



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

FEBRUARY 2012

FEBRUARY 2012

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON
MONDAY FEBRUARY 13, 2012

- SOCIAL HOUR STARTING AT 7:00PM.
- MEETING AT 7:30PM, CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT 21D.
- AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:
- Kurt Schendel from Modern Avionics out of the Flying Cloud Airport will be presenting on the latest in avionics.



About Being a Chapter Member

By Bill Shanks

Taken from the March 2000 Newsletter



Why do we want, or need, to belong to the EAA on the local Chapter level?

Over the past several months this question has been a topic under discussion among a group

of Chapter 54 members. We have approached several non-members for recruiting purposes and on several occasions when we tried to persuade them to join our Chapter, they replied by saying, "what's in it for me, why should I join?" We were not able to give them a quick answer, so we have been mulling it over among ourselves and still have not come up with a definitive answer.

On a personal level, I thought back and tried to remember my own motives for joining a Chapter. What motivated me to join the EAA back in 1971, was a visit to the EAA Museum which was then located in Hales Corners Wisconsin. What I saw there then impressed me so much that I immediately joined the organization. I began to receive the magazine, Sport Aviation, and read a little about the Chapter organization. I then wrote a letter to Headquarters to get a list of local Chapters and on that list I found the phone numbers for a local Chapter. I called for information, attended a meeting and then joined Chapter 60 in Janesville, Wisconsin.

Back then when you joined the EAA, you received-with your membership-a set of drawings for an EAA

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FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)

BY BETTIE SEITZER

What an interesting January! After a left knee replacement on December 28, I was delighted to experience unusually warm days in January when I was able to walk outside and enjoy a little sunshine. Friends who had traveled south were a bit disappointed that we were not buried in snow and beaten by minus 50 degree wind-chills. But in Minnesota we have learned to take what we get when it comes to the weather.

Our board met in January for the annual planning session, let's hope that we have good luck with the weather for all of our Young Eagle Saturdays, our "Learn to Fly Day" and our Aviation Day! These events are an important part of Chapter 54's presence in the aviation community and in our airport neighborhood! Notices will be posted in advance of each and I hope that you will consider helping out at one or more of these events.

We will be trying a new community building activity to some of our Young Eagle Saturdays, details are still under development, but we would like to offer lunch on the clubhouse deck. Making this happen will require just a few volunteers to man the grill and set up the service. Let Linda Amble or me know if you would like to help out!

Later in the spring we will schedule a couple of days to work on Clubhouse care and maintenance. We are very lucky to have such a great clubhouse and need more people to get involved with helping out. There are tasks for any skill level – raking, painting, vacuuming, trimming trees or shrubs, or just polishing and cleaning. Dave Fiebiger has done a great job of making sure that we have a nice place to hold our meetings, classes and events, let's help keep it that way!

Our 2012 Ground School is well underway! We can be very proud of the instructors and the course itself, our track record speaks for itself. I am already looking forward to hearing the good news as these students pass their written and go on to get their license – I know that was a day I will never forget!

Our Chapter is still looking for a few good folks to serve as Flight Advisors and Technical Counselors; these are very important positions helping builders achieve their dream of building their own plane. The members love to hear about projects – if you have built, helped to build or served as an advisor, please consider reporting about the project in the newsletter or at a chapter meeting.

Our support of Farnsworth school will continue, this aviation based program has been phenomenally successful, we now have a Farnsworth employee who is a chapter member, what a great opportunity to learn about school activities first hand. We will continue our annual donation to the school and are delighted that some of the students and their families help out at the pancake breakfast!

2012 will be a busy year, lots of opportunities to work with chapter members to make our events successful and our clubhouse a great place for gathering.

Your Flying Buddy,
Bettie Seitzer

Did You Know?



That the clubhouse is open on all Saturdays from 9:00AM to around noon for "Hangar Flying" no matter what the weather is! This is a great time to get to know your chapter members and usually afterwards many head to lunch together. Come join in the fun some Saturday!

EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT

BY PAUL RANKIN

EDITORS NOTE: AS DISCUSSED AT A RECENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, THE TREASURER'S REPORT WILL NOW BE ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.EAA54.ORG/MEMBERSONLY

Editors Note: These great pictures/calendars are pulled from the EAA website, www.eaa.org/wallpaper. They can be used for your screen savers!



Ed "Turbo" D'Arcy, EAA 603274, took this photo of a Kitfox Model IV during a pontoon boat tour of the AirVenture Seaplane Base in 2004. Ed and his father, who recently passed away, took the tour together; besides sharing a love of aviation, they loved the water and sailed more than 30,000 miles together.



Chapter 54 Directory

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Newsletter Editor/Director At-Large
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Chapter Historian: Jeff Hove

Chapter members 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, Unicom: 122.8
21D AWOS: 120.075, TPA: 1932'
Runways: 4-22 (2497' x 75')
14-32 (2850' x 75')

Biplane at a very reduced cost. I opted for the drawings and that is how I got started. I didn't know one thing about aircraft building and the only tools I owned were a screwdriver, slotted style, a pair of rusty pliers and a beat up carpenter's hammer. I was desperately in need of advice and a lot of help. I found this advice and help through my fellow Chapter members who were experienced and knowledgeable. There are always a bunch of experienced and knowledgeable people within the Chapter structure who are more than willing to share their expertise {and even in some cases their tools} with the neophyte.

Many, many times I needed the kindness and generosity of many of these great people. It was always through the Chapter membership that I was able to obtain this kind of advice and assistance. Without the Chapter organization, I don't know how I could have obtained the assistance, and without it I would not have been able to finish my airplane.



An example of what Bill's Arco Sport looked like.

Over the years, I have accumulated what tools I have and the experience and knowledge that I now possess. I am now in a position to pass experience on to my new found friends within our Chapter. To me, that is the essence of the Chapter. THAT is why we are here! We, as Chapter members,

have a common interest; airplanes and the building, repairing, restoring and flying of them. Along with the building, repairing, restoring and flying of these airplanes, we also create a terrific opportunity for a social structure. We make really good friends and through these friendships we create opportunities for a whole family participation. Our annual banquets, our pancake breakfasts, our pig roasts and our recently revived pot-luck meals, have been a great catalyst for family oriented events within the Chapter.

Through all these years as a participant in the EAA Chapter organization, it has always been a very rewarding, pleasant experience for me and my family. As I have said before, I really treasure the friendships that I have come to know and I have acquired a great many pleasant memories.

Who is EAA Chapter 54 ?

We are a group of about a hundred aviation enthusiasts who have joined together to promote the joys of aviation. We gather for our own education and enjoyment. We all belong to the [EAA](#) (Experimental Aircraft Association), the national organization that promotes general aviation. We encourage youth through our [Young Eagles](#) program, we help people get started flying through our Flying Start program, and we sponsor a student each year to attend the [EAA Air Academy](#) in Oshkosh Wisconsin. We meet on the **Second Monday of each Month**, for good times and education in our Chapter House at the [Lake Elmo Airport](#), in an Eastern suburb of Saint Paul, Minnesota, U.S.A. If you are interested in aviation, [come join us](#), we would love to have you.



Chapter 54 Meeting Minutes For January 9, 2012 *By Dale Seitzer*

We were fortunate to have two from the crew of Sawbones, the unlimited air racer that is based at the Anoka Airport -- Craig Schiller and Brent Nelson. They told about air racing and the recent race at Reno. Sawbones qualified for the race at 423 miles per hour on the 8 mile circuit and it takes 1 minute and 11 seconds. The plane is owned by Dr Robert Crandall, an orthopedic surgeon, hence the name Sawbones. A Hawker Sea Fury with a Wright Cyclone engine and an estimated 3,000 horsepower. Their website is www.sawbonesair.com. They told stories of the team and the races – they are looking forward to next year.



New member Gordon Slattery is based at Osceola, he has built several planes, starting with a Kolb ultralight.

