



SPEED'S NEWS



SPEED HOLMAN CHAPTER-54
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

MEETING: Monday, May 11, 1981 - Sanborn Aviation - 7:30 PM

President: Gerald Laundry - 647-0259
Vice President: Sandy LeMire - 429-6422
Secretary/Treasurer: Rosemary Frank - 451-8187
Desianees: Roger Westerberg - 458-0708
Al Amsden - 484-4058

A great big CONGRATULATIONS!! to Norm Schweitz for winning the Lindberg Award this year at the annual MSAA Banquet. We are all proud of you Norm! And Bill Hart showed up with his wife who had her eye on the EAA blanket and be darned if she didn't win that. A real good time was had by all.

RON VOELKNER showed off his Zenith April 27th. A real pretty bird it will be. May is the month JIM TOME wants to show off his pretty bird - the Veri-eze - so be sure to attend the meeting on Monday to get the latest details.

There will be a meeting Thursday, May 14, 7:30 PM at the Blaine High School to discuss the current moratorium on building at the Anoka County Airport. The present moratorium ends in June or July and airport officials would like as many pilots and builders as possible to attend this council meeting in the hopes of ending it. Please plan to attend.

There will be an Ultralight Aircraft Safety and Education Seminar on Saturday May 9, at the St. Paul Technical Vocational Institute Auditorium. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 P.M. Guest speakers include Roman Buettner, Aviation Representative, Ken Wofford, Director of Operations, both with Minnesota DOT. Plus many other interesting speakers throughout the day. Lunch will be - bring your own or eat out. Coffee, milk and soft drinks will be provided. If you desire further information, contact Roman Buettner, Mn DOT, 296-8057.

DAVE FIEBIGER has room for three passengers going to Oshkosh for the May workparty. GERRY LAUNDRY has room in his van for those afraid of flying. Please be sure to contact either of these men if interested in obtaining a ride.

Check your records - if your dues are due - pay 'em. This is YOUR Chapter!

And last but not least - I will see YOU at the meeting!!

Rosemary

Want a good book to read these rainy evenings?

PAT RILEY recommends - - -

A HOSTAGE TO FORTUNE by Ernest K. Gann (Alfred Knopf, New York 1978)

At over 500 pages Gann's autobiography is a long read, but worthwhile to hear this adventurer's adventures. While Gann seldom conveys intimacy of the "what makes me tick" variety, if you can "know a man by what he does" then you'll put down this book feeling you know Gann.

He frames his story as a set of mental reflections while on a train ride, perhaps to symbolize a fatalistic view. The operant philosophy is the concept of Yin and Yang, the balancing of heat and cold, sun and shade, and in life - happiness against sorrow, logic against mayhem. This theme emerges through the ups and downs of Gann's writer-flyer-sailor life.

His boyhood is All-American Nebraska - Ringling Brothers, Mark Twain, and his first plane ride with Omar Locklear, master barn-stormer in a Jenny.

Gann's prep-school career sees the separation from the herd with a commercially successful film and his emergence as a polo player of skill.

The ensuing years see Gann traveling the world, acting and directing in New York theater, falling in and out of jobs - a pattern he'll endure for life to the chagrin of his wealthy staid businessman father.

He travels to Hitler's pre-war Germany to capture illegal film on Jewish persecution, and witnesses the occupation of the Rhine. Hoping for a cinema scoop, Gann risks prison to film the action and his life getting the film out of Germany. Upon development every foot of the film is flawed.

At work again in New York, Gann begins flying in a Great Lakes. After many false starts, he is hired by American Airlines. The largess of airline pay allows purchase of a sailboat, launching Gann's journey down to the sea.

His wartime flying out of Presque Isle across the Atlantic becomes grist for his first big novel "ISLAND IN THE SKY." He later writes the screenplay for the film starring John Wayne.

The years after the war find Gann doing many things part time to survive, including writing novels and screenplays, directing stage shows, commercial fishing and of course, flying. In all this Gann is at his best talking about flying.

In-closing Gann numbly ponders the eternal questions of purpose and destiny in life, the balancing twixt joys and sorrows, the yin and the yang.

(Some other Gann Books: Flying Circus, Band of Brothers, Fate is the Hunter. All of them darn good reading.)