos

In the words of William Shakespeare, "Some are born great, some achieve greatness, and others have greatness thrust upon them."

I wasn't planning on being the newsletter editor, but Bill saw fit to thrust this position at me. I will do my best to make sure that our newsletter gets out on time, and that it stays the same great quality everyone is used to. And, perhaps, I may be able to add a few features.

Since I'm a relatively new member, I thought I would share some of my aviation story. Back when I was in high school taking piano lessons. After my lessons, my teacher showed me an old DOS computer flight simulator. I got to love playing that game. He even showed me his R/C models. Over the years, I have enjoyed playing many flight simulators for hours on end.

A few years ago, I decided I wanted to know what it was like in a real airplane. So I went to Sterling and took an introductory flight. I was amazed the instructor barely touched the stick. Once he had the airplane lined up on the runway, he controlled the throttle while he let me take the stick and bring us off the ground. After flying for 20 minutes, he let me control the stick for landing. With that, I was completely hooked. I was amazed how close it was to the flight simulators. I asked around, and found out about the EAA.

Thanks, Kevin

### **President's Notes January 2012**

By Bill Reining

Happy New Year!

Here's hoping everyone had a pleasant holiday season. Our holiday party was certainly a good start.

Many thanks to all those who made it happen, especially to Sara Holmes, the organizer. She was assisted by many others, including:

- o Pete Mitchell, Louie Goodell and his sister-in-law Barbara - made the name tags
- o Harvard Holmes, Marilyn Sperling, Patty Howard – decorated and arranged the tables
- o Tracy and Pat Peters – created and set up the slide show
- o Tom Howard – obtained prizes and ran the raffle
- o Rick Bourgeois - ordered and picked-up the Member of the Year plaque
- o Patty Howard – checked in guests and handed out name tags

Congratulations to Jack Davi, recipient of the Member of the Year award. Jack was recognized for his tireless orchestration of the B-17 visit as well as for our aviation lending library and his educational outreach efforts.

Congratulations also were given to our two members who completed their aircraft and made their first flight in 2011:

- Al Wraa: Zenith CH-801
- Ernst Freitag: Van's RV-10

At our board meeting on January 4 we continued to discuss the high rent required for MDPA and EAA 393 to lease the clubhouse. One thing was

made clear by Bob Belshe, our Treasurer: we cannot afford to pay much more rent without running our treasury out of money within a few short years. The board plans to hold a joint session with the MDPA board in the first week of February to further explore alternatives.

The chapter has been given a non-flying VariEze aircraft. It was donated to us by the Oakland Aviation Museum, and originally built by one of our former members. Dick Sperling has volunteered to store the aircraft in his hangar. We plan to pull it out and use it as a hands-on teaching tool during Young Eagles events.

The chapter has also been given an air compressor to kick off our tool library. It has a leak and needs a pressure regulator, but should be easily fixed by some of our more talented and resourceful members. Thanks to Dick Sperling for arranging the gift, and to Ken McKenzie for picking it up from its previous owner.

A tentative schedule of Young Eagles events has been posted by Renee Robinson, our Young Eagles Coordinator: (April 28, May 19, June 23, August 18, September 22 and October 20). Jack Davi has volunteered to be Renee's assistant. Between the two of them it looks like we are going to have some busy Saturdays this year!

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### Young Eagles Events

Thank you everyone for all your help last year. We had some great events last year. I look forward to seeing everyone this year.

The tentative schedule I have worked out for this year is: April 28, May 19, June 23, August 18, September 22, and October 20

Thanks, Renee Robinson

### Donate your old laptop computer!

We can use a few additional laptop computers for the Young Eagles events. The only software required is a relatively recent web browser, so Windows, Mac, and even Linux is acceptable.

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### Dinner Menu

By Rick Bourgeois

Dinner is served at 6:30pm – Donation is \$7:

- Taco Soup
- Corn Bread
- Tortilla Chips
- Salad
- Coffee and drinks (water & soda)
- Dessert

Let Rick know your suggestions for future meals.

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### Sunday December 11, 2011 Party Wrap Up

By Sara Holmes

I want to thank everyone for the outstanding job that you all did to make this the best EAA holiday party ever! It was held at this new location because Marie Calender's went out of business.

