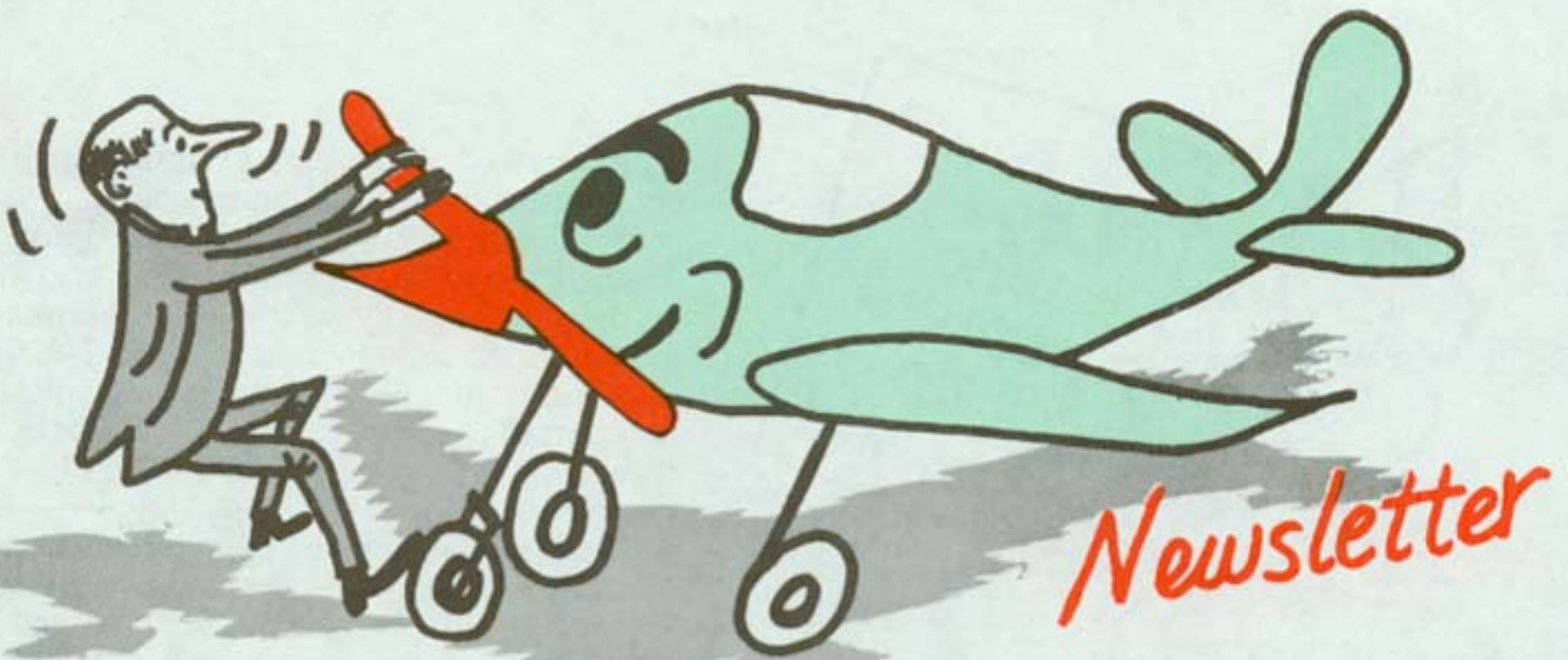


N.A.P.P.



VOLUME XXXV AUGUST 1997 NO. 1



### FROM THE PRESIDENT

I am writing from SS Philip & James Church, Phillipsburg, Kansas, having transferred here from Sacred Heart Cathedral, Salina, July 1. The airport is right across the road from the church grounds. How much better can one have it!

A special thanks to Fr. Tom Geelan for serving us so well the last four years as our president. A great job, Tom! I hope you enjoyed all the same perks I was promised in assuming this noble and honorable position.

How about the convention! Great, Chaplain

Mike Mikstay! You did it! Well put together. You showed us a great time. The Marines treated us royally. From the moment of the group photo session Tuesday morning, the Marines bringing out three large planes to create a backdrop - a harrier, a C130, and whatever the other was - there was no doubt in my mind that we would have a great time. Thanks from all of us Mike and personnel at the Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station.

If all works out, next year's convention will be hosted by Fr. Tom O'Neill, Vancouver, British Columbia. Mark your calendar.

Our Mid-West Regional meeting will be with Fr. Ev. Hemann, Ames, Iowa, Monday, September 29.

