



The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54
Lake Elmo, Minn.

MARCH 2016

March 2016

NEXT MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON

MONDAY April 11, 2016

- **Social hour from 6:30 to 7:30 PM**
- **Meeting begins at 7:30 PM**
- **CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT 21D.**
- **Our Chapter Web site address: www.eaa54.org**

Spring is popping out all over!

By Bettie Seitzer

Don't we all look forward to beautiful spring weather? Even if it comes early, we are always ready for it! Pilots have the unique privilege of seeing spring from a vantage point that is breath-taking. The good weather got me thinking about some of my favorite views from the air, Dale and I are particularly lucky to have a plane with fabulous visibility.

I love flying in the evenings as the air gets calm, the airport gets quiet, and, on especially calm days there are balloons aloft over the St. Croix.



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Upcoming Events

1. **Next Meeting** — April 14 , 2016
2. **Spring Picnic** — May 9,2016
3. **May Young Eagles Event** — May 14, 2016
4. **Farnsworth Airport Tour** — May 26, 2016

One evening there were 5 balloons in the sky at the same time, of course I kept my distance, but really enjoyed watching them drift quietly over the beautiful green landscape. Back when I was still flying Ultralights, I would call flight services and request the ballooning forecast very useful information for anyone flying a very light aircraft! Flight services has changed a lot since then; if they weren't busy they would ask what I was flying and that would lead to a conversation about Ultralights and the variety of planes available for the wide variety of pilots flying in America.

One of my favorite views is close to 21D. Take off to the north, follow the river and before long you will see this beautiful railroad bridge over the St. Croix. The reflection in the river adds to the majesty of the structure, and every once in a while there will be small boats or canoes completing a tranquil vignette.

Spring also brings thoughts of Oshkosh. Chapter 54 has a long history of Airventure volunteering and attendance. Dale and I first came to 21D by renting hangar space from Gil Leiter. He had been a member of our Ultralight club and regularly shared updates as he built his Challenger. He was a meticulous builder and we knew the plane would be as perfect as it could be. He had been a founding member of Chapter 54 and was a great supporter of EAA and Airventure.



Gil went to the work weekends, and after retiring he would volunteer for the entire run of Airventure. His wife, Barb, was also a pilot, and she volunteered at Airventure, as well. Every time we went, we would run into him, happily sporting a vest onto which he had sewn patches for every year of volunteering and all of the different volunteer activities he had participated in. He always had a big smile and was willing to help with any task that needed an extra hand. We lost Gil quite a while ago, and just last year Barb passed as well. Both of them would be proud to see Chapter 54 doing so well.

I look forward every year to see what's new at Oshkosh. Of course we know that there will be plenty of new planes and technology and friends from all over the country. There will also be unexpected little surprises. A couple of years ago, Ford brought in a small Ferris Wheel – rides were free. It was fun to get that view of the grounds.

Can't wait to see what happens this year!

Development Continues Around the Lake Elmo Airport

Six houses are in the process of being built just west of Manning Avenue. From the area already landscaped, it looks like the North half of the field will be filled with single family homes soon.



The streets are curved and there are numerous swampy areas and berms so it would not make a good emergency landing area. The field north of the railroad tracks remains open and there is a small area south of the development which could be an emergency landing area.

EAA Youth Protection Policy

Some of you may have heard about the new EAA Youth Protection Policy. More information will be coming available in the January 21 edition of e-Hotline. I just want to let you know a little about the policy and process.

If your volunteer activities with Young Eagles is more than 4 hours in any calendar year or 4 hours at any one time, or you are a pilot, they are asking you to complete the training and background check.

If you would like to view the policy and program on your computer, go to the volunteer log in at EAA.org and enter your user name and password and move to your account.

If you don't happen to have an account you can create one there as well.

If you would like to proceed it's only 20 minutes or so. EAA would like YE volunteers signed up by May 1, 2016. EAA is picking up the tab because unfortunately this is the way of the world today.

Next, scroll down to Youth Protection Training and answer the questions. It's a teaching tool, not a test. It's only 5-6 generic questions about safety with kids.

After completing the training, move to, the background information check section by following the prompts.

The final page is very generic looking and EAA is working on changing it already. It's all straightforward until the finale. Scroll down until you see the agree or do not agree area to complete the background check information and submit.

Thank you to everyone. Stay warm. Linda Amble EAA54 Young Eagles Coordinator



The Great Minnesota Aviation Gathering

Friday April 29th & Saturday April 30th
Anoka County-Blaine Airport, Blaine, MN

Meet hundreds of Minnesota and Wisconsin pilots and aviation enthusiasts!

