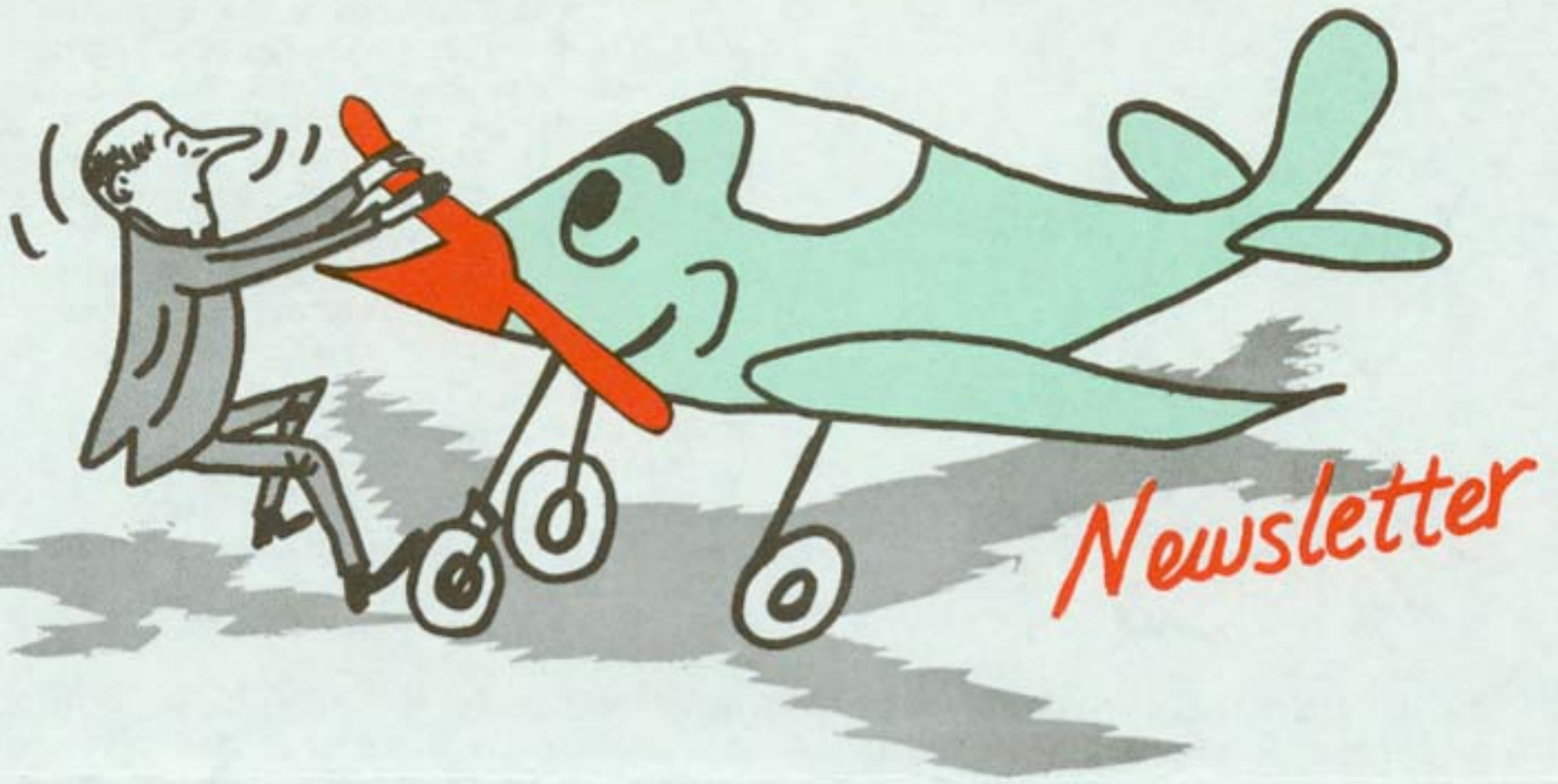


N.A.P.P.

