



# The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54  
Lake Elmo, Minn.

SEPTEMBER 2005

## SEPTEMBER 2005

### THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH, 2005

- **SOCIAL HOUR AT 7 P.M.**
- **MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT**
- **OUR SCHEDULED SPEAKER FOR SEPTEMBER'S MEETING IS BEN SEPPMANN CHIEF PILOT FOR HOOVESTOL. HOOVESTOL, INC. IS A US MAIL CONTRACTOR HEADQUARTERED IN EAGAN, MN.**

Wednesday, Aug. 24, the Star Tribune published an inflammatory article about the safety of small airports such as Airlake. It played upon the insecurities of those who don't fully understand the issues and implications by quoting a "top federal official" and his opinions about terrorist potential at Airlake. AOPA provided this "top federal official" (Tom Heffelfinger, a federal prosecutor) with solid information to contradict his statements. Following is AOPA's summary.

Please continue to keep me informed of anything you see or hear about Airlake!

Thank you,

Karen Workman

AOPA Airport Support Network Volunteer

<http://www.aopa.org/whatsnew/newsitems/2005/050825mn.html>

AOPA tackles U.S. Attorney's mistaken views on GA security in Minnesota.

AOPA is taking on the top federal prosecutor in Minnesota over airport security. U.S. Attorney Thomas B. Heffelfinger says security must be tightened at the Twin Cities' general aviation reliever airports to counter terrorists. The local press quoted him saying that someone could "kill 3,000 people" by flying a single-engine airplane into the roof of the Metrodome stadium during a Sunday afternoon football game.

"We respectfully believe that your quotes, if reported accurately, reflect significant misunderstanding about aviation security, and, in fact, are not consistent with the views and policies of the U.S. agencies responsible for ensuring the safety and security of the nation's general aviation airports," said AOPA President Phil Boyer in a letter to Heffelfinger.

The U.S. Attorney for Minnesota said it was his "job to

*(Continued on page 6)*

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

AOPA REBUTS US ATTORNEY	1
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	2
TREASURER'S REPORT	3
AUGUST MEETING MINUTES	4
AIRCRAFT COMPLETION	5
CLASSIFIEDS	7
ST MAARTEN AIRPORT	8



**PRESIDENT'S COLUMN**  
*BY PAUL HOVE*

The pancake breakfast was again a huge success. Many thanks to all of those that volunteered their time at the EAA 54 fly-in Pancake Breakfast. I wish to extend a special thanks to Valter's Aviation for donating their FBO hanger for this event and kudos' to our Committee Chairman who kept everything running smoothly.

Paul Linnerooth, our treasurer, reports that we served 763 breakfasts up about 14 from last year.

We received a nice letter from one of the fly-ins at the pancake breakfast last month. I am reprinting it here.

Thank you, Paul for such a fun time at the Lake Elmo pancake fly-in. It was extremely well organized. The volunteers were absolutely the best! My husband and I especially thought the 'traffic advisor' was terrific – he handled the traffic with more expertise than some professionals do! The "welcome" person rated right up there as well. Please say thank you to all involved – it was obvious that a lot of hard work and planning made it a total success.

Regards,  
Name withheld by request

Fall is already here and with it comes ground fog. 21D is unusually susceptible to early morning and evening ground fog and it can arrive rapidly. Be sure to pay special attention to the dew point spread.

Just a reminder that Wings and Wheels is at Osceola on September 10.

Our Scheduled speaker for September's meeting is Ben Seppmann Chief Pilot for Hoovestol.

Hoovestol, Inc. is a US Mail contractor headquartered in Eagan, MN.



Terminal locations are: Kansas City, KS; Gothenburg, NE; Farmer City, IL; Springfield, MA; Stony Ridge, OH

We still have some orange juice and Sausage patties for sale at the club house. We are charging \$5.00 for a bag of 25 sausages and selling orange juice at \$1.00 for 5 containers. Stop by the club house on Saturday morning or at the next Chapter meeting on Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:30p.

Also we have embroidered caps and tee shirts with the Chapter 54 Speed Holman Logo for sale. The caps are \$9.00 and the tee shirts are \$9.50. We are out of large and have only a few medium and extra large available. We have several XXL sizes left.

Valter's Aviation is planning a ground school starting on September 19<sup>th</sup>. The course will cost \$100 and will be patterned after our highly successful course taught this spring. The chapter is planning to host another course this spring.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*BY PAUL LINNEROOTH*

### August's Financial Summary

Cash on hand	\$ 40.00
Checking Acct.	\$ 5,033.06
Investments	\$ 6,364.86
Total	\$11,437.92

Income in August consisted of \$400.00 in membership dues, \$119.00 in gifts received, \$413.30 in chapter hats and shirts, and \$3,385.50 from the pancake breakfast for a total of \$4,318.00.

Expenses for the same period were \$1,768.78 and included \$1,632.20 for the pancake breakfast, \$61.15 for newsletter publication, \$38.43 for utilities, and \$37.00 for stamps.

Through August, we are \$375.00 behind in the expected payment of dues. We have received \$1,550.00 in dues from members who have paid dues for at least two consecutive years. Last year the similar number was \$1,975.00.

