



# The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54  
Lake Elmo, Minn.

MARCH 2012

## MARCH 2012

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON  
MONDAY MARCH 12, 2012

- SOCIAL HOUR STARTING AT 7:00PM.
- MEETING AT 7:30PM, CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT 21D.
- AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:
- Rob Ellis, whom is an Amelia Earhart researcher, will do a presentation on Amelia's life.



## Chapter Member Takes Up a Skycatcher

By Dale Seitzer



**Flight Test -- Cessna Skycatcher  
Falcon Field, Falcon Aviation, Mesa AZ  
11:30 am 2/25/2012, \$115 for the plane plus \$55  
for the CFI**

While on vacation I had the opportunity to do a flight in the new Cessna Skycatcher – a light sport aircraft that is factory built with a new price tag of around \$140,000.

It is a nice looking plane—balanced visually and it just looks right. The doors are easy to enter and lock securely. It has an all flat panel instruments, no regular gauges. This would take me some time to get used to. Lots of information and finding the critical information took some searching in the two big panels. The Skycatcher is a high wing, two seats side by side, tricycle gear -- but not a steerable nose wheel. Very comfy seats, not very high back and not very deep seat. The seats do not adjust—the pedals move. It has a Continental 0-200 engine with an aluminum two blade prop. Typical engine operations --full rich on take-off, lean a bit on cruise and full rich for landing.

The instrument panel is high—I could have used a seat cushion because there was plenty of head room. The door windows are just about perfect and the rear windows are nice—could be bigger but they worked well and provided very good visibility.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

MEMBER RENTS A SKYCATCHER	1
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	2
CHAPTER DIRECTORY	3
MEETING MINUTES	5
PILOT'S LOUNGE	6
SPECIAL WHO'S WHO	7
SOME BRIEF INFORMATION	8
LOCAL FLYING EVENTS	9
YOUNG EAGLES REPORT	10
TAXI TALK	11
QUOTE OF THE MONTH	12

Continued on Page 4



## **FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)**

*BY BETTIE SEITZER*

Do you have spring fever yet? I do! I have been very grateful for the mild winter, but am hoping that we do get some good moisture this month. “In like a lamb, out like a lion” – or maybe “In like a lion, out like a lamp”? We never know for sure if that old saying will hold true, but we can be absolutely certain that March weather will offer extremes of snow, cold, wet and wind. We certainly can expect more snow this month, thank you to those hard working chapter members who keep our clubhouse accessible by shoveling the walk and deck. It is really appreciated; and we should all remember that this task is done by volunteers and feel free to volunteer!

Spring cleaning season is upon us. In May and June we will have spring clean-up days to get the shrubs trimmed, repairs to the deck and the clubhouse. We will add mulch to the shrub beds as well. Our doors need to be replaced, Dave is investigating styles and cost, new doors will offer better weather protection, security and appearance. We will put out the call for help when the doors have been purchased. We will need help installing them.

Our first Young Eagle day is scheduled for April, this is a very important part of our chapter's community outreach, each Young Eagle flight provides a child with an adventure that they will share with their friends, neighbors and relatives. Every adventure story told helps to educate another supporter of general aviation. Linda needs your help to continue this very effective program. Pilots are needed, of course, but the activity also requires ground support people who help to greet our guests and guide them to and form the flight line. Young Eagle Saturdays are a lot of fun – the excited children, their proud parents and the pleasure of watching the planes flying, what could be better. In August we will have a picnic lunch on the Young Eagle Saturday; plan to join us for the fun.

One of our Chapter 54 traditions has been an annual banquet held each year in May. For the past several years we have heard from members that it might be time to change the tradition and so have decided this year that we will hold a picnic at the clubhouse. Food will be catered but we will be able to hold the cost to a very reasonable price. The goal is more family participation and higher attendance. Jeff is still working out the details, but we will keep you posted.

I have received lots of notices about fly-in events for the coming summer. If you attend a fly-in, please send Tom, our newsletter editor, a brief report – let him know how many folks were there, what planes you saw and what that group did particularly well. I personally would love to know how many of our folks fly out to these events.

Clear Skies and calm winds!  
Bettie

## Private Pilot Ground School 2012



Please welcome three new members from the 2012 Private Pilot Ground School:

Sisters Leah and Miriam King are students from Prescott, WI. Both are interested in flying, and enjoy music (piano) and reading. Richard Steineck is from Woodbury, and is a student at McNally Smith College of Music. Besides music and flying, he's interested in computers.

