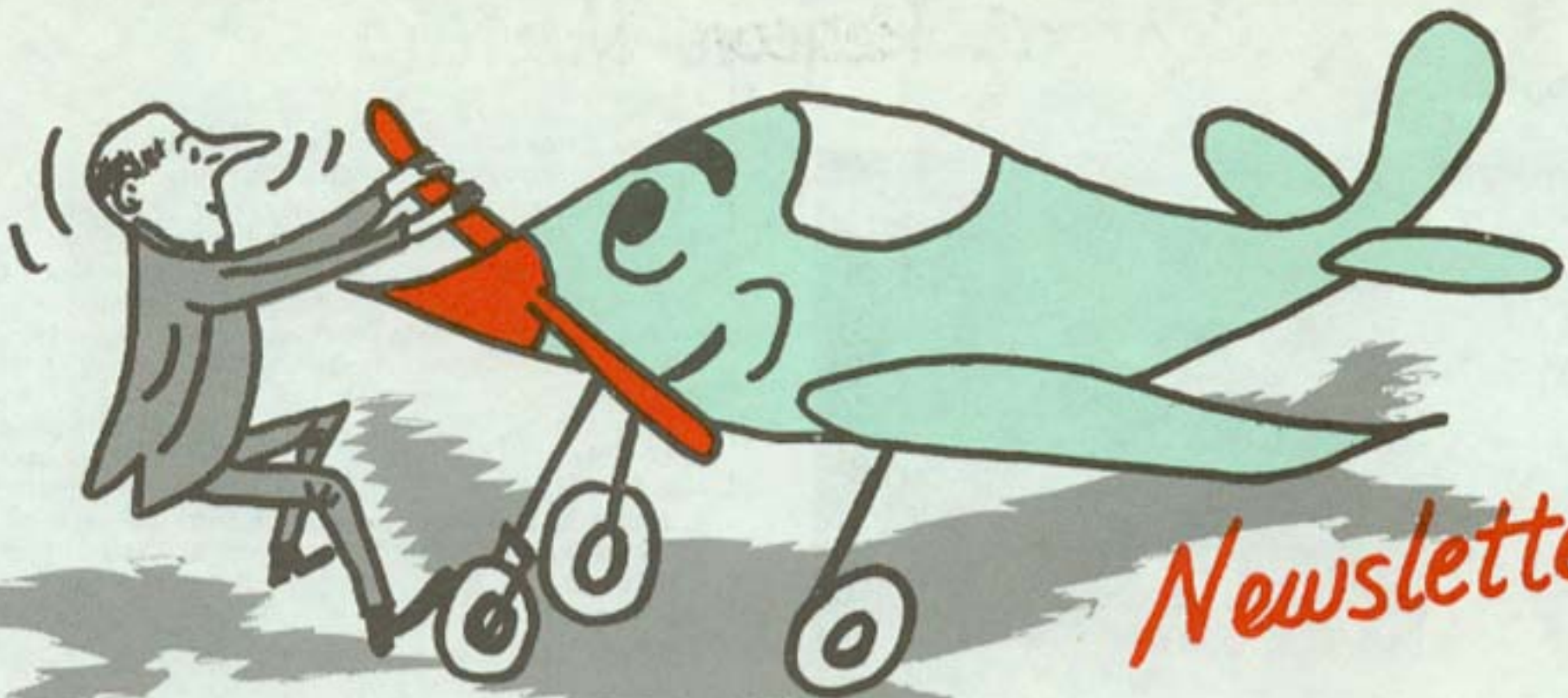


N.A.P.P.



VOL. XX

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NO. 2

YOUR PRESIDENT'S PROFUNDITIES

Outside of a letter from our President, John Herzog, some weeks ago, we had not been in contact since my visit with him in late July. So I decided before writing this I would give him a call to bring myself and you up to date on his well being.

In his letter to me John informed me that he spent several days in the hospital in late August because of a reaction to some of the medication he had been taking. He apparently has recovered well from that episode.

