

EAA 493
Minutes of February 19, 2019 Monthly Chapter 493 Meeting

The February 19, 2019 monthly meeting of EAA Chapter 493 was called to order by President Bob Reece at 7pm in the renovated conference room of the Terminal building, Mathis Field, San Angelo, Texas, on yet another cold, icing winter evening. Present were 15 members and 1 guest. The guest was Farris Hunter, a Central High School Senior, who accompanied Steve Baker. Steve recently took Farris for a flight. Farris is interested in pursuing an aviation career.

Bob Reece first addressed procedural matters. Upon voice vote, the Minutes of the last meeting of Chapter 493, held on January 15, 2019 were, on motion made, seconded and unanimously carried by acclamation, approved as published on the Chapter Reflector. Treasurer Andy Spinks gave the Treasurer's report (balance of \$1,736.43), which was also approved by motion, seconded, and unanimously carried by voice vote.

Old and New Business.

Since the last meeting, Joyce York, the widow of Leon York, a true aviation, EAA and experimental airplane builder and pilot, passed away. Joyce and Leon's daughter and son-in-law, Nancy York and Tim McTaggart are members of Chapter 493. Joyce attended last month's EAA Chapter 493 meeting. The memorial service was held last week. Joyce will be sorely missed.

Vice President Ron Lentz reported that he contacted the SAISD (San Angelo Independent School District) concerning letting the school's students know about the EAA and local 493 Chapter Young Eagles and Ray Aviation Scholarship programs. The school district has a restrictive policy about outside groups addressing students at local schools, but Ron was told they are interested in what he presented and will consider allowing access. Ron will report back what he finds out. Ron also reported that he took information to the local BSA (Boy Scouts of America) office about both the Young Eagles and Ray Aviation Scholarship programs, but has not heard back from them yet. Ron also talked to the local CAP (Civil Air Patrol) commander about these programs (they have a number of young cadets), who indicated some interest. He also said the CAP may be willing to present a program on the CAP at a monthly Chapter 493 meeting. President Bob Reece reported that Chapter member Don Treadwell (also the Chapter 493 Young Eagle coordinator) has finished a number of repairs on his Cessna 172 (Texas Taildragger conversion), the aircraft is flying again (over 9 hours on engine overhaul), and Don is ready and willing to offer Young Eagle flights again. The aircraft can carry up to three passengers. Member Pat Nuytten reported that he gave the Chapter's youngest member, Brad Thompson, an introductory flight in his airplane. Brad stood up and recounted his experience. Pat reported that technically the flight did not qualify/count as a Young Eagles flight because the EAA has some additional requirements that need to be met for such flights.

President Bon Reece reported that EAA National is planning a scheduled replacement of the wings for the EAA's vintage Ford Trimotor, and has contacted him several times to inquire whether Chapter 493 is willing or interested in conducting fund raising activities to support this repair. Apparently EAA National is contacting all chapters. A discussion ensued. Don Smucker

suggested that since the Chapter is concentrating on rebuilding its membership after dwindling membership and participation, now might not be the right time to undertake such activities. Pat Nuytten suggested that fund raising activities at places like local malls might increase our exposure to the community and therefore help with membership. Bob Reece pointed out that in the past these type of activities were often in essence thrust on one or two persons and that greater involvement would be needed. Sensing a general reluctance to undertake the proposed fund raising activities, LeRoy Anderson suggested that rather than agreeing to undertake this activity, that the Chapter could make a donation to EAA National to be applied towards the Trimotor's repair/renovation costs. Bob Reece noted that EAA National was not looking for donations from Chapters, but was looking for local Chapters to raise funds locally for this project. After further discussion, upon motion made by Andy Spinks, as amended by Nancy York, seconded and passed, the Chapter voted to not undertake the requested fund raising activities, but to instead donate \$500 to EAA National to be applied towards the Trimotor's costs. Bob Reece will report back to EAA National.

Bob Reece next reported that the FAA was holding its annual IA refresher course at the US Customs building at Mathis Field this coming Saturday. LeRoy Anderson and Bob Reece intend to attend. The FAA typically handles biannual IA licence renewals at this meeting.

There being no further business, President Bob Reece turned the meeting over to Vice President Ron Lentz, who presented the monthly program on his experimental project, a Zenith 601 XLB aircraft. Ron purchased the aircraft from the original builder, and estimated that the aircraft was 75% completed at the time he purchased the partially built kit. Current registration is N52RL, and since that happens to also be Ron's initials, he is inclined to keep those N numbers. The prior builder had the aircraft completed enough that it was on wheels, wings and tail surfaces mounted, 100 hp corvair engine installed, and even included some decals on the wings and fuselage. Ron has been working on completing the aircraft, but as with any partially completed kit, has also gone back and made some modification and changes to the original work, to include both reworking some things, and making changes to suit his preferences. Customizing an aircraft to suit the builder's preferences is what home building an aircraft is all about! The engine has been run approximately 5 hours since it was built/modified for aircraft use and mounted on the airframe. Ron's program included a video of taxing the aircraft. Ron had hoped to get the aircraft flying by winter's end, but is now looking (hopefully) at some time this spring for first flight.

After the program, the meeting was adjourned for social time, with refreshments brought by Andy Spinks (including home-made cookies his mother is famous for).

Below are the people who have agreed to provide the meeting refreshments at upcoming Chapter meetings.

Don and Nancy Treadwell - March
Bob and Carol Heiser - April

Please contact Don Smucker if you are willing to provide refreshments for any of the open May through November, 2019 monthly Chapter meetings.

REMINDERS:

1. The next scheduled monthly EAA Chapter 493 meeting is March 19 (third Tuesday of the month), to be held at the same location, the renovated conference room of the Terminal building, Mathis Field, San Angelo, Texas, commencing at 7pm. For those interested, many members meet at 6pm in the adjoining airport oriental restaurant.
2. Don and Nancy Treadwell are the March refreshment volunteers/suppliers.
3. If you have not already done so, please contact Andy Spinks (andyspinks89@gmail.com; 830-660-5911) about paying your 2019 EAA Chapter dues (\$20 for individual, \$25 for a family membership).