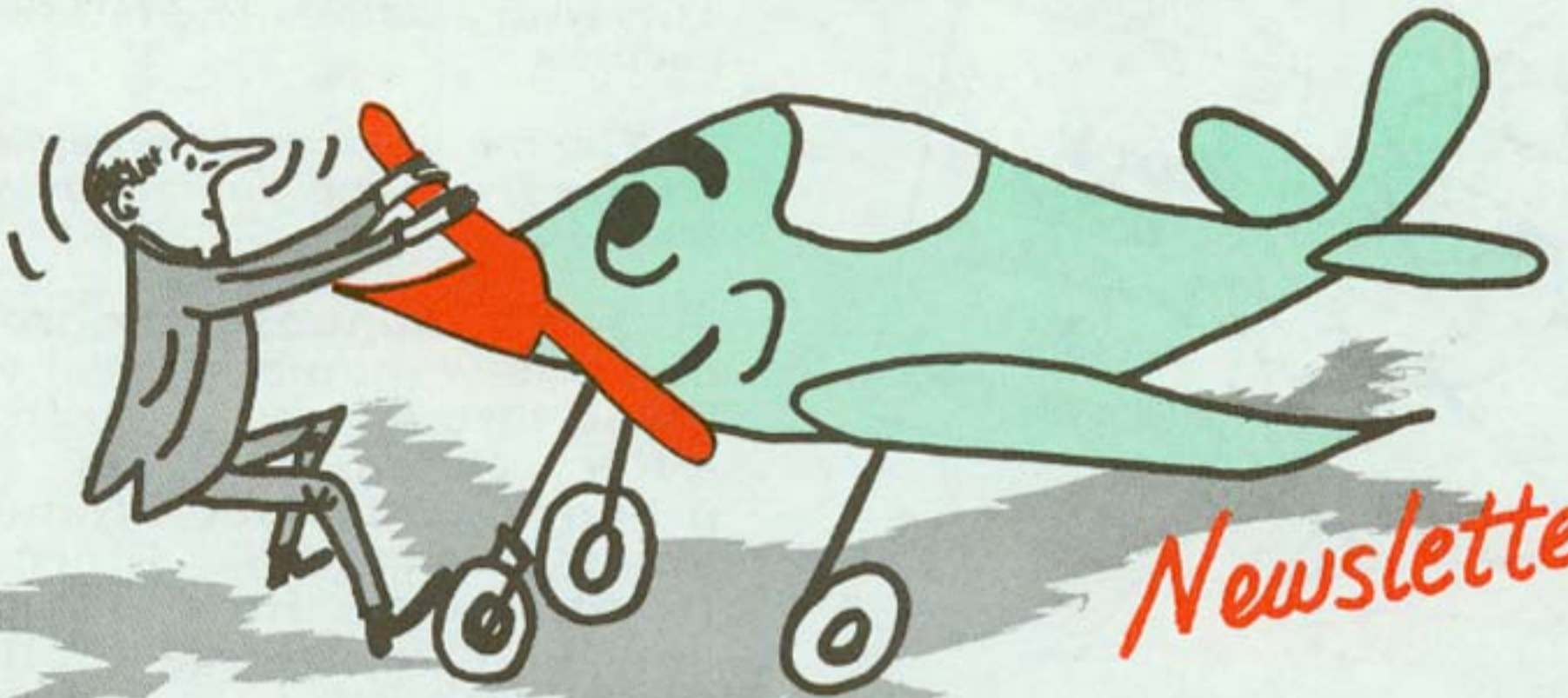


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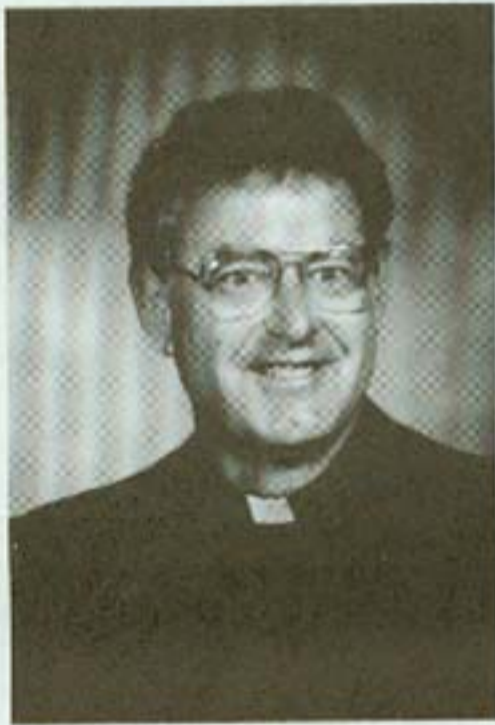


