

N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XXXVIII OCTOBER 2000 NO. 2



FROM THE PRESIDENT

I attended our regional meeting in Waterloo, Iowa, at the end of September, hosted by Mel. I enjoyed meeting some of the members who were not able to be with us in Anchorage. I was impressed by the number of planes and hangars on the field. It seems that is the case all over Iowa, much more so than in Kansas. I mentioned this to my flying partner, John Wolesky. His answer was, "that is where the money is." There must be something to what is known as the rich corn belt.

On the way back I had my first experience of a vacuum pump failure. Even though it was night flying it was VFR. Since I lost the directional gyro I also lost the auto pilot. So it turned out to be a little more work flying since it meant hands on flying. It was only last summer that I installed a standby vacuum system, but I was unable to get it to work. I am grateful it wasn't IFR.

This is the time of the year when there are lots of activities in parishes and pastors become quite

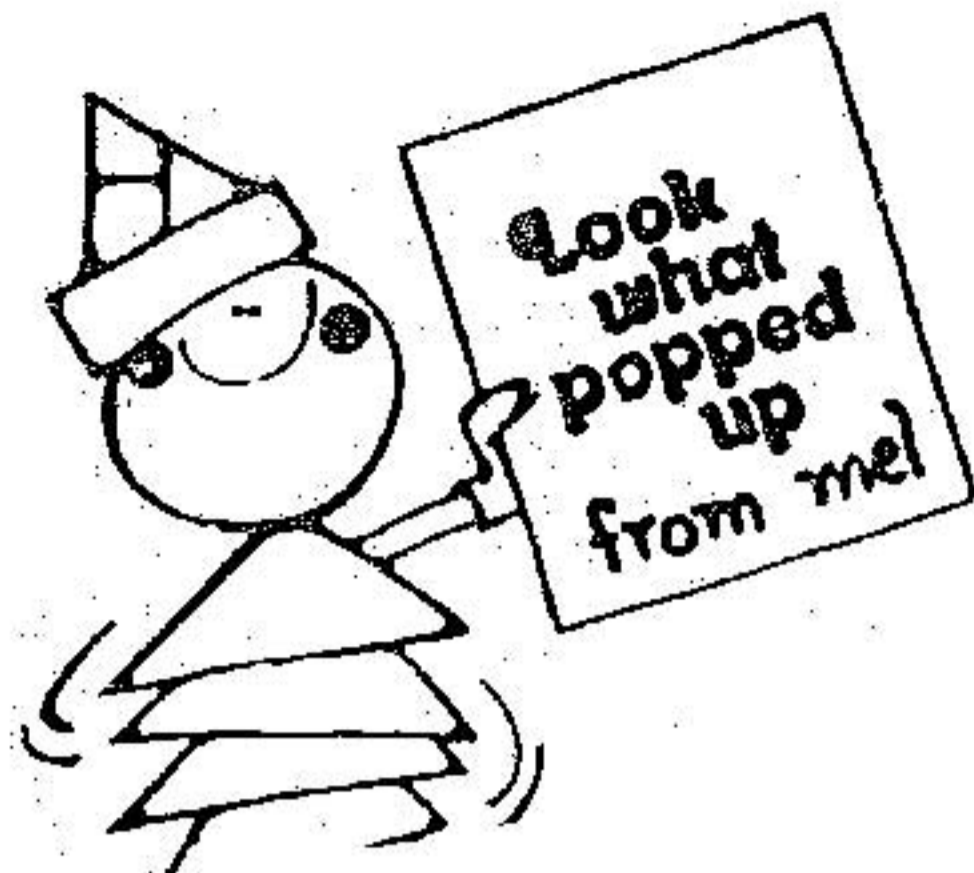
busy. Our religious education program got off to a good start. For some parishes it is the school, of course. RCIA is off and running. Our plans for the fall festival are well under way. Lots more activities and lots more meetings, especially in parishes with schools. Except for the priests who have retired. I am surprised about the number of priests who have retired the last several years in our mid-west region. It reminds me of my age and the fact I will be there soon too.

It appears our organization is getting more and more worldwide recognition. I have received a number of inquiries. Here is one from Msgr. Joseph Barbieri. He writes, "I am a Catholic priest in the Vatican Diplomatic Corps - presently stationed at the Apostolic Nunciature in Senegal (W. Africa) - and the holder of a Canadian Private Pilot Licence. I recently became aware of the National Priest Pilot Association and as far as I know, it is the only organization of this type that exists. I would very much be interested in knowing more about the Association, its activities, membership requirements and so forth."