Announcements: Red Tails Premier was January 20,2012 – co-sponsored by the EAA Chapter and Commemorative Air Force out of South St Paul.

February 9 is Aviation Day at the Minnesota State Capitol. MBAA is leading the event – call 651 398 4649 for more information.

The Annual Chapter Board Meeting is Saturday January 21, 2012, 10 AM.

Calendars for sale -- \$12.00 each.

Secretary Report – Minutes approved

Treasurers Report – Reviewed and approved

Young Eagles -- Linda Amble, next event is May 12, 2012. Looking for volunteers including pilots. Air Academy is open and we are accepting applications for sponsoring participants.

Education Director – Ground school is going – full class -- starts January 19.

Pilots Lounge

For Sale:

4130 Gas Welding rods - 36" X 1/16" - I have 7 pounds of new rods I can part with. Each rod stamped with alloy ID. \$10 per pound or offer for the 7 pounds.

Vertical Card Compass lighted model - Precision Aviation, Inc - stamped 6/23/2004 \$50 or offer. Dave Syverson dsyverson@comcast.net or see additional contact info in Membership List.

For Sale:

60' x 48' Hanger, 54' door, small office, bathroom, well, holding tank, natural gas heat, 18' high ceiling, and 5HP compressor.

Asking \$80,000.00 or best offer.

2006 CT-SW Light Sport with about 200 hours

Total time. Has everything on it.

Asking \$90,000.00.

Call Jim Michalski at 612-618-1011 or see all of this at 13C Alfa Lane at the Lake Elmo

Airport (21D)

E-mail is Jmkreps@comcast.net .

Deluxe Hanger For Sale:

40 X 50 with 44 X 11 Door

Fully carpeted, insulated, gas unit heater with S.S. flue, electric baseboards, F.G. ceiling, textured walls, some attic platform storage, attic trusses are reinforced and double "X" braced. Wall ventilator with humidistat, two season wall vents, tool room with shelves & separate thermostat. Screened storage above. LAV room with single tub, cistern & storage above. Holding tank. Coffee room 4' above floor with finished storage below. Completely finished with A.C. and large hanger view window. Anderson perma-shield casement window. Door 2 3/4 S.C. Oak with steel frame. Includes furniture, microwave, refrigerator, coffee bar cabinets with Formica. Main floor windows have jail bars. Perimeter has rock border & ramp is flared. There is an electric aircraft winch and a custom oak work bench as well as a desk and a glazed book cabinet.

Price is \$69,900 Firm Plus any MAC fees.
NORM DUPRE 651-439-7688



Tailwinds Flying Club Welcomes New Members

Tailwinds **Flying Partnership** is based at Lake Elmo airport, 21D, in Lake Elmo, MN. We are a non-profit corporation of 38 pilots who equally own three aircraft. Our goal and philosophy are to fly great airplanes inexpensively. We strive for consistency in equipment among our three airplanes. We currently have a Cirrus SR20, Archer II and a Cherokee Six.

To inquire about membership, please send an [e-mail to Mark](mailto:mark@tailwinds21d.org) or call 651-982-275.

Visit us at www.tailwinds21d.org to learn more.

LAKE ELMO MN (21D) SLSA

Flying Club Forming

Looking for individuals interested in membership in a Flying Club featuring a Flight Design Light Sport Aircraft

Contact Jim Pearsall Phone: 651-494-4579

E-mail: pjpearsall@gmail.com



LOCAL FLYING EVENTS

Compiled by Chapter 54 member Paul Hove

The event dates and locations listed here come from a variety of sources. There may be changes, cancellations or editing mistakes. Please call ahead to verify that the event is taking place as scheduled.

