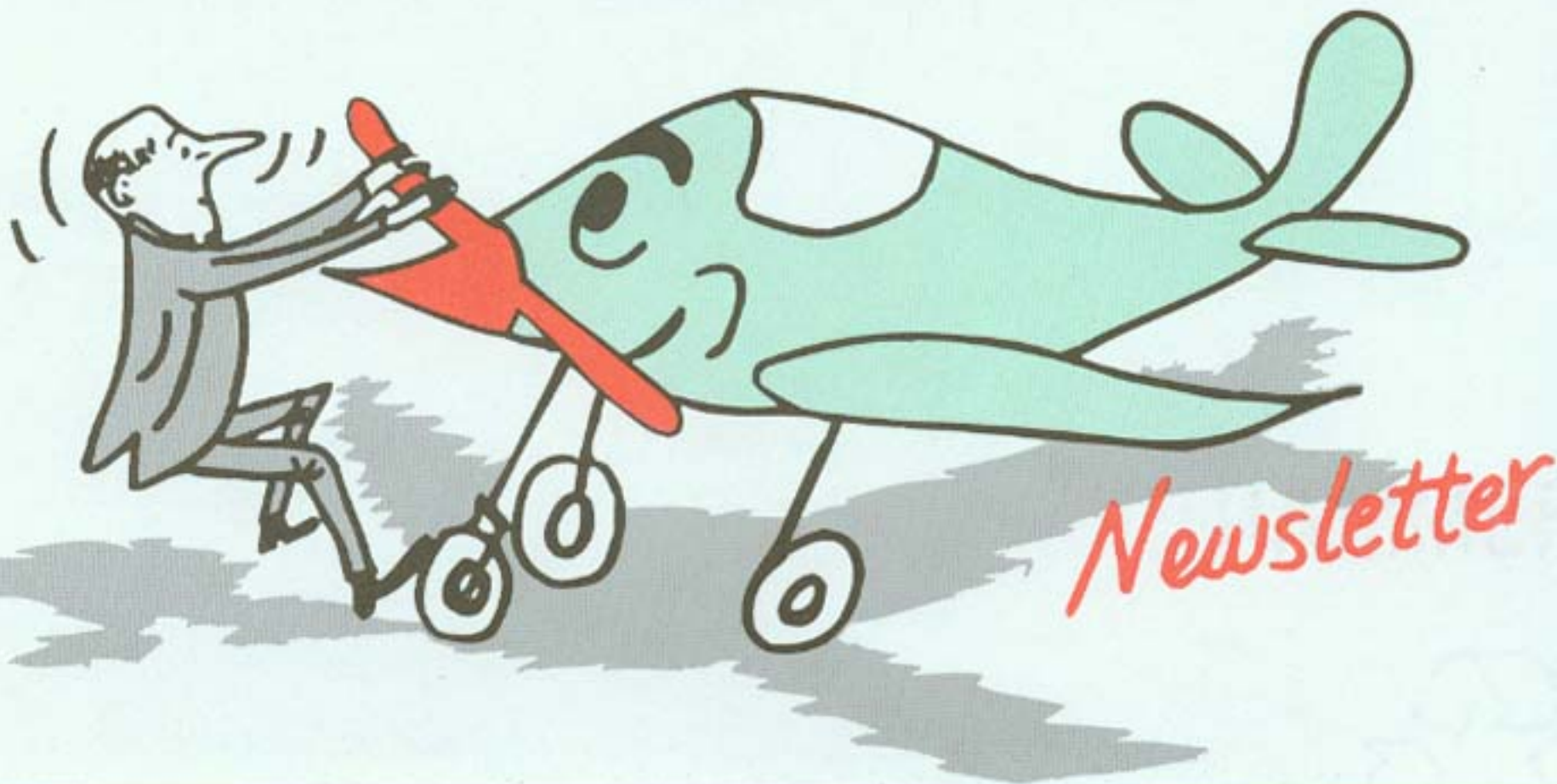


N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XXXIX OCTOBER 2001 NO. 2



FROM THE PRESIDENT

How often have you heard or said, "Life will never be the same"? Regardless of your age, I am sure that the number during these past 7 weeks more than doubles the rest of your lifetime combined. Life has radically changed for us and our people.