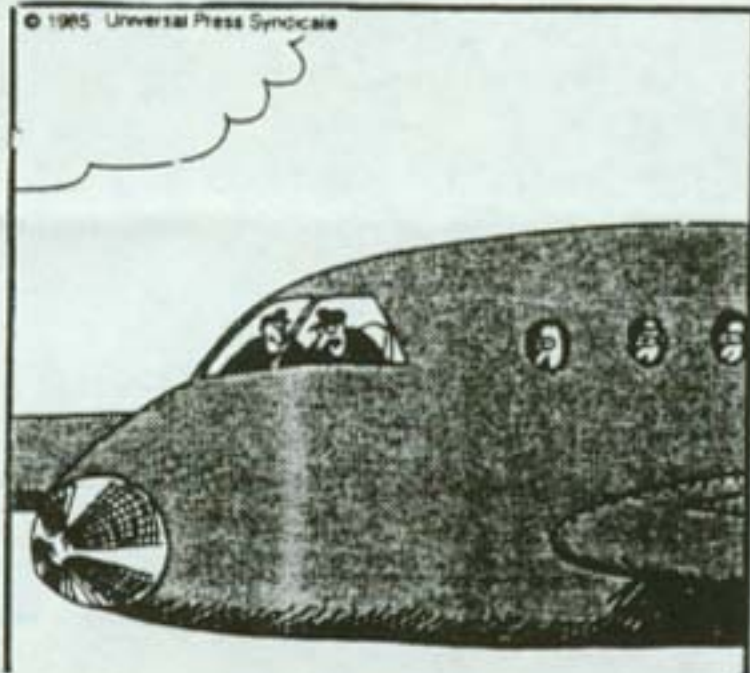


VOLUME XXIX

DECEMBER 1991

NO. 3

THE FAR SIDE



"The fuel light's on, Frank! We're all going to die! ... Wait, wait. ... Oh, my mistake — that's the intercom light."

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The many, fast-developing political and economic changes on our small planet encourage us to be even more aware of divine providence. Prayerful influence from leaders will make a healthy difference. Your Christ-like presence and words will be much noticed this Christmas season. "Lord make me an instrument of your peace."

Holy Day and Seasons greetings from the ice and snow capitol of Iowa, if not the world. Winter fog and ice (in the clouds and on the runway) beg for greater caution. It is nice to have a fellow NAPPER (& cousin) like Dick Funke near the approach end of Waterloo (ALO) when needed. An unplanned 'RON' in hospitable surroundings surely "hits the spot."

Anybody else turning 60 in 1992? SIGN! Our diocese is trying to collect 6.3 million so we can retire at 70 instead of 75. I hope the Mooney lasts as long?

Peace, JOY AND HAPPINESS TO ALL.

*Frank Nemmers*



1). It's that time of year again. Enclosed with this letter is the annual dues envelope. The fee is only, and I repeat only \$15.00 US dollars. In this age of economic hard times, inflation, etc. this \$15 is one of the better buys around. Membership in NAPP connects you with other priest pilots and their interested supporters. It also assists in maintaining our custom of an annual donation to assist fellow "FLYING PADRES" in their work. (See WINGS OF HOPE letter in this issue).

**Please return your dues ASAP.**

2. In addition to the letter from WINGS OF HOPE I have included a letter Ray Lagesse sent to those in attendance at last July's Convention. Included with that letter he also sent two pictures of the assembled group. One was taken in front of the Jesuit Historical building; the other in front of the Beaver. Also included were a couple of newspaper articles about NAPP and the Convention. Thanks Ray for those mementoes.

Bill Menzel from Wisconsin Rapids sent a letter about the Midwest Regional meeting he will host on May 4. If you have any ideas, please let me or Bill know. Details will follow in the next newsletter.

Although he is back at "work" now, Gene Murray sent a letter a couple of weeks ago from his sabbatical in California. We have included that in the newsletter.

3. John Brickley sent a card saying he has moved to the priests' retirement home in Dubuque. Villa Raphael, 1235 Mt. Loretta, Dubuque, IA 52003. After getting settled in he is off to Las Vegas, San Diego and Atlanta, GA.

## **ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:**



**REV. MEL HEMANN**

20245 ST. JOSEPH DRIVE  
RICKARDSVILLE, IA 52039

319-552-2233

**A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS**  
and  
**A HAPPY NEW YEAR**



# BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

[This one to our Pres. Frank Nemmers, is long overdue on my part as it arrived several months ago and it got buried! Does that sound familiar? Sorry Jerry].

**Dear Frank,**

**I'm a priest of the Chicago Diocese. I have just retired. I have always had the desire to fly, but never learned - even though I spent 25 years in the Air Force. I'm interested in the National Association of Priest Pilots. Can you send me any information and wisdom about flying? Maybe it's not to late to teach an old dog new tricks.**

**There was a good article about you all in the Chicago New Word. I've enclosed it.**

**Awaiting to hear from you.**

**Sincerely,**

**Jerry Rodell**

[From Gene Murray. VATICAN II INSTITUTE for Clergy Formation. 11/19/91]

**Dear Mel,**

**Sorry I missed the Fall NAPP Regional in Dubuque. From all reports it looks like you had a good time.**

**I am in my final 3 weeks of a 3 month sabbatical here at Vatican II in Menlo Park. I have enjoyed their program here very much and highly recommend it for the brothers.**

**Have managed to do some flying with Bill Roach here in the Bay area.**

**We plan to fly out somewhere for lunch tomorrow. I checked out in a 172 at Hayward on the east side of the Bay. Hayward control zone is under the SFO TCA and up against the Oakland ARSA. Needless to say they give you a thorough check out.**

**However flying out here is fun because there are lots of great places to fly and the weather is VFR 95% of the time.**

**Take care & have a happy Thanksgiving.**

**Gene Murray**

## St. Vincent de Paul Parish

820 - 13th Street South  
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494-5336  
(715) 423-2111

November 23, 1991

Dear Mel,

Thanks for your letter of October 22, and sorry for taking so long to respond.

