

EAA Chapter 54

Speed Holman Chapter

April 1997

Volume 42, Issue 3

MARCH MEETING

Report from Al Kupferschmidt, V.P.

There was a good turn out for the banquet. Infact the number of people taxed the facilities. Al estimates there were 50+ in attendance. Next year a larger room will be required. That is GREAT. Sorry that Jane and I had to miss again this year.

Report on the good was positive. Again this year Mancini's gave away one free dinner. The winner was a repeat from last year, Rosemary Frank. She seems to pick the magic chair.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the speaker that Bill Steier and Steve Ogborn scheduled. Some, or most, have heard her before but still enjoyed her presentation.

ROSEMARY

When I talked to Al Kupferschmidt on last Sunday evening he gave me some bad news. The chapter Secretary, Rosemary Frank entered the hospital the day after the banquet.

Al was not able to give any update as to her status. I am sure each member joins me in wishing her a speedy recovery.

I was wondering why I had not received her report on the banquet, normally she is very prompt in getting information out.

Al indicated that he had arranged for flowers and a card to be sent to her. I am not sure if she is still in the hospital, or which hospital.



APRIL MEETING

Date: April 14

Time: 7:30 p.m.

Location: Chapter meeting room, Alpha Lane, Lake Elmo Airport

Program: Video tape "History of the RV Development"

Also there will be an update by Tom Marsden on his Dakota Hawk. Now that this aircraft is flying Tom has ordered, and received, a RV-6A kit. No doubt Tom will also update the group on his progress.

CONGRATULATIONS

Steve Ogborn passed on the information that Tom Marsden has now completed the fly off time with his Dakota Hawk. One of these upcoming meeting we will certainly see Tom flying in to 21D with this project. Those that have seen the bird indicate that Tom did an outstanding job, on this his first project.

CATUS FLY-IN

Saturday, March 1. was spent getting an airplane fix. Arrived at the Casa Grande Airport about 10:00 a.m. and spent about 4 hours looking at airplanes and talking airplanes.

The first hour was grading landings with some of the locals. They are no easier on their friends than at Lake Elmo.

A large variety of aircraft present for their annual fly-in. There were; 4 Staggerwings, 3 AT-6s, 2 Beech 18s, 1 PT-23, numerous V tails, 1 Bird, a couple of Stearmans, 1 Swift (Snap says hello to all) and numerous homebuilts and some ultra lites.

Not sure how many drive-ins but they had parking for a lot of cars. Other than Snap I did not see anyone I knew.

Gary Miller, there was one rough FW-190 half scale there. Could not get to talk to the owner/builder.

BEYOND EAGLES (CONTINUED)

To become a Project Pilot Mentor call 1-800-872-2672. (Note your first AOPA Project Pilot Student Kit is FREE). Additional kits are \$14.00 each, but I have found out that AOPA will send you a coupon for another free Pilot kit on a yearly basis.

Along those same lines "Flying" magazine, "Sport Aviation" and "Flight Training" magazine have joined forces to put together a "Learn-to-Fly" kit. It appears to be more geared toward career oriented individuals. It includes a directory of flight schools, and colleges, in guidance on how to choose the right school for you along with information on pilot organizations and current issues of "Flying", "Sport Aviation" and "Flight Training" magazines. The kit cost \$5.95 and can be received by calling 1-800-I CAN FLY.

Some other information that I have recently viewed was from Sporty's Pilot Shop. They have a three video collection called "Getting Started" it includes the video "Learning to Fly" a real upbeat, get out and learn to fly video. The second video is "Finding the Best Flight Instruction". This is a excellent non-sugar coated video on finding the best instruction for you money. The last video is "Choosing the Right Flight School", of the three video's this is the least helpful, I think. It's mostly a rehash of the video "Finding the Best Flight Instruction". All three video's can be bought for \$30.00 or individual video's at \$19.95 each. Call 1-800-543-8633.

Order # B1032L Set of all three "Getting Started" videos. \$30.00
M205L Learning to Fly \$19.95
M334L Choosing the Right School \$19.95
M337L Finding the Best Flight Instruction \$19.95

Bill believes, and who can disagree with him, that the future of increasing the pilot population in aviation boils down to one word FUN. If it isn't fun people won't bother learning to fly.

