



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

SEPTEMBER 2009

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THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 14, 2009.

- SOCIAL HOUR STARTING AT 7:00PM.
- MEETING AT 7:30PM. CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT.
- AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:
- Chapter 54 President, Dale Seitzer will present a program on the operation and maintenance of the Rotax 912 series engine

A Chapter Member's Story

By Tom Gibbons/Paul Rankin

Paul's Story, a Rise to Captain Part III

Paul joined the Naval Reserves and also instructed at the Navy Flying Club. During this time, he applied to the airlines and was hired by Pan American World Airways in 1987. He trained in Miami as a B-727 flight engineer, then was based in West Berlin, Germany. Billie and their two daughters joined Paul in Germany and the family experienced life in a foreign country surrounded by a communist country. After the Berlin wall fell in 1989, the Pan Am Berlin Base was closed in May, 1991. Continuing to fly for Pan Am, Paul upgraded to First Officer, based at New York's JFK Airport, but lived in Evergreen, CO, commuting back and forth. Unfortunately, Pan Am ceased operations on December 4, 1991, so it was back to resumes!

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His partner in the Bucker Jungman also lived in the Denver area. Paul hooked up with him to do instructing in various aircraft and do banner towing and tail wheel instructing. He applied to other airlines and got a call for an interview with Express One in Dallas, TX. After the interview, he was waiting for his flight from DFW back to Denver, when he heard over the PA, "Paul Rankin, please pick up the white courtesy phone for a message." The message was to call home. Billie told him he was hired and he needed to call Express One right away. Express One hired a bunch of former Pan Am pilots to fly the 727's they just acquired from Pan Am. He flew as a 727

(Continued on page 4)



FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)

BY DALE SEITZER

Our annual Pancake Breakfast and Fly In was successful although we did not get as much business as expected because the weather was rainy with low ceilings. We did not make as much money as expected but volunteer participation was excellent, the event went smoothly and the people who were there certainly enjoyed themselves.

The Treasurers report will have a full accounting of expenses and income. Thank you to all the task chairs and everyone who help plan the event. We found some new changes which worked well and there were some opportunities for continued improvement.

Chapter officer elections are at the October meeting for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and Board Members. This is a great opportunity to give back to the club and make a meaningful contribution. You do not need to be a pilot – just need to have an interest in aviation and representing the members. Contact Paul Hove if you are interested.

Don't forget about Young Eagles Saturday September 12, 2009. We always can use volunteers as pilots or on the ground crew because our schedule is full.

Special thanks to member Randy Delfel who has volunteered to represent EAA Chapter 54 on the Minnesota Aviation Advisory Council sponsored by the Department of Transportation Office of Aeronautics. Randy will meet monthly with other representative of many other aviation related organizations to provide feedback and communication to and from the Office of Aeronautics and provide regular reports.

Board members and officers are invited to attend an upcoming EAA Chapter Leadership Academy! This is an energizing and uplifting weekend where you will go home with valuable information to address challenges your chapter may face, learn about new tools and resources that are available, ask those questions you have always wanted to ask, and meet EAA staff members available to help your chapter. October 23-25, 2009

The academy begins on Friday evening with a social hour and dinner and continues mid-day on Sunday. We cover a wide range of topics including recruitment, fundraising, programs, participation, and other topics important to you as a chapter. There are large and small group discussions that add variety to the weekend, and we reserve time for a behind the scenes tour of the facilities.

If you are interested in attending, please send an e-mail to chapters@eaa.org with the following information.

Name & EAA number
Chapter Type and Number
Address
Phone Number
E-Mail Address
Leadership Position in Chapter

I am excited to announce Jeff hove has volunteered to be Chapter Historian in addition to his position as Board Member. This is an important position to catalog and document our historical objects and documents. I will ask Jeff to provide an analysis of our current situation and make a recommendation and plan. Thank you Jeff!

EAA Headquarters is supporting a new website with great information http://www.oshkosh365.org/ok365_Home.aspx. I encourage you to check it out.

