



# The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54  
Lake Elmo, Minn.

AUGUST 2005

## AUGUST 2005

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM

MONDAY AUGUST 8TH, 2005

- **SOCIAL HOUR AT 7 P.M.**
- **MEETING AT 7:30 P.M. CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT**
- **Our guest speaker for the August 8th meeting is Lou Martin. Lou was an Air Force pilot for 22 years with 169 combat flight hours in Vietnam.**

## AIRVENTURE 2005

*BY IAN EDHLUND*

Oshkosh was very interesting this year. Unfortunately, I was only able to make it for one day (Saturday). However, that one day was filled with excitement.

Burt Rutan and Virgin Atlantic's two planes (and a rocket) were there - The Global Flyer, White Knight, and Space Ship One. Both flew on Saturday afternoon. They are really quite remarkable planes. The Global Flyer, for instance, weighs a mere 3,000 lbs and is able to carry a 20,000 lb payload (mostly fuel). During a low altitude pass, you could see the wings flexing terribly. It looked like they were flapping.

There were also several VLJs (Very Light Jets) at Oshkosh this year. They included the Eclipse, the HondaJet, and the Adam Jet. AeroComp also has a jet coming out, but it wasn't at Oshkosh. I suppose you could also include the ViperJet in this category, but that is used more for fun than as a small, business aircraft. These VLJs are poised to take over the commercial airline industry if the big airlines continue to go downhill the way they have been.

Hopefully, I'll be able to spend more time at Oshkosh next year and take in some more of these aviation wonders.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

AIRVENTURE 2005	1
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	2
TREASURER'S REPORT	3
CHAPTER 54 FLY IN	3
SPACESHIPONE	4
GLOBALFLYER	5
ECLIPSE	6
HONDAJET	7
TEE SHIRTS AND CAPS	9



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

The Lake Elmo Leader Newspaper ran a nice article on Chapter 54 in the Friday July 15th edition. The Leader's pretty young reporter Nicole Etter attended our July meeting and submitted an informative article which was published on the front page of the Community Section. The article contained several pictures including the chapter house and airplanes on the field. There is a copy of the article at the chapter house if you missed it.

The yellow North American AT-6 "Texan" that you may have seen on Valter's ramp last week belonged to Warbird Sky Ventures of Gallatin, Tennessee. Ginna Moore and John Cornett have been in town all week giving rides to anyone with at least \$189.95 in their pockets. They offer several levels of rides including acrobatics with a film of your ride.



Mark Holiday had his annual Swift fly-in last weekend. The weather did not cooperate, with a nasty storm greeting the arrivals and damping the afternoon. Mark's "crew" managed to put on a large picnic with ears of sweet corn and barbecued chicken, brats and hamburgers in spite

of the weather. Sunday morning the Swifts departed in a formation flight to AirVenture at Oshkosh, Wisconsin. Every year they seem to outdo each other with new mods to these wonderful old planes.

We now have a property tax exemption for the EAA Chapter 54 Club House. The paperwork for this took almost a year to compile and submit for review and approval. Thanks to Paul Linnerooth for all of the hard work in researching and preparing the application.

We will be looking for candidates for EAA Chapter 54 officers this month. There are also positions open for directors. If you are interested in participating in the running of Chapter 54 please contact me or one of the other officers and we will submit your name to the nominating committee. I have been involved as an officer for the last four years and found it to be rewarding and fun. We have a wonderful group of directors who make it easy to keep the chapter functions on track and growing the chapter. Projects on the list for the next few years include enlarging the Chapter House, expanding the library and expanding our charitable projects to attract young people to aviation.

Our guest speaker for the August 8th meeting is Lou Martin. Lou was an Air Force pilot for 22 years with 169 combat flight hours in Vietnam. He then flew as a captain for Japan Airlines and as a charter pilot in Iran. Lou wrote a book titled "Wings Over Persia" about his experiences in Iran where he flew the Shah's family during the Islamic Revolution. The Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame selected his book as the Best Aviation Writing by a Minnesotan for the year 2004. Be sure to come to the chapter meeting to meet and listen to Lou's exploits!

