



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

FEBRUARY 2011

FEBRUARY 2011

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON
MONDAY FEBRUARY 14, 2011.

- SOCIAL HOUR STARTING AT 7:00PM.
- MEETING AT 7:30PM, CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT. (21D).
- AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:
TO BE ANNOUNCED SO STAY TUNED OR CONTACT OUR CHAPTER PRESIDENT FOR MORE INFORMATION.

A Tech Counselor Report From Chapter 54's Past

By Bill Schanks

Editors Note: This was in the Jan. 2002 newsletter and we thought it would be good information to pass on for the builders in the chapter.

What is a Technical Counselor? It is a person that has been designated by the EAA and a local chapter to provide advice and counseling to aircraft builders and restorers. To qualify for this position a counselor must have built an airplane and have expertise in one or more of the skills needed to build an airplane.



The skills include; welding, woodworking, sheet metal, composite, fabric covering and so on. The Tech. Counselor usually provides advice and guidance in the area to which his strength lies. For example, my airplane (an EAA biplane/Acro-Sport) is primarily a steel tube fuselage and empennage with wood wings, all of which is covered in fabric.

Therein lies the majority of my knowledge and experience. So I am best suited to provide advice and guidance to builders in that type of construction. However, I am a licensed A&P Mechanic and have some knowledge of other methods of construction. Let me say here thought that no one person is an expert and all knowing in every field. But being that I have been at this stuff for a number of years and due to the proliferation of projects within our chapter, I have been exposed to many people building many projects with a great deal of variety in the methods of construction.

What this does is provide me with a list of people, each a greatly experienced expert in their own areas of construction methods. So what I like to do when someone asks a question about a given construction method or procedure, or where the best

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FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)

BY LEIF ERICKSON

Greetings from St. Simons Island Georgia. It's January 30th and I just checked the Twin Cities weather forecast. The National weather Service has issued another Winter Storm Warning for west and west central MN and a Winter Weather Advisory for the Twin cities, with 3 – 6" inches of snow forecast. I hate to say it, but the temperatures here have been in the upper 60's and lower 70's for the past week. It's been wonderful enjoying a morning cup of coffee on a sun-soaked patio and walking on the beach without feeling wind chill temperatures.

Let me offer my thanks to Bettie for conducting the February meeting while I'm still in Georgia. My wife and I plan to return home around the third week in February.

By the time you read this, our 2011 Private Pilot Ground School will be in full swing. I want to congratulate our Education Director Art Edlund, and faculty members Paul Rankin, John Renwick, and Dave Becker for organizing another stellar course. I have not heard the final number of students enrolled, but I know our dedicated faculty will help produce an equal number of new private pilots in coming years. I look forward to helping out with my part in early March.

I hope every chapter member is checking our Facebook page. We have several new posting, including our banquet, International Learn to Fly Day, and Aviation Day. We also have many photos from past events. I look forward to seeing additional posting in the future. Now, we need to develop a companion Twitter page.

Jim Pearsall is working on the plans for our annual banquet in May. One suggestion to improve attendance was to invite another area EAA chapter to participate. I like the idea and hope we can pursue it. It will help us get to know other EAA members and promote communication and cooperation between our chapters.

One thing I am concerned about, for the coming summer season, is the condition of our club house grounds. Last summer the grass and shrubbery around our building looked awful. The grass next to our landscaping was not mowed, our shrubs were overgrown, and the mulch areas were filled with unsightly weeds. I think we need to do something to improve the situation, especially in light of the MAC's new Airport Beautification Policy. We need to do our part.

Late last summer I tried to organize a Saturday morning work crew to mow the grass, trim the shrubs, and pull weeds. Only one person, Robert Pittelkow, volunteered to help. Robert planned to drive to Lake Elmo from Flying Cloud Field until he learned he was the **only** volunteer. I think we can do better. I will be looking for ideas and suggestions from members on how best to organize several grounds clean-up days during the summer. If you have suggestions, please forward them to me. In past years Dave Fiebiger and Al Kupferschmidt took responsibility to do these tasks for us. They did it on their own time, without being asked. These two guys have paid their dues to the chapter and it's time for the rest of us to step up and do our part. This will be a priority for me in the coming months, as spring and summer approach. Please stay tuned.