The loss of life is always tragic. But the sheer number of violent deaths in peace time is unprecedented and shakes our lives. The majority of our population has never experienced such vulnerability and lack of security. We are anxious and frightened.

The events of these two months have encouraged many to reexamine priorities. Faith and family emerge as much more important values. I live on a college campus. Young people, who tend to emphasize individuality and personal freedom, suddenly are recognizing the need for community. It is important to gather

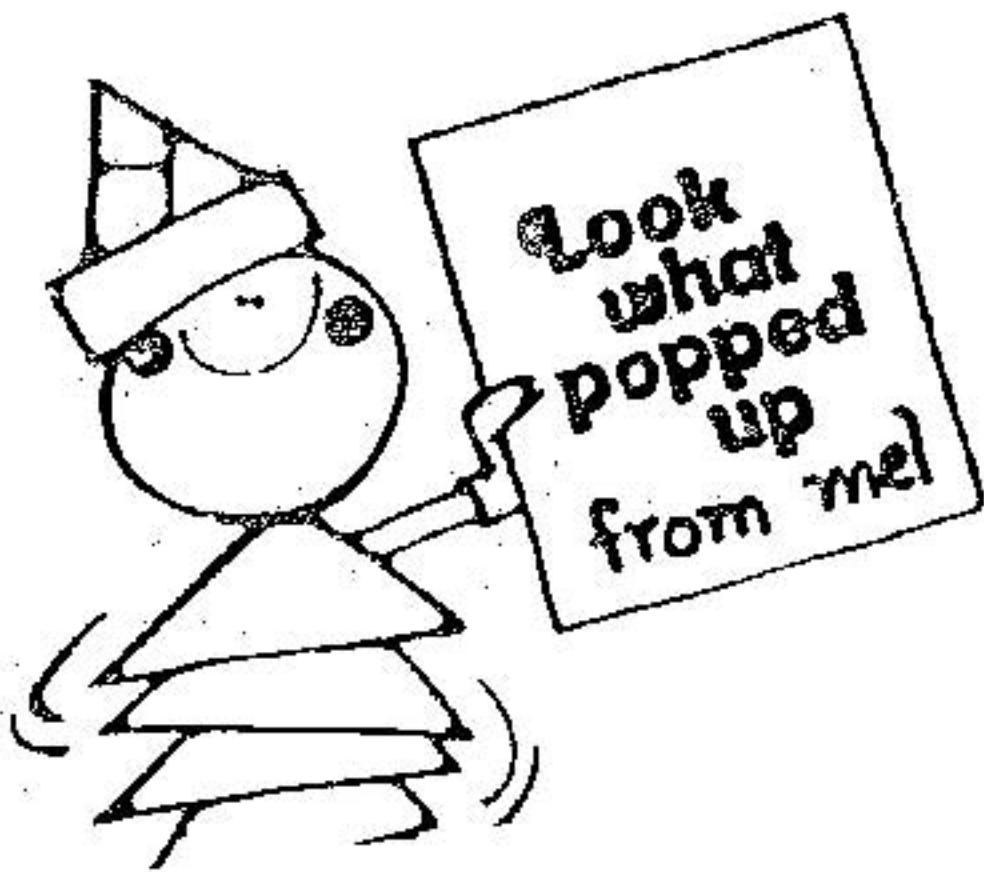
and discuss important issues. Students spontaneously gather to PRAY together!

This is a time of faith and opportunity for spiritual growth. Let us seize the moment. As many examine their lives they are incredibly open to hearing the message of placing our trust in the Lord. For many, it is the first time they have understood that invitation because it is the first time that they have experienced such radical vulnerability.

