



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

SEPTEMBER 2006

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THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 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 PAUL RANKIN WILL BE TALKING ABOUT MOUNTAIN FLYING.

CHAPTER FLY-IN BREAKFAST

As Reported by some Chapter members



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My EAA Breakfast Adventure

"When I volunteered to help my husband at the EAA Pancake Breakfast, I figured we would be flipping pancakes. Oh, no – he was parking airplanes. So, I said I would help him, figuring I could sit and watch him do his "thing" and I would fetch water and snacks he might need. He had other ideas! He gave me basic instructions on how to direct and park airplanes. I was flattered and listened to every detail, trying to remember them all.

Then, a plane came down the taxiway and he told me "He's all yours". Nervous, but excited, I accepted the challenge. I held the paddles high in the air and at the pre-calculated precise moment, I directed him to turn onto the grass and indicated to him to shut down. Thank goodness, the pilot was experienced and he parked perfectly, we even had our picture taken since it was the first plane I ever parked!!

When the Fire Boss AG arrived, I looked up at this huge powerful airplane and felt in awe of such power. I stood in position in the middle of the taxiway. As I directed him into Valter's ramp he did exactly as I directed. Wow, what a thrill.

Many EAA members asked me if I was now an expert, such kind words, nope - I told them I was still a novice, they told me I was an apprentice. I feel I did ok for my first time being on the flight line and the more experienced flight line directors gave me only responsibilities that I could handle. I admire their ability and knowledge of airplanes.

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FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)
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.

We still have some orange juice and Sausage patties for sale at the club house. We are charging \$10.00 for a bag of 25 sausages and selling orange juice at \$.100 for 4 containers. Stop by the club house on Saturday morning or at the next Chapter meeting on Monday September 11th at 7:30p.

Also we have embroidered caps and tee shirts with the Chapter 54 Speed Holman Logo for sale. The caps and tee shirts are \$9.00 There are only XXL tee shirt sizes left.

Valter's Aviation is planning a ground school starting sometime this month. 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.

Stillwater Living Magazine is featuring EAA Chapter 54 in their October issue and they have been taking pictures and interviewing members for the issue. The photographer was at the pancake breakfast and last week we arranged for a camera shoot of member Doug Weiler's beautiful RV-4 with Stillwater in the background. Thanks to member Scot Hutchinson who piloted the camera ship.

I attended Oshkosh AirVenture last month and snapped lots of pictures. I reported on the Raptor last month but I would be remiss if I didn't include a couple of other pictures that I took while I was there.

It looks like Honda is going to jump into the Very Light Jet market in a big way with this unusual looking personal jet.



The RV-8 paint jobs are starting to bring a new definition to homebuilding. Look at these two beauties.



The card hand on the wing also has the detailed bicycle back of the cards painted on the bottom of the wing.



This aircraft displays a pictorial sunset scene.



Just a reminder that Wings and Wheels is at Osceola on September 9.

See you all on Sept 11th Monday night at the chapter house with member Paul Rankin talking to us about mountain flying.

EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT
BY PAUL RANKIN

August 2006 Financial Summary

INCOME

Breakfast Receipts	2,955.75
Pop Receipts	91.00
Food Resale	20.00
Membership Dues	
Existing	260.00
New	60.00
Gift Received	30.00
TOTAL INCOME	3,416.75

EXPENSES

Electricity	-24.09
Gas	-21.30
Newsletter Postage	-15.40
Newsletter Printing	-17.97
Pancake Breakfast Expenses	
Food Expenses	-815.56
Misc. Expenses	-222.99
Pop Expenses	-39.36
TOTAL EXPENSES	-1,156.67
NET TOTAL	2,260.08



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')

The breakfast is a wonderful gathering of aviation enthusiasts with great people and I feel privileged to have been a participant. Thank you for a memorable experience, I had fun. “

Billie Rankin (Wife of Paul Rankin)



“I am responding about the Young Eagles booth. We had a very good attendance to the booth from the public. I credit the moving food line into the east side of the hangar the prime reason for the better than normal attendance. I do think we may want to consider pre marking off the booth spaces for the vendors, etc. During setup, everyone just came in and set up where they seen a space. There were some far apart and some to close together.

I also think the yellow Food Line on the floor helped to keep the food line in control and going where we wanted them to go. All in all, it went very good.”

Dave Becker (Young Eagles)

"A cloudy start and possible rain to our pancake breakfast this year did not stop some aircraft from coming in. For the third year in a row I got to park arriving aircraft, which I dearly love to do as I do it for a major airline, and although not many planes flew in and there were many minutes between arrivals, it was still fun to

sit in my John Deere Gator and watch and wait for the next arrival. Some confusion at times but all went well. My favorite part was parking the Fire Boss AG which was float equipped, turbine powered and very big! I parked it on the main ramp near the pumps and making sure the folks stayed back during it's taxi in was a major concern. Also, this year I brought my homebuilt aircraft, the Pulsar up for display in the hanger which was kind of neat!"