Thanks for the great input Bill

Perhaps EAA should come up with a new program and call it something like "Old Eagles" "Future Eagles" or just "Young Eagles Step Two".

PIG ROAST

If you looked at the calendar of events for June you noticed that after the "Young Eagles" flights have been completed there is a scheduled Pig Roast.

Steve Ogborn has agreed to arrange this event under the guidance of Rosemary Frank, Chair.

Time of the picnic is 2:00 p.m. Location should be easy to find, follow the scent of the Roasting Pig. What about those of us that have no sense of smell.

More information regarding this event will be available at the April meeting, and in the May newsletter.

It is requested by the committee that members keep their aircraft out after completion of the "Young Eagles" program as static display items. Who knows there might even be some flying taking place.

In anticipation of a LARGE turn out it is requested that members contact either Rosemary or Steve so that sufficient food can be available. I would guess that they also would appreciate members bring along some food etc. More on this later.

To help cover expenses a donation of \$5.00 (or more) would be helpful.

Again this is planned as a family event. Bring your spouse, kids, and/or significant other.

THINGS TO CHECK

WORK PARTY

As is tradition for Chapter 54 the ANNUAL work party to EAA Oshkosh is set for May 3-4, 1997.

For those new to the chapter this is a annual work weekend trip to Oshkosh for the purpose of assisting with projects at the convention site. Work projects are assigned by Vern Lichtenberg based on their needs. Some will work in the kitchen preparing our meals, others might cut grass, trim trees, tear down buildings, build buildings, etc. We work all day Saturday and Sunday morning.

For our efforts members receive free lodging in the EAA bunk house. Three meals on Saturday and two on Sunday.

Saturday evening the normal program is for the workers to have the opportunity to tour the museum, after it is closed to the public. This allows for closer examination of the items on display. Usually there are a couple of local volunteer available to help out, and to keep us from getting to friendly with the displays.

I have informed Gloria at the Convention Office that 54 will be there the first weekend. Estimate number of people 12. She only requested that more specific information be sent to her ASAP. At the April meeting this topic will be on the agenda. If you intend to go on the work weekend and will not be at the April meeting call me at 777-9142. After April 1 my answering machine will be working and you can just leave a message or ask me to call you back.

If you have never taken part in the weekend plan on doing so this year.

DUES

Check the address label on this newsletter. The date listed is the date that you last paid your dues. If it is over 12 months ago dues are due. If this does not agree with your records contact John Thomas, Treasurer.

If no date is listed also contact John Thomas.

YOUNG EAGLES

Al Kupferschmidt needs your assistance. He would like each member to make up a report of Eagles they have flown, list date and name for him. This will help him in verifying his records and also furnish him additional information to use in checking with Oshkosh to assure that they have the correct information.

Either send the report to him or bring it with you to the next meeting.

REQUEST FROM OSHKOSH

RE: 1997 EAA MAJOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

Bob Mackey, Exec. Dir., EAA Chapter Office has sent all chapters a request for nominations for the above listed award.

Cut-off date for submittal of nominations is May 16. Each member of Chapter 54 should give consideration to this request and contact your President during April.

GREETINGS FROM ARIZONA

Greetings to the following.

Jerry Saracco, Vern Hahn, and others from Ted Wagner. Spent a couple of hours talking about the old days with Ted recently.

Ted has stepped away from aviation. He has become a desert rat, according to him. Recently Ted purchased a 4x4 Subaru for desert trips.

Gene Frank, greetings are sent you way from Herb Krause. Wednesday afternoon, waiting for church to begin, we talked a while about the old gyro-copter crowd from Lake Elmo. A friend of mine used to work with Herb, as did this friends father, so we have talked about mutual acquaintances from time to time. I knew he used to fly a gyro-copter, still owns it I believe, but did not know about his being part of the Lake Elmo gyro-copter group. He indicated that last week Al Kjetzinger was down here visiting with him.

The local gyro-copter club meets the third weekend of each month. I had planned on dropping in on their meeting. Unfortunately Jane and I were late returning from a trip to southern Arizona.

PEOPLE YOU MEET

Just the other day I met John Lingwall from Calhan, Co. John indicated that he has built 4 aircraft over the years. Currently flies a homebuilt he bought from someone. Forget what he built, seemed to be mostly acrobatic types.



