



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

JANUARY 2007

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THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON
MONDAY JANUARY 8, 2007

- SOCIAL HOUR AT 7 P.M.
- MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT
- AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING, Karey Love will be speaking about powered parachutes and weight shift flex wing aircraft.

THE CAP COVERS THE CHAPTER

Reported by Bettie Seitzer



Who is Civil Air Patrol

Bill Rutten, LTC CAP
St. Croix Composite Squadron

Flight numbers include the number for the state, Minnesota is 21, the planes in a squadron are number sequentially.

The Civil Air Patrol was formed in 1941, there were several transitions, but by 1948 they settled as an auxiliary of the Air Force. Their mission is homeland security, rescue and youth development.

Their first function is emergency services: search and rescue, homeland security, counter-drug, humanitarian services, and AFROTC flights.

Cadet programs are designed to teach leadership and physical fitness through activities and school programs.

Aerospace education is done by the CAP members within the squadron, and by members going out to schools, events and programs to speak and deliver programs. They also recruit teachers to teach aerospace

continued Page 6

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

CIVIL AIR PATROL VISIT	1
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	2
TREASURER'S REPORT	3
DECEMBER MEETING MINUTES	4
FARNSWORTH AEROSPACE VISIT	6
PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL POSTER	7
YOUNG EAGLES REPORT	8
TAXI TALK	9
CLASSIFIEDS AND QUOTE OF THE MONTH	10



FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)

BY PAUL HOVE

The Minnesota Wing of Van's Air Force held their Winter Quarterly meeting on the Lake Elmo Airport in December. There were about 20 RV aircraft flying in for the meeting. Pictured below are two of the three Ethanol powered RV's that were flown in from Sioux Falls, South Dakota.



The meeting was well attended by chapter members and RV enthusiasts from Minnesota and neighboring states. There were about 85 participants at the meeting listening to the various speakers and everyone seemed to have a good time. It is great to see that many homebuilders. Maybe they will have the meeting at our airport again next year.

The Saturday morning gathering at the chapter house has experienced resurgence with the poor flying weather and the multitude of Christmas cookies donated by several of the members. Stop by and help us finish off the remainders.

I've been plugging along on my RV-7A project and have the aircraft looking like it may be ready to fly. The fiberglass parts are taking much longer than I had anticipated. I hope to have the plane ready for FAA inspection this spring.



It really is starting to look like an airplane isn't it?

We are planning on starting a ground school class on February 8 to April 19th. Watch the Chapter 54 Web site for more information. If you have anybody looking to get involved in aviation have them call Art Edlund at 651-439-5912 to get more information on the Ground School.

We still have a few 2006 EAA calendars left for sale at \$10.00 each. They are at Valter's Aviation so stop by there to get yours. Hurry since we don't expect them to last very long.

Speaking of calendars, member Doug Weiler's beautiful RV-4 (N722DW) is featured on the May page of the 2007 Van's Aircraft calendar. The picture was taken by Peter Fruehling over Stillwater during a shoot for the Stillwater Living Magazine. Doug has a poster size copy hanging on our hangar wall.

Don't forget the Monday night Chapter 54 meeting on January 8th at 7:30p.

EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT

BY PAUL RANKIN

December 2006 Financial Summary

Checking Account	\$	7,199.53
Cash on hand	\$	40.00
Investments	\$	6,364.86
Total	\$	13,604.39
Income		
Gifts Received	\$	125.00
New Members	\$	85.00
Membership Renewals	\$	325.00
Total	\$	535.00
Expenses		
EAA National Dues	\$	50.00
Newsletter & Mailing	\$	30.82
Liability Insurance	\$	271.00
Utilities - Electricity	\$	19.07
Utilities - Gas	\$	89.22
Total	\$	460.11

WORLDS SMALLEST JET!!



