

N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XXXIX AUGUST 2001 NO. 1



FROM THE PRESIDENT

The Convention was exciting. It is good to gather with "the brothers" for hangar flying and sharing of our lives. The best humor is that which happens by coincidence or juxtaposition of circumstances. Thus it was, that during the election for President of NAPP, Charlie Teufel and I would end up in a tie. Someone, quite innocently, said, "Let's have a recount." A moment of quiet. Then the roaring of laughter when we realized here we were in Florida, asking for a recount! Charlie was gracious in his concession.

It is an honor to serve as the 12th NAPP president. Looking at the Directory, there are 148 priest members

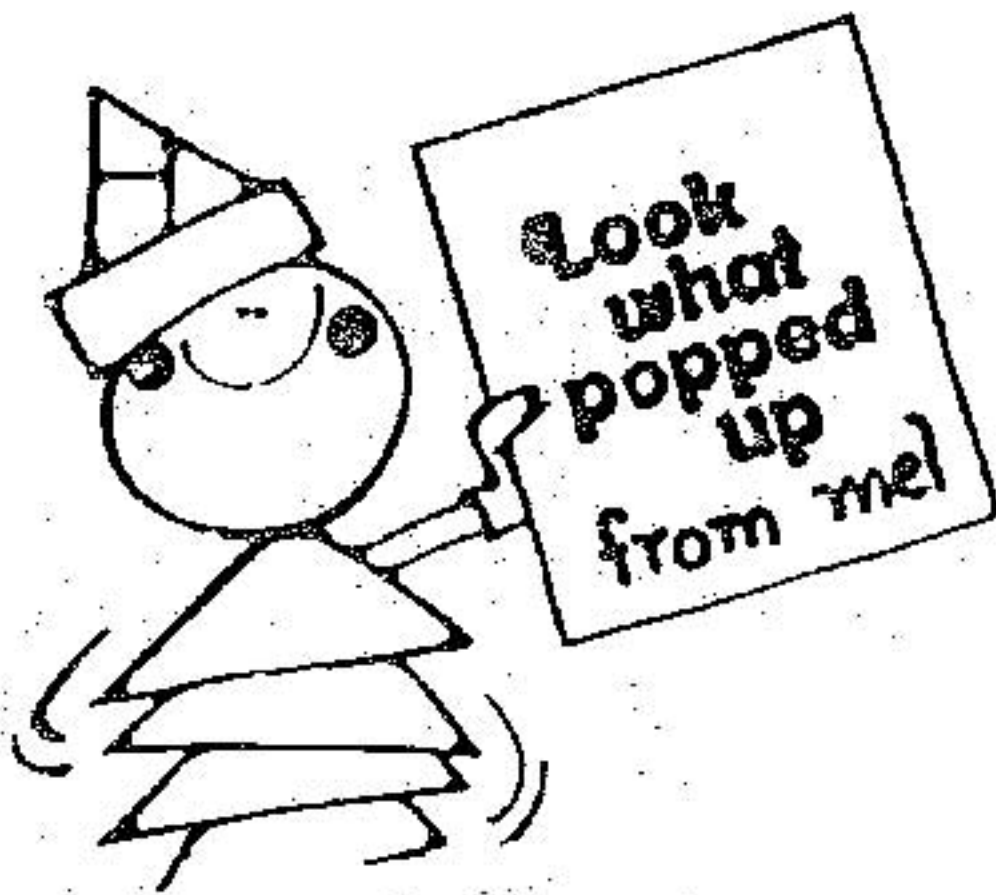
in 32 states and 7 Countries. Three are bishops. One of my goals is to get a few more members ordained to the episcopacy!!

Seriously, I have set a goal for myself and hope to make it an organization goal to attract new members. I think I am the first president elected who was NOT ordained in 1964 when NAPP was founded. The leadership is passed to a new generation.

I propose for discussion that we make some money available to younger priests who are interested in aviation but have not pursued the dream. I can think of three who have been ordained in the last 15 years in that category. Perhaps a little encouragement from us might be exactly what they need.

In the meantime, continue to enjoy the final days of summer.

Everett Hemann



In this issue we have our newly elected president's first message. As number 12 Ev brings out a couple of interesting and historical facts as well as challenges for the future.

In this issue you will find the minutes of this year's annual meeting. There is also a copy of the financial report given to the attending membership. We include it so all of you may bring yourselves up to date and have a better understanding of the annual NAPP contributions voted upon at the July meeting. We take this opportunity to remind the recipients of the annual gifts that will be mailed to you in December.

