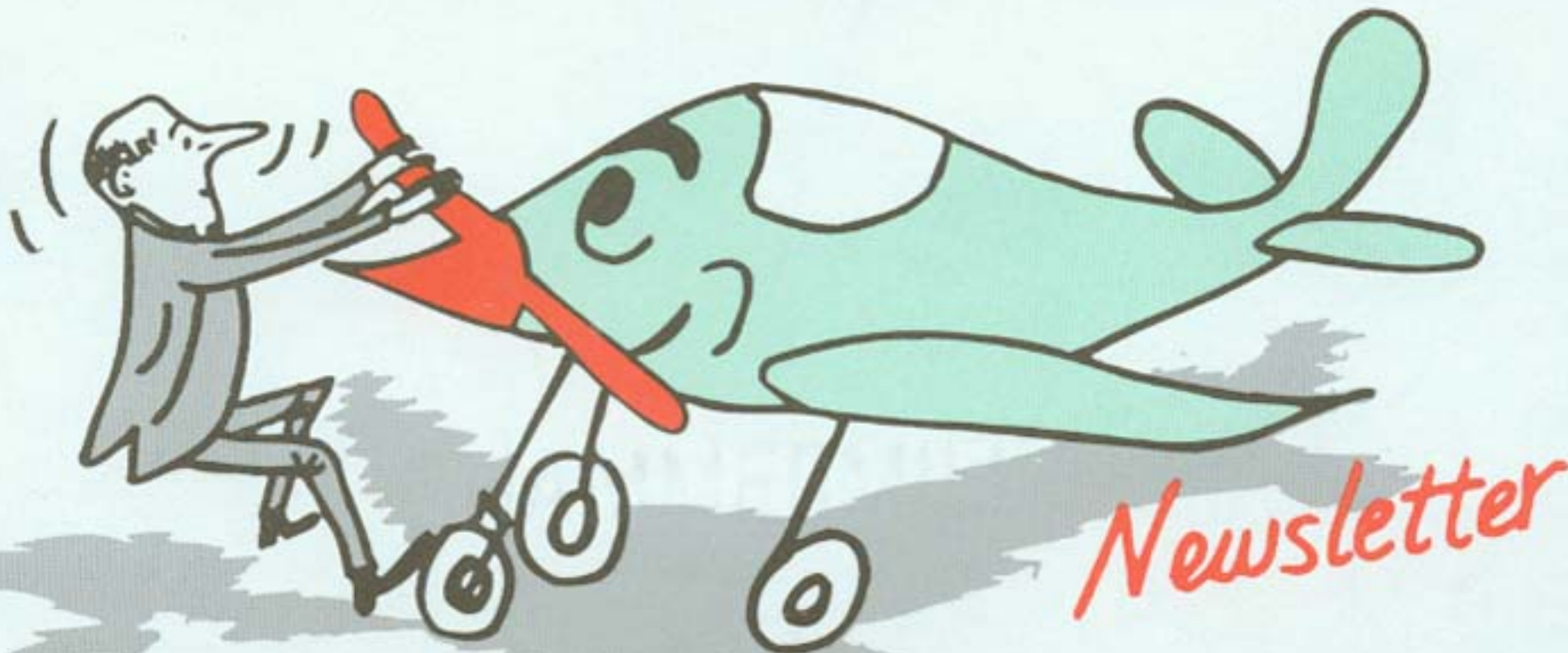
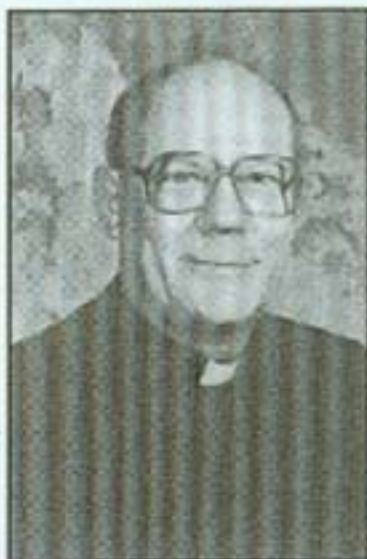


N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XXXVII JUNE 2000 NO. 6



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow aviators!

I hope you have been able to enjoy this spring and the beginning of this summer. Especially getting some flying in. If not, it's time to do so. With schools and religious Ed classes shut down for the summer surely you can take some time and enjoy a few trills.

I am writing this column conscious of the fact that it will be the last time since we will be electing a new "CEO". I do want to take a moment to thank all of you for the privilege of serving you these last four years. I got to know more of you and and many of you a little better. It was my gain. Thanks!

Our convention in Anchorage with Archbishop Frank Hurley and Father Jim Kelley is just about

upon us -- July 12 - 13. We are looking forward to a great time. I hope to see you there.

