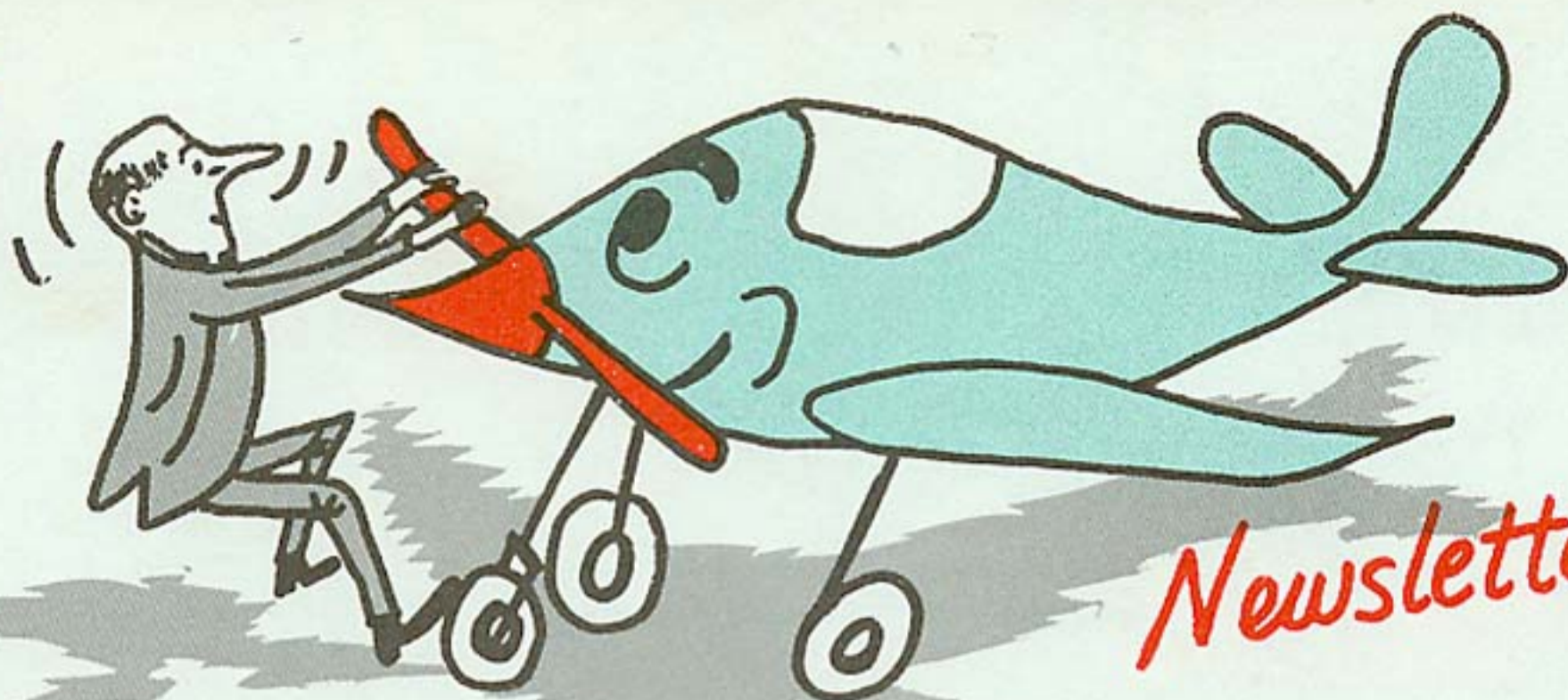


N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XVI

APRIL 1979

NO. 5

## Your President Says:

### ----- ABOUT TEAM COOPERATION

With our editor, Mel Hemann, and our faithful treasurer, Charlie Teufel, it was possible to put together the Pictorial Directory which the editor writes about in another place in this letter. I agree with Mel, it is enjoyable to see faces with names, it really gives it a much more personal touch. Charlie did a good job in forwarding the renewals with addresses and the pictures to Mel so we could have it as up-to-date as April 22. Thanks for your cooperation in this new venture. Since it's our money which we pay in our annual dues I guess we might as well enjoy this feature.

### ----- MISSING SOME OF MY FRIENDS

As I assisted in putting together the Directory I did become aware of some names missing, names of priest pilots who had been a part of our organization since its birth and others who joined us later. Please read carefully the editor's comments about this matter and respond to him before the end of June. We want you to be a part of us and we want to be a part of your life. Is that asking too much?

