



VOLUME LII

OCTOBER 2014

NO 2



PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS

We've had some beautiful flying weather here in Northeast Ohio this fall. My flying companion Dr. Myron "Ron" Bodman and I have had many opportunities to exercise the privileges granted us by the FAA. We're both hoping for an opportunity to log some more actual IFR before the low icing season arrives

In the last newsletter I extended thanks and gave a brief synopsis of the 2014 Convention. Here is a brief preview of the 2015 Convention. Plan on flying or driving into Des Moines on Monday, July 6 for the Convention hosted by Gene Murray on July 7 and 8. Departures will begin early on Thursday, July 9

Recently Ron and I conducted our annual flying trip. It's hard for me to get weekend help

so we schedule our trip during the annual missionary appeal. This arrangement works well since Ron has office hours during the week.

We departed Medina Muni (1G5) and flew non-stop to Frederick, Maryland (KFDK), the home of AOPA. The point of the trip was a tour of the National Air and Space Museum at Dulles Airport. This should be on the "bucket list" of any pilot. In addition to a beautiful SR-71 Blackbird, the Space Shuttle Discovery and Superfortress Enola Gay there are hundreds of aviation and space artifacts on display as well as thousands of smaller articles.

The flight to and from Frederick was interesting. Rather than take a "Direct To" route we took an airway route that kept us busy with navigational chores. It was fun tracking the VORs and trying to lead our turns as perfectly as possible. We had a nice tail wind and got from Medina to Frederick in 2.5 hours but due to head winds we logged 3 hours on the return trip.

N6172D flew very well on the flight both ways. Fortunately the autopilot decided to become inoperative after we got home.

Sincerely,

Allen Corrigan / N6172D
1G5 (Medina Muni, Ohio)
acorrigan@email.com
<http://www.saintvictorparish.org>



Fr. Tom Geelan, retired and living in Ruthven, IA died on September 26, 2014. Tom was diagnosed with cancer over a year ago and it was cancer that took his life.

Tom was NAPP president from 1993 – 1997. It was not too long after his term expired that Tom was diagnosed with a brain tumor. Surgery removed the tumor but it left him with some physical impairment. He lost his medical but that did not prevent him from making it to most NAPP gatherings until this year.

REQUEST IN PACE

I try to keep the on-line NAPP Directory up-to-date. All new or changing addresses are always there as well as the necrology listings. If you are trying to contact a member be sure to check the on-line directory for the very latest..

The **ALASKAN SHEPHERD**, diocesan paper of the Diocese of Fairbanks, Alaska

has an interesting article about a Nebraska couple and the donation of their Cessna 182 to the Diocese. NAPP member, Fr. Jim Falsey, flew the plane to Fairbanks. We have more of this story in the **BRIEFS** section.

The usual NAPP DUES reminder is included for those who have not paid their 2015 dues. Thanks in advance for your continued support.

The Fall Midwest Regional gathering was a wonderful time once again. It is now time to continue looking forward to the gatherings that lie ahead next year.

*The National Association of
PRIEST PILOTS Convention*

**JULY 7 – 8, 2015
DES MOINES, IOWA**

(See page in the newsletter that has the preliminary information for the Convention).

*2015 Midwest
Regional Meeting*

HAYS, KANSAS

APRIL 27, 2015

HOST: Al Werth

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

REV. MEL HEMANN
127 Kaspand Place
Cedar Falls, IA 50613-1683
319-230-4957

email: N298MH@cfu.net





*BRIEFS FROM
HERE AND
THERE*

Flying to the Finish Line!



The Cedar Falls H.S. Women's Cross Country wanted a different shot for their Fall poster. My plane served as a good background for the 58 gals and their coach. *(Courtesy of Latin Photography)*

Hi Fr. Mel,
Nice to hear from you again. I am on a long holiday on Vancouver Island where my twin brother lives. They have a little church without a priest and it is where I live. I was to our new bishop, Most Rev Gary Gordon of Victoria BS, and when I told him that I am a member of a

group of priest pilots, he asked me to get in touch with members of the organization and ask any interested members to get in touch with him because he needs priest-pilots for the North West Territories and the Yukon. His E-mail is cynthiabw@rcdvictoria.org. He is interesting to talk to.

Fr. Joe Burg

Nick Rossello sent the following with his dues
Dear Mel,

Just a short note to say “hello” and best regards to one and all.