Newsletter

VOLUME XXIX

OCTOBER 1991

NO. 2



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

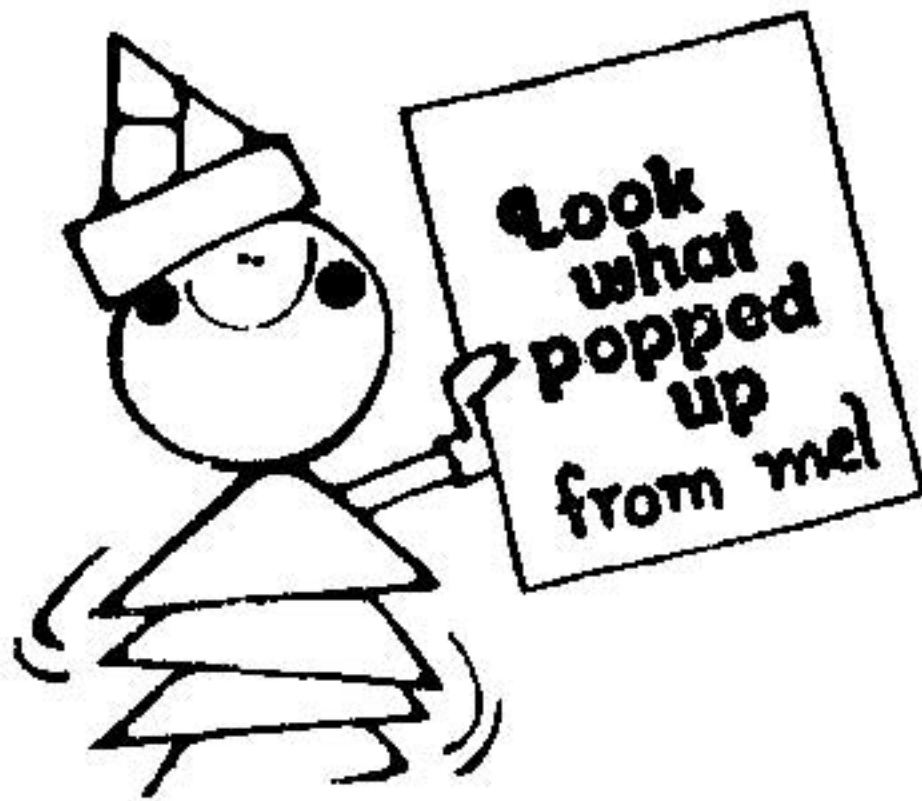
The Fall season (October) and it's harvest is special to pilots. I hope all enjoy it as much as we do in Iowa. The smooth, scenic voyage (4 hrs.) down and up the Mississippi at our regional meeting was a fine opportunity. The Hemann Brothers and Dubuque area clergy were top-notch hosts -- again.

The fraternal hospitality of the Priesthood is legend. Priests who are pilots have additional common ground. Use your directory; visit each other for rest, play, prayer.....

There are continuing positive responses to the expanded publicity N A P received from the national convention in July. Continue to encourage membership to those who qualify.

Frank Nemmers

P.S. Oliver's Law of Location:
"No matter where you go, you are there."



This issue includes the following goodies:

1. *The minutes and financial report from the July meeting in St. Louis.*
2. *Some changes of address and a new member. As I was going through my pile of letters, clippings, etc. in preparing this issue I came across one I "think" I forgot to respond to. Hopefully by next time we'll have another new member.*

3. Pictures from the October gathering in Dubuque. Most of us made a contribution to the financial needs of the state of Iowa at the tables and/or the slot machines. On behalf of our governor I thank those who saw fit to enhance the governmental coffers.