EAA CHAPTER 54 NEWSLETTER

Published monthly by Chapter 54 of the
Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)
for the use, education and enjoyment of
Chapter members and others to whom it is
provided. No claim is made for the
accuracy of materials presented. Editorial
content is the opinion of the contributor and
does not necessarily reflect the position of
Chapter 54 nor the EAA.
Submissions for publication are encouraged
and should be sent to:

Richard W. Wickham
2405 Elm Dr.
White Bear Lake, MN
55110-5577

Permission for other EAA Chapters to use
portions of this publication is granted, as
long as credit is acknowledged. Chapter 54
meets the second Monday of each month at
hangar number 11C, Alpha Town, Lake
Elmo Airport, Lake Elmo, MN.

Dues are \$20.00 per yr.

OFFICERS

President: Dick Wickham
775-9142
Vice-President: Al Kapfordschitz
775-9257
Secretary: Rosemary Frank
421-4187
Treasurer: John Thomas
430-1484
Past Pres. Dale Rapp
653-1054

Directors

Class II

Jim Anderson 433-3024
Scott Endersby 430-9157
Bill Stear 456-0430

Class III

Steve Oghorn 439-4956

Newsletter Editor

Dick Wickham 775-9142
Young Eagles Contact
Al Kapfordschitz 775-9257

Flight Advisors

Dale Rapp 653-1054
Bill Shank 654-2420

Tech. Committee

Bill Shank 645-2420
Program Coordinator
Steve Oghorn 439-4956

Chapter 54 in Review

Interviews by Rosemary Frank

THOMAS C. GANTZER

Thomas C. Gantzer joined Chapter 54 in 1960. He was a member for about a year and is not a member of the International Experimental Aircraft Association.

Mr. Gantzer is a builder and he joined EAA Chapter 54 because four guys from 3M were going to build an airplane and that intrigued him.

Mr Gantzer wanted "hands on" building experience. His welding and mechanical abilities could be put to good use - he could help build an airplane that would fly!!

Mr Gantzer is not a pilot and was never interested in learning to fly - just in the building aspect. But, the airplane never materialized and he lost interest.

Mr Gantzer went on to building race cars and in past years, has been very involved in drag racing.

DONALD J. KEATING

Donald J. Keating, one of the founders of EAA Chapter 54, started attending meetings at various homes and also at Ward Holidays in 1957. In 1958 they were recognized as a chapter and met regularly at Ward Holidays. Dues were \$5.00 per year. The president was Norm Weston but none of the others held any official office. There were no rules of order.

Mr. Keating told me, Rosemary, that the idea of a chapter was quite new at the time. The major project was for the would group to build an airplane. Portions of the plane were assigned to groups to build. Some sections of the plane were actually completed but most were not. Members themselves bought the materials for the chapter.

Mr. Keating started flying in 1957 and held a SEL plus an instrument rating. He has 200 + pilot in command hours. He has never owned his own airplane but was affiliated with many flying clubs over the years.

Mr. Keating tells me, Rosemary, that his age and failing health have "Kink of grounded him" these last few years. However, he has remained a member of EAA and as sure as the sun rises in the East, he goes to Oshkosh for the annual convention every year.

There is more on page 4

Do you have any Chapter 54 stories to tell. If so please forward it to Rosemary. She would love to hear from you.

MORE HISTORY

interview by Rosemary Frank

LEE and JAMES AYDT

Lee Aydt joined EAA Chapter 54 in 1980 and was a very active member for 15 years. Meetings were held at the Northwest hanger at Holman Field and later at Lake Elmo. Dues were \$10.00 per year. Gerry Laundry was President of the chapter and Rosemary Frank was Secretary, Treasurer. There was a monthly newsletter.

Mr Aydt tells stories of flying since 1927, but, has lost track of such trivia as PIC hours and how many types and names of aircraft he has flown. He never owned his own airplane, but fell in love with the KR-2. He sent for the plans and started building. He has a portion of the wings layed-up and had acquired a suitable VW power-plant for the craft when the years started to catch up to him.

Mr Aydt has retired his aircraft building plans to care for his wife, whose health is failing.