I heard this recently on the air. Cessna N1234: "234 going around." Tower: "Roger, report left downwind." Cessna N1234: "Roger." Tower: "234, I think I know why you had go around." Cessna N1234: "Oh? Why?" Tower: "Because your landing gear isn't long enough to land from that altitude."

SAFE FLYING

Al Werth



In preparing this issue I was struck by the information that came from some members with their renewal dues. As you'll notice in a couple of the notes we do have brothers who are coping with illness. We definitely are growing older and face the ultimate future of all human beings. Hopefully the years we have had the privilege of ministering to others during their time of illness will serve us well as we cope with our own finite futures. Be assured, those of you presently facing the future with a known malady, you are in our prayers.

As you'll see in the report on our September Midwest gathering we were graced by the presence of two wonderful people. Ike gave us a wonderful talk on John Livingston. The other, Bob Allen, was visiting the area from England. I was fortunate in having his local hosts contact me about the possibility of assisting Bob in obtaining his U.S. instrument license. We spent two weeks together and over 20 hours of flying to achieve that goal. Visiting with pilots from other countries reminds us how fortunate we are in the U.S. I hope the efforts to change some of our freedoms continue to fall on deaf ears.

Along those lines. Did any others who made the trip to Alaska this past summer get a bill from Nav Canada for the use of nav aids? I got one for \$14+. The other day another one for \$14.71 came with some one else's tail number on it. I think I'll ignore it and see what happens.

President Al writes about a letter from Msgr. Joseph Barbieri, a Canadian priest in the Vatican Diplomatic Corps. We have been in email contact and now have him signed up. Fr. Gregory Schlesselmann from Fargo, ND is another new member. Fr. Peter Geldard sent an email from England saying he finally hopes to make one of our conventions and is putting next summer's gathering in Florida on his calendar.

I hope more of you get this on your agenda for 2001. The summer date as well as the Midwest Spring date are listed below.

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

National Meeting

July 10-11, 2001 - 38th Annual

Wings South Airpark, Florida

MIDWEST SPRING MEETING

April 30, 2001

Charles City, Iowa

Host: John W. Hemann

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:



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NAPP MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING

WATERLOO, IOWA - SEPTEMBER 25, 2000

Mel Hemann hosted the 15 members at the Waterloo airport FBO - LIVINGSTON AVIATION. The members gathered in the recently remodeled conference room.



Many have perhaps read Richard Bach's book

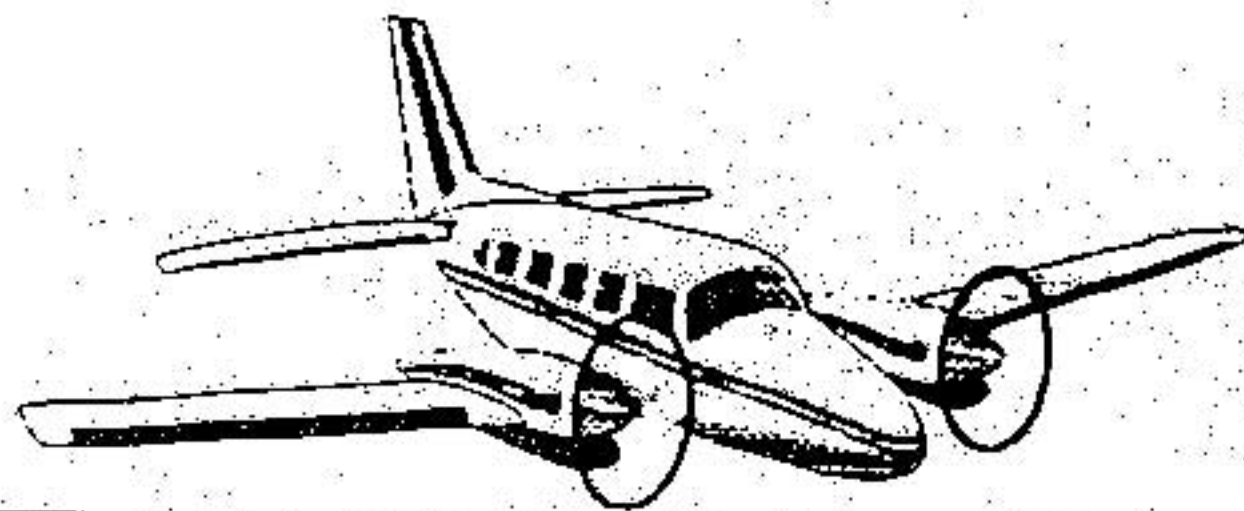
JONATHAN LIVINGSTON SEAGULL.