On Monday October 8 the Midwest NAPP members will gather in Urbana, Illinois. There is an informational and registration sheet prepared by host George Remm explaining the day's events. Plan to join us for an interesting day. Send your reservations to George in plenty of time for him to make all the needed preparations.

We remind you that several years ago the decision was made to begin the fiscal year on

July 1. Those who paid their 2002 NAPP dues at the Florida conference will find your new NAPP membership card enclosed. A couple members recently sent dues and your card is also enclosed. The rest of you will find the annual dues envelope. Please return it with your \$20 as soon as possible. If you feel so moved and want to include a bit more to help others it will be greatly appreciated.

If you have any interesting vignettes from your life or ministry to share with others please include that for inclusion in future newsletters. The human interest stories definitely do help in keeping our brotherhood together.

The NAPP minutes refer to two members who died this year. Fr. Bob Kirsch gave us details on the severe Palm Sunday down drafts in the Mexican mountains that brought Fr. Pancho to his death in the Piper Dakota he was piloting. Two of our past conferences were graced with Pancho's presence.

On July 6th Fr. Art Kleve, one of our Dubuque priests, entered eternal life after years of deteriorating health. I gave Art some of his flying lessons years ago. He attended a number of conventions over the years but his health forced him to give up flying about 10 years ago.

May they both rest in peace.

REMINDERS

OCTOBER 8, 2001
FALL MIDWEST REGIONAL
URBANA, ILLINOIS

2002 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Albuquerque, New Mexico

July 9 - 10, 2002

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:

REV. MEL HEMANN

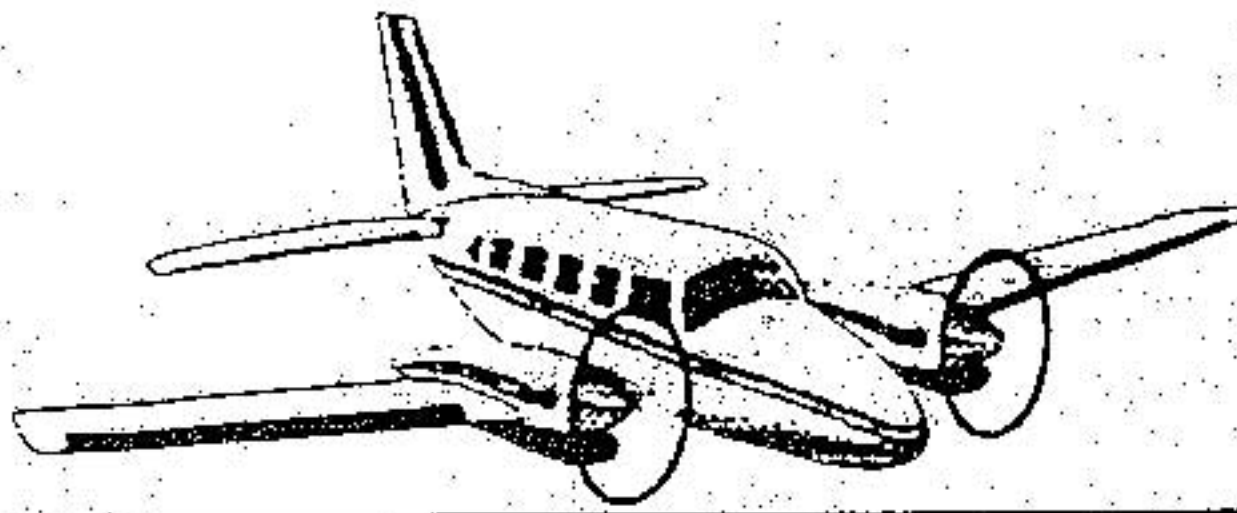
127 Kaspand Place

Cedar Falls, IA 50613-1683

319-266-3889

Email: DBQMhemann@arch.pvt.k12.ia.us





BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

*I received the following on August 17 from British
NAPP member, Fr. Peter Geldard*

Dear Mel,

What a wonderful group of people NAPP is - and what a perfect combination: fellow priests and fellow pilots!

I have been an 'overseas' member for about 8 years and have always wanted to try to be at an annual NAPP Convention but, until now, it has not proved practical or possible. This year though I was able to come "across the pond" to experience American flying and be with you all at Wing South Park, Florida in July. [As you know, I came across initially to try and get my IR ticket, which under your kind and gentle guidance I managed to do two days before we flew down to Naples.]

