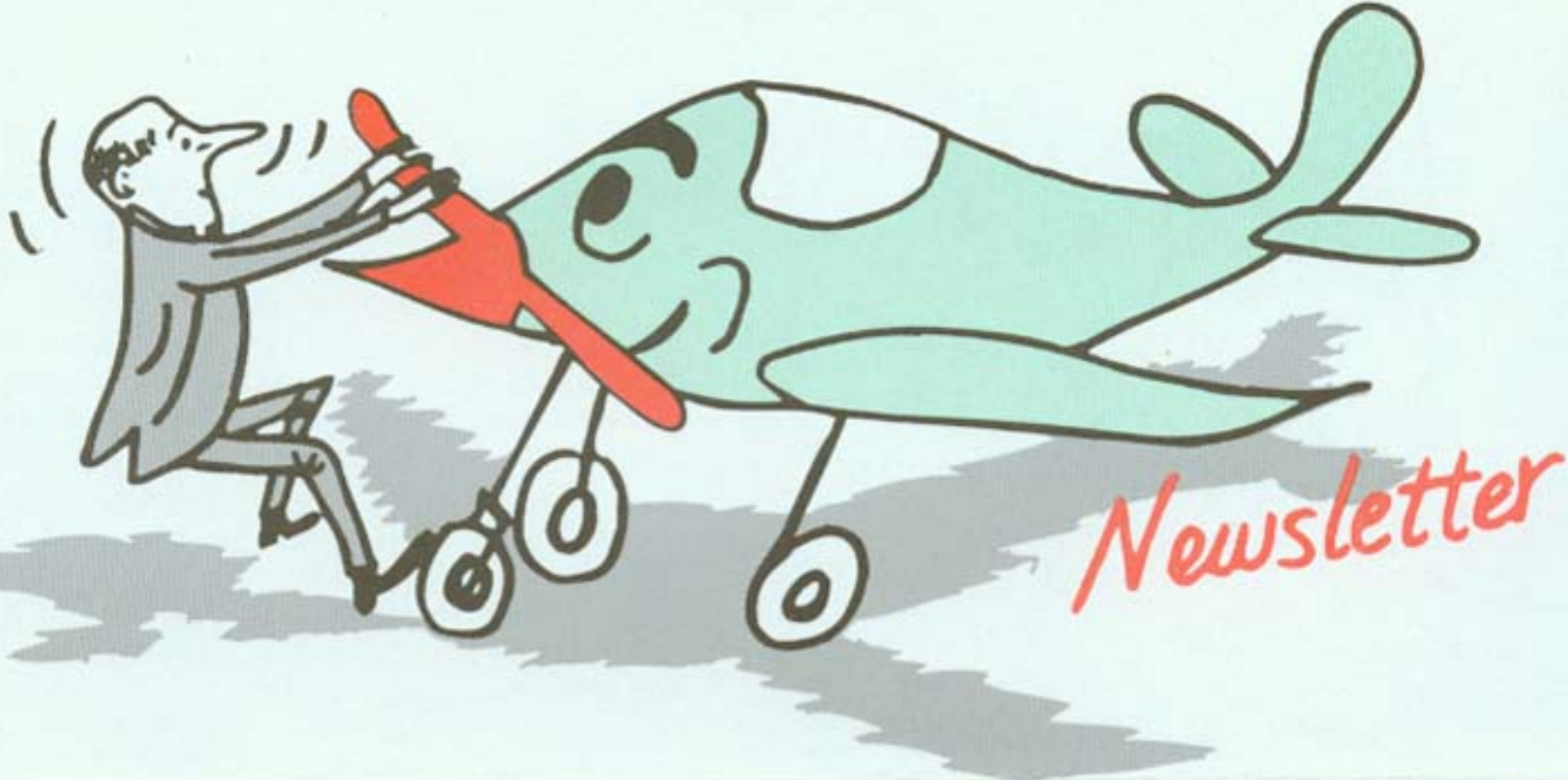


N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XXXVII AUGUST 1999 NO. 1



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I enjoyed being with you at the convention in Dayton. Many of you were regulars, but there were some new faces. I hope you enjoyed it as I did. A special thanks to the members who set up the convention for us.

I assume everyone returned home safely and planning for next year's convention in Anchorage, Alaska, with Archbishop Frank Hurley and Fr. Jim Kelley hosting it. The date for next year is Wednesday and Thursday, July 12 and 13.

I hope you are enjoying the summer and getting in some flying. By the time the

newsletter comes out the summer probably will be over with. Our last hurrah here in Phillipsburg, Kansas is our rodeo. We claim to have the largest rodeo in Kansas.

