

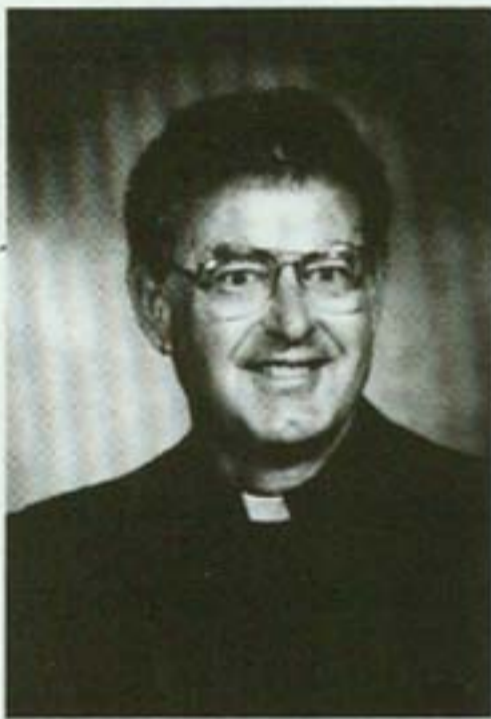
N.A.P.P.



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NO. 5



A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

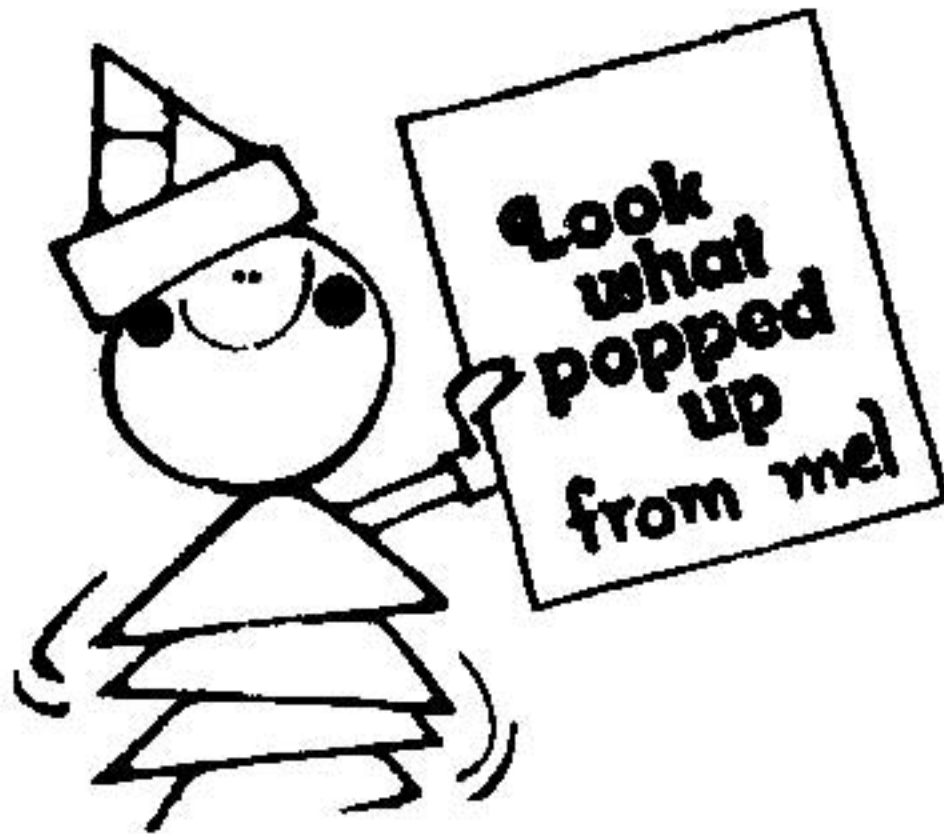
By the time you receive this you will be well into the joys of the Easter season. Hopefully Lent and Holy Week were uplifting and beneficial for you, spiritually and physically.

When you take your vacations, attend business or professional meetings, etc., share that information via the NEWSLETTER. It is always nice to know what others are doing. We can and do enrich one another.

[A NOTE FROM MEL]. While preparing this page I discovered that some how the letter Frank had sent me "disappeared." I called him and got the above information. "You fill the rest of the page," he laughingly said. "It's nice to know I'm not the only who loses things." The page is full so I'll quit.

*Frank Nemmers*





We call your attention to several items in this edition of the NAPP newsletter as well as in this mailing.

