




FLYPAPER

EAA Chapter 18, Milwaukee, WI

Year 60, January 2020

 @EAA_chapter18

<http://18.eaachapter.org>

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Member Interview	1
Interview cont.	2
Interview cont.	3
Interview cont.	4
Interview cont.	5
Happy Birthday !!	6
President's Letter	7
January Program	8
Membership Dues	9
November Minutes	10
November Board Minutes	11
Calendar of Events	12
Treasurer's Report	13
Chapter 18 Contacts	14

MEMBER INTERVIEW

It All Started Here...

And He Was Here to See it !!!



**Only 175
Days to
Oshkosh!**



When Ron Romans was fifteen years old he had a passion for model airplanes. He jokes that he was saved from smoking by propellers. Model airplane propellers were 25 cents at the time, about the same price as a pack of cigarettes. For Ron, props broke fast, and often, so there was no time or money to stop and have a smoke. The lungs that he saved from smoking powered him around Milwaukee on his bicycle. One day in 1954, he was riding past a farm near 91st, south of Hampton, and he noticed that the silo he had seen hundreds of times was now painted with a bright yellow and black checkerboard. Small planes were buzzing around the silo and flying back towards Curtis Wright airfield. Immediately, Ron hammered his bike over to Curtis Wright and found himself outside the Second Annual Milwaukee Air Pageant. He stood outside the fence seeing, what the EAA notes, was an "...organization [that] could claim more than 200 card-carrying members, and 700 people watching the show." Ron was not a registered guest but he soon became a welcome visitor. While standing at the fence, Ron was approached by a man who asked him if he was interested in airplanes. When he answered yes, Paul Poberezny invited him to "...come on in and take a look." Paul introduced Ron to Steve Wittman and even offered up a membership. "We can join you up now, if you want" however Ron politely declined, not having the requisite \$5.00. It wasn't until 1956 that he joined the EAA. His life-time membership number is 4402.

MEMBER INTERVIEW

Continued from page 1



It All Started Here...



Thus began a lifelong friendship with the man who helped found the Experimental Aircraft Association. Paul would regularly invite Ron to his house in Hales Corners, and Ron would ride his Cushman motor scooter over, go down into Paul's basement and chat about airplanes. The basement was “Headquarters” and it was where Paul would talk to Ron about “grass roots aviation” and Paul’s desire that the average man could get a plane into the air. The EAA museum in Oshkosh has a replica of Paul’s garage workshop that is so true to life it gives Ron an eerie feeling of having been there before.....because he has. Ron recalls seeing Paul at one of the last fly-ins, before he passed, and Paul made sure to kid Ron about still wearing the hat from the 1954 pageant. Ron has attended all of the fly-ins since 1954.



MEMBER INTERVIEW

Continued from page 2



It All Started Here...



The guys from the Headquarters Chapter in Hales Corners began to regularly meet in the Gran-Aire facility at Curtis Wright airport in a little room “by the candy machines” but soon moved upstairs near the Link Trainer. The meetings were comprised of a close knit group of 15 guys. The center of conversation was primarily the modifications of factory built airplanes. The most popular was the Cub. Ron remembers that the guys would “buy Cubs for \$400-\$500, cut down the back of it a little bit, clip the wings, and they make their own airplanes.” Meetings were spent talking about how cheap they could build their airplanes. Members would often park their aircraft with a piece of paper visible that outlined the small cost undertaken to get it in the air. Ron remembers the modified Cubs with papers indicating a \$400 investment to modify the aircraft. Ron didn’t get too involved in the administrivia of running the Chapter. The guys operated as the “Headquarters Chapter” as other chapters developed around the country including Chapter 1 in Flabob, California. It wasn’t until nearly 1960 that guys thought, “we should’ve been Chapter 1” and then somehow got to be Chapter 18.

Ron didn’t learn to fly immediately upon encountering the EAA. A friend at Curtis Wright field, who was an instructor, had a midair collision and perished. That dampened Ron’s initial desire to fly. Ultimately, Ron ventured out to Rainbow Airport to plunk down \$10 for dual and \$7 for solo flights. In 1965 he began soaring for fun at Aero Park.



Continued on page 4

MEMBER INTERVIEW

Continued from page 3



It All Started Here...



