



The Maple Lake Flyer

a newsletter of Chapter 878
Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA)
Maple Lake, Minnesota

February, 2012

EAA CHAPTER 878 MEETING NOTICE

Saturday, Feb. 11, 9:30 a.m. at West Metro Aviation, Buffalo Airport

Agenda for February Meeting:

- General business and planning ahead for our April pancake breakfast.
- Establish date for Chapter 878 Fly-In
- Brian Holte, mechanic for West Metro Aviation, will discuss the various services available at West Metro and talk about some of the unique aircraft he has worked on. Brian also flies the Pitts S-2C aircraft to some of the air shows so Mike Wiskus can provide media and publicity rides as part of his Lucas Oil air show performances. Brian will also discuss what it takes to maintain an air show aircraft and keep it "show ready." Note: coffee and water provided.

The hangar for West Metro is easily spotted by their sign on the airport entrance side of the building, to the right as you drive into the parking lot. Depending upon other activities that day, you can park in the lot and enter through the personnel door on the northwest corner, or drive around to the front side of the hangar.

THE PRES SEZ

President:
Joe Simmon

January proved to be one of the warmest here in Florida for several years. Minnesota wasn't too bad either from what I have read.

I have my plane tied down in a "shade" hangar at a grass strip in the town of Mimauma, about twenty minutes from where I live. One would assume that the town was named after an Indian but, as the story goes, it was named after an early settler's three daughters, Mimi, Maude and Marie. The airport is privately owned by the family of a crop duster who was something of a local legend. McCraw was a 12,000-hour pilot, A&P, and experimental aircraft builder. He was killed in a freak accident while crop dusting in Wisconsin when he lost power in his helicopter. He auto-gyrated the copter and landed safely. When he exited the copter, a strut gave way allowing the rotor to swing around and hit him in the head, killing him instantly.

Usually, one thinks that an airport would deteriorate and disappear when the owner is no longer around, but the family has kept it vibrant. There is a Bob Leader type mechanic (named Bob) on the field, as well as a ferry tank building company. So there is no shortage of people hanging around telling airplane stories.

The February meeting should prove to be a good one. Wayne has lined up Brian Holte to give a presentation at West Metro Aviation in Buffalo.

I have tentatively lined up two speakers of the FAASTeam, from the Minneapolis Flight Standards Office for our March meeting. They will talk about Light Sport Safety and airworthiness recommendations. While the central focus will be on light sport, all the information can be directly correlated to all aviation. I recommended that we open the meeting to the public through some posters and/or local advertising as a means of attracting new members to the chapter. The FAASTeam will gladly send out postcards and e-mails to attract more participation.

The April pancake breakfast will be here before we know it. I will be missing the activities over the next several months, but hope that all of you can make it to each of the meetings.

**MINUTES OF
MEETING,
Oct. 12, 2011**

Secretary:
Wayne Flury

12 members, two guests and our featured speaker and were present for the January 14 EAA Chapter 878 meeting, held in the hangar of Glen and Elaine Morrow. The meeting was called to order by Vice-President Glen Morrow.

The Treasurer’s Report was presented by Dick Burns (see report at the end of these minutes) and was approved. The Secretary’s Report consisted only of photos and descriptions of the Christmas Party, as presented in the newsletter. All agreed that it was a good time!

Glen Morrow relayed the thanks of Elaine Morrow for chapter assistance with the Tree of Hope toy collection and distribution project. See a “thank you” note elsewhere in this newsletter that Elaine received from Hennepin County Medical Center.

The chapter will hold our annual “pancake breakfast” for chapter members, friends, family and prospective members at our April meeting (we had traditionally had it in March, but moved it to April last year to take advantage of hopefully warmer weather).

Glen noted that due to his schedule and illness, he had not been able to conduct Young Eagles flights for the youngsters that signed up at our September fly-in. If any other member can step up for these flights, please see Glen.

Fred Jude noted that he planned to visit the American Champion factory the following week (he is working on his rebuild project) and would make a report at a subsequent meeting.

In the absence of President Joe Simmon, Wayne Flury distributed the EAA Service Awards (a Chapter Service Award certificate and a corresponding lapel pin):

President	Joe Simmon	Membership Coordinator	Joe Simmon
Vice President	Glen Morrow	Newsletter Editor	Wayne Flury
Treasurer	Dick Burns	Web Editor	Elaine Morrow
Secretary	Wayne Flury	Young Eagles Coordinator	Glen Morrow

At the conclusion of the general meeting, Jason Erickson conducted a review and discussion of aviation weather. Jason is a flight instructor based at Princeton, MN.

