



**Minutes / Meeting of EAA Chapter 595
Rio Grande Valley**

April Announcements

Birthdays

Jan Carter

April - 14

Anniversaries

May Announcements

Birthdays

Anniversaries

Events

Sun Valley Aviation

(KHRL-Harlingen)
Coffee & Donuts
April 15th 8:30am

T65 (Weslaco Mid-Valley Airport)

Fly-In & Open House
(Date Pending)

The meeting was called to order by president Don Schwanke with 14 members & 1 guest attending. Quorum was again made, so Byron Engle gave the treasurer's report and the chapter is still solvent.

The members attending were:

Don Schwanke	Geneda Schwanke	Byron Engle
Phil Bowers	Robert Carter	Monte Vasquez
Cindy Vasquez	Hap Day	L.V. Howell
Larry Wheelock	John Peacock	Elizabeth Robertson
Merle Jenkins	Shirlene Jenkins	

The guest was:
Josue A. Ramos, who may be interested in learning to fly.

At this point, Don called for any old business and the powers that be at Weslaco (T65) airport are planning an open house some time in June. They have asked for several organizations to participate, including Chapter 595, Women in Aviation, and several other clubs & organizations to participate. There will be local and out of town/area static aircraft displays and our chapter will have a booth with information about EAA and Young Eagles to give away to the public. There will also be food available but there's no word as to who is supplying it yet. Don mentioned that we have several Sport Aviation magazines to be given away and maybe some others as well to the general public.

Byron had numerous items from Evelyn Urban to use for donations for the benefit of the chapter. Thank you again, Evelyn. You're a sweetheart!

New Business:
Don Schwanke purchased A propeller balancer and says it really makes a big difference on eliminating a lot of vibration from the spinning prop. Don has also made the balancer available to the chapter members



When Don was in Rhome (North Texas) getting recurrent training in an RV-12, a man flew into the airport in an RV-8 and told an interesting story: instead of using one of the new LED landing/taxi lights that cost about \$300.00 each, he found a large flashlight that put out 18,000 lumens (that's a LOT!) on eBay and with some simple modifications, installed it in his homebuilt for \$60-\$70! Wow! Are homebuilts great, or what?!?! You can't do that with a certified aircraft (at least not legally); you have to buy the CERTIFIED \$300.00 ones.



Don also spoke about the Garmin D2 Bravo watch he bought; it does almost everything that a Skyview does (it may even be able to teach us how to speak Polish). Might be useful as a backup to a backup to a backup if someone gets into a jam in the weather and loses his electrical system. Who knows? It is an interesting piece of equipment.

Don also found a complete set of RV-12 tooling to build another RV-12 if someone is interested. You can get in touch with him if you want; he's easy to find (956) 797-3282.

Elizabeth Robertson has won the scholarship she applied for from the 99's!!! Congratulations, Elizabeth!!! You can get your commercial ticket now (after going through the hoops to apply the scholarship). She's working with Gulf

Aviation and Arlene Garza to accomplish this. After her commercial, she plans on getting her instrument rating. Hats off to Gulf Aviation and especially Arlene for her tremendous support of Chapter 595! Thank you so much, Arlene!!!

At this time, Byron brought up the subject of Larry Wheelock' Wright Brothers Master Pilot award presented to him by the FAA's Gary Stamper at the last Coffee 'n Donuts/FAA Safety Seminar at Sun Valley Aviation. He really earned his award by flying for 57 years without an accident, mishap or write-up and he has almost 5000 hours flying time! He has a commercial license with an instrument rating (that he earned in his Stinson 108) as well as being an A&P/IA and he's owned several airplanes during his lifetime. He still has the Stinson that he keeps at his airport in Raymondville (the old Bell Airfield) and he has a C Model Mooney in Indiana that he flies while he & Norma are up there in the summertime. He's flown private aircraft from the East coast to the West coast; from the northern part of the US to the southern part, either for business or pleasure (it's a pleasure even when it's business) and loved every minute of it. Congratulations, Larry! You earned the award!!

At this time, a motion to adjourn was given by Merle Jenkins, 2nded by Phil Bowers and passed unanimously. It was then decided for the chapter to go to lunch at Los Asados Restaurant and the chapter adjourned to go eat at 11:55 am. The next meeting will be at Edinburg International Airport in the terminal building on May 13th at 11:00 am (bull session @ 10:30 a.m.).



Submitted by Byron Engle, secretary/treasurer EAA Chapter 595 Rio Grande Valley