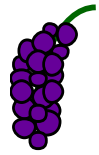


# THE GRAPEVINE



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

EAA Chapter 663 Livermore, California

Vol. XXVII, No. 10, October, 2008

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<b>President</b> Ralph Cloud	449-1048
<b>Vice President</b> Don Smith	785-5824
<b>Treasurer</b> Mark Palajac	454-0627
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<b>Program Co-Ord</b> Don Smith	785-5824
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## October Meeting And Program

Our October meeting will take place at 7:30 P.M. on the 4th of October in the Terminal Building at the Livermore Airport. Our program for the night will consist of a short business meeting followed by a presentation by Greg Triplett on sheet metal construction including a demonstration.

Minutes: General Meeting EAA Chapter 663, 7:34 Pm, 9/4/08, Terminal Building KLVK.

**Chapter president Ralph Cloud** called the meeting to order.

**Four guests** introduced themselves.

**The minutes** for the July and August meetings were approved as printed in "The Grapevine".

**Treasurer Mark Palajac** reported \$4,679.00 in chapter funds.

**Business:** Ralph put out a request for a newsletter editor to replace John Meyer who ably served as our editor for decades. Jeffrey Larson volunteered!!!!

**The Airport Open House** is coming up Saturday Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> from 10 until 4. Those wishing to display their aircraft should plan to get their planes out early (before 9). There are forms available at the airport office (they were sent out with the hangar bills). Ralph made a request for some kind of sun shade; the one used in the past is not available. (Those at the event last year will recall that it rained!?!?!?) It is time to sign up more Young Eagle applicants.

**Bob Farnam**, the chapter tool man, reported on seeing and evaluating the Tri-Q 200 trailer. It is a very light weight trailer, but possibly with some modifications would be able to suit our purposes. He thought the price would be about \$700, but won't be available for some time, saga continues.

**Young Eagles** coordinator Eric Helms announced the next rally for Sept 27<sup>th</sup>. We'll be starting on the new patch that will sign up at the Open House. Eric requested someone cover for him at the Open House as he will not be present.

**The last summer barbeque** of the year will also be Sept. 27<sup>th</sup>. Starting time is about 4pm. Bring a dish to share and something to burn.

**Announcements:** The next board meeting will be 9/18/08 7:30 at Ralph's place, next general meeting 10/2/08.

**Member's forum:** Bob Buckthal confessed to details surrounding his effort to establish an airport on Holland Track an island in the Delta. He discussed details that led up to major power failure in his Glasair FT. Fortunately he made emergency off field landing without major damage. He thanked all those helped retrieve the aircraft.

**Tom Belisle**, president of the Stockton EAA chapter, made a request for volunteers, for the “Welcome Home Heroes” event at the Stockton Airport on Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> from 11 until 4. Help is needed for crowd control. 10,000 to 20,000 are expected to attend this event that will include the display of numerous military aircraft. The airport will not be closed, and private/homebuilt aircraft are welcome, but will not be part of the display. The event is to raise money for returning wounded and disabled veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan.

**Break and then Program:** Don Smith introduced Max Trescott, 2008 CFI of the year, who gave us a presentation on night flying. He gave an excellent presentation on the hazards of night flying. Hazardous? You are 4 or 5 times as likely to die while flying at night as in day light. He gave much advice on how to deal with these hazards if you fly after dark.

9:36 meeting adjourned for pie.

**Minutes:** Board Of Directors Meeting, 9/18/08, 7:37 PM, Ralph’s Place.

Ralph Cloud, Don Smith, Dick Jennings, Bob Farnam, Dave Dent, Bruce Cruikshank, and Jeffry Larson were eventually present.

**The Airport Open House** was the first item. Ralph requested and received a large volume of promotional material from EAA Headquarters. Ralph is supplying table, chairs, water on ice and sun shade. Show plane parking for the chapter will be just west of the fuel island.

**The last chapter barbecue** of the year will be Sept. 27, at 4 pm. Supplies are on hand.

**Tools:** Bob Farnam reviewed details of the “Quiki Trailer”. If purchased it would need some modifications for our use. It was mentioned that Bob Steffen has a very nice trailer that some chapter members have borrowed. Some comments were made about possibly borrowing it for chapter use in exchange for the chapter insuring it.

**Jeffry Larson** gave some details of his plans for the chapter newsletter. One source of material will be printed interviews of different chapter members, based on the answers to numerous thought provoking aviation related questions. There was also talk of encouraging more members to receive their newsletter online.