February

February 11 2012, 12:00 to 14:00, Bowstring MN EAA Chapter 1446 Monthly Fly-In, www.eaachapter1446/, Bowstring Airport,(9Y0), FREE lunch and great comradely, in a relaxed atmosphere at an excellent, well cared for excellent 2500 ft grass strip in beautiful northern Minnesota setting. Bowstring Airport (9Y0) - Every second Saturday of every month all year. Meeting at 11:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Lunch served 12:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M. Fly-in and join us!, Ken Reichert, 218-244-6328, ken206jf@gmail.com

February 11 2012, 11:00 to 14:00, Park Rapids MN 2nd Annual Zorbaz Zki Plane Chili Fly-In, www.zorbaz.com, Little Sand Lake,(), Please join us for the Second Annual Zorbaz Zki Plane Chili Fly-In at Zorbaz Restaurant on Little Sand Lake. We will bazk in the glow of a fire, zlurp down zome really great chili, enjoy good company and the warmth of Zhateau Zorbaz. Little Sand Lake is 7 nm NW of Park Rapids on the 042 degree PKD radial, N46.978304 W -94.949727. Fuel available self-serve at Park Rapids Aviation., Robb Zorbaz, 218-237-1969, robb@zorbaz.com

February 12 2012, 10:00 to 12:00, Mondovi WI Log Cabin 12th Annual Ski Fly-In, , Log Cabin Airport ,(WS69), S149 Segerstrom Rd. Mondovi, WI 54755. 10Am Chile, Hot Dogs & Refreshments at Noon., Doug Ward or Judie Ohm, 715-287-4205, logcabinairport@tcc.coop

February 18 2012, 10:00 to 13:00, Marshfield WI Ski Plane Fly-In and Chili Feed, www.eaa992.org/, Marshfield Municipal Airport, (KMFI), Join us on Saturday for Dave's home-made chili, ski planes, and fun! Planes on wheels are also welcome, of course! Preferred ski landing area is the center of the field, east of runway 34, between runway 23 and the north taxiway from runway 34. Areas north of the taxiway off of runway 34 and south of runway 23 are rough-plowed cornfield, and not recommended. View overhead Map of the Airport at <http://g.co/maps/p5kg2> , Christopher Owens, 715-207-0744,

February 18 2012, 11:00 to 17:00, Long Lake Cotton MN. Long Lake Ski Fly-IN & Spaghetti

Feed, , Long Lake,(), Long Lake Ski Fly-In & Spaghetti feed., Dan Fena, 218-290-8868,

February 23 2012, to , Cable WI 39th Annual Birkebeiner Ski Race, www.cable4fun.com, Cable Union Airprot,(3CU), 2/23 - 2/25/2012 See Web Site for more information, Mike Nichols, 715-798-3240, mikenichols@centurylink.net

February 26 2012, 8:00 to 12:00, Warroad MN Ski Plane Fly-in & Breakfast, , Warroad International Airport,(KRRT), Ski planes land on the Warroad River, Wheel Planes at the Warroad Airport. Shuttle service available. 100LL available on the river, , 218-386-1818,

March

March 24 2012, 11:00 to 13:00, Council Bluffs IA Great Plains CAF Wing Chili Fly-In, , Council Bluffs Municipal ,(KCBF), Commemorative Air Force Great Plains Wing 2nd Annual Chili Fly-In and open house, 11:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. WW II Museum, P51 Mustang "Gunfighter", Stinson L5 and Aeronca L3 on display., Jeff Hutcheson, 402-981-4633,

March 24 2012, to , Punta Gorda FL Flordia International Airshow, , Punta Gorda Airport,(KPGD), 3/34-3/35/2012 US Blue Angels, Black Diamond Jet Team, Team RV, Younkin Airshows Inc , Cabanas Aerobatics Unlimited, Glory Days Jet Dragster., Fred Buckingham, 941-575-9431,

March 27 2012, 9:00 to 17:00, 38th Annual Lakeland FL Sun 'n Fun Fly-In & Expo, www.sun-n-fun.org, Lakeland Linder Regional Airport, (LLAL), 3/27 - 4/1/2012 USAF Thunderbirds and Black Diamond Jet Team, Wayne Boggs, 863-644-2431,

April

April 21 2012, 9:00 to 13:00, Saint Cloud MN Airport Day, , Saint Cloud Regional Airport, (KSTC), Come Support the SCSU Aviation Program! BBQ Chicken Sandwiches and Chicken Tenders for the kids! Youth Activities, Aircraft Displays & Exhibitors!, Jessica Miller, 320-255-7292, mije0804@stcloudstate.edu



Young Eagles Report by Linda Amble



This isn't the time of the year for Young Eagle flights but it is the time for Air Academy sign-ups. One young man, Preston Roberts, has sent in his registration and deposit for the Air Academy session starting on July 5th. In the past he has taken a Young Eagle flight, completed the online ground school course, and is also ready for a flight at Valter's courtesy of the National EAA. He and his family are pretty excited about the whole process and are looking forward to this summer.