On the other hand, we are \$304.00 ahead of last year in gifting to the Education Fund. There is a definite increase in the number of members who are including a gift to the Education Fund with their dues payment, but that does not account for all of it.

The pancake breakfast to date has receipts of \$3,385.50 and expenses of \$2,045.34, a net of \$1,340.46. We still expect additional income, maybe \$125.00 to \$150.00, from food resale and a food rebate. The manual tally on meals served did not correlate well with the breakfast receipts this year. The tally indicated we served 751 meals. From the breakfast receipts, I estimate the number could have been 810 or more.



## Chapter 54 Directory

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Young Eagles Director  
Al Kupferschmidt

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')

**EAA CHAPTER 54**  
**AUGUST 8, 2005 MEETING MINUTES**  
*BY: BETTIE SEITZER*

The meeting was called to order by the President. Three guests were welcomed: Craig was an EAA member in the 1980's, he recently moved to Woodbury; he works in Navy recruiting. Tom lives in Hastings, he was also in the Navy, he is now an A&P and would like to build a single seat light sport plane. David recently inherited an Ercoupe and has joined EAA.

Caps and Shirts are in and available for purchase. The Chapter logo is embroidered and looks great. Many sizes are available.

The treasurer's report was approved. Our exemption from Washington County property taxes has been approved. Many thanks to Paul for his hard work in putting that together.

MnDOT is offering booth space at the State Fair; members can sign up to fill a shift or two. Use of the booth is shared by all EAA chapters, so coverage does not create too much of a burden for one club.

**Chairman Reports:**

Education (Art E.): Valters is considering offering a ground school. Dates have not been announced, but we are hoping that there will not be an overlap with our program. More news to come later.

Young Eagles: (Al K.) The youngsters we sent to Air Academy will come to a future meeting and tell us about their adventures. Kids who attend the pancake breakfast can sign up for a young eagle flight on a future day. Al will need volunteers to help him complete those flights.

Newsletter: (Art E.) no news this month

Housing: (Dave F.) Reminder that the chapter house is open on Saturday mornings with coffee and rolls available for folks who drop in. Great time to bring guests or interested persons. Also, remember that hosts are needed for each weekend, contact Dave if you are interested.

**Elections:** Elections will be held in November. Dale Rupp, Bob Guard and Tom Gibbons are on the nominating committee. Please contact one of them if you are interested in holding an office.

The meeting was adjourned. Lou Martin provided our program for the evening. Lou has written a book titled Wings Over Persia, the story of his adventures flying in the middle east. Lou Martin had 22 years experience as an Air Force pilot and 5 years as a captain for Japan airlines before he began his work as a charter pilot in Iran. His book provides a first hand account of the turbulent time leading up to the overthrow of the Shah. The Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame designated Wings Over Persia as the best aviation writing by a Minnesotan for the year of 2004!

## MINNESOTA RV7A

FROM: BOB PITTELKOW

On August 27, 2005 our fledgling RV7A, S/N 70406 (QB) left the nest and became an eagle. After four years of concentrated work & fun by Mark Olson and Mike Pittelkow, N407V completed its first flight with Mark Olson at the stick. Notice the "RV Grin". The a/c is equipped with a Superior IO360-B1B engine, a blended-airfoil CS propeller, and an IFR panel with G/530 glass. All temperatures were in the green and handling was superb according to Mark. TA was George Jevnager, DAR was Tim Maloney, and Flight Advisor was Marv Getten. Our thanks to the VANs Aircraft Team, the usual suspects of EAA Chapter 54, and everyone involved with the successful completion and flight of our bird.



worry about what might happen if a terrorist ever stole a plane."

If that's so, then "you must know that following the September 11 attacks, no segment of aviation has been under more scrutiny than general aviation, with a resounding conclusion that general aviation does not pose a significant threat," Boyer wrote.

And Boyer reminded him that the former head of the Transportation Security Administration, Adm. James Loy, told Congress in 2003 that some security officials had overstated the threat from general aviation.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) told Congress in 2004 that "the small size, lack of fuel capacity, and minimal destructive power of most general aviation aircraft make them unattractive to terrorists, and thereby, reduce the possibility of threat associated with their misuse."

Consider the evidence: When the unfortunate Tampa teenager committed suicide by crashing

a Cessna 172 into a glass-faced bank building, the aircraft did practically no damage at all.

"From your professional experience," Boyer said, "you certainly recognize that terrorists rarely, if ever, act spontaneously. Historically, fewer than 10 U.S. registered aircraft (a high-value personal item) are stolen nationwide annually."

Heffelfinger concluded that because he was able to ride his bicycle onto Flying Cloud Airport unchallenged, voluntary security tools such as AOPA's Airport Watch were ineffective.

"We would respectfully argue just the opposite — they work to near perfection, as proven by your experience," Boyer said, suggesting that a middle-aged, high-profile attorney on a bike wouldn't be much of a threat. "The hundreds of security-minded pilots and workers at that airport did not feel the need to challenge your presence since, based on the news report, you were just 'doing your job.'"

AOPA has attempted to speak directly with U.S. Attorney Heffelfinger, so far without success.

