



President's Corner -February 2008

Hello again and welcome to the throws of winter. Today's wind chill index was somewhere in the -30 degree range with high winds and blowing snow. Just makes you want to rush right out there and jump in the plane for a local flight doesn't it? My son tells me that the planes were really flying today down in Daytona Beach Florida at Embry Riddle University ... sunny and 70 something.

I have been so preoccupied with the renovation of our family house in Negaunee and the cottage at Bass Lake that I haven't even been near my beloved Comanche this month. Hopefully I will be able to at least run it up soon and get the oil circulating through the engine. I'm sure I'm not the only one putting flying on hold since I listen to my scanner daily and haven't heard many of you flying.

Assuming that we will be returning to seasonable temperatures sometime this week we will be having our monthly meeting and potluck chili feed this Saturday at Dan Benstrom's camp from 11am - 1pm. Lynn Sykes will be appending a notice to this newsletter with the details.

EAA hosted its yearly ski-plane fly-in at Pioneer airport in Oshkosh recently to celebrate Audrey Poberezny's birthday and I understand that only one ski plane managed to sneak in under the weather. I guess their winter isn't much better than ours. Speaking of EAA, they will be launching their much touted online Fly-in calendar to the membership later this month. Nearly all of the chapters are currently posting their events to this schedule which can be easily accessed from the EAA website. This should make it easier to find the local area events. I have posted this Saturday's meeting on the site and will follow up with our upcoming events as we firm up the dates.

One topic of discussion at last month's meeting was to put together some interesting events and fly-outs for the coming year. Many interesting possibilities were put on the table and we are in the process of following up on several of these. If you have any ideas of what you would like the chapter to pursue please call one of our officers or board members so we can get it on the schedule.

I will ask each of our Technical Representatives to contribute an article (or presentation) of interest to our monthly newsletter or meetings this year.

Please come out and participate in our mid-winter chili feed this Saturday and "hang with the gang"! Of course this also extends to your Significant Other as we are striving to make our special events as family oriented as possible!

Ted Kirkpatrick

The January 2008 meeting was called to order by Ted Kirkpatrick at 10:15AM with 9 members present.

As Ted emptied out a briefcase of what turned out to be important papers which had been long overlooked, the secretary's report was read and accepted.

Treasurer's report for December was read and accepted. A report of \$ 1959.80 was reported to be in the chapter coffers. It was reported that we now have 25 paid up members.

Old Business:

The Christmas party was discussed. The Wayne Moilenan family and volunteers who set up the Legion Hall were thanked. The party was a success, with a more informal atmosphere tried this year.

A discussion of how to attract new members was held with many ideas brought forward. It was also brought up that we need articles for the newsletter. These could be stories of flight adventures, technical articles from our technical advisors or any other writings.

The chapter will also be looking for events of either social or educational, such as Sport Pilot presentation, tower visit, NMU presentations, Etc.

The proposed 401C3 paperwork was discussed and a rough draft for presentation is now in the works. Thanks Fred Joyal.

New Business:

There will be a chili feed at Dan Benstrom's camp on Martin Lake Road planned for our next meeting on Feb. 16th. Members are asked to bring chili or ingredients to be added to a pot on site. Beverages will be provided, except alcoholic ones. If you want those, please bring your own.

Lynn will be sending out directions and there will be signs on the entry road.

There being no further business other than hanger flying, the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM.