

# WINTERMAIL

EAA CHAPTER 25

MINNEAPOLIS / ST PAUL, MN

MARCH 2013

## Log Cabin Ski Plane Fly-in

By Kim Johnson



We waited until the last minute, but the weather looked horrendous for the scheduled fly-in on Sunday, February 17, 2013, so we were bummed that we had to call off the weekend trip.

Then my phone rang at 8:00 am on Sunday morning. Bob Poore called saying the weather was improving

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Hemchan Attends Flight Expo Workshop

by John Schmidt

There are any number of good reasons to belong to EAA Ch. 25., not the least of which is: EAA chapter 25 is active in bringing aviation to youth. We fly a decent amount of Young Eagles, with enthusiasm. We sponsor an aviation scholarship at UND. We sponsor kids who attend EAA's Air Academy.

Hemchan Ramnarine, 16, is an honor student at Columbia Heights High School. I first met him when he was under my tutelage as a 6th grader in my homeroom class. Hemchan expressed an interest in aviation, and decided to take the Microsoft Flight Simulator class after school. From there, he attended EAA's

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**"Say Intentions"**  
March mtg, Feb minutes

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# "Say Intentions"



-an update from Kim V. (Gudgeon Pin)  
Johnson, EAA Chapter 25 President

Were not Ray Peterson and Doug Ward, speakers at our February Chapter 25 meeting, gems? Ray Peterson, a Chapter 25 member, described his experiences as a Flight Engineer on a B-17 in WW II. Doug Ward drove from Mondovi, WI on a day's notice to describe his experiences as a B-17 gunner. My heart was overwhelmed with a feeling of honor and respect as I listened to them describe their experiences. These two are truly wonderful men from the "greatest generation" which is rapidly fading away from us. I wish I would have thought to videotape them.

Have you seen the Comet PanStars? Chris Bobka, and John Koser, our resident Chapter 25 astronomers, were on top of it, telling us the best way to view it on our Chapter 25 Yahoo Groups site.



By the way, if you have not subscribed to the site please do so. It is our best way to communicate with you between meetings. You can subscribe to it by clicking on this link, or pasting it in your internet browser's URL address bar : <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/chapter25/>. You can also subscribe on our Chapter 25 website: <http://www.eaa25.org/>. It is important that you all subscribe.

Congratulations to Pat Hoyt (p. 93) and Dr. Gary Rene (p. 100) for appearing with their homebuilts, a Zenith Zodiac and a Celerity, respectively, in this month's "Hands On" section of EAA Sport Aviation magazine. Thanks to Pat Halligan for spotting it. Well done guys.

At this month's Chapter meeting, Paul Randall, a Chapter 25 member and representative from the Pipistrel Aircraft, will tell us about their "widest range of advanced light aircraft in the world".

Bring some food or a beverage to share to the Chapter meeting. Next time you are at the grocery store, pick up an extra *(Continued on page 8)*

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# ON FINAL



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# ***This Month: Wed Evening Mar 20th—BSAEC at Airlake***

## **Grill on at 6pm, Meeting starts at 7pm**

**Please bring something to share: pre-cooked brats, hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments, deli salads, beans, chili, chips, cookies, plastic utensils, paper plates, cups and napkins.**

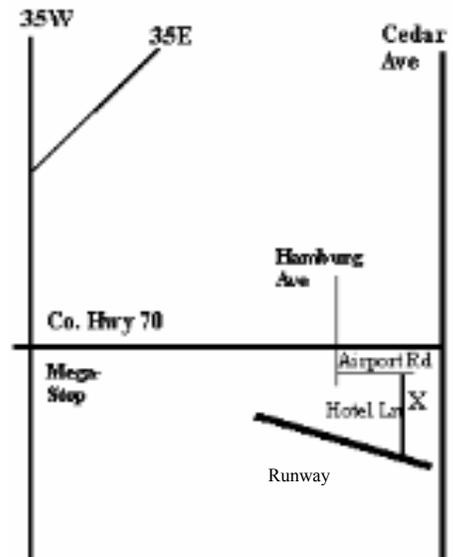
**Program:** Paul Randall, Chapter 25 member and representative from Pipistrel Aircraft, will tell us about their “widest range of advanced light aircraft in the world”.