Our Vice President Leif Erickson has an agenda of excellent speakers for the rest of the year – I am looking forward to hearing from them all. Please contact Leif if you have any additional ideas for speakers.



EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT
By PAUL RANKIN

2009 AUGUST Financial Summary

Checking Account	\$ 1,885.32
Cash on hand	\$ 40.00
Investments	\$ 7,166.47
Total	\$ 9,091.79

Income

Pancake Breakfast	\$ 1,974.49
Clothing Sales	\$ 16.00
Donations	\$ 10.00
Membership Renewals	\$ 200.00
Total	\$ 2,200.49

Expenses

Pancake Breakfast	\$ 1,127.72
Clubhouse Construction	\$ 429.35
Newsletter & Mailing	\$ 25.00
Utilities - Electricity & Gas	\$ 47.08
Total	\$ 1629.15

Net Cash Flow \$ 571.34



Chapter 54 Directory

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president@eaa54.org

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Young Eagles Director
Dave Becker
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Newsletter Editor
Tom Gibbons
Newsletter@eaa54.org

Chapter members 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
21D AWOS: 120.075
TPA: 1932'
Runways: 4-22 (2497' x 75')
 14-32 (2850' x 75')

Formation flight taken as they flew over my campsite!
Clockwise: F-86, P-38, P-51, & A-10. -Editor



Continued from Page 1

Flight Engineer and then as a DC-10 First Officer. Paul flew to many countries around the world, including Albania and Samoa. Several trips were literally around the world, leaving Dallas to the west and arriving from the east. Upgrading to 727 Captain, he flew to domestic and Caribbean destinations. During the 1992 election campaign, Paul flew Clinton and Gore around the country.



He decided to move on with his career, applying to Northwest Airlines. The day Paul interviewed, he was hired, starting as a DC-9 First Officer. He remembers his first day in



Minnesota; the temperature was minus 34 degrees! During Paul's thirteen year tenure with Northwest Airlines, he has flown the DC-9, B-727, DC-10, Airbus 320 and the B-757 as First Officer. Currently, Paul is a DC-9 Captain.

Paul says that flying airplanes is pure joy. His professional flying job with the airlines is complimented by his flying in civilian aircraft, mainly antiques and classics.

Paul has been a member of EAA Chapter 54 for several years. He currently serves as Chapter Treasurer and volunteers as an instructor for the Ground School Class. He also enjoys flying aircraft owned by the Anderson's; the N3N, UC-78 Bobcat (Military version of the Cessna T-50), Aeronca L-3, Piper J-3 and Apache.

He has 2 Cessna 120's in the restoration process. In addition to the airplanes, his toys include; a 1927 Ford Model T, 1929 Ford Model A and a 1954 Cadillac.

Paul has enjoyed every minute of his 18,000 hours flying time and says, "See you at the airport".



Picture description clockwise from top:

Captain Paul for Express One Airlines, Boeing 727 of Pan Am, DC-10-40 of Northwest Airlines and an example of a Cessna 120. On page one is of Paul via self portrait in his Bucker Jungmann.

Thanks Paul for your story!



Chapter 54 Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2009

By Bettie Seitzer

Called to order at 7:30 by President Dale Seitzer

Visitors: Justin Rain, always wanted to fly; he is an aspiring sport pilot. Paul and Sandie Rutz visited Oshkosh this year and are intrigued by flying and building.

Air Academy students came to tell us about their experience at camp; Ryan Gunderson is 14 years old. Gladly attended the academy and thanked us for the experience. He flew in a Remos, got a behind the scenes tour of the museum and had a private tour of the facility. Enjoyed going behind the barracks to meet many people who love aviation as much as he does. They built wing ribs of wood, sheet metal and foam. There were about 42 kids in the group. He is hoping to build a Buttercup with his dad. He gets to fly with his dad and his uncle and really enjoys small planes. He hopes to pursue a career in the military. Ryan's face showed his sincere pleasure and appreciation

Tim Tomlinson enjoyed the experience as well, also really enjoyed the behind the scenes experience. His passion is mechanics, really enjoys working on engines and machines. His grandfather was in World War II and is also very involved in aviation. He really enjoyed the camp and thanked the chapter for the financial support.

