



President's Corner - June 2007

Hi friends,

There are so many weekend events and special activities' going on at this time of year that it's hard to keep track of them all. It wasn't so long ago that I would neglect all other priorities (including work) in order to participate in any fly-in event within a three hour flight radius of Marquette. This year has been much different for us due to our frequent travels. I am writing this month's article from Florida where we have just helped our son move to his new home after graduating from Wayne State Medical School in Detroit. He is beginning a three year residency in Daytona Beach. We were rewarded on our arrival in Daytona by the launch of the spaceship Atlantis which blasted into the sky right before our eyes! It's just not possible to describe to anyone, you just have to see it to experience the sense of awe.

The Sawyer Experience Airshow is rapidly approaching and it proves to be a great show. For those of you who may not have heard, Clay Dacy Airshows has been hired as the main performers and will arrive with a full complement of airshow acts. Tentative plans include a "Parade of Flight" which will consist of local pilots making "low approaches" in a fly-by fashion. We will let you know of the times and procedures when we have met with the shows' air boss. There will be significant airspace restrictions both Saturday, June 23rd and Sunday, June 24th so be sure and check before starting your engines. We will also be able to display our aircraft in the show so get out to your hangar with a bucket and sponge and clean off the bird!

Our chapter board of directors met recently to discuss upcoming events and recommended that the Chapter Air Academy should be postponed until August 18th. With all the activities of the June Airshow we would not have ample time to complete necessary elements of the Academy day so we felt it wise to postpone. Please contact me if you wish to discuss the issue or have any further suggestions.

AirVenture 2007 is always the greatest show on earth but this year our chapter will be more involved than ever! We have always been an integral part of the volunteer ranks but this year we have even more chapter volunteers. Wherever you go on Whitman Field you may see a Chapter 850 volunteer. Whether it's in the Warbird area, Young Eagle pavilion, Flight Line, Tech Center, Information Station, Member Village, Museum or Trams, we will be there.

We will again have a chapter party at AirVenture and we will announce the date and time as soon as everyone's schedules are determined.

This month's chapter meeting will be held in the Boreal Aviation Conference room at Sawyer International Airport on Saturday, June 16th at 10:00am. The breakfast bunch will probably meet as usual at the Crossroads restaurant at 9am.

Hope to see you all there!

Ted Kirkpatrick