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 14. Mark your calendars know and plan to attend.



Please welcome Jessica Nelson to the chapter. She lives with her parents, Jeff and Julie Nelson, in Stillwater, is a student at St. Croix Preparatory Academy, and a student pilot. She soloed last November, and will be joining our ground school this week.

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Welcome, Jessica!

John Renwick EAA54 Membership Coordinator

Editors Note: Check out the below link for a nice article about Jessica.

http://www.stillwatergazette.com/articles/2010/11/26/headlines/286sv_112610_teen_pilot.txt

EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT

BY PAUL RANKIN

EDITORS NOTE: AS DISCUSSED AT A RECENT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, THE TREASURER'S REPORT WILL NOW BE ON OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.EAA54.ORG/MEMBERSONLY

Editors Note: These great pictures/calendars are pulled from the EAA website, www.eaa.org/wallpaper. They can be used for your screen savers!



Chapter 54 Directory

President
Leif Erickson
president@eaa54.org

Vice President
Bettie Seitzer
vicepresident@eaa54.org

Treasurer
Paul Rankin
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Secretary/Class IV Director
Dale Seitzer
secretary@eaa54.org

Education Director
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education@eaa54.org

Events Director
Jim Pearsall
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Housing Director
Dave Fiebigler
housing@eaa54.org

Membership Director
John Renwick
membership@eaa54.org

Young Eagles Director
Dave Becker
youngeagles@eaa54.org

Newsletter Editor/Director At-Large
Tom Gibbons
Newsletter@eaa54.org

Chapter Historian: Jeff Hove

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, Unicom: 122.8
21D AWOS: 120.075, TPA: 1932'
Runways: 4-22 (2497' x 75')
14-32 (2850' x 75')

places are to obtain materials. I refer that person to someone I know that can give them the best answer.

At the present time the Chapter 54 membership list is filled with the names of people who have a great deal of knowledge and expertise in aircraft building and restoration. There is hardly a day that goes by that I don't learn something new about aircraft construction during my rounds visiting the hangars and people with there projects at the Lake Elmo airport. We list more projects, either flying or under construction, within our chapter membership that we have ever had in the history of our chapter. Right now we are in the midst of "the good old days."

I would like everyone to understand that legally, because of liability considerations, I am not authorized to approve or disapprove anyone's project and sign it off as airworthy. The advantage of Technical Counselor visits is that after three visits by a counselor to an amateur built project the builder can apply for liability insurance form any of the various aircraft insurance carriers and receive a substantial discount on the annual premium. The **BEST** advantage, safety wise, is that the more pairs of eyes looking at a project during it's construction phase, the better the chances are that a critical component or procedure will not be omitted or overlooked. I certainly encourage everyone to take advantage of this service, with is **VOUNTARY AND FREE!**

One of the other advantages of the Technical Counselor program is that the counselor can guide you through the path of paperwork. There is a registration to be applied for and where and how to find a DAR (Designated Airworthiness Representative) to do the final inspection and issue the airworthiness certificate that makes it a licensed airplane. There is a certain amount of record keeping required and also the State of Minnesota will charge you some sales tax and requires state registration. I'm here to help, so feel free to call on me

Bill Schanks 651-769-0491
EAA Flight Advisor EAA Technical Counselor





Chapter 54 Meeting Minutes

By Dale Seitzer
Board Meeting Held January 8, 2010

13 people in attendance

Leif Erickson, Bettie Seitzer, Dale Seitzer, Jim Pearsall, Jeff Hove, Dave Becker, Tom Gibbons, Art Edlund

Al Kupferschmidt, Dave Fiebiger and 3 others. It was determined there were enough Board members to have a Board meeting.

We reviewed the Treasurers report including the past year (2010) income and expenses. Then we reviewed the Budget (estimated income and expenses) for 2011.