Young people have not been asking questions about values like this since the 1960s. It is also a time many want to examine questions of justice, peace and war. People my age and younger are asking, "Why is it that so many people don't like us? What is it about our life style that makes others perceive us as the enemy?"

It is difficult to find anything good in such violence. But for people of hope, the grace of God is present. Can you think of any better example of Paschal Mystery than NYC response to the terrorist attack?

Everett Hemann



We are grateful to those members who have joined us for the first time or have renewed. Our paid up list stands now at 91. There are still others whom we hope will mail in the renew envelope that comes with this newsletter.

Those who sent their dues since the last mailing will find their 2002 NAPP membership card enclosed. The rest of you have another dues envelope to jog your memory. Thanks for your response and your continued commitment to NAPP.

We are once again the bearers of "not so good news." Two of our members died within the past couple of months. Msgr. Joseph Gefell was a charter member. Brian Ballard was an on again, off again, member over the years.

Details are included in the newsletter.

The Fall midwest gathering hosted by Fr. George Remm and Rudy Frasca of Urbana, Illinois was another special day. A few pictures accompany the story in this newsletter.

The following reminders are intended to

assist in your long range planning. The particulars on the Spring gathering at Rockwell Collins Radio in Cedar Rapids, Iowa will be shared with you as they develop.

REMINDERS

LATE APRIL, 2002
SPRING MIDWEST REGIONAL
CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA

2002 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Albuquerque, New Mexico

July 9 - 10, 2002

Fr. Bob Kirsch informs me the planning is progressing well. It appears to be another wonderful outing in the offing. More specific details should be available early next year.

As I was putting the finishing touches on this particular newsletter today's mail arrived. In the pile that arrived there was an envelope from Fr. Knobby Walsh with a note that simply said "a collection of stuff."

There was a very interesting picture taken by a navy photographer that showed the precise moment a plane broke the sound barrier. Unfortunately we can't reproduce the picture. Maybe Knobby can bring it with him to next year's convention.

He also included a financial report on the south Florida convention in July. We include it for all to see and thank those who made donations for the benefit of us all.