As pilots I am sure you all followed the unfolding of J.F.K. Jr's tragedy. It has always struck me how weather conditions at a particular time can really bite you and a few minutes either way would be a non-factor. Anyway it was a real tragedy that didn't have to happen.

I encourage you to help bring in new members. If you know of a potential member give him a brochure and let Mel know. We would like to include them in our newsletter mailing.

I heard this on the air going into Salina, Kansas. Tower: "Cessna One Two Three Four cleared to land runway 17." Cessna 234: "Tower, are the the light on?" Tower: "They're coming up now." Cessna 234: "They'd better hurry, or I'll have to go around. (pause) Okay, I can see them better now." Tower: "Yeah, they're slow; we'll give 'em some Viagra next time."

SAFE FLYING

ae

Al Werth



In this issue you'll find the following:

1. The minutes from the 1999 meeting.
2. Those in attendance at the 1999 meeting also have the 1998 minutes enclosed. When I returned home I found them so I thought you may as well have them for your files.
3. The NAPP annual financial report.
4. Pictures from the 1999 convention.
5. The reservation form for the September 27 Midwest Regional at the SAC museum. This will be the only notice you will receive. Because of transportation arrangements it is imperative that you get the reservation form to John no later than the deadline listed.
6. The unfortunate story of Fr. Leo Walsh's father and his untimely death.
7. Reprint on Fr. Denis Kitenge from the St. Petersburg Times.

The membership voted in Dayton that this year's \$1,000 contribution be given to Fr. Denis Kitenge from the Democratic Republic of Congo. Getting in touch with Denis set off a chain reaction. I received an Email message from a Jim McPherson, a member of Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Dunedin, FL, where Fr.

Denis is assigned. As a parish they are in the process of developing a strategy to assist Denis in getting a plane, parts, etc. He asked for help and suggestions. I told him about Wings of Hope in St. Louis and a few thoughts on what they might think of regarding a plane for Denis's needs. I also took the liberty of giving him Pat Patten's Tanzania address as I felt Pat would be the only one in our membership most in touch with what Denis has ahead of him. (Hope you don't mind Pat).

Jim is a reporter for the St. Petersburg Times and obtained permission for me to reproduce an article they did on Denis a couple of weeks ago. I've put that in the Briefs section. It's nice to know something more about Denis. If any of you want to personally contribute to his needs they will be happy to receive it at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, 750 San Salvador Dr. Dunedin, FL 34698

Phone: 727-733-3606 Fax: 727-733-8305
Make checks payable to: **OLL Plane Fund**

The annual dues time is once again upon us. Dues envelopes are enclosed with this mailing for those who were unable to attend this year's convention. The dues remain the same - \$20 U.S. Please return as soon as possible. Your dues payment enables NAPP to continue in its own small way support for our brother priests, such as Fr. Denis. As always, if you are unable to pay the \$20, we are most happy to continue keeping you on the mailing list, compliments of NAPP.

REMINDERS

September 27, 1999 - Midwest Regional
SAC Museum - Millard Airport (MLE)

July 12-13, 2000 - 37th Annual Meeting
Anchorage, Alaska

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



REV. MEL HEMANN

127 Kaspand Place

Cedar Falls, IA 50613-1683

319-266-3889

EMAIL: DBQMHEMANN@impresso.com

NAPP MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING

Monday, September 27, 1999

Strategic Air Command Museum

Open 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. daily

The other side of this registration form is a letter from SAC with particulars about our gathering. Following a few particulars for our group.

FLY-INS

Millard Airport (MLE)

About 20 miles from the Museum.

No transportation available. Arrange ahead of time.

Once reservations are received we'll try to arrange transportation

PLEASE NOTE: It is important that you fill in the form below and have it to John by the deadline. We will leave Millard Airport at 10:15 to meet the 11:00 AM tour deadline.

REGISTRATION FORM

Needed by Thursday, Sept 23

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ EMAIL _____

ARRIVAL BY:

Plane _____ #Number _____

Arrange ride to Museum: (Y) _____ (N) _____

Car _____ I can pick up flyers (Y) _____ (N) _____

Number of passengers _____

Mail to:

John W. Hemann
515-923-2329

660 Bush Ave.

Garner, IA 50438-1513

E-mail: DBQ088@impresso.com



Strategic Air Command Museum

A 21st Century Aerospace Museum

July 27, 1999

Mr. John Herman
National Association of Priest Pilots
660 Bush Avenue
Garner, IA 50438-1513

Dear Mr. Herman:

This letter is to confirm that National Association of Priest Pilots has been scheduled for a tour at the Strategic Air Command Museum. Your guided tour is scheduled for Monday, September 27, 1999 at 11:00 am. Your reservation is for 40 adults.