The Proposed budget was discussed line by line. No changes were made to the budget as recommended by Paul Rankin Treasurer.

Tom Gibbons moved to approve.

Art Edlund seconded the motion.

The 2011 Budget was approved unanimously.

Education Committee: Art Edlund -- Ground school -- Sport pilot information will be added to the curriculum this year if there are any sport pilot students. A sport pilot student can take the combined Private Pilot / Sport Pilot Ground School next year 2012. We agreed there would be no changes to the education program sponsored by the Chapter.

Young Eagles: Dave Becker -- There is a process change with a deadline for Air Academy applicants of January 31. No other changes to the program. Schedule is set for 2011.

Events: Jim Pearsall

Learn to Fly Day: Sat May 21, 2011 We will provide volunteers, ground crew, promotion and pilots for adult introductory flights. We will use our Face Book and chapter website to pre-register introductory flights.

Aviation Day: Sunday August 14, 2011. A discussion was made around other ways of raising funds and more research will be done to explore options to raise income. Dave Becker will organize sales of advertising for the placemat. Bettie will organize a silent auction and Jim will organize all the fund raising activities at the Aviation Day.

Chapter Banquet: Monday May 9, 2011. The goal of the Chapter Banquet is to provide a social event for chapter members. The plan is to obtain a speaker and offer to collaborate with other area chapters if it makes sense. The financial goal is to break even on expenses.

Membership: Recommendations for the Membership director to send list of new members to the newsletter editor.

Building Director: Dave Fiebiger -- He will need assistance when he gets donated trees and shrubs to plant them around the airport. He suggested that anyone can cut the grass around the chapter house and shrub trimming. We are looking for donations of a push or riding mower.

Historian: Jeff Hove -- A chapter Face book page is up and available for members to use and the public to see. This fits in with the Chapter goal of spreading information about safety and aviation.

Newsletter: Tom Gibbons -- Always looking for articles, photos and general news. It was suggested that technical articles taken from the newsletter archives are encouraged. It was also suggested that Directors and Officers provide short articles and updates.

Flight Advisors -- We will increase the number of people who are flight advisors. We will also promote the advantages of working with a flight advisor through newsletter articles, notes on the webpage and Face book. Board members and officers will recruit potential Flight Advisors and Technical Advisors. Access to Flight Advisors and Technical Advisors is a benefit for members.

Technical Advisors -- We will increase the number of people who are technical advisors. We will also promote the advantages of working with a technical advisor through newsletter articles, notes on the webpage and Face book.

Pete Burgher Chapter Challenge. A matched fundraiser to assist chapter officers in organization, resources and training on electronic communication technology (websites). Decision to contribute was placed on hold and will be discussed further later.

Website Manager: Reorganization of a job well done goes out to Paul Leidl.

Discussion on indemnification of officers for civil suits. The Chapter is a 501c3 organization but does not have employees. We have controls over funds and By-laws that define the responsibilities for Officers and Board Members. The issue was tabled for future discussion.

A motion for adjournment was suggested. A motion was made by Jeff Hove for adjournment, seconded by Dave Becker. Unanimously approved by voice vote.

Dale Seitzer
Secretary

Major Fly-Ins for Next Year

U.S. Sport Aviation Expo, January 20-23, 2011...Sebring Regional Airport (SEF) Sebring, Florida. www.Sport-Aviation-Expo.com

Sun-N-Fun Fly-In, March 29-April 3, 2011...Lakeland Linder Regional Airport (LAL), Lakeland, Florida. www.Sun-N-Fun.org

AERO Friedrichshafen, April 13-16, 2011... Messe Friedrichshafen, Friedrichshafen, Germany. www.AERO-Friedrichshafen.com

Virginia Regional Festival of Flight, April 30-May 1, 2011...Suffolk Executive Airport (SFQ), Suffolk, Virginia. www.VirginaFlyIn.org

Golden West Regional Fly-In and Air Show, June 10-2, 2011...Yuba County Airport (MYV), Marysville, California. www.GoldenWestFlyin.org