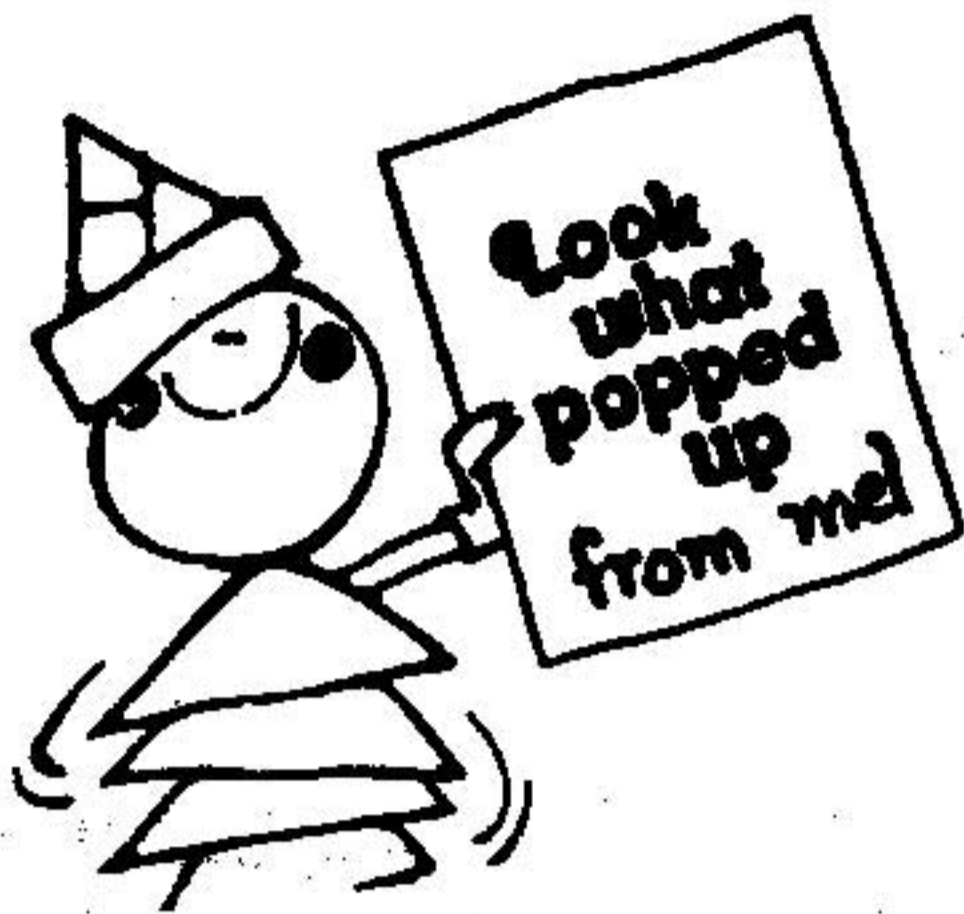
Have a nice relaxing summer! It will be over soon, especially for those pastor's with schools. Believe me, I know, I had a school until this year.

Peace!

Al Werth

*al*





I must add my own words of commendation to our 1997 convention host, Mike Mikstay. I'm sure after all the Marine Corps expenses are totaled it will put the new balanced budget hoopla back at least one year. Oh well! What's the difference! 2002 or 2003. We'll leave that to Newt and the boys to haggle over. I have thanked all my parishioners for their share of the taxes spent on our behalf while at the same time assuring them I couldn't think of a better group to spend it on. Thanks, Mike, for a job well done

By this time I am sure you have read our new president's message. Like myself I am just as certain you envy his new found flying situation...airport across the road! Obviously his Bishop is psychic and began Al's perks even before his election as our president. Enjoy it Al. That may be it for awhile.

Al's address and new phone number:  
Al Werth  
SS Philip and James Catholic Church  
RR. 3 Box 144A  
Phillipsburg, KS 67661.  
785-543-5577 (H) 785-543-5367 (O)

I have talked with Tom O'Neill, our 1998 convention host, several times since this year's convention. Tom is busy lining up lodging and a variety of interesting activities for next year. As the months go by we'll get that information to you. In the meantime, mark July 7-8, 1998 as a time to enjoy Canadian hospitality. Incidentally, Tom's phone number has changed. It is now 1-250-758-7587.

As President Al reminded us in his message, the Midwest is meeting in Ames, Iowa on Monday, September 29. Ev will be our host and the reservation information as well as the day's activities can be found on another page.

