



Minutes / Meeting of EAA Chapter 595 Rio Grande Valley

July Announcements

Birthdays

Nick Lung

July – 7th

Phil Bowers

July – 15th

Anniversaries

**Nick & Sharon
Lung**

July – 2nd

**Phil & Janis
Bowers**

July – 4th

August Announcements

Birthdays

Janis Baker

August – 30th

Anniversaries

President Don Schwanke called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. There were 9 members present which means that quorum was almost met this time and no official business could be done.

The attending members were:

Robert Carter	Don Schwanke	Phil Bowers
Geneda Schwanke	Shirlene Jenkins	Merle Jenkins
Gerry Close	Ted Miller, Jr.	Byron Engle

President Don spoke about his new lithium-ion battery and the major differences between it and a regular lead-acid battery.

Earth-X is the brand he bought and they are supposed to be the best. The lithium-ion battery has a charge controller for each cell and when

they run out of juice, they quit all of a sudden. They charge the same way; they charge until the cells are full and then all of a sudden they shut down and won't take any more electricity from the charging source. A standard alternator/generator/dynamo will keep them charged and they have a special wall charger that will not work on any other type of battery. To everyone's knowledge, none are certified for installation in a certified aircraft. Even the big Boeing 787 Dreamliner had trouble with them at first.



Robert Carter gave a progress report on his Mooney and he's almost done. All he needs to do is install a couple of fairings, the cowling and do a weight & balance and he's ready to fly (after a test flight with Mike Baker and a thorough checkout). He said that he'll be doing some taxi tests before the 1st flight. Gettin' close, man!

Don gave a report on the problems that the RV-12's are having with the gas springs that hold the canopies open; they have plastic rod ends on them and they are breaking. The RV builders are finding gas springs that have metal rod ends and are having no more problems with them.



When the wind catches that huge bubble, they tend to fly away and they cost about \$1000.00 each, plus having to cut & fit a new one to the frame! There's also a LOT of discussion about the alternate fuel system (aluminum tubes in the wings) being developed for the RV-12. Seems that there are some concerns about fuel running out to the wingtip when banking and it takes time for the fuel to run back to the fuel pickup in the tanks. There's also a problem with the overly large fuel pumps heating the fuel to the point of vapor-locking. The fix? Install a smaller, less powerful pump. Instant gratification!

Byron Engle spoke about his problems with the vacuum pump on his Cherokee. He sent the old pump (which quit producing suction) back to the factory for analysis and found out that some type of liquid entered the vanes and created a paste, locking all but one of the carbon fiber vanes in the retracted position (there are no springs involved; centrifugal force engages the vanes to provide the vacuum needed to operate the attitude indicator and directional gyro). Just exactly what the liquid was could not be determined, so a new one was ordered and will soon be installed.

At 11:45, the meeting was adjourned and Byron suggested that the chapter dine at La Playa Restaurant in Harlingen for some delicious Mexican cuisine.

The next meeting will take place at the Edinburg International Airport August 13 @ 10:30 a.m. See you there!

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