## 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](http://WWW.EAA54.ORG/MEMBERSONLY)*

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



Lynn Cromer, EAA 1040774, captured this photo of a Beechcraft SNB-5 with a Nikon D300. He was driving in to the Denton Airshow in Texas last June to shoot the static aircraft at sunrise when he noticed the rays of sunshine poking through the clouds. "I thought I would get arrested for my driving trying to get to the flightline," Lynn said.



## Chapter 54 Directory

President  
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Tom Gibbons  
[Newsletter@eaa54.org](mailto:Newsletter@eaa54.org)

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')



The take off, once moving, no brakes are needed for directional purposes, fly it like a tail dragger. I wonder about cross winds but it is rated for 17 kts cross winds. It took a long time to get up to speed, I rotated too early. It seemed like we were rolling long enough and were going 50-60 knots but could have waited a little longer. At this flight school just 2 CFI are light enough to give instructions in the plane—it does not have enough capacity to take 2 medium sized people and full fuel—they usually only fly with tanks half full. This is a big disappointment to me—flying to Oshkosh, for example, with a passenger and luggage would be a challenge.

Climb out at 70 kts provided good roll controls, fairly quick, not as quick as a RV but faster than some heavy ultralights turned

into light sport planes. About 1,000 fpm at cruise climb (75 degrees, 1350 alt.) I did shallow medium and steep turns, descents and climbs. It needed a bit of right rudder to hold a right turn and neutral for left. Every engine rpm change, even slight throttle changes, needed a trim change—the controls are very heavy if you do not use the electric trim. Lightest rudder springs I have flow with and that was nice—my plane has no springs, the pilot must move back to neutral manually.

3 notches for flaps and not a huge amount of pitch changes occur due to the flaps. A big handle like the Piper Warrior is easy to use in flight. They seem to work well—the CFI said to use just 2 notches—maybe the 3<sup>rd</sup> is for experienced pilots—I was a little fast on final so we glided a bit. One of the parallel runways was closed for construction and the taxiway exits were also closed so everyone had to exit at the end of the runway which delayed take offs and landings – Falcon Field is a pretty busy GA airport.

The Skycatcher employs a unique stick—it comes out of the panel like a yoke but has a vertical handle similar to a stick. Forward and back, controls the pitch and side to side controls the bank. I didn't think about it much seemed pretty easy to adjust to I have less than 100 hours in yoke controlled aircraft– I have a center stick on my plane and this puts the stick in the pilot's left hand

Taxiing with a castering nose wheel was awkward—plenty of power is needed and then generous braking is needed to turn the aircraft on the ground. It would take some time to get used to that but I know lots of other planes have the same setup.

Is this plane more than 4 times valuable than my plane? Good Question. Sport planes have been selling well and this one flies like an American plane – solid, no surprises, no bad habits, not ugly, acceptable performance and a good compromise.



*The ramp at Falcon Aviation in Mesa, AZ*



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

President, Bettie Seitzer called the meeting to order, Vice President, Jim Pearsall, and Treasurer Paul Rankin were officers in attendance – a total of 19 people were in attendance.

### **Business Meeting**

Treasurers Report; Paul Rankin reviewed the report, unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report: Minutes approved and seconded, unanimously approved.

Visitors: Josh Hosek –just went through aviation program—connected to the Chapter by John Schmidt. Josh recently completed an aviation program for ground school at White Bear Lake High School and he has also completed a Young Eagle flight.

Jason Bartlett, earned Private Pilot License in 2005, looking to join an aviation community, tail wheel certification looking for a plane.

Everyone is invited for Saturday morning open house every week.

### **New Business**

Annual Board meeting reported held and strategic plan including the budget was approved. The board reviewed every source of income and expense and negotiated a plan for the club. Financially the Club has had some down years, for example when we built the club house addition, but with some careful planning and limits we will be solid for the next year. Dues actually are an important source of resources so members are encouraged to join and remain members. We all need to make membership have value for everyone.

Bettie would like to get members involved at the club house as volunteers and social activities so look for opportunities to participate at whatever level you can.

Saturday May 12 Young Eagle event

Saturday May 19 Learn to Fly

May 5 and May 26 (Landscape) clean up day

Sunday Aug 12 Aviation Day Pancake Breakfast

EAA has been exploring providing Eagle Flights for adults interested in an introduction flight. Bettie will look into the program to see what the next steps are, how EAA can support the local chapters in this initiative.

Ground school report—the session is half completed. They have 12 students and the instructors are doing a great job. The students have come to meetings, stopped in on Saturday mornings and are starting to be involved in the chapter.

