

The Flying Wire



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**Chapter 124
Experimental Aircraft Association**

**Volume 62 Number 8
Aug 2, 2023**

Board Meeting - 5:30 pm

Dinner - 6:15 pm \$7

General Meeting - 7:00 pm

www.EAA124.org

www.CafeFoundation.org

www.EAA.org

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Windsor, CA 95492

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August 2, 2023 Program

Oshkosh: Oshkosh Member Experiences. Members who attended the event will share their impressions and personal adventures.

Dinner Menu:

This August dinner is a VERY simplified meal since your regular 'chef' will be out of town. Hamburgers and Hot Dogs with very basic fixings along with Cole Slaw. To finish off you'll have Hot Fudge (home made) Sundaes. \$7

Revisiting Tonopah 2020

Andy Werback

Back in 2010, when we lived in San Jose (A Long Time Ago), we thought it would be a good idea to see some of the "local" sights. We hadn't even really visited Death Valley, even though I had lived in China Lake in the 1960's.

What resulted was a 10-day tour of Death Valley and Southern Nevada - Ghost Towns and Gold Mines. It's actually very scenic - and lots of history. And did you know there are only 2 cities in Nevada with FAA control towers? (Well, OK, there are 3 airports plus Nellis and Creech right in Las Vegas..., plus Reno). Otherwise, it's pretty much wide open, just be careful with the Restricted Areas.

We started the road trip in Death Valley via Sonora Pass. The first stop was Cero Gordo - an old silver mine just east of Owens Lake. They installed an overhead tram to bring the ore down to the rail head at Keeler. The rail line had just been extended by coming south from Hawthorne NV via Bishop CA. A couple of years ago we visited Cero Gordo again and met the caretaker, but for this trip, it was early April, and we had to hike over snow the last half mile or so.



Cero Gordo - Silver Mine east of Owens Lake

But, back to Death Valley - Did you know that there is a really nice little waterfall at Darwin Falls? Yes, real water. It disappears into the sand pretty quickly. The other highlight (besides the rock formations and wild flowers) is Scotty's Castle. Really a cool place to visit (the thick walls help a lot).



Darwin Springs - near Panamint Valley



Scotty's Castle

We continued on via Las Vegas to visit the Hoover Dam and the new highway bridge, just being built. If you like impressive engineering, visit the dam and take the tour. It's quite an installation, and there are some great views from the new bridge.



Highway 93 - Pat Tillman Memorial Bridge - from Hoover Dam

East of Las Vegas, along Lake Mead, we find Rogers Spring and the Valley of Fire. Awesome scenery. Would you believe that Las Vegas ("The Meadows") was just a ranch at one time, and they brought in the Union Pacific railroad to move ore and freight around 1905.



Red Rocks east of Las Vegas



Rogers Spring - In the middle of the desert

Then, the real trip begins. This is just the southern half of Nevada. We traveled north via Caliente (abandoned railroad station) and Cathedral Gorge - a miniature version of Bryce Canyon. The town of Pioche has a Million Dollar Courthouse, and everywhere there are old mining sites.