1. The annual NAPP directory. If I remember correctly, there are 126 names in the 1992 issue. As per usual, there are several we carry as *COMPLIMENTARY* members. A few others have not sent in their dues but I kept them on because I'm certain they forgot. Maybe next year will be the year they pay?

2. Information regarding two meetings. These notifications arrived the day the February newsletter was printed.

**FIRST:** Pertains to the MIDWEST REGIONAL meeting in Wisconsin Rapids, Wisconsin on May 4. At this point, rather than attempt to put together some kind of registration form, I have reproduced the letter host Bill Menzel sent to Regional director, Ev Hemann. His letter contains all the information needed. So, MIDWEST REGIONAL CONVENERS, either drop Bill a line or call him with your ETA and other pertinent information.

**SECOND:** The form Pete Sweeney sent to register and give your preferences for the National gathering in Frederick, Maryland July 7 and 8. This will be the first time in Maryland and Pete has given us some great options. If you haven't already done so, be sure and get those dates on your calendar.

3. There is an article I copied from *The EXTENSION SOCIETY* newsletter about Jim Kelley in Alaska. Because of its length I reduced the print size. I hope all of you can get through it OK. If you received the original last Fall you will note the NAPP print is larger than theirs. It's a good story.

4. Frank Nemmers received a nice letter from Peggy Baty of Parks Air College. We are including the letter to do with as you wish.

REMEMBER THE TWO MEETINGS COMING UP --- REGISTER EARLY.

**ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:**



**REV. MEL HEMANN**

20245 ST. JOSEPH DRIVE  
RICKARDSVILLE, IA 52039

319-552-2233

# St. Vincent de Paul Parish

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

February 23, 1992

Reverend Everett Hemann  
Loras College  
P.O. Box 178  
Dubuque, IA 52004-0178

Dear Everett:

Thanks for your letter of January 6, 1992, and sorry for taking so long to respond. I have only the usual excuses.

The time for our spring regional NAPP meeting draws steadily closer, so I thought that it would be wise to let you know a couple of points of information and also to ask if there is anything else that the regional members may need to know as they prepare to travel to ISW.

As you may remember, I had mentioned the possibility of going to Hardwood Range, a military bombing and strafing practice range. Well, I called Hardwood, and they would be delighted to have us, but...they will be closed for their annual two week range clean-up at that time. Nothing will be happening (should I volunteer us to pick up spent ordinance?) He said that if it were two or three weeks later, all sorts of things would be going on. Some of you guys must not be living right.

So how about if I try to arrange a ~~tour of Consolidated Papers~~ for the afternoon of Monday, May 4? I should think that it would be a very interesting tour, but the only link to aviation is that they probably make most of the paper for Flying magazine. If, instead, some of the guys would prefer to tour a cranberry business, I am told that there actually are a lot of interesting things to see at that time of year. However, you may see all you want to see of the marshes as you fly over them on the way into ISW.

Regarding flight planning, a couple of things come to mind. First of all, since the Hardwood Range will be closed, it is most likely that R-6904 will be cold (so you won't have to avoid it if you're VFR) and that the Volk MOAs will be inactive (so you won't be given circuitous routings if you're IFR). Obviously, ATC or FSS will be the final authorities on that matter. I would suggest contacting the ATC La Crosse low altitude sector controller on 128.6, as they are always aware of the status of R-6904 and the Volk MOAs.

There are going to be some construction cranes operating in the vicinity of ISW over the next few months that are going to raise the IFR approach minimums (why do I always want to say minima?) These raised minimums may not make the chart publication deadlines, so if the weather is down, be sure to check the NOTAMS. If you miss the approach at ISW, you can go on to Stevens Point (STE), only a half-hour drive from here; they have several good VOR or VOR/DME approaches with relatively low minimums. The nearest ILS is at Central Wisconsin Airport at Menomonie (CWA), and that's only a 50-minute drive from here. The construction cranes are going to be at the approach end of runway 20 at ISW, and there will be a considerable temporary displacement of the runway threshold.