## TREASURER'S REPORT

*BY PAUL LINNEROOTH*

### July's Financial Summary

Cash on hand	\$ 40.00
Checking Acct.	\$ 2,483.84
Investments	\$ 6,364.86
Total	\$ 8,888.70

Income in July consisted of \$75.00 in membership dues, \$10.00 in gifts received and \$380.50 in chapter hats and shirts for a total of \$465.50.

Expenses for the same period were \$194.62 and included \$15.00 for fundraisers (ship wearing apparel), \$72.00 for pancake breakfast (advertising and license), \$58.80 for newsletter publication, \$33.57 for utilities, \$15.25 for check blanks.

Our application for property tax relief was approved on July 18.

## 2005 EAA CHAPTER 54 FLY IN

*BY TIM REBERG*

Please mark your calendars for our annual Chapter 54 fly-in is scheduled for Sunday, August 14th. The event will be held at Valter's Aviation beginning at 7:00 A.M. and will run until 12:00 noon. This is an excellent event and an opportunity for you to participate in our chapter's largest activity of the year. Each year we serve over 750 breakfasts and host over 1,000 visitors. This event raises a significant amount of the money needed to run our chapter and provides scholarship funds for the EAA Air Academy. Our fly-in is also a significant public relations activity for the Lake Elmo Airport to people in our community. We are in need of volunteers to fill various positions such as kids activities, cooking and serving, parking cars, set-up and tear down. Please advise me if you are interested in volunteering and if you have any specific job of interest. I am also planning to schedule fly bys this year and I am looking for volunteers to sign up to do fly bys with your airplanes. This activity will be of great interest to people attending the fly-in especially those from the community. Please let me know if you are interested in doing a fly by and advise me of what type of airplane you plan to do the fly by in. I would also request that you provide me with some basic information and specifications of the airplane so that it can be announced to the audience. I look forward to a fun and successful 2005 fly-in.

If you need further information, please call me at 651-730-8574 or e-mail me.



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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')

## SPACESHIPONE AND WHITE KNIGHT COMING TO EAA AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH 2005!

Historic civilian spacecraft to be on display all week



February 23, 2005 - SpaceShipOne, the world's first successful civilian-built spaceship that captured the world's attention last fall by winning the \$10 million Ansari X Prize, is coming to Oshkosh! The history-making spacecraft and its carrier aircraft, White Knight, have been confirmed for arrival at EAA AirVenture, the World's Greatest Aviation Celebration, held July 25-31 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh.

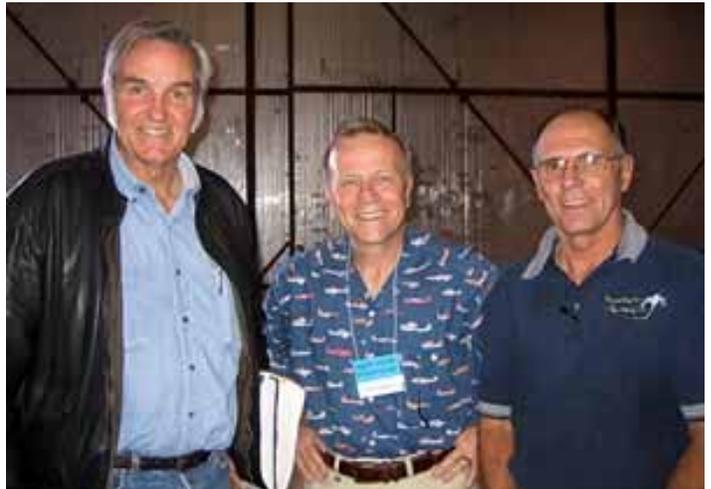
This is the ONLY planned public appearance of these two aircraft in one place. Preliminary plans call for White Knight and SpaceShipOne to be at EAA AirVenture for the event's entire seven-day run. After arriving on Monday, July 25, the aircraft will be available for up-close viewing on the main AeroShell Square showcase ramp until their departure on Sunday, July 31.

