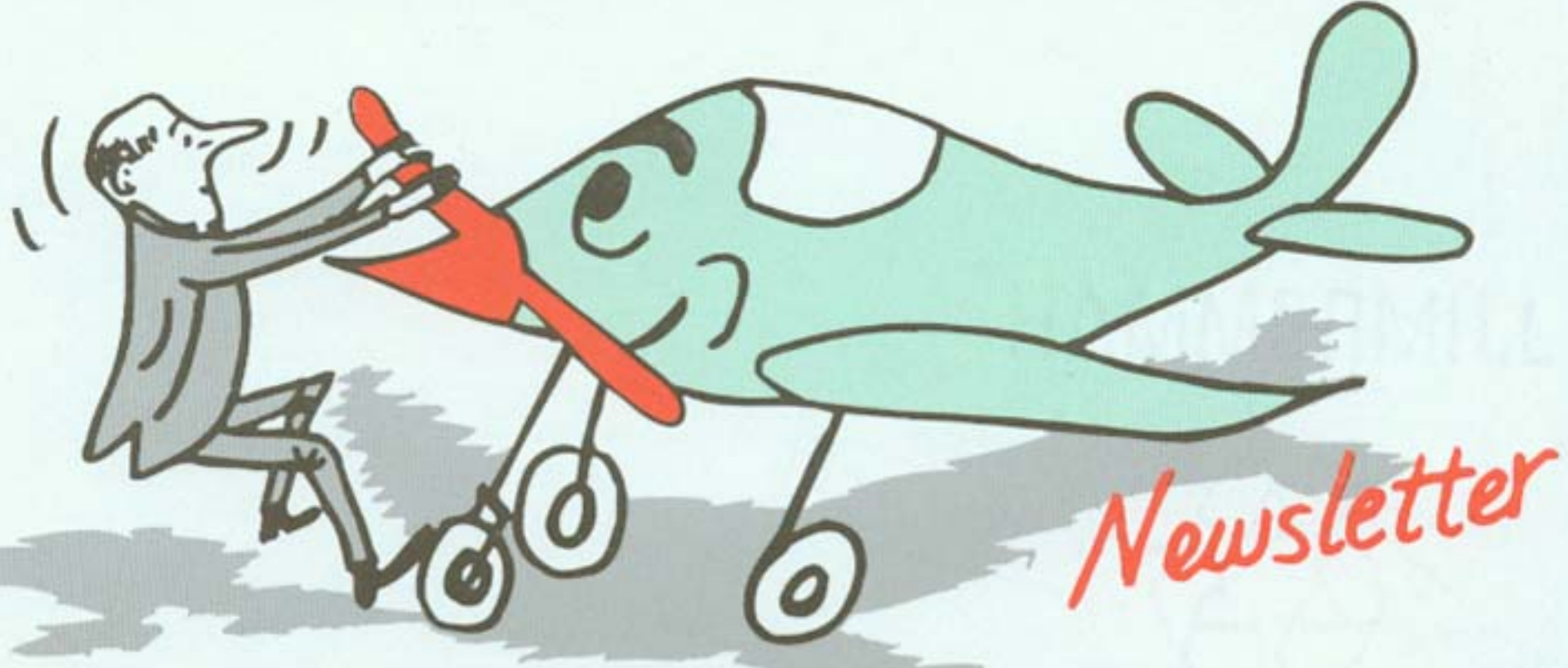


N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XL FEBRUARY 2003 NO. 4



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Columbia was a shock to all of us. It hit me doubly hard. I started out college in aerospace with the hopes of being an astronaut. I now pastor a community which has an aerospace engineering department and several of our students are headed towards NASA with the hope of being on the shuttle.

Even as we mourn the loss of life and attempt to help those left to grieve, we at NAPP convention headquarters look forward to this summer. We are excited about all of you coming to Ames. In this issue you see some of the things we are planning. I think you will find it enjoyable and educational.

