



## President's Corner - July 2007

I would like to start off this month by thanking those chapter 850 members who volunteered their time at the Sawyer Experience Airshow in June. For all of you who attended I'm sure you will agree with me that it was a great success despite the lower than expected attendance numbers. The performers put on a very professional show which made me feel like we had brought a bit of AirVenture to the U.P. The appearance of the B2 bomber reinforced that feeling. Many of our members were busy registering and flying Young Eagles and we managed to give 88 youngsters a Young Eagle flight while working around the airspace closures. I spent a good deal of time talking to individuals in the crowd and only heard favorable comments.

As I write this article I am in the final stages of travel preparations for AirVenture 2007. Our motorhome is fully packed with canopy, chairs, grill and all the other "necessities" we have come to expect in the campground. We will be located exactly where we were last year which was, I believe, the corner of Lindbergh and 54<sup>th</sup> (give or take a row). If you are unsure of where that is, stop by the camper locator building and ask for the Kirkpatrick's and they will be able to steer you in the right direction. Our chapter meeting/party is scheduled for Thursday evening, July 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00 pm. We will be having a potluck cookout featuring hamburgers, hotdogs and possibly brats. If your taste for steak is more to your liking, feel free to bring your own and you can cook it on the Weber. We will again be asking that you bring a dish to share if able or we will ask for a donation of \$5 to cover the cost of meats, condiments, serving ware and other incidentals. We will have limited seating available but please bring a chair if you have one. Hope you can include this event in your Oshkosh schedule!

Plans for the Chapter 850 Air Academy have been set for Saturday, August 18<sup>th</sup> and we have much to do in preparation. To date we have five children signed up and our newly formed committee will be soliciting to fill an additional 7 slots. We will have a planning meeting following Oshkosh AirVenture to make final preparations. We need as many of our Young Eagle pilots as possible to fly each of our participants to Iron Mountain and back (weather permitting). We also need volunteers to help in the other areas. Please call Greg Durand (906-249-4586) or myself (906-361-6196) if you wish to help out during the day. Greg will be putting together an agenda in the near future. Greg has also put in an order for specialty polo shirts for the participants and volunteers. The money to support this event has come to us as a generous donation from Sawyer Airport.

Looking forward to seeing each of you at AirVenture! Please stop by the Young Eagles Pavilion which is located just south of the (original) control tower. Lynn (K.) and I will be working there throughout the convention. If you have been a Young Eagles volunteer for our chapter you have already received a large grey and white post card in the mail from EAA. Remember to bring this card with you and drop it off at the YE pavilion for a chance to win our daily drawing.

Take care and have a safe trip to Oshkosh!

Ted Kirkpatrick,  
President