Lee's son James joined Chapter 54 the same time as his father. James started flying in 1968 and attained a student pilot rating. James says he holds the record for the most PIC hours attained by a student pilot. At last count he had over 200 hours in eight or ten different airplanes. Suprising, James says, if you are willing to work charts and a radio, how many rides you can burn.

Both Lee and James are members of the EAA and go to Oshkosh frequently. Lee still favors the KR-2 but James lost his heart to the Hiper-Bi. James is not flying or building these days, but, he says "If an ultra-light fell in my lap, I'd be back in the game in a minute".

James says he and Lee have always cherished their association with Chapter 54, especially with regards to the wonderful people who definitely make up the very best chapter in all EAA.

THANKS, JAMES

BEYOND YOUNG EAGLES

by Bill Steier

Purpose of the chapter, the first one listed is to promote and encourage the sport and hobby of recreational aviation.

A.O.P.A. Aircraft Owners and Pilot Association) has a program called Project Pilot where you as a member of AOPA can nominate an individual you think would be interested in becoming a pilot. With the help of AOPA you then become that individual's personal mentor. While you're not expected to teach them how to fly you are encouraged to take your student nominee to a F.B.O., or help them find a C.F.I. and to arrange for a first flight. In short be a motivator that helps the student nominee from their first flight through to certification. AOPA helps out by providing you with a Project Pilot Mentor Kit consisting of a series of newsletters aimed at specific flight training milestones from pre-solo operations to Private Pilot flight test. The student nominee receives a Project Pilot Kit, it consists of a promotional Video "The Joy of Flying" a special student edition of AOPA Pilot magazine along with the first in a series of Newsletters discussing various elements involved in learning to fly. For example; executing landings, performing maneuvers, navigating, communications, the written test and the check ride.

I've personally been a mentor myself and really enjoyed it. It doesn't have to take a lot of your time either, a phone call every couple of weeks or so depending on your students progress seems to work well. Most of your time is spent instilling a positive attitude. At times a student may be a difficult time with something or get frustrated with something and just by talking with you find out you went through the same problem or that it is not an uncommon problem for a lot of students. I have read recently that 80% of current pilots flying today were introduced by a relative or a friend, I was. In looking for a perspective student don't let age be a detriment, the national average age of the student pilot, at present, is 47.

(From personal experience verify the age factor is not important. My brother began to take flying lessons beyond the age of 60. Unfortunately health problems did not allow him to finish his training. Prior to his health problems and death his ambition was to get his license and take his wife and kids for a ride. Editor)

Continued on page 5

BEYOND EAGLES

Chapter 54
2405 Elm Drive
White Bear Lake MN 55110-5577



Eugene Frank 10/14/96
612 Eighth Ave S. -
South St. Paul, MN 55075

3307372708 07



1997

April

- 5 MN Aviation Hall of Fame banquet, Call Noel Allard, 448-5047
- 6 - 12 Sun'n Fun EAA Fly-In, Lakeland, FL 914-544-2431
- 13 Naples, FL Chapter 1067 Fly-In Breakfast
- 14 Chapter 54 meeting night
- 19 St. Paul, MN - 3rd Annual Twin Cities RV Builders Forum.
715-386-1239.

May

- 3 & 4 Chapter 54 work party to Oshkosh. 777-9142
- 3 & 4 Ft. Lauderdale, FL - 1997 Shell Air & Sea Show.
954-527-5600 ext 88.
- 11 Naples, FL Chapter 1067 Fly-In Breakfast.
- 12 Chapter 54 meeting night.

June

- 7 International Young Eagles Day & Chapter Pig Raast.
- 8 Manitowoc, WI - Airport Day Breakfast.

July

- 14 Chapter 54 meeting night.
- 30 - Aug. 5 Oshkosh WI, 45th Annual EAA Fly-In and Sport Aviation Convention. Wittman Regional Airport. Contact EAA, PO Box 3086, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3086, 414-426-4800.

August

- 11 Chapter 54 meeting night

September

- 8 Chapter 54 meeting night

October

- 13 Chapter 54 meeting night
- 23 - 25 AOPA Expo '97, Orlando, FL.

November

December

1998 Already

June

40th Anniversary Party for Chapter 54