We will be accepting applications for 2010 in late winter. Treasurer's report approved as published in the newsletter.

Secretary's report approved with correction to last month's newsletter; we have 38 planes currently hanging in the clubhouse. 6 were here for a long time, Jack Portlance donated 32.

Old Business:

Building project update. We need to finish the ceiling sheetrock. This will be done after the pancake breakfast. We have an experienced taper who will do the taping once we have the sheetrock hung. Next step is the wiring, then the carpet. Almost every Saturday there are small jobs that can be finished. Retired folks can stop in during the week when they have time. The garage part is completed and we will be able to store all of our pancake breakfast equipment in that area.

Pancake Breakfast August 16th. We need volunteers. Committee chairs have been selected.

New Business:

Somebody dumped asbestos containing material on the Lake Elmo Airport on the Northeast section of the airport. There is a \$250 reward for information regarding who may have done this. Dumping is strictly prohibited and will be punished.

There is an offer for a 6-month free membership for new members – we can offer that to persons interested in learning more about the club

Phillips has increased the discount they offer to pilots flying young eagles – however you must use a Phillips credit card – Fleming has Phillips.

A motion was proposed to donate \$100 to Girls with wings, motion was passed unanimously.

Jack Portlance recommended a book Check my 6, the author is a former Minnesota resident and aviator who has moved south for the better weather. Jack really enjoyed the book and donated his copy to the club library; members can borrow and read this book – action packed.

Elections in October. Paul Hove is the Nominating Committee Chair; he will be recruiting members for the nominating committee and candidates for the open position. We will be electing President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and 4 board member seats are open. We would like to see new people come on board in leadership positions.

Young Eagles (Dave Becker): Had to cancel the August event due to weather. We may reschedule after the breakfast. Every Young Eagle receives a logbook which includes a coupon for a free ground school on line – that was donated by Sporty's. They want to keep the kids' interest in aviation alive as they grow up and bring more young pilots into aviation.

Housing (Dave Fiebiger): Work continues each Saturday

Flying Start and Education (Art Edlund): We will plan a spring ground school starting in the February to April time frame.

Newsletter Editor (Tom Gibbons): Pictures and stories are welcome. Tom does a great job of putting together an interesting newsletter for us but needs our contributions to keep doing that.

Membership (John Renwick) membership stands at about 130

Publicity (Leif Erickson): We have some space on the placements for advertising - \$40 per ad. This will be done every year so even for people who didn't get in on it this year – keep them in mind for next year. This is profitable. Leif found some old copies of advertising for our breakfast – the artwork is delightful. We are hoping to have many members' planes on display.

Adjourned at 8:13

Respectfully submitted:

Bettie Seitzer

Secretary

EAA Chapter 54

Pilots Lounge

Pat St. Claire has a design business. She updates our Pancake Breakfast banners, that we hang on the perimeter fence, for free. Here is her business :

Patty St. Claire
St. Claire Design Studio
651-439-7975 Office
612-747-7615 Cell

Her husband is Greg St. Claire – a chapter member.

Tailwinds Flying Partnership, based at Lake Elmo Airport, has new membership openings available. Visit www.tailwinds21d.org for more information.



We are a partnership of 38 pilots and own three Piper aircraft. Our goal and philosophy are to fly great airplanes inexpensively. We strive for consistency in equipment among our three airplanes. To inquire about membership, please send an e-mail to Mark or call 651-982-6275.



Bamboo Bomber at Oshkosh!

The first picture is of Paul Anderson and Paul Rankin, who flew the UC-78 down on Saturday, July 25 with Billy Rankin, Paul's spouse as a passenger. The Rankins stayed all week and came back the following Sunday. Paul made a real effort to replace a leaking fuel pump, not once, but three times. A spare and a newly overhauled pump both failed, and a final replacement from the repair station finally worked. Paul reported that the plane performed well a, a reward for all his hard work. Jeff Hove also helped with the replacements.