Caliente (locally known for its Hot Springs) - Abandoned Union Pacific RR



Cathedral Gorge

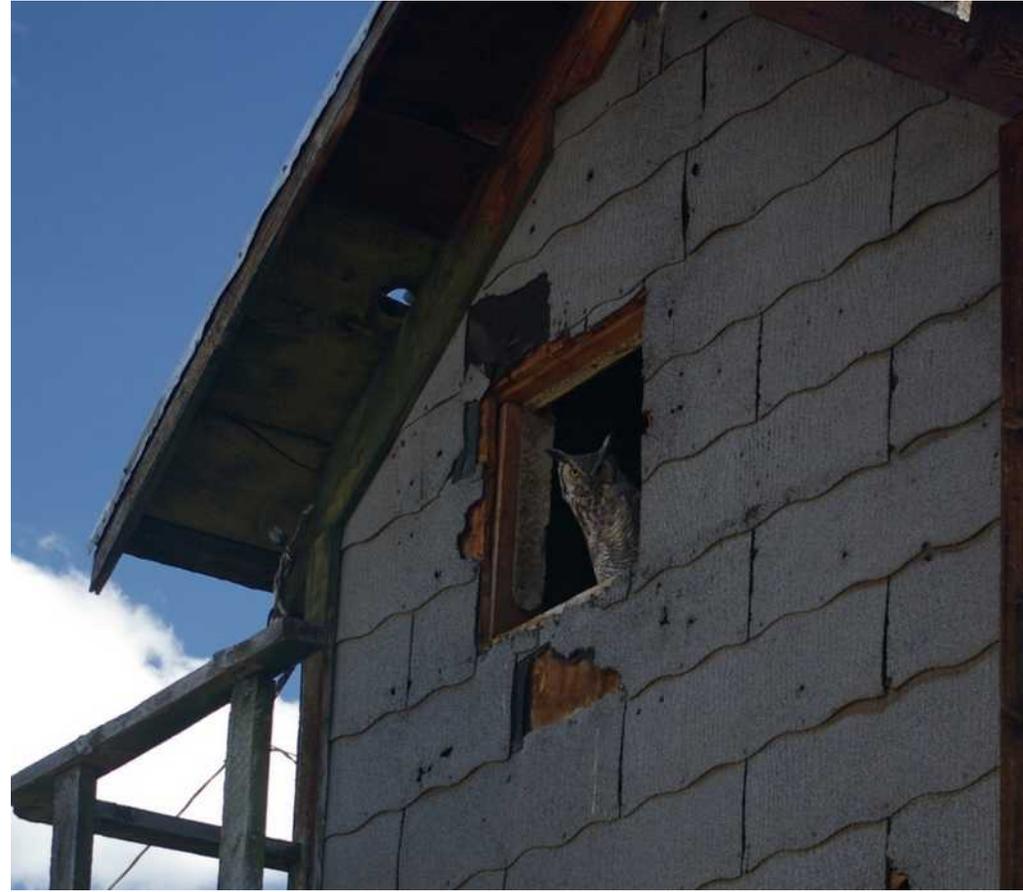
Ely is pretty interesting - lots of mines, and active railroad museum with Nevada Northern #93 taking tourists on a scenic tour. We had dinner in the old jail, underground. As long as we were anywhere near the Great Basin National Park, we spent a day visiting Lehman Caves, Osceola, (Charcoal Ovens), and various extraterrestrial creatures.



Engine #93 Ready to Go



Lehman Caves, Great Basin National Park



Current resident of Osceola



Ward Charcoal Ovens (built by Italian masons) - near Osceola



Might have been real at one time...Who Knows?

Lunar Crater is another interesting feature - it's a very quiet location with awesome views.



Lunar Crater with desert flowers

Then we get to Tonopah. Lots of mining, and an excellent Mining Museum - all sorts of stuff to see. This was a garden spot in WWII, with the Tonopah Army Airfield and a bombing/gunnery range being used to train B-24 crews. (Tonopah is mid-way between Reno and Las Vegas, just outside the current Tonopah Test Range, operated by Nellis AFB).



Airplanes - WWII and Current...



Just the beginning of the Tonopah Mining Museum

So, a couple of days ago, we had some excellent spring weather – and a need to do a little cross country flying. It’s about a 3 hour round trip with some good views along the way. The airport does have some airplanes, and two old WWII hangars still standing (in 2010, we observed holes in the roof and airplanes actually parked inside the main hangar. Seemed a bit risky).