At the conclusion of the nautical excursion some elected to visit the movie site of THE FIELD OF DREAMS. Several pictures attest to that visit and some are shown coming out of the cornfield...just like in the movies.

Our Spring meeting will be hosted by William Menzel in Wisconsin Rapids, WI on Monday, May 4. Mark it on the calendar!

CHANGES OF ADDRESS

Rev. John G. Birk
4008 Prairie Ave.
Brookfield, IL 65013

Rev. John P. Fitzgerald
3 W. Poland Ave.
Bessemer, PA 16112-9771

Rev. Joseph J. Brando
22 LG SPT CMD
APO New York, NY 09754-5000

Rev. James F. Kelley
5071 CSS
Box 7334
APO AP 96513-5000

NEW MEMBER

P. Ruben Jaime Carrasco, C.S.S.R.
Colima 665 NTE
Obregon, Sonora, Mexico

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIEST PILOTS

Minutes of our 1991 Annual Meeting

Our venerable brother President FR. FRANK NEMMERS opened our meeting with a prayer at 3:45 PM Wed. July 10th at PARKS AIR COLLEGE. Our Convention host was FR. RAYMOND R. LAGESSE, S.J. 34 members were present along with 1 associate member and 2 guests.

- I. - TREASURER'S REPORT: We have from FR. BILL ROCHE a Beginning Balance (Fiscal Yr.) of \$7,735.46 plus Income of \$2,025.00 minus Expenses of \$3,548.31 leaving a Balance (including Savings) of \$6,212.15. We did not have an item report. Hopefully we will for 1992.
- II. - OLD BUSINESS: FR. BOB KIRSCH gave a report on member BISHOP JOSE A. LLAGUNO, S.J. of the Tarahumara Indian Vicariate of old Mexico. Four Parishes and five individual members joined this past year in support of the Bishop's Flying Mission Apostolate for a total of \$3,200.00. Bishop Llaguno is deeply grateful and sent his regrets he had a head-on conflict in his schedule and could not attend. God willing, he will be with us for the Maryland Convention of 1992. We trust that we will be able to continue in our generous support of his mission flying, please God.
- III. - REGIONAL REPORT: FR. GEORGE REMM, Midwest Director, reported on their very fine regional meeting at the Minneapolis Flying Cloud Airport with 12 members present. Included was a tour of the War Birds Museum. DICK McCULLUM, FR. MEL'S Flight Instructor was the host. The Fall 1991 Midwest Regional meeting was announced for October 7, 1991.
- IV. - NEW BUSINESS: 1). Heartfelt gratitude was expressed to Convention host, FR. RAY LAGESSE, S.J. and "Executive Assistant" hostess LINDA WEHRLE for a super terrific job!! Also roundly applauded were PARKS AIR COLLEGE and MS. PEGGY BEATTY. 2). OUR GIFT of \$1,000.00 for this year was awarded to WINGS OF HOPE. 3). Our 1992 host, FR. PETER SWEENEY advised us that the Convention will be centered at Frederick, Maryland, Headquarters for AOPA on Tuesday and Wednesday July 7th and 8th, 1992. FR. PETE plans for a tour of the Restoration Center for the AIR & SPACE MUSEUM along with a possible Fly-In Lunch at ANDREWS AFB.
- V. -- ELECTIONS: President: FR. FRANK NEMMERS was nominated by FR. BOB KIRSCH. MOTION: To Close Nominations by FR. BOB KIRSCH; seconded by FR. EV HEMANN. Vote: Unanimous.
Second Vice-President: FR. JOHN PAISLEY nominated. MOTION to Close Nominations by FR. EV HEMANN; seconded by FR. DICK SKRIBA; Vote: Unanimous.
Secretary: FR. BOB KIRSCH nominated for Reelection by FR. GEORGE REMM; MOTION to Close Nominations by FR. GENE MURRAY; seconded by FR. BILL BEVINGTON; Vote: Unanimous.
- VI. - EXCELLENT WEATHER Briefing by FR. RAY LAGESSE; Xerox copies of the local Newspaper were provided.
- VII. - FR. MEL HEMANN was rightfully and loudly acclaimed for our continued super NEWSLETTER.
ADJOURNMENT was moved by FR. JOHN HEMANN and seconded by FR. JOHN BELLON at 4:30 P.M.