The inspiration for the book was Waterloo's famed racer/sports flier, Johnny Livingston. Pictured at left is Ike Leighty, friend of the late Johnny, who regaled us with stories of Johnny's life and achievements in the aviation world. What impressed me most was the statement that "Johnny probably did more than any one person to advance the image of flying being advantageous to the business community. You'll notice all the pictures always show him dressed in a suit and neck tie."

Pictured at right are Bob Allen, Ike Leighty and host Mel Hemann. Bob is a retired professional pilot from England who just completed building a Cozy IV. He was here to check with a couple of local builders and also obtain his US IFR license. I had the good fortune of being his instructor and he got the license on Oct. 4, 2000. Bob helped fill the idle moments with stories from his almost 13,000 hour helicopter flying career as a U.S. crop duster, diamond mine flying guard in Sierra Leone, oil exploration in Saudi Arabia and about a dozen years transporting personnel to and from the oil rigs in the North Sea. He was certainly a wonderful addition to our day.



Some of the membership in deep reflection on the thoughts shared by the speakers.



BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

Fr. Richard Demers sent the following note in his 2001 dues envelope:

"Just got out of the Air Force Chaplaincy and am now back in my home diocese of Ogdensburg, NY at St. Lawrence Church in Louisville, NY. My new address is 30 Willard Road, Massena, NY 13662."

Fr. Everett Hiller's dues envelope, Scales Mound, IL, had the following:

"Greetings! Retirement is most beautiful! No more administration! Work in different parishes every week-end and play all week-day! God is good."

"Need to plan a meeting for lunch in your area sometime this fall. I'll drive to where the four of us can spend some hours together."

Ed Note: Everett is a cousin with whom we share time about once a year. We are now overdue!

Fr. Greg Schleselmann in Fargo, ND, wrote on August 1:

"I read in a CNS news line about the recent annual conference of the National Association of Priest Pilots. I could not find the contact information in the Official Catholic Directory and I was wondering if you would be so kind as to forward it to me. I am a student pilot (finished my solo and cross-country phases) and I hope to be certified by mid-September. I would appreciate any information you could send. If it is easier, I'll be happy to receive it by email. I hope the conference went well and I will keep you in my prayers. Happy Flying!

Ed Note: The information was sent and Greg is now a full fledged paid up NAPP member.

Newly retired Dave Hogan, Sioux City, IA

included the following note:

"I didn't make the Convention in Anchorage this year because I was retiring and winding up affairs in Danbury and Anthon and packing up for a move to my new residence, an apartment in the Holy Spirit Retirement Center in Sioux City."

"I'm settled in now and enjoying retirement very much. It's quite an experience being over 70 and setting up a place of your own to live in for the very first time! Am attending many gatherings, reunions, workshops, ball games, etc. that I couldn't take in before. Hope also to do some flying, though I won't be able to get to Waterloo for the regional."

"The Alaska Convention seemed to be a great success and well attended. But everyone is surely saddened by the deaths of Bishop Lobsinger and Bishop Kaniecki."

"The doctors at the Mayo Clinic have diagnosed me with A.L.S., though they say it seems to be progressing rather slowly. I'm most grateful to the Lord for granting me 45 years of active priestly service and trust that he'll be with me and help me through this new phase of his plan, according to his promise that all things work for the good of those who love him. I welcome and will appreciate very much being remembered in the prayers of all my NAPP brothers and sisters."

"My new address: Rev. David Hogan, Holy Spirit Retirement Center; 1701 W 25th St.; Sioux City, IA 51103; (712) 255-3032."

"P.S. I've got an extra bed here and would be very happy to have anyone stop in and stay over if they're in Sioux City."

In Christ,
Dave Hogan

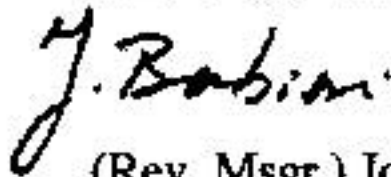
The following is a portion of a letter from Rev. Msgr. Joseph Barbieri, Senegal, W Africa

"I am a Catholic priest in the Vatican Diplomatic Corps - presently stationed at the Apostolic Nunciature in Senegal (W.Africa) - and holder of a Canadian Private Pilot Licence."

"I recently became aware of the National Priest Pilot Association and as far as I know, it is the only organization of this type that exists. I would very much be interested in knowing more about the Association, its activities, membership requirements and so forth."