Tonopah from above – airport is upper right in the distance



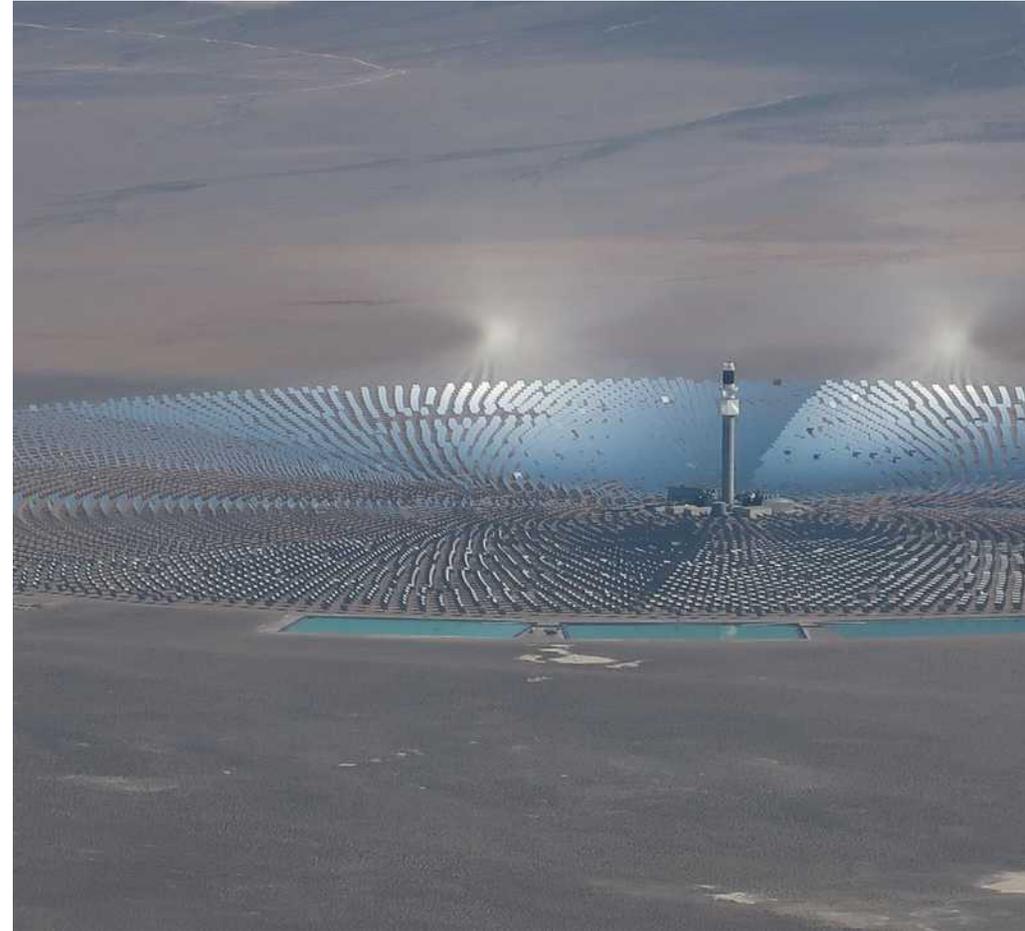
Relic of WWII (one of 2 at Tonoapah)

Another really cool place to visit is Goldfield – a few miles south of Tonopah. They are famous for their car “garden” and a bunch of antique vehicles and displays. It’s right next to the restricted area, so I left them alone, but it’s worth a visit.



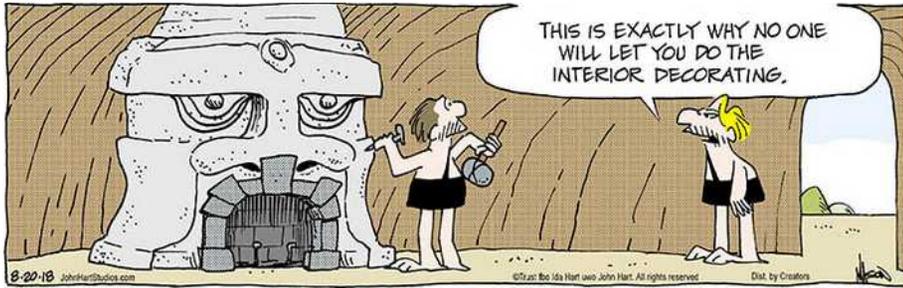
Creative Art at Goldfield

The rest of the road trip was just as interesting, but we'll save it for another time.



The unique feature from the recent visit was the view of the Crescent Dunes Solar project. This is pretty impressive from the air - particularly the sunlight "corona" formations. The project is supposed to use the high temperatures to heat rock salt to circulate as a liquid heat reserve - sounds great in theory, but apparently, they are having some technical problems, and the place is basically going bankrupt.

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Interesting Aviation Links

(Thanks Harley Milne)

Volksplane [Click Here](#)

UAV Articles [Click Here](#)

Newsletter Editor Notes:

Missing newsletter. If anybody runs across the newsletter from July please let me know. I could not find it for some reason.

