

High Sierra Flyer

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Owl Special (Pogo) built by Paul Shepherd in 1964 for Jo Ann Alford

EAA Sierra Chapter 403
2500 E College Parkway
Carson City, NV 89706

Address Correction Requested



Chris & Merry Romine
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EAA SIERRA CHAPTER 403 OFFICERS FOR 2006

		(775) <u>Area Code</u>
President	Chris Romine	849-7959
Vice President	John Grub	885-1945
Secretary	Merry Romine	849-7959
Treasurer	Steve Silva	887-0532
Directors:	Warren Fields	358-6904
	Bruce Gray	246-2401
	Edie Grub	885-1945
	Mike Reynolds	885-0434
<u>Committees:</u>		
Reno Air Races	Steve & Donna Silva	887-0532
Breakfast Coordinator	Tommie Dee Lindsey	887-1216
Flight Advisor	Warren Fields	358-6904
Flight Advisor	Ron Sutton	882-1662
Technical Counselor	Mack Murphree	246-9364
Technical Counselor	Ron Sutton	882-1662
Website Administrator	Jacki Montgomery	230-2294
Young Eagles Coordinators	Merry Romine	849-7959
	Mike Reynolds	885-0434
Newsletter Editors	Judy Berg	267-5431
	Sandra Erb	883-6494

Chapter 403 Schedule

Chapter Meeting	First Wednesday	Potluck 6:00 p.m.	Meeting 7:00 p.m.
Executive Committee	Third Thursday	6:00 p.m.	
Builders Meeting	Call or check website for schedule		
Pancake Breakfast	Third Saturday	9:00 to 11:00 a.m.	
Coffee & Donuts	Saturday	9:00 to 11:00 a.m.	
	(When we don't have pancakes)		

*Unless noted, all meetings are at the chapter building, 2500 E. College Parkway, Carson City, Nevada 89706

Website: <http://eaa403.org>

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



BY JB

Paul and Diane Shepherd have been members of Chapter 403 for two years. Paul was born in Malibu, California and the family moved to Redding when he was six months old so his dad could help build Shasta Dam. Paul worked as an aircraft mechanic when he was 14 at Sky Ranch Airport in Redding, and started taking flying lessons at 17. He received his certificate in 1960 flying a Cessna 170 which he purchased.

He became a journeyman sheet metal worker and certified sheet metal welder before going back into aircraft work in 1962 with an aircraft paint and upholstery shop in Redding. He built the Owl Special called Pogo which flew in the first years of the Reno Air Races and is shown in a RARA poster book with owner and first female Reno Air Race contestant Jo Ann Alford. Paul has owned nine different airplanes, a Luscombe, Aeronca Champ and a Lake Amphibian (he bought two to make one), and many others that he built or rebuilt, and he is currently working on a T-Craft in his hangar at the Carson City Airport. He has also owned seven Corvettes, a dozen boats, some of which he built. He worked on commercial boats in Southern California and spent years at underwater treasure hunting with the Legend Cliff Craft. He has over 1000 parachute jumps and holds a Class D instructor rating, he has been a hairdresser and more recently he is a minister in his spare time.

Diane was born and raised in Ohio then moved to Michigan, got married and had two children before moving to Southern California where she met Paul. They became champion country dance performers, teachers and competition judges, and Paul designed and sewed all of their award winning costumes. They were able to dance live on stage with Reba McIntyre four times and choreographed and danced in television music videos with Carlene Carter and Shania Twain. Paul says Diane is the dancer, he just sews the costumes. After spending 14 years as a Los Angeles building inspector, he married Diane, they moved into a 37 foot motor home, and left Los Angeles. Diane has been in the medical and dental profession all of her career and currently works for Robert Wolff, M.D. in Carson City.

To build, paint and upholster an experimental aircraft of such quality as the Tahoe Special and have his best buddy Steve Lantz win the coveted Gold Lindberg Award at Oshkosh was one of Paul's top achievements. He is retired with no interest in running another business, but you might see some of his hobby work such as welding, fabricating, painting and custom upholstery work on a number of experimental aircraft at the Carson City Airport.

Diane has a son and daughter and two grandsons; Paul has two sons, five grandchildren and one great-grandson. They enjoy living in their motor home, riding their Harley Davidson, and getting together with friends at their Hangar Bar.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

While standing in the restaurant at Minden-Tahoe Airport the other day I was approached by a pilot who proceeded to describe his recent Saturday morning visit to our chapter house. It was an experience we should all be very concerned about. A former member of a chapter in central California, he flew his [beautiful] homebuilt aircraft to CXP that morning hoping to find a new EAA chapter that would be worthwhile to join. Instead he found a group of unfriendly, self-absorbed (my words, not his) people with seemingly no interest in greeting and encouraging new membership and interest in our activities. Frustrated by unsuccessful attempts to introduce himself and converse with chapter members, he flew off to poke holes in the sky and de-stress.