Monthly Treasurer’s Report by Dick Burns: (for November)			
Opening Balance			\$4408.01
Income:	City of Maple Lake	<u>\$ 310.00</u>	
	Total	\$ 310.00	
Expenses:	Bank Fee	\$ 2.00	
	Mini-Biff	\$ 175.42	
	Tree of Hope	\$ 450.00	
	Jason Erickson	<u>\$ 60.00</u>	
	Total:	\$ 687.42	
Ending Balance			\$4030.59

Monthly Treasurer’s Report by Dick Burns: (for December)			
Opening Balance			\$4030.59
Income:	Total		\$ 0.00
Expenses:	Bank Fee	\$ 2.00	
	Mini-Biff	<u>\$ 85.43</u>	
	Total:	\$ 87.43	
Ending Balance			\$3943.16

**EAA
CHAPTER
878 PORK
CHOP
DINNER FLY-
IN**

Wayne Flury

Noted as one of the “agenda” items is the objective of setting a date for our fly-in. First though we need to determine if we want to have a fly-in in 2012 and if we continue with the pork chop dinner, as well as the date. Though our traditional fly-in date is not until September, it’s time to start doing “calendar of events” publicity contacts now.

AVBITS

by Wayne Flury

In an effort to hopefully add value and interest to EAA Chapter 878 membership, I have previously sent a couple of emails to EAA Chapter 878 members only. The first was information and links to sites about the EAA staff cuts, plus a story about a successful emergency landing at Princeton, MN by a student pilot on his second solo; the second email was some promotional information about the "Red Tails" movie.

I hope to continue with these messages of aviation general interest items on an unscheduled basis. As noted, they will be sent only to chapter members (and, regrettably, only to members with an email account!!) and not to the much larger email group to whom I send the newsletter. For lack of a better title I will be calling these messages "AvBits" (think of "tidbits" with an aviation focus). If you have a story or link or message of interest that is more appropriate for a quick message service such as this than the newsletter, let me and I'll send it out.

TREE OF HOPE STORY

The following is a letter dated January 10, 2012, received by Elaine Morrow from a staff person at Hennepin County Medical Center. This truly gives meaning to the work of the Tree of Hope.

"Dear Elaine and Everyone with Tree of Hope,"

"Another Christmas has come and gone and once again the Tree of Hope has come through with toys and gifts for our patients here at HCMC. We received a very nice variety of toys that spanned the age groups and allowed us to find just the right gift for every child. We got the toys early enough that we were able to start giving them away a few weeks before Christmas. That was ideal as our census dropped right on Christmas and not many children had to be here over the holiday."

"Elaine, you asked me to report on how the books with the CDs were received. I can tell you that the response was very positive. One little boy in the burn unit did not have family with him all the time and the story on CD was a nice way to span those lonely moments. The books were so beautiful and I loved giving them away."

"I always like to give you one story of how the Tree of Hope made a difference. This year was especially touching. We got a call from one of our adult ICUs about a family that was here. The father had been critically injured in an accident. His wife and their 7 year old son were spending Christmas at his bedside. The ICU nurses wanted to know if there was anything we could do to make this Christmas a little brighter for the child. Our pediatric nurses put together a bag of toys from the Tree of Hope collection and brought it to the family. The mother was so overwhelmed with this show of compassion that she burst into tears as she accepted the gifts. The ICU nurse called our unit later to say that the child had been playing with the toys all day and having a great time. Although no gifts can take away the pain of a seriously ill or injured parent, the ripple effect of those gifts can be truly amazing. Having something else to focus on and play with can make the pain of the injured father and separation from home more bearable for a child. When a mom sees her child occupied she feels she is meeting her child's needs and it gives her a break so she can focus on her husband. The nurses can feel good about being able to provide some tangible support and comfort to a family when sometimes they feel helpless in the face of life's tragedies. It reminds me of the movie 'It's a Wonderful Life.' One life or act of kindness can touch so many other lives without you even being aware of the impact you are making."

"This is what the Tree of Hope provides for our patients and their families every year. Thank you so much for remembering us and allowing us to participate in this simple act of kindness. Without you it would be very difficult to brighten the holidays of our children here at HCMC."

"On behalf of all our staff, patients and families, thank you and may you all have a Happy New Year."

**EAA
CHAPTER
878 and
MAPLE LAKE
FLYER INFO**

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Meetings are normally held at 7:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month (except for the winter months of January – April when we meet on Saturday mornings) in the offices of Wright Aero, at the airport, Maple Lake, MN.

Dues are \$25 per year.

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**THE
FUNNIES**

by Wayne Flury



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