Farnsworth Hangar visit – May 8 or 9 (Tuesday or Wednesday). Students from the Farnsworth School (Aviation Magnet School) make an annual visit to hangars to meet pilots, builders and see planes up close. The students rotate around the field in small supervised groups. Volunteers are needed, please contact Rob Barros.

Oshkosh work party – We are organizing another Weekend Work Party at the Airventure grounds in Oshkosh. The plan is drive over Friday and work full Saturday and half Sunday. Volunteers stay in buildings on site and food is provided. Usually includes tour of Museum and behind the scenes at the airport. Looking for people who are interested, contact any Officer.

Suggestion for a sign on a post at the airport, "Welcome to the Lake Elmo Airport 21d". We need to contact MAC to make sure a sign is acceptable and determine what information should go on the sign and leverage the air-plane viewing area where many visitors stop.

Spring Banquet. We are exploring options for a spring social event, perhaps co-sponsoring something with MAC. Other options include a BBQ in May at the clubhouse where we could invite other clubs and chapters. The goal would be a reasonably priced (under \$10 each) meal that the club volunteers would organize and provide. We want to have an event where more members would participation. Whatever is sponsored we cannot lose money on the activity. John Pearsall is coordinating—contact him if you want to help or have an idea to consider.

August 11 Young Eagle Day Picnic: We would organize and provide not a free lunch, but a reasonably priced meal. Invite past Young Eagle, Air Academy participants, volunteers, parents, Farnsworth students.

Newsletter – You may send articles in any format to Tom. New and updates are always interesting. Always looking for any photos too. Send what you have to [newsletter@eaa54.org](mailto:newsletter@eaa54.org).

## 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](http://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](mailto:pjpearsall@gmail.com)



## **A Special Who's Who in Chapter 54**

*Editors Note: My apologies have to go out to Norman Weston for the delays in getting his information in the newsletter so late.*

**Name:** Norman A. Weston

**EAA# :** Original 3226 After 1964 it became 5226 (Mailing slips on SA of '63! )

**Occupation:** Retired

**What aircraft are you building/flying?** None (Health Reasons)

**If you could fly any aircraft, what would it be?** A blimp at 40mph with 20 thousand mile range so I could go see all the scenery.

**Fun aviation story:** In 1952 I was handed a key for a Convair 550 to put a ramp up to it and prepare it's move to the terminal from spot #9. Rain, wind and misery attended my walk on the ramp to spot #9. Once the ramp was in position, up I go to unlock the aircraft and enter...WOW!...Now no one mentioned any warm bodies on this trip! I unlock the the flight deck and right there I saw the likes of a Marine MP had a .45 cal pointed at me! Turns out the captain somehow had a master key and I did not know this.

**Who is an inspiration to you in aviation?** Any pilot!

**What person/s in aviation would you like to have lunch with?** Col. Buberliski or Kelley who were my plane's C.O.

**Describe your first airplane ride:** It was in a Cub!

**What is your favorite airplane to fly?** Piper Cub

**How long have you been a pilot and what do you fly?** We taught ourselves to fly and I was only 10 to 17 years old!

**Unique airplanes you've flown/taken a ride in?** Us kids built a glider in the 1930's.

**What do you like about Chapter 54?** It's people!

**How did you get interested in aviation?** Reading comic books!

**What do you hope to accomplish in aviation in your lifetime?** Have thousands of kids to teach themselves to fly!

## A Brief Note about Last Month's Speaker

Notes Taken by Dale Seitzer

– Kurt Schendel from Modern Avionics, Your Glass Cockpit Has Arrived. Flying Cloud Airport, avionics and maintenance, they also have fuel and flight training at the facility. Aspen Avionics is the brand name, Evolution Flight display –EFD 1000 is the model he talked about. There are promotional materials in the club house. Connection is via a 44 pin connector and pitot tube and has a back up battery (30 minutes), color display, and a thermo fan. The device replaces the “6 pack” of instruments and takes the space of two holes. It takes in information from navigational (digital and analog) radios and other input such as iPad, computes ground speed and winds aloft if connected to a GPS, remote sensor module antenna includes ext air temp and weighs 2.6 lbs.

It need an analog converter to connect to radios and integrates with most autopilot and flight directors. It clips in and out for service and maintenance. Basic model price is \$6,000, next level up is \$10,000, next level up is \$12,000 and top line for helicopters is \$15,000. The higher feature models cost more – check out their website for more details. Builders may also use 2 or 3 to provide comprehensive instrumentation

They also have a multifunction display which can add more functions such as moving maps, weather, Nexrad, traffic approach charts and more.