Because of that please find June Minutes in this one.

EAA Chapter 124 Board Meeting Minutes July 5, 2023

Meeting Convened 5:35 pm

May General Meeting Minutes Approved

Meeting Hangar Lights- The project is approved and the upgrade will commence soon.

Facility Lease Increase- The chapter has been notified that the rent is due to increase by 5% . The chapter is committed to not raising rental rates for the time being.

Motorhome Removal- Mike Fenn is investigating the current title status and determining which entity is legally responsible.

Long Eze Project- The project which was initially intended for signage and roadside chapter advertising is being marketing and will either be sold or discarded.

Treasury Report- Chapter coffers are remaining steady despite posting a deficit this last month.

Facilities- The mower may be showing signs of mechanical wear details to follow.

Meeting Adjourned- 6:00 pm

EAA Chapter 124 General Meeting Minutes July 5, 2023

Meeting Convened 7:20

The acting president Dominic Cerniglio called the meeting to order. The first order of business was to thank the culinary crew for their delicious offerings. He welcomed all new visitors and invited them to share their interest in aviation.

Fly-out Report- Paul Hollingsworth reported his experiences flying to Washington. He reported his thrilling experiences flying below the rim of Crater Lake. He also shared his observations about exploring Mt. St. Helens, which still bears the scars the devastating eruption 40 years ago. Dominic Cerniglio reported he is busy honing his IFR skills.

Builder's Report- John Swanstrom is happy to report he is no enjoying trouble-free flying after sorting out his newly fledged RV airplane. Mark Cingari reported on his maiden RV8 flight! Young Eagles- August 19 is the next scheduled event. Contact Dominic Cerniglio or Josh Hochberg if you have interest in volunteering. dcerniglio@mac.com

Treasurer's Report- Chapter coffers remain stable. Hangar/ tie-down rents are largely current. Last month the chapter posted a modest surplus.

Presentation Topic- Emergency Communications
The speaker, Darryl Paule, described the ACS (Auxillary-Communications-Service) The ACS may provide communications support using amateur radio. The entirely volunteer organization qualifies members as Disaster Service Workers. He also described the SEMS program. Which stands for Standardized Emergency Management system. The system creates an organizational framework for emergency communications. He encourages people to join the organization. More information can be found on www.sonomacountyradioamateurs.com.

June 7, 2023

General Meeting Minutes

The president welcomed all new vistors and went on to thank the culinary crew for yet another delicious meal.

Builder's Report- Marlon Young reported that he has 60 hours on his newly fledged RV4. Dan Steinhoff reported that he is enjoying his ultralight and has worked out most the the bugs.

Young Eagles June Event. The next Young Eagles event is scheduled on June 24. Volunteers and pilots are always encouraged to participate.

Treasurer's Report- Chapter coffers remain stable due to paid up hangar and tie-down rents. The county issued a notice that the facility rent is scheduled for a 5% increase.

Presentation Topic- The Wag-Aero CUBy
George Marshal share his lifelong interest in the original Cub

design. He was thrilled with the idea of finally acquiring a plane that is a nearly perfect homebuilt replica of the legendary Cub. He shared how he initially scouted the plane, found a ferry pilot and has spend every minute fulfilling his long-simmering ambition. He has enjoyed the process of adding features that improved the plane's slow speed characteristics. He also reveled in his choice of tires and wheels as well as improving the plane's braking capabilities.

Meeting Adjourned 8:45 pm

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Chapter meetings are held on the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 pm. FOOD (\$7 sometimes \$10) AND SOCIALIZING (free) from 6:15 to 7:00 pm. EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Directions: The site is located on the west side of Sonoma County Airport. Take the Shiloh Road exit from Highway 101 in northern Santa Rosa. Turn left at the stop light (west) and continue to a "T" intersection. Turn left again and follow the road to the EAA sign on the left.

Members are invited to submit articles of interest. You will be notified whether or not an article will appear in the current issue.

Please email articles to: eaa124newsletter@sonic.net
or mail to: Stuart Deal
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Deadline for newsletter submissions is the 20th of each month. Articles submitted after that date will be included in the newsletter at the discretion of the editor. All articles are copyrighted. To reproduce any article, please contact the editor.

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