

## April 2014

THE NEXT PROGRAM WILL BE ON MONDAY  
June 9, 2014

- Sod Busters Radio Controlled Airplane Club Demonstration
- Meet at the club house or their flying field at 6:00 PM
- It is located just north of I-94 on the West side of Manning Avenue South of the Lake Elmo Airport
- Then, at 7:30 PM, back to the Chapter 54 Club House
- Gate B, Lake Elmo Airport

## Upcoming Events

- June Young Eagles                      June 14, 2014
- June Chapter Meeting                  June 9, 2014
- Aviation Day Pancake Breakfast Aug 17, 2014 6:00 – 9:00

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

OSHKOSH WORK PARTY	1
CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES	6
PRESIDENTS MESSAGE	3
TREASURERS REPORT	4
PLAYGROUND AT FREDERIC AIRPORT	5

## Oshkosh Work Party Report

Chapter 54 had 4 volunteers representing the club on the first Weekend Work party. It really is not a party at all. The volunteers work Saturday from 8 to 4:30 and Sunday from 7:30 to noon.



Left to right: Dale Seitzer, Jerry (EAA employee), Paul Rankin, another volunteer from Connecticut, Jim Pearsall and Dave Voelker.

The first task was to build skids that would be set under a small building to move it. Then a wall was removed and the next day we would build a wall in the opposite corner of the building.

Paul and Dave built the large heavy wooden skids while Jim, Dale and another volunteer disassembled the wall in one of the older exposition hall.

After the wall paneling was removed the crew had a new task to separate two small buildings that would be moved.





The roof and floor connecting them to be removed. The skids would fit under the building on the left.

We worked as a team under the close eye and direction of Jerry. Jerry works full time and is one of the employees building the Zenith kit plane. We got a sneak peek of the employee project plane as it was in the paint booth.

The weather was windy and cool so hot coffee and cookies at breaks were well received. We also had hot lunch and supper.



The photos to the right and left are of the process building the skids.

We stayed at the Binder House again and even though it looks like the farmhouse from the black and white movie, "In Cold Blood" everyone reported good sleeping Friday and Saturday night

Friday night Dave made a wonderful pork chop dinner with salad and vegetables.

Saturday night we were tired but still had enough energy to attend a tour of the Sonex facility lead by John Monnet. Below you can see the Sonnex Jet.



They have sold 10 kits already and they were almost ready to ship. They are also working on a mild turbo boost for the AeroVee engine which is expected to increase horsepower by about 20%. We also learned that John does not believe in mufflers—all Sonex use straight pipe. He also said that the average pilot flies 25 hours a year so the Sonex planes do not need cabin heat.

John Monnet is a small man and that's why the planes are not very wide—the same as a Cessna 150. They are simple, light and inexpensive. He also said it takes about 800 hours to build a plane—if you only build 25 hours a year it will take 32 years to complete the plane.





## **FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)**

*BY JIM PEARSALL, CHAPTER PRESIDENT*

There be fly'in happening!

Weather is improving, things are buzzing around the field and if you were to head down to Stanton or up to Osceola you would likely be watching for gliders. According to a Hypothesis I learned from Mr. Rankin of Ground School fame, weather runs in 6 day cycles. Three good days followed by three bad days. Our recent weather reinforces this idea. Right now it seems the good side of the cycle is hitting the weekends.

The first weekend in May found the Chapter 54 Work Party in OSH with the Paul Rankin, Dale Seitzer, Dave Volker and myself helping out around the AirVenture grounds. Weather was cool and breezy which made for perfect conditions for some indoor destruction and construction. Saturday evening Trevor Janz, the EAA Chapter and YE coordinator, treated us to a tour of Sonex led by the founder John Monnett and his wife Betty. Short and sweet we saw turbos, electrics and a whole bunch of laser cut aluminum.

Last weekend weather was great for our first Young Eagles of the year flying 22 youngsters with four aircraft. That is some busy flying. Thanks to the pilots and the ground crew for making this a fun safe event.

Fitting the pattern conditions were not so good for our Third Annual May BarBQ. The inaugural event a couple years back featured planes on display by the beacon, maybe next year. Not to matter the weather the clubhouse served as the dining room. Special thanks to Bettie Seitzer and Linda Amble for getting the event organized again this year.

