



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

FEBRUARY 2008

FEBRUARY 2008

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON
MONDAY FEBRUARY 11, 2008.

- SOCIAL HOUR STARTING AT 7:00PM.
- MEETING AT 7:30PM. CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT.
- AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:
MINNESOTA FAASTEAM MGR., GARY PENDLETON COVERING WINGS PROGRAM, WRIGHT BROTHER'S MASTER PILOT AWARD, AND AIRWORTHINESS MAINTENANCE TECH. AWARD.

Benches and Picnic Table for the Chapter

Compiled by Tom Gibbons

Kent Weyrauch, a member of Troop 114 out of Stillwater, MN. has gathered his troops together and built our observation areas benches and picnic table as an Eagle Scout project. We will have a big formal dedication ceremony when it is warmer, maybe in May when we can get the city and county officials and media out.



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FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)

BY DALE SEITZER

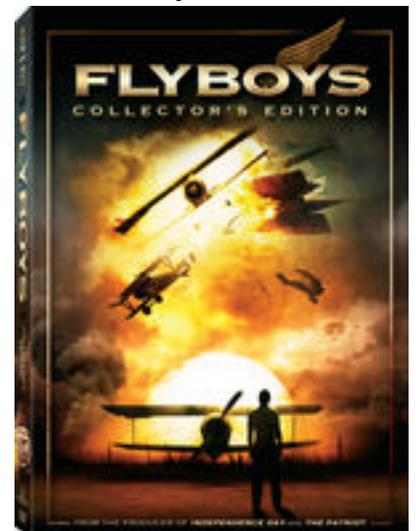
Our Annual Board Meeting is Saturday February 16, 2008 at the Chapter Club House from 10:00 am to 12 Noon and everyone is invited.

I have been calling members to introduce myself and learn about member's skills and interests. I've talked with very interesting members with wonderful stories of flying adventures. I have also been meeting members at Saturday morning social time at the club house. I want to find out what members want from the chapter and how we can provide that. Members want a combination of interesting flying activities, building knowledge and social opportunities.

I have also been asking about activities and volunteer opportunities.

There are 2 main initiatives I am championing. New members will have a mentor to help introduce them to other members and help get them involved in chapter activities. Members who want to help new members get involved in the club should contact me. They will be introduced to new members with similar interests.

The second initiative is increasing social activities. In March we will have a movie night at the club house showing the wonderful flying movie **Flyboys**. Also in March we will have a Fly-out event. We will fly to a location and have a meal-members will be encouraged to fill up empty seats with other members and enjoy flying and companionship. More detailed information will be coming later.





EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT
BY PAUL RANKIN



2008 JANUARY FINANCIAL REPORT

Checking Account	\$	8,828.07
Cash on hand	\$	40.00
<u>Investments</u>	\$	<u>6,933.30</u>
Total	\$	15,801.37
<u>Income</u>		
Membership Renewals	\$	325.00
New Members	\$	50.00
Calendar Sales	\$	240.00
Total	\$	615.00
<u>Expenses</u>		
EAA National Chapter Dues	\$	50.00
EAA National Liability Insurance	\$	271.00
Newsletter & Mailing	\$	44.26
<u>Utilities - Electricity & Gas</u>	\$	<u>223.82</u>
Total	\$	589.08
Net Cash Flow	\$	25.92

Chapter 54 Directory

- President
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- Secretary
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- Events Director
Tim Reberg
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- Housing Director
Dave Fiebiger
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- Membership Director
John Renwick
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- Young Eagles Director
Dave Becker
youngeagles@eaa54.org
- Newsletter Editor
Tom Gibbons
Newsletter@eaa54.org

Chapter member meet on the second Monday of every month at the Chapter House, Entrance B at Lake Elmo Airport (21D). The House is at the base of the airport beacon. The newsletter is printed on the first Monday of every month. Parts of the newsletter may be reprinted with appropriate credit.

21D RCO 118.625
21D Unicom: 122.8
TPA: 1932'
Runways: 4-22 (2497' x 75')
14-32 (2850' x 75')

**One Big Monster!!
It is a Russian Cargo Jet
Antonov 225 (28 Main Gear Wheels!)**



Chapter Speaker Notes

January 14 , 2008

Submitted by Bettie Seitzer

Speaker: Paul Esser: VP of the Red Wing Soaring Association

They share our goal of keeping aviation alive. He started his training in 2000 at Benson's; landing at Benson's was a challenging, they have since moved to Osceola. While still at Benson's there were a couple of incidents that led them to consider whether or not there were sufficient safety zones around the airport. As a result of an evaluation of the development happening in the Benson area, they decided that Osceola was a great option.

Osceola had received FAA funds to expand and the airport was also very interested in attracting the group to the field. The group moved in 2005, bought 2 used gliders (2-seat trainers, very solid). Gliders are appreciating rapidly and so the club was led to grab these two planes. Their tow plane is a 180 hp Super Cub.

Paul views his glider license as a "license to learn", a pilot must always be learning and adding to their knowledge and experience in order to stay current and safe.

The club brought a glider to our pancake breakfast last fall and drew big crowds of people interested in the planes and the practice of gliding. The club is interested in increasing membership to about 50 people; they are part of a national organization that sponsors events and competitions. More experienced pilots like to participate in racers and course work. This competition is part of a program that is international; members can compete locally and move up through the competition to the international level.

The club has a youth membership program, encouraging young people to consider soaring. Young people must be 14 to solo, 16 to get their license. Training is rigorous.

There is no medical required for gliding, pilots can do an add-on rating and go into soaring as easily as they can go into sport flying. Getting an add-on rating will require 3 hours of solo time. The training that precedes this will include multiple flights or varying lengths of time.

The soaring season begins in April and goes through November, the best time to fly is Spring and Fall.

About half the members of the soaring club have their power rating but it is not required. Pilots with a power rating will find that soaring training will improve their flying.

A soaring flight requires assistance, at a minimum a tow-plane pilot is needed to tow the glider into the air. Often another person is there to help stabilize the glider while the tow plane gets hooked up and ready to launch. Planning ahead includes the usual pre-flight planning and the arrangement for helpers.

In Europe gliders are sometimes launched by a truck. Gliding in Europe is very popular – especially in the Alps where ridge soaring is an exciting activity.

Winch launching can be done in areas near mountainous terrain where lift is guaranteed due to the natural air currents around mountains; in flat plains areas pilots prefer to be pulled to at least 1500 feet AGL so that they have time to find some natural lift to go higher.

There are also self-launching motorized gliders that have a small motor on board for launch.

Glider pilots learn to look for lift and to understand the weather conditions that will create lift.



Local Events and Fly-Ins

Compiled by Chapter 54 Members

February

February 2 2008, 10:00 to 2:00, Groundhog Ski Fly-in, www.eaa431.org, Brodhead Airport,(C37), Check website for field conditions, Mike Weeden, , blueleader@wekz.net

February 10 2008, 10:00 to ?, 8th Annual Log Cabin Winter Fly-in, , Mondovi, Wi,(WS69), , Doug Ward, (715) 287-4205,

February 16 2008, 10:00 to 2:00, Valentine's Day Sweetheart Ski Plane Fly-in, www.aitkinaviation.com, Aitkin Municipal Airport,(KAIT), Hot dogs, chili, hot apple cider. Free silk rose to ladies who fly in., Mike and Jake Carlson, 218-927-4104, capaeo@yahoo.com

March

March 1 2008, 10:00 to 1:00, Poppy's Northport Wheels and Skis Fly-in, , Northport Field, Royalton, WI,(38WI), Chili served 10 to 1 by EAA 444, Wayne Poppy, (920)538-0062, poppyplumbing@centurytel.com

March 15 2008, 10:00 to 2:00, EAA Chapter 1221 Birthday Fly-in, , Cloquet-Carlton County Airport,(KCOQ), Chili, Hot-dogs, , , Birthday Cake, , ,

March 29 2008, 9:00 to 3:00, LSC Student's Ski Plane Buffalo Burger Fly-in, , Sky Harbor Duluth Airport,(KDYT), Food,music,airplane rides and fun., Julius, 1-800-432-2884, j.salinas@lsc.edu

June

June 7 2008, 10:00 to 2:00, EAA Chapter 551 Bean & Brat Fly-In, , Leaders Clear Lake Airport,(8Y6), Rain date: June 8th, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m, Mark Priglmeier, (320) 229-8563, mark.priglmeier@mn.compucredit

June 29 2008, 7:00 to 12:00, Springfield Lion's Fly-In Breakfast, , Springfield Airport,(D42), Pancakes, sausage, juice, milk, and coffee.Pilots eat free, , 507-723-6343, talkkuisle@hotmail.com

July

July 12 2008, 8:00 to 11:00, Superior Bong Pancake Breakfast, www.eaa272.org, Superior Bong Airport,(KSVW), Fly-in or Drive. Young Eagle flights will be available., John Shallow, 2187297764, sjallj@msn.com

July 20 2008, 7:30 to 12:30, Annual Fly-In or Drive-In Omelet Breakfast, , Fillmore County Airport,(KFKA), Sponsored by the Fillmore County pork producers. Monitor 122.9, Kent, 507-765-2582, kjdhill@yaho.com