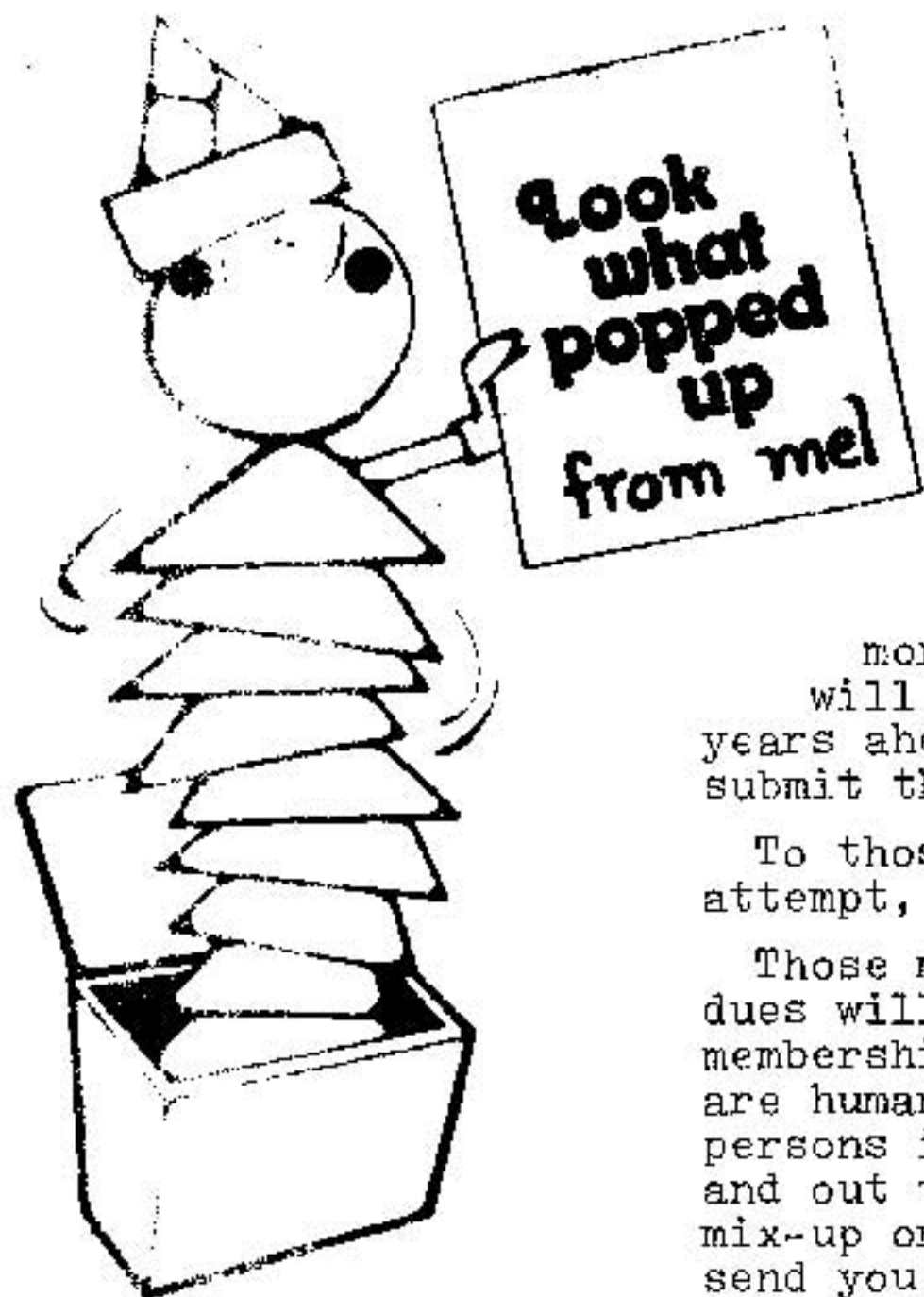
### ----- ABOUT OUR LAPEL PIN

All current paid up N.A.P.P. members should have a "Lapel Pin". Because we have a change in officers, every now and then, and because each officer has a different task to perform we aren't sure that all new members received the "Lapel Pin". If you are a new member and have not as yet received your "Lapel Pin" would you please request one from me: Rev. John W. Hemann - St. John's Rectory - 1701 Mulberry St. - Waterloo, Iowa 50703. I will be happy to forward on to you.

### ----- ABOUT OUR JULY CONVENTION

I'm already getting excited about it. Maybe it's because my two year term as President ends, maybe it's because I'm anxious to go flying (which I have done little of during this long cold winter) and maybe it's because I'm looking forward to seeing all of you again. Don't delay, send your reservations to Vic "TODAY".