I’m sorry I couldn’t make our celebration of 50 years of our NAPP. I had an opportunity to come with George Gratton. However, at the time I was still wearing the brace for my neck. It was my neck that I fractured.. It is just now I have some left and right movement of my neck. I’m still not driving – not safe for me.

I enjoy our newsletter and it was good to see so many showed.

So God bless and best regards to all.
Yours in Christ.

Nick

Jerrie Mock dies at 88

One of the honored guests at the 1964 initial NAPP convention in Carrollton, KY was Geraldine “Jerrie” Mock. On March 19, 1964 at age 38 Jerrie left Port Columbus, OH in an 11 year old Cessna 180 for a solo trip around the world. 29 days later, on April 17, 1964 she arrived back in Columbus, the first woman to fly solo around the world.

Jerrie never received much publicity for her round the world trip. President Kennedy had been assassinated only a few months before, the Beatles had just arrived in America, and the Vietnam conflict was heating up.

Her mechanic in Columbus said, “Amelia Earhart was lost, and that was news. Jerrie Mock wasn’t lost, and that wasn’t news.”

In 1969 Jerrie ferried a Cessna 206 to some of the NAPP priest pilots in New Guinea. NAPP bought the commercial ticket for her ride home.

Jerrie was retired, living in Quincy, FL. She died in her sleep at age 88. A relative living with her found her in bed around noon on Tuesday, September 30, 2014.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE

*The following is excerpted from the
ALASKAN SHEPHERD, diocese of Fairbanks, AK
September-October 2014*

NAPP member Fr. Jim Falsey, diocese of Saginaw, MI, served as a volunteer pilot-priest in the Diocese of Fairbanks from 1990 to 1998 at which time he returned to his diocese of Saginaw. After his retirement, Jim returned to Fairbanks in July 2013 where he is once again providing assistance in a diocese that is twice the size of the state of Texas. The following is part of a story in *The ALASKAN SHEPHERD*.

In February Ralph Holzfast of Paxton, NE called the Shepherd office with a request to speak to Archbishop Schwietz, O.M.I. of Anchorage. The final consequence of the calls was that Ralph wanted to donate their Cessna 182 to the Diocese of Fairbanks. Having lost his medical he and his wife decided rather than sell the plane they would donate it to the diocese.

In July Fr. Jim traveled to Nebraska and flew the Holzfast Cessna 182 Skylane, a four-seater, single-engine airplane to its new home in Fairbanks, Alaska. Of the new plane Fr. Jim wrote: “*The 182 is still a 4 seat plane like the 172 but it is larger. It has a 230 HP engine, instead of 145 HP, and it has a constant speed prop as opposed to a fixed pitch prop, it’s a much smoother ride. The 182 will give me the ability to transport more people and more food and save the diocese some money when used in that capacity.*”

When Fr. Jim returned to Alaska in 2013 he took over keeping the aging 172 he sold the diocese upon his departure 15 years earlier. His duties, beyond getting the Mass and Sacraments to the people of Northern Alaska, include that of “freighting” out necessary supplies to the villages. His cargo frequently comprises items like: tools, small equipment, building and maintenance supplies. Occasionally, he also ferries other priests or brothers to and from their assignments. And, Father takes advantage of every inch of space and every pound of the available 400 pounds (after deducting people and fuel weight) that the Cessna 172 can carry. Still, the airplane has aged and gets more difficult and costly to upkeep with each maintenance visit and each replaced part. The Diocese is now fortunate to have a full-time priest pilot, an unpaid one at that! And a newer and better airplane capable of handling the additional capabilities Fr. Jim wrote about.

Ralph and his wife, Beverly, decided to fly to Fairbanks and make the official transfer in person. They arrived in Fairbanks on July 14th and the transfer occurred at a special dinner.

MIDWEST REGIONAL MEET

September 29, 2014

Cherokee (KCKP) Iowa

Around 10:00 they began gathering in Arrows, Archers, Comanche, Cardinals, Prius, Chryslers, Fords and Toyotas. For those who flew it was a beautiful morning for the journey only to discover at the end nature would provide an opportunity to hone their pilot proficiency due to scattered low level clouds requiring an instrument approach. Could one ask for more?

