



# THE GRAPEVINE



*There is a very fine line between "hobby" and "mental illness."*

Vol. XXVIII,



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## September Meeting And Program

**NOTICE:** Our September meeting will take place at 7:30 P.M. on the 3rd of September. The meeting will be at the terminal as normal.

### Calendar:

Month	Date	Speaker	Topic
Sep	3	John Youngblood	Flying B52's
Oct	1	Max Trescott	Flying SF Bay Tour
Nov	5	Chris Lowery	Aviation Fuel Expert
Dec	3	Bruce Cruikshank	Attack Jets

**Our September Program** will feature John Youngblood discussing his career flying B52's. John's bio: After ROTC at San Jose State, John entered the Air Force with the 320th Bomb Wing at Mather AFB.

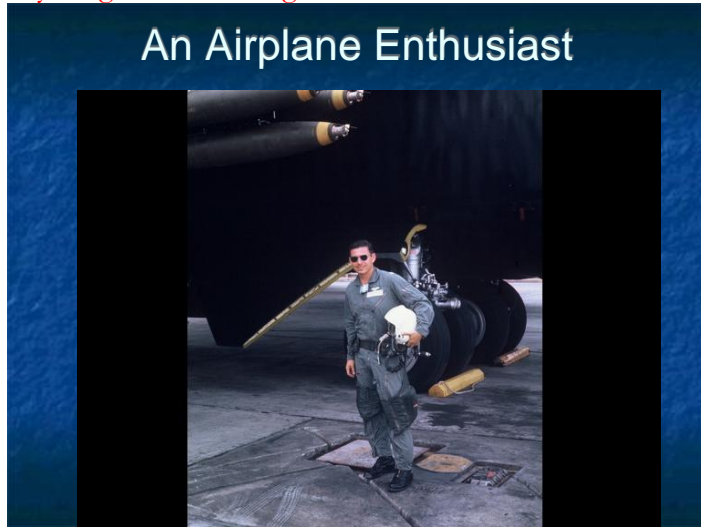
He took part in B-52 Nuclear Ground and Airborne Alert Missions from 1966 through 1968. He transferred to the 99th Bomb Wing at Westover Field in Massachusetts. The wing spent six months in Guam, Okinawa and Thailand flying sorties in Southeast Asia. John flew 45 missions over Viet Nam and Laos.



John left active duty and entered the Air Force Reserve at Travis AFB in 1970 and served as Squadron Commander for three different C-5 and C-141 maintenance squadrons. After promotion to "chicken" Colonel in 1988, he transferred to Hill AFB in Ogden Utah as a Senior Staff Maintenance Officer where he retired three years later.



He also spent 32 years with United Air Lines at the SFO Maintenance Base. John still does some flight instruction and flies his Velocity, hang gliders, trikes and anything else with wings!



## **BIG Important NOTE:**

### **Chapter BBQ – September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Saturday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, is one of our great EAA Chapter 663 BBQs. Chapter member Dick Gossen is moving to Texas, we are taking this opportunity to send him off and wish him well. Be sure to come on out, if you can't stay for the entire evening, drop by to say "Hi" and wish Dick well.

We will have the coals on and start gathering at 4pm. Bring an entrée to grill for yourself and family/guests and a side dish to share, there will be plates, napkins, flatware and beverages.

The BBQ will be at hangars 113/114 as before.

With the airport's new gate access, there is a number keypad by the gate; if you do not have an access card you can enter 45663# to open the gate. This code will only be active from 1pm to 7pm on Chapter BBQ dates.

If you have any questions call me at 925-872-7423

Ralph  
President, EAA Chapter 663 Livermore

### **MINUTES: GENERAL MEETING EAA CHAPTER 663, 8/6/2009, 7:33 PM, TERMINAL BUILDING KLVK.**

Chapter president Ralph Cloud called the meeting to order.

Three guests introduced themselves.

Treasurer Mark Palajac reported \$3,441.21 in chapter funds, with 85 paid members. His report was approved.

Business: Ralph's first item was the coming chapter barbeque on August 15<sup>th</sup>. The gate code for the northeast corner gate will be 45663# for the afternoon and WILL work.