"There is no more fitting place for these cutting-edge aircraft to appear together than at EAA AirVenture, the annual celebration of aviation's spirit of innovation," said Tom Poberezny, EAA president and AirVenture chairman. "SpaceShipOne and White Knight show where the dreams of flight can lead us, to a place where not even the sky is the limit. We are very proud that those who led this achievement re-

ceived inspiration through EAA and want to share their accomplishment in Oshkosh, where the whole world gathers to celebrate flight."

Burt Rutan, the airplanes' designer, and Mike Melvill, who last September flew the first of two missions required to win the \$10 million Ansari X Prize for civilian spaceflight, will lead a delegation from Rutan's company, Scaled Composites, at EAA AirVenture. Rutan and Melvill, both longtime EAA members, hosted a number of extremely popular presentations at EAA AirVenture 2004, shortly after SpaceShipOne's successful test flight to the outer edge of Earth's atmosphere.

"Through the years, I have always enjoyed flying my designs to Oshkosh," Rutan said. "EAA has always been the place where aviation innovation is inspired and encouraged, and has



been part of my life for more than 30 years. We are eagerly looking forward to bringing the aircraft to Oshkosh this summer."

Investor and philanthropist Paul G. Allen partnered with Rutan's Scaled Composites team to form one of more than a dozen groups that sought the Ansari X Prize, awarded to the first civilian group to build and fly a single spacecraft to a height of 100 kilometers (62 miles) twice in a two-week period. On September 29, 2004,

*(Continued on page 8)*

## IT'S OFFICIAL: VIRGIN ATLANTIC GLOBALFLYER COMING TO EAA AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH 2005

March 21, 2005 - The morning of March 3, just hours before EAA member Steve Fossett concluded his record solo around-the-world flight in the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer, Virgin Chairman Sir Richard Branson remarked, "It will most definitely go to Oshkosh in July."

That statement is now confirmed, as the single-engine jet flown into the all-time world record books will fly into EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2005 to join what is shaping up to be an incredibly stellar lineup for the 53rd annual aviation gathering set for July 25-31.



GlobalFlyer is scheduled to arrive at Wittman Regional Airport on Tuesday afternoon July 26, joining another blockbuster attraction—White Knight/SpaceShipOne—and several other unique aircraft on display at EAA AirVenture's main showcase, AeroShell Square.

"We are very excited that the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer will be part of the World's Greatest Aviation Celebration at EAA AirVenture 2005," said EAA President Tom Poberezny. "The achievement of Steve and this airplane personify the spirit of EAA, including passion, innovation, and vision. We look forward to welcoming Steve Fossett and the rest of the GlobalFlyer team when the aircraft arrives in Oshkosh."

GlobalFlyer completed its 67-hour flight around

the world after logging nearly 19,880 nautical miles (22,862 statute miles) and returning to its departure airport in Salina, Kansas. The flight further established Fossett as one of a kind in aviation annals. In 2002, he was the first person to fly a balloon around the world alone, and he brought his gondola to Oshkosh that summer. Fossett had earlier expressed his wish to bring GlobalFlyer to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh.

"I've always felt close to EAA and I feel that AirVenture is the most important and significant aviation meeting in the United States because it represents general aviation," Fossett said. "I hope my accomplishment with GlobalFlyer will inspire other pilots to take on and achieve adventures of their own. This was something that generated a great deal of interest and showed the appeal and importance of aviation. I think many people shared in my sense of accomplishment."



The aircraft, created by renowned aircraft designer Burt Rutan and the Scaled Composites team in Mojave, California, performed nearly flawlessly throughout the around-the-world flight. The journey was not entirely without anxious moments, however. Early in the flight, indicators onboard GlobalFlyer showed that the airplane did not have as much fuel as earlier projected, putting the flight's completion in jeop-

*(Continued on page 8)*

## EAA AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH TO FEATURE FIRST PUBLIC FLIGHT APPEARANCE OF ECLIPSE 500 JET

April 27, 2005 - Another aviation milestone will be reached at this summer's EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, "The World's Greatest Aviation Celebration," which will be held July 25-31 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, Wis. Eclipse Aviation will feature the world's first public flight appearances of the Eclipse 500, a new private jet that will revolutionize air travel when it enters the marketplace next year.

