



# THE GRAPEVINE



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

Vol. XXX,



No. 2, February, 2011

## Officers

- President Ralph Cloud 449-1048
- Vice President Don Smith 785-5824
- Trea\$Urer Mark Palajac 454-0627
- Secretary Kirk Knight 510-390-0840
- Program Co-Ord Don Smith 785-5824
- Tech Counselor Dave Dent 447-8055
- Tech Counselor Gordon Jones 447-1549
- Tech Counselor Bob Sinclair 935-7465
- News Letter Emeritus John Meyer
- News Letter Editor Jeffry Larson 209-608-5981
- Flight Advisor Barry Weber 963-0824
- Flight Advisor Bob Farnam 449-1513
- Young Eagles Trina Anderson 209-832-1162
- Librarian Alan Thayer 582-7274
- Web Editor Brad Olson 866-9289



### Mailbag:

#### DUES:

Mark Palajac will be accepting checks for renewing membership and for attending the January dinner. Dues are \$30 for the year, dinner is \$25 per person, and oh yes there are 10 EAA calendars available at \$9 each. To help with the math, two dinners and dues is \$80, or throw in a calendar for a total of \$89. Checks should be made out to EAA 663. You can give them to Mark at the meeting or mail them to his home at: 25 Jacaranda Drive, Fremont CA 94539.

#### January 2011 Minutes

GENERAL MEETING, EAA 663,

1/6/2011 Livermore Terminal

Called to order 7:31 PM by President Ralph Cloud.

Other Board Members in attendance were Mark Palajac, Treasurer and Kirk Knight, Secretary.

GUESTS: Stewart Young, a pastor with a Bearhawk, stopped by to see what's going on at the EAA. Tom Verian has a Velocity XL – an announcement that sent a thrill through the glass crowd.

Minutes from last month were moved and accepted.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mark provided annual report for 2010. He reported last year's dinner was a break even. We spent slightly more on the year than we took in, with an ending balance of \$3,701.22.

We have quite a few checks coming in, with 20 members logged in, 8 more renewals in process and 5

## Board Of Directors

- Bruce Cruikshank 510-886-6897
- John Goldsmith 925-447-7362
- Brad Oliver 925-443-1135
- Bob Farnam 449-1513
- Dick Jennings 862-2345
- Bob Cowan 373 0555



## February Meeting And Program

**NOTICE:** Our February meeting will take place at 7:30 P.M. on the 3rd of February. The meeting will be at the terminal - KLVK.

### Calendar:

Month	Date	Speaker	Topic
Dec	3	Lance Schlichter	Rocket Launches
Jan	6	Ronald E. Ciura	Less Told Tales
Feb	3	John Shirley	Aerial history of LVK

Our February Program will feature a discussion by John Shirley, will be giving a presentation on the aerial history of the Livermore airport. A Cessna 210 pilot John will show pictures taken of the valley over the last several decades and how that has affected LVK. A WWII veteran, rumor has it that he can also be enticed to answer questions about some of his battle history. Should be a very interesting evening. Be sure and join us.

calendars remaining for \$9 each. Report moved and accepted.

**YOUNG EAGLES:** Trina reports 32 future Young Eagles enrolled at Open House and 7 additional via website. Of our 107 Young Eagles or the year – a chapter record – 85 flew from Tracy and 22 from Livermore. Next year’s first Young Eagles will be in April. Check the Chapter website to enter names.

**TOOLS:** Bob Farnam reported the new bead blaster was up and running!

**MEMBER ALERT! COMPRESSOR SALE:** Ralph detailed the procedure for selling the old compressor. **Sealed bids are due by January 20, 2011 at 7:30pm at Ralph’s house – coincidentally the January Board Meeting time and location.** It will be sold to the member of EAA 663 who is highest bidder by sealed bid auction. The 60 gallon tank is good, 230 volt motor is good, but compressor does not generate pressure. Ralph suggests prospective bidders could buy a 5 HP pump and roll your own. **Mark your bids EAA Compressor.**

**WEBSITE:** Brad has been uploading content. If you’re a member but don’t have access email Brad for username and password to [web@eaa663.org](mailto:web@eaa663.org).