My flying was curtailed for a while because of rotator cuff surgery after a skiing accident in February. But I am back at it. Did my biennial last Saturday.

I heard this on Wichita approach: a Cessna 152 called approach. Cessna: "Wichita, Cessna one Two Three, VFR at 3500 requesting traffic advisories. It's a bit hazy around here."

Approach: "Cessna One Two Three, squawk zero three zero four and ident." Then, after identifying the Cessna, approach said: "Cessna 123, no traffic in the area that I can see." Cessna: "Wichita, are you sure? It is really hazy out here. We sure could use your help." Approach: (a bit terse) "Cessna 123, the only traffic might be a Volkswagen below you."

Hey, safe flying! See you in Anchorage.

Al Werth



In this issue we have an interesting letter from Tony Gendusa. In it he says "we are getting older." Word of the death of two more NAPP members bears this out. Abbot Charles Coriston, OSB, our first president, died earlier this year on January 7.

Bishop Tommy Lobsinger, OMI, of Whitehorse died April 15 along with Brother Hoby Spruyt after flying into a snow squall that resulted in the plane Tommy was piloting ending in a lake.

There is more information in the *BRIEFS* section of the newsletter. Our prayers for the happy repose of their souls are with both of these wonderful men as well as Brother Hoby.

REQUESCANT IN PACE

On a personal note. I missed the May Midwest gathering in Pella. I was in Oklahoma City attending the 5 day *INITIAL PILOT EXAMINER STANDARDIZATION SEMINAR*. Of all the FAA programs I've attended and been part of over the years I was pleasantly surprised at the caliber of this program. I've decided to share this because I am sure none of you who read this have had or ever will have this

experience. It began on Monday morning and ended about 1:00 PM on Friday. As we made the round of introductions on Monday morning I was seated in a position that placed me about 3/4 of the way through the process. When I concluded my telling of who and what I was and ended by saying "I'm a retired Catholic priest" the silence was deafening. During the break the head of the NEB (National Examiners Board) came to me and asked, "Did I hear you correctly? You're a priest? We've never had one in the 27 years we've been in existence." As all of you know from your experiences a lot of things happen after that. One of our instructors is Catholic and his pastor used to fly. He asked for NAPP information to try and get him back in the air. Three others in the class of 25 members are Catholic. One had never met a Catholic. It was an interesting time.

I have now jumped through all the FAA hoops and whether I eventually am selected as a Designated Examiner is determined by our local FSDO in Des Moines. I spoke yesterday with the man in charge of that and he said, "Mel, we're working on it." I'm sure it will come after they have had enough time to satisfy themselves that they are the one's really in charge.

Our instructors were the people who write many of the FARs. It was interesting to hear their frustration. Often they shared what they wrote and then what the FAR actually said after the Washington lawyers got through with them. Very interesting. Will keep you informed.

REMINDERS

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

September 25, 2000 - Midwest Regional
Livingston Aviation - Waterloo, IA

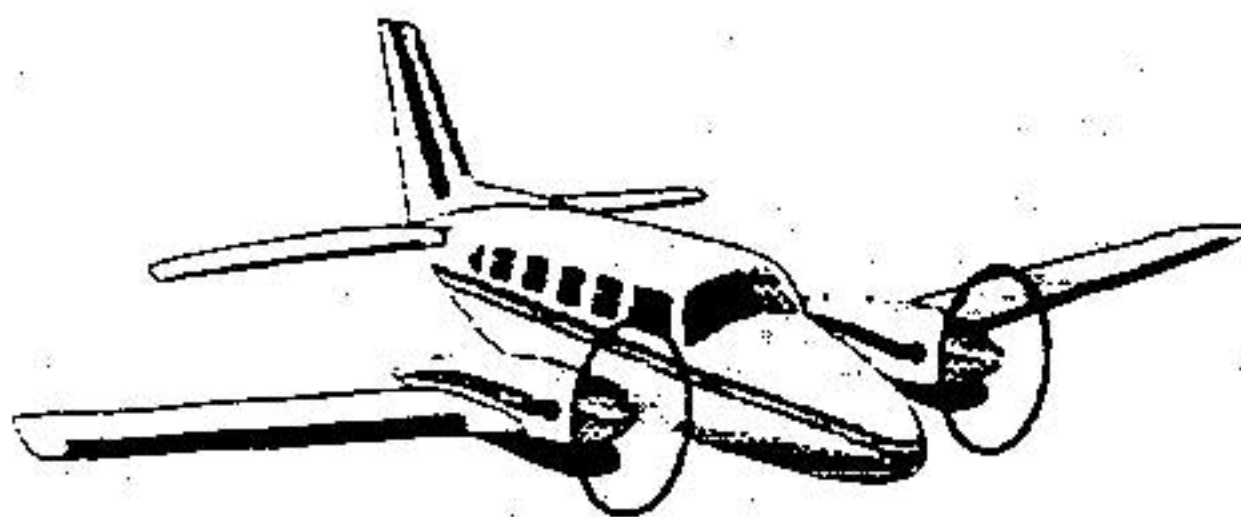
ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