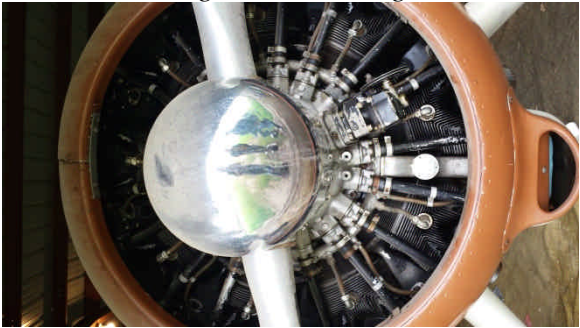
In attendance were NAPP members Phil Gibbs, John Hemann, Mel Hemann, John Herzog, Bob Lacey, Bill Menzel, Gene Murray, Phil Schmitt, Al Werth and John Wolesky. Associate members Jim Kiernan, Mike Makelbust, P.J. McDonald and Paul Murray completed the number gathered.

The first item on the agenda was a visit to several hangars to view a couple of vintage aircraft. Wonderful aircraft but unfortunately wonderfully neglected.

*A vintage
Stinson*



The engine does look good



Following lunch we drove about 12 miles to Marcus, Iowa, the retirement residence of host Gene Murray, for several interesting and informative presentations from two local residents.

Larry Rapagneni, after 23 years of active duty in the Air Force retired to Marcus, the home town of his bride. Many of his active duty years were spent at Edwards Air Force Base where he was a *propulsion flight test* engineer. His power point presentation of some of the aircraft he worked on, coupled with his oral explanation of his work, made the minutes fly by... perhaps not at the speed of jets Larry worked on... but it flew.

Chuck Sands, *CEO of Sands Seed Service*, followed with a short history of the Seed business begun by his ancestors and how they continue to this day providing exemplary high performance soy bean seeds. He shared with us some of the "behind the scenes" activity involved in the production and sale of quality seed growers rely on to continue feeding the world. Visitation by the presenters at a wake brought their program to a close.

A brief business meeting followed at which Al Werth of Hays, KS agreed to host the 2015 Spring meeting on April 27th.

Put it on the calendar.

AND



AWAY WE GO

We finished the morning by crossing the street for a fine luncheon at Danny's Sports Bar and Grill.

Fr. Mel,

Fr. Gene and I talked about the 2015 convention being held here in Des Moines. We are thumbs up on this here and can set aside rooms in the Priest Pilots room block at \$89.00 plus tax per night. You can choose either a Standard room with two (2) Queen beds with fridge and microwave OR a One bedroom King Suite with sofa sleeper which features a king bed in a separate bedroom with TV, a living room with a 2nd TV, fridge, microwave and wet bar. Both room types are available at the \$89 rate. Complimentary meeting room for all days and a free, hot breakfast each morning. Attendees can call in anytime now to make their individual reservations and can arrive either Sunday or Monday, whatever they want to do depending on their travel schedule and weather. The address and phone numbers are listed below to reach the hotel and if you have any questions feel free to reach out to me anytime. I am looking forward to hosting NAPP. Not sure if you heard or not but I am the very, very happy and proud owner of Fr. Ed's Super Cruiser and am flying the heck out of it now.

Take care,

Tom

TOM MURRAY, CHA
General Manager



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Main: 515.223.9254 | Direct: 515.457.3602 | Fax: 515.223.9327 Email:

tmurray@csmlcorp.net

www.countryinns.com/cliveia

www.csmlcorp.net

Connect with us on



PRELIMINARY CONVENTION INFORMATION

Convention Dates: July 7 – 8, 2015

Location: Des Moines, Iowa

Airport: Flyins: Ankeny (KIKV)

Commercial: Des Moines (KDSM)

Host: Gene Murray and Friends (712) 261-1246

Additional information will follow in future newsletters. Meanwhile, get it on the calendar.

**2015
DUES NOTICE FOR NEW FISCAL YEAR**

*If you have not paid your current NAPP dues
we ask that you complete the form below
and mail it with your check to:*

**REV. MEL HEMANN
127 KASPEND PL
CEDAR FALLS, IA 50613-1683**

*Any questions contact me at
319-230-4957
Or
n298mh@cfu.net*

**ANOTHER OPTION:
Pay on line via**

PayPal

N.A.P.P. DUES -- U.S. \$25.00

Please fill out this form! Make check payable in U.S. Dollars to N.A.P.P., Inc.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ **STATE** _____ **ZIP** _____

Email _____

Type of Member: _____ Charter _____ Regular _____ Associate