The May 4 date for the NAPP Regional gathering here at Wisconsin Rapids looks just fine. I have a huge rectory (it was once a convent, so it has lots of rooms), so will probably be able to accommodate 3 or 4 guys right here, if they wish.

As far as things to do are concerned, I have a couple of ideas. Consolidated Papers is starting up their newest paper machine in March; it's a half-billion dollar toy, and will probably make an interesting tour. So that's one possibility. We have some parishioners that own a cranberry marsh and would probably be glad to show us around; trouble is, there probably isn't a lot of activity on the marshes in early May. I'll look into it though, and find out. One other possibility that comes to mind is Hardwood Range. It's an Air National Guard gunnery and bombing range (R-6904 on your charts) and is open to the public. It's about a 40 minute drive from here, but if you like seeing military aircraft (everything from A-10's to B-52's) in operation, it's worth the trip. Only thing is, I think that Monday is normally a slack day for them. But I can check on that, too, as the time draws nearer.

As you may know from looking at the charts, Wisconsin Rapids is under the boundaries of the Volk East MOA. That's only a problem for IFR flights, and only when the MOA is hot. But R-6904 is a factor even for VFR flights: Green Bay Flight Service can be contacted enroute to check on its status.

Well, that's some preliminary information for you. Keep in touch, and in the meantime I'll try to explore the available options.

In Christ,





FR. EDWARD J. KARNIS, CHAPLAIN, COLONEL, U.S. ARMY, RET.

Rev. Father Mel Hemann  
St. Joseph's Catholic Church  
Rickardsville, Iowa 50245

Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1991

Dear Father Mel:

I had written to Father Hemmers concerning application for membership in the NAPP, giving some background info as a basis of my application.

He advised he forwarded my letter to you and that I should apprise you of my desire to join the Association. I hereby apply for membership in the Association and enclose my check for \$15.00 to cover the fee for same.

I am also enclosing a copy of my letter to Fr. Hemmers, thanking him for his quick reply to my letter along with some added personal history should this be necessary as part of the application.

I look forward to being a member. It sounds just as exclusive as membership in the United States Senate, although here of late many citizens question such Senate exclusivity.

Take care, Father, and many thanks for your assistance in this matter.

*Fraternally*  
*Ed Karnis*

Eaglecrest  
Cripple Creek  
Colorado 80813

1 Lincoln Drive  
Cape Windsor  
Fenwick Is., DE 19975  
(302) 436-8504

34 Fairway Country Club  
1100 Belcher Rd. So.  
Largo, FL 34641  
(813) 535-9726

2304 So. Woodstock Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19145  
(215) 334-5687

Father Frank Nemmers  
St. Mary's Catholic Church  
1413 Holder Street  
Larchwood, Iowa 51241

Oct. 21, 1991

Dear Father Frank:

Many thanks for the swift reply to my letter of inquiry concerning NAPP.

I would like to add one footnote: After WWII, Army flight personnel were afforded the opportunity of transferring to the newly created Air Force. I did so without hesitation and joined various Air Force Reserve units as a "Weekend Warrior" thru 1956. I was recalled to active duty for the Korean conflict. However, my employer, the United States Government, in the person of one J. Edgar Hoover, demanded 100% loyalty on the part of his Agents. So, I remained both an Agent & a Weekend Warrior. The compromise was requesting relief from active duty orders thus remaining an Agent and assisting Air Force Intelligence with contacts in New York's Chinatown as a Reservist.

Left Mr. Hoover in Aug. 1956 & entered St. Mary's Seminary, Baltimore, MD I was required by the Bishop to resign my commission & in four years, June 1960, was ordained for the Diocese of Wilmington. The Bishop assigned me to some extra duties: 1) Chaplain, Department of Delaware, Veterans of Foreign Wars, 2) Chaplain, Delaware State Police & 3) Chaplain, Delaware Army National Guard. In this last capacity, I was recalled to Active Duty in Oct. 1966 by Army. Remained in the Service (incl. a three year extension) until retirement in September, 1985. Since then I have been assisting during the vacation months at our two-churched parish in Ocean City, Maryland. About six of us handled 17 Masses on the weekend. Vacationers are from many areas and jam the Masses to capacity. From November til April, I languish in the tropical sun of Florida. I also help out at times down there, St Catherines

A side note: In the early 60s, my Bishop (Hyle, RIP) complained at a Clergy Conference of his inability to adequately visit his priests & their parishes because of the length of our diocese. I raised my hand to advise him that if the diocese would acquire the use or purchase a chopper or a small 2 or 4 seater Piper Cub or Cessna, I'd be very happy to become flight qualified & assist in the problem. His Excellency weighed 300 pounds, including episcopal trappings (shoes, gloves etc.). He bellowed for all priests to hear, "Father, I enter no aircraft unless it has four engines"!

I hope this stuff does not bore you Frank. I appreciate your sending my original letter to Father Mel and he will receive a copy of this one as soon as I ready my application for NAPP.

Many thanks again. God bless and KPF (Keep Priests Flying), Ed Karnis

Copy to Fr. Mel