



# The Beacon

The newsletter of Chapter 54  
Lake Elmo, Minn.

SEPTEMBER 2010

## SEPTEMBER 2010

THIS MONTH'S PROGRAM WILL BE ON  
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 2010.

- **SOCIAL HOUR STARTING AT 7:00PM.**
- **MEETING AT 7:30PM, CHAPTER HOUSE, ENTRANCE B, LAKE ELMO AIRPORT. (21D).**
- **AT THE NEXT CHAPTER MEETING:**

CAKE AND ICE CREAM WILL BE SERVED TO CELEBRATE OUR VERY SUCCESSFUL AVIATION DAY HELD ON AUGUST 15. ALL VOLUNTEERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO ATTEND THE MEETING SO THAT WE CAN THANK EVERYONE WHO CONTRIBUTED TIME AND ENERGY TO OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER! JODY GREGG WILL SHARE PHOTOS OF OUR EVENT.

## The Chapter's Aviation Day Fly-In/Breakfast

*Compiled by the Editor*

Sunday, August 15, 2010 was the chapter's annual Fly-In Breakfast now named, AVIAITON DAY. This dawned a beautiful day with the sun shining and comfortable temperatures. The past years were mostly threatened with rain so this year was real important for us to have good weather and we did. Though the field was a little soft in areas off the tarmac it was still available to park the arriving aircraft off the taxiways with a close watch of the grass.

This year we added eggs to our menu and although we had to re-supply occasionally the verdict from the crowds were that it was a nice addition.

All in all the members thought it was a big thumbs up for this year and we await the final numbers soon.

Below are comments and suggestions from some members for even a better fly-in next year. Also most of the pictures came from our website.

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

AVIATION DAY THOUGHTS	1
PRESIDENT'S REPORT	2
CHAPTER DIRECTORY	3
MEETING MINUTES	6
PILOT'S LOUNGE	7
LOCAL FLYING EVENTS	8
WHO'S WHO IN CHAPTER 54	9
YOUNG EAGLES REPORT	10
TAXI TALK	11
QUOTE OF THE MONTH	12



*Continued on Page 4*



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

*BY LEIF ERICKSON*

Aviation Day 2010 is now history. The dust hasn't fully settled yet but the preliminary numbers sound good. We served over 604 breakfasts and had gross income of over \$3,660. That is good news. Preliminary expenses are about \$1,230 so that gives us a net income of over \$2,400. Our Treasurer will have a complete accounting of income and expenses at the September meeting. I would like to extend a big thank you to everyone that helped out.

An Aviation Day follow up meeting was held on Monday, Aug 23. Many excellent suggestions for improving Aviation Day 2011 were introduced and discussed. The highlight of Aviation Day 2010 was the appearance on the three WW I Fokker aircraft from the Vintage Aero Flying Museum in Ft. Lupton, Colorado. The presence of these unique replica airplanes was made possible by Chapter 54 member Mark Holliday. A suggestion was made to give Mark a special acknowledgment for making possible the appearance of these three airplanes.

Art Edlund and Dave Becker will be representing Chapter 54 at the Farnsworth Magic Lunch and Program at the Minnesota Science Museum on August 30. Farnsworth will be celebrating the second consecutive year they are the only junior/middle St. Paul school that made annual yearly progress (AYP) in math and reading. Junior High math proficiency scores at Farnsworth increased by 14% and reading proficiency scores increased by 15% from the previous year. They also achieved an 11% gain in science scores. I'm honored they included us in the celebration.

Tom Gibbons, our newsletter editor, wrote a very complimentary editorial letter to EAA titled "AirVenture to Remember". Tom Poberezny sent a very nice response back to Tom G. thanking him for his comments and insight into the challenges and accomplishments members exhibited by the EAA staff and volunteers at AirVenture 2010. Perhaps we should watch for the article in the next edition of Sport Aviation.