But it is the fraternal camaraderie which is always the most important event at a NAPP convention. And that can happen only if YOU come to Ames! See you here July 8-9, 2003

I always teach my students to request help from ATC when need. Last month, a student told me he had the following interchange with Des Moines approach.

Student: Approach, Cessna 1234, student pilot ... I am at 3500 feet and am otherwise a bit lost.

Approach: We will try to help you. Do you see a city, highway, or water tower nearby?

Pilot: There is a city nearby with a water tower.

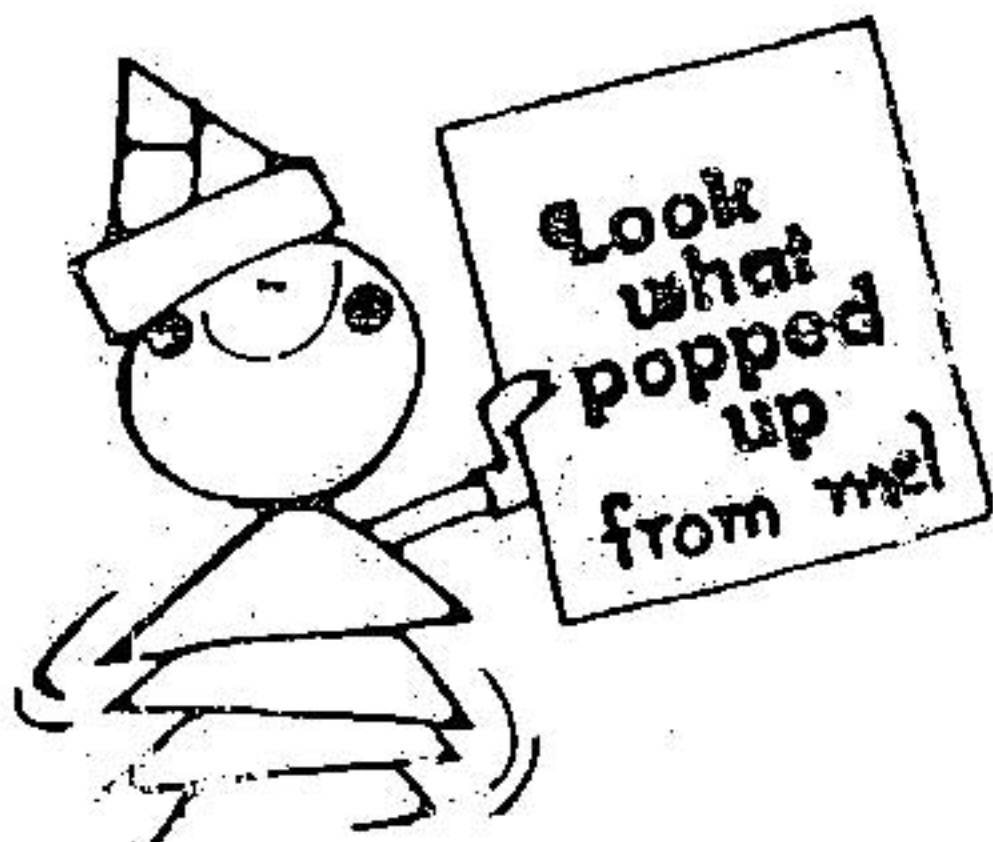
Approach: Fly over the water tower and tell us what you see written on it.

[pause]

Pilot: "Class of '98"

I am thankful that priest pilots tend not to be literalists! Hey, be careful out there and many happy landings before you finally land here in Ames.

Rev. Everett Hemann



It has been called to my attention that I goofed on a couple of dates in the last issue. Please note the correct dates for the Ames 2003 and the Urbana 2004 conventions. Sorry about that!!!

This mailing includes the 2003 NAPP annual directory. No doubt there will be some errors in it. It's next to impossible to keep up on email addresses and other info. Priests must have the worst track record in the world for passing on info about moves, etc.