Life got in the way, and Ron stopped going for a bit of time. At that time in history, the United States still maintained a draft of young men into the Armed Forces. Paul, who was working with the Air National Guard, offered to help Ron join the Guard as a Ground Support Equipment Repairman. When Ron was working one day, Paul came by and asked "...how'd you like to go for an airplane ride?" "Be here on Wednesday morning at 8:00 and wear your uniform." Ron followed instructions and found himself on a C47 ferrying some newspaper reporters to Bunker Hill AFB in Indiana. Paul told Ron that he didn't have clearance to leave the aircraft at Bunker Hill so Ron waited for their return, watching other aircraft from inside the parked C47. Paul returned and let Ron know they were leaving the reporters at Bunker Hill and would be taking off right away for Mitchell Field. Paul let Ron stand between the pilot and co-pilot as the plane departed the runway. After being in the air for a short time, Paul said that they were going to fly to Hales Corners and "buzz the house" prior to landing at Mitchell. Paul turned to Ron and asked, "You have a private ticket, don't you?" Ron said yes. "Good", replied Paul as he unbuckled and got up. "You can take over." Ron felt good because the Co-Pilot was still in his seat. After about 15 minutes the Co-Pilot told him that he was going to get some coffee. Ron felt "on top of the world," all by himself in the cockpit of a C47. It seemed like forever before Paul came back and asked Ron, "How'd you do?" Ron's reply? "We're still in the air!!"

MEMBER INTERVIEW

Continued from page 4



It All Started Here...

In his long aviation life, Ron has spent time in many airplanes. Early on he built a Flying Plank. The Plank is a mid-wing, single seat, flying wing glider designed by Al Backstrom in 1954. In 2011 there were two registered in the United States, including one in the National Soaring Museum. It's unlikely that Ron's aircraft was one of them. He used electrical conduit for lift struts and bed sheets for covering, and only flew it three times because "it scared me too much." He donated it to the EAA museum in Hales Corners and has not seen it since.



Ron often obtained unfinished projects and took them to completion. He finished an Evans VP-1 Volksplane and flew it to Oshkosh many times. The Volksplane is an all-wood, strut-braced open-cockpit single-seat, low wing aircraft primarily designed to use a modified VW type 1 automotive engine from the VW Beetle.



Finally, Ron put himself in a RaceAir Skylite that he modified to fit him. The Skylite is an ultralight designed to resemble the high-wing air racers of the 1930s. Ron's aircraft adorns his EAA lifetime membership card.