As many of you heard, via the Google group e-mail system, our Chapter laptop computer was reported missing following Aviation Day. After a frantic two-day search it was found, in the chapter house, in a place where it is not normally stored. When it was reported missing, my first thought was that someone had stolen it from Valters hangar as Aviation Day was winding down. That led me to think about club house security and where we keep the computer, on a desk next to the big window. It is easily visible through the window. Bettie Seitzer suggested covering the window with mini blinds to discourage "prying eyes". I think window blinds are a great idea, not only from the security issue but also at certain times of the year sunlight comes through that big window and illuminates our screen making images projected on the screen impossible to see.

Has anyone paid recent attention to the condition of the landscaping around clubhouse? Obviously the shrubbery and grounds need some care. The shrubs are overgrown and the weeds are popping up through the ground cover. At the September meeting I will set a fall clean-up day to get the grounds ready for winter and next summer. I think this should be a "work party" event and not left to Dave Fiebigler and Al Kupferschmidt to take care of.

The pedal plane has arrived from Chapter 486 in Fulton, NY. Chuck Burtch delivered it to Bill Schanks during AirVenture and Bill brought it to St. Paul. It is being transferred to Ed Pfeiffer to complete for Aviation Day 2011.

I've contacted Dale Rupp's family regarding his memorial. Last month Chapter 54 supported purchasing a bronze plaque for Dale on EAA's Memorial Wall. I informed the Rupp family of our actions and asked their input for information on the plaque inscription and a one-page biography of Dale's life and flying career for their Memorial Wall Album. His family will plan to attend the unveiling ceremony at 2011 AirVenture.

Finally, our September 13 meeting will be a Volunteer Recognition event. Bettie is preparing a special program that will include pie and perhaps ice cream. Please invite everyone you know that is not a Chapter 54 member but yet volunteered their services to help make Chapter 54 events successful. This will be our opportunity and duty to say thank you.

Our next Chapter meeting is Monday, September 13. Hope to see everyone there.

Alexandra Roberts  
1283 Kenilworth Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
[Robertsdjbg@aol.com](mailto:Robertsdjbg@aol.com)  
EAA: 1006743

July 2, 2010

EAA Chapter 54  
3275 Manning Avenue North  
Suite 7  
Lake Elmo, MN 55042

Subject: EAA Air Academy, Session 1, July 20-28, 2010

Dear Chapter 54:

You sponsored me to attend the Advanced Air Academy on July 20-28, 2010. Unfortunately, we just learned that my mother has to undergo major surgery and I will be unable to attend the camp.

I have canceled my enrollment at the camp and requested the EAA to refund any payment on my account to Chapter 54. I remember hearing there is a waiting list for this camp. It is my hope that there will be enough time for another person to attend.

I am incredibly disappointed, but my priorities are with my family at this time. Thank you for understanding. I have enclosed a copy of my July 2, 2010 email notifying the EAA of this information for your convenience.

Again, thank you for your kindness and generosity in sponsoring me for this opportunity. I regret that it didn't work out, and I hope it will not discourage you from sponsoring another person to attend the camp in the future.

Sincerely,

Alexandra Roberts

Though this may be hard to read it was worth posting from one of our Air Academy sponsored students. We hope all is fine with her family and that she can attend next year!

- Editor



## Chapter 54 Directory

President  
Leif Erickson  
[president@eaa54.org](mailto:president@eaa54.org)

Vice President  
Bettie Seitzer  
[vicepresident@eaa54.org](mailto:vicepresident@eaa54.org)

Treasurer  
Paul Rankin  
[treasurer@eaa54.org](mailto:treasurer@eaa54.org)

Secretary  
Dale Seitzer  
[secretary@eaa54.org](mailto:secretary@eaa54.org)

Education Director  
Art Edlund  
[education@eaa54.org](mailto:education@eaa54.org)

Events Director  
Tim Reberg  
[events@eaa54.org](mailto:events@eaa54.org)

Housing Director  
Dave Fiebigler  
[housing@eaa54.org](mailto:housing@eaa54.org)

Membership Director  
John Renwick  
[membership@eaa54.org](mailto:membership@eaa54.org)

Young Eagles Director  
Dave Becker  
[youngeagles@eaa54.org](mailto:youngeagles@eaa54.org)

Newsletter Editor  
Tom Gibbons  
[Newsletter@eaa54.org](mailto:Newsletter@eaa54.org)

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 printed on the first Monday of every month. Parts of the newsletter may be reprinted with appropriate credit.