Museum Admission

The cost of admission will be \$5.00 per person. Please remember the group rate applies only to groups with a minimum of 20 people. Also, please have all money gathered and make your group payment in one lump sum at your time of arrival.

Arrival Information

On time arrival is important. Any groups arriving after their scheduled time are not guaranteed a full museum tour. Groups arriving more than 15 minutes late are not guaranteed a tour guide due to other scheduling commitments the guide may have.

Groups arriving in buses should disembark in front of the museum. The buses should then park in the bus and truck area of the parking lot. Upon arrival, please report to the Admissions Desk and make your group payment in one lump sum. Ask the Guest Services Associate for assistance if you have a special need.

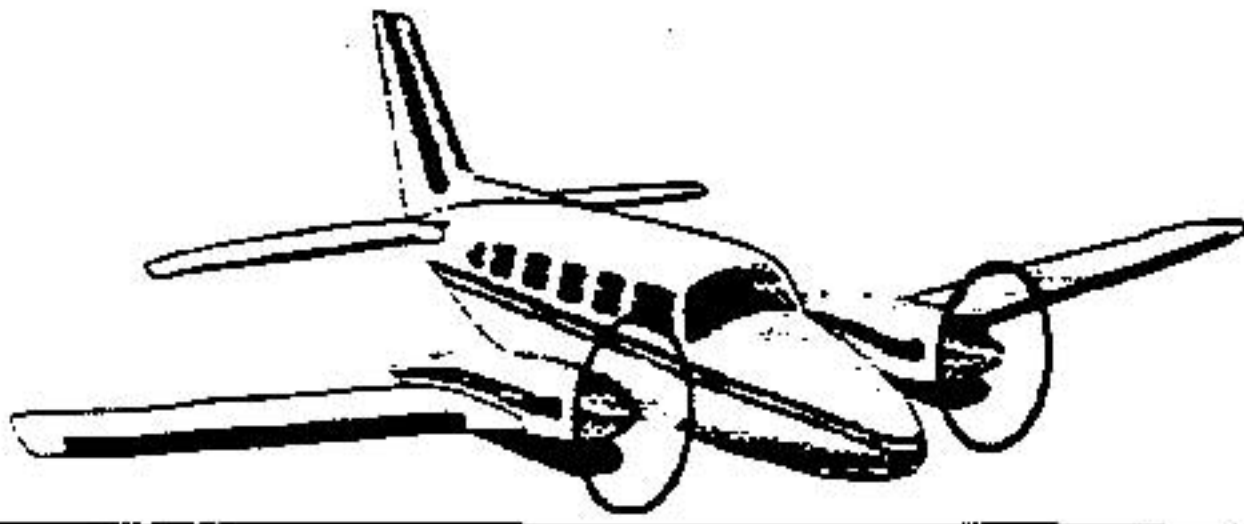
Road Construction

Due to road construction along I-80 near Greenwood, you will need to allow extra travel time as traffic may be restricted to one lane each direction through the construction zone. Exit 426 will remain open during all phases of construction. The anticipated start date for the project is April 5, 1999 with an anticipated completion date of October 29, 1999. Work will not be allowed from 2:00 pm on Friday through Monday morning and on holidays. All lanes will be open to traffic from May 29 through July 5, 1999.

If you have any questions regarding this information or if you need to make any changes to your reservation, please contact Toni at (800) 358-5029 extension 221. We look forward to seeing you on your visit.

Thank you,

Antonia Krajicek
Tour Coordinator



BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

PRIEST HOPES HIS MISSION HELPS COUNTRY TAKE FLIGHT

By NIRVI SHAH

Father Denis Kitenge is learning to fly airplanes, a skill he plans to take back to Africa.

In the jungle of the Democratic Republic of Congo, one man had a vision, a vision that could improve the lives of an entire region of his country.

About three years ago, young Father Denis Kitenge came to Florida on a mission like none other his church had tried before. His job: learn to fly a plane.

"I came from a jungle area," Kitenge said. "Communication is hard. In order to reach people and teach them, you need to travel, use an airplane as a little tool."

Roads in Kitenge's village are hardly that. Photographs show muddy pathways through dense vegetation and trees used as bridges.