## **Saturday April 20th Young Eagles at Airlake, 9 am.**

To volunteer to help with young eagles, contact **Bill Brown: 952-432-4231**

## **Saturday April 20th — Dale Johnson induction into MN Aviation Hall of Fame.**

Mark the date and send in your reservations now! Download the reservation form from [http://www.mnaviationhalloffame.org/pdf/hof\\_reservation2013.pdf](http://www.mnaviationhalloffame.org/pdf/hof_reservation2013.pdf) The banquet will be held at the Ramada Mall of America, 2300 American Blvd in Bloomington, just north of the Mall of America. Social hour at 4:45pm, banquet seating at 6:15pm.



**Directions to BSAEC (Chapter Hangar at Airlake):** South on I-35 to Hwy 70 (Megastop), then East to Hamburg Ave (3rd stop sign.) Right turn and South to airport perimeter road. Left on airport perimeter road then right on Hotel or India Lane. If the surface is firm, please park on space between hangars.

## **EAA Chapter 25 Meeting Minutes**

**February 20, 2013**

**Presiding Officer: Kim Johnson**

**Location: Bert Sisler Aviation Education Center at Airlake Airport**

### **Business Meeting Discussions**

Lou Martin led the pledge of allegiance. Next he asked for a moment of silence for all who serve and have served.

Kim Johnson thanked the food coordinator for tonight, Matt and his father Russ Born. Then he put in a plug for name tags.

Guests: Bryan Peterson introduced Peter Hook (he used to own the Taylor Craft in Bob Poore's hanger, he also was a very fast motorcycle racer), Russ Born from Montana, Gail Barthel (her hobby is scuba and is the sister of Bryan Peterson), Greg Gonze (grew up with Bob Poore).

Kris Olson said that rosters are ready to pick up tonight. She has new member forms, some remaining calendars and size large hats are still for sale.

The treasurer's report shows cash balance of \$13,919 as of 2-19-13.

John Koser reported that the Young Eagles event was last Saturday, only 2 kids showed up for flights, Don Eide was the pilot.

Ned Lebens spoke briefly about Eagles Flights.

Pat Halligan announced that Dale Johnson will be inducted into the Minnesota Aviation Hall of Fame on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Those



who plan to attend should make known that they are part of Chapter 25 to be seated together.

### **Program**

Ray Peterson (Flight Engineer) and Doug Ward (Belly Gunner) were both in WWII as crew on B-17. They shared some of their experiences.

Submitted by: Paul Brown

## ***Final Approach Trivia Quiz*** ***from John Schmidt***

Most pilots know what it takes to belong to 'The Mile High Club.' In the 1930's, what did a pilot have to do to belong to the 'Jimmie Allen Flying Club?'

***Answer on page 7***

# Log Cabin Fly-in

(From Page 1)

and if we got going now, we could still make it. I called Dick Bylund, who wanted to go in the worst way, and said if he could get to Bob's house in one-half hour, we were going.

Even though Dick had further to travel, he beat me to Bob's house. We were on the road for the one and a half hour ride to Mondovi, WI at 8:45 am. The conversation never stopped and before we knew it we were excited to see ski planes in the sky as we approached the Log Cabin Airport.

Many airplanes were already parked on both sides of the snow-filled runway with more coming in, so we hustled through the snow to get a close look along the imaginary flight line. We looked at airplanes, talked to pilots and shared a plentiful lunch of chili and hot dogs in the tool shop at the end of Runway 18. Doug Ward, owner-operator of Log Cabin Airport, who spoke at our February Chapter meeting less than 1 week later, was a gracious, story-filled host.

After a rewarding and fun-filled morning, we stopped for food and refreshments at one of our favorite small Wisconsin towns, Arkansas, WI. Log Cabin Airport holds two fly-ins every year, a ski plane fly-in in February and a camping fly-in every Labor Day Weekend. It is well worth the drive. Of course, Doug will give you a warm welcome you if you choose to fly-in anytime inbetween. Click here and check out the fun: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Mw1-OfFvyXo>.



# **Hemchan** (From Page 1)

Air Academy, was a volunteer teaching assistant to my "Intro to Aviation" class in the summer, was the official photographer of last year's Forest Lake Fly-In, and has been a regular attendee at the Pietenpol Builders Group on Wednesday nights at Crystal Airport and Dale Johnson's house.