For nearly 3 days in Florida I enjoyed enormously the companionship, humor and hospitality of NAPP - 3 days of talking non-stop about flying, our work in the priesthood, and enjoying their good company. I was able to meet up with people whom I only had known previously by name or by correspondence, and also with a couple of members who had been to England in the past and had made contact with me.

I can assure you that my time with you all more than exceeded my expectations and has whetted my appetite to try and ensure that I come across and see you all again in the near future (hopefully next year). Meanwhile, do please

pass on my gratitude for the way that I was made welcome and the kindness that everyone gave to me.

Please could you also tell everyone that if they ever come across to this side of the Atlantic that I would be very willing to 'take them for a spin' - perhaps 'going foreign' across to France for lunch!

With all my best wishes and gratitude,

Fr Peter Geldard
Dean of Chaplains & Catholic Chaplain,
University of Kent at Canterbury
St John Stone House, 41 St Thomas Hill,
Canterbury, Kent CT2 8HW, UK

On a personal note, I had an unexpected delightful experience a few days ago. One of the salesmen for the Cirrus aircraft corporation has a sister living in our area. He comes in occasionally to visit her. About a year ago as he was waiting for her we struck up a conversation. When he discovered my vocation he said his wife was Catholic and mentioned the name of the priest who had officiated at their wedding. He is long deceased but it did serve as a point of reminiscing and sharing. When he left he said, "Next time I come we'll go for a ride in the Cirrus." Last Friday it finally happened. I flew the Cirrus SR22. Quite a bird but a few more bucks than I can swing.

Sunday, July 1, 2001

NAPP Checking

Category Summary Report

7-1-00 through 6-30-01

Opening Balance	421.36
Inflows	
NAPP Convention	3,585.00
NAPP Dues	<u>2,659.82</u>
Total Inflows	6,666.18
Outflows	
NAPP Newsletter	1,297.92
Postage	471.67
Envelopes	37.66
Donation - St. Paul Mission	<u>1,000.00</u>
Total Outflows	2,807.25
Balance July 1, 2001	3,858.93

NAPP Savings

Register Listing

7-1-00 through 6-30-01

Opening Balance	7,000.00
Deposit --- Interest Earned	<u>544.06</u>
Balance July 1, 2001	7,544.06

A FEW 2001 CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

WING SOUTH - NAPLES, FLORIDA
July 10 - 11, 2001



**NAPP MIDWEST REGIONAL
MONDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2001**

**FRASCA FIELD (C16), URBANA, IL
HOME OF THE INTERNATIONALLY FAMOUS FRASCA SIMULATORS**

**Local Host: Rev. George Remm, St. Patrick's Church
708 W. Main St., Urbana, IL 61801
217-367-2665**

Overnight accommodations:

1. St. Patrick's Parish House, 205 W. California, Urbana, IL
 2. Park Inn, 2408 N. Cunningham Ave., Urbana, IL 61801, 217-344-8000
- This is across the highway from the airport, about 2 blks. Mention the Frasca rate

Approximate Schedule:

1. Arrival: 11:00 AM
2. 12:00 Noon: Lunch at the Clubhouse on the field
3. Tour of the War Birds Museum
4. 2:00 PM: Tour of the design and manufacturing plant of the Frasca Simulators
Presentation by Rudy Frasca on the history of the business
Presentation on the design and engineering of simulators.
5. 3:30 PM: Possible hands on experience of the Frasca Simulators
Alternate: Tour of the Churches of Champaign-Urbana
 - a. St. Mary's, the mother church of the area
 - b. St. Patrick's, celebrating our centennial this year
 - c. Holy Cross, a classic building
 - d. St. Matthew's, the kid on the block
 - e. The High School of St. Thomas More, beginning its 2nd year of operation
6. 5:00 PM: Supper at the Clubhouse on the field
7. Departure: 6:30 - 7:00 PM

**Frasca Field (C16): 1 mi. N of city. El. 735. Pattern, 1535 MSL.
Runways: 9-27, 4,000 X 57 concrete, rt, t/c ry 27; 18-36, 3,150 X 140, turf
APP: Champaign, 121.35 Unicom: 122.8 VOR: 110.0 U. of IL-Willard (CMI)
Phone: 217-367-8441**