Arlington Fly-In, July 6-10, 2011...Arlington Municipal Airport (AWO), Arlington, Washington, www.ArlingtonFlyin.org

EAA AirVenture Oshkosh, July 25-31, 2011...Wittman Regional Airport (OSH), Oshkosh, Wisconsin. www.AirVenture.org

Colorado Sport International Air Show and Rocky Mountain Regional Fly-In, August 27-28, 2011...Rocky Mountain Metropolitan Airport (BJC), Denver, Colorado. www.COSportAviation.org

Pilots Lounge

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.



SLSA Flying Club Forming...

Chapter 54 member Jim Pearsall is organizing a SLSA Flying Club at Lake Elmo, 21D. Contact him with your questions.

21D SLSA FLYING CLUB FORMING

Looking for people

Then will find an airplane

Organizing
Jim Pearsall

Phone: 651-494-4579
E-mail: pjpearsall@gmail.com



FOR SALE:

- 1) 4130 Gas Welding rods - 36" X 1/16" - I have 7 pounds of new rods I can part with. Each rod stamped with alloy ID. \$10 per pound or offer for the 7 pounds.
- 2) Vertical Card Compass lighted model - Precision Aviation, Inc - stamped 6/23/2004
- 2) \$50 or offer.

Dave Syverson ddsyverson@comcast.net or see additional contact info in Membership List.

For Sale:

60' x 48' Hanger, 54' door, small office, bathroom, well, holding tank, natural gas heat, 18' high ceiling, and 5HP compressor.
Asking \$80,000.00 or best offer.

1967 Cessna 182C, 2518 Total time. Very good older airplane. Call for details.
Flies straight and true.
Asking \$50,500 or best offer.....

2006 CT-SW Light Sport with about 200 hours Total time. Has everything on it.
Asking \$90,000.00.

Call Jim Michalski at 612-618-1011 or see all of this at 13C Alfa Lane at the Lake Elmo Airport (21D)
E-mail is Jmkreps@comcast.net.

I started a Facebook page for the chapter.

Go to <http://www.facebook.com> (you need to create your personal account)

Then search for EAA Chapter 54.

I've given administrative rights to: president@eaa54.org, newsletter@eaa54.org, secretary@eaa54.org & Jeff Hove.

So far there are just a few photos and a rough description. I'm very skeptical about Facebook and other sites like it because so many bored kids love to spam & graffiti sites so I would like to leave this locked down as much as possible but still let our members post photos and chat. Will relax the permissions as I learn more.

Jeff Hove

More Pilots Lounge

Dear Friend of Farnsworth Aerospace,

The Farnsworth Aerospace Science Fair is Thursday, February 17, 2011. It will be held at the Farnsworth 5-8 site at 1000 Walsh Street. Parking will be on the street.

We will have our 5-6th grade projects displayed in the auditorium and the 7-8th grade projects displayed in the gym. Every student in the school will be completing a Science Fair project for a total of 550+ projects. For some of the students, this is their very first time doing a project and others have completed projects in the past. We are looking for your help in judging projects in the morning or afternoon (or both!!).

The schedule for the day is as follows:

8:30-9:00 AM

Continental breakfast, Welcome by Dr. Vincent and orientation with Science teachers in Room 2312.

9:05-11:50 AM

Morning session of judging 5-8th grade

12:30-1:00 PM

Lunch and orientation for afternoon judges in Room 2312.

1:00-3:30 PM

Afternoon session of judging - grades 7-8 only

We need a lot of judges for the number of students involved. Students have worked hard not only on completing their projects and displays, but also on their presentation for the judges.

When you arrive, please check in at the office and someone will give you directions to the orientation room.

Thank you for volunteering this time for our school. Please call me with any questions!