REV. MEL HEMANN

127 Kaspand Place
Cedar Falls, IA 50613-1683
319-266-3889

Email: DBQMHEMANN@impresso.com



BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

*From Tony Gendusa, MSC,
Aurora, Illinois*

Dear Mel:

Thanks for the note re me and especially for the special notice on Monsignor Robert Sennott. I recall years ago - Bob flew me from his Norwood, Mass parish in his plane back to my monastery in Aurora, Illinois. I had been working to get an airplane for my mission at "4th & 153rd St" which is 4 degrees S & 153 degrees. Papua New Guinea in New Ireland. I did finally get a Cessna 206 and used it for 10 years on my run between Rabaul & Siar Manga on new Ireland Island.

Remarkable that for Holy Week I flew between my parish main two churches - Manga & Siar. 14 hours walking vs 10 minutes by plane. So each had a Holy Week priest on Holy Thursday morn and Holy Thursday evening and back again Good Friday morning and evening. Holy Saturday again back and forth and Easter Sunday the same way - MIRABILE VISU!

Bob had helped me out and flew me in a few hours from Boston to past Chicago, Aurora, Illinois. In fact we landed in one Aurora airport which had black tar still wet on the strip. We lifted off when we saw our mistake. Of course we just dropped into the wrong place although it was close to our monastery.

I had lost track of Bob and each time your NAPP paper came I heard nothing till now and even this got mixed up in all the mail. I saw it just now, June 1st! Again we are getting older!!! So glad and now I can put his RIP in my breviary and at my Masses.

Bob Hope was asked: "where were you when the man came down on the moon...?" He said, "I was in a little airport terminal basement in Sandwich, Illinois. I had made a funding for

some little priest from New Guinea to get an airplane for his mission. We watched the first man put his foot on the moon on the basement TV."

It was Jerry Mock's airplane we bought and I used it for mission work for 10 years. 1964 - 1979-80. So the two "Bobs" had their hand in our airplane. My hands continue to bless them and all who did God's work.

Thank you for the letters you published for me. Our 206 - WH-CMM - went to Australia and probably is flying there even now

So cheerio! I'm still able to say Mass at the church and home.

Blessings!

Fr. Tony Gendusa MSC

P.S. Tony's letter included an invitation to COME CELEBRATE his 60th Anniversary in the Priesthood. Ad Multos Annos, Tony.

THE MIDWEST GATHERING

I was unable to attend the Midwest NAPP Spring gathering hosted by Bob Gruss in Pella, Iowa on Monday May 8. Attendees tell me that 11 members showed up from Iowa, Kansas, Illinois and West Virginia.

In addition to the usual camaraderie Bob hosted the group to a tour of the Pella Window factory.

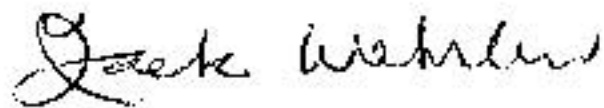
I have offered to host the Fall gathering at the Waterloo, Iowa airport. The FBO renovation has been completed and renamed LIVINGSTON AVIATION after legendary racer Johnny Livingston, inspiration for Richard Bach's *Jonathan Livingston Sea Gull*. By next Fall the historical museum aspect will be completed.

ETERNAL REST

Jack Wehrlen from Flanders, NJ sent the following:

This is something about which NAPP should be aware. Abbot Charles Coriston, OSB, died earlier this year. He was our first president. He only lived up the road from me but our paths seldom crossed. I wish I could go to Alaska but it doesn't look promising.

In Christ,



Jack Wehrlen

Abbot Charles died on January 7, 2000

The day the last newsletter went to the post office we received word that Bishop Tommy Lobsinger from Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, died. Since then I have received the following information from Sr. Margaret Coyle, chancellor of the diocese, on May 2, 2000.

Dear Mel,

I just now came across your fax of last week - it was buried on the bishop's desk - things have been hectic here as you suspect.

I apologize that you did not receive the information you asked for.

The accident occurred on Saturday, April 15, 2000 in the early afternoon. They flew into a snow squall and the white-out resulted in the crash. Bishop Tommy and his passenger, Brother Hoby (Hubert) Spruyt, OMI were killed on impact.

