

EAA Chapter 54

Speed Holman Chapter

Volume 42, Issue 3

March 1997

FEBRUARY MEETING

If you missed this one you missed what I presume was a great tour. Based on the above statement you can tell that your President/Editor also missed it.

Bolduc is a name well known and respected in the aviation community for engine work.

GREETINGS FROM ARIZONA

As many of you already know your President/Editor has run away from the snow and cold of Minnesota.

Since February 1 Jane and I have been enjoying the cool 60 days 40 nights, in Florence, AZ. This is our fourth trip here. The last two years we have only stayed for one month. This year, as an experiment, we are staying for two.

So far all is well. Only one trip to an airport, you can ask Gary Miller what I was doing there, which is some what shocking to the system. Had hoped to take in the International Sky Diving Contest, Eloy, AZ but it was so windy I felt if they were jumping it would not be interesting to stand outside in the wind. Eloy is the jump center for the U. S. team.

The slight change in format is due to my using the computer of a friend that lives here in AZ.



MARCH MEETING

ANNUAL BANQUET

Regular meeting night, March 10, 1997

Location — Mancini's Restaurant

Time — 6:00 p.m. Social
7:00 p.m. Dinner

Cost — \$16.00 per person

Please contact Greg Bauer NOW for reservations.
Home 292-9497 Work 690-0615

SPEAKER — Elizabeth Storhfius

Elizabeth Storhfius started flying in 1942, at the Faribault Air strip. A group of men had started a flying club, and owned a 65 h.p. Piper cub. She fell in love with her first flight, and just knew that she had to fly. Elizabeth found the men were very encouraging, and before she became a member, did the book keeping, and in turn was allowed to fly with them. Elizabeth finally became a member of the Sky Club. At that time they all belonged to the Civil Air Patrol.

When she heard about the Women's Airforce wanting women to fly she requested information. Three women from Faribault signed up.

After training in Sweetwater, Texas Elizabeth was sent to Las Vegas Army Air Field. Her mission was to train the gunners. At that field Elizabeth flew the AT 6, P 39, and was co-pilot on the B 26 and B 17.

Chapter 54 in Review

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Dues are \$20.00 per yr.

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This column is the on going review of the history of 54. As previously indicated the first meeting of the chapter was held in the fall of 1957. The charter was received for EAA March 1, 1959.

The following is a special interview with Gil Lieter, 30 year member of Chapter 54, conducted by Rosemary Frank, Chapter Historian and Chair of the 40th Anniversary Committee.

Gil joined Chapter 54 in September of 1966. He remembers this vividly because he was just in time for the election of new officers. Norm Weston was running for president. Gary Worth was to be the Secretary/Treasurer. Chapter 54 was in need of a Vice President and Gill was the choice of the members. (And Steve Ogden though becoming Program Chair upon joining was fast work.) A Vice President, after all, did "Nothing" but fill in in the absence of the President. Great! Gill was in !! Two weeks after the elections, there came a knock on his door and Norm announced he was it!

Dues were \$5.00 a year. Meetings were held at Ward Holidays. There was no newsletter, no programs, no chapter activities.

Under Gill's leadership and with the full help and cooperation of the Chapter members, these things started to occur. A newsletter was sent to members each month. Many, many Chapter activities took place. It was the beginning of mid-month meetings and Chapter 54 picnics in an effort to include the whole family. Chapter members became involved in many projects - their own and each others.

In February of 1969, the meeting place was changed to the Aero Mechanical facilities at the St. Paul downtown Airport. The dues were increased to \$7.50 a year.

In between raising a family with all it's trials and tribulations, (Gil has 3 children, 1 grand daughter) moving to a new home and having to "build a place to build", Gil has spent 30 years building a Stits Playmate. Gil has 100 hours as pilot in command. Gil is taking flying lessons at Lake Elmo Airport to update his certificate. He will be flying the Taylorcraft L-2, owned by the Holman Hobo's of which he is a member, with Dale Rupp when they have that plane completed. One of Gil's sons is active in soaring.