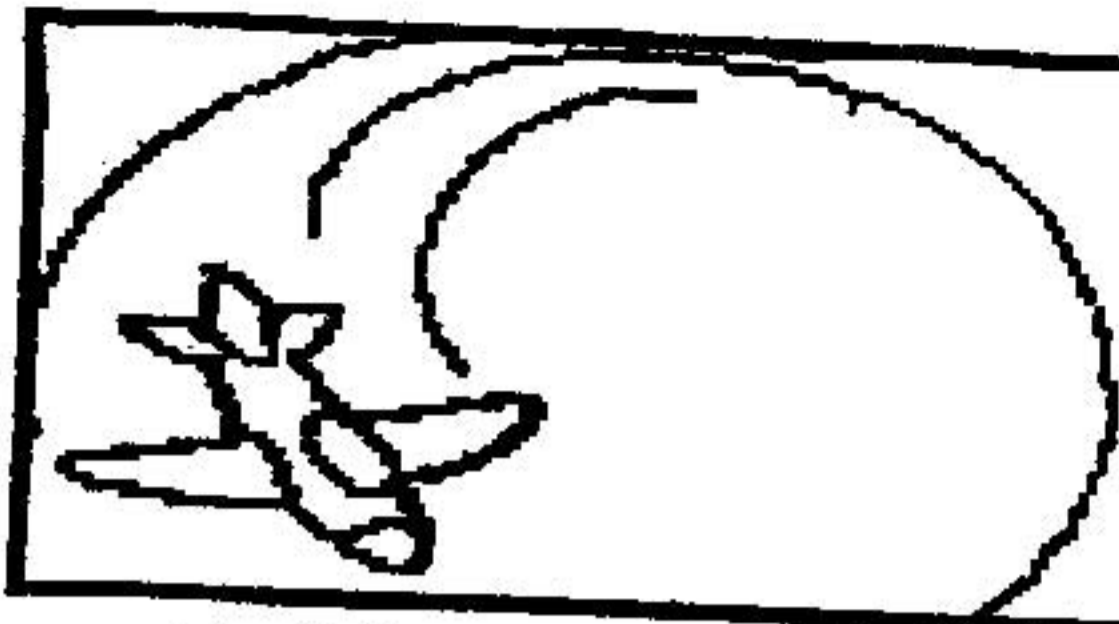
That's about all I can think of for now. If you have any information that I should know, or if you have any questions, please write or give me a call at the above number. I'm looking forward to our gathering in May. Have a good Lent and joyful Easter.

In Christ,



Rev. William G. Menzel





## BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

John Bellon, Detroit, sends the following news item from their priests' newsletter.

JIM FALSEY writes from Alaska: He enjoyed his first winter there "immensely." He has purchased a 1959 Cessna 172, which he enjoys flying but finds very expensive to operate ... He weathered a five-week stay on Little Diomed Island, helping build two houses, teaching, enduring power outages, and learning the joys of using a "honey bucket" .... Jim is guiding a building project at the parish in Nome and another at the tiny congregation in Unalakleet ... He has done a bit of hunting (killing a reindeer) and has feasted on ugarook (bearded seal meat) ... Jim presided at a recent funeral in Diomed, arriving by chopper, and then watched in amazement the local custom of taking the unembalmed body in a wooden box up the steep hill to be placed among rocks and stones. Jim writes: "A wood cross is placed at the head of the casket and a timber is placed alongside, the first piece of wood with which to build a home in the new world."

Thanks for the news, Jim. How about sending down some ugarook next time.

---

John Dompka, from St. Margaret Mary Church, Coraopolis, PA.

Greetings from the East. I am looking forward to our annual convention in Frederick, Maryland. A month or so ago I flew down there with a couple of friends. The weather here was perfect but when we arrived in Frederick the clouds came down and we turned around and went to Hagerstown. Beautiful country down there. The trip is about an hour and a half in a C172.

Tony Facciolo has been in Florida since November. He comes back every month or so by USAir to check on his business. He plans to be with us when we meet in Maryland. I do not know about Bill Browne, the retired USAir captain. If he is around he will be down. He is a widower and spends time checking on his three adult daughters who live in Salt Lake City and his son who resides in San Diego.

I will be here twenty five years in June. Whether that is good or bad I do not know but I suppose I will be here for the duration. The new rule is that pastors are appointed for six years with an option for six more. We are supposed to retire at 75. However, with the merging of parishes the Bishop simply appoints all priests as administrators until the situation is settled. As administrators you can go on and on until Bishop Wuerl decides to make a change. Charlie Teufel told me the priests of the Wheeling Diocese can now retire at 65. Covington is also 65 as is Nashville. Youngstown is 70. But in all cases the Bishop hopes the priests hang around and help out for sick priests, sabbatical priests and for priests on vacation.

Take care and see you in Maryland.

# Inner Circle Update

A Quarterly Bulletin for Inner Circle Members  
of The Catholic Church Extension Society

By this time of year, the Bristol Bay area of Alaska usually has had its first snow, and temperatures can dip down to minus-8.

But Father James Kelley says the freezing weather won't keep him from saying Mass at 13 different mission stations this month. "The weather hasn't deterred me yet," says Father, a 62-year-old retired Navy chaplain who last spring came to Alaska to offer his services as a priest and - almost as important in a region like this - as a pilot.

