



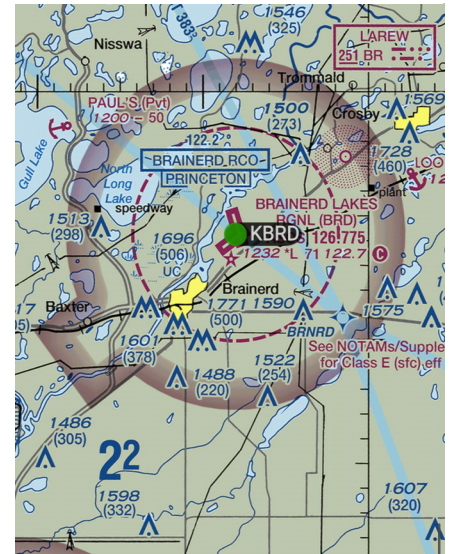
OCTOBER 2023
Volume 2, Issue 1



CAVU Chronicles

YOUNG EAGLES SPROUT WINGS AT BREEZY POINT AIRPORT

On Saturday, September 16, Chapter 1610 pilots Craig Rodamaker, Mark Crist and Mark Bearss hosted flights at Breezy Point Airport (HMN3) for **15** enthusiastic Young Eagles. The winds were calm at 300° for most of the morning which made for easy traffic on runway 35. Ground Controllers and photographers Trudi Amundson, Michelle and Joe Lambert, and Mike Petersen kept operations running smooth.



In this issue:

- Young Eagles at Breezy Point.
- “Grass is a Gas” Poker Run.
- Aviation History in Brainerd: Part Three.
- Longster Update.
- Mark Your Calendar.
- Closing Remarks.



YOUNG EAGLES FLIGHTS (con't)



EAA Chapter 1610 extends a sincere 'Thank You' to Cliff Muller, Airport Manager, for inviting us host this Young Eagles event at the Breezy Point Airport.



Yep...lots of smiles from these flying enthusiasts.

Overall, it was a fun morning!



ANNUAL “GRASS IS A GAS” POKER RUN WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!!!

It just keeps getting better!! On Saturday, September 9th, **THIRTY** planes arrived KBRD from **23** different Minnesota towns & airports to participate in this popular annual event.



Event Organizer extraordinaire Mike Petersen provided a pre-flight briefing to **52** eager participants. As in the past, Remer, Hill City, Bowstring and East Gull Lake were the grass strip destinations. The 5th playing card would be handed out upon their return to KBRD.

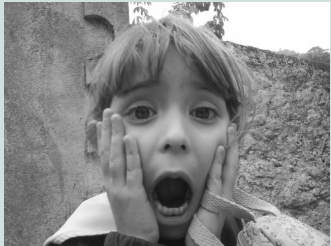
AND...since there were **52** participants, all **52** cards from **5** decks...in hermetically-sealed envelopes stored the night before in a mayonnaise jar at Funk and Wagnalls...would be played.

The weather for the most part was “OK”. While ceilings and winds were in everyone’s favor, Bowstring experienced some light rain showers.



“Grass is a Gas” (Continued)

“Piper 193 Juliet, you are number **24** for departure, runway 05.”





1



2



3



4

“Grass is a Gas” (Continued)

What else makes this particular Poker Run a huge success is the support contributed by individuals within the communities of these grass strips. THANK YOU all!!

Top to Bottom:

#1 & #2: The welcoming, marshalls, and photographers at Remer.

#3. Elizabeth Blundell, Remer city administrator with her grand-daughter, serving slices of pie and handing out insulated mugs.

#4: The welcome crew at East Gull Lake.

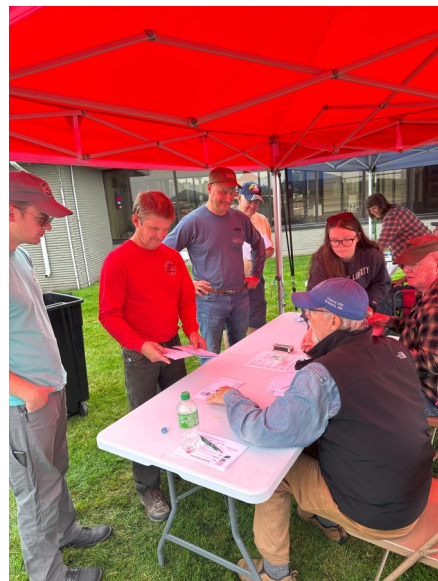
Not pictured are the community volunteers at Bowstring who served pork sandwiches and home made cinnamon rolls.

