

EAA Chapter 81 Board of Directors Meeting
February 6, 2010

Meeting was called to order at 1015 by President Duane Boyd at the Conference Room of Vice President Hal Burlingame's worksite. Others participating were Newsletter Editor Erik Fjerstad, Stan Gorman, Secretary Bob Miller, Webmaster Bruce Noon, and Joe Seibold.

Erik was happy to report that we are down to only 32 paper newsletter recipients, considerably cutting printing and distribution costs, the rest of our membership receiving SkyWriter electronically.

Duane exhibited some illustrations of showcases and the one he feels most suited to our meeting room. Items to be displayed could include memorabilia from Bill Paul, model aircraft, books, et cetera. Duane still is in the process of securing permission from Ryan Field Airport Manager Scott Driver for placing the showcase.

Bob Miller had suggested that we have a collection of Chapter tools that would be available to sign out to Chapter 81 members for use on their projects. He pointed out that many tools are quite specialized and rather expensive, are purchased by a builder, and then rarely used. He cited as example, a Nicopress tool for swaging cables. The primary problem with having such a collection at this time is that we have no place to store such tools, and that a bookkeeping system would be required to keep track of them. As an alternative, it was decided to produce a list of items available to borrow from individual members, who would themselves keep track of when and to whom the items were loaned.

Next, the issue of having a Chapter 81 Hangar was revisited. Erik, who rents a hangar at Ryan Field, is aware that, due to the economic downturn, hangars have become available and rents are currently quite reasonable. Rather than purchasing a hangar as we have previously investigated, it might be more prudent to rent a hangar for as little as \$230 per month. We have some funds that are not being used, and a Chapter Hangar could host such activities as Pancake Breakfasts and other fundraisers to support itself, as well as have space for building-technique demonstrations, or for members to work on their projects for limited periods of time. Erik will inquire further as to rents and availability and report to the rest of the Board.

We were unable to contact Buck Clippard regarding his arranging for a February tour of Pinal Airpark, home of the SuperGuppies, and as time was short, arranged alternatively for a Project Meeting at the hangar of Dennis Hall.

Another item revisited was our having a formal relationship with the Pima Air and Space Museum. At one time, Chapter 81 was extensively involved in rebuilding a cabin Waco on-site for display. Relations with the directors of the museum have been somewhat distant since that time and we are not certain whether we want to have an official presence there again. Joe, who is well connected with the museum, will make some inquiries about this, and also about organizing a Chapter 81 tour and perhaps even a dedicated tram for this spring. Joe is also able to arrange speakers for our Chapter Meetings, suggesting, for example, that we have a representative of the 99s speak to us at one meeting, and a pilot for the Border Patrol at another. He will set up an initial speaker and we will see how it is received by the membership. Joe is also having a Trailer Redecking Party at his lovely home in Outer Mongolia (actually more like Pusch Ridge), supplying the food and drink while we supply the labor. This trailer will be available for Chapter 81 members to use to transport their aircraft.

It was suggested that we have a Chapter 81 Booth at the Copperstate Fly-In. At one time, Tucson's Chapter 81 was the prime mover in the Fly-In, but the much newer Chapter 1445 is on site at Casa Grande and is now mostly running the show. Also, sometime after Copperstate, we might have a "newcomers" meeting, sort of a Chapter 81 party with chili and drinks. Another area of Chapter 81 participation might be a booth at the current equivalent of the Ryan Aviation Days celebration.

The last item discussed was the proposed frequency of Board of Directors meetings. We will aim for three per year with a flexible schedule. The next is slated for April, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted by
Secretary Bob Miller