21D RCO: 118.625  
21D Unicom: 122.8  
21D AWOS: 120.075  
TPA: 1932'  
Runways: 4-22 (2497' x 75')  
14-32 (2850' x 75')

## EAA CHAPTER 54 TREASURER'S REPORT

BY PAUL RANKIN

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/MEMBBERSONLY](http://WWW.EAA54.ORG/MEMBBERSONLY)

Editors Note: These great pictures/calendars are pulled from the EAA website, [www.eaa.org/wallpaper](http://www.eaa.org/wallpaper). They can be used for your screen savers!



On behalf of Tim Reberg and myself I would like to sincerely thank everyone, chapter members and non-chapter member volunteers, that participated in today's Aviation Day Pancake Breakfast.

I feel that we achieved our goal of reversing the downward attendance trend we've experienced over the last several years. I don't have official attendance numbers yet but I'm very confident that we exceeded the drive-in and fly-in attendance numbers of the last two years.

Mother Nature's assistance helped greatly by providing nearly perfect morning weather. The break from the heat and humidity was very welcome. Had the winds been lighter, the weather would have been ideal.

A special thanks to everyone that participated in set-up yesterday afternoon. In the heat and humidity everyone worked up a good sweat. Today, the auto parking and aircraft parking crews had a long day in the wind and sun. I'm sure they were pretty drained by noon – particularly from the wind. The cooking and serving crews, working around the hot griddle, appreciated the cooler temperature as well.

Special thanks to Mark Holliday for arranging the appearance of the three WW I airplanes on their return trip to Colorado. I think they were the main outdoor attraction. The real highlight for many was seeing the DR-1 fly. Also, special thanks to the Farnsworth students, their parents, and teachers for volunteering to clean tables. The teacher felt it was a wonderful experience for the students and was very interested in participating again next year.

We'll have a full report on the numbers at a later date. But until then, and big THANK YOU to everyone that helped make Aviation Day 2010 a success.

-Leif Erickson



• This was probably the tenth Chapter 54 Pancake Breakfast I've worked (have been away for a few). My daughter joined me as in most past years. We have always taken food-related jobs. We enjoyed it and at least I will continue volunteering in future years.

My comments and suggestions below apply only to the feeding part of the event. This part is less "sexy" than the aviation part but it is the "expensive part" and is the taste of the event, literally and figuratively, for most who come. There are clearly ways to improve this part of the event, I'll list:

• have a clear "volunteer central" -- we said we'd help with the 2nd shift weeks ago but then as it event neared, I couldn't find out when said 2nd shift started.

• assure adequate food is available -- eggs, sausage,

even butter ran short. Predicting how much to have is impossible but it should be possible to have an arrangement with the supplier to take back unused, unopened, properly chilled product or fined a restaurant that will take excess; Chapter 54 members are major customers of the Lake Elmo restaurant.

- full-price for less-than-full breakfast -- there should be a plan and someone responsible to reduce the price as soon as items become unavailable. I can't help but believe repeat business is lost because of a perception of "poor value" by those denied the full array on offer.
- most important -- have an overall "breakfast manager", clearly identified, who has a list of all jobs and can assign people (we had to search for something to do and stood around idle for too long) and make decisions on the fly, e.g., price reduction, when to start closing table, etc.
- perhaps they already exist, but a "checklist" for each function of what needs to be done, in approximate order, for each element of the whole breakfast would be helpful. This would make it much easier for new people to step in and learn the ropes quickly.

I offer these comments in the spirit of helpfulness. I hope they are taken as such. Unfortunately, I'm not able to get involved in the management of the event.