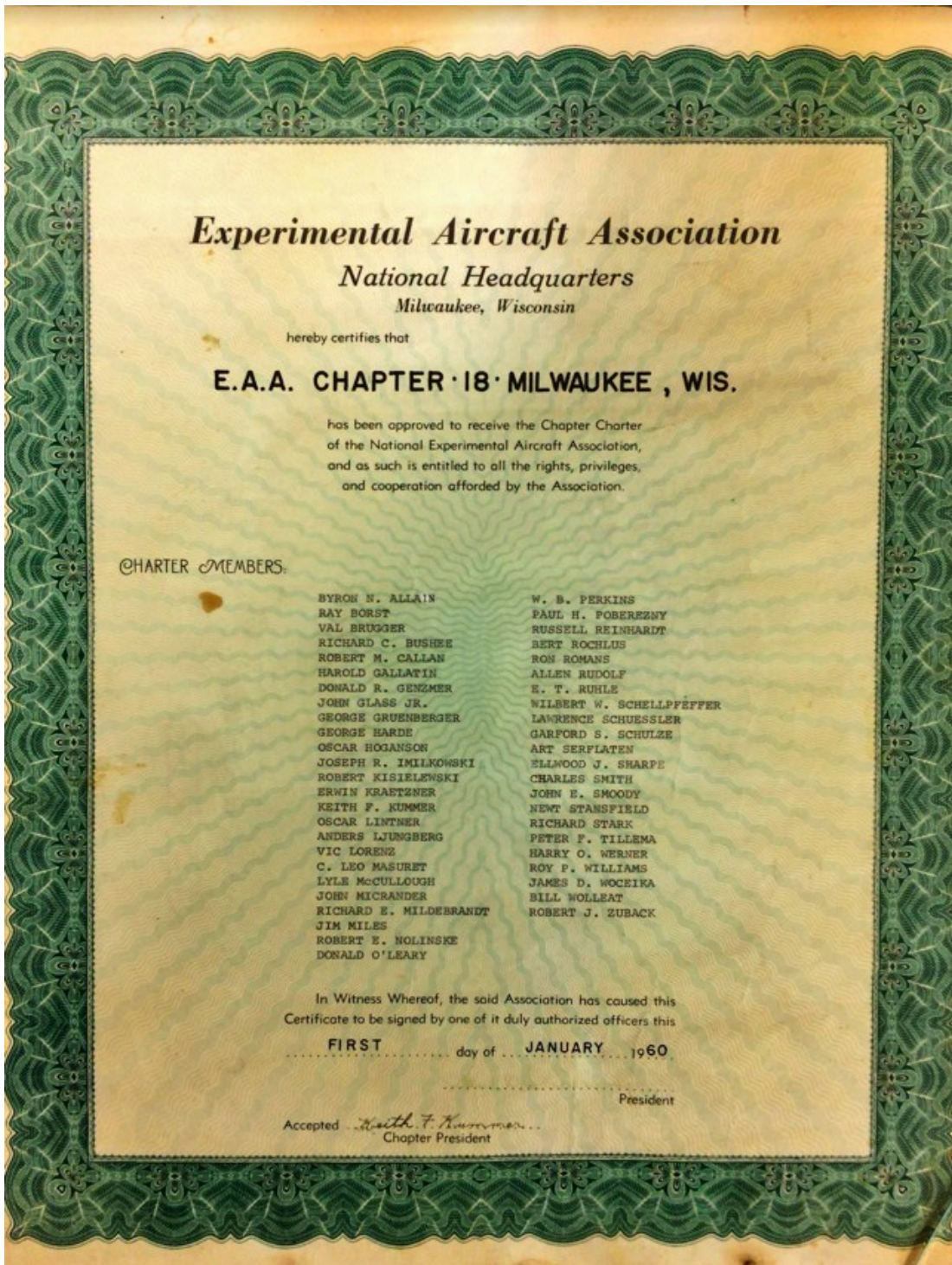
Ron is 80 years old, and our Chapter is now 60 years old. Ron jokes that he has a photographic memory, but he is out of film. That cannot be further from the truth. He is an oracle of memories of the early Chapter activities. Take the time to stop him and say hi. Ask him how he moved his hangar. Now that is a good story.....



60TH ANNIVERSARY



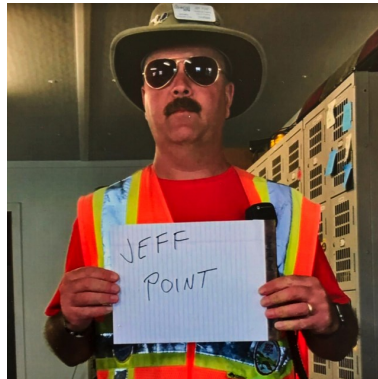
Happy 60th Birthday Chapter 18



PRESIDENT'S LETTER



Birthday Greetings From The President



Hello and welcome to the January Flypaper! It's been a while since we got together as a group- the December Christmas party at El Fuego feels like just yesterday, perhaps because I still feel full from all the food I ate! In any event, I hope everyone had a Merry and blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year, and I look forward to another great year of building and flying here with all the gang at Chapter 18.

Sally and I got a very late Christmas present in the form of our new house finally being completed! Talk about a "home building" project! It was originally scheduled to be done in late October, but with delays on top of delays we finally got occupancy on Jan. 4th. One thing I've learned about house building- the tried and true Chapter 18 Rules of Budgeting most certainly apply! We're about 98% moved with just a few things remaining at the old house... which is good because we just accepted an offer on the old house! It will be bittersweet to leave the house that has been home for 21 years, not to mention the garage workshop where I built two airplanes, but I'm looking forward to life in our new place. And of course, the new place comes with a new nearly 1,000 square foot workshop! Time to get building again!