"Serendipitously" submitted,
your devoted brother,

Bob

Fr. Bob J. Kirsch, Secretary

MIDWEST REGIONAL

DUBUQUE - OCTOBER 7, 1991



BACK ROW:

Hogan, E. Murray, Nemmers,
Schmitt, Kieve, Geelan, Teufel

FRONT ROW:

Friederick, Herzog, Remm,
Hemann - E, J and M.

VIEW FROM THE DECK.

DUBUQUE BREWERY & SHOT TOWER.

Both visited during Dubuque
1976 Convention.

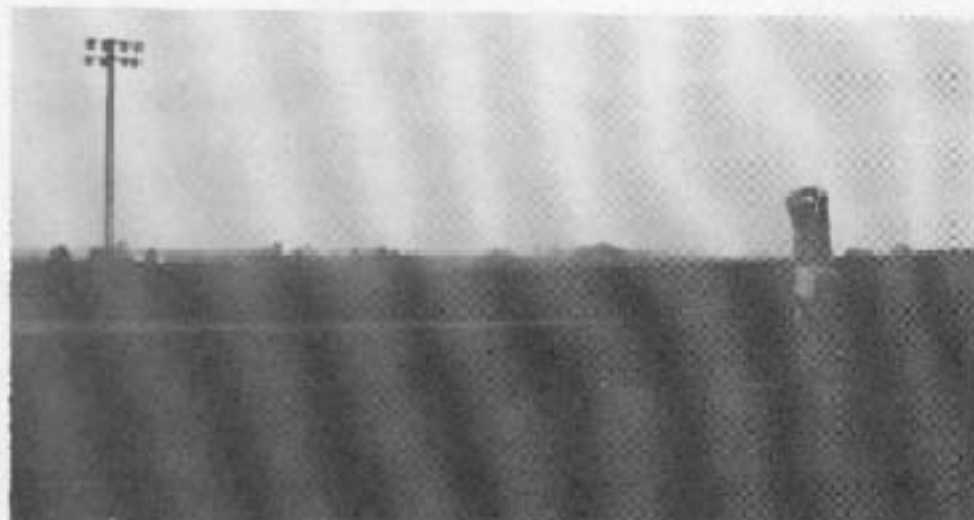


A DOCK SIDE VIEW OF THE
DUBUQUE CASINO BELLE



THE FIELD OF DREAMS

HERE COMES THE TEAM



MEL WINDS UP

Anyone interested?
AFRICA? ALASKA? CANADA?
If so, you take it from here!
Mel

October 7, 1991

Herbert Russell
589 Post Street, #311
San Francisco, California 94102
(415) 441-9936

National Association of Priest Pilots
1607 North West Street
Carroll, Iowa 51401

Dear Fr. Nemmers,

I found the name of your association listed in the 'Encyclopedia of Associations' and would like to learn more about your organization. I would like to work as a lay volunteer in the area of aircraft maintenance if such a need exists. Since I am catholic and The Church has missions all over the world I thought that your organization would be the most logical place to contact.

Enclosed, please find a copy of my resume' which should give you a fairly good idea of my experience and qualifications in the field of aviation.

Please feel free to contact me at your convenience. Any information or advise that you could provide will be greatly appreciated. Looking forward to hearing from you soon, I am.

Yours sincerely,



Herbert Russell

HERBERT M. RUSSELL
589 Post Street, Apt. 311
San Francisco, CA. 94102
415- 441- 9936/771-1776

EDUCATION:

Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, Missouri.
B.S. General Studies, 1976.
Spartan School of Aeronautics, Tulsa, Oklahoma.
A.S. Degree in Applied Science.

EXPERIENCE:

1987 - 1989, Y.M.C.A., 59 Tah-Tong Road, Tainan, Taiwan.
English teacher for Chinese students.

1985 - 1987, Brother Culture Center, 1-5 Ichibancho, Sendai, Japan.
English teacher for a small conversation school.

