



The Leader In Recreational Aviation

EAA Chapter 850 Newsletter
February 2007
President's Corner

While we're definitely in the deepest throws of winter as witnessed by the nearly three week stretch of sub-zero nights, one must stop and take notice of all the subtle changes taking place. For those of us living in the central U.P., the extended period of sunny days has been a welcome change from the persistent cloud cover of the past few months. The clear fresh air and increasing daylight hours help to invigorate us and raise our hopes of an early spring.

Lynn and I recently traveled to Oshkosh for the annual ski-plane fly-in at Pioneer Airport. As we walked from plane to plane my mind traveled back to my younger years and the treasured memories of my Father and I landing our ski-plane on Bass Lake in Gwinn to spend the weekend at our cottage on the lake. As I stop to think about it, I find that many of my fondest memories of special times spent with friends and family have revolved around the use of an airplane.

In my recent newsletter I mentioned that our chapter has put together an agenda for special events at each of our monthly meetings. We began in January with a guest speaker, Mr. Bob Shimanek who spoke to us about the maintenance and record keeping of our aircraft. Bob's presentation was well received and helped to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining accurate maintenance records. At our February meeting, we will be showing the DVD of AirVenture 2006.

I have spoken with Wayne Moilanen and he has extended an invitation to again use his facility to continue our work on the P-51 pedal plane. We will discuss this issue at next Saturday's meeting and try to organize another work session to complete this project. Hopefully, our weather will give us a break and we can progress on this project. We will also discuss the grant money from Sawyer Airport to help us defray costs of our upcoming Air academy day and other events. I have recently received a follow-up phone call from Cheryl at the Sawyer Airport office reminding us that this money must be used prior to September.

If you have not as yet paid your 2007 chapter dues please contact Fred Joyal (226-6749) to be considered a current member. We rely on the money generated from our modest yearly dues (\$15) to pay for chapter operating costs and to help fund the many fine events we have planned for 2007. Don't procrastinate, call Fred today!

Our chapter Board of Directors will meet sometime in late February or early March to discuss and finalize our spring and summer events. I will be calling you all shortly to determine a time and place.

Visit our website at www.EAA850.org

Happy Flying!

Ted Kirkpatrick