

# EAA CHAPTER 1128

## Two Harbors Helgeson Airport

[www.1128.eaachapter.org](http://www.1128.eaachapter.org)

It's a little chilly at the lake tonight or should I say at the rink? My girls are tucked safely away from the wind and snow in their hangars waiting for spring. They are high on my list of things to be thankful for. I hope your list is as long as mine. Our December meeting will coincide with the annual **Christmas Symposium on Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>** at the **American Legion on First Avenue** in beautiful downtown **Two Harbors**. Doors open at 5:00 and meetings will start at 6:00. This is the 32<sup>nd</sup> annual party Dick has organized for his airport and his many friends. Let's all be there for him.

### LAST MEETING

We were back at the comfy high school community room for our November gathering. Seth had a video of Yves 'Jet Man' Rossy playing as we filed in. Mike was attending the Rocket Races down in Texas so Seth guided the meeting. The first order of business was the treasurer's report and Bill reported \$2007.93 in our account. Seth said bills would be mailed for chapter dues in order to ease the collecting and accounting.

The next order of business was the chapter officer and board member elections. Seth had taken the time to create printed ballots and played a video of tributes to Paul Poberezny while we voted for officers. Ron Blum took over the treasury duties while Mike and Engine retained their posts. A video of Sean D. Tucker promoting the Young Eagles program ran while we voted for board members. Bud Gorman, Dan Murphy and Mike Shannon were elected.

Seth opened discussion about our next kids project by reviewing our progress so far and covering potential funding for future efforts. Many good ideas were put forth but no firm agenda was established. An update on the Airport Commission was given by Seth and the members appreciated being kept in the loop about projects at the airport.

There was much discussion about the recent incident at Skydive Superior and after a lot of trying Seth was able to retrieve videos from the web. Petty dramatic viewing!

The new chapter T-shirts were in (also enabled by Seth) so we collected our orders and ponied up the cash. Another good meeting.

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Chapter 272 members led by Jim Nelson retrieved Aeronca Sedan parts and pieces from Oshkosh to begin their build-a-plane project. They hope to mentor school kids and I'm sure they could use some help from some of us older kids. If you would like to get involved in this noble pursuit contact Jim at [jnelson@eaa272.org](mailto:jnelson@eaa272.org) or phone him at 218-343-0176.

Mike Hongisto from chapter 1221 is looking for ice thickness reports to facilitate their busy fly-out schedule. Those guys will fly anywhere, anytime but they always do it safely. They have a Christmas party planned for December 10<sup>th</sup> at Blackwoods in Proctor.

### ETC.

Miss Chaos got the weight off of her wheels only once in November but it was a fun flight. We have over ten years of experience dancing together and we're still learning about each other. A GPS

track of our little adventures looks like an Etch-a-Sketch scribble. Straight and level seems to be outside of our capabilities. The FAA definition of aerobatic flight is rather conservative, I think it's more than 15 degrees of pitch and 60 degrees of bank but we cross that line before we leave the pattern. I don't do anything really radical without a mile of air underneath me but Miss Chaos is frisky at any altitude and that's why I love her.

On this November day there was a pretty good haze hanging down low but the sky was blue. Leaving the pattern towards the big lake I yanked her up into the first stall of the day and confirmed the airspeed indicator's recent reticence to display an accurate reading. Coming from the ultralight world I don't pay a lot of attention to instruments but if I've got them I like to know if I can trust them. When the nose dropped the needle was frozen on 70 mph and I laughed out loud. Oh well, that's one less distraction from the dance. I get all the information I need from the pure physical contact between us and it makes me feel that we two are one.

We reached the lake shore with a couple thousand feet to burn so I lit the match. Yanking and banking and jerking 3 plus G's we tossed the horizon around the windscreen and I couldn't stop grinning. Every few minutes I burned a level 360 to scan for traffic. This is a popular corridor for general aviation traffic and I have seen Air Guard C-130s tearing through this very airspace. That's a blender I do not wish to jump into.

By the time we had danced from Knife River to the ore docks my stomach started to complain. I was befuddled, motion sickness is completely foreign to me. Perhaps it was the haze obscuring the horizon or something I had for lunch but suddenly I became a boring straight and level devotee. I was never in jeopardy of tossing my cookies and by the time we called downwind for runway 15 I couldn't resist a knife edge entry. Lining up our final approach with a healthy crosswind the joy surged back into my veins and Miss Chaos kissed the grass right where I asked her to.

Every time I leave the planet I liberate my soul from the tyranny of gravity and explore dimensions most people cannot comprehend. It's pure magic to me and a balky instrument or an unsettled stomach will never stop me from waving that wand.

My wish for you in this season of holidays is that you wake the wizard within yourself and see the world as the magical realm it truly is.

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