The second picture is the 21D crew. Left to right Jim Anderson, Pat Anderson, Terry Sullivan- T50 owner from Louisiana, Jeff Hove, Paul Anderson, Paul Rankin, Paul Hove, Larry Cherry, and Scott Hutchinson.



There were two other Bamboo Bombers, out of twelve that had indicated they would attend the 70th anniversary of the first flight of the T50 in 1939 by Cessna.

Jim Anderson

Local Flying Events

Compiled by Paul Hove and pulled from the Website

September

September 11 2009, 5:00 to 21:00, Lone Rock WI Friday Fish Fry, , Lone Rock Regional Airprt,(KLNLR), Friday fish fly – every Friday until November. Picadilly Lilly Airport Diner in cooperation with the local EAA chapter., Merlin Bauer, , merlinb@charter.net

September 12 2009, 8:00 to 16:00, Osceola WI Wheels and Wings, , L.O. Simenstad Municipal Airport,(KOEO), Pancake Breakfast Aircraft on display, craft show and classic cars, Jeff Meyer , , meyer-erjk@centurytel.net

September 13 2009, 11:30 to 14:00, Maple Lake MN Pork Chop Dinner Fly-In, , Maple Lake Municipal,(KMGG), EAA Chapter 878 & Wright Aero are having a Pork Chop Dinner, Wayne, 763-670-6021, wflury@wh-link.net

September 13 2009, 7:00 to 13:00, New Ulm MN Lions Club 36th Annual Fly-in Pancake Breakfast, , New Ulm,(KULM), New Ulm Lions Club 36th Annual Fly-in Pancake Breakfast, , 507-354-6080,

September 13 2009, 8:00 to 12:00, Baudette MN Fly-in Pancake Breakfast Hosted by EAA Chapter 1325 , , Baudette/LOW International Airport ,(KBDE), PIC eat free - Young Eagle flights - Overnight camping encouraged!, Emory Vaagen, 218-634-1923,

September 18 2009, 13:00 to 23:00, Faribault MN Airfest and Balloon Rally 2009, www.faribaultairfest.com, Faribault Municipal Airport,(KFBL), Please join us as we celebrate our 25th Anniversary! Friday, September 18th & Saturday September 19th 2009. Friday there will be aerobatic practice, hot air balloon launch, media & student day. There will also be live music after dark., Dick Schulz, 612-618-5883, dick@blueskyaerobatics.com

September 18 2009, 5:00 to 21:00, Lone Rock WI Friday Fish Fry, , Lone Rock Regional Airprt,(KLNLR), Friday fish fly – every Friday until November. Picadilly Lilly Airport Diner in cooperation with the local EAA chapter., Merlin Bauer, , merlinb@charter.net

September 19 2009, 18:00 to 23:59, South Saint Paul MN Fall Bombers Moon Ball, www.cafmn.org, Fleming Field Airport,(KSGS), Fall Bombers Moon Ball \$10.00 donation per person Music by the Roseville Big Band. Free Dance lesson from TC Swing & The Swing Cats Doors Open at 6, Dance lesson at 7, Dance starts at 8 goes till Midnight Music, Dancing, WWII Aircraft and Vehicle on Display, Food, Prize Drawing., Amy or Roby , 651-455-6943, info@cafmn.org

September 19 2009, 7:00 to 18:00, Faribault MN Airfest and Balloon Rally 2009, www.faribaultairfest.com, Faribault Municipal Airport,(KFBL), Pancake breakfast fly-in. Then static displays, air show, balloon launch, & much more. Minnesota's first Aerobatic Air Race! Pilots will perform for points and awards. PIC Free, Gate \$7.00 for adults, 10 and under Free. Parking Free, Current Military Personnel free with ID, Shannon Geer, 952-607-7164, shannon@blueskyaerobatics.com