The Black Angus managers and wait staff were very professional and friendly, and made every effort to accommodate whatever we needed. The food was delicious. It worked well, even though it was not a private room. Some people did not like the booths, but those of us who sat in them liked them because we could hear one another easily. There was not as much room to mill around as I would have liked, but I researched 16+ locations, and Black Angus was by far the best choice.

Notes and a summary of the party follow:

### Preparations:

- **Bill Reining** arranged the donation of the wine: 8 bottles of Pollywog Chardonnay from his son Jon Reining, and 8 bottles of Thomas Knoll Cabernet Sauvignon from Bill's brother-in-law, Sean Thomas. The wine was especially good and we thanked them via e-mail after the party. We drank 8 bottles of red wine and 4 bottles of white wine. The remaining 4 bottles of white wine were given as raffle prizes.
- **Rick Bourgeois** ordered and picked up the perpetual plaque.

- **Pete Mitchell** picked up checks at the post office box on a regular basis. He also helped Louie Goodell with the computer and making the name tags.
- **Bob Belshe** kept track of the guests and their menu choices and the money.
- **Louie Goodell, Barbara Bolduc** (Louie's sister-in-law) **and Pete Mitchell** prepared the name tags.
- **Sara Holmes** and **Marilyn Sperling** came early and brought table decorations and set them up.
- **Tracy and Pat Peters** came early to set up the slide show that Tracy prepared.
- **Patty Howard** arrived early and set the name tags out in alphabetical order, and placed the menu choice place cards with each name tag holder.
- **Sara and Harvard Holmes** arrived early to help decorate. They brought greens and holly for the table decorations. Sara helped coordinate all of the meal and wine details and other last minute plans.

### The Party:

- Bill was the MC for the party. Here is some of what he presented:
- Bill thanked all those who helped with the party arrangements.
- He acknowledged PSA (Art Thompson) for hosting the B-17 and providing discounted fuel for the Young Eagles pilots. Sterling Aviation, though not present, was thanked for consistently providing ramp space for each of our Young Eagle rallies.
- He presented EAA Service Awards to the 2011 Officers:
  - President – Bill Reining
  - Vice President – Tracy Peters
  - Secretary – Pete Mitchell
  - Treasurer – Bob Belshe
  - Young Eagles Coordinator – Renee Robinson
  - Newsletter Editor – Harvard Holmes
  - Webmaster – Renee Robinson
- Bill Reining acknowledged two first flights: Al Wraa in his Zenith CH 801 and Ernst Freitag in his RV-10.

- **Renee Robinson** presented the Young Eagle awards.
- Bill presented the “Member of the Year” award to Jack Davi. Bill noted Jack’s orchestration of the B-17 tour, the installation of a library in our meeting room, his educational outreach efforts, and Jack’s general knowledge and perseverance in getting things done.
- **Tom Howard** conducted the raffle. **Bethi Carver** helped him sell raffle tickets. He had a prize for everyone, and then some. He was able to get quite a few of the prizes donated, with the best one of all being a hair cut, style and color valued at \$350! Tom also made many of the prizes out of wood; bowls and ornaments. **Marie Bourgeois** helped hand out prizes. About \$325 was collected from ticket sales. \$250 was spent on prizes.

Here are the details on how we determined the price of \$35 per person for the party: We used a “Campfire Feast for Two” coupon (\$39 for two, or \$19.50 per person), plus additional cost to cover a beverage and dessert for everyone:

\$ 19.50 meal per person  
 2.50 beverage (choice of coffee, tea or soda)  
 3.00 dessert for the second person  
 2.00 corkage (\$8 per bottle, based on 4 glasses per bottle)  
 .06 charge for red napkin  
 \$ 27.06 Subtotal  
 2.50 Tax  
 4.44 Gratuity (15%)  
 \$34.00 Subtotal before adding for 4 guests  
 2.27 one guest’s portion to cover 4 guests (based on 60 paying guests)  
 \$ 36.27 TOTAL per guest

59 members and guests attended. We took in \$1,995.00. The bill for the meal was \$1,825.44. We had two guests from PSA (Amanda and Arthur Thompson). It appears that we were not charged the \$8 per bottle corkage for the wine.

It was a great team effort. Thank you all!

Sara and Harvard Holmes

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## **January 4, 2012 Board Meeting Notes**

President Bill Reining called the meeting to order at 7pm.

### **Treasurer's Report – Bob Belshe**

Our bank balance is \$7,408. Our holiday party came out ahead by \$169. The raffle made an additional \$100, more or less.