August

August 31 2008, 10:00 to ?, 22nd Annual Log Cabin Airport Fly-In, , Mondovi, Wisconsin,(WS69), Lunch at noon, Doug Ward/Judie Ohm, 715-287-4205, 7, logcabinairport@tcc.coop

September

September 6 2008, 8:00 to 11:00, EAA 272 Pancake Breakfast/Fly-In/Drive-In, www.EAA272.org, Superior Bong Airport,(KSVW), In conjunction with Northern Nationals in Superior. Young Eagle Flights will be offered., John Shallow, 218-729-7764,

September 6 2008, 8:00 to 4:00, Wheels and Wings, , Osceola Wisconsin,(KOEO), Classic aircraft display, airplane rides, craft show, classic car display.Pancake breakfast and lunch, Jeff Meyer, 715 294-2618, meyerjk@centurytel.net



Chapter 54 Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2008

Reported by Bettie Seitzer

Meeting called to order at 7:30 by the president
Visitors: Jim Pearsall visited previously and came tonight to join. John Rosnick a helicopter pilot also has kids who are interested in learning more about flight.

Words from the Prez: As a club we would like to be more welcoming to new members and visitors; in order to do that we would like to connect each visitor and new member to a current member. The link will be based on shared interests or goals. If a new member is interested in building, they will be connected to an existing member who is also a builder. Dale will be contacting all members to catalog their interests and willingness to partner as a mentor with a new member. He will be working on this over the next couple of months.

The second major initiative will be to get more people actively volunteering in the club's activities. This involvement not only improves the club but it significantly enhances each member's experience as they become involved and get to know each other better.

In March there will be a movie night featuring Fly Boys. This will be the first of several fun nights to be scheduled at the club house.

Old Business:

We have the new EAA calendars for sale for \$10.00 each. These can be purchased from a club officer or from Valter's aviation.

Airplane observation area, we have two benches and a picnic table. Still need a plaque. We will schedule a "grand opening" event in the spring. This will be publicized and a special program to recognize the contributors.

Treasurer's Report: The report was approved as read; a report will be included in the newsletter.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report was approved as published in the newsletter

New Business:

We have a new sign from EAA --- "We Put the Fun in Flying" we will investigate putting this up on the side of the building.

Wings has opened under new management, Bryan Addis is associated in an advisory capacity. The new ownership is re-building the business including new building space, new instructional outlines and re-energizing. They want to focus on delivering training tailored to the student's needs; ranging from the recreational pilot to business people who want to fly themselves rather than fly commercial.

A proposal was offered to have a representative, Mr. Morgan, from flight services talk about the recent changes in

flight services including flight plan procedures, weather briefings and new procedures. This would most likely be scheduled for a Saturday morning before our social hour. Since Lockheed Martin took over flight services, there have been some difficulties with flight plans, longer hold times, and briefers who are not acquainted with local conditions. Mr. Morgan will address these issues
A board meeting has been scheduled for Feb 16th at 10:00; board members will discuss the 2008 budget, by-laws, and plans for the coming year.

Banquet planning has begun. The banquet will be held on the second Monday in May (our regularly scheduled meeting night). If you have suggestions or would like to work on the planning committee, please contact Bettie Seitzer (biseitzer@landolakes.com)

The Fast Team would like to get everyone registered for the safety seminars. This year's focus is on reducing "Wheels-up" landings and runway incursions.

CHAIRMEN REPORTS:

Flying Start and Education (Art Edhlund):

We will be mailing our donation to Farnsworth Aviation Magnet School. Ground School has 7 registrants who have signed up on-line; the course will be starting in early February.

All current members are welcome to sit in on any sessions – this is a great refresher. A complete schedule was published in last month's newsletter and is available in the clubhouse. Chapter members do not need to register, they can just come in when they want to

We have space for more students, please advertise and let people know about the program. This is a great opportunity for student pilots as well as a good community builder for EAA.

Young Eagles (Dave Becker): We are trying to schedule a special event for a group of high school students – weather has not cooperated. We will schedule after the cold snap.

Membership: We have 138 members!

Newsletter Editor (Tom Gibbons): We will try to publish the coming speakers in the newsletter. Send Tom interesting pictures, articles and news items; he appreciates the help. Pictures are always welcome – especially if you have a great story with it!

newsletter@eaa54.org

Meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Hanger Talk

Happenings and Classifieds from around the field compiled by the editor

Looking to Buy:

" I am looking for information about anyone that may have a Luscombe 8A or a Aeronca 11AC or 11BC for sale. It can be in annual or out. I would also like to talk to anyone interested in forming a small Light Sport Flying Club around this type of aircraft. Please contact me, George Mathiesen at 651-455-9271 "

George Mathiesen
3727 72nd St. East
Inver Grove Heights, MN
55076-2367

Spring Banquet Planning

Each year in May Chapter 54 holds a spring banquet. I would appreciate your suggestions for location, speakers and activities. This event is a great opportunity for us to enjoy an evening with spouses, friends and families and is always a great time. One member has suggested that we consider Gulden's restaurant – they offer reasonably priced American classic food in a casual setting. If you have additional ideas let me know, I need to start the planning and making reservations.