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



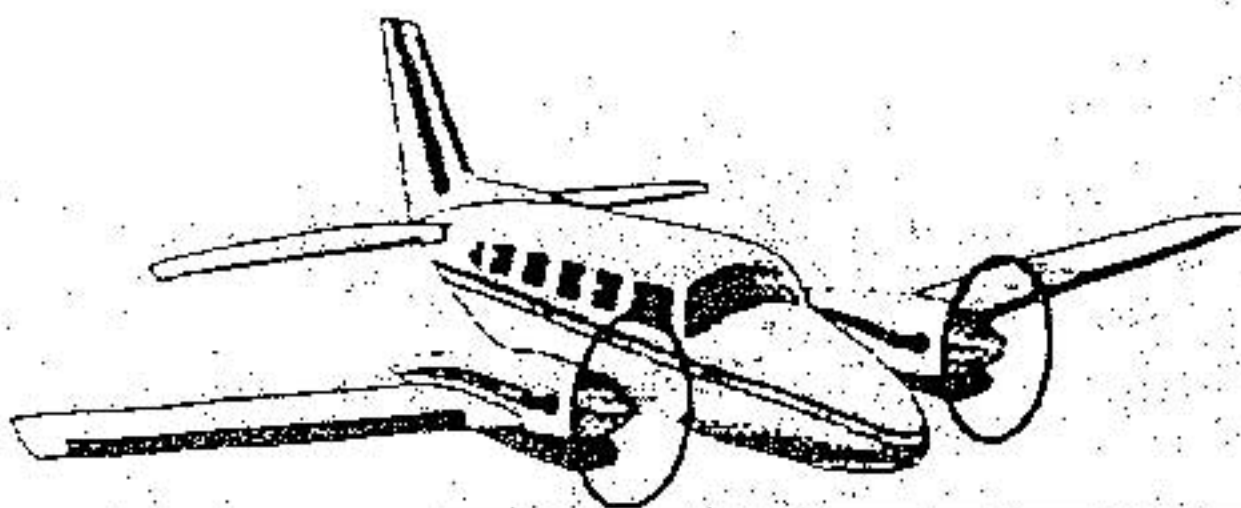
REV. MEL HEMANN

127 Kaspand Place

Cedar Falls, IA 50613-1683

319-266-3889

E-Mail: DBQMHeumann@arcbr.pvt.k12.ia.us



BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

Sept. 1 EMail from new NAPP member

Thanks for the newsletter. I just joined the Association.

I am a 19-year ordained priest in good standing of the Diocese of Cleveland and have been a Private Pilot since March, 2000.

I am busily trying to wrap up my instrument rating, but have had a few obstacles (airplanes down for maintenance, one instructor hired by airlines, second instructor quit the flying school [not because of me!]). Anyway, I should have only the three hour prep and two hour ground school prior to the check ride, and then I will be IFR.

I am based at 5K Flights at Cleveland Hopkins Airport.

This is the weekend of the Cleveland Air show, so on Monday I will be watching the Blue Angels do their thing over the waters of Lake Erie. It should be great...it always is.

Anyway, I thought I would drop you a line and say thanks for the newsletter.

Allen F. Corrigan
929 Pearl Road
Brunswick, OH 44212

Pat Weidinger, wife of charter member Frank, included the following note with their dues.

Here are Frank's dues with a little for your charities.

Frank is pretty much wheel chair bound. There needs to be someone "on deck" all the time. Or should I have said "on board." He does enjoy the newsletter.

Our daughter, Mary Pat, was married a

month ago.

God bless you and all you do to bring about the reign of God.

Pat Weidinger

Everett Hiller included the following note

Mel, retirement life is more wonderful than ever!!!

Hope flying is still the joy of your life. When I decided to discontinue flying it was the right decision. Now I can give to the needy what it would have cost for insurance, gas, annual and hangar rent.

God bless you, John and Ev and the rest of your family.

Everett

Msgr. Joseph Gefell, 85; a Rochester diocesan priest for 60 years, died of pneumonia-related causes on Oct. 13, 2001. Msgr. Gefell lived with his twin brother, Msgr. Gerard Gefell, in Cape Vincent, NY., where they served on weekends at various parishes.

Ordained in 1941, he joined the Army in 1943 and served as a chaplain in the Pacific theater until 1945. He reenlisted in 1947, and served in the Philippines, Japan, Germany, Vietnam and the US. He made 96 parachute jumps during his military career. He retired as a colonel in 1973 and subsequently served various parishes until his retirement in 1990.

"He did everything he could for others."

22 September, 2001

Hello Mel,

Bill Martin writing from home in Warren, VT. I enclose my dues for the coming year. I continue working with the Christian Foundation for Children and Aging. We have 240,000 children under sponsorship at about 1,000 Catholic mission sites around the world. We take up no collections at churches but invite people to sponsor children. I have been to several of the churches pastored by NAPP members. I ask all others to seriously consider having me visit some weekend and give them an opportunity to support Catholic missionaries through this child sponsorship program.

My Grumman Tiger was broken down in Worcester, MA recently. I was offered a ride to pick it up in a new Cessna Citation! I was most impressed by the acceleration on the take-off and the smoothness of touch down. Great right seat experience. Fortunately I was not "responsible" for the 1000pounds/hour fuel burn.

I enclose a sad message from a diocesan newspaper.

(802) 496-0651

Bill Martin



Rev. William F. Martin
Christian Foundation For Children And Aging

wmartin@madriver.com

POB 651
Lincoln Gap Road
Warren, VT. 05674

Plane crash claims lives of Oblates

BY LAUREEN MCMAHON
Canadian Catholic News

VANCOUVER

Two Oblate priests were killed in British Columbia Aug. 20 after their plane crashed near a national park.