"There are many people who are dying just for an aspirin. You have Lodja (a larger town nearby) with doctors and nurses. How can you get there?" Kitenge said. "By doing this, we might be able to help a lot, not just Catholics, but everyone."

Kitenge, 35, the third of 12 children, speaks French and three African dialects. But he spoke no English when he began his studies, so he studied that, too, with the help of a local literacy program. In late December 1996, with \$2,000 in his pocket, he began his aviation training at Huffman Aviation Inc. in Venice, Fla.

One month later he made his first flight.

"The first time I had to fly, (the instructor) said, 'Okay, your turn. I'm here with you. We won't die,'" Kitenge recalled. "I was shaking, but I picked it up really quickly." He made his first solo flight two months later. Kitenge said he always has been mechanically inclined, fixing his

radio or hanging out with the local mechanics in his spare time. Combined with his faith, his current mission suits him perfectly.

"My story is simple," Kitenge said. "My parents are Catholic, both of them, so my parents were teaching Catholic school. I start my life as altar boy, around the priests, playing soccer. Then I went to seminary."

Kitenge studied philosophy and theology and was ordained a Catholic priest.

After further study, Kitenge began teaching other seminary students. He turned down an offer to study more philosophy in France. "Let me do something practical," Kitenge recalled thinking. "I could learn something I could use." Kitenge said his small town lacks running water or electricity. "We have a little generator for two hours at night."

He finished his flight school in June 1998. Here in Pinellas County, he studies at the National Aviation Academy, learning to fix and maintain planes from the inside out. He will graduate from the 14-month program in September.

"The school here is a wonderful school," he said. "It's like a family. They have a mentor. They know you. They follow you."

Before he leaves the country, he said he hopes to find a plane he will be able to take back to Africa along with his new skills. "I would love to even have a two-seat Cessna 150 or 152," he said. "It's not my concern yet. It's something that will happen from God. He knows why I am here."

In the Our Lady of Lourdes church rectory in Dunedin, where Kitenge lives, three boxes of tools take up the kitchen floor. A guitar rests on the sofa. A bookshelf is lined with aviation texts and Bibles.

Kitenge places a foot into his closet and begins lightly kicking a soccer ball. Beyond God and flying, it is one of his favorite forms of

recreation. As for the guitar, he said mostly he plays religious music. "I play for God," he said. "I'm learning a little bit now of the blues."

Kitenge said he remains upbeat, despite being far from home for so long. He has not been able to speak with his family or the bishop since February because of the civil war which erupted last August. And the bishop who sent him to the United States died a month after Kitenge arrived in this county.

Tom Yanus, education director at the National Aviation Academy, said Kitenge is an exceptional student, often asking to take home equipment or materials so he can ask better questions in class the next day. About a month ago, Kitenge won the Professional Aviators Maintenance Scholarship for this year, an international scholarship which has helped pay for his tuition.

During the course of his training at the academy, not only has Kitenge been motivated and alert, but he has motivated fellow students, Yanus said.

"I don't believe they would be who they are without him," Yanus said. "He's kept the reality part in all this. The students realized at an early time in their education: This is a serious thing I'm learning to do."

For more information about Father Kitenge, please contact Our Lady of Lourdes Church, (727) 733-3606

Reprinted from St Petersburg Times, July 6, 1999
Copyright 1999

I know some of you are aware that Leo Walsh, Sr. and his friend Dennis Waldock came to Minnesota to ferry a Cessna 337 (push-pull) back home to Anchorage. Leo is the father of Fr. Leo and they hosted a wonderful cookout for us when we gathered in Anchorage the last time.

Around noon on Saturday, July 17, they entered the Snoqualmie Pass east of the Seattle area. When they failed to arrive at Waldock's mother she reported them overdue. Search and rescue operations began and the Walsh's two sons, Fr. Leo and Steve, both pilots, joined SAR operations. On Friday evening, July 23, Fr. Leo called to say the wreckage was located. They went straight in ... death was immediate. He said, "What can you say. He died doing what he loved, flying with his good friend. Mom and I appreciate all you guys praying for us and for Dad. Thanks."

The Irish wake in Anchorage took place Monday, July 23; funeral Tuesday, July 24.

Leo, our prayers, sympathy and best wishes are with you and the family during this difficult time.

May they rest in peace.

SOME PRIESTS FLY ON PASTORAL DUTY

*AP ARTICLE ON '99 CONVENTION
Knoxville News-Sentinel
July 17, 1999*

Some 50 Roman Catholics, members of the National Association of Priest Pilots, flew into Dayton for their annual convention.