RESERVATION To LOCAL HOST

Name: _____
Address: _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone: _____
Arrival: _____ Special Need _____
Number in Party _____

2001 NAPP MINUTES

Little Bar Restaurant - Marco Island - Florida

July 11, 2001

Our two-term ending lame duck President, Fr. Al Werth, seemed more sprightly than lame as he prayerfully opened our 38th meeting at 7:40 PM in the dining room of the Little Bar restaurant on Marco Island, Florida. Much appreciation was expressed to our dedicated hosts, George Gratton and Fr. John "Nobby" Walsh who were ably assisted by Fred Wright. Special attendees were amicably acknowledged: Fr. Peter Geldard from England, Stanley Radzieta (brother of +Fr. Ray Radzieta), Fr. Jim Flavin, Fr. Ray Crowe, CSSR, Fr. Denis Kitenge from the Congo, Africa and Msgr. Frank Mouch. Our housing, along with the hospitality of George Gratton and Fred Wright, was comfortable and inexpensive at Comfort Inn. Our airport fly-in base was the Wing South Airport, Naples, Florida. While most of our 42 attendees arrived by commercial air or by car, nine member airplanes touched down on the Wing South runway: Attea, Gratton, E. Hemann, J. Hemann, M. Hemann, Kirsch, Sweeny, Teufel and Werth. Threatening weather prevented a convention flying event, but we had several ground excursions including Caribbean Gardens, Fishing, Fantasy of Flight and other options.

42 persons were in attendance: 6 Charter Members: Reverends John Bellon, John Hemann, Mel Hemann, Bob Kirsch, Frank Mouch and Phil Schmitt. (Bellon and Kirsch have not missed in 38 meetings, Alleluia!); 21 Regular Members: Reverends Tony Attea, Bill Bevington, Ray Crowe, Jim Flavin, Peter Geldard, E. Hemann, Jim Kelley, Merlin Kieffer, Dino Lorenzetti, Mike Nash, Jack Paisley, George Remm, Nick Rossello, Al Ruschman, Jerry Scanlon, Owen Shanley, Peter Sweeney, Charlie Teufel, John Walsh, John Wehrlen and John Wolesky; 13 Associate Members: Jack Boyle, Tim Brown, Bill Browne, Jeff Bryant, Jack Devine, George Gratton, Mike Makelbust, Carmen Marchiole, Mike Murray, Stan Radzieta, Edwina Tabares, Marty Winnert and Fred Wright; and 1 Complimentary Member: Rev Denis Kitenge.

MINUTES: The minutes of our 2000 Anchorage, Alaska meeting were devotedly provided by Fr. Mel Hemann. Motion: That the

minutes be accepted: Gratton/Wright; passed unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A written report was distributed by Treasurer, Fr. Mel Hemann. Comment: There was no submission of any bill by Archbishop Hurley for the 2000 Convention expenses. As of July 1, 2001 our Checking Account balance was \$3,858.93 and our Savings Account balance was \$7,544.06. Motion: To gratefully accept the Treasurer's report: Boyle/Wolesky; unanimous passage.

CONVENTION 2002: Our New Mexico delegation invited us to New Mexico again for the third time (1978 Santa Fe and 1986 Las Cruces). The convention will be based at Albuquerque, N.M. We plan to visit VLA, VERY LARGE ARRAY, the world's foremost radio telescope array penetrating the secrets of our universe. We will also visit Holloman AFB, the standby landing site for the Space Shuttle. Edwina Tabares, Associate Member and president of the FOPPERS (Friends of Priest Pilots) will be the chairperson of the Convention Committee. A show of hands indicated that we might expect 40 persons and six airplanes. Motion: To accept New Mexico for 2002; Wright/Boyle; unanimous acceptance.

CONVENTION 2003: NAPP was invited to Ames, IA by Fr. Ev Hemann and to Maryland by Fr. Pete Sweeney. (Fr. Mike Nash proposed Alaska for 2005). Motion: That we convene in Iowa in 2003; Paisley/E. Hemann; unanimous.

REGIONAL MEETINGS: Eastern: No general meeting; multiple committee phone conferences for the Florida convention. Midwestern: Fr. J. Hemann reported an Oct. 2000 meeting in Waterloo, IA at Livingston Aviation, named after John Livingston, Waterloo native aviator who was the inspiration for Richard Bach's "Jonathan Livingston Seagull." In April 2001 the Midwest members gathered in Nashua, IA for, among other things, an interesting report from Jim Weber who served as Mother Teresa's pilot for her U.S. visits. Western: Fr. Bob Kirsch reported committee discussions for the 2002 convention.