[HTTP://WWW.EAA54.ORG](http://www.eaa54.org)



Chapter 54 Directory

President
Paul Hove
Paul@paulhove.com

Vice President
Dale Seitzer
Dalemseitzer@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Paul Rankin
rankinpd@yahoo.com

Secretary
Bettie Seitzer
BJSeitzer@Landolakes.com

Education Director
Art Edhlund
aedhlund@hotmail.com

Events Director
Tim Reberg
tim2485@juno.com

Housing Director
Dave Fiebig
GoldenDelta2@aol.com

Membership Director
John Renwick
membership@eaa54.org

Young Eagles Director
Dave Becker
Dave-becker@comcast.net

Newsletter Editor
Tom Gibbons
TomisFlyingby@comcast.net

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')

Chapter 54 December 11, 2006
Meeting Minutes
By Bettie Seitzer

Visitors: Bob Pike, new resident of Lake Elmo; flying since 16 years old. Vince Bastiani building an RV7 – flies out of Fleming. Jim Bugger, new member, student pilot at Valters. Rob Spear, C.A.P. cadet and EAA member. Owns a Piper J3 Cub. Technical Counselor. Bill Rutten with the St. Croix C.A.P.; Noel Weslin, Deputy Commander of the C.A.P

Treasurer's Report: The treasurer's report was approved as published.

Secretary's Report: Secretary's report approved as read.

Old Business: Calendars are still available for \$10.00 each at the clubhouse or at Valter's Aviation

New Business: A traveler wants to store an RV10 short term; we do try to accommodate travelers.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORTS

Flying Start and Education (Art Ed-hlund): Another hangar tour will be conducted in the spring for Farnsworth elementary children. The kids move from hangar to hangar in groups of 10 – we need about half a dozen hangars for them to visit. We would like volunteers on the south side to open their hangars to the kids. Last year's event was a big success and the kids really appreciated it. The time commitment will be about 2 hours in the morning and 2 hours in the afternoon. The children are accompanied by their teachers and are very well behaved.

Farnsworth school was visited by Heidi – an astronaut from the last shuttle trip. She spoke in the auditorium in front of all the kids, she shook hands with every one of the kids! She also had a presentation of pictures from that flight so that the kids could get a better idea of what it is like to be in zero gravity.

Young Eagles (Dave Becker): End of the official Young Eagles season for 2006. Remember though that pilots can fly Young Eagles at any time – there are forms available in the

clubhouse. If you fly a young person pick up a form and register the flight as a Young Eagle flight so that the club and the pilot get credit. Total of 187 children were flown this summer. EAA also offers a yellow rubber bracelet with the words "fly free" that the kids can be given. The thought is that it will help to spread the word about young eagles and aviation.

Still looking for candidates for the Air Academy.

Housing (Dave Fiebiger): the clubhouse is open on Saturdays for coffee, rolls and hangar talk.

Newsletter Editor (Tom Gibbons): Thinks it is going all right – always looking for articles and pictures. Send articles and ideas to Tom at TOMISFLYINGBY@Comcast.NET

Publicity (Leif Erickson): Didn't get press releases out – his hard drive crashed. Anybody who has experienced that knows what a pain that can be!

Leif will be a merit badge coordinator for the Boy Scouts. Dave Becker and Jesse Black have served as merit badge counselors. Dale Rupp has made up a test for the badge.

WebMaster: (Hugh Sontag) will be leaving the state for a new position. Paul Leidl will handle it temporarily.

Officer update: Bettie Seitzer was holding 2 director positions, this is not allowed under the by-laws. She will retain her position as Secretary, assigned to Kid Venture. The Kid Venture position will no longer be a director. Al Kupferschmidt was nominated to serve as a Class 2 Director position. Al was elected by proclamation.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55

Respectfully submitted:
 Bettie Seitzer
 Secretary
 EAA Chapter 54

Continued from Page 1

The Civil Air Patrol has 4 groups in Minnesota, there is a strong organization headed up by a board of governors. There are 8 regions in the country, we are in the North Central Region. There are squadrons in every state, including Alaska and Hawaii! A squadron must have a minimum of 8 members to charter and then it is expected that the squadron will grow and recruit new senior members.

The national budget is \$31,109,000. There are 530 aircraft, 990 vehicles, 4,500 radios, 8,100 mobile radios in the national fleet. All planes have the same color scheme, making them identifiable. The planes are purchased by the national headquarters.

CAP is acquiring Cessna 182s with the glass cockpit, they have 50 factory trained CAP instructor pilots for that technology. They have one of these planes at Fleming field. They have a "Spectral Imaging" system in a Gippsland GA-8; it is on an Archer platform and helps with search and rescue.

The National Operations Center serves as a centralized coordinating facility, but does not do centralized tasking. When necessary they will get the USAF approval, coordinate pilots, flights, and activities. They coordinate the rescue activities and disaster relief and can coordinate assistance from other wings. They channel and consolidate mission reports.