You see, to serve the isolated Catholics on Alaska's southwest peninsula, a priest really needs to be a pilot. The little towns here are inaccessible except by plane, and there are no resident priests for Holy Rosary Parish and its missions which are spread over a 33,000-square-mile area.

Knowing how much he is needed, Father Kelley says the only time he won't fly is when the experienced bush pilots won't, like when it is 30-below.

Born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, this tall, trim priest has seen the world. He joined the Navy for four years before entering St. John's Seminary in Boston and being ordained for the Diocese of Fall River in 1961.

In 1968 he signed up as a Navy chaplain and spent 23 years in Navy hospitals and on three different aircraft carriers all over the world. "I was just beginning to like it when I had to get out," he laughs.

Although officially "retired," Father was not ready to quit. He called Most Reverend Francis Hurley, Archbishop of Anchorage, and asked if this Alaskan archdiocese needed him. In an area as vast and priest-poor as this far-north part of Mission America, an experienced pilot and dedicated priest was welcomed with open arms.

Father lives at the Air Force Satellite Base in King Salmon, Alaska. He offers Mass twice there and once in Naknek each weekend. "The only road out here is the one to Naknek where there are 30-40 practicing Catholics," Father says.

The surrounding terrain is made up of tundra and rivers. At certain times of the year, you can walk on the tundra, but you cannot drive on it because you would simply sink. So Father Kelley must fly to 12 other villages in the "bush," each of which he tries to visit every two to three weeks.

He flies a Cessna 182 single-engine airplane furnished by the archdiocese through the generosity of Extension donors.

Father Kelley has that pioneer spirit that brings most outsiders to the rugged Alaska. "I think I've died and gone to heaven. See, I like being a priest, first of all. And then I've always loved flying. So, to put the two together is really great."

There are difficulties and problems, however. The economy of the area is dismal and will worsen this

winter, according to Sister Marie Ann Brent, SHF, pastoral administrator of Holy Rosary in Billingham.

Fishing, the mainstay of the economy, takes place only in summer. The salmon season runs June through July. There is a short herring season in May and one for silver salmon in August. Many people, says Sister, must live the entire year off what they earn during these few months.

"There are going to be people who can't buy their winter fuel," she says. "Due to the salmon boycott this year, people were not even able to make enough money for payments on their boats, let alone enough to buy food off the barges from Seattle. They are desperate."

Father takes up a collection at Naknek because this mission is trying to raise money to build a church. And occasionally someone may hand him a \$10 bill which he puts toward the upkeep of the plane.

He once received \$75 from the mission at Cold Bay, but this paid for only half of the gas needed to fly there. And Father Kelley estimates he will need a new engine for his plane within a few months.

That is why your Inner Circle membership is so vital to Father Kelley. Without your help, he would not be able to continue flying to all the isolated missions he serves.

In the event that his plane should go down, Father carries 80 pounds of survival equipment with him: an ax, a shovel, a heater, a 30-below sleeping bag, a tent and water purification tablets. None of this equipment, however, will allow him to stay in Alaska for the 10 years he has promised the archbishop if he cannot get the support he needs. Your support is needed for the Church to survive and grow in Alaska and throughout Mission America.

The people depend on Father Kelley for the celebration of the Eucharist and the other sacraments. He already has blessed the fishermen's boats at the start of the salmon season, had one funeral for a Native man killed in a plane crash, performed a wedding and celebrated six Baptisms and several First Communions.

"I have several children preparing for Confirmation and First Communion. And one of the men on the Air Force base is becoming a Catholic, so I've been working with him for several months."

This is not a place where you will find huge numbers of Catholics. But when people are so far removed from the comforts of life that most of us take for granted, they are concerned about their parish life in ways others might not be. After all, "it's all you have," explains Sister Marie Ann.

For Father Kelley, the most rewarding experience in the last seven months has been finding Catholics in villages where no one thought there were any.

For instance, people told Father there were no



Catholics in Ioglak, about 150 miles from King Salmon. "Well, I'll just swing by there and check it out," he decided. At first, he found one Catholic, but now 13 attend Mass from the town of about 700 people. "I'm really happy about that," he said proudly. Two of the new parishioners are Native Americans, a couple are Mexican and the rest are from the Lower 48.

Father usually says Mass in someone's house or in the community's tiny public school building. "It is so encouraging for me to serve these parishioners because they are so overjoyed whenever I come to see them," says Father Kelley. "They say, 'When are you coming back?'"