Duane Kruse and Sharon Sandberg are active in aviation in the Princeton, Minnesota airport. Duane has an airplane service and repair business there, and Sharon has displayed her custom embroidery work at Oshkosh (AllStarWarbirds.com). Some of you readers might also know that Sharon's dad had the V-12 Tsunami unlimited racer at Reno, and passed away in an accident while flying it back home in 1991 (Egads! Can that be over 20 years ago already!?!?).

Sharon and Duane are trying to rebuild Tsunami, and are working to repair, fund-raise, and promote the project. They are also operating Flight Expo, ([www.FlightExpo.org](http://www.FlightExpo.org)), an effort to "promote aviation through education and preservation." One of their ideas was to create a hands-on sheet metal workshop, 8am-noon on a Saturday, for the very reasonable price of \$15 (including breakfast treats!).

Even though I knew it was meant for adults, I couldn't resist sharing the PDF of the workshop flyer via an email to Hemchan. Sure enough, he registered for the class.

Saturday, February 16th, at 8am, was the class. There were about 25 people there, along with Sharon Sandberg, Duane Kruse, and two of their Flight Expo / Tsunami rebuild team in assistance. Hemchan, dropped off by his parents, made quick friends in his usual pleasant manner. Each attendee proceeded to make a spark plug holder, a cleco holder (Hemchan didn't know what a cleco was at the beginning of the day), and we bucked about a dozen round-head and flush-head rivets to finish our experience (Hemchan installed a nut plate on his practice piece).

I met prospective RV builders from Mora, the airport manager from Wadena (who drove down 2 1/2 hours with his enthusiastic wife participating in the workshop, too), and met a female 182 owner/pilot from Flying Cloud.

It was a great way to spend a Saturday morning. Sharon and Duane are just another pair of great people in aviation, working hard to promote aviation and

*(Continued on page 6)*



# Hemchan *Continued from page 5*

follow their dream. The class was well worth it.

(full disclosure: I'm favorably biased toward Duane and Sharon; I'm a contributor to the Tsunami project. I'd encourage you to get involved, in any level, in the project, too; this is how Voyager got built).

Finally, Sharon and Duane are hosting an upcoming FAA Wings Safety Seminar. Clint Crookshanks, who has professionally investigated some high-profile aviation accidents (including the Jimmy Leeward accident at Reno), will present a seminar on "The Do's and Dont's of Building, Restoring, and Maintaining Your Aircraft" on Saturday, March 9th, at 9am, at the Kruse hangar at Princeton.



# Gone West— Jeff Johnson

*From Drew Johnson, son of Jeff Johnson and Chapter 25 member.*

Jeff Johnson, 65, of Edina, MN, EAA# 88733, died unexpectedly on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2012 at the family cabin on Lake Vermillion. Jeff was a life-long aviation enthusiast and started going to Oshkosh in the early 70s. Since then, he has made almost yearly trips, usually with some combinations of his three sons.

Jeff logged almost 75 hours as a student pilot and was a member in Wally's Flyers J-3 Cub flying club. He served as Chapter 25 President in the late 1980s. He worked in the machine shop at Northwest Airlines for almost 7 years and described it as "the best job of my life".

Jeff made considerable progress on building a Starduster Too and was currently working on a Murphy Moose with his son Drew, also a Chapter 25 member and a private pilot. He will be greatly missed, but his easy going nature and mechanical curiosity will live on.



*Jeff Johnson with grandson Graham*



*Chapter 25's February Young Eagle Event only drew two young men, but as you can see, they had a great flight. Thanks to pilot Don Eide for taking the time to fly that day.*

## Stuff for Sale/Wanted

Wanted: Your dusty old VFR instruments for my Pietenpol project. Please contact Ned Lebens 952-567-3329 or [nlebens@gmail.com](mailto:nlebens@gmail.com)

Hangar Space: Heated hangar space available at Crystal, good lighting, and bathroom. Home builders welcome. Have lots of tools available for use. "Free welding if needed". Call 763-494-6993, leave message if no answer.

For Sale: Ellison EFS-2 Throttle Body Injector  
**don schlais** <[d.schlais@hotmail.com](mailto:d.schlais@hotmail.com)> 763-479-8228

From Peter Denny: A friend of mine in Atlanta is very ill and he has to sell his Cherokee 140. Please draw this to the attention of the membership.