-Tim Farrell



Continued on Page 5

It was great to see so many families in attendance at this year's Aviation Day! My "Kidventure" table was visited by youngsters ranging in age from 2 to 16; all of them eager to try their hand at making the best ever paper airplane.



This year we had two new books of designs that include some amazing planes – some of them are incredibly difficult but really intriguing. The older kids enjoyed looking through the books and selecting something that they had not tried before. The younger ones were happy making a basic plane, decorating it and test flying it.

I added some great sparkly stickers to my supply; we used them both for decoration and to achieve good weight and balance. Many of the kids got a chance to test fly their planes and then adjust the elevators or nose weight to achieve longer flight, higher flight or aerobatic maneuvers!

We were inside the hangar this year due to the wet ground conditions and the wind on the field. This gave us a great test flight area behind the vendor tables. Next year I would like to be in the same position, and would also like to mark a "test flight" area on the floor. The kids could compete for longest flight, aerobatic flight, and maybe best "paint job". I would need a volunteer (or two) to supervise the test flying and to keep track of results. For prizes I think I could get a bookstore to donate paper airplane books. It would also be great to have an extra helper at the table who could help the younger kids make their planes and to help keep the activity moving.

Most of the student volunteers from Farnsworth got a chance to stop by, I really enjoyed talking with them – bright young children who know a lot about aviation and really love their school. Several of them told me about their trip to Oshkosh (the field trip that we help to fund); without exception they said it was the best thing they had ever done! How gratifying to know that we have been able to help this happen for these kids. The pancake breakfast is a lot of work for everyone, but knowing that the money we earn makes such an impact on a child makes it all worth while!  
- Bettie Seitzer, Kidventure

From the Flight Line perspective I really thought things went good with the crew battling a little issue with the soft grass areas. The many first timers did a great job directing the aircraft and parking them. I hope all enjoyed it. We got together and will tweak it a little for next year.

All around just a great time out there around the aircraft with the nice weather.

-Tom Gibbons



I heard at least 6 groups of people who made a point of thanking us for a wonderful event. Things that need to improve-- we need trash barrels so the recycling barrel can stay for recycling--all we need are inexpensive plastic barrels which we line with trash can liners. We need a larger sign at the entrance to Valters parking lot--this is designated for handicapped parking and Valters Employees only. Volunteers have a designated spot on the other side of the building, a map would be nice too that would define spaces. We had plenty of volunteers parking cars which gave everyone the opportunities for breaks and made the whole parking process very smooth--thanks to everyone who helped.  
-Dale Seitzer

This was a stellar event! Many thanks to you, Tim, and all the other volunteers for a great event. I agree that the crowds seemed to be up, in spite of other competing events. Kudos to all!!!  
-Paul Anderson

Rides... I think we need to formalize some way for people to purchase rides. There are plenty of people that can make that happen in both helicopters and fixed wing. I got many questions about how to get a ride... I realize for kids, we try to promote the Young Eagles program but there is a large population that go to airports for events like this to get a chance at purchasing a ride for a reasonable price.

Other than that, I think things went really well. I really only saw things from the parking lot as I helped park cars. From that perspective, people came happy and left happy.  
-Johan Nielson





## Chapter 54 Meeting Minutes

July 12, 2010

By Dale Seitzer

***Editors Note: Our Chapter Secretary has accepted and started a new job that entails him to travel often during the weekdays but is home during the weekends. So that means he is unable to attend the monthly meetings therefore unable to record the chapter meeting minutes. He mentioned he may be available for Young Eagle flights or other chapter activities during the weekends.***

***So what this means is we are looking for someone willing to take notes for the meeting minutes as a temporary position or even possibly a permanent replacement. So if you are interested in helping out the chapter please contact our President, Leif Erickson with your thoughts.***

EAA Chapter 54 Minutes August, 2010

Leif Erickson, President called the meeting to order. Twenty three people including officers attended the meeting. There was one guest who joined at the meeting, Dennis Wegner is building a RANS and keeps his plane on the Lake Elmo airport. Another guest John Corrigan from Hudson WI, is a student pilot with 16 hours so far. He is looking for networking opportunities.