It's been an interesting and busy winter here. You'll find enclosed some correspondence with 3 new members from the Dallas area. Also thank you notes from Fairbanks and Tanzania.

Registration and information forms for the Midwest regional in South Dakota and the July annual in Ames are in this newsletter.

On a personal level I now have a very interesting scenario developing. A gentleman appeared one day and said I'd been recommended as the flight instructor to get. He

said, "I'm buying Berkely Smith's Luscombe. He's selling it and told me to contact you." Berkely turned 95 on Valentine's day and for some strange reason has decided to hang it up. The new owner, Dick, owned 2 Luscombe's in the past but hasn't flown for 52 years. We've gotten in about 5 hours in a Cessna 152. After all that time it's all coming back and hopefully we'll get in the Luscombe before long.

As I'm writing this I received an email from Pat Patten in Tanzania regarding a new priest-pilot he may have who needs help. We'll let you know next issue how that develops.

REMINDERS

NATIONAL MEETING

*Ames, Iowa
July 8 - 9, 2003*

MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING

May 6, 2003
(note date change)

Hosted by Gene Murray at
**Marv Skie-Lincoln Co
Y14 Great Plains Airport**
Located 2 miles NE of Tea, SD
south of Sioux Falls, SD

REMINDERS

2004 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

**Frasca Field
Urbana, Illinois
July 6 - 7, 2004**

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



REV. MEL HEMANN

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

EMail: DBQM@hemann@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIEST PILOTS
Spring Midwest Regional - May 6, 2002
Marv Skie - Lincoln County, Tea, SD

Travel Information:

Whether flying or driving come to Y14 Airport in Tea, S Dakota. Park at EAA Chapter 289 ramp which has its own taxiway just south of the FBO ramp. Lunch will be in the lounge at the EAA hangar.

Arrive between 11:00 and 12:00 A.M. on Tuesday, Tuesday, May 6, 2003

Contact Person and Host:

GENE MURRAY
1841 14th Street
Rock Valley, IA 51247
712-476-2060
Gene's Cell: 712-470-0317

Airport: Great Planes Airport
Tea, South Dakota
[aka Lincoln Co. and Marv Skie]

Identifier: Y14

Unicom: 122.8



If anyone needs to fly in IFR we can arrange to pick them up at Business Aviation at Foss Field in Sioux Falls, South Dakota

SPECIAL ATTRACTION

If the weather is good we will fly out to Larchwood (Y00) to visit Dakota Airframe where certified PA 12 airframes are manufactured. We will return to TEA for a cookout at the Bill Murray home near the TEA airport. TEA is in the class D airspace of FSD and you may want to get the numbers for Joe Foss Field.

