



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

AUGUST 2015

August 2015

NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON

MONDAY September 14, 2015

- Come at 7:00 pm and socialize.
- **CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT 21D.**
- Our Chapter Web site address: www.eaa54.org

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Upcoming Events

1. Next Meeting — September 14, Fall Picnic. Members family and guests welcome. We will have a friendly picnic rain or shine with high quality picnic foods. Members may bring something to share, sometimes a dessert—but bringing something is NOT required. We will supply dining ware. The price will be around \$5.00 each
2. Next Young Eagles Event — September 12, 2015. We have had several nice days and one cancelled Young Eagles event this year so far.

Oshkosh Report:

Dave Voelker, Former B52 Pilot Informal Presentation



Dave Voelker was the first to volunteer. His primary flying experience was in the military; one of the B52s that he flew in was at Oshkosh this year! The plane first did a low pass before landing, then did a missed approach and went around again to land on the third pass. Did a short landing so that the plane would be at full stop at mid-field.

After stopping the plane was backed into show center on the south side of the Boeing Plaza. The plane appeared slightly off-balance because there was more fuel on the left side than on the right so the tip gear actually hit the dirt. There is a YouTube video showing the landing and the tugging into position.

Dave camped at Camp Schoeller in an area that he has camped in for years. The South African contingents camp in

the same area so they are all friends. The group asked Dave to take some of the folks down to do a walk around at the B52 and tell them about his flying experiences. He went early in the morning and quickly had a group of about 40 people standing around listening to his stories. The crew was behind him and added some information about the plane and what is going on currently with the plane. Dave drew quite a crowd and people were very interested in the stories.

The B-52 on display is a 1954 airplane with over 14,000 hours on it! It won two grand champion awards – Best contemporary plane and best homebuilt. They sold most of the merchandise and had a very large audience for the entire time they were at the show.



Jim Pearsall Report: Freebies

Jim Pearsall collected and brought a whole bunch of

promo items and trinkets.

A Smithsonian kit for a rubber band powered plane kit, donated to the kids table for the pancake breakfast

A ball cap from Cherry Grove Pietenpol Group

A book from one of the “Meet the Author” sessions – The Sequel to Alfred Creek

True Track freebies

Lots of cup cozies

Honda caps given away free on Sunday

Infrared Temp gun (cost = \$28 bucks) can point it at anything and read the temp

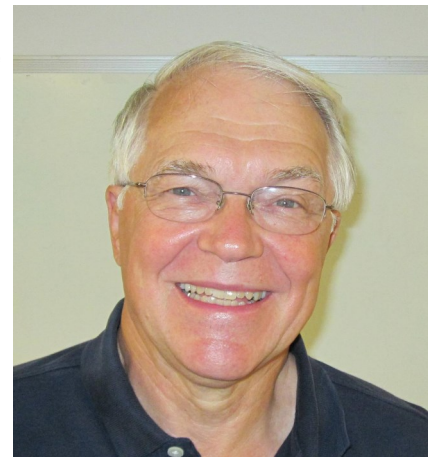
At the President’s dinner he got a gift bag with Mustang stuff, pins and miscellaneous.



Jim also saw Burt Rutan a couple of times, including his presentation on the Seagull – Rutan’s newest design. The Seagull will be a float-plane that will be able to land on water or land. The innovation is that when landing on water skis deploy and hit the water first. The skis have small wheels on the end so that the plane can land on ground. The germ of the idea came from a trip to Russia where Burt had studied some Russian designs.

On the wings there are two small electric engines that are used for docking rather than having to use the big motor which is not very maneuverable. If the main engine is lost, the two small engines can sustain the plane’s altitude for 8 minutes. Great backup! The main motor is a fuel-injected Rotax; 135 horsepower. Range desired is to be able to fly to Hawaii. The plane has a high aspect ratio and functions as a motor glider; the pilot can self-certify!

Paul Randall (right) bought a Pipestrel Sinus motorglider! He has been flying one owned by a dealer for about 2 years. It is now at Osceola. He has been granted a Pipestrel Territory in Montana, North and South Dakota and Nebraska. He will be dealing them and hopes to place one at an FBO so that more people get a chance to try it out. He is currently negotiating with Valters to have the plane there and available for instruction. He is an instructor and is recruiting additional instructors so that prospective pilots can have training options.



Chapter Clubhouse Spring Landscaping

This spring several volunteers helped out to clean up the outside of the club house, spread Preen herbicide and thick cedar mulch.

The results are effective and good looking. Weeds are down, the mulch looks great and drainage is well executed.

Opportunities to volunteer come up regularly—there are chances for members to get involved and contribute to the positive actions the club supports.

Watch the newsletter and speak up at meetings to make your voice heard.



One of Ed Thompsons Hangars gets a rebuild, photo below:

The new owner said, when asked about the condition of the hangar, "The slab was OK". It looks like a complete re-



build. This is actually a good time to buy a hangar. There are several for rent and sale around the Lake Elmo Airport.