"Aviation enthusiasts around the world have been clamoring to see the Eclipse 500 in action, and we think Oshkosh is the perfect showcase, because of its huge audience and reputation for fostering innovations," said Vern Raburn, Eclipse Aviation's president and CEO.

Eclipse plans to exhibit the airplane on the EAA grounds throughout the AirVenture event and to debut the aircraft in flight as a prelude to the afternoon air show on Wednesday, July 27.

"AirVenture 2005 is the most appropriate venue for the Eclipse 500's public flight debut," said Tom Poberezny, EAA president and AirVenture chairman. "We're proud to have served as the primary stage for telling Eclipse's story since the company first announced its plans at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2000."

Since that announcement five years ago, Eclipse Aviation has maintained a prominent presence each year at EAA AirVenture. That participation includes sponsoring forums, displaying aircraft mock-ups and demonstrating the unique manufacturing process that will help Eclipse bring state-of-the-art, high-performance private jets to the marketplace at considerably lower cost.

"The Eclipse 500 will significantly expand the availability and affordability of private-jet air travel, making general aviation a more relevant and accessible travel option with what are often called Very Light Jets (VLJ)," Raburn said.

"We're pleased to be bringing the airplane to, and flying it at, Oshkosh this summer."

The addition of the Eclipse 500 flights to EAA AirVenture 2005 adds to an already-impressive schedule of aircraft drawing great excitement at the start of aviation's second century. Other notable attendees and aircraft include: the teams from Vulcan, Inc., Virgin Galactic, and Scaled Composites that launched White Knight and SpaceShipOne into the history books last fall; and Steve Fossett and the team who last month accomplished the first nonstop, non-refueled, solo circumnavigation of the globe in the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer.

"As EAA AirVenture 2005 takes shape, the list of reasons why you've got to be at Oshkosh this year continues to grow," Poberezny said. "This list reflects the legacy of numerous innovators and achievers representing EAA's grass roots. Their accomplishments over the decades in workshops, garages and hangars have created, and continue to create on all levels, an environment that fosters excellence and progress."

Eclipse Aviation's goal is to bring the word "personal" into aviation, making it possible for commercial air passengers to move directly between cities on a quick, affordable and convenient basis. It will also allow pilot owners to enter the world of jet-powered aviation. Contact Eclipse at <http://www.eclipseaviation.com>.

## HONDAJET TO MAKE WORLD DEBUT AT EAA AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH

June 23, 2005 - Torrance, Calif. / Oshkosh, Wis.

-- The Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA) and Honda announced today that the experimental HondaJet will make its world debut on Thursday, July 28, 2005, at EAA AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wis., the weeklong event that is the largest annual aviation gathering in the world. The experimental HondaJet is an advanced, lightweight, compact business jet featuring better fuel efficiency, a larger cabin, and higher cruise speed than conventional aircraft in its class.



The HondaJet is powered by two Honda HF-118 engines optimally positioned on the upper surface of the wing in a unique configuration that reduces drag at high speed to improve fuel efficiency. This unique layout also eliminates the need for structural engine mounts on the fuselage, creating more space in the fuselage than in conventional aircraft. Other innovations include a natural-laminar flow (NLF) wing, which achieves low drag coefficient and high maximum lift coefficient, a fuselage nose that helps achieve a low drag coefficient, and an advanced lightweight all-composite fuselage.

“Aviation has long been a dream for Honda, and the HondaJet is the embodiment of that dream,” said Michimasa Fujino, HondaJet project leader and vice president of Honda R&D Americas, Inc. “We chose EAA AirVenture for the HondaJet’s world debut in the pure spirit of our passion for aviation, and to share our new technology with the aviation community from a research and development standpoint.”

The experimental HondaJet has been conducting test flights since December 2003 from its base at Piedmont Triad Airport in Greensboro, N.C. The HondaJet’s world debut at EAA AirVenture represents the HondaJet’s first public flight and first major exposure to aviation enthusiasts and the aviation media.