Enclosed in this packet are several items. One, quite obviously, is this newsletter. Another quite obvious enclosure is the first attempt at an NAPP pictorial directory. It's been a lot of extra work in trying to get this together but I'm sure many of you will feel about this as we do.

Personally, I have found it rather interesting to open some of the envelopes the past few months and see a picture of someone whose name has been familiar for years. Somehow, it makes that person just a little more real. We certainly hope that this will also be your experience and that in the years ahead it will encourage more members to submit their "mug shot."

To those of you who responded to this first attempt, we say "thank you."

Those members who have paid their 1979 membership dues will also find in this packet their 1979 membership card. On this end we proudly admit we are human and since there are about five different persons involved in getting all of this together and out to you, I'm sure there will be an occasional mix-up or two. If so, please let us know and we'll send you your membership card.

It has been the policy of NAPP since its inception that anyone who felt the \$10.00 fee was beyond their means but would still like to be a member, we would gladly enjoy and welcome such individuals if they state they would like to be part of this illustrious group. So if you fall into that category, please let us know.

In some of these envelopes you will find another dues envelope. We are including that in all those who have not paid their 1979 dues in the event that you lost the one mailed to you in December. If we don't hear from you by the June mailing - either financially or some other indication that you still want to belong - we will do some sorting and culling.

What this all boils down to is the simple fact that if we don't hear from you we presume you no longer are interested. So please get your letter in the mail as soon as you receive this.

### Newsletter Address:

Mel Hemann  
St. Joseph's Church  
Chelsea, Iowa 52215

# Flying Grandfather, Conrad, Dead at 76

April 3, 1979

Pioneer pilot Max Conrad died in his sleep Tuesday at the home of a friend in Summit, New Jersey, relatives reported. He was 76.

Conrad, known as the "Flying Grandfather", had been cited for logging more flight time than any other pilot.

In January, he received the first Eagles of Aviation Award presented by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, Daytona Beach, Florida. He had logged more than 50,000 hours or the equivalent of almost six years airborne. Many of the flights were over the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, which he crossed nearly 200 times. In doing so he earned six distance and endurance flight records.

The pioneer pilot from Winona, Minnesota, learned to fly in 1928 and operated a flying service in the City until 1943.

Conrad first gained worldwide attention when he flew the Atlantic in a tiny plane in 1950 "just to see my kids" who were then living in Europe.

Some of his more spectacular nonstop flights included those from Chicago to Rome in March 1959, New York to Sicily in June 1959, New Jersey to Ireland in March 1958, New York to Paris in October 1954, and a record-breaking flight from Winona to New Mexico City in August 1951.

He established a speed record for light planes in 1953 when he flew from San Francisco to New York in 22 hours and 24 minutes. In November 1959, Conrad (then 56) flew non-stop from Casablanca, North Africa, 6911 miles to El Paso, Texas.