I am keeping my fingers crossed that our friends at Anoka are rewarded with good weather for Discover Aviation Days May 31 and June 1. I hope you all join me in attending and supporting this event. I will be there with an airplane weather willing sporting a flyer for Lake Elmo Aviation Days taped to the windscreen. Flyin's, airplanes, advertizing; maybe what we need is a postersizd sun screen for our airplanes. It is rare there is a flyin in the area where we would not have representation from Chapter 54. Hmmm...

## EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT *By TOM GIBBOONS*

I added a new drop box in the clubhouse today that will allow members to drop off their membership dues into if they choose to. Also you may add anything into the box that needs my attention. Inside is also a folder for the Membership Director to collect his forms. I have a note on the box stating that you please do not open unless you are a chapter officer not that anyone really needs to look inside.

I was thinking of having Dave Fiebiger mount it on the wall if possible.

Please let me know your thoughts if you have any.

*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/MEMBERONLY](http://WWW.EAA54.ORG/MEMBERONLY)*



Bettie and I rented a Cessna 172 and a flight instructor for a scenic flight out of famous Falcon Field in Mesa Arizona this past February. Bettie took photos out the window of Superstition Mountain. Dale Seitzer



# Group Proposes Playground at Frederic Airport

Posted: Friday, April 25, 2014 Frederic News Post

By Kelsi Loos News-Post Staff | by [Kelsi Loos](#)

The sounds of airplanes taking off may soon mingle with the sounds of children playing if an idea to build a playground at Frederick Municipal Airport becomes a reality. The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association came to the airport commission meeting Thursday to ask for its support on a project to build a playground with the nonprofit organization Kaboom. The idea is still in its infancy, but the AOPA's vice president of strategic philanthropy, Stephanie Kenyon, told the commission that the association was interested in building equipment on the property as a way to make the airport a more friendly place and project a positive image of general aviation.

Kaboom is an organization that normally helps communities build playgrounds in low-income areas. Building a playground at an airport would be a first for the company, Kenyon said. It would use Frederick as a pilot project to evaluate the feasibility of putting up equipment at other airports. The AOPA estimates the project will cost \$175,000 for project management and materials. The association agreed to pay all of the costs related to the construction. "We are willing to completely, 100 percent willing, to fund this project," Kenyon said. The AOPA would also be willing to pay the cost of maintaining the equipment, she added, but city staff would probably need to do the legwork.

The structure would be built by volunteers, and possibly placed between the flight school and the Airways Inn. AOPA and Kaboom would choose a nonprofit in the Frederick area that serves children and ask them to draw their dream playground. Committees formed from the community would be responsible for designing the playground, drawing inspiration from the children's ideas.

Kenyon suggested aviation themes and additions that would allow visitors to learn more about airport operations, such as a speaker system that taps into the tower or a display with information about the history of the airport. The committee gave its blessing to the project, voting unanimously to offer its support. Some members of the public also expressed support for it.

"I think Frederick airport is a perfect place for it," former airport manager Charlie Abell said. The commission encouraged the AOPA to make sure that safety is always at the forefront of the planning process.

Dee asked Kenyon if she knew of any liability issues at other airports that have playgrounds. She responded that she was not aware of any.

Any construction would need to go through the city of Frederick's normal planning processes, but if the playground plans are in place by June, Kenyon said the project might be able to be built by late September.

**Newsletter**  
**Editor: Could we do this at Lake Elmo?**

The photo to the right is a small park next to the runway at Falcon Field in Mesa Arizona





# Chapter 54 Meeting Minutes

## May, 2014

### Bettie Seitzer, Chapter Secretary

EAA Chapter 54 – May 12 Annual Chapter Picnic

Secretary's notes

May 12<sup>th</sup> was our annual spring picnic at the clubhouse, and a wonderful time was had by all! Early weather forecasts were for a cool day with rain in the morning ending mid-day. Alas it was not to be – the rain continued right up to picnic time, but did let up enough to allow Dave Volker (Grill Master extraordinaire) to work his magic with the burgers and jumbo dogs. Thank you Dave – you really know how to run a grill!