At first I was shocked and surprised, wanting to challenge his obviously inaccurate assessment of our wonderful Sierra Chapter 403. You know, the one that prides itself on a growing YE program, its desire to be a community leader and great citizen of our airport, the one asking for donations and contributions for the construction of our new Aviation Center? However, a few more words with this thoughtful, well-meaning person suggested closer examination of our chapter culture may be prudent. Try it – and please share your observations. Here's what I found:

Perhaps too many of our members are comfortable with the status quo. Are we not necessarily resistant to strangers, but not seeking new members enthusiastically, either? As a group we respond with sincere support when asked, but do we each take enough initiative if not asked? We usually aren't unfriendly, per se, but we aren't particularly friendly, either, are we?

Remember, fellow aviation enthusiasts, our freedom to build and fly airplanes is under attack. We have to work harder and leverage the power of groups, starting right here in this EAA chapter. We cannot afford to be anything but friendly and enthusiastic to anyone supporting our cause. Engage, even if you're an "old timer" whose generous contributions years ago seem sufficient for a lifetime. Engage, even if you're a younger builder/pilot too busy juggling your project and family commitments. This is the future! We just need an hour or two every once in a while! And, don't tell anyone, but it's also FUN!

By the way, we are making progress on signing up our helpful member candidate mentioned above. Now let's work on not having to be asked.

Chris

SILVER STATE FLY-IN

Our third annual Silver State Fly-In on June 17 attracted an enthusiastic 21 registered pilots and aircraft. The eleven entries in the "best airplane" categories were divided into four groups. The entries were all high quality and the judging was close, with the following award winners:

Experimental – RV

Best-in-Class:	Klaus Heddergott, RV-6
Runner-Up:	Joe Raphael, RV-6A
Honorable Mention:	Dave McClelland, RV-6A

Experimental – non-RV

Best-in-Class:	Steve Lantz, Tahoe Special Seaplane
Runner-Up:	George Leider, Thorp T-18
Honorable Mention:	Ralph Belden, Liberty Sport

Best Warbird: Wendell Pea, Romanian IAR-823

Best Ultralight: Joseph Samson, Phantom

While the turnout was modest, the food was excellent, the judging professional and close, and a good, and safe, time was had by all. Combining the event with the airport's open house and compromising on schedule conflicts brought mixed results and our experience will no doubt be reviewed prior to scheduling SSF4. However, we did support the two events simultaneously while clearly offering a quality experience to all attendees, all with a single group of volunteers. We also raised more than \$3000 in donations destined to support our new Aviation Center. Great job Chapter 403!

YOUNG EAA-GLES REPORT

Two young people who "popped in" unexpectedly on July 15 got the chance to become Young Eagles, thanks to two pilots who were available.

<u>Pilot</u>	<u>Young Eagle</u>
Joe Raphael	Noah Gehr
Mac Murphree	Nicky Jones

Thanks to you, Joe and Mac!

We are pleased to add Spike Duncan as our newest Y.E. pilot and hope to get him involved at our next event, date to be determined. Thanks Spike!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- August 2 **Monthly Meeting, Washoe Lake State Park** - Potluck 6:00 p.m. Meeting 7:00
The Chapter will provide hamburgers, so just bring a dish to share.
- August 3-6 **Hot August Nights Car Push** at the Reno Convention Center. You can still sign up to help push cars.

AVIATION CENTER UPDATE

While it may appear that we are moving ahead slowly right now, the project is actually gaining speed. Bob Osborne and Tommie Lindsey are working their magic with site engineering and the surveying of the property. Property lines are being verified, utilities located, elevations recorded, and access options being considered. Bob Dickinson is doing a great job launching the fund-raising, and when he returns from vacation will no doubt raise a dust cloud (hopefully filled with donations!). Now is the time for any members who wish to volunteer some time and have a voice in the design, fund-raising and promotion of our new Aviation Center to step up to the plate.

Phil McKinnon

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to the following new members who have joined the Chapter in the last two months. We look forward to meeting you, so join us on a Saturday morning or at the monthly meeting:

Wendel Pea & Dori Goss, Carson City
Charles Neiser, Carson City

IN MEMORIAM

We were all sad to hear about the death of Bill Knaption on July 15. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family for their loss. Bill was a Charter member of EAA Sierra Chapter 403 and he will be missed by everyone. RIP