

Vol. 39 No. 4

May 1996

CHAPTER MEETINGS

April Meeting

A representative from the Princeton Flight Service Station came, complete with a slide show. We received a good presentation on how to work with flight service.

For any of you who missed it—or anyone who wants more info, consider flying up to Princeton for the guided tour. I think you'll find it worth the trip.

May Meeting

John Thomas will be giving a presentation on Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) navigation systems. What little I've seen of these units makes me really want onebut how to decide? Come to the meeting and maybe we will figure it out together.

My note on this one didn't specify the meeting place, but It's late and I'm going to bet that we'll be back at Mayer Aviation, Lake Elmo Airport, at 7:30pm. If I'm so far off that a note on Mayer's door won't help, expect a call from me this Sunday-ed.

MEMBER'S FEATURE

"Jon and Gene-Armchair ACES"

Gene and I visited the "grand opening ceremonies" at Air Combat Entertainment Simulations (ACES) last month. Unfortunately, the schedule was pretty full for the simulators that day, so I didn't get the (virtual) "thrill" of being shot out of the sky.

Mike Pohl and his wife Kristi have put together a pair of flight simulators, and the software to allow aviation buffs to "fight it out" without final consequences. One of the simulators is hooked up to a large screen TV—giving you the big picture within a small theatre area within the shop. The other simulator has "only" a large computer monitor, but the pilot sits in a two axis F18 cockpit simulator in the main area of the establishment.

We did have the chance to converse with the two fighter jocks who came down from Duluth for the day—Interesting fellows both of them. They gave the simulators suprisingly good reveiws.

Well Gene-maybe next time. ACES is located at 5005 Excelsion blvd.

AIRPORT PLANS SET FOR LIFTOFF

(Reprinted from "Sun Current", March 13, 1996) By Amy Eriksen-Staff Writer

Plans for a terminal at the South St. Paul Airport are taking flight.

After receiving a recommendation from the Airport Terminal Building Committee, the City Council approved March 4 the committee's building plans and its choice for an architect. The decision clears the first hurdle in creating a gathering place for South St. Paul pilots.

Currently, a rented trailer serves as a terminal for those using the facilities at Fleming Field. It was implemented more than one year ago after the previous terminal which dates back to the days when Fleming Field was a World War 11 Navy training base - became too deteriorated for pilot use, said Airport Manager Glenn Burke.

The trailer, however, is too small to adequately serve those using the municipal airport, said Burke, adding that a terminal is an important amenity for pilots,

'It's just like having a boat and a lake cabin, except these people have an airplane and a hangar," Burke said. The difference, he said, is that hangars aren't equipped with restrooms, kitchens and meeting rooms.

Plans for a new terminal began taking shape about a year ago. Members of the airport community proposed the idea to the City Council, which then formed a committee to study the issue. Comprised of hangar owners and renters, business owners and city officials, the committee visited several airports around the state to determine what it wanted. What the group decided on is similar to a building they saw at New Ulm's airport, said committee member Jim Hancock.

The 4,000 square foot building planned for the South St. Paul Airport would include flight planning and waiting rooms, a manager's office, a meeting/conference room, a vending area or snack bar, restrooms and a pilots' lounge, said Tom Tschida. Tschida, a representative for hangar owners, also sits on the airport terminal committee.

Total cost, which includes site preparation and construction, is estimated at \$500,000. More than \$8,000 of that will be spent on architectural services from Bonestroo Rosene Anderlik & Associates and HNTB Engineers. Both firms, as a team, worked on the New Ulm Airport and others in the state.

The Minnesota Department of Transportation's (MNDOT)

Department of Aeronautics will pay for two-thirds of the

project through grants, the remaining one-third would be

funded through airport revenues.

That money would come from selling 13.5 acres of airport property to be used for single or multi-family homes, Burke said. The land, across Dawn Way, cannot be used by the airport because it does not have access to runways, Burke said.

If the property sale does not produce enough money to find the city's share of expenses, profits from airport operations will make up for the shortfall. None of the money used for the new terminal construction will come from city taxes, Hancock said.

Burke said regulars to the airport are excited about the prospect of a new hangar and are anxious to move the project ahead. The committee, for example, delivered its recommendation for the terminal to the City Council nearly two months before its deadline.

"These people are pretty aggressive; they know what they want," Burke said. 'They feel this project is long overdue."

The terminal will be at the end of Henry Avenue, the site of Hangar 1. That hangar would be demolished to make room for the new building, according to project plans.