Fathers Brian Ballard, 51, and Ivan McCormack, 69, were killed while on their way to an Oblate conference in Calgary. Their plane crashed 110 kilometres south of Valemount, B.C., near Jasper National Park.

Both priests were avid pilots, reports *The B.C. Catholic*. For nearly 20 years Fr. Ballard flew into remote northern communities, crisscrossing the Prince George diocese from his Flying Missions base in Smithers.

Fr. McCormack was Prince George vicar general and pastor of Our Lady of the Snows and Our Lady of Good Hope in Fort St. James.

"I have flown with Fr. Brian and know how meticulous he was about his plane. It was a beautiful day and they were on course, so it's one of those mysteries of life. It's hard to lose two such active men," said Oblate Father Otto Rollheiser, provincial of St. Paul Province.

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada is investigating the crash.

Fr. Ballard was born in Wichita Falls, Texas. The son of a U.S. Air Force pilot, he grew up near a Texas airfield. He entered the novitiate in Arnprior, Ont., and studied theology at Edmonton's Newman College before being ordained in San Antonio in 1978. In 1982,



Oblate Father Brian Ballard, seen in an undated file photo (main photo), and Oblate Father Ivan McCormack, inset, were killed in a plane crash in British Columbia Aug. 20. The two priests, both pilots, had logged many flying hours in their ministry to outlying missions. (Photos from B.C. Catholic files)

he went to the Fort St. James missions and began flying to remote sites. In 1991, he established the Flying Missions base in Smithers.

Fr. McCormack was ordained in 1958 in Ottawa. He went to Prince George in 1960 and was appointed to Fort St. James last year. He started the Flying Missions about 1975, said Elaine Farrell, pastoral assistant to Fr. Ballard.

"The story is that Fr. McCormack was

picked up once by a mail plane and became convinced that flying would be a far better way to reach the villages," Farrell said.

This marks the second time in a little more than a year that Oblates have died in a small plane accident. In April 2000, Bishop Thomas Lobsinger of Whitehorse, Yukon, and Oblate Brother Hubert Spruyt were killed in a crash north of Whitehorse.

FALL MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING
October 8, 2001 ----- Urbana, Illinois

FRASCA

INTERNATIONAL



Rudy Frasca
with his Stearman.

Frasca says, "If you can fly it, we can simulate it." The company has delivered more than 1600 devices to 70 countries around the globe. It was a great day enjoyed by all in attendance.

Rudy says we must come to Frasca field for a national NAPP conference.



Some of the 20 Midwestern NAPP pilots and guests gathered around the table at Frasca field. Members flew in from 3 states to observe Rudy's simulators and aircraft collection.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PRIEST PILOTS

Annual meeting: July 10 and 11, 2001 at WING SOUTH AIRPARK, Naples, FL

RECEIPTS

\$ 4,020.00

EXPENDITURES

GATHERING

pizza and stuff 109.00
snacks, ice 94.93
libations 101.00
cleaning 35.00

sub-total \$ 339.93

RESTAURANTS

Little Bar \$ 1,502.21

DiJulio Banquet 99.61
90.84
180.90
99.61
198.10
131.00

sub-total \$ 800.06

FUEL 20.00
10.00
13.00
32.58

sub-total \$ 75.58

FANTASY OF FLIGHT

Admission & Lunch 821.98
Big Van 354.24

sub-total \$ 1,176.22

CARRIBEAN GARDENS \$ 329.45

TOTAL \$ 4,223.45

DEFICIT \$ 203.45

DONATIONS:

NAPP Flashlights 165.00 by Jack O'Neill
Van 299.57 by Knobby
Wing South plus Deficit 203.45 by George
Sub-Total \$ 668.02

GRAND TOTAL \$ 4,891.47