New products coming -- synthetic vision and 7 back up functions in a single unit.

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### Non-Directional Beacon

The State of Minnesota is the owner of HOPEY the Non-Directional Beacon located a few miles east of Fleming Field. The Office of Aeronautics is asking the pilots of local airports, Fleming Field, Holman Field and Lake Elmo if they are using this piece of equipment or is it time to decommission. MNDOT will use the pilot feedback to determine if HOPEY should be decommissioned. Please send your comments to Jeff Flynn (jeff.flynn@state.mn.us) or call him at 651-234-7235.

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*Editors Note: The below article was sent in by Joshua Hosek, who is a senior at White Bear Lake South Campus, who was at our last meeting and had a nice story to tell about his aviation class there.*

The program was started because of death of a past White Bear Lake student, Patrick Marzitelli, who was a junior at the time. He was a scholar that was interested in Aviation. He refueled airplanes at Anoka county Blane Airport. The senior encountered an accidental inhalation of aviation fuel and passed out in more fuel over the inspection hatched. He died on May 21st, 2010.

His father, John, was a pilot. He started a scholarship program for young people interested in Aviation. Also in his tribute, he started the elective of Aviation & Aerospace. He funded all sorts of stuff to kindle our learning in aviation. He just bought a new flight simulator and he is talking to a carpenter to build us a cockpit with a projector. Not to mention, he is volunteering to pay for the admission fee of the private pilots exam (which grew to be \$150 a test).

In my junior year, I was looking for science class that could mostly relate to aviation. I was going to take physics and an transportation studies class. Then I saw this class option and i was ecstatic. The class description is below: "This rigorous course will provide the eager student an introduction to the science of air and space flight and the career opportunities available following this course of study. In addition, the curriculum will cover topics presented in flight ground school and will serve to assist the student in preparing for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Private Pilot and Sport Pilot written exams."

It didn't mention that we've had field trips to Golden Wings museum and also a flight through the Young Eagles. The semester class went through Jepperson's ground school program online. I wish it was a year long class because there was so much information to cover. I already talked to the principal about it. The class is going to be exposed to schools around the area, who don't have the opportunity. Our class this year had fifteen kids in it and more than half are going to take the pilots exam. I want to be first to pass this exam. My classmate and I made a promotional video to encourage more people to the class. It is in the link below.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4SUog3MYx-w>

I myself want to be the first of the program to pass the pilots exam.

The teacher of the class is Peter Pitman. He used to be a flight coordinator and ATC. He is always looking for contacts in the aviation to talk or give flights to the class. His contact information is below:

<http://www.peterpitman.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.

## March

**March 10 2012, 12:00 to 14:00, Bowstring MN EAA Chapter 1446 Monthly Fly-In**, [www.eaachapter1446/](http://www.eaachapter1446/), Bowstring Airport,(9Y0), FREE lunch and great comradery, 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

**March 11 2012, 10:00 to 13:00, Milaca MN Winter Fly-In**, , Milaca Municipal Airport,(18Y), Chili/Hotdogs and Refreshments, Doug Ostien, 612-483-2211,

**March 17 2012, 9:00 to 16:00, Blaine MN Twin Cities Aviation - Spring Open House**, [www.tcaviation.com](http://www.tcaviation.com), Anoka County Airport,(KANE), Learn more about flight training, aircraft ownership, charter, and any other questions you may have. Manufacturers Cirrus & Cessna will be in attendance showing their exciting latest aircraft. In addition, at 10:00 AM there will be an FAA seminar (register before-hand for WINGS credit). Food will be provided over the noon hour. Everyone is welcome! Come experience the thrill of aviation! Blaine Airport TCA Building 8891 Airport Road Blaine, MN 55449, Chris Gabiou, 763-780-4375, chris@tcaviation.com

**March 17 2012, 11:00 to 15:00, Cloquet MN EAA Chapter 1221 Birthday Party, Fly-In/Drive-In**, <http://1221.eaachapter.org/>, Cloquet Carlton County Airport,(KCOQ), Come join us for our annual Chapter 1221 Birthday Party! Fly In or Drive In, Rain, Snow or Sun! We'll have Burgers, Brats, and Hot Dogs all on the grill for the first time this year. Beans, Chips, Coffee, Pop and of course Birthday Cake will be served., Mike Hongisto, 218-310-4301,