Among them was the Rev. Jim Kelley, who ministers to 20 Alaskan villages and part of the Aleutian Islands. He drops in on each village twice a month; his landing strips are fields cleared by nearby residents.

"Whether there's one Catholic there or 20 or 50 or 100, I stop," the 70-year-old pilot-priest said.

The association was founded in 1964 by two Kentucky priests to promote the use of the airplane in evangelical and missionary work. Most of its 140 members fly single-engine Pipers or Cessnas.

Each year, the pilots make a financial contribution to someone who uses a plane in missionary work, according to the Rev. Mel Hemann of Cedar Falls, Iowa. This year, it goes to a priest in the Congo, he said.

Kelley, a former Navy chaplain, began flying just after he was ordained. He usually flies solo, but he doesn't feel alone.

"God's there," he said.

(I received about a dozen copies of the above article from papers all over the country, plus a couple forwarded to me on the Internet. There were also several from other papers some of you sent. The above is a good representation of them all. Thanks for sending them

DON'T FORGET

Send in your annual dues immediately.

Thanks!

NAPP

SUMMARY FINANCIAL REPORT

7/1/98 Through 7/5/99

Opening Balance	July 1, 1998	1,344.97
Inflows		
Convention Rebate		600.00
NAPP Dues		1,980.00
Total Inflows		<u>3,924.97</u>
Outflows		
Annual Donation		2,000.00
Printing Member Cards		94.87
NAPP '98 Minutes		8.24
Newsletter		1,389.29
Postage		416.24
Total Outflows		<u>3,908.64</u>
Closing Balance	July 5, 1999	16.33

OWED MEL'S PERSONAL ACCOUNT

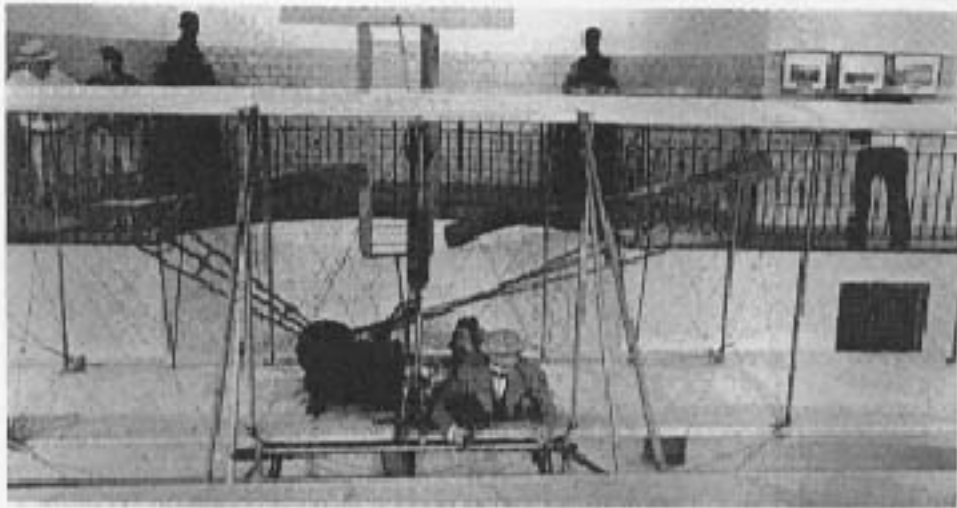
NAPP Color Flyers	377.42
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INVESTMENT

Archdiocese of Dubuque	July 1, 1999	7414.23
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1999 NAPP CONVENTION

DAYTON OHIO



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIEST PILOTS

Minutes of the 1998 Meeting

Our tirelessly self-oblatinal brother President, FR. AL WERTH, opened our 35th annual meeting with a prayer at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday afternoon, July 7th in the Parish Hall of the Holy Trinity ecumenical Parish at Nanaimo, Vancouver Island, British Columbia, Canada.

We convened at the Long Lake Lodge in Nanaimo. Our airport fly-in base was the Nanaimo airport. Our Convention host was FR. TOM O'NEILL who was warmly applauded with much fraternal affection for his outstanding distinction of co-pastoring the inspiringly ecumenical parish of the Holy Trinity which is shared by both the Roman and the Evangelical (Lutheran) Catholic Communities (John 17-21). Congratulations, FR. TOM, for responding in this to Our Lord's prayer of the night before He died; for responding, one might say, to His Death Wish.