This January marks an important milestone in our chapter's history. Chapter 18 was formally incorporated on Jan 1, 1960 making us 60 years old! Of course we all know the history of the "Headquarters Chapter" as we were known before becoming Chapter 18- we are in fact the oldest and very first EAA chapter that ever was, despite what those imposters out in Flabob CA would have everyone believe! There is a lot of EAA history wrapped up with 18, and the January program is going to be a 60th birthday party, complete with cake and a little chapter history. Our own Ron Romans was one of the charter members of the chapter and with some luck Ron can make it to the meeting to share some history with us.

That is all for now. I look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday. Until then, keep your airspeed up on final and keep your New Years resolutions.

JANUARY MEETING



January Meeting Program

EAA Chapter 18 Birthday Celebration

There will be cake....

Tuesday, January 28

7:30 p.m.

MEMBERSHIP DUES



It's Time to Pay Your Dues And Have a Taco



Membership in Chapter 18 is based on a calendar year. As such, dues for 2020 are due now. Dues amount are set by the Board of Directors currently \$10.00 per year. You can pay for multiple years. There are a number of ways to pay.

You can pay in person at a regular chapter meeting or event including the next Chapter Meeting on January 28.

Send a check via Snail Mail (USPS) to :

Glenn Botsford
6184 S Illinois Ave
Cudahy, WI 53110

Pay by PayPal:

- a. Go to paypal.com
 - b. Log into your account
 - c. Tab to "send & request" or "send" Button
 - d. Send to "glennbotsford@gmail.com"
 - e. Enter Amount
 - f. Add a note: (Dues, Donation, Banquet, Glenn's RV Fuel Fund, etc.)
 - g. "What is the payment for?": Send to a friend. (called friends & family, no fee)
 - h. Select account paid from. If you have a balance in your paypal account you can pay from there, or a credit card (fees may apply) or bank account attached to your paypal account.
 - i. Review the transaction. If all is well, "OK"
 - h. That's it. You're done.
- I: You will receive a email from PayPal that you have sent money, and Glen will receive an email from PayPal that he has received money

Pay in person, Monday Option

- a. Go to Amelia's, 724 E Layton Ave, Milwaukee, between 11:30 and 1:00PM.
- b. Find the table with your chapter treasurer, secretary, newsletter editor and Joe.
- c. Sit down, order some taco's.
- d. Hand the treasurer your check or cash.
- e. Enjoy the tacos.
- f. We would love to have you join us.



CHAPTER 18 CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES
SECRETARY JIM HATZENBELLER

Chapter 18 November Chapter Meeting Minutes

The November meeting was called to order by President Jeff point at 7:35 PM at the CAP Hangar at Timmerman Field.

Announcements:

Guests were asked to introduce themselves and 4 people did so.

Ken Ceranski was nominated for a Board position. At this time, nominations for President, Treasurer, and 2 Board positions were closed. As there were no contested positions, those nominated were accepted by voice vote. Jeff Point remains as President. Glenn Botsford remains as Treasurer. Jeff Wisneski and Ken Ceranski as Board members. The December dinner party will take place at El Fuego restaurant on Layton Ave. It will be held on December 10th. The January program could be a short history of EAA and Chapter 18. Could also include a Chapter 18 birthday cake. It was reported that dues can now be paid by means of PayPal. Please use the "Friends & Family" option.

Young Eagles:

No events scheduled at this time.

Building Reports:

Jim Davies reported that he has received the airworthiness certificate for his RV7A. John Nate reported that he attended a composite workshop at EAA on the use of a new type of resin. He is now putting those skills to work on the main spar of his Defiant. Mark Matelski reported that he has the aileron bay spars completed and attached to the top wing of his Hatz Classic. The wing tip bows are nearly completed; so at this time, the top wing is nearly completed. Jeff Point reported that his next build project will be a plans built Space Walker II. It is a 2 place tandem, low wing, open cockpit airplane.

Flying Reports:

Bob Bittner flew to several different airports in California and Nevada. Dan Young reported flying to Prairie Du Chien.

Tech Counselor:

No report

The minutes from the September and October meetings were accepted. The treasurer's report was approved as published.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.





CHAPTER 18 CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES
SECRETARY JIM HATZENBELLER

Chapter 18 November Board Meeting Minutes



The November Board meeting was called to order at 6:45 by President Jeff Point at the CAP hangar at Timmerman Field. Jim Hatzenbeller, Glenn Botsford, Clint Hanson, Jeff Wisneski, Bill Stilley and Thaddeus Pinkoski were present.