Tom Gibbons (Newsletter Editor)

“The yellow "taxi" floor markers worked great for the hungry to line up on. However the well fed display browsers followed the same guides - a few yards away from the exhibits. Dave Becker & I were able to divert a number of passers to the Young Eagle table by hand signals, charming smiles and our good looks? Dave's power point movie by far attracted more. A good share of those we spoke to were totally unaware of our program. We handed out flyers to the interested, but not registration forms, which would be lost despite good intentions. They were told to just show up on the second saturday at the clubhouse. Which was frequently displayed on the movie. We were proud to reveal the 50 some 'Eagles we flew the previous day!"

Art Edhlund (Flying Start)

“On behalf of Chapter 54, I would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's fly-in. We served approximately 570 breakfasts this year. Due to threatening weather, this year's count was down from a count of around 750 breakfasts served last year. So all in all, not bad.”

Tim Reberg

2006 Fly-in Chairman

Local Events As compiled by EAA Chapter 54

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

September 9, Osceola, Wis. Wheels & Wings Pancake Breakfast. 8:00a-4:00p Classic Aircraft & Cars. Simenstad Municipal Airport (OEO), Jeffrey Meyer, 715-294-2618 mey-erik@centurytel.net.

September 9, Superior, WI. EAA Chapter 272 Pancake Breakfast Fly-in, 8am-4pm. Superior Bong Airport. John Shallow, 218-729-7764, www.eaa272.org

September 9, Glencoe, MN. EAA UL92 Brat and Sweet Corn Fly-In, Glencoe Municipal Airport, 10:00a-2:00p

September 10, Maple Lake, MN. 20th Annual EAA Chapter 878 & Wright Aero, Pork Chop Dinner Fly-In Serving 11:30 - 2:00, Wayne, 763-477-6021, wflury@msn.com

September 10, New Ulm, MN. New Ulm Lions Club 33rd Annual Fly-In Breakfast New Ulm Municipal Airport (ULM), 7:15-2:15p Pancakes; All you can eat, Sausages, Apple Sauce, Milk, Coffee Adults \$5.50, Children, \$2.00, Pilots eat free. 4400 Ft. Hard Surface Runway Join the Lions Club of New Ulm in their effort to support the Sight, Hearing and Diabetes Impaired.

September 10, Thief River Falls, MN. Fly-In Breakfast, Thief River Falls Regional Airport, Pancakes and sausages served by Kiwanis from 8:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. PIC's Free, Aviation school open for tours. Joe, 218-681-5585

September 10, Dubuque, IA, Annual EAA Chapter 327 Pancake Breakfast, Dubuque, Iowa Airport (KDBQ), Chapter 327 will serve from 7AM to 12 noon in the main hanger for Davids Flying Service on the field, DBQ. Dennis Schares at scharesdennisf@johndeere.com or 563-589-5043 www.eaa327.org/Events.htm

September 16, Faribault, MN. Pancake Breakfast, Faribault Municipal (KFBL), 7:00a-1:00p, In conjunction Hot Air Balloon Fest. Bob or Linda Peasley 507-744-5111 dilligas@means.net.

September 16, Springfield MN, Civil Air Patrol Fly-in/Pancake Breakfast Military, Civilian and Sport exhibits. Civil Air Patrol Demonstrations, Antique Automobiles. Lots of food! John Grimsley 217-787-9236 ext 103.

September 17, Hector, MN, Flight Breakfast, Hector Municipal Airport, 7:00a-12:30p, Ed Newberg 320-848-2745

September 17, Rush City, MN. Fly-in/Drive-in & Pancake Breakfast, Rush City Regional Airport, 8:00a-12:00p, PIC Free, P-51 and 2 L-29s on display, airplane rides, classic car show, new full-length parallel taxiway.

September 23, Remer, MN. Fly-In Benefit Remer Municipal Airport (52Y) Serving lunch from 11:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. Sponsored by GPZ/EAA Chapter Proceeds will be donated to local pilot Dale Woodard for medical expenses. Your generosity much appreciated. Rain day September 24, 218-244-1610

September 24, Bowstring Airport Annual Fall Fly-In Chili and Hot Dogs. 10:00a-2:00p, Enjoy the fall colors in the Chippewa National Forest and Bowstring Lake. Art Mertes at amertes@bigfork.net or 218-832-3567

October 7, Park Rapids, MN. Fall Colors Fly-In/Drive-In, Park Rapids Municipal Airport, 10:00a-3:00p, Fish fillets, fries and salad. Self Serve 100LL and Jet Available. Hosted by the Park Rapids Pilots Association. Call Angie @ 218/237/8528. Rain Date Sunday October 8.