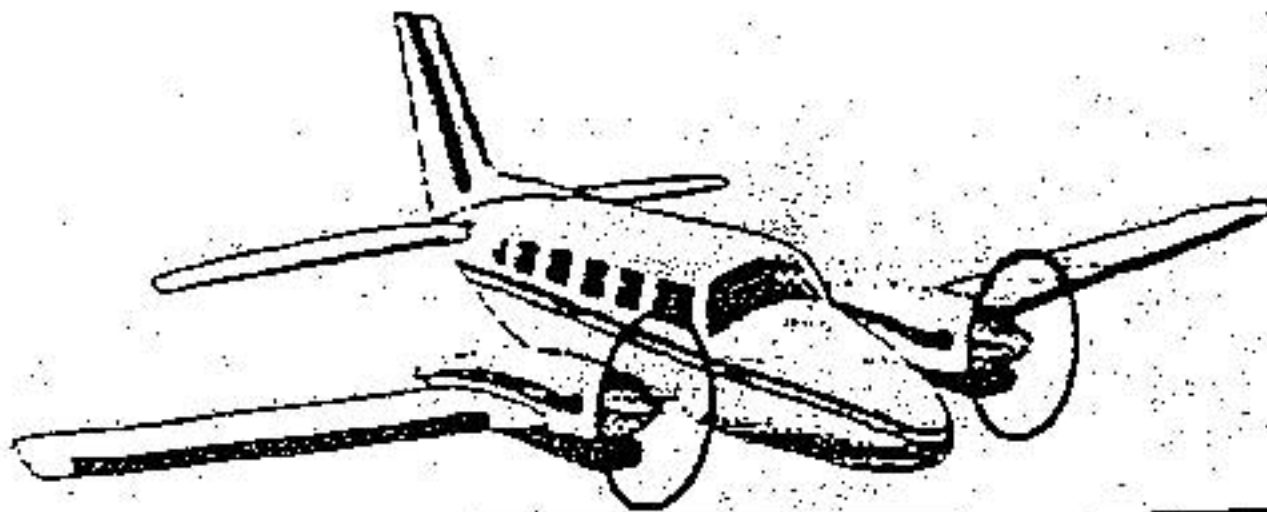
If you want to come early or stay late please let Gene know before arrival

RESERVATION FORM

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
ETA _____
ETD _____
 PLANE Number _____
 CAR

MAIL TO: Rev. Gene Murray
1821 14th Street
Rock Valley, IA 51247
712-476-2060
Cell: 712-470-0317

SEE YOU THERE



BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

From Bishop Don Kettler, Fairbanks, Alaska
December 11, 2002

Dear Mel,

Received your great letter and the most generous NAPP gift. Thanks to everyone for it.

Been on the road a lot -- in the villages, Washington, D.C., Anchorage, Juneau, Prudeau Bay next week.

Please keep praying for us. Your support is great. Have a blessed Christmas.

Bishop Don

Bishop Don

*From Pat Patten's Flying Medical Service
December 20, 2002*

Dear Mel Hemann and NAPP,

Thank you for your generosity and support. Your donation helps us meet medical needs in parts of Tanzania which are distant from ordinary health care facilities.

Flying Medical Service is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, charitable organization which has been in operation since 1983. We provide medical assistance to anyone in need, regardless of religious affiliation, ethnic origin, or ability to pay. Sponsored by the Spiritan missionaries and the Catholic church in the diocese of Arusha, we try to help people living in remote areas where sufficient health care and normal communication links do not exist.

Flying Medical Service now serves the health care needs in a large part of north-central Tanzania. We provide regular medical care to

dozens of remote areas by means of aircraft. Flying Medical Service also supplies rural hospitals with medicines and staff, and make emergency air ambulance available throughout Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Burundi.

We see an average of more than 50 patients each day. We are able to keep these services in operation thanks to donations such as yours which we receive today in good faith.

Gratefully,

Pat Patten

Fr. Pat Patten, C.S. Sp.

*From new member, Fr. Longin Buhake
St. Francis Catholic Church
Grapevine, Texas*

Dear Father Mel Hemann,

Happy New Year

I am so happy to hear from you and thank you very much for your kind letter. I come from the Democratic Republic of Congo, the same country with Father Denis. He is from the diocese of Tshumbe and I am from the diocese of Mweka. My diocese is about 300 miles from him his diocese. I don't know him but I met his bishop who told me about him.

I have a brother who is an airline pilot in Congo. I have been in the USA for one year. Last year I was studying English and I am still studying. As you may know, in Belgian Congo we are French speaking. I learn my English very

fast and I am very happy to be able to say masses and preach in English. I apologize for the mistakes you will find in my letter. I do not write much in English.

I met Bob in Saint Francis of Assisi Parish, my new parish where I have been assigned since last September. In this parish, there are many pilots and two of them, Bob Lavery and John Zap are very good friends. I am expecting to have my written test by the end of January and have my first fly lesson at the beginning of February. I hope that things will work out as quickly as I expect. I do appreciate your help and thank you very much.