We have heard no more information about our 501.c.3 application after we sent in the additional information requested.

Bob has reviewed our financial status in light of MDPA's likely request for more rent from us. We are currently paying \$100 per month since July 2011, up from \$50 per month originally. Last year we paid \$900 total for rent. MDPA feels that we are equal users of the space and should consider a more even distribution of the rent (\$825 per month total). Bob noted that last year we came out ahead (overall bank balance increased just about \$1,700). This is the amount that we netted from the B-17 event. Jack Davi noted that we were unlikely to get the B-17 this year. So Bob concluded that to keep our income and expenses in balance, we could not afford an increase in rent. Bill Reining talked to Maureen Bell from MDPA, and there is no hope of a rent reduction by Sterling, because Sterling pays that much in rent to the Airport. Our conclusion is that we better investigate alternate meeting places. The old terminal building is still available, but we would like to continue our before-meeting dinners. That would require some re-configuration - perhaps the Airport would even allow us to install a sink. Tracy Peters has a list of other locations that we should look at. For our Young Eagles events, PSA has meeting space that we can use. Perhaps the Airport can help us persuade the County Board of Supervisors to work with them to give us some assistance. Bob Belshe suggested that we revise our payment schedule to MDPA from annually to quarterly, so that we have less funds at risk if MDPA and EAA have to give up renting the meeting room.

### **EAA National Report – Bill Reining**

Bill Reining reviewed the EAA National renewal package (insurance and registration). Costs are about 5% higher than last year, for a total of about \$400 for the year.

### **Holiday Party Notes – Sara Holmes**

The Holiday Party was reviewed and the Board determined to return to the Black Angus for 2012 on Sunday, December 9. Sara Holmes will (has) reserved the date. Sara Holmes provided a note summarizing the party.

### **Young Eagles Report – Renee Robinson**

Renee Robinson (assisted this year by Jack Davi) reported by email (she had to work that night). It was noted that our last Young Eagles event had too many attendees! This might have been due to the new banner (thanks to Tracy Peters), which we have not had in the past. Renee proposed the dates of April 28, May 19, June 23, August 18, September 22, and October 20 for our 2012 events. The April 28 event would focus on Girl Scouts that we have committed to fly, the October 20 event would cater to the Sea Cadets, with some dates also for the Boy Scouts. These dates would not be advertised so much to the public, in an effort to control the number of kids showing up. Jack Davi noted that we have 4 new members who will fly Young Eagles, so perhaps we can handle more kids.

### **Donations – Ken McKenzie**

The chapter has accepted a donated VariEze from the Oakland museum, originally built by one of our members. It will be placed on exhibit during Young Eagles events, for the kids to play on, and to illustrate aircraft operations. Ken McKenzie has led this effort. The Board has agreed to rent the aircraft to Dick Sperling for \$5 per year (Harvard Holmes moved that we do this, Tracy Peters seconded, and all present approved.) Dick Sperling will "manage" the aircraft until further notice.

### **Absences**

Bill Reining will miss the next general meeting while he's on a vacation; Tracy Peters will preside.

### **Future Speakers – Tracy Peters**

Tracy Peters reported on future speakers. He hopes to have Alan Brown from the Lockheed Skunkworks to speak, perhaps at the next meeting. He may schedule the next hangar tour for February.

### **Dinner Menu - Rick Bourgeois**

Rick Bourgeois presented the dinner menu for the January 25 meeting: Taco Soup, Corn Bread, Tortilla Chips, Salad, Drinks, and Dessert.

### **Air Academy Report – Tracy Peters**

Tracy Peters reported on our Scholarship for the Air Academy. It appears that despite our best efforts, we only made a waiting list, where we are number 3 on the list for one of the camps for the oldest age group. It appears that if we had specified a gender for our slot, we would have been given a real place. We will look again at the end of January. Meanwhile, we will not make any commitments to the kids.

### **B-17 Report – Jack Davi**

Jack Davi reported that the EAA National has changed their policy on selecting sites for B-17 visits. They now want a guarantee of 150 (!) seats for their B-17 flights. Since our event had just under 50 flights sold, our chances are gone, unless there is a change in policy.

### **Webmaster Report – Renee Robinson**

Webmaster Renee Robinson reported little news on the Web front, after the big change late last year. Please continue to check for correct content. Tracy noted that we need to emphasize our Young Eagles events in our web site, and get “more exciting” pictures.