And last but not least, a sincere THANK YOU and recognition to those who donated prizes. They are...

- Deerwood Bank
- NorthPoint Aviation
- Mark Crist
- Visit Brainerd.com
- Paul Bunyan Land
- Maddens on Gull Lake
- Wings Café
- Kimmy Kay Fox
- Mark Bearss
- Lifelink III
- Mead and Hunt
- North Air Care
- Avemco Insurance
- Forrest Rothwell
- Precision Aircraft Service
- Lynne Adair
- AvFuel Corporation



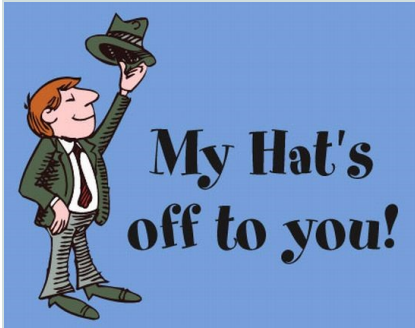
By 1:30 pm, all planes were safely back at KBRD, envelopes were opened and poker hands were posted on the Leader Board by our two judges...Howard and Steve.



Steve Wattner came in with the winning hand...a queen-high straight...for the Grand Prize: a \$100 Maddens Gift Card. Congratulations Steve!!



Even though the song says, "Every hand's a winner, and every hand's a loser," each player at this event is a winner during the raffle drawing. The picture above shows Mike handing out door prizes at the close of this year's event.



The CAVU "editorial staff" would like to express a hearty **JOB WELL DONE** and **THANK YOU** to Mike Petersen for organizing and facilitating this popular event. Upon observing what has to happen behind the scenes, what Mike accomplished is impressive.

Behind every good leader is a band of volunteers who need to be equally recognized. They are...

At KBRD: Michelle and Joe, Mark Crist, Mark Bearss, Trudi, Howard McCollister, Roger Macy, Howard, and Steve.

At REMER (52Y): Rick and Jon

At BOWSTRING (9Y0): Mark & Marla, Scott & Lois, & the Bowstring Flyers

At EAST GULL LAKE (9Y2): Jon, Adam, and Don Lee

At HILL CITY (07Y): Steve and Rick

This history story is being contributed by Mike Petersen. Because of the breadth of content and the number of photographs, it will appear in consecutive issues of CAVU Chronicles as a “multi-part series.”

The Brainerd Cougar F9-F6

PART THREE



The photo below shows the paint scheme selected by airport commission. These colors actually represent an aircraft from a Marine reconnaissance unit during the 1950's. The gray scheme was thought to be easier to keep looking nice. The paint crew in Park Rapids did everything based solely on this drawing.

Grumman F9F-6P Cougar, US Marines, BuAer 128298, VMJ-2, MCAS Cherry Point NC., ca. 1956





Once it arrived at Park Rapids Aviation/Northwoods Aircraft Painting, it made a belly landing. Not an issue really; the reason it's there is to be fixed and updated.

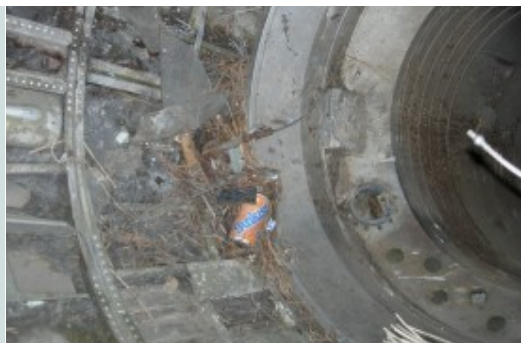
First, the fuselage and wings had their paint stripped and readied for "bodywork"... patching holes with Bondo and aluminum sheeting.



It was the Park Rapids Aviation/Northwoods Aircraft Painting crew who accomplished all this. From left to right are Randy Schave, Dan Flath and Charles Edward.