The diocese of Mweka is a rural small diocese. With about 500,000 of the population and about 350,000 are Catholics. We have 55 priests working in the diocese. 20 parishes with church and rectory and 250 out stations which are small villages, 15 to 20 from each other. Each has a catechist to lead the service. Priests use to visit them on Sundays. Because of the war in the country for 4 years now, some churches were vandalized and some schools destroyed. No good roads and no good hospitals, 80% of the populations do not have access to the clean water or to the modern hospital. My dream is to become a missionary pilot to help my people.

This is in short the situation of the diocese of Mweka. Regarding my self, I came to visit my brother and I took the opportunity to study English. Three months later the situation got worst in my diocese. A priest from my tribe was killed in the civil war in my diocese and my family advised me to remain the USA until the situation is safe.

I am looking forward to hearing from you as soon as possible.

Sincerely in Christ,



Rev. Longin Buhake

The above letter is the result of the following 2 emails I received in early December.

Hello Father,

What a surprise finding out about your organization. I recently heard about SOLOS CAN and while researching that, my aviation

mentor Bob Lavery found NAPP. Do you have a web site? How about a brochure/flyer? I would love to help spread the word about your events and being a 4th degree Knight would also like to find out how I can join/help.

Regards,

John Zapp
AeroVents.com
817-571-5987

Hello Father Hemann,

I've recently started to do some ground school with a Priest friend who is helping out for a year or so in our parish, St. Francis of Assisi in Grapevine, TX. Father Longin Buhake is from Africa and will be returning in another two or three years. He would like to go home as a full fledged Priest-Pilot.

Having discovered the existence of the National Association of Priest Pilots, I'll appreciate it if you would share some information about your group with me, both because of my interest and because I think Father Buhake will be very interested.

I'm a full time Instructor/Pilot at CAE SimuFlite, a part 142 school on the DFW airport. I'm the Lead instructor in the Hawker 800 and 800XP program and stay very busy teaching in the classrooms and simulators and acting as check airman and pilot examiner in the Hawkers. I enjoy flying light singles and twins and I try to keep current in light airplanes and do what instructing I can in what little spare time is available.

I'll appreciate your comments. Do you have a web site?

All the best

Bob Lavery

Editor's Note:

I have been in touch, obviously, with the above. Father Longin is now an NAPP member as is Bob. You will find their names, addresses, etc. in the new directory included with this mailing.

I had an email from Bob several days ago. He has been working with Father Longin in preparing him for the knowledge exam. While in Canada recently Bob located prep materials in French which Father is using in his studies. When he passes Father Longin will become the 1st recipient of our NAPP \$500 scholarship.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIEST PILOTS CONVENTION

Ames, Iowa

July 8 - 9, 2003

Arrival: July 7 - Mon. Gather at Ames Airport

Hospitality at airport 1:30 PM till last arrival

July 8 - Tue.

***Tour C-6 "the cave" at Iowa State University**

The world's only 6 sided virtual reality room

*** Demonstratives, INC**

An Ames based company which illustrates aviation accidents

***Cookout dinner and annual meeting**

July 9- Wed.

***Fly to West Bend Grotto**

Alternate weather possibilities:

Botanical Garden; Historical Museum; Boone Railway

***Mass at St. Thomas Aquinas**

***NAPP dinner with Paul Berge, editor of IFR magazine, as speaker. .**

July 10- Thu. Departures

OUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME

IOWA STATE MEMORIAL UNION

St. Thomas Aquinas is located
across the street from the Union.

NB: *Make your own room
reservations there:*

Reservation Desk: 515-294-1031

Two twin beds @ \$54 per room

Two double beds @ \$64 per room

Room with either a queen or double bed @ \$54

Announce that you are with NAPP

More details regarding resevations, etc. will follow in this space

in future issues. Meanwhile, get the dates on the calendar.