



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

NOVEMBER 2006

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THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON
MONDAY NOVEMBER 13, 2006

- SOCIAL HOUR AT 7 P.M.
- MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT
- AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING, OUR OWN TREASURER, PAUL RANKIN WILL BE TALKING TO US ABOUT MOUNTAIN FLYING AND ALL HIS EXPERIENCES.

MAC CHAIRMAN VISITS CHAPTER

Reported by Tom Gibbons



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The head of the MAC, Chairman Jack Landers, visited the Chapter at our last meeting. He talked about what was happening throughout the local area. As most of you know, the MAC has seven airports under their jurisdiction and Mr. Landers talked a little about all of them and what was happening and he even talked about the International airport. But of course he mainly talked about Lake Elmo airport. Then he fielded questions and there were many. Some good, some interesting and even some difficult ones from some frustrated flyers. All in all, it was very nice to have him visit the members to keep us informed in this open forum. He must be a very busy person and taking time to visit this chapter was very much appreciated by all.



FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)

BY PAUL HOVE

EAA 54 member Pete Howell has finished his Van's Aircraft RV-9A and its first flight was a few weeks ago with member Doug Weiler performing the checkout. Congratulations Pete!!



Doug reports that the aircraft flies like a dream and clocks better than 155kts on a 160hp Lycoming engine.



As many of you know I was on vacation most of the last month. One of my ideas was to visit some of the small airports in the Mediterranean area. I only saw one small airfield during the entire 3 week trip and it was between Ephesus and Kusadasi, Turkey. The locals told us that President Clinton and his family flew in on Airforce One for a family vacation to escape the press which was asking for explanations about the Monica Lewinski sex scandal. I saw very few

small planes and even fewer airfields on this trip.



While I was gone there was a bazaar float plane accident at Forest Lake where a Cessna 180 on floats made a hard landing on the lake tearing the floats off the plane. Two women passengers either jumped or were thrown from the plane into the lake. A nearby boater rescued the women who were slightly injured (one had a broken ankle). The plane was able to remain airborne and was safely bellied in at a nearby grass strip. Neither the pilot nor another passenger on-board were injured.

The EAA 2007 calendars have arrived and will be available for sale for \$10.00 each. Valters Aviation has volunteered to sell them for us again this year. If you can't pick up at the chapter house, stop by Valters and he will be happy to sell you one.

The speaker for our meeting on November 13th is our own treasurer Paul Rankin. Paul is a captain on Northwest Airlines and holds an instructor rating which he obtained when he grew up in the foothills of California. Paul will be talking about mountain flying and I'm sure he will have plenty of stories to tell about his experiences.

EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT

BY PAUL RANKIN

October 2006 Financial Summary

Checking Account	\$	6,911.13
Cash on hand	\$	40.00
Investments	\$	6,364.86
Total	\$	13,315.99

Income

Breakfast Food Resale	\$	10.00
New Members	\$	25.00
Membership Renewals	\$	75.00
Total	\$	110.00

Expenses

Calendars bought	\$	483.50
Dale Woodard Medical Donation	\$	50.00
Newsletter & Mailing	\$	37.77
Utilities - Electricity	\$	22.83
Utilities - Gas	\$	21.30
Total	\$	615.40

<u>Net Cash Flow</u>	<u>Net Cash Flow</u>	\$	-505.40
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Had to keep this picture this month!



Chapter 54 Directory

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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')

Young Eagles Report *by Dave Becker*

October was an active month for our chapters Young Eagle's program. We flew 17 kids on our second Saturday Young Eagle day and another 10 kids on the third Saturday. Wind and light turbulence was forecast for the 14 Oct Young Eagles day but everyone got in their flight before it became too high. On 21 Oct a group of 10 Boy Scouts completed their Aviation Merit Badge in cool weather, warmed by the big hearts of the pilots and ground crew who all made it possible. Our last scheduled Young Eagle Day for the year will be on Saturday, 11 November.



Here is an example of one of the many letters and comments I have received over this summer which demonstrates the value of our Young Eagles program and the great service EAA54 provides to the community and its youth:

“Hello Dave and EAA Chapter 54 members,

I wanted to thank you, Robert W. and all the others for the great time on October 14th. Both Lucas and Ashley had the most wonderful opportunity flying in Robert's 1939 Fairchild. Lucas could not stop talking about it. As we continue to pass landmarks that the kids saw from the air they still make comments about it. It was truly inspiring to them. This experience is just what my 14 year old son needed. It increased his self-confidence, willingness to learn new things and to explore outside the box of conformity. Thank you so much for your time and commitment to this awesome adventure for kids (and the parents watching!). We truly look forward to taking flight again soon.”

TAXI TALK

{Interesting Happenings compiled by the editor}

STORY LINE: Not much Happening!!

NOT MUCH PROGRESS!!!

I have to say, sadly, that I have not spent much time working on my, now 16 year, Pulsar project. Since returning from Oshkosh this year I have not been able to sneak downstairs to work on the plane. I am at the massive sanding stage on this composite aircraft so I guess that is what has slowed me down. I was hoping to get it painted before the fall set in but hey, what a shock, another time table missed. I plan to paint it outside my house in my homemade paint booth but it started to get too cold so I shall wait till spring time. There is plenty of things to do this winter to prep it so all is really not lost. I may paint small items such as control surfaces and cowlings if I can find a warm paint booth this winter. I have purchased all the paint and painting equipment so I am set on this. By the way, did I say that I still need to learn how to paint? I plan to use a HVLP system which I purchased earlier. Actually I am looking forward to learning how to paint with this system as I am told it is easier than the conventional way. Wish me luck!!

My Quotations used each month

In case anyone was interested, I get most of the Quotes of Month from a really neat book called: "SLIPPING the SURLY BONDS" by Dave English. You can find this book anywhere flying stuff is sold. I hope you all enjoy these quotes as much as I have enjoyed finding one each month. I really think they say a lot about aviation.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!

Visiting Members

Just the other day I was driving home from the gas station and I noticed "Chip" was at his hanger so I thought I would make a visit. We talked about his plane and his hanger and how it all came about. "Dave" came by and we talked more. What I am trying to relay here is it is always fun to visit fellow members at their hangers and get to know them. Get to know your fellow members, it is fun to visit them and talk airplanes!

Neat video on one huge model!

It actually has 8 "real turbines" at about \$1500 each. Unbelievable that someone would make this - all real turbines! That's \$12,000 just for the engines! It took over 2 years to build; it has a wing span of about 22 feet, and takes multiple pilots - as there are so many things to control.

Think they were nervous during the maiden flight?

Check out the movie link below to see the first flight. AMAZING!!

http://www.mcgirt.net/RC/VIDEOS/Giant_B52/B52_flight2.wmv





EAA CHAPTER 54
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 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.

My airplane is quiet,
 and for a moment still an alien,
 still a stranger to the ground,
 I am home.

-- *Richard Bach*, Nothing by Chance