



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

### February Announcements

#### February Anniversaries

**Robert & Carol Heiser**  
February 4<sup>th</sup>

#### February Birthdays

**Betty Engle**  
February 6<sup>th</sup>  
**John Dockendorff**  
February 13<sup>th</sup>

#### February "Meet & Eat"

March 7<sup>th</sup> (after the meeting)

#### February Events

**Air Fiesta 2015**  
Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup>  
Brownsville Airport  
Gates open @ 9:00

### Upcoming Announcement

#### March Anniversaries

**Byron & Betty Engle**  
March 9<sup>th</sup>  
**John & Nancy Dockendorff**  
March 29<sup>th</sup>

#### March Birthdays

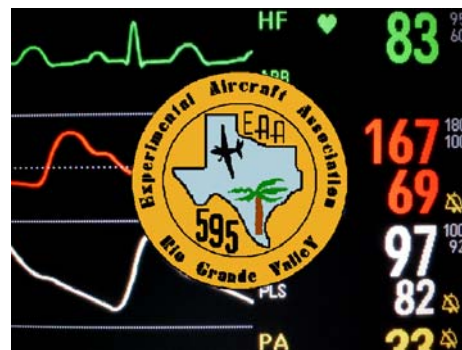
**Gerald Close**  
March 1<sup>st</sup>  
**Byron Engle**  
March 1<sup>st</sup>

The EAA Chapter 595 meeting was called to order by president Don Schwanke at 2:10 p.m. and quorum was again met, so business could be discussed. The meeting was held at South Texas International Airport at Edinburg (KEBG) at the invitation of Debbie Melvin, airport manager. Debbie has given the chapter an open invitation to have meetings as we see fit. Thanks, Debbie. On a side, the fuel prices there are cheaper than just about anywhere: \$4.23/gal. I fill up there, as do many others.

Old business: The treasurer's report was given by Byron Engle. Jerry Gifford has contacted the Navy and they will give a program in the near future (time & date to be announced). Look for an e-mail notice.

New business: Bob Carter gave an extremely impressive power point presentation on the results of the survey he sent out last month. As a result, there are broad changes being made to our

modus operandi. For instance, the next meeting will be Saturday, March 7 at Sun Valley Aviation at Valley International Airport at 10:30 a.m. and as a trial run, lunch will be catered, as the meeting will probably run right up to lunchtime. The chapter, via the survey, voted to move the meetings to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month with the majority of the meetings to be at an airport. However, there was a conflict with the venue on the 14<sup>th</sup>, so this meeting will be on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday for March only. Phil Bowers has made arrangements for Sun Valley to host this meeting in March, with the catered meal. This will be sort of a trial run for the catered meal to see how it works for the membership.



Many more ideas were discussed regarding the survey, but the chapter leadership now has a good starting point to make the improvements necessary to breathe new life into this chapter. There were many ideas for recruiting new members, especially younger members and several of those ideas will be enacted in the near future, including the week that Paul Chapman has planned this summer. There will be much more announced about that in future newsletters to come.

Ted Miller, Jr. suggested that our plan of action be enacted over a period of time to allow the members to get used to the new format and to make changes as needed. The suggestion was accepted unanimously by the membership attending. Because of several conflicts in the month of February, there will be no “meet ‘n eat”, but as previously mentioned, there will be a catered lunch at the next meeting in March.

There was a motion by Byron Engle to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 p.m. and seconded by Gerry Close. There were 13 members and 8 guests present. 3 new members joined with more to come. Looks like things are already heating up.

The program was a surprise: the Texas Dept. of Public Safety had a Cessna 208 Caravan and a Eurocopter parked in front of the FBO with Lt. Jim Rohrman

giving a very informative talk on exactly what the DPS is and is not doing to keep our borders and highways safe from the bad element of society.



Many, many thanks to, Jim, Debbie and Ted for helping with this. Ted Miller, Jr. invited everyone to his hanger that he shares with new member Dr. Carlos Almaguer for a look at Carlos’ new (to him, anyway) RV-10 and Ted’s new ‘glass panel in his RV-9. GREAT PROGRAMS, folks!!!! Many thanks for your efforts! Let’s keep the ball rolling!



Submitted by Byron Engle, secretary, treasurer, YE/EF coordinator & flight advisor for Chapter 595