41 persons were in attendance: 5 Charter Members (veterans of 35 years): Reverends John Bellon, John Hemann, Mel Hemann, John Herzog and Bob Kirsch; 23 Regular Members: Reverends Tony Attea, Leo Bartel, Bill Bevington, John Esquibel, Tom Geelan, Ev Hemann, Dave Hogan, Jim Kelley, Bishop Tommy Lobsinger, Dino Lorenzetti, Mike Nash, Frank Nemmers, Tom O'Neill, Jack Paisley, George Remm, Bill Roche, Al Ruschman, Owen Shanley, Pete Sweeney, Charlie Teufel, John Walsh, Al Werth and John Wolesky; 10 Associate Members: Tom Bishop, Jack Boyle, Bill Browne, Jeff Bryant, Ron Cervantes, George Gratton, Mike Makelbust, Edwina Tabares, Marty Winnert and Fred Wright; 3 Guests: Joseph Halloran, Merlin Kieffer and Jenny Rivera.

MINUTES: Copies were distributed of the Minutes of our 1997 New Bern, North Carolina meeting covering our activities at the Cherry Point, N.C. Marine Corps Air Station. And once again a big 'thank you' to our Newsletter editor FR. MEL HEMANN for having provided copies! Motion: Acceptance of the Minutes was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer FR. PETE SWEENEY, reported that we continue to have a \$6000.00 Reserve Fund with the Archdiocese of Dubuque plus the interest accrued the past three years. This Reserve Fund is not to be touched. Our Newsletter mailings cost approximately \$1000.00. Motion: A motion to accept the Report was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

NAPP, INC.: FR. AL RUSCHMAN has again personally paid the fee so that NAPP, INC. continues to be legal under the laws of the State of Kentucky. Kudos to FR. AL!

1999 CONVENTION: The Dayton University proposal of FR. TOM SCHOEN (1997) was accepted. Motion: A motion that we convene at Dayton in 1999 was made, seconded and passed unanimously.

CONVENTION 2000: The standing invitation of ARCHBISHOP FRANK HURLEY of Anchorage, Alaska was favorably discussed.

REGIONAL MEETINGS: A Midwest Regional meeting is to be held at Ottumwa, Iowa in April 1999. FATHER JOHN HEMANN will host the gathering. No further action has been taken on FR. BILL MARTIN'S proposal of last year that a Northeastern Region be formed.

NEWSLETTER REPORT: Editor FR. MEL HEMANN announced that with his retirement everything is now in his personal computer. FR. MEL reported that the most recent newsletter would be in the July mail; he also continued to request articles from us, the members.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE: Our Ad Hoc Investment Committee comprised of members, FR. PETE SWEENEY, FR. EV HEMANN and TONY FACCIOLO did not have a current report on the Money Markets, Mutual Funds, etc.

MEXICO REPORT: FR. BOB KIRSCH gave his annual report on the continuing flights of the SAN MARTIN FLYING MISSION, INC. in Cessna 210, THE MISSION QUEEN ("Queenie" named for our Blessed Mother). FATHER BOB is still flying missions of Doctors, Dentists, medical supplies, food, clothes, toys, etc. into the Sierra Madre Range of the western part of the Mexican State of Chihuahua. The C-182 of Associate member RON CERVANTES will also be on hand for flights into Mexico. Our orphan lad from Mexico, BRAULIO AVILA, whom many of you met in Angola, N.Y., is still with FR. Bob and now has his pilot's license and is working on a mechanic's rating for his return to serve his people of the Mexico Missions.

NORTHLAND REPORT: BISHOP TOMMY LOBSINGER, OMI gratefully acknowledged our last year's donation of \$1000.00 for his Yukon Territory Diocese. BISHOP TOMMY mentioned that the \$1000.00 American is worth \$1500.00 Canadian. FR. JIM KELLEY reported that bad weather and violent storms wiped out the planes he had been flying. He is presently trying to acquire a new plane for the territory (700 miles x 200 miles square) which he is covering. He is also recruiting for a younger man.

DONATIONS: Various mission member pilots were discussed among whom were FR. PAT PATTEN (Africa), FR. BOB KIRSCH (Mexico), BISHOP MICHAEL WARFEL (Juneau, AK) and BISHOP MIKE KANIECKI, S.J. (Fairbanks, AK). Motion: NEMMERS/RUSCHMAN that \$1000.00 each be donated to the Fairbanks and Juneau Dioceses. Motion was passed unanimously.

