

EAA Chapter 81 Meeting Minutes March 17, 2012

Meeting called to order by Chapter President Duane Boyd at 10:00. Treasurer's report – current balance is \$12,418. No secretary's report, as Bob Miller is reportedly in the Cayman Islands checking on his money. Previous month's minutes were provided in the newsletter.

We proceeded to an introduction around the room for members and visitors to identify themselves and describe their project progress (or excuses for lack thereof).

- Erik Fjerstad – some progress on his RV-6A, with recent motivation by the cost of the recent annual for his Cessna 150.
- Joe Seibold – happily flying his Czech Aero LSA
- John Harlow - Lancair ES with Corvette LT-1 V8, recently completed his annual condition check at zero expense. Also noted his Chevy engine uses no oil.
- Jary Wesley – noted his RV6 project is stalled.
- Mel Bina – has sold his Velocity.
- Phil Peery – his RV7 kit is efficiently collecting dust, and grandson Dylan just had his 1st airplane ride as part of the 99's 20-cent per pound event this morning. Another Peery noted he soloed a Luscomb about 60 years ago.
- Johnny Thompson – reported he had built 2 Mustang II kits years ago.
- Chuck Valade – one of our tech counselors, made a suggestion to anyone with a Sensenich ground adjustable composite prop, to not rely on the “setting pins”, but to use a protractor. Some significant vibration problems have been thus resolved.
- Ed Davis – has a Fisher Celebrity biplane with Jabiru 3300A
- Bing Bingham – building a Zenith CH750
- Bruce Newlan – has sold his Luscombe, still has his tailwheel Express with the IO-540 3-blade Constant Speed prop for sale, only 200 hours since new! See ad in the April newsletter.
- Buck Clippard – related that he soloed a J3 about 65 years ago, bought it for \$325 which didn't please his father at the time.
- Tom Koscinski – a visitor from Michigan, has built an RV-9.
- William Arnold – a visitor, has been in the EAA since 1961, currently looking for someone to help with aircraft projects and to fly his airplane (supplying the gas!). He's a resident of Flying Diamond Airpark.
- George Snyder – Semi-retired, restoring his Swift for the 2nd time. 1st time he made one airplane from two about 30 years ago. This time, he's making major mods installing a 350 hp TIO 540 from a Malibu, which is entailing customizing the engine installation, relocating the wings farther forward, major fuel system modifications for increased capacity, etc.
- Dean Wheeler – continues to amaze with his construction speed. Having started last fall, he has completed the tail, the fuselage, interior, instrument panels, etc., probably on his way to flying this year.
- Gary Roberts – progressing with his Europa project, with Rotax 914.
- Bob Sutherland – his Titan T51 project is on hold, currently building an engine stand to test the engine.
- Bob Olden – projects underway include a ¾ scale Stearman N2S, and a full-size "Fokker DR1 Tri-Plane" which he hopes to have flying by 2014 for the 100th anniversary of that type.
- Jim Moss – related that he is the “custodian” of a PJ290 Senior Aero Sport.
- Dewey Fish – a visitor, related that he had military flight training at Pinal air park about 50 years ago.
- Bill Ditsler – retired engineer, has been building instruments for some of the local NOAO telescopes on Kitt Peak
- Hal Burlingame – a chapter officer, reported he has acquired a travel trailer for possible

conversion to support the pancake breakfast activities. He also has acquired a double-decker English bus as a coffee shop project.

- Mick Myal has finished his wing tip tank design project and is actively marketing kit plans.
- Duane Boyd – confessed to no progress on his Champ. Said something about chasing cats (you had to be there).
- Some names missed, or badly garbled in my notes included one visitor who belongs to 5 EAA chapters, winters in Arizona, and flies Twin Otters on the North Slope in Alaska in the summer. My apologies for misspelled or missing names.

Old business – None

New Business – Decision made for next (April) meeting to be a “meeting only” with a tour at the Lightning Southwest facility in Marana, the regions dealer for Arion Lightning aircraft. Details in the April newsletter. The May meeting will be in conjunction with Tucson Airport Authorities Centennial event to be held at Ryan Field, and the chapter will plan to provide a pancake breakfast for the event as a fundraiser.

A raffle was held for some aviation memorabilia – winners collected books on the T34 Mentor, the U2, the Northrop Flying Wing, and a “Leatherman-like tool” (only aviation relevance would be if it had been confiscated by TAA!).

Respectfully Submitted by
Erik Fjerstad