



## EAA Chapter 595 December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017

Website: [www.595.eaachapter.org/](http://www.595.eaachapter.org/)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/EAChapter595](https://www.facebook.com/groups/EAChapter595)

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

#### *December Announcements*

##### Birthdays

**Jerry Gifford**  
December - 23

##### Anniversaries

#### *January Announcements*

##### Birthdays

**Sharon Lung**  
January - 12

##### Anniversaries

#### *Events*

**Sun Valley Aviation**  
Coffee & Donuts

**GARMIN**  
December 16<sup>th</sup> @ 8:30am

President Don Schwanke called the meeting to order at 11:30 am and quorum was made (the availability of food works wonders with attendance), so official business was enabled. The members attending were as follows:

Don Schwanke	Geneda Schwanke
Larry Wheelock	Norma Wheelock
Merle Jenkins	Shirlene Jenkins
Jerry Gifford	Shirley Gifford
John Dockendorff	Nancy Dockendorff
Monte Vasquez	Cindy Vasquez
Bob Heiser	Carol Heiser
Byron Engle	Betty Engle
Debora Melvin	Robert Carter
Phil Bowers	Ted Miller, Jr.

Treasurer Byron Engle gave the treasurer's report and the chapter is solvent. He also mentioned that he will be accepting dues for 2018 and there were still a few calendars left, which were promptly sold. He also asked the membership for permission to donate some money to Gulf Aviation to help defray the costs of food for their sponsored Veteran's day celebration. Jerry Gifford suggested that \$100.00 would be fine and the suggestion was taken and voted on in the affirmative. Byron will present the check to Arlene Garza in the near future (12-12-17).



Don presented the new "volunteer" for the office of secretary for the vote and "lucky" Cynthia Vasquez (who had been the chapter secretary a while back) was voted in (by acclamation). The office of vice president was open and Phil Bowers accepted the position for another 2 years. The vote was unanimous (surprise!).

Don then handed out the chapter awards. They were as follows:  
 Don Schwanke-chapter president and technical counselor  
 Larry Wheelock-technical counselor  
 Merle Jenkins-technical counselor  
 Robert Carter-web editor (standing ovation for this)  
 William P. Bowers-vice president  
 Byron Engle-secretary, treasurer, Eagle Flight leader, Young Eagles coordinator; chapter Flight Advisor & newsletter editor



Don also submitted the most valuable member award to Byron for 2017. He also thanked the chapter members for keeping the chapter active, as there are many organizations turning belly-up from inactivity, including EAA chapters throughout the US. He also profusely thanked Ted Miller, Jr. for opening his home and hosting the annual chapter banquet for the last several years (applause).



Betty Engle and Ted Miller talked about the lack of activity in the chapter and that there needs to be some sort of activity that would help attract younger clientele to the organization. At this point, there was much discussion about what could be done about this problem and that we aren't the only organization that has this problem. Many activities for recruitment were presented and may be voted on in the near future.

Ted has been participating in several air races around the state and he ran a short video taken by one of the participants who installed a Go-Pro camera inside the cockpit of his airplane. It was a race in Plainview, TX and was most informative and entertaining, especially with Ted narrating and presenting interesting comments/explanations about what was going on at any given point in the race.

Byron also mentioned that he will be doing another Young Eagle event at Edinburg International Airport that evening and would like to thank Deborah Melvin for her hospitality for these events and for allowing Chapter 595 to host their meetings in the meeting room, your generosity is appreciated by all. Thank you.



The next meeting will be at Gulf Aviation meeting room January 13, 2018 at 11:00 am, where many things will be discussed. If quorum is made, then official business will be conducted, so please make the effort, as we have some plans to present to the membership. At this time, Phil Bowers moved to close the meeting at 12:15 pm

and there were several seconds. The membership went to feast on the potluck goodies provided for the banquet. Thanks go to Robert Carter and Phil Bowers for picking up the meat and to Ted Miller, Jr. for providing the meat and his home so the chapter could enjoy the camaraderie and fellowship that Christmas brings. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all from Chapter 595!



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