September 20 2009, 10:00 to 14:00, Mora MN Annual Fly-In , , Mora Municipal Airport ,(KJMR), A chili feed starts at 11:00 and PICs eat free., Dan Halsey , 320-679-3515,

September 20 2009, 7:30 to 12:30, Hector MN. 67th Annual Flight Breakfast, , Hector Municipal Airport,(1D6), All you can eat! Pilots eat free! Warbirds, Classics, Antiques, Homebuilts, Helicopters, Ultralights and New Production Aircraft on Display.Ping Pong Ball drop with prizes for kids. Hope to see you there., Ed Newberg, 320-848-2745,

September 20 2009, 9:00 to 13:00, Eau Claire WI EAA Chapter 509 Chili Feed, www.eaa509.org/, Chippewa Valley Regional Airport,(KEAU), Chili Feed and Young Eagles rides, Jim Gundry, 715-877-2406, jgundry@centurytel.net

October

October 2 2009, 5:00 to 21:00, Lone Rock WI Friday Fish Fry, , Lone Rock Regional Airprt,(KLNLR), Friday fish fly – every Friday until November. Picadilly Lilly Airport Diner in cooperation with the local EAA chapter., Merlin Bauer, , merlinb@charter.net

October 3 2009, 10:00 to 14:00, Park Rapids, MN Fall Colors Fly In, www.parkrapidsaviation.com/, Park Rapids Municipal Airport,(KPKD), Fish and Fries Rain Date: 10/04/09 Sun.. , Angie, 218-237-8528, angie@parkrapidsaviation.com

October 3 2009, 8:00 to 11:00, Sturgeon Bay WI Fall Colors Fly-In, , Door County Cherryland Airport,(KSUE), Breakfast, Paul Spanbauer, 920-743-6082, catchbigfish@itol.com

October 9 2009, 5:00 to 21:00, Lone Rock WI Friday Fish Fry, , Lone Rock Regional Airprt,(KLNLR), Friday fish fly – every Friday until November. Picadilly Lilly Airport Diner in cooperation with the local EAA chapter., Merlin Bauer, , merlinb@charter.net

October 10 2009, to , Club Cherokee's Pilot Expo, www.clubcherokee.org/, Crystal Airport,(KMIC), Open House and LSA Expo, , ,

October 16 2009, 5:00 to 21:00, Lone Rock WI Friday Fish Fry, , Lone Rock Regional Airprt,(KLNLR), Friday fish fly – every Friday until November. Picadilly Lilly Airport Diner in cooperation with the local EAA chapter., Merlin Bauer, , merlinb@charter.net

October 17 2009, 10:00 to 15:00, South Saint Paul MN 3rd Annual CAF Craft Fair & Chili Feed, www.cafmn.org, Fleming Field Airport,(KSGS), Please join us for the 3rd Annual Craft Fair & Chili feed. There will be a wide variety of Artists and Crafts from the Twins cities to begin your holiday shopping in style. While browsing, pick up a bowl of chili or a prize drawing ticket. WWII Aircraft and vehicles on display and museum tours are available all day. , Amy or Roby , 651-455-6942, info@cafmn.org

October 23 2009, 5:00 to 21:00, Lone Rock WI Friday Fish Fry, , Lone Rock Regional Airprt,(KLNLR), Friday fish fly – every Friday until November. Picadilly Lilly Airport Diner in cooperation with the local EAA chapter., Merlin Bauer, , merlinb@charter.net

October 30 2009, 18:00 to 23:59, South Saint Paul MN 2nd Annual Halloween Benefit Dance , www.cafmn.org, Fleming Field Airport,(KSGS), Join the Commemorative Air Force, MN Wing for our 2nd Annual Halloween Benefit Dance. Doors open at 6pm! Enjoy food, music and dancing, prize drawing, Costume contest and more! WWII Aircraft and vehicles on display. , Amy or Roby , 651-455-6943, info@cafmn.org