Jill Wall, Aerospace Coordinator

PLEASE RSVP TO: jill.wall@spps.org or 651-293-8880

If you are unable to volunteer an entire AM or PM, we still want you to judge for us. Let me know the times you are available with your RSVP

Jill Wall, Aerospace/STEM Coordinator
Farnsworth Aerospace PK-8 Magnet School
1000 Walsh Street
St. Paul, MN 55106
651-293-8880
<http://farnsworth.spps.org/>

Tail wheel Endorsements

I can give tail wheel endorsements in my Cessna 170 at the Lake Elmo Airport if anyone is interested!

- John Renwick

EAA Chapter 54

Private Pilot Ground School

Mondays and Thursdays from February 3 to April 25, 2011

Located at the EAA Chapter Clubhouse at Lake Elmo Airport

Visit www.eaa54.org to sign-up and get more information

Class sessions are held at the EAA Chapter 54 clubhouse at the "B" entrance to Lake Elmo Airport (21D). The initial sign up and enrollment meeting for the 2011 class will be held February 3, 2010 at 6:00 PM. Classes will be held on Mondays and Thursdays from Feb. 3, 2011 through April 25, 2011. There will be no classes on Feb. 14, March 14, and April 11 as these dates are reserved for the monthly meeting of EAA Chapter 54. Class times are 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. See complete [schedule](#) at www.eaa54.org

Successful completion of this course will prepare the student to take the FAA Private Pilot Written Examination. Class size is limited so you are encouraged to sign-up early.

Course Materials and Cost



Jeppesen course materials are used. Student kits can be purchased at [Valters Aviation](#) at the Lake Elmo Airport (21D) in advance of the class or they may be purchased at the enrollment session. Estimated costs for these course materials is \$200.00. In addition, students will pay a course fee of \$100.00 at the enrollment session.



Young Eagles Report

by Dave Becker



Our "Young Eagles Flown" count for January 2011 is at zero, but we have a whole summer ahead of us to make up for the slow start. The Young Eagles program for 2011 will be run using the same procedures we used last year. We had streamlined the flow of registering and assigning pilots to the kids and put a loadmaster and other ground support out on the flight line, all of which worked very good. We will open up our online sign-up web page towards the end of February or first part of March. I am including a few more photos from last year's events for your viewing pleasure.

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 VALENTINES DAY!!

Yes, love is in the air as in airplanes and aircraft projects we all love. But let's not forget that special someone who is always behind us when it comes to our favorite passion! Our meeting this month falls on Valentines Day and I would bet that our president would not mind us bringing our loved ones to the meeting just for this special day so encourage them to attend.

February Vacation!

It's been a long, cold and snowy winter and I will begin my annual mid-cold season vacation where I jet out of here and visit my fellow Pulsar builders somewhere. Already, Jim from Houston, TX has invited me down to his place to spend a week with him and his new wife, Rhonda. Jim has built one of the most beautiful Pulsars yet and he has often given me a ride in it.



That is me in the right seat high above San Antonio one year. Actually, Jim is organizing a Pulsar Winter Gathering where many may fly in and feast on Jim's home cooked Texas BBQ which is to die for. So looking forward to it!

Hope You Saw.....

The beautiful write up about fellow member Al Kupferschmidt on his 400th Young Eagle ride in the **Oakdale/Lake Elmo Review** recently. The date of the issue was Wednesday, January 5, 2011. Our Young Eagles program is a great event for our chapter and Al was the founding member who started it all. Now lead by Dave Becker, who has done an extraordinary job since taking it over, the Young Eagles is a great event for kids and their first ride in an airplane. This event runs every second Saturday starting in May so plan to attend one of these special opportunities to help the chapter. Kudos to all the pilots who donate their time and aircraft for this event and congratulations to Al again.

Recent ORD Weather.....

Just had to show the members a couple of pics from the recent storm that hit Chicago O'Hare airport.



Contact Information for Newsletter Stories

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EAA CHAPTER 54
3275 MANNING AVE. N. SUITE #7
LAKE ELMO, MN 55042

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

A recession is when you have to tighten your belt; depression is when you have no belt to tighten. When you've lost your trousers--you're in the airline business.

- Sir Adam Thomson.