Gil is still an active member of Chapter 54 and EAA. At the present time, he is looking for a hanger at Lake Elmo Airport and wants to devote more time to airplanes and flying.

Gil hopes to have his Stits Playmate on display on June 7th when we have our "Young Eagles" day and Chapter 54 Pig Roast.

A TRIP TO OSHKOSH

BY Rosemary Frank

Gene and Rosemary Frank took off one fine day in a 1972 Ford Maverick that was behaving badly. Destination: The big, bigger, biggest airshow around, the EAA NATIONAL FLY-IN AT OSHKOSH.

First stop, Stevens Point, to spend the night and to meet up with Chuck and Ellen Frank. We crept up little inclines and sped by on flat roads, the knocking engine refusing to cooperate. At Stevens Point the Maverick said "no more" and died. A conference was called. We sold the car for \$100.00 to a junk dealer in Stevens Point, loaded our camping gear into Chuck and Ellen's car (they were staying at Oshkosh for 1 day) and continued on to Oshkosh where we were dumped amid many, many, Chapter 54 campers for the duration of the Fly-In.

How long could we stay and how were we to get home? No problem. Chapter 54 members stick together. We found room in the van with Gerry Laundry and he delivered us right to our doorstep.

COMING EVENTS

1997

March

1-2 Casa Grande AZ - 39th Annual Cactus Fly-In

(Anyone plan on being there. Look for your Pres.)

9 Naples, FL. Chapter 1067 Fly-In Breakfast

(Jack if you go lets have a report)

9 Sebring FL - So FL Seaplane Fly-In

10 Chapter 54 Annual Banquet. Contact Greg Bauer

22 Scottsdale, AZ - Connie Flying Program - Learn about and how to fly a Lockheed Constellation - 602-443-3967

April

7 MN Aviation Hall of Fame banquet

6-12 Sun'n Fun EAA Fly-In, Lakeland, FL

13 Naples, FL. Chapter 1067 Fly-In Breakfast

14 Chapter 54 meeting night

19 St. Paul, MN - 3rd Annual Twin Cities RV Builders Forum.
715-386-1239.

May

3 & 4 Chapter 54 work party to Oshkosh.

3 & 4 Ft. Lauderdale, FL - 1997 Shell Air & Sea Show.
954-527-5600 ext 88.

11 Naples, FL. Chapter 1067 Fly-In Breakfast.

12 Chapter 54 meeting night.

June

9 International Young Eagles Day & Chapter picnic.

8 Manitowoc, WI - Airport Day Breakfast.

July

14 Chapter 54 meeting night.

30 - Aug. 5 Oshkosh WI, 45th Annual EAA Fly-In and Sport Aviation Convention. Wittman Regional Airport. Contact EAA, PO Box 3086, Oshkosh, WI 54903-3086, 414-426-4800.

August

11 Chapter 54 meeting night

September

8 Chapter 54 meeting night

October

13 Chapter 54 meeting night

23 - 25 AOPA Expo '97, Orlando, FL

November

10 Chapter 54 meeting night.

December

8 Chapter 54 meeting night.

1998 ALREADY

FAA

FAA has issued a Final rule, request for comments AD that applies to Cessna Aircraft 100, 200, 300 and 400 series airplanes. This is in regards to any fuel, oil, or hydraulic hose that might have been replaced between March 1995 and February 3, 1997.

If this might affect your aircraft check with either the FAA or your mechanic.

1997 MN SPORT AVIATION CONFERENCE

In yesterday's mail I received a copy of the newsletter published by Chapter 25. From the comments in a column by President Frank Hanish it sounds like your President/Editor missed another successful event.

My non-flying nephew indicated he doped to attend. It will be interesting to hear his reactions.

THANKS to all Chapter 54 members that volunteered their weekend time to represent the chapter and EAA at this event.