Young Eagles Report by Dave Becker

Our last Young Eagles Day on 12 Aug provided airplane rides to 50 kids. Our on-line web page sign-up listed 27 kids, a scouting group showed up, plus a number of walk-in's. Both our ground crew and pilots all pulled together as usual to get the job done. The larger than normal amount of kids spurred some good discussion around the emphasis of our program. As a result, our Young Eagles program will be steering our focus back to "providing a quality and positive first flight experience to kids" as opposed to simply giving an airplane ride, which tended to happen, when we had lots of kids and sometimes put several kids in a plane. We will also not be letting parents ride along with their kids, which we have tried to accommodate in the past when it was requested. This may mean that at times, we will need to limit the number of



Our next Young Eagles day is scheduled for Saturday, 9 Sept. and we look forward to another great day.



kids who can fly that day. There are also times when, for various reasons, some kids want to go together for the shared experience. We will accommodate their wishes when requested. With the continued support from our members, I am confident that our Young Eagles program will continue to improve and follow the goals that this EAA program was founded on.



TAXI TALK

{Interesting Happenings compiled by the editor}

Just to let everyone know again why it is great to join any local Chapter!

The last Young Eagles Day was on Saturday, August 12. This day started out for me by heading over to the club house early and watching all the fun activities of our Young Eagle program at work. Dave Becker took over recently and has done a wonderful job of coordinating all the action. Actually I should mention that Al Kupferschmidt came up with the idea of having a Young Eagles day every month on the Saturday before our Monday meeting and it has worked well. I helped out escorting some kids to the aircraft and whatever else I could do. After escorting one of the last couple of kids back from an airplane, I noticed Al Kupferschmidt walking back to his beautiful red and white Citabra and kind of asked if he would take me up. Before I could get the words out of my mouth he said sure and in I climbed and off we went. What a great time we had. I really never have flown in an aircraft like this and boy was it fun! Al showed me how slow it goes and then we headed over to various neat private air strips in Minnesota and Wisconsin that you could not spot unless you knew where they were. We did some slow passes by each one of them and Al said he has landed at all of them. Then he let me fly it a little and I asked all kinds of questions about the plane. When he took over again we were over Riverfalls and he said something like: ".....and we can take it over the top." and all of a sudden we were doing a complete loop. Never done that in any kind of plane yet!!! He made sure I was ok and I was, just trying comprehend the sights and feelings going through me. Anyways, finally we headed back to 21D and were on the ground quickly. I thanked him much and told him it was the best Birthday present I have ever had. Yes, that day was my birthday and it was just starting.

After lunch, many members gathered at Valters Aviation to set up for our pancake breakfast. We set up tables and other items. Paul Hove had pulled his RV-7 into the hanger for display and was finishing up there when he said that

I should bring my Pulsar over to display too. I kind of was thinking of doing that but thought maybe not. Then Paul talked me into it and since we had all kinds of volunteers to help out, I said why not. Off we went to get my bird which is in my basement. With Paul H., Paul R., Art E., and Ron, we got the plane on my trailer and into the hanger with no problems. We installed the wings at the hanger. It was getting late and I really wanted to finish installing some other items before the next day. I asked Gatis, the owner, if I could come back later that night and he said fine. With some arrangements made, I was back in the hanger after dinner to finish up my tasks. As I was leaving I kept looking back at this neat little plane I have been working on forever and saying to myself, "That's my baby!". You see, I have never seen my plane in such open space and all together. It was a sight to behold for me. Silly? Maybe, but I took it all in as a fun moment.

Later that night as I was working on a display for the plane for the fly-in in my basement listening to my favorite Saturday night program on the radio, WLTE FM102.3. They have what they call "Saturday night at the '70's" music on from 7-12Midnight. I love working on my plane, listening to this program and even one time I called in to tell the DJ, Cindy Barton, all about my plane. She was so thrilled to listen to me tell her about my project but actually she was really wondering how I will get it out of the basement. Ah.....What the general public does not know about homebuilt aircraft. I told her I was "Tom the airplane guy" because everyone that calls labels themselves someway. Long story short, I decided to call Cindy that Saturday night and she actually remembered me and dedicated a song for me on my birthday. What a great way to end a great day hanging around the airport and airport people, getting a great plane ride and seeing my homebuilt project in a hanger for the first time.

Chapter people are great so get to know them and have fun!



EAA CHAPTER 54
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**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.

Pilots take no special joy
in walking.

Pilots like flying.

—Neil Armstrong

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