“EAA AirVenture has become the world’s greatest aviation celebration because it is an event that truly embodies the passion that people have for every kind of flight,” said EAA President Tom Poberezny. “That’s why we’re excited to have the HondaJet make its world debut here. The people

who come to EAA AirVenture understand and appreciate Honda’s passion and spirit of innovation in this project. It is the perfect location to showcase HondaJet and what could be coming in the second century of flight.”

Honda is one of the world’s leading producers of mobility products including its diverse lineup of automobiles, motorcycles and ATVs, power products, marine engines and personal watercraft. Honda is the world’s preeminent engine-maker, with annual worldwide production of

*(Continued on page 9)*

*SpaceShipOne (Continued from page 4)*

Melvill flew SpaceShipOne to that height and Brian Binnie followed up with the second flight on October 5 over the southern California desert.

"I have heard from many EAA members and aviation enthusiasts since those flights, and I believe many of them are just as excited about the achievement as we are," Melvill said.

EAA AirVenture 2005 will offer all attendees the opportunity to see the aircraft that accom-

plished that goal and hear from the main participants exactly how it occurred.

"Everyone involved with EAA felt tremendous pride at the accomplishments of SpaceShipOne," Poberezny said. "Now, at EAA AirVenture Oshkosh this year, we will have the chance to join together and celebrate this achievement, which opens the second century of powered flight to a new horizon and even bigger possibilities."

*GlobalFlyer (Continued from page 5)*

ardy. Fossett used outstanding fuel management and tailwinds aloft to successfully fly the airplane back to Kansas.

Branson expects GlobalFlyer to eventually become a part of the Smithsonian National Air & Space Museum collection.

"The response to the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer record attempt was so enormous, Steve and I knew we couldn't tuck the plane away in a hanger," he said. "I am happy Steve will bring the plane to Oshkosh, where I'm sure the excitement we all felt in Salina will live on. I am thrilled we were able to work together to set the last great aviation record with the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer. This world record marks the next frontier in aviation. The boundaries broken by the Virgin Atlantic GlobalFlyer will revolutionize

air travel."

The airplane has a 114-foot wingspan and is powered by a single Williams FJ44-3 ATW jet engine. It is capable of speeds in excess of 285 miles per hour and can fly to altitudes of 52,000 feet. GlobalFlyer's cockpit is just 7.7 feet long, just large enough for the pilot, food, water, and personal equipment.

"The addition of GlobalFlyer to the other previously confirmed aircraft makes EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2005 an aviation spectacle that is possible no place else in the world," Poberezny said. "It's difficult to describe the magnitude and excitement of the event, except to say you've got to be there this year."

**TEE SHIRTS AND CAPS**  
*BY PAUL HOVE*

We have a number of Chapter 54 embroidered tee shirts and caps available for our members and friends of the chapter. The tee shirts are blue and come in sizes M, L, XL, 2XL. The caps are tan with a dark edged bill and the chapter logo embroidered on the front. Members can purchase these at the chapter house this coming Saturday morning from 9-12a. The Caps are \$9.00 and the tee shirts are \$9.50.

*HondaJet (Continued from page 7)*

more than 19 million engines. On a global basis, Honda has more than 130 manufacturing facilities in 29 nations.

Honda began operations in North America in 1959 with the establishment of American Honda Motor Co., Inc., Honda's first overseas subsidiary. Honda began assembling motorcycles in America in 1979, with U.S. automobile manufacturing starting in 1982. Honda now employs more than 26,000 Americans in the design, manufacture and marketing of its products in America. Honda currently builds products in 12 manufacturing plants in North America, with three major R&D centers in the U.S.

EAA, The Leader in Recreational Aviation, is an international association with 170,000 members and 1,000 local Chapters. EAA AirVenture Oshkosh is the world's greatest aviation celebration and EAA's yearly membership convention. In 2005, it will be held July 25-31 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh, Wis. For more information on EAA and its programs, call 1-800-JOIN-EAA (1-800-564-6322) or [www.eaa.org](http://www.eaa.org). EAA AirVenture information is also available at [www.airventure.org](http://www.airventure.org).



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**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.