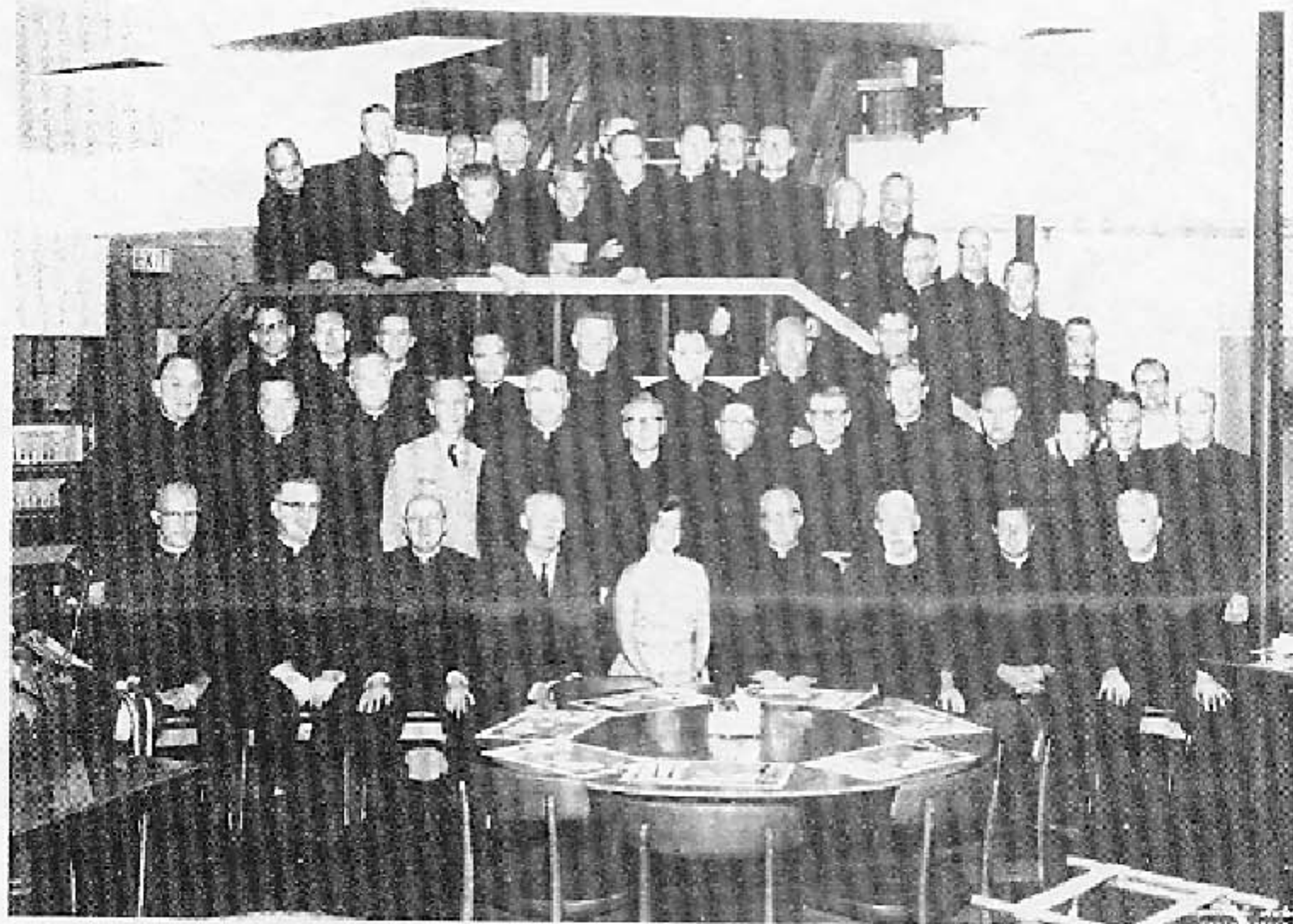
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The above was taken from the Winona paper. I am sure there will be many words written about him in the months ahead that will once again point out the tremendous contributions he has made to aviation.

We are running in this issue the group picture taken at the charter meeting where Max was the speaker at the banquet. I am sure it will bring back some fond memories to a lot of you.

Speaking for myself, I must say the opportunity of getting to know Max and see him quite frequently over a period of about ten years, leaves me with some fond and precious memories. To be invited to be part of the departure ceremony as he tried for that flight over the poles, to visit at his home, have him drop by my office on various occasions, share the grief of his wife's untimely death.... After that, he never seemed to ease that restlessness that was so much a part of his life but which Betty always seemed able to at least momentarily pacify. Being the excellent Catholic gentleman he was, I am sure that in death he has at long last found the peace that escapes all of us in this life.

REQUIESCAT IN PACE





JULY 12-16, 1964

CARROLLTON, KENTUCKY

Organizational meeting -- National Association of Priest Pilots  
Special Guest in front row: Max Conrad (Flying Grandfather) and  
Mrs. Russell (Jerrie) Mock (First Women to Fly Single Engine  
around the World) Both "World" Record Holders



Honorary N.A.P.P. member Max Conrad as he  
prepares to "Round-The-World/Over-The-Poles"  
Starting November 30, 1969



# Information on Annual Convention

On April 18-19 Father Victor Schoenberger hosted the following NAPP members in Rensselaer. Fathers John Lawler, Bob Sennott, Richard Reder, John Dompka, Tony Attea, Vic Schoenberger, and Nick Rossello.

Plans for the July NAPP convention include the following:

**Accommodations:** St. Anthony-on-Hudson Seminary, Rensselaer, New York, adjacent to Albany.

**Activities:** Monday, July 9 - picnic at the airport for all incoming members and their guests.

Tuesday, July 10 - A trip to Rhinebeck, New York to visit Cole Palen's Antique Aircraft Aerodome (antique World War I planes) and a possible demonstration.

Wednesday, July 11 - A scenic flying trip to Glens Falls, highlighting a boat trip on Lake George.

Vic says he has lined up the following speakers.

Mr. Reece Mitchell, Jr. of the GADO, FAA office, has consented to speak to the group on what private pilots may do by way of maintenance of their own aircraft.

Mr. Robert Bitner of Trenton, New Jersey, Vic's instructor, who has more than 35,000 hours in the air, most of which were spent as a captain for Capital Airline or later United Airlines. Now retired, he is still busy in aviation. Vic says, "I've asked him to speak about his first 35,000 hours in the air."