The menu included a very good cole slaw, tossed salad, baked beans, chips and root beer floats. Thanks to the excellent and generous cooks who brought desserts! Thank you to everyone who was able to come and enjoy the evening.

By a good stroke of timing the tables for ground school were still set up providing very comfortable seating for the 45 people who came to join in the fun. Several people commented that it was actually nice to be inside because people were able to visit at their tables and to move around to easily visit with friends and new acquaintances. I saw many lively conversations and smiles on every face. Several of our ground school students were able to come and enjoyed meeting more of the chapter members.

We also had one guest who didn't know it was a picnic meeting and thought he was coming to a regular meeting. He is a commercial pilot who wants to get back into flying. It was a great opportunity for him to talk to several of our members and to get a good welcome to the chapter. He said that he would be at the next meeting!

There were many helping hands who helped to set up the food, the tables, tablecloths, and more who helped with the cleanup and putting away when the party was done. Thank you so much to everyone who pitched in – it's good to know that help will always be there when you need it!

Finally I would like to personally thank Miss Linda for all of her hard work; she makes it a lot of fun! She helped with the shopping and came prepared with a list. She helped with the set up and even made a last minute run for onions when Tom declared that he could simply not live another minute with the thought of burgers with no onions! Thank you Linda!

## Discover Aviation Days

### May 31<sup>st</sup> & June 1<sup>st</sup>



[Home](#)   [Location](#)   [Rides](#)   [Dance](#)   [Pilot Info](#)   [Volunteer](#)   [Photos](#)   [Contact](#)

Anoka County Airport - Jane's Field  
Blaine MN (ANE)

Event from 7am to 4pm each day

On display will be many **Aspects of Aviation.**  
Experimental, Homebuilt, Civil, Corporate,  
Military, WWII, and Vintage aircraft.

Vendors & Exhibitors offering the best in food  
& aviation products and services.

Education Center for all students.

Pancake Breakfast from 7:30am to 11:30am  
and Lunch from 12-Noon to 3:00pm.

Kids' Activities for young flyers.

Military History, Past and Present.

Aircraft & Helicopter Rides.

Get Your Raffle Ticket!

DAD & FlightExpo have teamed up  
to create this event raffle.



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## New FAA Aviation Weather Center by John Renwick

The FAA has redesigned the Aviation Weather Center web site. It will go on-line next week, but for now you can try it out here: <http://new.aviationweather.gov/> (The site it's replacing is <http://www.aviationweather.gov>)

At first glance, I'm very impressed. The most obvious change I saw was that the Java tools, which I use a lot, now work with touch screens. (They used to display a report or forecast when you put the cursor over a station, but you can't do that on a tablet.)

Check out the METAR display on the home page, then look at the TAF page. Note that the weather symbols you see there reflect the current line of the TAF, depending on what time you look at it. Very cool!

## Pilots Lounge

**HEATED HANGAR LAKE ELMO (21D) • \$55,000 • ACCEPTING OFFERS** • 40' x 40' heated hanger on North side of airport (27F). 36' electric bi-fold main door, 10' rear garage door with opener. Major remodeling done in 2012-2013 including: new blown in insulation - 24" in ceiling area, updated electrical, lots of new drywall and 6" fiberglass insulation in walls. Natural gas infrared heater (the type used in hockey rinks) Small office and storage area. Finish out the way that you want. Great hangar for a homebuilding project or two as you can work year around. Health issues require that we sell. All reasonable offers will be entertained. • Contact [John R. Weigel](mailto:john@theweigels.us) ([john@theweigels.us](mailto:john@theweigels.us)) • Telephone: 715-222-4777

## Tailwinds Flying Club Welcomes New Members

Tailwinds Flying Partnership is based at Lake Elmo airport, 21D, in Lake Elmo, MN. We are a non-profit corporation of 38 pilots who equally own three aircraft. Our goal and philosophy are to fly great airplanes inexpensively. We strive for consistency in equipment among our three airplanes. We currently have a Cirrus SR20, Archer II and a Cherokee Six.

To inquire about membership, please send an [e-mail to Mark](mailto:mark@tailwinds21d.org) or call 651-982-275.

Visit us at [www.tailwinds21d.org](http://www.tailwinds21d.org) to learn more.



## Chapter 54 Directory

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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 published about a week after the meeting..