ELECTIONS: First Vice-President: FR. BOB KIRSCH nominated FR. GENE MURRAY. Motion: KELLEY/ATTEA That the nominations be closed; passed unanimously. Treasurer: FR. TONY ATTEA nominated FR. PETE SWEENEY. FR. PETE SWEENEY nominated FR. MEL HEMANN. Motion: PAISLEY/ATTEA: that the nominations be closed; unanimous passage. FR. MEL HEMANN was elected Treasurer.

CONDOLENCES: To the family of member JOE MURRAY and promises of prayerful support. Eternal joy grant unto our brother, JOE MURRAY, O Lord, and let your everlasting light shine upon him!

NEW BUSINESS: 1). FR. MEL HEMANN shared his thoughts on a new Brochure. 2). A request was made that good fuel prices be reported in the Newsletter. 3). Members were urged to recruit new members among bishops, priests, deacons and lay associates and to send the names to FR. MEL HEMANN.

ADJOURNMENT: Adjournment was moved and seconded. JOHN HEMANN/KNOBBY WALSH. Passed unanimously.

Procrastinatedly & lovingly submitted,

Fr. Bob

Fr. Bob J. Kirsch, Secretary

N A P P

Minutes of 1999 Meeting

Our soon to be lame duck President Fr. Al Werth efficiently and effectively opened our 36th meeting inviting us all to join him in the Lord's Prayer at 5:13 P.M. in the dining room of the Kettering Hall of the Marianist Brothers' University of Dayton in Dayton, Ohio

We enjoyed very ample and spacious quarters through the hospitality of the Brothers. Our airport fly-in base was the Dayton Wright Brothers airport, and we were adroitly transported to the University through the agency of our dedicated and able Convention hosts, Fr. John Bellon and Fr. Al Ruschman both of whom worked from some distance to arrange the Convention. Their efforts were gratefully applauded at the invitation of President Al.

50 persons were in attendance: Charter Members: (veterans of 36 years). Reverends John Bellon, John Hemann, Mel Hemann, Bob Kirsch and Phil Schmitt. 32 Regular Members: Reverends Tony Attea, Miles Barrett, Bill Bevington, Tim Brown, John Esquibel, Jack Fitzgerald, Tom Geelan, Joe Halloran, Ev Hemann, Ed Higgins, Dave Hogan, Jim Kelley, Jim Kiernan, Dino Lorenzetti, Joe McCaffrey, Ed Murray, Gene Murray, Mike Murray, Frank Nemmers, Bert Pepowski, George Remm, Bill Roche, Nick Rossello, Al Ruschman, Jerry Scanlon, Owen Shanley, Peter Sweeney, Charlie Teufel, John T. Walsh, John Wehrlen, Al Werth and John Wolesky. 13 Associate Members: Jack Boyle, Bill Browne, Jeff Bryant, Tony Facciolo, George Gratton, George Leahy, Mike Makelbust, Carmen Marchiole, Paul Murray, Jack O'Neill, Edwina Tabares, Marty Winnert and Fred Wright. (There were no guests at this Convention).

MINUTES: Newsletter Editor Fr. Mel Hemann had laboriously made manifold copies of the 1998 minutes. However he left them at home possibly floating in water in his flooded house, and so Secretary Fr. Bob Kirsch read the minutes of last year's meeting from his 'unabridged' edition. Motion: Gratton/Kelley:

That the minutes be accepted as read; passed unanimously. (Mel promised that the copies, when recovered from the 'flood', will be mailed to the members).

TREASURERS REPORT: Treasurer, Fr. Mel Hemann, passed out a conscientiously prepared copy of the Checkbook Register covering listings (7/10/98 through 7/4/99) which showed an ending balance of \$16.33. An outstanding account owed to Mel was for \$377.42 for printing and NAPP flyers, etc. Our Investment Account with the Archdiocese of Dubuque stands at \$7,056.98 plus accrued interest. The report was unanimously hailed as glowing! Motion: Sweeney/Ruschman: That Fr. Mel be authorized to transfer into Checking any funds over \$6,000.00; passed unanimously. Comment was made that the motion was not really needed in as much as the Treasurer already has that authority.

CONVENTION 2000: The invitation by Archbishop Hurley to host us at Anchorage has been delightfully accepted. Fr. Jim Kelley will coordinate the action. It was agreed that the dates will be Wed and Thu July 12th and 13th. (instead of our traditional first Tue and Wed of the first full week in July), giving the lower forty-eighters, Hawaii, the Military and other Countries sufficient time to arrive. Fr. Jim advises that we have reservations at the same Holy Spirit Retreat House. There will be opportunities to fly around. Elmendorf AFB and Anchorage International will have a new Tracon and Merritt Field will have a new tower.