In the Lower 48, says Father, people sometimes take their religion for granted. "The priests are going to be there every Sunday, whereas out here, it's not that certain."

The farthest place he has flown to looking for Catholics is False Pass, about 340 miles from the Air Force base at King Salmon. According to

Father, whatever it takes to bring Christ is "no problem. It's for the missions," he says.

Father is not surprised that without a presence of priests on a daily or weekly basis, some people who once were Catholic are now Russian Orthodox or members of a fundamentalist Protestant Moravian sect. "I guess they are looking for some spiritual nourishment and have no opportunity to see a priest," concedes Father. "I met someone like that the other day, and I said to him, 'Hey, you ought to come down to Mass.'"

Without Father Kelley's presence here, there would be no one to bring the Mass and sacraments to Catholics in this extremely remote area.

Your caring support and prayers for Father Kelley - and home missionaries throughout Mission America - are making the difference in keeping a Church presence in the most isolated parts of our country.

On February 15 the Father of 3 NAPP members - Mel, John and Ev Hemann - died. Last May exploratory surgery diagnosed his discomfort as a malignant tumor growing in his bladder wall. At his age - 87 - he was informed he was physically unable to withstand treatments powerful enough to kill the cancer. Upon his release from the hospital, he elected to do nothing and he entered the local nursing home. There he lived out the last 8 months of his life in much the same manner he lived the previous 86 years. His wit, his love of life, and his deep faith in God brought joy, hope and inspiration to all around him, residents as well as staff.

When Mom died in 1987, 2 of their eight children were unable to be present when she died. On February 15, those two were the only ones with Dad as he entered into his new life.

Dad and Mom were great fliers and enjoyed the conventions they attended with us. A high point for them was the 1984 gathering on our family farm. We miss them - but rejoice with them - in their new union in the eternal Easter that is theirs.



SAINT LOUIS UNIVERSITY  
PARKS COLLEGE

Cahokia, Illinois 62206  
618/337-7500

April 7, 1992

Father Frank Nemmers  
P.O. Box 37  
Larchwood, IA 51241

Dear Father Nemmers:

I recently received a very kind note from Fr. Lagesse indicating that several of the Priest Pilots were still talking about their experience here at Parks last summer. I hope the group is planning to return sometime in the near future.

While you were here someone mentioned that the NAPP may be holding their meeting in 1992 at Oshkosh? Is this the case? Parks College will be celebrating the kick-off to its 65th academic year at Oshkosh this summer with a large tent and static airplane display. We would like to ask any members of NAPP to join us if planning to attend the Convention.

Also, the College is planning a dinner on Saturday evening, August 1, at the Pioneer Inn at Oshkosh. We would enjoy having members of the NAPP join us if they would like. We can send more information if you think the group would be interested.

As part of our display this year at Oshkosh we are hoping to fly in one of the original Parks P-1 airplanes, built back in 1929. We are currently undergoing a major fundraising campaign to raise \$80,000 in time to buy the plane before Oshkosh. As of today, we have raised a little over \$30,000. Perhaps a note in your newsletter, would help generate some response? Please let me know if this would be appropriate.

Again, we enjoyed hosting the NAPP last summer and would like to do it again sometime! I enjoyed meeting all of you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peggy Baty".

Peggy Baty, Ed.D.  
Associate Vice President  
and Dean

Enclosure: P-1 Photograph

Frederick, Maryland - Jc

## NAPP NATIONAL CONVENTION

Frederick, Maryland - July 7-8, 1992

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### ARRIVAL INFORMATION

\_\_\_\_\_ Fly-In \_\_\_\_\_ Commercial Airline \_\_\_\_\_ Car  
(Baltimore, National or Dulles Airports)

ARRIVAL: Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTURE: Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

### POSSIBLE CONVENTION ACTIVITIES (check items of interest to you)

_____ AOPA Tour	_____ Baltimore Basilica
_____ Air & Space Annex	_____ Mt. St. Mary College/Seminary
_____ Air & Space Museum	_____ Cross Country Flying - Tangier Island - Lunch Your Recommendation

CONVENTION SITE: Hood College, Frederick, Maryland  
AIRPORT: Frederick Airport  
LODGING: Coblenz Hall (Student Dormitory, A/C, Laundry facilities, etc.)  
COST: Approximately \$25.00

### CONTACT and/or SEND RESERVATIONS TO:

REV. PETER J. SWEENEY  
ST. PAUL CHURCH  
9240 DAMASCUS ROAD  
DAMASCUS, MD 20872  
(301) 253-2027 --- (301) 428-0558