All,

I took some pictures while at Oshkosh this year for the airshow and posted them on my site.

<http://www.schmidtcentral.com/oshkosh>

Mike

**CLASSIFIEDS**

For Immediate Sale:

1977 Cessna 172N

New Paint in 02' 10/10, with wheel pants to match.

Nice Interior

Garmin 340 Audio Panel, 4 Place intercom with music input.

Garmin GPS antenna installed for handheld unit, gets better reception.

Full IFR Panel, Standard Cessna, with ADF.

Pitot Static Check Completed in late 04'.

Around 600hrs SMOH on 160hp O-320 Lycoming.

Around 2700 TTAF.

New Soros Vent Tubes.

Has very rare and hard to find factory 50gallon extended tanks.

Also hard to find rudder trim from the factory.

\$78,500 OBO. Needs to sell quickly.

Based at New Richmond.

Call Josh Svenningsen for further details.

Cell: (651)324-4475

Home: (715)246-7917

E-mail: svennandsons@frontiernet.net

60 x 40 Hangar at Lake Elmo Airport.

Prime location at 31A Hawker Lane. Built in 1992. Completely finished. Call for more details.

ICOM VHF Air Band Transceiver – IC-A200 (new, never installed, still in original carton). \$650

Back seat from a 1979 Citabria. Good condition. \$200

Harriet Sarracco

651-429-1049

Winter will be here before you know. I have a solution for the fall chill when you are working on your airplane. I need to clean out my hanger so I am selling a Construction Propane Heater suitable for a fair size hanger. The heater is a Universal 3500-FACV model SPC-350 This unit has a self igniter and is adjustable from 157,000 BTU to 350,000 BTU's.

It is thermostatically controlled. It comes with three large propane tanks. Sell attached picture. I am asking \$299 or best offer. The unit can be inspected at my hanger between 9:30a – 3:00p most days.

Paul Hove

41C Mooney Lane, Lake Elmo Airport

Lake Elmo MN 55125

651-779-0747



Bob Rivers has his Lake Elmo hangar up for sale. It is on the north side of the airport, 50 x 40', unfinished inside, 200 amp electrical, natural gas is available.

\$65,000. Contact Bob Rivers at 651-777-6574 or brivers@mninter.net.

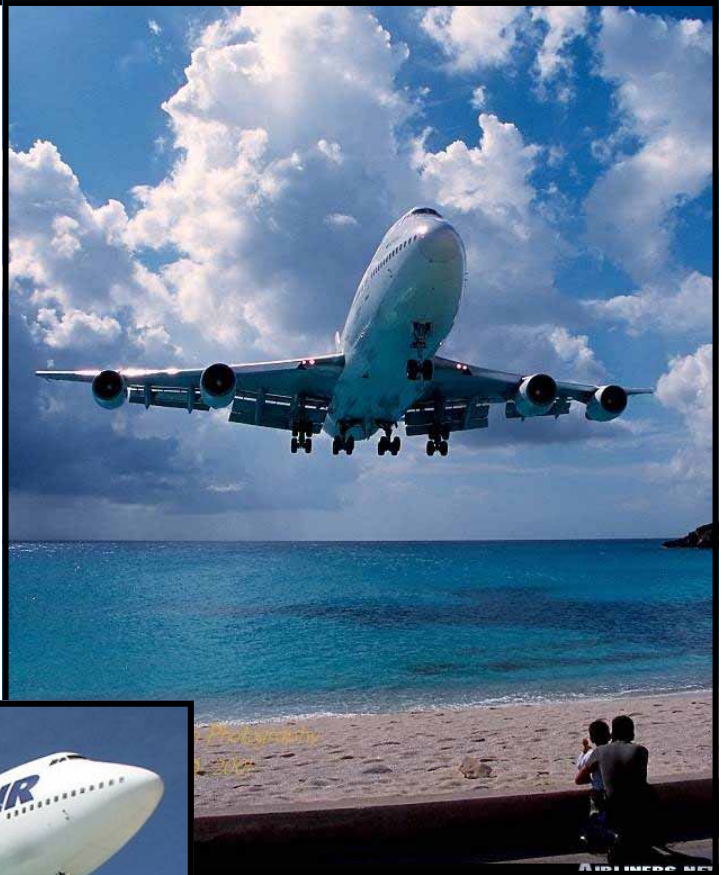
**ST. MARTEN AIRPORT (DANG, THAT'S CLOSE!)**

Be sure to fasten your seat belt!

These are some photos of St Marten Airport.

The planes impress most people on the beach, flying over just seconds before touching down at Princess Juliana Airport. Paradise for the beach lovers, having a lovely tropical beach, and for the aviation fanatics that spends hours on end observing the very low flying skills of giant commercial plane pilots.

12 Boeing 747s operate daily to St. Marteen. The heavy jumbo is the most impressive of all and attracts the looks of everybody around...









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

**CLASSIFIEDS**

This space is left available for members who have aviation related stuff (or just about anything else within reason) to Buy, Sell, or Trade.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Please let us know when there are new members joining the organization. We would like to hear about who they are, where they came from, and what they are working on.