Because of the increased cost of printing and postage the membership voted to increase the annual dues by \$5.00. The dues for 1998 are \$20.00...still one of the outstanding bargains in the whole universe.

Those in attendance at the North Carolina gathering paid their dues. The rest of you will find a "dues envelope" enclosed with this mailing. Please return it in US dollars as soon as possible. Remember, if for some reason you can't pay, just let me know. Other members often add something extra to help out some one who doesn't have it now.

This issue has several notes from members. As always, I'm sure you'll find them interesting. If you have had any interesting ventures, please send them so we can share them. If it gets here in time we will have Ed Murray's story about his beloved Piper. Restored only a few months ago, it was totaled in a freakish storm a couple weeks ago. The good news is he had taken out insurance the day before to be on the safe side should something happen among the thousands gathered at Oshkosh.

**GOD IS GOOD**

**ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO:**



**REV. MEL HEMANN**  
20245 ST. JOSEPH DRIVE  
RICKARDSVILLE, IA 52039

319-552-2233

# Midwest Regional Meeting

Ames, Iowa ---- September 29, 1997

## Main Event of the Day

### **EAI**

#### **Engineering Animation, Inc.**

Engineering Animation, Inc., a cutting-edge 3D visualization company, specializes in applying 3D technology to a variety of innovative applications. Located in the Iowa Center for Emerging Manufacturing Technology (ICEMT) at Iowa State University, the C2 is an immersive environment which allows users to explore worlds and areas previously inaccessible.

Surrounded by 3 walls and a floor projected in stereo video, visitors to the C2 can interact with molecules, ride a bike effortlessly through the Iowa State Campus, test drive a Ford Taurus or even plow a field without the beating sun. CD-ROMS allow children to electronically color underwater ocean scenes and 3D software enables engineers to produce jet engine prototypes on the computer EAI. 3D aviation animations can reconstruct events for companies such as Lear Jet and the NTSB as well as allowing manufacturers to "fly through" the inside of an airplane wing or engine. These innovations allow spectators to immerse themselves in a technological experience that was impossible a generation ago.

## Time Schedule

Arrive by 11:30. Lunch together. Spend the afternoon at EAI. Dinner & then home.  
Indicate early arrival or late departure on registration form.

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### **NAPP MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING**

Monday, September 29, 1997  
Ames, Iowa

Contact Person: Everett Hemann  
St. Thomas Aquinas Church  
2210 Lincoln Way Ames, IA 50014-7106  
Phone: 515-292-3810 (O) 515-292-1192 (H)  
Email: ev@iastate.edu Fax: 515-292-3841

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

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

ETA (Date & Time) \_\_\_\_\_ ETD \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL BY CAR \_\_\_\_\_ COMMERCIAL FLT \_\_\_\_\_ P PLANE \_\_\_\_\_





## BRIEFS FROM HERE AND THERE

PONTIFICAL NORTH AMERICAN COLLEGE

19 JUNE 1977

Dear Mel,

Just a quick note to introduce myself to you and the NAPP. I'm a seminarian studying at the North American College in Rome. I am studying for the Archdiocese of Denver, as well as being co-sponsored by the Military Archdiocese. I am about to complete my third year of theology; I have one more Church History exam remaining. I found out about NAPP when I met Fr. Everett in the Fall of 1994. He was here for the Continuing Education program; I was just beginning first theology.

My co-sponsored arrangement clears the way for me to enter the Air Force Reserves as a chaplain upon ordination to the priesthood. I am (God willing) to be ordained a deacon in October and a priest next June or July. After some time in Denver I will be free to return to Active Duty as a full-time chaplain. It's a great arrangement; Denver is home, but I love the Air Force. I was a pilot in the Air Force for almost eight years before entering seminary. I began in the KC-135A before moving to various models of the RC-135 (reconnaissance).

I have single-engine ratings, too. While stationed in Fairbanks for three years I was able to get my CFI and to instruct at their Aero Club. I still keep my instructor's rating current in hopes of doing some instructing upon completion of the seminary. I was able to do some single-engine flying last summer when I returned to the States—both in Alaska again and in Colorado. Hopefully I can do the same this year. As you know, it's difficult to get flying out of one's blood.

Thanks to NAPP for the complimentary

newsletters and directory. I really appreciate it. I better close for now. Take care and God bless.

Yours in Christ,

Kent Drotar

P.S. it's not a big deal, but while I've got you-- I noticed that my middle initial on the mailing label is listed as "J". It should be "F". Thanks.