Chair Reports:

Art Edhlund – Farnsworth school is starting again in September—there will be opportunities to help them out. Farnsworth students helped out at the Aviation Day – very helpful. Ground school is scheduled to begin in February 2011.

Dave Becker – There are several small Young Eagle events scheduled in addition to the large monthly events. There may be more that pop up – stay tuned to the Google Groups Email list for additional opportunities to volunteer as a pilot or ground crew.

Tom Gibbons – Always looking for news and articles about accomplishments or events with member's aviation activities. Thanks to the recent contributors.

John Renwick – Four new members in July, total 141 paid in full members. All are getting email notifications. John re-affirmed that members must join the Google Groups to get all the club information quickly and efficiently. He always sends an invitation when members join or re-new their memberships.

The program for the evening was a review of Oshkosh AirVenture from the member's point of view. Paul Rankin presented a detailed slide show of his experience with the Bamboo Bomber getting in and out of Oshkosh. Tom Gibbons reported from his point of view, ground operations in the Warbirds area. Jeff Hove also had a slide show of new and interesting aviation products he saw during the show.

Much fewer planes flew in because the grounds were so wet there was no place to park the planes. The camp grounds were also too wet for motor homes and campers - they stayed in large store parking lots around the city.

Something new included a night time air show. In spite of the weather the attendance overall was just slightly lower than last year.

Business meeting:

Treasurers Report was approved unanimously.

Secretaries Report / Minutes were also approved unanimously.

A new Secretary is needed for the remainder of the term (September – December) because Dale Seitzer has accepted a job which will prevent him from performing the duties. Someone may volunteer, several may agree to help or the President can assign someone to fill the role until elections.

Dale Rupp Memorial Discussion:

The EAA Memorial Wall will include the name and date for \$350, A quarter brick at the Brown Arch is also \$350. We also discussed some other options, questions were answered and the issue was put for a vote – the vote was unanimous for the EAA Memorial Wall – Leif indicated it would be done before AirVenture next year.

2011 Chapter Banquet:

We must consider alternatives to the banquet – new ideas are welcomed. We need to form a committee to consider the choices for an annual social activity for members.

2011 Officer and Directors:

Nominating committee members needed.

## Pilots Lounge

**Tailwinds Flying Partnership**, based at Lake Elmo Airport, has new membership openings available. Visit [www.tailwinds21d.org](http://www.tailwinds21d.org) for more information.

We are a partnership of 38 pilots and own three Piper aircraft. Our goal and philosophy are to fly great airplanes inexpensively. We strive for consistency in equipment among our three airplanes. To inquire about membership, please send an e-mail to Mark or call 651-982-6275.



---

## For Sale

1,100 lb Mini-size Electric Rope Hoist, 110 V AC, 12 A, 1 ¾ hp, \$75. I planned to use it to raise and lower a hangar door but changed my mind. Contact Leif Erickson @ 651-439-5040 or [lericks@presenter.com](mailto:lericks@presenter.com).

---

## SLSA Flying Club Forming...

Chapter 54 member Jim Pearsall is organizing a SLSA Flying Club at Lake Elmo, 21D.

### 21D SLSA FLYING CLUB FORMING

Looking for people

Then will find an airplane

Organizing  
Jim Pearsall

Phone: 651-494-4579  
E-mail: [pjpearsall@gmail.com](mailto:pjpearsall@gmail.com)



Contact him with your questions.

---

## For Sale:

60' x 48' Hanger, 54' door, small office, bathroom, well, holding tank, natural gas heat, 18' high ceiling, and 5HP compressor.  
Asking \$80,000.00 or best offer.

1967 Cessna 182C, 2518 Total time. Very good older airplane. Call for details.  
Flies straight and true.  
Asking \$50,500 or best offer.....

2006 CT-SW Light Sport with about 200 hours Total time. Has everything on it.  
Asking \$90,000.00.

Call Jim Michalski at 612-618-1011 or see all of this at 13C Alfa Lane at the Lake Elmo Airport (21D)  
E-mail is [Jmkreps@comcast.net](mailto:Jmkreps@comcast.net) .