They can fly over an area and take photos with digital imaging so that the photos can be used to assess the extent of the damage. The Archer uses Airborne Real-time cueing hyperspectral enhanced recon. The software has built in recognition for certain characteristics of airplanes (such as the shape of a wing) that make it more efficient at identifying lost planes.

After 911 the CAP was the first non-military flights allowed over the attack area; they also flew carrying supplies and conducting observation.

They conduct exercise with FEMA to practice for disasters and test disaster management plans.

After the four hurricanes of 2005 they conducted over 1048 air sorties, gathering photos to evaluate the extent of the damage. Katrina was far and away the most devastating. These sorties can be for observation of the damage as well as looking for people who might need rescue.

Aerospace education involves 1,623 Aerospace Education Members and reaches nearly 50,000 youth. Educational materials, thematic units for use in schools and a textbook have been developed and are used for programs with children of all ages. There are 7 National Flight Academies among a wide range of cadet activities that also include 15 aerospace career courses, 16 leadership activities, a national cadet competition, cadet orientation flights and region/wing summer encampments. The Minnesota wing has a glider and is one of the leaders in the nation for gliding. The St. Croix wing sponsors a week long camp for gliding and the cadets can get almost complete their license during the week. Glider flying is an extremely useful training, pilots who have glider training tend to be calmer in emergencies.

Cadets have a broad range of career choices available to them all across the country, careers include aviation careers and leadership careers. An International Air Cadet Exchange is available, including a trip to Europe! The cadets wear uniforms provided by the Air Force.

Captain Nicole Malachowski, the first female pilot in the US Air Force Thunderbirds started as a CAP cadet. While some cadets may go on to military careers, others will choose careers in private sector aviation. Cadets can become Cadet Officers, if they choose to join the military, they will go in at a slightly higher level, they may also be considered for the officer prep schools by achieving the Spots award.

continued Page 6

Continued from Page 5

Cadets may also consider a career as chaplains and have opportunities to learn through their experience in CAP by assisting the Air Force Chaplain Service. The requirements are the same as for the Air Force Chaplains.

Missing person searches often utilize CAP cadets and officers, participation is voluntary but must be approved by parents; parents may place restrictions on their child's participation.

Public Outreach is an important part of building awareness of the Civil Air Patrol and its programs dedicated to service. A great deal of media attention has focused on the contributions of CAP. There is a website providing additional information along with a regularly published magazine. Website is www.cap.gov/join.

Our local chapter meets Thursday nights; interested persons are invited to visit a couple of meetings. There is a membership fee and a

background check including fingerprinted will be completed before an applicant is allowed to join. Since members will be working with youth, the background check is always conducted. A good driving record is also required so that the member can acquire a CAP driver's license which allows them to drive the CAP vehicles.

Many activities and opportunities for participation and contribution exist within the organization. Participants in searches might fly a plane, act as observer in a plane, participate in a ground search or the communications among all search team members. Many opportunities exist for persons who would like to lead education programs, to manage public affairs or recruit new members.

Bill Rutten LTC CAP

651-429-7982

Bill.rutten@comcast.net

Meetings are Thursdays at 7 p.m.

Entrance A at Lake Elmo Airport.

To 21D Westside Hangar occupants:

Jill Wall of Farnsworth Aerospace Elementary school in St.Paul asked if we could repeat the so successful hangar tours at 21d in May of 2007. In May 2006 we accommodated about 90 seven year old students in a two hour event at 10:00am and another at 1:00pm.

The kids were divided into groups of six to seven, each with a teacher escort. Each group visit was timed at 15 minutes and 10 minutes was allowed to travel to the next assigned hangar site. In 2006 event we limited the sites to the north side hangars. I thought we might do the west side in 2007. The event will be on a weekday because it is a public school event and school busses are involved.

We are looking for half a dozen west side volunteer hosts who are willing to show off their hangar activity to these amazingly bright and eager to learn second graders. Lets show them what General Aviation is all about. A variety of activities would show them.

Adhering to a tight schedule went surprisingly well last year. I was advised by one of the teachers that they operate that way every day. The weather for the 2006 tour

Was awful-cold, windy and wet. The tourists didn't notice! I would specially appreciate any suggestions to improve on our first event. More than 50 of last year's students Wrote thank you cards. Email me at aedhlund@hotmail.com. Or call me at 651-439-5912.