As we visited on the phone he told me things were going along quite well. Slow but sure. A few days ago he had been at the House of Affirmation six months and said it will be a few more before he has completed his stay there.

A priest friend of John's from our Archdiocese recently under went a quadruple by-pass surgery. He will, when able, be doing some recuperating with friends in the southwest. John will be able to spend a Saturday night and Sunday night with him. A visit he is looking forward to.

About the time we were getting around to something specific for this column the line went dead and that was the end of our conversation. I tried 4 times to call him back but kept getting the recording, "We are sorry but your call cannot be completed at this time." I wonder what Ma Bell has against NAPP???

Central Region Meeting



The Central Region met in North Washington, Iowa with Jack Paisley acting as host. Four states - Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, New Mexico - were represented.

Pictured left to right are: front - Bob Kirsch, John Friederick, Mel Hemann, John Hemann, Jack Paisley. middle - Art Kleve, Hank Weckerly, Ev Hemann, Marty Pfab. top - John Espuibel, John Wolesky, Tom Rhomberg, Arkad Biczak, Walt Kleinfehr

Bob Kirsch, Albuquerque, will host the meeting next Spring. The date for the Spring meeting is May 9, 1983.

Many important issues brought up and discussed. Perhaps you've noticed the world is in much better shape since early October.

Plan to attend the July meeting.



John Hemann & Art Kleve on arrival at Charles City



The three Johns in a serious moment



Host Jack Paisley with Ralph and Dorothy Schwickerath who prepared the meal



Bob Kirsch and Mel Hemann. Nothing like a big meal to slow you down.

Briefs from here and there...

This word from Fr. John MacGillivray, Arisaig, Nova Scotia:

Dear Father Mel,

"At the EAA Fly-in in August there was a tragic mid-air crash that took the lives of 3 people, one of whom was Rich Demand of Wittmore Lake near Flint, Michigan. A few days ago I had a note from Margaret Demand, Rich's wife, and she enclosed the following newspaper article since she knew I had been in the service. I made a Xerox copy and in view of recent articles in our newsletter, thought you might like to use it in a feature issue as the "other side of the coin."

"The Canadian Forces look on themselves as peace keepers, as do, I'm sure, the U.S. Marines who have just landed in Beirut. If some people had their way, there would be no troops to send and the massacring would still go on. Some arguments against the military make as much sense as saying the way to abolish all crime is to just do away with all police forces and all crime will stop. It will be a wonderful day when human nature outlives war, but unfortunately that day hasnot arrived yet.

"Am very pleased that the convention next year will be in Canada. Will certainly try my best to be there."

DOLORES CURRAN TALKS WITH PARENTS

GRATITUDE FOR THE CHAPLAIN

Military chaplains are coming into a lot of criticism today for being part of the military complex but I wonder how many of their critics realize how invaluable they are to families who are trying to be healthy in an impersonal and mobile military climate.

All pastors meet human needs in their work, undisclosed in their job descriptions, but I believe the military chaplain is the unsung hero of our pastoral class. He exists in a largely secular, some times pagan, environment, often being the only resource open to individuals with deep human needs. I reflected on this after sitting in an office of such a chaplain, waiting to be squired to a parenting workshop and listening to him care for just one of a dozen routine duties.

A pregnant eighteen year-old Italian war bride had been severely abused by her young soldier husband. The situation was so hopeless that she was returning home to Italy. The chaplain had stayed up all night to receive overseas calls from her family who was sending her air fare. She was so emotionally drained that there were fears for her unborn child.

The chaplain had other routine and pressing duties to meet but he took time to comfort and assure her in such a caring way that she would soon be back in the loving arms of her family that it brought tears to my eyes.

I've found such men all over the military. Civilians - and even military personnel - don't realize the scope of pastoral work that goes on behind the chaplain's duty reports. Two priest chaplains in Germany shared with me their despair of being unable to meet all of the deep needs of individuals and families entrusted to their care.