# L o c a l E v e n t s

Compiled by Paul Hove (Chapter 54 Member)

The event dates and locations listed here come from a variety of sources. There may be changes, cancellations or editing mistakes. Please call ahead to verify that the event is taking place as scheduled

## September

September 4 2010, 7:30 to 11:30, Shell Lake WI Town and County Days Flight Breakfast, , Shell Lake Municipal Airport,(KSSQ), Flight breakfast – pancakes, sausage, juices coffee or milk. \$5.00 adults, kids 5 & under free , Niel Petersen, 952-935-3598, daneth1@earthlink.net

September 4 2010, 8:00 to 16:00, Council Bluffs IA Great Plains Wing Museum open house, , Council Bluffs Municipal Airport,(KCBF), Great Plains Wing Museum open house. 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Fly-in breakfast. 8 a.m. – 11 a.m. Pilots in command free, Dale Standley, 712-366-3505, dales51503@cox.net

September 5 2010, 9:30 to 13:0, Mondovi WI Log Cabin Airport Annual Fly In, , Mondovi Grass Strip,( ), Lunch at Noon, Doug Ward, 715-287-4205, logcabinairport@tcc.coop

September 5 2010, 10:00 to 16:00, Willmar Aviation Day, , Willmar Municipal Airport,(KBDH), Willmar Aviation Day SEPT 5th 11-3 Hot dogs and fixings free will doanation. Aircraft on display, fly-by's starting at 1:00PM: Classic cars, Motorcycles, many other events., Pat Curry, 320-235-9327, pncurry@en-tel.net

September 10 2010, 6:30 to 20:00, South Saint Paul MN CAF Vintage Fashion Show, www.cafmn.org, South Saint Paul Municipal Airport,(KSGS), Minnesota Wing Hangar. Hangar #3 Fleming Field, 310 Airport Road, South St. Paul, MN 55075 Tickets are \$20.00 in advance or \$25.00 at the door. Tickets include the wine tasting, vintage clothing show, and trunk show. , , 651-455-6942, wingleader@cafmn.org

September 11 2010, 7:00 to 12:00, Superior WI Pancake Breakfast & Young Eagle Flights, www.eaa272.org/, Richard I. Bong Airport, (KSUW), Pancake Breakfast & Young Eagle Flights., , ,

September 11 2010, 12:00 to , Bowstring MN Monthly EAA Chapter 1446 Fly-In Lunch, , Bowstring Airport,(9Y0), No charge lunch served beginning 12:00 Noon. Beautiful, well cared for grass strip. This is a monthly event, the 2nd Saturday each month., Gene Ward, 218-743-6175,

September 11 2010, 8:00 to 1:00, Osceola WI Wings and Wheels Fly-In, , Osceola Municipal Airport,(KOEO), Pancake breakfast and burger & brat lunch. Airplanes on display and transportation to classic car show and craft show., Jeffery Meyer, 715-294-5622,

September 12 2010, 11:30 to 14:00, Maple Lake MN EAA Chapter 878 & Wright Aero Pork Chop Dinner Fly-In , , Maple Lake Municipal Airport,(KMGG), Pork Chop Dinner Fly-In , Wayne Flury, 763-670-6021, wflury@wh-link.net

September 12 2010, 7:00 to 13:00, New Ulm MN 37th Annual Fly-in Pancake Breakfast Sponsored by the Lions Club, , New Ulm Municipal Airport,(KULM), Fly-in Pancake Breakfast , , ,

September 12 2010, 8:00 to 12:00, Flying Cloud MN Irene Lev Memorial Fly-In/Drive-In Pancake Breakfast, , Flying Cloud Airport,(KFCM), Chris Cakes Serving Pancakes & Sausage! Adults \$8.00, Children Under 12, \$5.00 Proceeds from breakfast go into a scholarship fund for her son and other future aviators., Jessica Miller , 320-296-5200 ,