**NEWSLETTER** – Jeffry Larson notes last month’s mystery plane was a Jodel DR 1050. Just to play tricks on the savvy planespotters, he’s Photoshopping the N number to make it harder. For 2011 we’ll have a **new point system**. You get a point for correct guesses. You get 3 wrong guesses a month. The **WINNING PRIZE** is a SPOT Personal Locator courtesy of Aircraft Spruce to be awarded at year end. Jeffry said that Aircraft Spruce has been a great sponsor and Chapter Members are encouraged to give a thanks to them each time you order. *Editor’s Note: The new point system is 2 incorrect guess’s per month as outlined in the March 2010 Newsletter. [Link](#).*

**CHAPTER DINNER:** Set for Saturday January 22, 2011 at Livermore Presbyterian Church 2020 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Livermore near L and 4<sup>th</sup>. Cocktails start at 6pm. Wine is also served. Spouses and friends are invited.

Tickets are \$25.00. Contact Mark Palajac to reserve prior to January 13<sup>th</sup>.

Our guest speaker is 90+ year old Lloyd Childers, by invitation of Bob Cowan. Lloyd’s personally history is literally having a front row seat at pivotal events of US history including reporting for duty at Pearl Harbor on December 6, 1941, and serving as a gunner in a torpedo plane at the Battle of Midway. Lloyd, an enlisted man, went on to fly Corsairs in WWII and Korea, and later was a helicopter commander in Vietnam.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** January 20th Board Meeting at Ralph’s house in Livermore. February 3 Chapter meeting. February 17<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting at Ralph’s house in Livermore.

Ralph invites prospective Vice Presidents to step forward for 2011.

**MAINTENANCE TIPS:** Dave Dent uncovered the mystical meaning of cylinder color codes on Lycoming and Continental engines.

The base of the jug has a narrow color stripe representing a code. Some people mistakenly believe these are for appearance and style, but in reality they’re an important technical indicator for A&Ps and owners. Be careful when painting your showcase engine as you may accidentally confuse future mechanics and necessitate an expensive metallurgical test at your next overhaul.

Orange = Chrome  
Two Orange = Cermichrome  
White = Rebarrelled  
Blue = Nitride  
Black ring = bored out 0.015” oversize  
Continental may have it stamped on base 0.010”

You may also see paint on cylinder fins opposite from base end between the valves:

Yellow = Long reach plug (13/16” not 5/8”)

Dave commented that it’s not advised to mix cylinders as you may end up with inconsistent performance and

cooling. If you want to paint your cylinders for that “Oshkosh award-winning look” Dave recommends black to absorb heat, and white on other surfaces to reflect heat.

Dave has been testing a nifty new contactless infrared thermometer. It reads a 1” circle at 50” distance up to 2100°F. The key to such readings are that it is surface dependent and therefore you should monitor the relative change, not the specific temperature. He likes to use it to validate cockpit gauges such as CHT and determine if he’s getting uneven readings due to actual temperature variation or a defective sensor.

Break for cookies at 8:14

THIS MONTH’S GUEST: Ron Ciura, member of the Buffalo Aero Club, the oldest aero club in the U.S. (aeroclubofbuffalo.com)

Ron is great storyteller who had a fascinating series of stories to tell about a secret facility built in upstate New York prior to WWII. Just to grab our attention he featured a post-war photo of a very large concrete hangar surrounded by a half dozen B-29s and a B-50. “Just what was going on out there in the middle of nowhere?”

He revealed that early in the war General Electric employed several thousand people building engines for airplanes with fake propellers at this remote location. Later we called them jet engines, but at that time it was all top secret.