Art Edhlund

EAA CHAPTER 54

PRIVATE PILOT GROUND SCHOOL

Introductory meeting will be held on Monday, Feb 5, 2007 at 6:30 PM at the EAA Chapter 54 Club house at the south (B) entrance to the Lake Elmo Airport - under the beacon tower.

- **A course summary will be available.**
- **Students will sign up and pay \$100 initiation fee.**
(Those who opt to join Chapter 54 will receive credit for their first year's dues.)
- **Purchase class materials. Jeppesen course materials will be used. (Student kits available from Valters Aviation and others.)**
- **Passing this course will allow you to take the FAA exam required for a private pilot license.**

**Classes will meet on Mondays and Thursdays
Feb 8, to April 19th 6:30pm to 9:00pm.**

Any questions, check the chapter 54 website <http://www.eaa54.org>
Or email Art Edhlund - aedhlund@hotmail.com

Young Eagles Report *by Dave Becker*

As we move into the new year and before our 2006 Young Eagle days fade from our memories, it might be a good time to think about what went well and what could use some improvement over last year's program. I invite your comments and suggestions for our 2007 Young Eagle program. Please address them to dave-becker@comcast.net.

EAA has added a new silicone wristband of various colors with the words "FLY FREE" molded into them. The bands can be presented to Young Eagles along with the official Young Eagles certificate following their flight. The wristbands have proved to be very popular with Young Eagles since their introduction. We will be giving each Young Eagle a wristband along with their Young Eagles certificate in next year's program.

Here are a few more pictures from Young Eagle flights this past year.



TAXI TALK

{Interesting Happenings compiled by the editor}

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!!

Lots to report this month and lots coming up this year, so stay tuned for the latest information right here!!

First of all, this issue is full of great information so if I did not get your story in here, there just was not any more room. Thanks for sending them and I will try to get it in the next one. It is ok to send me hand written or typed stories but I do need to transfer them over to a word document and then insert them in the newsletter. They just may take a little longer. You can send any of your stories via snail mail to:

Tom Gibbons
2685 Manning Ave. North
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

UP COMING GROUND SCHOOL

I want to make sure everyone knows about our up coming ground school put on by our talented people of the Chapter. Next month I will be sure to get in but for now please contact Art Edhlund at aedhlund@hotmail.com for more information on class schedules and teachers.

VISITORS TO THE CHAPTER

I am in the works on designing a sheet to take down information about our visitors to the clubhouse. I think it is important to find out who is visiting the chapter and what their interests are. That way we somehow have an idea of just who has possibly joined or is interested in joining our chapter. Look for it in the clubhouse soon and make sure you get them to fill it out.

CLUBHOUSE ACCESS

There has been some issues on members wanting to get access to the clubhouse lately but have had problems getting in. Per some talk with the President we are looking in to getting a lock box or other means to make it accessible. Please bear with us as we work on a solution!

HAPPENINGS COMING THIS YEAR!

- ***Ground school in February.
- ***Chapter Work Party at Oshkosh in May.
- ***Monthly Young Eagle Flights to start in the spring.
- ***Hope to expand the clubhouse in the spring.
- ***Chapter Pancake Breakfast/Fly-in in August.
- ***Oh, of course! Our monthly meetings on the 2nd of each month.

Stay tuned to dates and times for all these great events. Plan on getting involved and helping out your chapter. It really is fun and you will enjoy it.



EAA CHAPTER 54
3275 MANNING AVE. N. SUITE #7
LAKE ELMO, MN 55042

CLASSIFIEDS AND QUOTE OF THE MONTH

1957 Cessna 172. Continental engine C145. (0-300A) TBO 1800 hours. Hours now 737.4. Plane has 5166 hours. Has a pre-heater. Still has VOR and transponder and other instruments. Will be at blue hangar across from the clubhouse most Saturday mornings 9:00 a.m. till noon or so. Best offer. If you have questions, please call Harold Hempler Jr. at 651-439-8411.

For Sale:
 Hartzell Prop HC-C2YK-1B-72"
 Use on 160-180 Lycoming
 500 hrs SMOH \$2750.00
 Can be seen at Hangar 19C Cessna Lane
 Lake Elmo MN 651-773-7031

Instead of our drab slogging forth and back to the fishing boats, there's a reason to life! We can lift ourselves out of ignorance, we can find ourselves as creatures of excellence and intelligence and skill.

We can be free! We can learn to fly!

—*Richard Bach*, Jonathan Livingston Seagull