Bruce respectfully left out the part about the newsletter being delivered on the afternoon of the meeting; therefore there was not an opportunity to vote on approval of the minutes from last month. I take full responsibility for the late delay and will try to get this out at least 24 hours prior to the meeting at the latest. Jeffrey – Chapter Editor.

Brad Olsen, our webmaster, said Oshkosh '09 pictures would start appearing on the chapter website; he is doing a great job keeping up to date.

Bob Cowan, chairman of the nominating committee, along with lone committee member Don Smith, is less than overwhelmed with the response he is getting from members for possible positions as chapter officers and directors. The pay sucks, but no volunteers – no chapter.

Ralph mentioned sending pictures of your airplane or project to [photos@eaa663.org](mailto:photos@eaa663.org) for inclusion in Picture Project 2009. (Take a look at the eaa663.org to see some great shoots.)

Future chapter barbeques will be on September 12<sup>th</sup> and October 24<sup>th</sup>. The annual dinner will be January 23, 2010 (Already???)

Eric Helms will be doing some welding on folding chair dollies so the extra chairs used at the meeting can be stored in the terminal building.

Announcements: This month's board meeting will be on 8/20 at Ralph's place at 7:30 pm. Airport Open House will be Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> from 10 to 4 pm. If showing your plane you can preregister; forms were included with your hangar bill.

Break and then Program: This year Bob Cowan stood in for Barry Weber providing us with pictures of Oshkosh. Lots of good stuff, many Light Sport were on display along with many others, some **REALLY BIG** and others **REALLY SMALL**. Thank you Bob and others for sharing your recollections of Oshkosh.

**Meeting adjourned** for pie.

MINUTES: BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 8/20/2009, 7:32 PM, RALLPH'S PLACE.

Ralph Cloud, Mark Palajac, Bob Farnam, Dave Dent, Bruce Cruikshank, Bob Cowan and a bit later Don Smith were present.

Ralph reported success in getting the chapter display case ready for the digital picture frame. The display should be up and running soon.

Tools: Dave Dent reported on arresting someone about attempt to clean some oily spark plugs in the chapter's bead blaster. **PARTS MUST BE CLEAN, NO OIL OR GREASE, BEFORE BEING BEAD BLASTED.** Oily parts contaminate the blasting media, which must then be replaced. Use something like Break Cleaner to degrease parts before blasting!

Nothing new to report on the Boy Scout aviation merit badge program mentioned last month.

Bob Cowan reported little success in getting volunteer officer nominees. There may be some familiar faces filling the positions next year.

Don Smith mentioned that chapter member John Youngblood will tell of his experiences flying B-52's during the Vietnam War at the September meeting.

Ralph led a short discussion about plans for the Airport Open House.

Announcement: Next meeting Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>.  
Meeting adjourned for pie.

**Respectfully** submitted, Bruce Cruikshank, Secretary

### **Feedback/Questions/Suggestions**

**Any and all feedback is welcome. In order to make the newsletter entertaining, informative and above all else, something that you enjoy reading every month please take a few minutes to send suggestions, tips, corrections or any other feedback to: [jeffrylite@comcast.net](mailto:jeffrylite@comcast.net).**

### **Mailbag:**

I didn't receive anything of note in this month's mailbag, but can share a personal story.

An East Coast pilot, whom happens to have previously built the same make airplane that I fly, sent me an email asking for assistance. I have never met this individual, we'll call him "Mr S.", but he was well known in the Sonex community. He had found a GPS 396 on Craigslist that appeared to be a bargain and was hesitant about sending money to someone he did not know and possibly getting a box of rocks or worse. Since the seller was from San Ramon, he asked if I would check it out and verify that the contents were as advertised and then we would work out the money issue.

I was honored to have been selected to be trusted by someone that I had never met and promptly agreed to contact the seller. I called "Josh" and was told the contents of the package and we discussed why he was selling and where he was located vs where I was and arranged for a meet. Since he was headed to Tahoe for a few days vacation, he agreed to stop by my house on Sunday morning. He showed up with his buddy and promptly displayed a working 396, complete with everything it came with except the cig lighter plug and said, "have your guy call me" and jumped in his car

and left. Mind you, I didn't know this guy from Adam and he just handed me a 396, complete with boxes, CD's, mounts, the works and everything and drove away. I checked it all out, everything seemed to function and was everything was present, so I called "Mr S". He told me to arrange for shipping and he would send Josh the money via Money Order. He asked me what it would cost him and I quoted him the price that I got from UPS. I told him that "Josh" didn't know me from Adam, but yet he felt comfortable leaving his 396 in my possession with what seemed not a care in the world as to how he would collect his money. Mr. S stated matter of factly "yeah, well, he's a pilot". I guess that splains a lot.