1983 - 1985, Weiss Aero Service, 128 Rudder Road, St. Louis, Missouri.
Employed as a full time mechanic on Cessna, Piper, Beech, and many other types
of aircraft. Performed 100 hour inspections and a full range of repairs and
modifications.

1981 - 1983, Cessna Aircraft Company, 5200 Pawnee Road, Wichita, Kansas.
Employed in Warranty Administration checking and paying new aircraft warranty
claims. I was in charge of all new twin engine, piston aircraft built by
Cessna. My duties included checking defective parts, evaluating repair times,
and forwarding the correct amount of money to the dealers.

CERTIFICATES:

Airframe and Powerplant License No. 492585825.
Private Pilot License No. 492585825.
Cessna Factory School, 300 and 400 Series Aircraft Maintenance.
Cessna Factory School, T300 Crusader Maintenance.



BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE



HOLY REDEEMER CHURCH

REDEMPTORISTS

1721 JUNCTION • DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48209-2198 • 842-3450

Sept. 26, 1991

Dear Bill:

I am sending you \$20.00 for a membership in NAPP for one of our Mexican conferrers, a Redemptorist who is up here in Detroit learning English.

It would be OK to enroll him for the rest of this year and all of next year, 1992.

He is a student pilot with about 35 hours, but intends to continue and get his license. I do hope that he goes on to get his Instrument Rating, so he will make a better pilot.

P. Ruben Jaime Carrasco, C.SS.R.
Colima 665, NTE
Obregon, Sonora, Mexico

John E. Bellon, C.SS.R.

(The above is a copy of a letter to treasurer Bill Roche).

(The following is a letter from John Wolesky, October 3)

Dear Mel,

Al Werth and I will not be up for the Midwest Regional. Too much going on and to be honest I'd rather have seen the religious sights you guys take for granted rather than be on a boat all day!!!

But was thinking of you guys when this article showed up in my hometown weekly. (Next page - OWATONNA, MN). I was a small boy when the bomber was softly landed on the grass strip there. My recollection was it should have had a crew of 10. The article said 5!

Much is in the works for aviation in Owatonna.

C.U. in the Spring if not before!

Todd Tells It -

From Owatonna, MN.
Photo News

by Todd Hale

I pride myself in accuracy, and the column I wrote a couple of weeks ago about the B-25 Flight to our city in 1947 by Owatonna Malcolm McCrady contained some errors caused by the many years that have passed since this amazing event occurred. The true tale of what happened, as related to me a few days ago by his brother, Norbert, is fascinating enough to be retold.

According to Norb, Malcolm was the Flight Sergeant on the Billy Mitchell converted bomber based at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. Malcolm was an alcoholic, but had been on the wagon for the better part of a year. He was instructed to taxi the plane and re-fuel it for the next mission. Still on board with him was the handsome leather case containing three pints of assorted liquor which was a gift received by all crew members on the day's trip.

McCrady had been recruited for pilot training by the Air Force back in 1938 while attending the National Youth Administration School in Shakopee. Due to color blindness, he had not been allowed to complete the course. That day, sitting in line at the controls of the plane he had always wanted to fly, he decided to sample the booze next to him. One sample led to another and the next thing he knew, he had pulled out of line, taxied to the runway and was skyborne headed to his home town.

He made it safely on a wing and a prayer with a road map and a pocket compass to guide him. Time, and the realization of what he had done sobered

him up by the time he entered Southern Minnesota skies and his first pass over Owatonna made it obvious that he would have to delay his landing until small craft were out of the way at sundown. (One of those small airplanes was being flown by Buzz Kaplan.) After a 3 hour delay, the runways were clear and Malcolm brought the multi-ton bomber in for a landing without incident.

Climbing down, he threw his barracks bag over his shoulder and headed for the office of airport manager Glenn Degner. Degner didn't recognize him and offered little assistance, so McCrady set off on foot for Bailey's Station, which was a beer joint-grocery store-filling station. (It was located where Gracie's is now). From there, he called his brother Norbert who drove out to Baileys, picked him up and brought him to the McCrady home in the Belmont Addition on Beech Street. Malcolm said he was going to head to Canada to escape prosecution. Norbert argued against it and suggested having Steele County Sheriff Don Christenson out to offer counsel on the matter. Christenson did just that and after he made his points as to the futility of going to Canada, he left Malcolm to his own decision.