### **Tool Collection Report – Tom Howard**

Tom Howard continues to move forward with the Chapter’s tool collection. Dick Sperling reported that a compressor has been donated to the Chapter and Ken McKenzie has picked it up. It will be stored in Dick Sperling’s hangar until it can be moved to (Tom Howard’s hangar?). It appears to have a minor leak in the tank. Tracy Peters noted that the scales to be acquired for

the Chapter member’s use are often seen on eBay at about half of retail price. They are commonly used to weigh race cars.

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### **Alaska Or Bust!?!**

by Harvard Holmes

January 2012

I am interested in making a flight to Alaska with other pilots and planes. I think that the best time would be late June/early July, 2012. Last time we took 2 weeks, but I think 3 weeks would be better. I am writing to find out who might be interested and to give some preliminary information about such a trip. If you are interested in going, please contact me at [HarvardHolmes@comcast.net](mailto:HarvardHolmes@comcast.net) or 510 526-5347.

My wife, Sara, and I made a similar trip to Alaska in August, 2007 by ourselves in our Mooney. We followed some basic planning information from “Let’s Fly Alaska,” <http://letsflyalaska.com/> a guided air caravan that Fred and Vi Egli, Bob Belshe and others took in 2005. The “Let’s Fly Alaska” trip is wonderful, but in 2007, they deemed the Mooney to be too slow, and by 2010, they required instrument ratings to join the trip. Currently, they are pretty booked up for 2012. You should definitely visit their web site.

Planning for such a trip encompasses three major areas: the aerial portion, the ground portion, and the excursions portion. For the aerial portion:

- Ensure that the pilot and aircraft are in good condition;
- Make sure your paperwork is in order, including your passport, medical, radio licenses, Canada’s endorsement for experimental aircraft, if needed, and the forms and phone numbers you will need for customs (AOPA);
- If you don’t have a 406 Mhz ELT, then get one, or check the Canadian regulations to see if the old ones are allowed (I’m installing a 406 ELT);
- Get your eAPIS account for U.S. Customs and learn how to use it;

- Collect your survival gear and supplies – both Alaska and Canada have regulations (check AOPA) and decide how to pack them; I think a gun is not required;
- Bring tie down stakes and ropes. (We used the ropes but not the stakes.)
- Check your GPS for its Canada/Alaska coverage, and update databases as required.
- Order paper charts and Flight Supplements for Canada and Alaska. Check the update schedules when you order so that the charts and supplements are current for the trip. I have some older charts to share for orientation.
- Practice a few 180 degree turns. You should be able to look across a canyon and instantly “know” if you have room for a 180 degree turn. You should practice a few minimum diameter 180 degree turns – these will likely involve bank angles up to 60 degrees, pulling up to 2 Gs. (We needed one of these on our 2007 trip.)
- Pre-plan all of the routes that you might take and pre-mark your charts. There are three major routes through Canada: the Trench route, the Coastal route, and one in-between. Also plan the routes within Alaska. That way, you can look at the weather and pick the best route and not spend a lot of time planning.

The ground portion of the trip involves:

- Research hotels, restaurants, grocery stores, and ground transportation in each city where we might stay. We will be there at the busiest time, so accommodations will be busy.
- Decide if we want to make reservations at some hotels, and how this will affect our schedule.
- Make sure that your cell phone is activated for coverage in Canada and Alaska.

The excursions portion of the trip:

Decide what we want to see, and how to do it.

My list includes:

- Denali National Park – take a bus ride out into the park; fly around it;
- Anchorage – museum, learn about the earthquake
- Fairbanks
- Dawson?
- Homer – a bird watching trip
- Float plane trip to watch bears – expensive!
- Follies show in Whitehorse, Yukon <http://www.franticfollies.com/>
- In 2007, we enjoyed McCarthy and the copper mines, but it’s a gravel runway...
- Valdez – learn about the oil pipeline
- Sled dog exhibition
- Native village and life
- Totem Pole carving
- Native arts and crafts
- What else??

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### Wednesday Fly-outs

By Harvard Holmes

Photographs by Tom Howard

To maintain our proficiency, a number of pilots get together on Wednesdays and fly somewhere for lunch. Many of the aircraft owners in the chapter participate. Passengers are always welcome. Not only is it a great way to see the Bay Area, it’s also fun to see and ride in our members’ aircraft. The email address is [WedFlyOut@eaa393.org](mailto:WedFlyOut@eaa393.org) You may contact Renee Robinson [webmaster@eaa393.org](mailto:webmaster@eaa393.org) to be added to or removed from this list.