They counsel troubled marriages, work with depressed and alcoholic dependents, provide grief support for those whose parents back home die, arrange for emergency trips and transfers, work with alienated teens in a foreign environment, try to offset pagan influences and combat loneliness, and build family support systems. They don't have the resources of a stable community to help them. They can't call in a local resource or dial a safe house. Many are one, two, or three-men staffs meeting the spiritual and human needs of a post the size of a large city.

To attack these men for supporting war is so grossly unfair that it is unconscionable. They serve as an oasis of hope for families in a difficult and impersonal desert. They go to bed exhausted and frustrated, realizing that someone out there needs them but knowing those needs have gone unmet. In addition to providing spiritual sustenance in the form of CCD, liturgies and sacramental preparation, they must also serve as marriage counselor and family mediator.

"Maybe what we're doing is wrong," one told me as he shook his head in frustration, "but if families didn't have us, where would they go?"

It's a question that deserves a careful answer from war critics. If we're willing to support peace-keeping forces around the world and if these troops deserve a family life, then we must be willing to support these hard-working chaplains who make life richer for them.

They are pastors in the truest biblical sense of moving from place to place with a nomadic people whose needs are even more complicated than those in civilian society. They touch hundreds of people for a short period of time. They don't reap the emotional rewards of being in a parish long enough to marry second generations and baptize parish grandchildren. They give up a lot to serve a particular segment of God's people and for this they deserve our gratitude, not our criticism.

Copyright Dolores Curran

[Editor's note: Dolores is a very dear friend of mine and when I read her article I wrote to her immediately and asked her permission to reprint it. I also filled her in on the past year's discussions going on in our newsletter and at our convention this past July. Here is a portion of her response to me:

"Of course you can reprint anything of mine anytime without permission. Just put 'copyright Dolores Curran' on the bottom. I am honored to be reprinted by you.

"Thanks for the comments made by that chaplain at the AFA. Unfortunately the higher the rank, the more typical that is and nobody hates it more than the pastoral chaplains who don't give a hoot about rank. I believe the answer is to take these men out of the whole rank picture (no pun intended).

Let them be priests serving the military, not officers competing for rank. I've come to admire the majority of these priests and hate to see them dragged down to the level of the upwardly mobile chaplain. And the worst is a Bishop I shall leave nameless. He and I had some real face-offs in Germany so I was really surprised when he sent me a warm congratulatory letter on the column. Wait till he sees my two-part article in Marriage and Family Life coming up on the military family. It isn't all positive."

"Did you know the Hemann brothers made the Catholic Trivia Book as the only 3 priest-brother pilots in the U.S.?"

"Take care, my friend. You are special to many of us."

Love and prayers,
Dolores

This one comes from Fr. Joe Nettekoven way back in January. Sorry we didn't get it in sooner.

From SUNNY (?) So. California,

I have a trip planned tomorrow with two other priests to Big Bear in the San Bernadino Mtns (6750ft) and its been raining since yesterday, and more is expected with snow level at 4000 ft. You'd think our Dear Lord would be a little more generous after a Christmas season in a parish of 3500 families, a school of 350 children, an S.R.E. program (CCD) of 1100 children, all taken care of by two English speaking and one Spanish speaking priests. My thoughts naturally are to get up-up-and-away. My one consolation is the aerial photos hanging in my office, which I tend to be looking at more and more. The thought of flying to the Denver area helps also, but that doesn't happen until this summer. Before that comes --- LENT. Look at the pictures Joe.

I've been renting from two FBO'S at Long Beach Airport and splitting the costs with my passengers. But with the high cost of rentals (50/hr -182, 37/hr-172) getting passengers to go when I'm available is becoming less frequent, and going by myself would be a total luxury. And now one FBO sold their 182, and the other is off the line for a major and may not make it back. I would consider partnership in a plane, but the thought of upkeep, repair bills, etc., scares me. I have an opportunity to become a 1/4 partner in a 1968 Cardinal valued at approximately 11,500. The engine is good-200 hours on a Lycoming 150 hp. But the climb performance is not as good as the 172. Forget Big Bear at gross on a near standard day. But it is economical and it would be definitely feasible to go alone. And too, one of the partners, a friend of mine, is a CFI. The tie-down is at a local airport, accessible from where ever I might be transferred. Right now anything sounds good. Any thoughts from my Brother Priests? I would consider a high performance plane, but the inspections and maintenance would be even greater, though I sure do like the 182.