A few of the more unusual photos Ron showed were of a jet engine test stand built on a trapeze in the bomb bay of a twin engine medium bomber. The aircraft would take off with the engine hidden in the bomb bay, fly to altitude, open the bomb bay and crank the engine into the slip stream where it would spool up. They would then feather the piston engines and power the aircraft just from the jet.

Just to test our credulity, Ron pointed to a couple of B-29s at the field and said these were built as pilotless drones! There was a time early in WWII when it was feared England would be invaded and we would need

long range one-way bombers to attack the Nazis bases across the ocean. The GE team demonstrated the ability to operate programmable drone aircraft. He even had photos of one plywood plane made by the Wurlitzer Organ Company.

Thanks for sharing your rich history.

MEETING ADJOURNED 9:24PM

Minutes respectfully submitted by Kirk Knight,  
Chapter Secretary

MINUTES: BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEETING,  
EAA CHAPTER 663, 1/20/11, 7:40 PM, RALPH’S  
PLACE.

Ralph cloud, Barry Weber, Bob Farnam, Dick Jennings Mark Palajac, John Goldsmith, Bruce Cruikshank, Bob Cowan, Brad Oliver, Trina and Dave Anderson were present.

Treasurer Mark reported \$5184.22 in chapter funds. We have 42 paid members for the coming year.

Business: The chapter chart has been renewed, and Bob Sinclair has returned as a Technical Counselor.

Dave Dent has offered to be the replacement vice president. An election may be held in the next general meeting.

Trina discussed the coming Young Eagles rallies.

Tools: And the letter please: Barry Weber offered the single and highest bit for what was formerly the chapter compressor; the chapter is \$31.50 richer. Ralph has received the registration for the chapter trailer. . . . but no license plate? He’s going to try again.

Bob Cowan mentioned the school tour he is conducting on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup>, a reminder for those who offered to help.

The annual diner: Mark reported 60 reservations, so it was decided to order 64 dinners. Everything else seemed to be ready.

Ralph asked for ideas for the February program, and pretty much came up with a blank.

Announcements: Trina mentioned that there will be a meeting at the Tracy City Hall on the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 10:30 am about the future of the aerobatic box (a bit of airspace cordoned off for maneuvering) nearly over the Tracy Airport.

The next meeting will be Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>; with the board following on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

Meeting adjourned for pie.

Respectfully submitted, Bruce Cruikshank for secretary Kirk Knight

### Feedback/Questions/Suggestions

Any and all feedback is welcome. Please take a few minutes to send suggestions, tips, corrections or any other feedback to: [jeffrylite@comcast.net](mailto:jeffrylite@comcast.net).

Cool video's found on the internet.

[Optical Illussions – Did I really see that?](#)

[BMW V12 Airplane engine. Hot Dog anyone?](#)

[Stunning 360 View Helicopter ride – Interactive.](#)

[They could build an airplane with hands like these.](#)

### What is it? From last month

### Sponsored by:



Last month no one correctly identified the Jodel DR-1050 although multiple people earned points towards the year end prize. **Thanks to those that called Aircraft Spruce and mentioned this contest in the newsletter as they have agreed to continue their sponsorship.**



**Prizes are available thanks to them. Please give them a call with your next order and tell them how much you appreciate their generous donation to our monthly newsletter.**

Submit your answer to the newsletter editor to be eligible for a prize to be awarded 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.



If you don't check to see if your flight controls are free and correct, your airplane will be the first to let you know, quite rudely.

### Editor's note:

Be sure and tune into Jeopardy mid February and watch two former champions, Ken Jennings and Brad Rutter take on IBM's new "Watson" computer in a real game. First prize is one million dollars with second garnering \$300,000 and third place getting \$200,000. Jennings and Rutter have pledged 50% of their winnings to charity and IBM will donate its entire prize to charity. IBM is celebrating their 100 anniversary in 2011.

What is it?  
Sponsored by:





16610 Von Sosten Road  
Tracy, CA 95304  
[jeffrylite@comcast.net](mailto:jeffrylite@comcast.net) or  
[President@eaa663.org](mailto:President@eaa663.org)