**October program:** Don Smith has talked Greg Triplett into giving a sheet metal construction demonstration.

**2009 Annual dinner:** Bob Farnam has contacted the caterer and the price will be unchanged from last year; the menu may also be unchanged as no one could remember what we had anyway.

**Announcements:** Next general meeting will be Oct. 2. Board meeting will be Oct. 16.

## PLEA FOR RELIEF

If you now receive your copy of the chapter newsletter by way of the US Postal Service, you are costing the Chapter more in operating expenses.

To reduce the consumption of paper, ink, labor and postage, please convert to electronic delivery.

**Advantages:** It will make the life of whoever is doing the newsletter a lot easier. Use fewer materials. You will receive your newsletter earlier than those who wait for the postal service. Benefit from color images, internet URL’s and much more.

When you make the correct decision to receive your newsletter electronically, send an email to: [president@eaa663.org](mailto:president@eaa663.org) or [jeffrylite@comcast.net](mailto:jeffrylite@comcast.net).

As discussed at the board meeting and mentioned above in the newsletter, this month we start a new feature, “Grapevine Talking” in which we will chat with a different member or members each month, ask them so airplane related questions, some normal, some off the wall so that we can all get to know our members a little better. If you have any ideas for questions, thoughts or other ideas that you would like to see incorporated into the newsletter, please send me a note via the email address above.

I’ve tried to add some color into this month’s newsletter in an effort to make it more readable online. Each section is “color coded” to allow those with smaller screens to follow the thread. Those that are reading the printed version will not notice any difference. Again, any and all feedback is welcome.

As I read through the minutes, knowing that this has not yet gone out, I was struck by the fact that most of them dealt with items that have already passed. Given the previous method was to mail shortly before the meeting as a “reminder” to attend, it’s likely that the next newsletter will go out electronically immediately after the board meeting and the laggard “printee’s will continue a few days before the meeting.



## Grapevine Talking



Our first “volunteers” are Trina and Dave Anderson. They are building an RV9 that was purchased at or beyond the quickbuild stage. After extensive work, they determined that the “beyond” was actually “behind” as several parts had to be redone or rethought. They are working diligently and hope to have it flying by spring. Aircraft is on the gear, engine mounted and cowling being fitted.

Now, on to the questions.

*GVT - What was your first airplane ride?*

Trina - Northwest to Idaho

Dave - DC 6 United to Cleveland for Christmas

*GVT – First non-commercial ride?*

Trina – 1992 Helicopter ride in Maui.

Dave – 1966 Cessna 172 in Livermore.

*GVT – How many hours have you logged as PIC?*

Trina – 176

Dave – 280

*GVT – What is your biggest unfulfilled airplane fantasy?*

Trina – Island hopping in the Caribbean.

Dave – Same as her, only in a Citation.

*GVT – If you were offered the airplane of your choice, free and clear, what would it be?*

Trina – New Piper 4 seater....what are those called?

Dave – Citation Mustang

*GVT – If you had a chance to fly anything just ONCE, what would it be?*

Trina – That new Piper Jet thingy...off an aircraft carrier.

Dave – F22 (said quickly and without hesitation).

*GVT – How much are you willing to admit you spend on your aviation “sickness” on an average monthly basis?*

Trina – Laughing, over what time period? For the last year it’s been about \$4k a month.

Dave – Over the time since we’ve been flying, I’d say anywhere from \$200-600 a month.

*GVT – If you won the lottery, which airplane(s) would you buy immediately?*

Trina – Meridian

Dave – Mirage

*GVT – What do you like most about aviation?*

Trina – The thrill of soaring through the air, and the aspect of being able to get somewhere you want to go quickly is icing on the cake.

Dave – The freedom of being able to go anywhere, whenever you want, and getting there quicker than you can ever do in your car.

*GVT – Whom is the best pilot and/or the most awesome aviation display that you have seen in person?*

Trina – The Harrier

Dave – Bob Hoover

*GVT – Most memorable flight experience?*

Trina – It’s either my first demo flight at Tracy or the day I got my ticket punched, one day ahead of him (pointing at Dave).

Dave – Yeah, she offered to give me a ride. I’d have to say checking out the waterfalls in Maui.

*GVT – What does Sport Pilot mean to you?*

Trina – Like a sports car, you know, middle age crisis, you buy a sports car, well, now you can buy an airplane.

Dave – Hopefully this is a tool to turn around the GA decline, make it more affordable so that older people can continue to fly and younger ones are more encouraged to dream of flying.