It's still raining, but I shouldn't complain. I hear the mid-west is having a lot of that white stuff. And too, we don't need any pre-heaters. I think I'll straighten the pictures on my wall.

God bless, Joe

(Editor's note: Since Joe wrote the above he was moved last summer from Stanton, CA. to Yorba Linda, CA., St Martin de Porres Church. He wrote the following while moving:

"Please excuse the handwritten letter, but I am in the process of moving and have packed my typewriter already.

"This town, also in Orange County, has the distinction of being the birthplace of Richard Nixon. I seem to be following in his footsteps. I grew up in Whittier as he did. My 1st assignment in Orange County was San Clemente, and now Yorba Linda. Hopefully all similarities of following him will end there - and yes, "I am not a crook."

Because of the change I will not be able to attend (again) the convention in Colorado. I hope some day I will be able to meet another priest pilot. I will remember all who are travelling in my prayers.

This year I plan to work on my instrument rating - it shouldn't be too expensive as one of my partners in a C172 is a CPIL, and he needs someone to keep him current.

I may also be a chaplain for the search and rescue squad in the L.A. area. This will satisfy my need to use my flying abilities in my ministry, as there is little use for it in this small diocese

Hope you all have a great convention.

Joe

Dear Mel and all Flying Padres,

"I enjoyed the August Newsletter and am grateful for the unanimous vote to serve another term as first vice-president of NAPP. Thanks to all who honored me since I do so little work but maybe that is what a vice-president is supposed to do.

"I am enclosing a check for a NAPP cap. I never know where I leave my caps when I go flying and I have been without my last one for some time.

"Sorry to miss the convention at Colorado Springs but do hope and plan, God willing, to make the one in Montreal.

My prayers and best wishes to John Herzog and I do hope he will be completely recovered very soon. I passed my physical again last February and am grateful for the good health at my advanced age of 65 in last July.

"Longest flight of note was to Boca Raton, Ft. Myers, and New Orleans in my faithful 150 in April. Flew up last Monday for a brief visit with Father Gene McCahey.

"Best regards and keep 'em flying!

Fraternally in Christ,

Henry Haacke

This one from Gene Murray, Varina, Iowa.

"Dear Mel,

"Enclosed is \$5.00 for a new NAPP cap. The old one which had traveled from New York, to Texas, to Green Bay, to Anchorage, to Colorado Springs is now probably at the bottom of Folsom Reservoir near Folsom Prison.

"After leaving Colorado Springs, Tom Geelan, Ed Tiedeman and I flew to California where I have a brother-in-law (my sister doesn't raft), three nephews and a niece who took us white water rafting on the American River. On the last rapid of the last run I was thrown into the river wearing my NAPP cap. My hat came to the surface downstream and the raft was upstream. Sorry to say, I had to part with my hat and go for the raft. And so my hat which had so many great memories of past NAPP conventions associated with it (however not as many as Erv Weber's jump suit) is lost forever.

"When I really get depressed over the thought of losing it, I remind myself that perhaps there is some happy con walking around the Folsom prison yard with the only denim cap with a badge that reads "NAPP Chartered 1964" and one on the side



On the left is Gene Murray seated on Pike's Peak. It is the last picture we have of him and his NAPP cap!!!

that reads "Old Reinbeck Airdrome." May he wear it in good health.

"Please send me a new one with hopes of as many good memories as the old one.:

This one from CDR John Maiorana, Camp Lejeune, N.C.

