



## President's Corner

The start of the New Year brings with it the anticipation of another flying season and all the aviation activities that allow us to gather together in celebration of our sport. Upcoming events such as the Great Lakes International Aviation Conference in Novi give pilots the opportunity to attend educational forums on a myriad of topics including avionics, weather, aircraft maintenance and search and rescue. Pioneer Airport in Oshkosh hosts the annual ski plane fly-in on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January and has become a popular event for both ski-plane owners as well as those of us with “perma-wheels”. It is also a great place to go if you like chili and are looking for an alternative to the \$100 hamburger.

Turnout was good for our annual chapter winter party which was a great success. We had an added bonus of entertainment in the form of a live Cello ensemble which performed following the meal. Our thanks to Don Garlick for again coordinating the event and to Kathy Moilanen for arranging the entertainment! This year we added a silent auction to the night's festivities thanks in part to a generous donation of items from Jules Larsson. The auction was a big hit and exceeded our profit expectations.

As I mentioned in last months column, we have put together a plan to enhance our monthly meetings by having a special event or guest speaker at each meeting. We begin this Saturday with a presentation by Mr. Bob Shimanek on owner performed aircraft maintenance and record keeping requirements. Bob as many of you know was a partner in an FBO and is very knowledgeable on this subject. Please join us this Saturday morning at 10:00 am in the Boreal Aviation Conference Room and learn about your responsibilities as an aircraft owner.

For those of you who are early risers, an impromptu breakfast gathering is held beginning at 8:30am at the Crossroads Bar in Sands.

Visit our website at [www.EAA850.org](http://www.EAA850.org)

Stay Warm!

Ted Kirkpatrick