While the exterior received its facelift, some serious attention was way overdue on this aircraft's interior.

Over FIFTY pounds of bird nesting material, bird droppings and mud were cleaned out of the aircraft, including these six dead birds tucked under the left side speed brake. The cleaning crew for this nasty job included (from L to R) Carla Pfingsten, Tom Pfingsten, Beth Pfingsten, and Mike Petersen (not pictured).



Remember that steel post at KBRD they had to cut to free the aircraft? Well, it was still attached in the belly. It took four hours of pounding and a “porta-power” (a compact modular hydraulic tool used to apply brute force to an unmovable object). After yielding 11-inches of movement, the stub of the post remaining in the aircraft was finally extracted.



With repairs completed and a new paint-job, BuAer 128298 was ready for her trip back to KBRD and put on display.

TO BE CONTINUED...



EAA CHAPTER 1610 LONGSTER PROJECT: STATUS REPORT

Real visible progress continues, as these photos will illustrate. With the leading edge covered with 0.010" aluminum, we placed the underside surface of the wing on fabric, then applied the new water-based Stewart Systems adhesive to the trailing edge on the airfoil side. Then Joe applied heat to this bond which acti-

vates the adhesive. Next, we applied adhesive to the top edge of the aluminum. The wing was then placed in our "cradle" so the fabric could be easily brought over the leading edge and adhered to the aluminum. Heat at 250 deg. F was then "ironed" over the fabric for the initial shrink.



Aqua color of the adhesive



The next step is to apply fabric to the airfoil side of this wing, between the aluminum and the trailing edge. By the way, this Stewart System product is so much easier to work with, and does not generate the noxious fumes we dealt with when covering the fuselage.

During the month of October, we will be meeting at Paul's workshop on Thursday the 5th and then again Thursday the 19th from 6-9 pm. You are welcome to join us.



For those who wish to help with this project, we meet at Paul's the first and third Thursdays of every month, starting at 6:00 pm. Paul's shop is very spacious and well-equipped to accommodate this endeavor. Please feel free to join us for the camaraderie and educational opportunity to learn new skills.



EDIT YOUR CALENDAR

Any highlights below in **RED** means something has been added or re-scheduled for Chapter 1610 meetings and events.

October 14: Regular Meeting and **FAAS Team Presentation** from Trudi Amundson. “Ten Bad Habits that Other Pilots Have.”

November 11: Regular Meeting

December 9: Regular Meeting

DID YOU KNOW...?

An easy and convenient way to keep up-to-date on scheduled Chapter 1610 meetings, events, and other aviation-related programs is our Website.

First, open your web browser and type in **#eaa 1610**.

Once you open the website, select the tab **Event Calendar**.

The rest is easy.



I am always interested in hearing your suggestions for future topics in the Newsletter. I also encourage budding authors to submit content.

Please contact Mark Bearss

◆ email to mgbearss@gmail.com

◆ Text to 952-818-9986

And finally, the contact information for Chapter 1610 has changed.



CLOSING REMARKS

I would like to welcome a new member to EAA Chapter 1610, Mr. Dave “DJ” Koenig. I first met Dave during the Pine River Airport Open House on July 8th. As you may know, Dave serves as the chairman of their airport commission. He went out of his way to help us set up our canopy and exhibit (see August 2023 Newsletter). Most recently, Dave came to check out the Grass is a Gas Poker Run, liked what he saw and decided to join.

Dave earned his pilots license in 1977 and has been an EAA member since 1980. Initially his flying was based out of the Anoka County/Blaine airport until he and his wife Donna moved to Crosslake. They now fly their 1978 Piper Archer out of Pine River.

“My longest GA cross country trip was from the Twin Cities through the Caribbean to Barbados. I am interested in shared flying adventures, working on aircraft projects, and finding a way to do some seaplane flying through a club or rental.”

Welcome to EAA Chapter 1610, Dave!!

ON THE ‘LIGHTAIR’ SIDE: 🤔

While gazing up at the autumn sky, my neighbor and I watched a large flock of Canada Geese flying south in their customary V-formation.

As we watched for a few moments, I commented, “Do you notice how one side of the V-formation is longer than the other?”

My neighbor replied, “You’re right! I wonder why that is?”

I replied, “Simple...More birds!”