"Dear Mel,

This is to provide you with a change of address for me. (Editor's note: change appeared in the last issue). The reason for this change is that I will be afloat with the Marines for several months. The above address will insure I will receive mail.

"That's a great choice of places for the '83 convention. Hope I can be there. I'm a renter pilot, so I don't know if I'll fly up there myself or not. Will decide when I return from overseas."

"Warmest regards, Sincerely, John Maiorana

From Xavier University, Cincinnati:

"Dear Mel,

"Thank you for the continued coverage in NAPP. The annual reports seemed complete and concise. Good work.

"I finished studies last June at our theologate in Berkeley, California. Following a summer in Ontario, Canada, I have returned to Xavier University. For your records, the following information is current as of today's date. (Editor's note: address, etc. will be found under changes).

"My present job is assistant to the president of the university. If there is anything I might do please don't hesitate to contact me here.

Gratefully yours, John F. Costello, S.H.

This one is also from last January. Barry Desmond, Lumby, British Columbia:

"After my sabbatical year in Credo at Gonzaga in Spokane, I've settled in Lumby. It's a small parish (about 70 families) with one mission, an Indian Reserve some 30 miles away. There are some 125 families there.

"We (my brother Jerry and I) sold our 180 Cessna in June. I have two home-built projects underway; one is a school project, a zenith from Zenair in Toronto. It should be completed in a year and one half. The other is an Emeraude (all wood, tow place low wing) with a friend in Kamloops. This one is farther off.

"Jerry has a Cjekovich in the air now for over three years.