Admission \$5.00 per person - per day. Free to MNPilots members and attendees 18 and under

[Flying to the Gathering](#)

[Location, Parking and area information](#)

The Gathering will feature education sessions and a variety of vendors of aviation-related products. Education sessions will cover a broad range of topics, including owner-assisted maintenance, seaplane operations, ski plane operations, survival medicine, single pilot IFR, Minnesota aviation history, winter operations, engine management, how to promote your local airport and many others.

INSPIRING WOMEN TO BE PART OF AVIATION COMMUNITY GOAL OF EAA AIRVENTURE OSHKOSH 2016 EVENTS

WomenVenture, Women Soar You Soar bring together women aviators, top speakers

EAA AVIATION CENTER, OSHKOSH, Wisconsin — (March 3, 2016) — Two activities during [EAA AirVenture Oshkosh 2016](#), the “World’s Greatest Aviation Celebration,” will help introduce and inspire women of all ages to engage and participate in the world of flight. The 64th annual Experimental Aircraft Association fly-in convention is July 25-31 at Wittman Regional Airport in Oshkosh.

The Women Soar You Soar event for high-school age girls takes place on July 24-27 and connects these young women with successful mentors involved in aviation and aeronautical sciences. Meanwhile, the WomenVenture gathering in Oshkosh brings together women aviators of all ages for weeklong programming and an opportunity to share their bond in the world of flight.

“Less than 10 percent of all active pilots are women and as EAA is committed to grow participation in aviation, it is absolutely vital that we welcome and break down barriers for everyone who wants to pursue their dreams of flight,” said Janine Diana, EAA’s vice president of people and culture. “As the aviation world gathers at Oshkosh each summer, it provides an unmatched opportunity for us to gather and celebrate those women who are achievers in our community while encouraging those who want to be a part of it.”

Women Soar You Soar welcomes girls entering grades nine through 12 in a day camp setting. It links these young people with mentors and positive role models for inspiration, participation and fun. Registration is just \$75 and is open to girls through June 1, with registration including programming, meals, and weeklong admittance to EAA AirVenture Oshkosh. The program is made possible through support from Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Women in Aviation International, and Boeing. More information and registration materials are available at www.EAA.org/WomenSoar.

WomenVenture has grown to a full week of programming throughout the grounds, with complete schedules still

Discover Aviation Days June 4th and 5th, 2016

SAVE THE DATE for DAD 2016!

Come out to the Anoka County Airport in Blaine on June 4th and 5th to enjoy many aspects of aviation. See numerous aviation exhibitors, aircraft & helicopter rides, food booths, product vendors and more! On display will be general and corporate aircraft, experimental and homebuilt, WWII fighters, trainers and bombers along with vintage and modern military. Those interested in a career in aviation, can stop by the education tent, see flying demonstrations, and kid's activities. Meet many veterans and see our military history display area. A Pancake Breakfast & Lunch to be served both days.

~ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! ~The DAD planning team is looking for more event volunteers and team leaders. If you are interested in helping create or plan this exciting event, please [contact us](#) as soon as possible for tasks needed and meeting dates.

[EMAIL US](#) | (763) 568-6072 | [Visit Our Website Online](#)

Farnsworth Elementary Volunteer Opportunity

Attached is an invitation for any of our retired members that are looking for something constructive (and you will learn something at the same time) to do on Thursday, March 17. Attend the Farnsworth 3rd and 4th grade Science Fair. You will not have to judge the completed science projects. Your job is simply to listen to the kids describe their projects. It should be a lot of fun. If you are interested, and available, you will find volunteering at Farnsworth rewarding and worthy of your time.

Leif PS You don't have to be retired to volunteer. Just have some free time.

Dear Friend of Farnsworth Aerospace,

The Farnsworth Aerospace Science Fair is Thursday, March 17th, 2016. It will be held at the Farnsworth Prek-4 site at 1290 Arcade. Street. Parking will be on the street or in the church parking lot across from the school.

We will have our 3rd -4th grade projects displayed in the gymnasium. Every student in the 3rd & 4th grade will be presenting to 2 judges. Judges will be observing the students on the Presentation part and their board. For many students this will be their very first time doing a project and others have completed projects in the past.

We are looking for volunteers to observe students presenting. If you are available either for AM 9:00-12:15 or PM 12:45-3:45 or even if you can pop in for an hour that would be great. If you can make it please e-mail or call me.

The schedule for the day is as follows:

8:45-9:15: Arrive and Continental breakfast in the library

9:15-9:35 Brief Introduction to Judges

9:40-12:00 Students Presentations in Gym

12:00-12:30 Lunch in the Library

12:30-3:50 Student Presentations in Gym Thank you for volunteering this time in our school. Please call or e-mail me with questions or concerns.

Cindy Schreiber Cindy.schreiber@spps.org or 651-744-4430

For Sale, Rent or Wanted

Wanted: Four place airplane, fixed gear, Mid time engine, STC for auto fuel or approved engine and airframe. Also looking for hangar to rent at Lake Elmo. Please call 651-246-8028

Please email newsletters@eaa54.org if you have an aviation related item to sell or looking to buy.