September 18 2010, 7:00 to 12:00, Faribault MN Fly-in Breakfast Sponsored by Faribault Area Pilot's Assn, www.faribaultareapilotsassoc.webs.com/, Faribault Municipal Airport,(KFBL), Pancakes, Eggs, Sausage, Juice Milk, Coffee. PIC Eats Free , Bob or Linda Peasley, 507-744-5111,

September 18 2010, 20:00 to , South Saint Paul MN Bombers Moon Ball , www.cafmn.org/, South Saint Paul Municipal Airport,(KSGS), Saturday, September 18, 2010. 8:00 PM (Doors Open 6:00 PM). Donation: \$10.00 (adult), \$ (child) Minnesota Wing Hangar. Hangar #3 Fleming Field. 310 Airport Road. South St. Paul MN 55075, , 651-455-6942,

September 18 2010, 8:00 to 12:00, Grand Rapids Fly-in Breakfast Sponsored by EAA , , Grand Rapids Airport,(KGPZ), Fly-in Breakfast Sponsored by EAA , , ,

September 19 2010, 8:00 to 13:00, Thief River Falls Fly-in Breakfast, , Thief River Falls Regional Airport,(KTVF), Thief River Falls Fly-in Breakfast PIC's free, , 218-681-5585,

September 19 2010, 7:30 to 12:30, Hector MN 68th Annual Flight Breakfast Sponsored by Hector Lions, , Hector Municipal Airport,(1D6), CTAF 122.8 All you can eat. Pilots eat free. Warbirds, Classics, Antiques, Homebuilts, Helicopters, Ultralights & New Production Aircraft on Display. Ping Pong Ball drop with prizes for Kids. , Ed Newberg , 320-848-2745 , www.airnav.com/airport/1D6

September 19 2010, 10:00 to 14:00, Mora MN Fly-in/Drive-in Chili Feed, , Mora Municipal Airport,(KJMR), Chili Feed PICs eat free, Dan Halsey, 320-679-3515.

# Who's Who in Chapter 54

Name: **Hugh Sontag**

EAA #: **752486**

Occupation: **Software Engineer. I have an Internet-based business selling backup software for Macintosh computers.**

What aircraft are you building? **I have a Titan Tornado II, which was built by a chiropractor in Nevada. I flew it home from Minden-Tahoe airport in October 2004.**

If you could fly any aircraft, what would it be? **I'd have an Arion Lightning if I got a different airplane. I'm also thinking about an electric ultralight, but the batteries need to have twice the energy density.**

Fun aviation story;

Who is an inspiration to you in aviation?

What person/s in aviation would you like to have lunch with?

Describe your first airplane ride: **I don't remember ever having a ride in a small airplane as a kid. I just decided in college that I'd like to get my pilot's license. I was attending Purdue University in Electrical Engineering, and I could take an elective course that resulted in a private pilot license in one semester. The extra fee was \$600.00. I talked to my father about it, and he offered to pay half.**

**I took the course and passed the check ride in May 1973. I flew rental airplanes for three years, but stopped because airplanes were expensive. I started a Vari-Eze in college but sold it when our first son was born. I didn't think I'd finish it, and I couldn't afford the \$16,000 it took to complete it.**

**In 2004, a long-time friend called me up and asked if I'd like to go to Oshkosh with him. He and I do things together when our schedules allow, so I said I'd keep him company.**

**The first day at Oshkosh, I shadowed him as he visited as many manufacturers of the equipment in his two airplanes as he could. My feet hurt from standing on concrete all day long.**

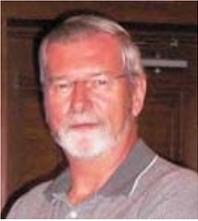
**The second day, I told him I'd meet him late afternoon. I went walking the flight line and found myself touring the ultralight area, daydreaming about what kind of airplane I'd have if I got one. I'd always threatened to build an airplane again when I retired.**

**That was August. By September I took 6 hours of instruction to get current and passed my flight review. Then I started shopping for an airplane, and settled on my Tornado II.**