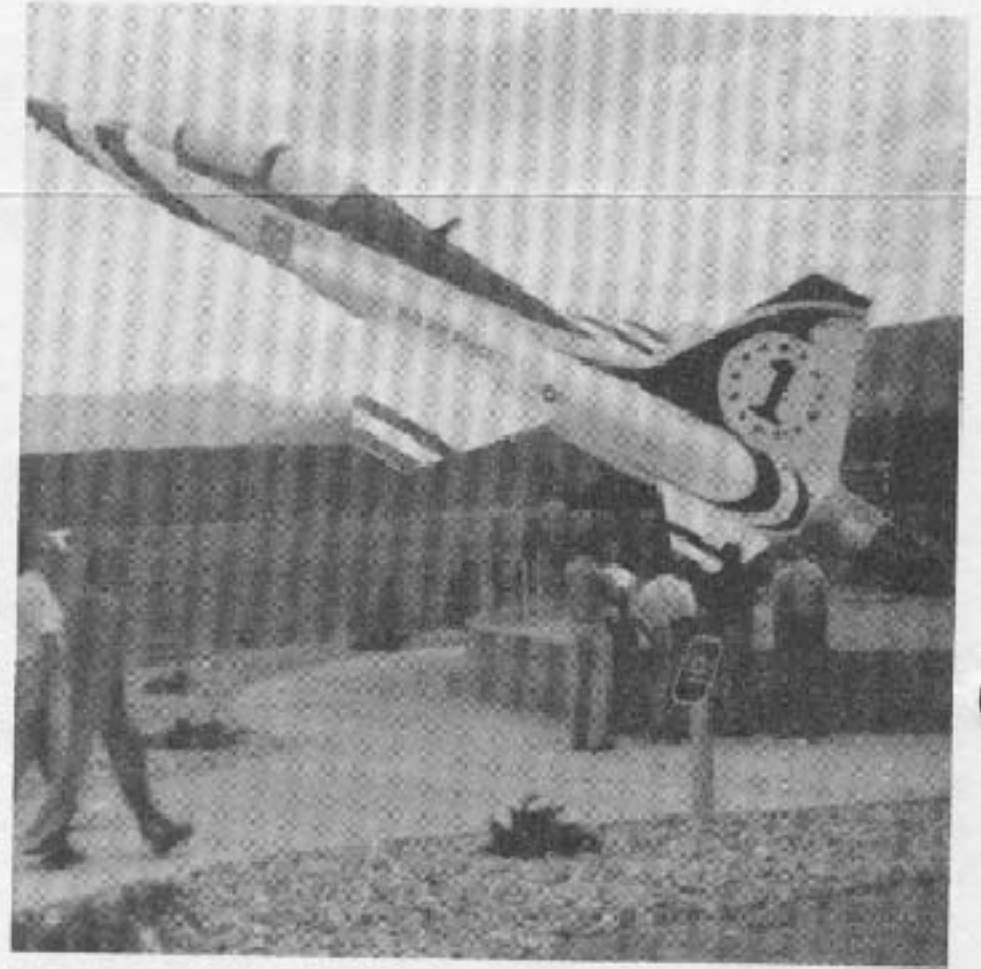
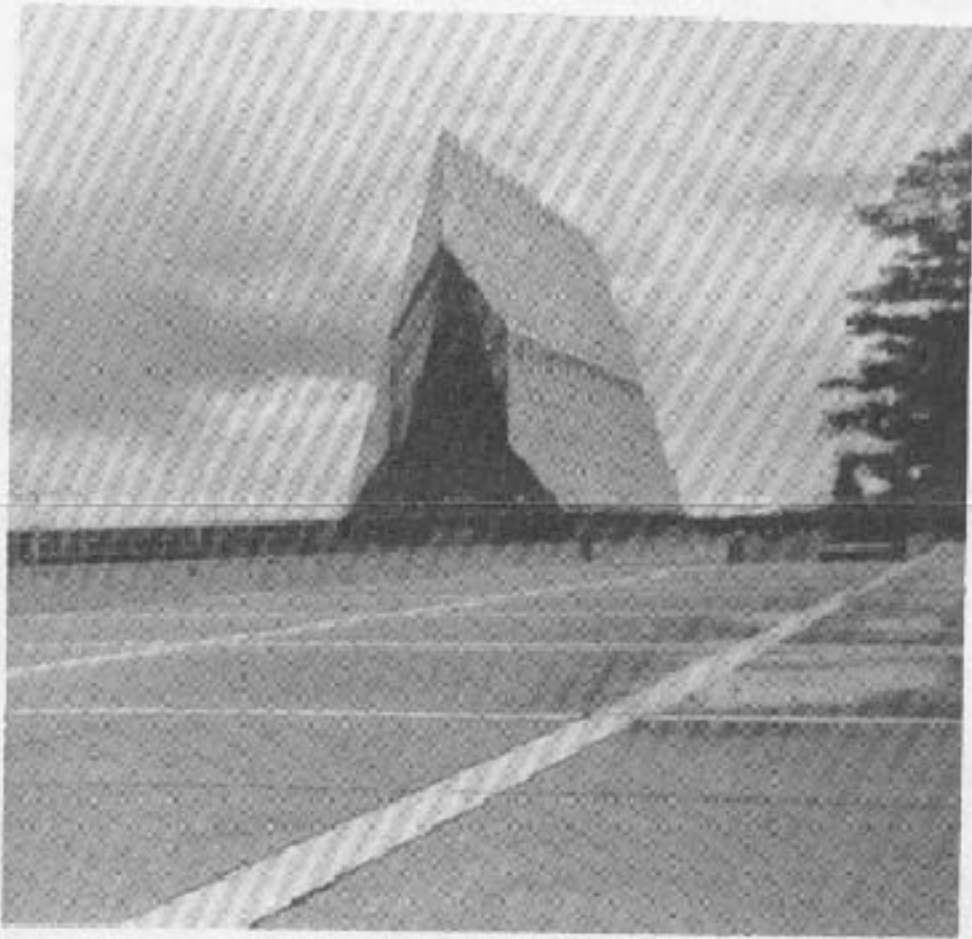
"I hope to keep in touch as much as possible."

Happy Flying! Barry

SEND ALL NEWS RELEASES TO:

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319-689-5161

Shots from our 1982 Convention at
the Air Force Academy



1983 HEADQUARTERS

GRAND SEMINARY

montreal

July 12-13

Plan to attend!!