Tailwinds Flying Club Welcomes New Members

Tailwinds Flying Club 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! North side, Fairchild Lane, Hangar 25E. To inquire about membership, please call 612-584-1740 or visit www.tailwinds21d.org.



FROM THE FLIGHT DECK (PRESIDENTS REPORT)

JIM PEARSALL

Weather is alternating between windy and icy sprinkled with generous amounts of low ceilings and visibility. Well, if you cannot fly, might as well learn and a lot of that is happening at our clubhouse. Our, what has become annual, ground school is in full swing, this year organized by the usual suspects; Leif, John Renwick, Paul Rankin and attended by a diverse mix of students. There are many young people with associated moms and dads registered or auditing as members. During the introductions on opening night, there was a theme of using a pilot ticket for more than sport, as a career or as a volunteer.

The theme of the motivation of our students is important to remember, and in fact has been communicated broadly in the context of the airport improvements. Lake Elmo Airport is a place where learning happens. It is ideally suited in many ways for this purpose but as we all know as with anything can be improved.

There is an increasing demand for new pilots. In an item by CNN Money last July, cites a Boeing estimate that 558,000 new pilots are needed in the next 20 years. As the article headline states, that is 28,000 a year. We have, as demonstrated in our ground school interest from young people to help fill that need; the community should provide the facilities to enable them to carry that out.

I have been encouraged by the involvement our chapter has had in communicating to our group and the broader airport community giving feedback regarding the improvements at 21D. From John Renwick's meeting participation and notes to Dale Seitzer's postings on social media and the ideas for outreach we executed on at Aviation Day.

I think we have an opportunity, and see this as a pivotal time to grasp it to advocate for the value of aviation and the need to provide facilities to train the next generation of participants. In a small way, looking at the big picture perhaps but within our grasp, we can move the ball forward with seeing our airport improved.



If you have already provided comments on 21D expansion thank you. If not, please submit written comments via email to Lake_Elmo_Airport_LTCP_Comments@mspmac.org or mail written comments to Neil Ralston, MAC Airport Development, 6040-28th Avenue, Minneapolis MN 55450.

Looks like shoveling may be in my future today, after I get that email to the MAC done. Subject: Airport EXPANSION? Really? How about IMPROVEMENT next time?

CNN Article

<http://money.cnn.com/2015/07/21/news/companies/boeing-pilots-demand/>

Relevant MAC website

<http://metroairports.org/Utility/News-Events/Public-Meeting-Scheduled-for-Lake-Elmo-Airport-Rev.aspx>



Pilot Update



Countdown to 2 Million

It may be hard to believe but this summer we will fly our 2 millionth [Young Eagle](#). This would not be possible without the support of our dedicated EAA volunteers and the financial support of our partners and sponsors. Since 1992 more than 50,000 EAA members have donated their time, talents, and resources support what has become the greatest youth aviation program in the world!



In addition to the volunteer pilots and ground support crew we had great support from the top names in the aviation industry. Phillips 66 has been our presenting sponsor for more than 20 years and also provides a fuel discount to pilots who support the program. Sporty's has been an excellent partner and helped us develop the Young Eagles Flight Plan, which includes free access to the Sporty's Learn to Fly Course. The list goes on Lightspeed, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, ForeFlight, AMA, Global Aerospace, Cessna, and Garmin. Thanks to all who helped introduce a young person to the joy of flight!

Brian O'Lena - Manager, Young Eagles and Eagle Flights

Dine With the Chairman at AirVenture

All pilots who fly at least 10 Young Eagles between January 1 and June 30, 2016, will automatically be entered in a special 2 million program. Three pilots and their guests will sit with our current and past Young Eagles chairman at the Wednesday Young Eagles dinner. In addition, they will each receive weekly AirVenture wristbands and a flight in the Bell 47 over AirVenture 2016.



EAA's Youth Protection Program

As most of you know the EAA Youth Protection Program was rolled out in January. We would like to thank the more than 3,000 volunteers who have completed the program, and we encourage those of you who haven't to complete the program by May 1, 2016.

Feedback received from volunteers has led to some improvements and clarification of the policy. One change is splitting [Young Eagles-specific](#) requirements from the overall EAA policy. This makes it much easier to understand and removed areas that did not pertain to our program. The updated policy and requirements can be found at www.EAA.org/YouthProtection.

International Young Eagles Day Is June 11

Each year the second Saturday of June is set aside as International Young Eagles Day. On this day we ask chapters and Young Eagles pilots to celebrate the program and introduce young people to aviation. Please consider flying on June 11. Chapters should list events on the EAA calendar of events. [Click here to order Young Eagles materials](#).



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