A couple of day later, I got an envelope containing cash and it turns out the guy on the east coast can't count, he sent me much more than the shipping charges. "Josh" was copied on the note and was informed that his money order was shipped a couple days before my envelope, so the transaction appears to be complete. Josh has my number and is apparently still taking in the party scene in Tahoe and the GPS was scheduled to arrive on the east coast today. Makes me feel good to be a pilot and share in the handshake community of being as good as your word.

**"Grapevine Talking"** This month is on hold again this month due to some scheduling difficulties. For those of you that haven't taken the opportunity, experience breakfast with the chapter every Saturday morning at 8:00 AM. If you haven't been to the chapter [website](#) lately, take the opportunity to stop by and view the excellent work by Brad Olsen.



Cool video's found on the internet.

[Formation Flying 6x6+1](#)

[Redneck Boat test](#)

[Spending more than a few hundred on an RC](#)

## What is it? From last month Sponsored by:



Last month Bob Keller was the first respondent that was present (that's a key detail) at the chapter meeting and was presented with the Spruce Wall Clock for his correct response identifying the B58 Hustler. Chuck Ray was the first correct answer but declined the honor as he also won last month. A true sportsman.

The EAA 663 Chapter newsletter has a sponsor. Aircraft Spruce has graciously donated a "box" of prizes to be awarded for the first correct identification of the monthly "What is it?"

Please send them a note of thanks or at least mention your appreciation when you make your next order for your latest project. **This is the last month of their sponsorship prizes, so please give them a call with your next order and tell them how much you appreciate their generous donation to our monthly newsletter.**

Additional sponsors are being sought and contributions to the prize bucket will continue to be added. Submit your answer to the newsletter editor to be eligible for a prize to be awarded each month at the regular chapter meeting. **You must be present to win.** Winning entries will be decided by the email that

is received with the earliest time stamp and the correct naming of the make/model of the pictured airplane. Winners that correctly identified the winning make/model that do NOT attend the meeting will forfeit the prize to the next available submission.

The correct, first answer that attends the monthly meeting will be declared the winner. You will be notified of the winning entry at the monthly meeting. The winning entry that DOES attend the meeting will receive his/her prize at that time.

## What is it?



Should no one correctly respond with the winning make/model, the prize will be returned to the sponsor(s). Being part of a “group” really does make a difference. Join us for the regular chapter meeting and see what prize might be coming your way. I’ll give you a hint, it will definitely be aviation related. Don’t be late and check your email for the newsletter.

If anyone has something they think is new or unique, send it along. Special prize consideration will be given even though you will be ineligible for the monthly award, but you will have the thanks of the other chapter members for your CONTRIBUTION. Now, break out your slide rules, dictionaries, Kitplanes magazines, AOPA subscriptions, Sport Pilot magazines, magnifying glass and bi/tri focals or all of the above and take a gander at this month’s photo.



“Call me when you get on the ground” is generally not what you want to hear in your headset. Diarrhea or root canal work, either one is preferable.

### Editorial:

The chapter is a valuable source of information and exchange of tips, hints, and above all else, fellowship by others that have experienced what you are about to, or more importantly need to. This is a volunteer effort and a small group of dedicated individuals have availed themselves for serving as officers. With 85 members, we surely can provide a renewable source of interest to the upcoming chapter elections. Take a chance, give more of yourself and run for an office. Those of us that serve, willingly donate our time and effort to pass along our experience and expertise to others so that we all can experience safe, secure and wonderful flight experiences. You will surprise yourself and others with the knowledge that you possess. All it takes is the opportunity to share. Get off your donkey, run for a position. You will be appreciated for what you bring and rewarded many times over for your contributions. It takes a little effort to be there every month, with people counting on you, but then you raised a family and built or bought an airplane that you took the time to learn how to build/fly right? This is just a drop in the bucket in comparison. Throw your name in the hat and step up to the plate. Without your help, we are just an election or two away from extinction.



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