There are still openings at the Air Academy so if you could make a recommendation for one more participant please let me know. We just ask that they, are enthusiastic about airplanes, and come back to a chapter meeting this fall to give a little talk about what they liked and learned at camp.

Young Eagle flights start in May on the second Saturday of the month and go through October. If you are interested in helping with ground support or have an interest in giving a Young Eagle flight, I'll be sending out a sign up sheet about a week before each date. Just let me or Dave Becker know that you're interested or if you have questions. Dave is my back up person AND he'll be giving rides this summer. I really appreciate his technical assistance.

The schedule for Young Eagle flights on the second Saturday of each month are May 12, June 9, July 14, August 11, September 8, and October 13. Last year the weather was uncooperative and many of the dates were rescheduled. With any luck this year will be better!

Our Young Eagle events are scheduled every second Saturday of each month, from May through October, starting at 9:00 a.m. Parents should pre-register their children for an event ahead of time by going to www.eaa54.org and clicking on the Young Eagles page to sign up for a flight. To view the many great Young Eagle photos, go to: <http://www.eaa54.org/YEPhotoGallery/YEGallery.html> If you would like to become actively involved in our Young Eagles program, contact Linda Amble or come to Lake Elmo on the second 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.



*Editors Note teasing Linda on getting her solo some day!
Ariel Tweto of the hit flying show, Flying Wild Alaska on The Discovery Channel, after her first solo!*



TAXI TALK

{Interesting happenings compiled by the editor}

HAPPY VALENTINES to all this February and may you not love your aircraft more than your spouse, or is that alright?

The Love Of Aviation

I have been lucky in my working career that I get to work around aircraft for my job. I have been employed at a major airline now for almost 28 years now doing the ground handling and baggage and I have always loved my job. The airline industry as you may know nowadays is changing so much with mergers, the economy and bankruptcies, Sadly the airline I work for filed last year in November and just this past week announced the layoff of many jobs. This recent announcement may effect me at my station, MSP. With so many years with the company I may not get laid off as much as just maybe have to relocate to stay with the company which to me is just as devastating. I love my life here as I have a beautiful house near the Lake Elmo Airport and a long time aircraft homebuilding project in my basement. I have taken way too long to finish this plane and if I could just get some paint on it I feel it would get airborne real soon. But, that's what I get for taking so long. Maybe I will get the time in the spring to finish it up before something happens at work. By the way, there is no definitive news about the station closing yet but it sure looks like it may happen. I can only hope it doesn't! There are of course other options of maybe retiring early, take the layoff and then transfer but all result in some serious decisions beforehand. Wish me luck in whatever I do!



Here's what my project is looking like!

Reality Flying Shows

I hope you have had the chance to check out all the neat "reality" flying shows that have been on the airwaves lately. It is nice to see shows like this nowadays and although I do not like reality shows in general, these shows are nice to watch because they relate to flying. Check out the following that have been on lately:

Flying Wild Alaska - Discovery Channel, Fridays at 8 CST. Shows follows the Tweto Family business running ERA Airlines in Alaska. A must watch! Great flying scenes!

The Aviator - PBS, (Channel 17) Saturdays at 1:30PM CST. Based in Oshkosh this shows talks about everything aviation and is great to watch about things you didn't know.

Contact Information for Newsletter Stories

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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**Had I been a man I might have explored the Poles or
climbed Mount Everest,
but as it was my spirit found outlet in the air.....**

-Amy Johnson, essay in Myself When Young, 1938.