Generally, someone who wants to go flying will send a suggestion to this list a day or two before. Those who can go will respond, and a destination gets selected. Recent destinations have included: Half Moon Bay, Petaluma, Santa Rosa, Ukiah, Boonville, Shelter Cove, Willows, Auburn, Sacramento, Lodi, Stockton, Merced, Watsonville and Salinas. If the weather is poor, a destination may be selected as late as Wednesday morning.



The most active pilots on this list are Harvard Holmes, Bill Reining, Bob Belshe, Ron Robinson, and Phil Jenkins. Pilots sometimes advertise that they have empty seats, but not always. Harvard Holmes and Bill Reining are most likely to have extra seats (4 seat aircraft). My advice is to contact a pilot in advance to make sure they have room and to get directions. Typically, you'd get to the airport by 11:30am and return by 3:30pm.

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**FOR SALE: 1962 Comanche 250,**  
Cherry condition, fully loaded, new paint, new annual, always hangared. Call Keith Martz for details and avionics. Available for viewing any day, by appointment, at Buchanan Field. Call Keith Martz, 925-933-1424 (Home) or 925-818-7235 (Cell).

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**Pilots Lounge – Entertainment**

Word Search

Word List:

Airport, Altitude, Captain, Cockpit, Controls, Control Tower, Departure, Destination, Flight Attendant, Glide, Gravity, Headset, Jet, Landing, Latitude, Lift, Longitude, Measurement, Pilot, Pressure, Propeller, Runway, Seat Belt, Stabilizer, Take Off, Thrust, Tower, Wing

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 Chapter 393 of Concord, CA**  
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Officers/Appointees for 2010-2011

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| President:         | Bill Reining<br><a href="mailto:pres@eaa393.org">pres@eaa393.org</a><br>510 479 7260             |
| Vice President:    | Tracy Peters<br><a href="mailto:veep@eaa393.org">veep@eaa393.org</a><br>925 676 2114             |
| Secretary          | Pete Mitchell<br><a href="mailto:secty@eaa393.org">secty@eaa393.org</a><br>925 586 6491          |
| Treasurer          | Bob Belshe<br><a href="mailto:treas@eaa393.org">treas@eaa393.org</a><br>925 376 7677             |
| Newsletter Editor  | Kevin Hoos<br><a href="mailto:nle@eaa393.org">nle@eaa393.org</a>                                 |
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| Tech. Counselor    | Bob Sinclair<br><a href="mailto:N320sierra@gmail.com">N320sierra@gmail.com</a><br>925.935.7465   |
| Young Eagles       | Renee Robinson<br><a href="mailto:yec@eaa393.org">yec@eaa393.org</a><br>510-828-1734             |
| Dinner Coordinator | Rick Bourgeois<br><a href="mailto:RicFlyer@Comcast.net">RicFlyer@Comcast.net</a><br>925 432 9076 |
| Photographer       | Tom Howard<br><a href="mailto:photog@eaa393.org">photog@eaa393.org</a><br>925 933 6015           |
| Webmaster          | Renee Robinson<br><a href="mailto:webmaster@eaa393.org">webmaster@eaa393.org</a> 510 828 1734    |

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**Meeting and Event Schedule**

Board	Y Eagles	General	Fly-out	Other
Jan 4		<b>Jan 25</b>		
Feb 1		<b>Feb 22</b>		
Mar 7		<b>Mar 28</b>		
Apr 4		<b>Apr 25</b>		
May 2		<b>May 23</b>		
		May 19 ( <i>also National Learn to Fly Day</i> )		
Jun 6		<b>Jun 27</b>		
		<i>Golden West Regional Fly-In</i>		<i>Jun 8-10</i>
Jul 11				
		<i>Arlington Fly-In, Arlington, WA</i>		<i>Jul 11-15</i>
		<i>Chapter Picnic</i>		<b>Jul 21</b>
		<i>AirVenture 2012, Oshkosh, WI</i>		<i>Jul 23-29</i>

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.

EAA Chapter 393  
P.O. Box 6524  
Concord, CA 94524-1524



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We are on the Web!

<http://www.eaa393.org>

Email: [nle@eaa393.org](mailto:nle@eaa393.org)