CONVENTION 2001: Proposals: Fr. Ev Hemann proposed Ames, Iowa; perhaps development of the single engine business jet will be operational by that time. Fr. Bob Kirsch, Fr. John Esquibel and Edwina Tabares proposed a third time New Mexico convention. George Gratton extended an invitation to Naples, FL. MOTION: Nobby Walsh/Kiernan: That we opt for Florida in 2001 at the Wings South Airport; unanimous passage.

REGIONAL MEETINGS: A). Fr. John Hemann reported that the Midwest Region convened at Blakesburg, Iowa on April 25th and that the Midwest will have another meeting on Mon, Sept. 27, 1999 in the Omaha, NE area and they will be visiting Offutt AFB. B). Fr. John Wolesky reported hosting a Midwest meeting in Owatonna, MN featuring a presentation by Buz Kaplan on surfacing a WW II P-38 from the Lost Squadron on the Greenland Ice Cap. C). The Eastern Region had their meeting with a visit to Steubenville, OH. It seems that Fr. Charlie Teufel has been 'grand fathered' into being the Eastern Region Director.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE: There was no current report.

MEXICO REPORT: Fr. Bob Kirsch, western Region Director, gave a report on work of San Martin Flying Mission, Inc. in the western mountains of the State of Chihuahua. The mission's C-210 "Queenie" is still flying regular medical missions and Fr. Bob is busy doing Masses, etc. while the Doctors and Dentists and other technical persons whom we fly in are making their contributions of time and talent. We have a huge concern about surging incidences of T.B. (resulting from malnutrition) among the indigenous Tarahumara peoples of the region. There are some 56,000 Indians affected; some 20,000 infected with tuberculosis and some 2,000 and more very sick, coughing up blood; babies are being born with T.B.

ALASKA REPORT: Fr. Jim Kelley reported that the plane received from Archbishop Hurley in 1991, a C-182, was smashed by a storm in 1998. Fr. Jim has missions through the goodness of a Baptist lawyer pilot friend. Last Nov. Tom Bishop, a mechanic associate member in Palmer, Ak, was able to purchase a Piper Cherokee PA 28B (Cherokee 235), in Orlando, FL and Fr. Jim and Tom flew that Cherokee back to Alaska. En route they spent the night with Bishop Tommy Lobsinger in White Horse, Yukon Territory, Canada where they were greeted with a temperature of -20 degrees F. Fr. Jim is still trying to recruit a younger priest; he will throw in three months of free training. Fr. Charlie Teufel complemented Fr. Jim's report with an account of his visit with Fr. Jim. Fr. Charlie was vastly impressed with the ministry - life jackets and life rafts

aboard the plane and Masses being celebrated in Cafeterias and Canneries, etc.

DONATION: Fr. Mel Hemann briefed us about a priest from Africa, Fr. Denis Kitenge, who learned about NAPP in "Who's Who in America." Fr. Denis is presently in the Naples, FL area working on his mechanic's rating and will be returning to his mission in the African Congo area in October. **Motion:** Attea/J. Hemann; That our donation of \$1,000.00 for this year be made to Fr. Denis Kitenge; passed unanimously.

ELECTIONS: **President:** Fr. John Hemann nominated Fr. Al Werth for a second term. **Motion:** Ev Hemann/Kelley: that the nominations be closed; passed unanimously. **2nd Vice President:** Fred Wright nominated Fr. Jim Kelley. **Motion:** G. Murray/Attea: that the nominations be closed; unanimous passage. **Secretary:** Fr. Gene Murray nominated Fr. Bob Kirsch (Gene said he liked Bob's style (?); **Motion:** KnobbyWalsh/Kelley: nominations be closed; unanimous. Congratulations to our noble officer servants.

NAPP, INC: Fr. Mel Hemann reported on information which he got from a cousin CPA regarding a non-profit status for our Corporation; lots of red tape; let sleeping dogs lie; **Motion:** Gratton/ G. Murray: "bury it!"; passed unanimously. **Motion:** J. Hemann/G. Murray: that Fr. Al Ruschman be loudly applauded for his devotion and commitment in keeping us legal down through all the years in the State of Kentucky! There was appropriate loud applause!

ADJOURNMENT: **Motion:** Schmitt/J. Hemann: that we adjourn; unanimous (6:13 P.M.) one hour flat; miracles never cease happening!). Congrats, President Al.

Submitted with expeditious devotion,

Fr. Bob K

Fr. Bob J. Kirsch, Secretary