**It took me two weeks to fly it home from Nevada, due to weather.**

**I've really enjoyed the Tornado. I think it's the most bang for the buck for an airplane that can go cross-country, and yet is good on grass fields.**

What is your favorite airplane to fly? **My Tornado. I've been to Sun & Fun in Florida, to Colorado, Ohio, along with Oshkosh since I got the airplane. I like to go cross-country to places I've never been, with camping gear in the back of the airplane.**



# Young Eagles Report by Dave Becker



Our chapter completed two Young Eagle events during August for a total of 33 kids flown. Each of those kids left with the great feeling of experiencing the joy of flight and learning a bit about airplanes. We now have only two regularly scheduled events remaining for the year. Each of these events will have a few more kids than normal due to some of the earlier events that were weathered out for us.



Our revised procedures for running our Young Eagle events are working out great. Pilots are happy that all spectators are behind the fence line now and the streamlined registration table layout is working good.



Saturday, September 18. They plan to fly about twenty kids on their first event.

Our Young Eagle events are scheduled every second Saturday of each month from May through October starting at 9:00 a.m. Parents should pre-register their children for an event ahead of time by going to [www.eaa54.org](http://www.eaa54.org) and clicking on the Young Eagles page to sign up for a flight. To view the many great Young Eagle photos, go to: <http://www.eaa54.org/YEPhotoGallery/YEGallery.html>

If you would like to become actively involved in our Young Eagles program, contact Dave Becker or come to Lake Elmo on the second Saturday of the month and see what Young Eagles is all about. You can also indicate on your yearly chapter renewal form that you want to be involved with our Young Eagles Program.





**TAXI TALK**  
*{Interesting happenings compiled by the editor}*

**September we celebrate Labor Day so may the fruits of all your hard work help you to gain air under your wings and enjoy the many wonders and beauty of flight.**

**More from AirVenture '10...**

I thought I would still talk about this years AirVenture as it is still in my mind as one of my more interesting times I have attended. As I said last month the rain and the wet conditions made it interesting but still the show went on and many things happened. One of the neat things that happened was American Airlines, whom I work for, sent in a 737-800 to fly World War II veterans to Washington D.C. on what was called the Honor Flight. Well, when I heard about it before the show via the EAA website, no information on AA's website, I started e-mailing and calling people to see if I could assist

in any way. I worked with our people and EAA to help it go smooth. When I arrived on the convention grounds I met with the Aero-Shell ground handling people to coordinate the operations. They were tuff to work with at first but they slowly gained my trust and I got to park the aircraft on that Wednesday morning, which was exactly three years when I Dad passed away, so it was extra special. We hooked up a tow bar and towed the aircraft nose to nose with the AA DC-3 that was already there as you can see in the picture. I helped with the static display all day and secured the aircraft after the flight crew left. It was a very neat day and I met a neat World War II veteran who had flown C-47s in the China/Burma theater. It was interesting to talk with him and just the way he was it reminded me of my Dad. Just one of the neat things that can happen at Oshkosh!



Of course the Honor Flight was really neat to work with and I shook all 80 veterans hands when they left and when they came back! Priceless!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Contact Information for Newsletter Stories**

**Thomas J. Gibbons**  
**2685 Manning Avenue North**  
**Lake Elmo, Minnesota 55042-9690**  
**Phone # 651-777-5887**

**E-Mail: [newsletter@eaa54.org](mailto:newsletter@eaa54.org)**



EAA CHAPTER 54  
3275 MANNING AVE. N. SUITE #7  
LAKE ELMO, MN 55042

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**Whenever we talk about a pilot who has been killed in a flying accident, we should all keep one thing in mind. He called upon the sum of all his knowledge and made a judgment. He believed in it so strongly that he knowingly bet his life on it. that his judgment was faulty is a tragedy, not stupidity. Every instructor, supervisor and contemporary who ever spoke to him had an opportunity to influence his judgment, so a little bit of all of us goes with every pilot we lose."**

*- Unknown author but submitted by member Alan Kuperschmidt*