That decision finally came. He would notify authorities of the whereabouts of the bomber. He placed a call to Wold Chamberlain Field in the Twin Cities. They asked him to stay on the line while they contacted authorities in Ohio. They came back on the line to ask him to repeat what he had told them. Amazingly, nearly seven hours after Sergeant McCrady had taken the plane, it had not yet been discovered

missing at Wright Patterson. Within 90 minutes, Military Police were in Owatonna and took Sergeant McCrady into custody.

Malcolm served 2 1/2 years in Leavenworth Prison Military Discipline Barracks and received a dishonorable discharge. Norbert said, "I never thought Malcolm deserved that discharge. He was as loyal to his country as anyone I know. He had 40 mechanics working for him during World War II. He wanted to transfer to a combat zone on numerous occasions but was told he was too important where he was."

Malcolm overcame his drinking problem and eventually returned to his home town. He and his wife Dorothy lived at Skyline Gardens in Owatonna. He died about 14 years ago.

Norbert concluded, "This is a story known across the land that will bring the name of our city to the attention of Americans for as long as such stories of airplanes and the people who fly them are told. A plane that usually had a five man crew was flown several hundred miles by a man who landed it on a strip designed for much smaller aircraft. By today's standards, McCrady would likely have served a much milder term of incarceration. He would have been provided chemical dependency treatment and probably would have been given a medical discharge. The days when the Armed Services can dish out dishonorable discharges for average acts that cause them embarrassment are passed and rightfully so. Chemical dependency and the problems caused by it are no longer considered felonious acts."



Diocese of Scranton
300 Wyoming Avenue
Scranton, Pennsylvania 18503-1270

July 17, 1991

Reverend John A. Dampka
Saint Margaret Mary Rectory
One Parish Place
Moon Township
Coraopolis, Pennsylvania 15108-2697

Dear John,

It was a pleasure to read about the annual NAPP convention held in St. Louis, and I thank you for sharing the good news with me. I hope to get to the convention next year in Maryland since it is in our back yard.

You will be happy to know that I bought a 1966 Debonair 285. It's a great little airplane and it cruises at about 180 miles an hour, so I am now free to take cross country flights and keep my instrument rating current. Just last week I made an IFR trip from Scranton to Washington National - in the soup all the way, and the same thing coming back.

Thanks again for thinking of me and I hope to see you somewhere along the line during the year.

With kindest personal regards and every best wish, I am,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James C. Timlin, D.D.
Bishop of Scranton

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



REV. MEL HEMANN

20245 ST. JOSEPH DRIVE
RICKARDSVILLE, IA 52039

319-552-2233



DIOCESE OF LAFAYETTE

P. O. BOX 3387 LAFAYETTE, LOUISIANA 70502 (318) 281-5615

**OFFICE OF
THE VICAR GENERAL**

August 27, 1991

Reverend Mel Hemann
St. Joseph Church
Box 309
Preston, Iowa 52069

Dear Mel:

I miss all of you so much and wish that I could keep up with the Priests' Pilots, especially when you make such splendid flights to Alaska and all that it offers to vacationers. I am still current, but have not flown in over a year. After a prostate removal for cancer (totally removed and no spread to the lymph nodes) I was given the recommendation by the doctor to drop it all after the FAA Medical Examiner in Oklahoma had indicated that Calan was a little troublesome for flying. He insisted I do a stress test and a few other things, which I did, and came out OK, then he wrote "you are current until the end of your present ticket". At any rate, I still love flying and have tried two or three times to get a 152 at the airport here and again at Nantucket, but in all five efforts, the plane was either in the air or booked at the time. But I am going to keep active anyway.

Give your brothers and other flying priests my best regards and know that I cherish many happy memories of our days in the air and on the ground together. God bless you and keep you always.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

Ed. J. ...

P.S. I often tell friends about you and your two brothers and your photo in the NASA exhibit in Washington. Give Frank Nemmers my regards also. You may know that I am Vicar General for Bishop Harry Flynn in Lafayette, and also pastor of a small black parish in Scott, Louisiana, just five miles to the west. Both are rewarding and very satisfying.

Ed. J. ...