*GVT – How much difference does belonging to an EAA chapter help/enhance your aviation experience?*

Trina – A LOT. I went from thinking it was impossible to build an airplane, to getting support to do it, help with determining what I/we could build, where to start and always, always, someone to answer any of the hundreds of questions as we go along.

Dave – Significantly! Every aspect, building, flying, help with any of the 1000’s of choices along the way, but probably the most significant is their lobbying efforts on behalf of homebuilders and GA. Without EAA and AOPA, GA and the homebuilder would be in grave danger of extinction, much more so than

we are today. In fact, we should write a check tomorrow to become lifetime members.

*GVT – Top 5 words you use to describe the FAA?*

Trina – F#\*\$@) up, Arrogant, Donkey (substituted more appropriate word), Helpful, Supportive.

Dave – Bureaucratic, Idiotic, Helpful, Decent (most), and most appear to be very Enthusiastic.

*GVT – Neatest (coolest, not tidiest) airport you have been to?*

Trina – Halfmoon Bay – Everything is right there, walk a short ways, eat, shop, just neat.

Dave – Hanna Maui – (spoken with a dreamy look of remembrance on his face).

*GVT – What airport that you have heard about but not yet been would you most like to fly into?*

Trina – Jimmy Buffets Margaritaville. I don't know if that's the name of it or if it really exists, but that would be cool. Of course, the flight out would have to wait a day or maybe two.

Dave – St Martin Caribbean. Coming in over the water and right over the beach on touchdown.

*GVT – Describe your best and worst landings.*

Trina – Best was right here at Tracy, during my flight test, Instructor said “Perfect” and I was so proud.

Dave – Tracy, a Thursday night, gusty swirling winds, headwind, then quartering tailwind, then direct crosswind, all on the same final approach. We were on one wheel for what seemed like a long time, but despite everything we kept going straight down the runway without anything eventful happening.

*GVT – And your worst?*

Trina – Also with my flight instructor...(shuddering), yah, really bad.

*GVT – What made it bad?*

Trina – (laughing), which one? It bounced two or three times.

Dave – The one mentioned before was probably one of the best as well as being the worst, all things considered, but probably the best one was in a rented 172 in Maui. My brother and sister in law were going sightseeing with us and she was scared to death to fly in a small plane. We flew around sightseeing and when we came in for a landing, we

landed so lightly and gently that you could hardly tell we were down. She thought that was much better than the airline pilots and questioned when we could do this again.

*GVT – Most rude comments about TD vs Tri gear pilots?*

Trina – I have no preference, but what's the old saying “Tail draggers rule and Tricycles drool”, yah, well I guess I'll just be a drooler.

Dave – “It's not IF but WHEN you will ground-loop.”

*GVT - What would you most like to do in an airplane that you haven't already done?*

Trina – A barrel roll. I'm still a bit squeamish about aerobatics, but maybe someday I'd like to think that I'll be able to handle at least a barrel roll.

Dave – Aerobatics. Watching those guys in the aero box at Tracy, it just looks like they are having so much fun.

*GVT – What is the stupidest thing you have ever done in or around an airplane?*

Trina – I had just finished washing a 172 at the wash rack and was asked to move it for the next person. So I hopped in and prepared to fire it up, then slowly realizing the only way out required backing up and this sucker didn't have any reverse gear. I had to get out and face them knowing they were probably laughing their donkey (word substitute again) off.

Dave – Forgetting to take the cowl plugs out during preflight. I didn't put them there, someone else did, but yep, I forget them. Someone pointed it out before we got in the air, so it wasn't as bad as it could have been, but still embarrassing.

*GVT – Many thanks to Trina and Dave for enduring my questions and being the first volunteers for this trial. Anyone that has suggestions on questions to ask future volunteers, please pass them along. I'd like to keep it varied and entertaining as well as an opportunity to get to know each and every chapter member a little bit better.*

*Don't forget the chapter meeting the first Thursday of each month and keep those cards and letters coming. See this month's video links to the internet on the following page.*

Cool video's found on the internet.

How not to take off in your Seaplane

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=znyMx58fZqQ>

Seaplane landing – What Boat?

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-\\_rgUGKc-s](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-_rgUGKc-s)

Wheels down Seaplane Landing

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i2rtWsGt91Y>

A little traffic on the River

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TBjbsZ45sOc>

Dead stick take off and landing (Thanks Bruce)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z985xdXW-3w>



Jet Man Crosses English Channel

<http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/bigphotos/77941446.html>



What is it?



EAA CHAPTER 663  
1051 Redondo Way  
Livermore, CA 94550  
President@eaa663.org  
eaa663.org