

EAA 555 November 2018 Minutes

Meeting called to order by Wes Baker

New members or guests:

Al Ackerman is from Ruidoso Alto. He moved here about 3 months ago. He soloed in 1950 and he is a Korean War veteran. He worked with Eastern Airlines in 1959 and since has worked in corporate aviation flying corporate jets. 25 years ago, he formed his own sales company selling corporate jets with his son who is now running the business. He has a turbo Bonanza up in Ruidoso but doesn't currently have an aircraft here.

Tim Carswell is our second guest. He is from El Paso and recently moved to Las Cruces. He has lived in New York and Tucson recently. He likes airplanes and is currently looking for a CFI to get his license.

Finance Report: There is currently \$ 16,041.00 in our various accounts. It is dues time \$20.00 so please get current with your dues.

Young Eagles: Chris Campbell: We have a YE rally coming up on December first. We have several pilots lined up to fly but we could always use more. If you can fly Young Eagles, please let Chris know. Don Donahue and the Las Cruces Aviators who will help with the flying. We are expecting at least 20 kids so it will be busy. Brett Hahn, John Hotovec and Jerry Clark are going to help out with brief presentations on the various aspects of flying and aircraft. There is new literature coming from the EAA. There are also 4 kids from Santa Theresa who didn't get a chance to fly there who will be coming as well. Chapter 1570 in Santa Theresa could be called on to send pilots as well but probably will not be asked this time. Ground volunteers will also be needed to help out if you want to help. The CAP and the model airplane club will be there too.

Mayfield High School ROTC is interested in building an airplane and they also want to get all of their cadets flying also! Major Bigger of the Mayfield Air Force JROTC is the contact for this. They are very interested in this and they know what they want to build and they are moving forward.

Waix Project: A sign-up sheet is going around and has a place to show interest in the club. The following people have shown interest: Bill Madden, Fritz Wagoner, Don Rossie, Justin Armendariz, Tony Heulin, Wes Baker, David Nester, Brett Hahn, Paul Danuka have all attended the start up meeting.

There is some test flying being done. A couple of screws backed out of the canopy so they were put back in and blue lock-tight was applied to hold them in. The fumes got to the canopy and it disintegrated! It says not to do this right in the build papers but we screwed up. So we have a new canopy on order to replace it, but it is costly! Bill Madden and Fritz Wagoner are installing a dual throttle set-up while it is down for the canopy fix and it will be completed soon. Bo has agreed to give flight instruction in the Waix and he requested dual throttles for that. Bo did get checked-out in the Waix that was here last month so things are all legal and we are moving forward.

Other Projects: Jerry is ready to fly his BD-4. He has purchased the EAA flight test manual and it was passed around.

Tony is working away on his plane and canopy. His engine is installed and the avionics are being put together. Chuck is working on his Versa-Plane. He is doing away with the clecos and nut plates are going in. With luck it will be flying next year. It is a gyro-plane and is expected to cruise up to 18,000 feet with a Rotax airplane. He says that it has a small wing to help it fly high and fast.

Chuck Ritchie came down from Colorado this week. He is working on a 3D printed light housing for his turbine single place helicopter. He showed us a draft mode printed part in PLA plastic. The finished part will be done in ABS at higher detail He said this part took 18 hours to print with about 4 hours in CAD for the part. He says that various new materials are available for 3D printing, One of them is Carbon fiber reinforced plastic. It requires a ruby nozzle because it just eats a brass nozzle!

Fritz Wagoner is working on a new plane on the CNC machine is a VP2 Volksplane wing that is going together. This is a one-off wing that is being cut. It is a new wing design. He has corrected the aileron aspect ratio

problem. When it is clear, the rest of the NERA will be next. He has the fuselage welded up on wheels The NERA wing will be the next thing to go on the CNC.

The switchblade project will be tested next year. A lot of the testing ins now complete.

John Hotovec is working on an ADS-B In receiver and is waiting parts to arrive. This is a Raspberry Pi based receiver copy of the Stratux design. It goes together very easily and costs less than \$150.00 He says anyone interested in building one of these should contact him – get his number from Wes.

Brett Hahn talked about the National Scholarship Program. There is a trust at national EAA that has been set up to provide scholarships for young people. This fund has 2 million dollars set aside. They will probably be awarding it in \$10,000 chunks. Our EAA chapter is trying to get some of this fund for local pilots. There are a lot of requirements for these scholarships with a lot of oversight. But this is real, the money is already allocated and we will be trying to get some of that funding for our local kids.

Chapter 1570 at Santa Theresa has also put together a strong program and 5 youngsters are already flying using funds from their scholarship program. Sergio Reyes here locally is one of them.

Lane Etheridge is looking for people to help him with his A-26 restoration. He will pay volunteers who work on the airplane with him \$30. per hour to help him get that thing going. See Wes for his phone number.

Ralph Christofaro is here who has been working on a GP-4. He is working on completing this airplane. He is looking for help completing the airplane. When the airplane is completed and sold, he will give 40% of the sales to the chapter. It is a considerable amount of money so if anyone is interested, contact Wes Craven for his phone number.

Las Cruces Space Festival is coming soon. April 7th to the 13th. Last year we displayed the Dragonfly pieces and this year we hope to display there again. There is going to be a Spaceport open house on April 11th. That will include a fly-in. They have drastically reduced the overhead required to do this. Testing on the spaceship is getting completed and it will be testing and flying out here soon.

Christmas Party is coming soon. The date has been set for Friday, December 14th. For members and a guest the admission will be free. This was a great party last year and all are welcome. We hope to see you there.

Elections were held at this meeting. The ticket was for Wes Craven as President, Fritz Wagoner as VP. John Hotovec as Secretary, Chris as Treasurer, and Chris Campbell as Young Eagles chairman. The ticket was elected unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Hotovec EAA 555 Secretary