October 30 2009, 5:00 to 21:00, Lone Rock WI Friday Fish Fry, , Lone Rock Regional Airprt,(KLNLR), Friday fish fly – every Friday until November. Picadilly Lilly Airport Diner in cooperation with the local EAA chapter., Merlin Bauer, , merlinb@charter.net



Young Eagles Report

by Dave Becker



We had our normally scheduled Young Eagle event weathered out on Aug 8th and had a make-up event the following Saturday where we flew 7 of the kids. Our total for the year-to-date is 109 Young Eagles flown. Not that we put the number of Young Eagles flown as the goal. Our goal is the quality of each flight, not quantity of flights and we do a fantastic job on the quality side. The handouts from MNDOT and the Logbook from Sporty's have been well accepted by the kids. At our Fly-In Pancake Breakfast, the Young Eagles table and Betty's Kids Venture table were both very busy with interested parents and kids. Our on-line sign-up for Young Eagles is completely filled up for the remainder of the year and we are not taking any more sign-ups. Leif has stopped publicizing our program until next spring.



Our Young Eagle events are scheduled every second Saturday of each month from May through October starting at 9:00 a.m. Parents should pre-register their children for an event ahead of time by going to www.eaa54.org and clicking on the Young Eagles page to sign up for a flight. To view the many great Young Eagle photos, go to: <http://www.eaa54.org/YEPhotoGallery/YEGallery.html>

If you would like to become actively involved in our Young Eagles program, contact Dave Becker or come to Lake Elmo on the second Saturday of the month and see what Young Eagles is all about. You can also indicate on your yearly chapter renewal form that you want to be involved with our Young Eagles program.





TAXI TALK

{Interesting happenings compiled by the editor}

Happy Labor Day to all!!

Hope everyone had a “Labor Free” day as my pastor called it at church. I woke up on that day and decided not to do the regular tasks, cutting grass, yard work etc., but just went for a bicycle ride which started out first visiting the airport. I saw Bill Shanks at his hanger working on his Arco Sport and chatted with him a little while and then I saw Dan Bergstrom at his hanger and he just came back from a breakfast at Chetek, WI in his Tailwind aircraft with his wife, Karen. Had a great conversation with them but then it was off to a long ride around West Lakeland. Always nice to visit our members at the airport. Remember, **Get to know our members!** It is very rewarding.

Visitors from Oshkosh

This past Sunday of the Labor day weekend I met up with some friends from my volunteering at AirVenture. Rick and Mary, husband and wife, met me at the Fair and we had fun walking around and talking about our times volunteering at Oshkosh at the Flight Line Operations. We had dinner at a Outback Restaurant afterwards where they gave me a CD of all the pictures they took. I have only known them for a couple of years now but it is amazing how that airshow can produce such good friends among the people you meet there. The picture is of us “FLO” people doing the Y-M-C-A with our paddles during our break during an airshow. Rick is the first guy and I am the third! Fun times!



Speaking of volunteering this year, WOW did I have some fun! I was put in some positions around the airport that were really busy and boy was it challenging. One could have airplanes coming from all sides and I had to keep my head on a swivel as they kept saying. At one time I had homebuilt, vintage, general aviation and warbirds all in one area trying to get where they are going. Boy is it important to have those signs in your windows gang, and the bigger the better. I felt I worked at least 100 aircraft that day. Then the last day I volunteered was the last Friday of the show after the airshow. Guess what? Everyone wanted to depart that day! I was sent to an area called the “Alpha/Bravo” intersection. It is up by the terminal for the departures at Runway 27. Many people had pulled their aircraft out early and placed them on the taxiway ready to go. First for this according our guys. Once the command was given they all wanted to get out and it was a job sorting everyone. We sorted and sent them to the FAA controllers at the runway. What a 3 hours that was!

Contact Information for Newsletter Stories

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EAA CHAPTER 54
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QUOTE OF THE MONTH

The example of the bird does not prove that man can fly. Imagine the proud possessor of the aeroplane darting through the air at a speed of several hundred feet per second. It is the speed alone that sustains him. How is he ever going to stop?

—Simon Newcomb, in The Independent, October 22, 1903.