Announcements:

Elections for President, Treasurer, and 2 Board positions will take place at the general Chapter meeting tonight. If there is a contested election, secret ballots will be cast and counted by board members.

December meeting will take place again this year at El Fuego Restaurant on December 10th.

New Business:

Discussion of possible programs for January were discussed. Glenn reported that the PayPal system is in place and appears to be working good. Dues can now be paid by using PayPal. Chapter by-laws need to be updated to address the electronic transfer of funds. Discussion took place as to whether past Board members should be included on the Memorial plaque. Issue was tabled for future discussion.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Tuesday, January 28 – EAA Chapter 18 Birthday Meeting

7:30 P.M., Civil Air Patrol Hangar
 Timmerman Airport
 9305 West Appleton Ave, Milwaukee

Thursday, February 20 – Spring City Aviation Flight Review Refresher Course

6:00 p.m
 Waukesha Airport

Saturday, February 22 – Winter Flight Fest Featuring Skiplane Fly-in & Family Flight Fest

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
 3000 Poberezny Rd
 Oshkosh WI 54903



Tuesday, February 25 – EAA Chapter 18 Meeting

7:30 P.M., Civil Air Patrol Hangar
 Timmerman Airport
 9305 West Appleton Ave, Milwaukee

Tuesday, March 31 – Sun n Fun

Lakeland, Florida

Monday, July 20 – EAA AirVenture

Oshkosh, WI

Monday, April 8, 2024 – Total Eclipse of the Sun
 Somewhere, where there are no clouds.

FEBRUARY 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29



TREASURER REPORT-TREASURER GLENN BOTSFORD

Dec 2019	<u>Checking</u>	<u>Savings</u>	<u>PayPal</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Paid Membership</u>
Beginning Balance	\$223.51	\$763.33	\$134.84	\$1,121.68	87
Income					
Dues	\$80.00				
Name Badges	\$10.00				
Patches Sales	\$2.00				
Interest		\$0.10			
Donations	\$19.00		\$1.00		
Total Income	\$109.00	\$0.10	\$1.00		
Expenses					
WI Annual Report	\$10.00				
Name Badges			\$22.69		
Total Expenses	\$10.00	\$0.00	\$22.69		
Ending Balance	\$322.52	\$763.43	\$113.15	\$1,199.09	





CHAPTER 18 CONTACTS

OFFICERS

President	Jeff Point	414-915-9173	jpoint@wi.rr.com
Vice-President	Tim Meyer	414-587-3581	tgmeyerster@gmail.com
Secretary	Jim Hatzenbeller	414-483-1246	jimhatzy@aol.com
Treasurer	Glenn Botsford	414-764-5936	glennbotsford@gmail.com
At-Large Board	Fred Keip	414-581-1442	fredkeip@aol.com
At-Large Board	Ken Ceranski	414-425-0090	kceranski@aol.com
At-Large Board	Jeff Wisneski	414-732-4107	n4sieff@yahoo.com
At-Large Board	Clint Hanson	414-403-9500	clint.hanson@charter.net
At-Large Board	Bill Stilley	414-315-8589	w.stilley@sbcglobal.net

STAFF

Newsletter Editor	Thaddeus Pinkoski	415-852-0476	newsletter@eaa18.org
Web Editor	Darrell Kufalk	262-443-2605	kufalk@wi.rr.com
Tool Librarian	Andreas Kerwel	414-343-9529	andreas.kerwel@googlemail.com
Membership Coordinator	Glenn Botsford	414-764-5936	glennbotsford@gmail.com
Young Eagles Coordinator	Stephanie Schulko	414-732-6782	mzstef615@wi.rr.com
Eagles Coordinator	Glenn Botsford	414-764-5936	glennbotsford@gmail.com

TECHNICAL COUNSELORS

Fred Keip (414) 581-1442	Jeff Point (414) 915-9173	Glenn Botsford (414) 732-8384
--------------------------	---------------------------	-------------------------------

FLIGHT ADVISORS

Jeff Point (414) 915-9173 jpoint@wi.rr.com

For more information about EAA Chapter 18, email: info@eaa18.org

To submit articles, photos or other items for the newsletter as well as ideas, suggestions and corrections, contact:
Thaddeus Pinkoski newsletter@eaa18.org