**March 17 2012, 10:00 to , Rushford MN EAA 919 Annual Chili Feed**, , Rushford Municipal Airport ,(55Y), Perfect for a cold March day! Serving 10 AM till gone. Get your pre-heaters going and jump into that plane for a nice flight to super-friendly 55Y. Many different kinds of chili to choose from., Walt Kelly, 507-

454-5147,

**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 Florida 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](http://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 14 2012, 7:00 to 12:00, Ames IA Fly-In/Drive-In Breakfast**, [www.flying.stuorg.iastate.edu/](http://www.flying.stuorg.iastate.edu/), Ames Municipal Airport ,(KAMW), Iowa State Flying Cyclones, Annual Fly-in / Drive-in Breakfast. Pilots in command free, Michael Hughes, 240-391-8405,

**April 21 2012, 9:00 to 14:00, Saint Cloud MN Airport Day & Fly-in**, , 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, mi-je0804@stcloudstate.edu

## May

**May 4 2012, to , Brainerd MN 2012 Minnesota Seaplane Pilots Safety Seminar & Fly-IN**, [www.mnseaplanes.org](http://www.mnseaplanes.org), Brainerd Lakes Regional Airport,(KBRD), May 4, 2012 - May 6, 2012. Madden's Resort on Gull Lake - Brainerd, MN, Mary Alverson, 612-240-0123,



## Young Eagles Report by Linda Amble



As you know, Chapter 54 sponsors 2-3 kids each summer to attend the Air Academy. We have one confirmed attendee and there is interest for the Air Academy from one other young man. I'll keep you posted as this process unfolds.



Thank you to Tom Gibbons for assisting with these Young Eagle articles. I really appreciate it. I've included a picture of Tom, as The Loadmaster, at a Young Eagle event last summer.

Our first Young Eagle flight for 2012 will be on, Saturday, May 12. There is already interest and kids are getting signed up for flights. It's really a fun event and we're looking forward to this summer! There is also some talk about having a cook out for the volunteers after Young Eagle flights also.

Parents should pre-register their child for an event ahead of time by going to [www.eaa54.org](http://www.eaa54.org) and clicking on the Young Eagles page to sign up for a flight. There are a lot of great Young Eagle pictures to view on the website at:





**TAXI TALK**  
*{Interesting happenings compiled by the editor}*

**“A HAPPY ST. PATRICKS DAY TO YA”**

.....as an Irishmen would say to you as a greeting for this month’s celebration on March 17. By the way, I am Irish myself and we always used to march in the parade in downtown St. Paul in which my Dad always worked. Always a fun day when I was a kid.

ing the pattern in his beautiful Citabria. I thought I would just walk to his hanger and see what he is up to. Al has such a neat hanger and the sun was shinning in it that day that made it warm to leave the door open. We had nice talk and it is always enjoyable talking with him. I want to keep telling everyone to **“get to know your fellow members”** as it is amazing what you can learn and how enjoyable it is to know our members and their experiences.

**One Sunny Sunday.....**

On a nice sunny Sunday this past month I was relaxing after church, reading the paper and just doing nothing. It was so pretty out I just had to go outside for a minute. I live right down the road from the Lake Elmo Airport so I decided to take a walk in the warm sunlight. So I grabbed my airport scanning radio and earphones and dressed warm enough to be comfortable and headed out towards the airport. As I walking down Manning Avenue I heard over the radio that fellow member Al Kupferschmidt was enter-

**Airport Sign Idea?**

As I was biking one day last month, yes in February!, and I was swinging by the airport one day to look over our viewing spot which is so nice for the public and we also use it during our Young Eagles events. I was stopped there for awhile and looking around and I noticed this big former sign pole right across the road. I thought I should present the members an idea about putting maybe a sign up there saying something like:

**WELCOME TO THE  
LAKE ELMO AIRPORT,  
HOME OF EAA  
CHAPTER 54**

Young Eagles flown every  
2nd Saturday of the month  
from May to October.



I suggested this on internet group and most thought it was a good idea but needed approval with the MAC and the members. The pole is there and with the hard work done I would not think it would take much to get a nice sign up there telling our presence!



**Contact Information for Newsletter Stories**

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

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

*May the runway rise up to meet you gently,  
May the wind always be at your back when at cruise altitude.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
and rains fall soft upon your fields unless you are trying to land there!  
And until we meet again at some airport,  
May God hold you in the palm of His hand for many more great flights.*

*- An Old Irish Blessing, with aviation flair by Tom Gibbons*