AMES, IOWA

JULY 14, 1997

Mike Mikstay and NAPP Members,

Thanks for an absolutely wonderful time in New Bern. The camaraderie of the attendees and the hospitality extended to us will not be soon forgotten.

In particular we mention the time spent at MCAS Cherry Point, the fine accommodations and dining. We are already eagerly awaiting future get-togethers.

First Time F.O.P.P.S

Mike Makelbust  
Jeff Bryant

## TOURS AIR STATION

7 August 1997

From WINDSOCK, Cherry Point, NC, July 17, 1997

More than 35 members of the National Association of Priest Pilots visited the air station July 8 and 9, marking the first time the first time annual convention was held at a military installation.

The NAPP's convention took off as MGen. George Karamarkovich, commanding general of the air station, welcomed the priests to an early morning coffee at the Training and Education Building.

The "Flying Fathers," as the group is commonly referred to, had pilots from the various flying squadrons here give short briefs about the capabilities of their respective aircraft.

Then, the priests split into two groups and headed for the two flight simulators aboard the air station. One group visited the AV-8B Harrier simulator facility, while the other group visited the KC-130 Hercules non-motion simulator.

"I've flown for about 3,000 flight hours in a number of aircraft, but this has a different feel," Gene Murray said after piloting the KC-130 simulator. "At first I was overwhelmed by the instruments and systems in the cockpit, and then I realized that I was in an aircraft that was much larger and heavier than what I have flown," added the pastor.

Other highlights of the visit included an AV-8B Harrier demonstration, a tour of the Naval Aviation Depot, tours of Marine Attack Squadron 542, Marine Aerial Refueler Transport Training Squadron 253, and Marine Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 2, a Mass at the station chapel, and a dinner at the Officer's Club.

A couple of NAPP members discussed their stay over and talked about the overall trip. "Every Marine I've talked to, and came in contact with has been very polite and professional," said Fred Wright. "The hospitality is great."

Murray agreed, "This is really quite a nice thing for the military to do for us. We have really enjoyed doing and seeing everything."

Hi Mel,

At Oshkosh I spoke with Mr. & Mrs. Duane Cole. They spoke of you and how you said very consoling words to them at the grave site of their son. Indicating that their son's spirit was not contained in the coffin has strengthened them greatly.

I have colluded with several priests in the past few weeks who should be members of NAPP and I recommended it to all of them. When we encounter such people it would be nice if we could offer them a complimentary membership for one year. Their names and addresses are on the back of this sheet.

Convention snapshots enclosed for your use. No need to return, I have an extra set. Unused ones might be sent to our Cherry Point host.

Sincerely,



Bill Martin

**Editor's Note:** I am following Bill's excellent suggestion and sending the four priests named in his letter, and the one John Bellon sent, a year's membership. Why didn't we think of this sooner?

Welcome, guys!

Here are the names Bill and John sent:

Rev. Leo J. Bartel  
611 Greenwood Drive  
POB 248  
Morrison, IL 61270-0248

Rev. Paul Beneteau  
9399 Townline Rd  
Windsor, ONT N9L 2W9

Rev. Msgr. John T. Heinlein  
Holy Spirit Parish  
500 Jericho Tpke  
New Hyde Park, NY 11040

Rev. Michael R. Nagle  
St. Elizabeth's  
86 Main St  
Edgartown, MA 02539



Rev. Albert Audette  
St. Marguerite Bourgeoys  
138 Candlewood Lake Rd  
Brookfield, CT 06804

*Holy Family Parish Emmetsburg, Iowa*

11 August, 1997

Mel,

Ed & I saw the enclosed article on Emmet Johns from Montreal. It is really quite interesting and thought the gang might like to know what Emmet is doing.

Ed was very fortunate to have insured the Super Cruiser the day before the storm so he is looking for another plane. He'll send you more info for the newsletter.

How's your project doing? Build it well and take your time - you've probably heard that one before but as I got closer to the finish there seemed to be more pressure to get done and get it flying.

Peace!

*Big Murrgh*

Gene Murray

**Editor's Note:** There isn't room in this issue for the article Gene sent so we'll include it in the next issue. Believe me! It's worth reading.

**Remember the big Midwest fly-in hosted by Ev Hemann on Monday, September 29, in Ames, Iowa. The informational reservation sheet is enclosed.**

The remainder of this newsletter will be filled with pictures from the July annual meeting at the Marine Corps base, Cherry Point, NC.

The pictures bring back fond memories of the time together, the wonderful organizational skills of host Mike Mikstay and the hospitality of all from the commanding general all down.

Hopefully they will inspire others to join in Vancouver, BC next July.







