

# **EAA CHAPTER 1128**

## **Two Harbors Helgeson Airport**

**[www.1128.eaachapter.org](http://www.1128.eaachapter.org)**

There are some light patches of snow on lake ice tonight but for a week it was a gigantic mirror, shore to shore. The moon and stars were reflected so perfectly it was hard to tell up from down. Pilots have come to grief over such illusions. Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, December 7** (A date which will live in infamy!) at **6:30** in the **Community Room at THHS**.

### **Last Meeting**

The usual handful of members attended, Mike convened the meeting by announcing that we need a new treasurer. Krista Busse kindly volunteered for the post a year or so back but she is moving and needs to step down. Mike also talked about the EAA Leadership Academy which will happen at Oshkosh in late January and again in April. It is aimed at Chapter Officers, Mike said he had attended in the past and intends to go again, hopefully with some company. EAA feeds and houses attendees and they usually get a museum tour. Seth reaffirmed his commitment to the chapter and suggested the newsletter editor should include a Dues Bill and a plea for officer volunteers in the next issue. Mike Shannon said he would take the Vice President slot and was immediately voted in. We discussed purchasing gas grills for our summer pancake fly-in and Seth put some ads up on the big screen. The electric grills could potentially be sold to help defray costs. Mike said he would contact Blackwoods to schedule our winter party and check for available dates. Seth talked about a group he and Matt are forming called the Two Harbors Pilot's Association. They hope to act as an independent voice to bring issues to the City in a positive and productive manner without any politics. He said their first meeting would be at Dan Murphy's shop on November 16 at 6:00. He also reminded us that Brett Archer, principal of Minnehaha elementary school is still looking for some local folks to make informational presentations to the students. Mike told us that Kit Plane Industry giant, VAN's was suffering some issues with inventory and deliveries. Bud reported on progress with cylinder head temps on his Sonex. A new issue was a slight fuel smell in the cockpit. Typical teething pains for a newly built aircraft. Seth said he had painted the gear legs on his Skyhawk and installed airflow blockers that Mike helped him build. He also replaced navigation and landing light bulbs with LEDs. I reported the receipt of my Repairman's Certificate for Rooby. I also went over the FAA paperwork for the Wright Brother's Master Pilot Award which I intend to secure for Mike. It is the highest civilian award the Feds can bestow and the main requirement is 50 years of flying with out accidents or incidents and Mike surely qualifies. Seth, Mike S. and Bud all took home a guide for writing a letter of recommendation to help in the process. Looking back on five decades, Mike regaled us with some hilarious flight training stories.

**341**

Be sure to check on our sister chapters at [www.1221.eaachapter.org](http://www.1221.eaachapter.org) and [www.272.eaachapter.org](http://www.272.eaachapter.org).

**ETC.**

I am sending a Dues Statement on another attachment. Please stay current, we need all the members we can keep.

Seth will be sending you an invitation to our winter party at Blackwoods as soon as the date is set. I hope you can all make it.

I went skating on the lake today so I'm starting to accept the fact that my flying season has ended. Usually by this time of the year there is a foot of snow on the ground and that makes it easier. I did manage to sneak in three good flights in November so I am satisfied and ready to take a vacation from watching every weather report for flying conditions. Rooby and I had lots of ups and downs, (pun unavoidable) but it was a very memorable year. Bringing her to Oshkosh and flying that familiar pattern was definitely the high point. Having to pull her motor and shell out almost a grand to repair it was one of the lows. Maintaining an intimate relationship is always costly in terms of time and money but in this case the investment was worth it and I am a happy camper. We flew more than 60 hours and I learned more than I thought possible. It will be sweet to sit by the fire and recall all of our adventures and when the thermometer creeps upward in the spring I will be ready for more.

Last winter at Mike and Liz Shannon's ski plane fly-in I was admiring someone's beautiful plane and complaining about my financial situation. The pilot put it all into perspective when he said, "It doesn't matter how broke you are, if you have an airplane you're a wealthy man." I had to agree. And the good friends I have found in the aviation community make me all the richer.

In this season of celebration I hope you find yourself wealthy in whatever currency suits you and.....

.....Happy Landings!.....