"It would be the first thing visible as people drive into the airport and also the first thing visible from the runway," Tschida said. "It will serve as a gateway to South St. Paul,"

During the next four to six weeks, architects will develop a floor plan, narrow cost estimates and coordinate funding with the state. The final design, construction and building document will follow. In mid-May, the bidding process could begin.

Burke said he expects to have the terminal up and running one year from now. If the planning, design and bidding processes go smoothly, it's possible pilots could be using the terminal by this November, he said.

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dick Wicklund - EAA Chapter 54 President

Item #1

The following individuals have agreed to serve on the planning committee for the August Pancake Breakfast sponsored jointly by the Stillwater Noon Rotary Club and EAA Chapter 54:

Paul Andemon - Chapter 54 & Rotarian - Advertising
Dan Parker - Rotarian - Lake Elmo based aircraft owner
Jerry Sarracco - President Lake Elmo Pilots Association
Dale Rupp - Past President Chapter 54
John Cahoon - Chapter 54 member
Robert Westerberg - Chapter 54 Board member
John Thomas - Chapter 54 Treasurer
Dick Wicklund - Chapter 54 President
Steve Ogborn - Chapter 54 Board Member

At 9:00 a.m. on Saturday April 20, 1996 the above individuals, John Thomas absent, met to begin the planning for this year's event.

The date selected was August 10 with the 11th the rain date. Time of the breakfast will be from 7:00 a.m. until 12:00

The committee again decided that the benefit which the profits will be denated to will be determined by the Rotary Club. So far two community organizations have requested they be considered. Dan Parker will report back to the committee the decision of the Rotarians.

Problems regarding parking of visiting aircraft were discussed. Dale Rupp said he will evaluate potential solutions. Last year John Thomas and Gil Leiter handled aircraft arrivals and auto traffic. It is presumed that they will be willing to again be involved this year. Dale will discuss solutions with them.

As there will be no Young Eagle flights happening at the same time this year members, and all aircraft owners based at Lake Elmo, are requested to display their aircraft. Last year there was some problem with non-aviation individuals touching and in fact climbing on aircraft. This year members of the chapter will be assigned to keep up a constant patrol of the parked aircraft area. Propeller cards, similar to Oshkosh, will be available we hope, to remind people hands off and also to identify aircraft.

Further information at the May meeting,

The committee scheduled the following meeting dates; June 15 and July 27th again at 9:00 a.m. at hanger 11A3 Alpha-Lane.

Item #2

May 18 Chapter 54 will participate in the Fly-in at Anoka County Airport. Participation will be to lead one section of seminars along with Aircraft Spruce and Specialty. Bill shanks will lead the Chapter 54 group in this effort. Please contact Bill and volunteer your assistance and find out when and where to report.

This should be a good opportunity to learn what is expected of volunteers and also to learn more about some phase of aircraft construction or repair.

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WANTED

A State Fair Flying Experience



TO: MN EAA Chapters

FROM: Judy Rice

MN Young Eagles Young American Flyers

National 4-II Aerospace Curriculum Project

A new opportunity is rising on the State Fair horizon. This year, " An Acrospace Experience" will be one of the main themes in the 4-H building to include such activities as

- A "Baby Ace" WWII replica for people to sit in and move controls (Donated by EAA Chapter 300)
- Hot air balloon basket with demonstrations
- Making aerospace projects with the general public

We need volunteers interested in spending some time educating and monitoring the public each day of the Minnesota State Fair at the "Baby Ace" display. The hours would be from 12:00pm. - 7:00pm each day. Please fill out the registration below and return to Judy Rice at the address listed below.

Name:	•
Address:	
Phone:	
EAA Chapter:	
Dates Available (August 22 -September 2)	

Return by June 1 to:

Judy Rice / 340 Coffey Hall / 1420 Eckles Ave / St. Paul, MN 55108

(612/625-7246)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

May 13	Regular Monday meeting at 7:30pm, Lake Elmo AirportJohn Thomas will speak on GPS
18	Fly-in at Annka County Airport Chapter 54 will be helping at one of the seminars

A little something I found on the Internet-Author Unknown-(ed.)

Tower: "Aircraft on final, go around, aircraft on maway."

Solo Student Pilot: "Roger" (Continues descent.)

Tower: "Aircraft, GO AROUND"

Student: "Roger" (Continues descent.)

Tower: (Screaming) "AIRCRAFT, GO AROUND!!"

Student: "Roger" (Continues descent.)

So, the student pilot plunks his airplane down on the numbers, taxies up to where the twin is sitting in the middle of the runway, GOES AROUND it, and continues on to the taxiway.

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