Contact Bettie Seitzer for your ideas and thoughts.

Tailwinds Flying Club Safety Session

Tailwinds Flying Club, based at Lake Elmo Airport has requested the use of the chapter's club house to hold their Winter safety session and to invite any of the Chapter 54 members to attend.

Joe Morgan will be the guest speaker at this year's Winter safety session. Joe is the operations manager for Lockheed Martin – Princeton Flight Service Station (FSS). Joe will speak about the services provided and how to obtain those services. This safety session will be held on Saturday, February 16, at 8 AM and conclude before the chapter's Saturday social meeting. Joe will take questions from the attendees after his short presentation.

AWOS UPDATE:

Approximately four months ago the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDot) completed the construction of an AWOS station at Lake Elmo Airport (21D). Presently weather data from that system is displayed on two terminals at Valter's Aviation, one at the main desk and one in the flight planning area.

According to Robert Milton, Manager of MnDot's Navigation Systems Section, there are plans for a telephone line and VHF transmitter. The AWOS was purchased and installed with a VHF transmitter. MnDot has applied to the FCC for a license to broadcast. Once this is granted, they will begin transmitting the computer generated, up to the minute, voiced weather message directly to pilots. Robert expects that the license will be issued in approximately 90 days. Once they have a frequency and the facility has been commissioned, they will be uploading METAR reports to the FAA national network every twenty minutes.

A phone line has been installed, but the ring voltage is too low. The phone company is working to correct this. This should be completed by the first week of February. The phone number is 651-779-5949.



Young Eagles Report *by Dave Becker*

January was a slow month with zero Young Eagle flights, but it wasn't for lack of trying. We had a group of nine high school kids who had been taking aviation training in their classes and their teacher requested Young Eagle flights for them. We tried three different dates, all of which were weathered out. On the first scheduled date, the students and their teacher did come to the club house and we talked about aviation subjects for a time and John Renwick brought out his airplane and gave the kids a very nice orientation and walk around. As of this writing, we have one more date scheduled in early February to get these kids into the air. Tune in next month to see if we got them up.



Photos taken during our Young Eagle events are posted on our EAA54.ORG web site.

If you would like to become actively involved in our Young Eagles program, contact Dave Becker or come to Lake Elmo on the 2nd Saturday of the month and see what Young Eagles is all about. You can also indicate on your yearly chapter renewal form that you want to be involved with our Young Eagles program.





TAXI TALK

{Interesting happenings compiled by the editor}

HAPPY VALENTINES DAY

Yes love is in the air and I mean literally in the air as in flying and aircraft. Of course also to all you couples too.

Thinking about a Paint job??

Hopefully this summer will be a good one for me to get a paint job on my Pulsar. I am planning an over all white scheme with royal blue and gray stripes along with something like this logo on the tail. The "N" number is N727PT as I have always liked the Boeing 727 jetliner. There will be a silhouette of a head-on shot of the 727 near the "N" number.



My thoughts and prayers go out to the Al and Rae Kupferschmidt family and hope all is going good for Rae. See this web-site for updates:

<http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/raleanekupferschmidt>.

Good Websites

Here are some really cool websites which I have found to really help:

Mn/Dot Aeronautics

-www.mnaero.com

FAA TFR Website

- <http://tfr.faa.gov/TFR/jsp/list.jsp>

AOPA Flight Planning Website

- http://www.aopa.org/flight_planner/intro.html

FAA-Industry Training Standards

- <http://www.faa.gov/avr/afs/FITS/index.cfm>

FAA Safety Website

- <http://faasafety.gov/>

TSA Flight School Training Website

<Http://download.tsa.dhs.gov/fssa/training/>

Free Stuff:

- www.weather.com
- adds.aviationweather.gov
- tiger.census.gov/cgi-bin/mapbrowse-tbl
- www.mapquest.com
- www.duats.com
- www.airnav.com

Members Only:

- www.aopa.org/members/wx
- members.eaa.org/home

Contact Information for Newsletter Stories

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

Dad, I left my heart up there.

*— Francis Gary Powers, CIA U-2 pilot shot down
over the Soviet Union, describing his first flight at age 14.*