INVESTMENT COMMITTEE: There was no Investment Committee report.

MEXICO REPORT: Fr. Bob Kirsch, Western Region director, told of the continuing flights, once or twice a month, into the remote mountains of Mexico transporting, doctors, health workers, paramedic trainers, food, medicine, etc. Our member, Edwina, is still the only flying grandma in Mexico (whom we know of). The tragic death of our Regular member, Fr. Francisco "Pancho" Chavez Acosta on April 8, Palm Sunday of this year in the fatal crash of the Mission Piper Dakota XBETB resulted in a heavy cross for all of us on the Mexico Mission to carry. We have no one of his qualifications to replace him. Pancho was the only priest of the area who was fluent in both the Tarahumara and Tepuan Indian languages. Our prayers and special remembrances at the Holy Altar are requested for the needs of our Mexico ministry.

ALASKA REPORT: The untimely death of our Regular Member Bishop Michael Kaniecki, S.J. on August 6 of last year (within a month of our Anchorage meeting) has been a deeply felt loss for the Fairbanks Alaska diocese. Bishop Mike died suddenly in the sacristy of a Mission Chapel as he was preparing for Confirmation. Fr. Jim Kelley reported that the weather has been generally flyable. The new Archbishop of Anchorage, Roger L. Schwietz, has soloed. Brother Craig, OMI is working on his Instrument ticket. There is a new church out on the Aleutian chain at Dutch Harbor with a resident priest. Holy Mass is celebrated in the canneries in Spanish for the Mexican workers. There are also special ministries to the Samoans and the Philipinos. Fr. Schwarte is flying a C-182 on floats out of Wrangell, Alaska. The Diocese of Fairbanks still has the C-180 and C-207 flown by our departed brother, +Bishop Mike Kaniecki, S.J. Any volunteer pilots, lay or clergy?

DONATIONS: Inasmuch as we had available \$3,000 for donations, due in part to the fact that there was no bill submitted by Convention 2000 host Archbishop Hurley, it was suggested that funds be allotted to three different recipients: 1). Fr. Denis Kitenge for his pilot/mechanic training program; 2). Kelley/Teufel proposing Mexico Mission needs and 3). Ev Hemann/Winnert proposing Alaska Mission aviation needs, specifically assisting Archbishop Roger L. Schwietz in pursuit of his pilot's license. Motion: That all three proposals be accepted: E. Hemann/Rossello;

unanimously accepted. \$1,000 will be donated to each of the three Mission needs.

ELECTIONS: President: Kirsch nominated Teufel; Radzieta nominated Ev Hemann. Motion: That nominations be closed: Kelley/Paisley; unanimous. Vote: Teufel 20, E. Hemann 20. At first Teufel concedes to E. Hemann, then Teufel amends his concession. Teufel had previously refrained from voting; then he cast his vote for E. Hemann breaking the tie. Thanks to Charlie and congratulations to Ev!!! 2nd Vice-President: Kirsch nominates Teufel; Kelley nominates Remm. Motion: That the nominations be closed; Kelley/Schmitt; unanimous. 31 votes for Teufel; Remm concedes. Thank you to George and congratulations to Charlie!!! Secretary: E.Hemann nominates Kirsch; Motion: That the nominations be closed: E. Hemann/Nash. Bob gratefully and humbly agrees to continue on as Secretary.

ANNOUNCEMENT: 1) Prayers are requested for Fr. Art Kleve who 'graduated' from the School of Life into the Fullness of Life on July 6th. 2). Fr. George Remm in behalf of NAPP expresses gratitude to our 2001 host committee. 3). Fr. John Hemann expresses NAPP's appreciation to Fr. Al Werth for two terms of dedicated service as President. 4). George Gratton expresses his thanks to Fr. John Walsh, Fr. John Hemann, Fr. Phil Schmitt and Fred Wright for their assistance.

NAPP, INC: We continue to be beholden to Fr. Al Ruschman for again faithfully covering our standing as a Non-Profit Corporation in the State of Kentucky.

ADJOURNMENT: President Al Werth entertains motion for adjournment; so moved by Kirsch (No second needed on motion to adjourn); Unanimous. Convention 2001 adjourned at 8:50 P.M.

Felicitously submitted,

Fr. Bob K.

Fr. Bob J. Kirsch, Secretary