As of April 18 there are 20 registered for the convention. The reservation sheet is again included with this newsletter so please get it in as soon as possible.

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## ADDENDA TO MEL'S CORNER

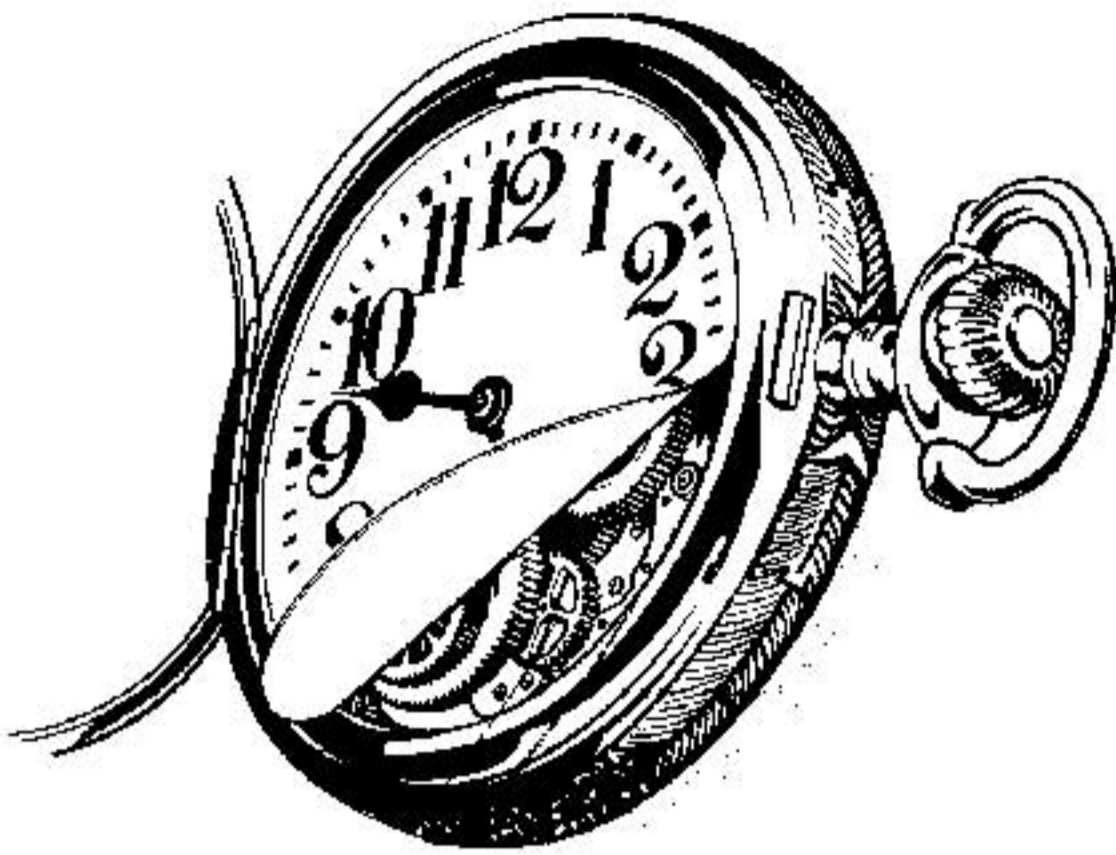
Many of you included with your picture some interesting information about yourself. In future issues we use some of our space to run a picture or two and the info about the members shown. We hope you will find this as interesting as we did.

Vic Schoenberger got the following letter from R.K. Smith, O.S.A. in response to an invitation to attend the July Convention.

"I was chairman of the San Diego Convention in 1969 and active for a few years. At the 1968 convention in Rapid City I picked up the name "Preacher" to commemorate the grave of Preacher Smith whose grave we visited on a bus tour. Since then, the name has stuck among the older members of the NAPP.

"I can't be at the Albany convention but show my newsletter around. Say you heard from "the Preacher."

"Regards to Mel Hemann and his brothers, Dick Skriba, Bob Sennott and all the bunch. Please arrange to get my name back on the roster. Things got involved and I regret being out of contact in recent years. I'm happy you wrote."



THERE'S  
STILL  
TIME!

Register Now for  
NAPP  
CONVENTION 1979!

July 10-11  
Rensselaer County Airpark  
New York

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

ETA (date & time) \_\_\_\_\_

ETD (date & time) \_\_\_\_\_

Arrival by:

\_\_\_ private plane N \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ commercial flight # \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ car

Send reservations to:

Rev. Victor Schoenberger, O.F.M.Con.  
Franciscan Mission House  
Rensselaer, N.Y. 12144

Phone: 518-465-0062