"Looking forward to hearing from you soon, I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

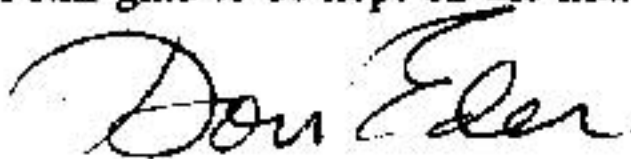


(Rev. Msgr.) Joseph Barbieri

Ed Note: The requested information has been sent, we have been in email contact and Joseph is now an NAPP member. He is from the Toronto, Canada diocese, ordained 30 April, 1988. Began to fly Nov 8, 1999, soloed Nov 22 and presently has about 100 hours. Welcome Joseph to our special fraternity.

Don Eder wrote from Oxford, IN:

"I'm not too active in some ways now that the FAA took my medical 3 yrs ago because of a heart attack and the meds I'm on. Last year I nearly died from a massive infection caused by the condition of multiple myeloma in the bone marrow. I have what they call "dignified AIDS" since the cancer destroys my immune system. Anyway I'm still glad to be kept on the mailing list at least.



Msgr. Joseph Dooley, Martins Creek, PA usually includes a copy of his interesting bulletin. Here's a sample:

The Parish Housekeeper Evangelizes!!!

In our rectory mail came a bumper sticker, "Honk if you love Jesus", none of the Fathers wanted it, so I put it on the back bumper of my own car. It looked so good, so I decided right then and there to go shopping. I'm really glad I did, what an uplifting experience followed!!! Praise the Lord!!!

I was stopped at the light of a very busy intersection just lost in thought about the goodness of the Lord. I was so deep in thought I didn't notice the light had changed. That

bumper sticker really worked!!! I found lots of people right there at that very intersection who loved Jesus! How do I know? Let me tell you.

First of all, the guy right behind me...why he started to honk and honk like crazy! He must have really loved the Lord, because pretty soon he leaned out his window and yelled "Jesus Christ" as loud as he could. It was like a football game with him loudly shouting, "GO, JESUS, GO!" Soon everyone else started honking too, so I leaned out my window and waved and smiled at all those Christian people praising the Lord.

There must have been a guy back there who was on his way to the shore, I could hear him yelling something about a sunny beach. **MAYBE THAT GUY WANTED ALL OF US** Jesus lovers to follow him there for a prayer session. He was so enthusiastic!!! And the young man behind him was waving a funny way to me, he had only his middle finger stuck up in the air. Thank God my nephew was with me, I asked what it meant. He told me it was the Hawaiian good luck sign.

A couple of people were so caught up in the joy of this Christian moment that they got out of their cars and were walking toward me. I bet they wanted to pray, but, darn it, just then I noticed the light had changed, so I stepped on the gas. And let me tell, it was a good thing...it was a very quick light, so quick that I was the only driver to get across the intersection.

I looked back at those wonderful people standing and shouting there, I even wanted to go back to share the Lord with them, but I just leaned out the window, gave them a big smile, and held up the Hawaiian good luck sign as I drove away.

Praise the Lord for such wonderful folks!!!

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

NAPP

**38th Annual Meeting
- July 10-11, 2001 -**

Wings South Airpark, Florida



PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW

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August 28, 2008

Dear Mel,

Greetings and God's blessings to you and all your students and other flying endeavors. I hope the progress toward becoming a Designated Flight Examiner is becoming a reality. That should be interesting and challenging, but certainly different. On a lesser level, my involvement in the Civil Air Patrol as an instructor and Check Pilot has been interesting. When wearing the instructor hat, the students are much more at ease, but the minute you put on the Check Pilot hat, their blood pressure goes up and sweat starts to bead up on their foreheads. But that is normal for all of us, when we're doing a check ride, we find ourselves a lot more "at attention".

It certainly was great seeing you this summer, and thank you for taking care of the stranded Franciscan at the airport. That fog certainly did change all of our plans that day. He seemed to enjoy the time with you and felt that God really did take care of things for him. They operate, trusting in the Lord a lot out there in the mission fields. Both of those missionaries were easy to be with and work with. Actually all the men that traveled with me this summer were good travelers and good flyers.

The Lord took good care of us this summer. Other than that weekend in Cedar Falls and neighboring towns, we were not detained by weather a single weekend. I logged a lot of IFR hrs this summer, but the approaches were all at or well above minimums, and the trips were quite uneventful. We did have some "Murphy's Law" induced opposing winds. You know, no matter which direction you go, you always have a head wind and it switches a 180 degrees on the return trip.

My "mission appeal flying" has ended for this summer. The missionaries are all back in their countries doing the work of the Lord. I suspect that, God willing, I'll be doing some more of it next summer.

Enclosed is my check for \$20.00 for this year's dues. I'm sorry I was unable to attend our convention in Alaska, and will be looking forward to next year's convention.

God bless you and all your works,

Fr. Bert Pepowski, O.F.M.