Oshkosh Photos



John Moody flew everyday in the 1981 ultralight



Aerolight ultralight from 1981 — it also flew everyday



B17 on display



British Lancaster bomber — yes, it is big

EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT

BY TOM GIBBONS

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





B52 Aircraft on display

Oshkosh Airventure Photos



Balloons on display every evening



Airbus A350 flyby



Billboard we helped build during weekend work party



Mosquito Bomber



EAA Chapter 54 Aviation Day Pancake Breakfast and Fly In



Tailwinds Flying Club Partnership Welcomes New Members

Tailwinds Flying Partners is based at Lake Elmo airport. We are a non-profit corporation of 39 pilots who equally own three aircraft and one hangar (25E). Our goal and philosophy are to fly great airplanes safely and inexpensively. We currently have a Cirrus SR20, Archer II and Cherokee Six. Some of our members belong to EAA 54 and we love to fly Young Eagles. Please stop by and visit us anytime! To inquire about membership, please email or call Mark at 651-983-6206. www.tailwinds21d.org



Chapter 54 Meeting Minutes

By Bettie Seitzer, Chapter Secretary

EAA Chapter 54 August 10, 2015 Meeting minutes

Meeting called to order at 7:31 by Jim Pearsall using the new microphone mounted on a stand!

Business meeting agenda items:

Board meeting minutes published

We have a refrigerator that we will keep at Valters for use during the pancake breakfast; Valters will use it in between aviation day events. The refrigerator was \$388.00; previously approved by the board. (This was required by the health department to keep food cool enough during the event.)

We received a donation again from Cynthia Olsen; these funds go to the funds to send kids to Air Academy. Linda will send her a thank you card and a photo of the young man we sent to camp this summer. Thank you, Linda!

Finance officer reviewed the monthly statement. No issues

Visitor Jason Peterson, he is currently enrolled in an A&P school and working as a welder for Delta. Looking forward to getting his private license someday.

Someday soon we would like to be able to do webcasts, Dave Fibiger has installed the microphones and built the stands for them. The sound system is now much better than we have ever had, and it makes it easy for people to hear the speakers, even if they have very soft voices.

Weeds in the landscaping have been having a really good year. A couple of people have pulled weeds and used a little Round up. Feel free to pull any weeds that you see.

December 5th, Saturday, Francis Gary Powers, Jr. may be able to visit the Chapter house for a casual meet-and-greet. He is the son of the U2 pilot who was shot down over the Soviet Union and has updated his father's book. Time frame would be sometime between 9:00 and noon. Coffee and Rolls will be served. Rob Barrows and Jeff Hove filmed last month's talk and edited the versions onto a DVD that is available in our library. The title is "Pat Halloran U-2 & SR-71 Pilot; EAA CL 54.

Officer elections will be held in November; the search committee is looking for people willing to fill the leadership roles. President, Vice President, Secretary and 3 Director positions are up for election. We do need a volunteer to chair the Search committee; they would talk to individuals to recruit new persons for these roles.

Pancake breakfast planning is going very well. Food is being brought in, and the last shopping run will be on Saturday when we will have an idea of the weather - which as we all know has a huge impact on attendance!

Jeff Hove mentioned that we really need more people to volunteer – especially for the second shift. Volunteers are greatly appreciated. Setup will be just like it has always been. There are going to be some very special planes in the line-up for people to see! The Commemorative Air Force will have some planes on display as well.

At the pancake breakfast there will be a table with information about the 21D expansion so that we can talk to people who might want information or have concerns. We want to be respectful and well informed. There is some negative press (politicians?) and we want to present facts along with our delightful personalities. We have many supporters of the airports who started out as young eagles and have gone on to careers in aviation. 21D is a training airport and important to the development of skilled and safe pilots. Remember that the expansion is a "plan" and has not been approved. There is a comment period open to everyone. Guests can be directed to that table for more information.

September 14th our monthly meeting will be the annual fall picnic rain or shine! We will cook burgers and dogs on the grill and have picnic food accompaniments. If you would like to bring a dessert to share, that would be great! \$5.00 donation – Family and Friends are very welcome. A good time will be had by all!

A motion to adjourn the business meeting was made at 8:18.

Possible Solution to Wet Hangar

How many of you have had a damp airplane in a moist hangar? Moisture in hangars is the worst in spring when the floor is cold but the air is warm and humid. I asked around about what others have done to mitigate the dampness. And I heard a common theme.

- Insulate the floor
- Air movement is important
- Venting

I just used old 1/2 to 5/8 inch plywood pieces and boards underneath most of the airplane

I covered it with some old carpet pieces that were unfit for home but perfect for the hangar

The hangar has two vents so I opened the insulated ceilings to allow the moist



air to exit. I then double checked to make sure no extra water is entering the hangar.

I also ran a kerosene heater in the spring to help dry out the air and heat the slab.

It noticed less condensation this spring but everyone agreed this spring was dryer than normal.

This hangar has a concrete slab and I think hangars with asphalt or even gravel would benefit.

One owner covered his entire hangar floor with several layers of old carpet — it seems to work for him.

Another owner uses a reciprocating fan on his plane during the wettest months



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