

EAA CHAPTER 1128

Two Harbors Helgeson Airport

www.1128.eaachapter.org

Two otters are cavorting in the water in front of my window. They are not really large but about the same size and just the two. I think we may have a new nesting pair, how cool! Spring is happening at the airport as well and the possibilities are unlimited. Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, May 3rd, 6:30 p.m.** Volunteers for the booth at Oshkosh will assemble at 5:30. Please consider joining the team.

LAST MEETING

We started early to talk about the Oshkosh project. Seth has been leading this effort and he filled us in on the progress. Funding has been secured and the booth reserved. The backdrop and table will be borrowed from the county. A camper and the campsite are ready. A few more volunteers to man the booth are needed to fill out the schedule.

At 6:30 we adjourned to Mike's hangar for the regular meeting which was not regular at all. In what may become an occasional treat we all enjoyed Movie Night. First Mike conducted a little chapter business passing around the member roster for updates and EAA member numbers. He reminded us that we could (should) get name tags and perhaps chapter hats. The hats might even be sold at the pancake breakfast for a little extra income. Then he told a joke somewhere between a thigh-slapper and a groaner before firing up the DVD player for our first viewing. We watched selected parts of an AOPA video that was produced by Bill Amorde's daughter. The Sean Tucker scenes were especially thrilling. Next on the bill was some vintage WWII footage including the launch of the Doolittle Raid on Tokyo. To lighten the mood Mike cued up the attempted aviation scene from the animated Madagascar II and we all fell off our chairs laughing. There were several new faces in the group once again, I hope they keep coming.

341

1. Duluth's chapter 272 has two Young Eagles events on their calendar and I'm sure our help would be appreciated. On Saturday, May 5th the Duluth Aviation Institute will deliver the promised airplane rides to the top students in their Path to Aviation program. The fun starts at 9:00 a m at Sky Harbor airport. Then on Saturday, June 9th they will be flying boy scouts from their hangar at Superior airport. This one starts at 8:00 a m and they hope to be done by noon. Another fun event 272 members do every year is the Oshkosh work party. On a weekend in May they plane-pool to OSH to help prepare the grounds for Airventure. Headquarters provides beds and meals and a behind-the-scenes tour of the Museum in exchange for your unskilled labor. I did it a couple of times, it's fun!
2. Chapter 1221 in Cloquet has a couple of fun fly-outs coming up. On May 12 they will make a 'Sunrise Run to Remer' starting at 6:00 a m for breakfast in beautiful downtown Remer. Then on May 19th the St. Louis River Spectacular will start at a much more civilized 9:30 a m for an aerial tour of the river followed by breakfast at Bong. The chapter meetings switch to Sunday evenings in the summer and their next one is May 13th at 7:00 p m at the Cloquet airport. I also read in their newsletter that 'Miracle on the Hudson' first officer Jeff Skiles will be addressing our three chapters some time in the near future. Cool

ETC

You may have noticed a new sign at the airport proclaiming EAA Chapter 1128 as an official airport sponsor, (adopter?) Our members have stepped up efforts to keep this beautiful facility beautiful, clean and welcoming and the sign is in recognition of that commitment. Let's keep it up!

The Heritage Days Fly-in is just a couple of meetings away so start thinking about how you can pitch in to make our premier event the best it can be.

I have been logging some fabulous flight hours with Miss Chaos this spring. She still takes my breath away. I can't believe it has been ten years since she earned her airworthiness certificate, we're still on the honeymoon. What's really hard to believe is that my two hands assembled the thousands of parts and pieces that make up the whole. And the whole is so much more than the sum of her parts. Pete Townsend sang, "One and one don't make two, one and one make one." and so it is with us. When we are together I'm not operating a machine, I am living man's oldest dream where thought becomes motion and the cold laws of science fade away. The heavens are my playground and bend to my whim. The joy I feel is beyond pride or ego, it's just pure elation. Everyone should be so lucky if only once.

As if that wasn't enough, another angel waits to transport my body and spirit to the skies. I unfolded Fifi's wings today for the first time in months and I swear I heard her sigh. It was a little too chilly and gusty to accept her invitation to the dance but she is ready to go when the time is right. And it will be soon.

I know I'm preaching to the choir here but if you have the slightest inclination to join me and my girls in the river of air that flows around us all please jump right in. You won't be sorry.

.....Happy Landings!.....