[http://cgi.ebay.com/ebaymotors/1975-Piper-Cherokee-PA-28-140-w-150-hp-engine-/300790995248?pt=Motors\\_Aircraft&hash=item46088a5930](http://cgi.ebay.com/ebaymotors/1975-Piper-Cherokee-PA-28-140-w-150-hp-engine-/300790995248?pt=Motors_Aircraft&hash=item46088a5930)

For Sale: Aviation Books. Oldies, classics, some brand-new, some autographed. Inexpensive! Cutting down my library. I can e-mail a listing. Noel Allard. [nallard@unitel.com](mailto:nallard@unitel.com).

For Sale: MAGNATEK Model HH2p011 1/4 HP compressor with spray gun and assortment of accessories. This equipment has been hardly used. Anyone into model airplanes or art would find this an asset. \$100 ONO Contact Peter Denny 763-529-5325 or email [peterthepilot99@gmail.com](mailto:peterthepilot99@gmail.com)

For Sale: Lancair 320/360 kit, Super-Fastbuild kit. Asking \$20,000 or offer.

## Answer to Final Approach Quiz

(See page 3)

The same thing that any kid of that era would do: apply at any Skelly gas station. Jimmie Allen was the pilot/hero of a popular 15-minute radio program (along with sidekick Speed Robertson). 16-year-old Jimmie would fly to faraway countries and solve mysteries (vs. enemies Black Pete and Digger Dawson). Applicants received many radio premiums, (highly treasured today,) including a set of wings, a Jimmie Allen picture puzzle (a Skelly truck refueling a light airplane), a "secret service whistle" and a Jimmie Allen album. The club newspaper was sent to 600,000 (!) listeners a week. By the end of 1947, after the production of more than 400 episodes, the program was cancelled. Repeats of the 1946-47 edition of *Jimmie Allen* continued to air until the mid-1950s. (some Jimmie Allen broadcasts can be found on YouTube!)

One of the things that set the Jimmie Allen radio program apart from the others were the *Jimmie Allen Air Races*. These were model airplane contests using balsa stick-&-tissue rubber powered models that participants picked up at their local gas stations and built themselves. The Air Races were hugely popular with 10,000 to 30,000 participants at each event, held in cities like Wichita, Denver, Des Moines, Kansas City, St. Louis, Chicago, and Los Angeles.



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# Chapter Events

**Mar 20th Chapter Mtg at BSAEC, 6 pm**  
(see page 3 for map & directions)

**Apr 20th Young Eagles at Airlake**

**Apr 20th Dale Johnson induction into  
MN Aviation Hall of Fame (see p. 3)**

**Future meetings 4/17, 5/15, 6/19, 7/17,  
8/21, 9/18, 10/16, 11/20, 1/15, 2/19, 3/19**



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## “Say Intentions” *Continued from page 2*

package of: pre-cooked brats, hot dogs, hamburgers, condiments, deli salads, beans, chili, chips, cookies, plastic utensils, paper plates, cups and paper towels.

Every Wednesday evening that there is not a Chapter meeting, there is a Chapter 25 Pietenpol building project in which you can participate. We start at 6:00 pm at Dale Johnson’s workshop in Burnsville. Come and we’ll give you a task to do in the building of a Pietenpol. Find a Piet builder to talk to if you have questions about this. Ask any member at a Chapter 25 meeting. I’ll bet that most know, but if not, I know they will refer you to someone who does.

Want a way to get involved in Chapter 25 activities? I have a number of ways you can get involved. You get out of your Chapter participation what you put into it and then some. Participation is fulfilling. I have found that the more I participate in, the more enjoyment and fulfillment I receive. I am recruiting a food superintendent, newsletter writers, BSAEC Hangar Committee members and a librarian. Come and talk to me about it or call or e-mail me. We will work it so that you can participate at your own level of availability.

Four of my goals for Chapter 25:

Encourage Chapter 25 membership by young men and women with an interest in aviation.

Encourage younger members to get actively involved in Chapter 25 activities.

Have all members get to know each other better.

Perpetuate the Chapter 25 Mission of furthering interest in building custom aircraft and supporting all with an interest in aviation by sharing our knowledge and experience.

“The price of anything is the amount of life you exchange for it.”

--Henry David Thoreau, American author and poet

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting!



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