Joint funeral: Whitehorse - Tuesday 25

Vancouver - Thursday 27

Bishop was buried here on Saturday, April 29.

This info is too little and too late but I wanted to at least acknowledge your fax.

REVISED MIDWEST SCHEDULE

September 18-19 is the date of the annual conference of Iowa priests. Because of that conflict we will hold the NAPP regional meeting at the Waterloo airport the following Monday, September 25. Details will follow in future newsletters. Mark that date! 09-25-2000

CONVENTION REQUESTS

John Birk sent the following EMail from Washington state.

Dear Mel,

If you could put a blurb out for someone who might be able to ride with to Anchorage say out of Spokane I could make the meeting by sharing expenses. I have had two trips that depleted my finances: Three African Countries in November and in April to Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Italy.

I hope to work for the Food for the Poor part time if I am accepted. You might keep that in mind. I always did want to help the poor having visited and worked in Third World countries, especially being coordinator for our diocesan Guatemala Mission for 8 years.

God bless. Your fraternally in Christ,
John Birk.

Editor's Note: John's EMail address is
frjbirk@yahoo.com

I also had an EMail message from John Esquibel in Albuquerque. John says he is going to Anchorage by train and is willing to share a room during the convention. His phone number is 505-821-3025 if you are interested.

REMINDER

**July 12-13, 2000 - 37th Annual
NAPP Convention**

Anchorage, Alaska

Although the official registration date will be past by the time you receive this we are including a registration form in this newsletter. I'm sure Joann White will still find a spot for you if your revised schedule at this late date allows you to be present.

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

NAPP
NATIONAL CONVENTION

JULY 12-13, 2000

CONVENTION HEADQUARTERS

HOLY SPIRIT CENTER
10980 HILLSIDE DRIVE
ANCHORAGE, AK 99516
907-346-2343

ROOM RESERVATIONS

JOANN WHITE
OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP
225 CORDOVA STREET
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501
907/297-7766

SINGLE ROOM -- \$55.00 PER PERSON
SHARED ROOM -- \$40.00 PER PERSON

RESERVATIONS IN BY 15TH JUNE

CONVENTION HOSTS:

ARCHBISHOP FRANCIS T. HURLEY
ARCHDIOCESE OF ANCHORAGE
225 CORDOVA STREET
ANCHORAGE, AK 99501
907/297-7766
907/279-3885(FAX)

REVEREND JAMES F. KELLEY
HOLY ROSARY CHURCH
PO Box 810
DILLINGHAM, AK 99576
907/842-5581

Return form to: Joann White, 225 Cordova St., Anchorage, AK 99501

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

ETA(DATE) _____ TIME _____ ETD(DATE) _____ TIME _____

ROOM RESERVATIONS NEEDED: JULY _____ to JULY _____

ARRIVAL BY:

CAR _____

PLANE: MAKE _____ N _____ COMMERCIAL: AIRLINE & FLT: _____

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIEST PILOTS

Holy Spirit Center
10980 Hillside Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99516
907/346-2343

CONFERENCE AGENDA
July 12 - 13, 2000

July 10 - 11 Registration, Holy Spirit Center

WEDNESDAY, JULY 12

- Morning Free for sightseeing
Portage Glacier
Alaska Native Heritage Museum
Other Anchorage Sites
- 12:00 Lunch: Holy Spirit Center
- 1:30 p.m. Elmendorf Air Force Base or FedEx Hangar *
- 4:00 p.m. Business Meeting
Holy Spirit Center
- 5:00 p.m. Liturgy of Eucharist
Resurrection Chapel, Holy Spirit Center
- 6:00 p.m. Banquet
Alaska Aviation Heritage Museum
(4721 Aircraft Drive)
Talk on Alaska aviation: Thomas Wardleigh

THURSDAY, JULY 13

- 8:00 a.m. Mass, Holy Spirit Center
Breakfast
- Morning: Sightseeing: Kenai Fjords tour boat out of Seward **
or
Big Lake Recreation Area (quiet ride on the lake,
Plus lunch)
- Lunch: On your own if not participating in either of above
- 4:00 p.m. - Open House and Buffet
Archbishop's home
(which Archbishop? To be determined)

* Note: For both Elmendorf and FedEx, we must retain flexibility because of their schedules

** The Kenai Fjords trip involves driving (two hours each way) or flying (if the weather is good) to Seward. Please notify us as soon as possible if you are interested in this trip. It is a busy tourist season and reservations must be made. Costs vary for 1/2 day or full day: \$60 to \$110.

Please send requests, questions, and your Thursday trip preference to:

Joann White
Office of the Archbishop
225 Cordova Street
Anchorage, AK 99501-2409
Tel.: 907-297-7766
Fax: 907-279-3885

(She remembers many of you from the 1990 Conference)