



Yesterday

Tomorrow

# Minnesota Aviation History And Education Center

P. O. Box 7884, St. Paul, MN 55107-7884

Today

History

Web <http://users.minn.net/farls/Mahec>

3rd Quarter 2008 Issue

## Minnesota Flying Farmers. by RWW

Over the past couple of years there has been mentioned the interest of the Minnesota Flying Farmers to find a home for their records, albums and items collected over the years. Well it happened just recently Gene Payne delivered boxes containing the history of the local organization that has been moving around from one house to another during the history of the organization. Now that they have merged with neighboring states it was felt that the records needed a permanent home and that MAHEC was just the place.

Now Earl Torch Dorn is sorting things out and working toward organizing the records, identifying people in pictures and locations where pictures were taken. A big job that requires someone with knowledge of the people and events that made up the Minnesota Flying Farmers. Torch is far from done and will be looking for assistance as he moves forward.

Might you have been a member and have some items you feel could use a home just contact Torch or myself.

Who cares what happened last week?  
MAHEC does and so should you.

## Visitors by RWW

Ever remember being warned to never fall asleep at your desk you might be in for a **surprise**



Well I sure was surprised, not a sleep one day in late May when MAHEC Treasurer, Kevin Sliwinski brought in a group of visitors including Gary Workman, Directory, MN Department of Aeronautics.

This was my first opportunity to meet Mr. Workman.

Hope he enjoyed the tour of the combined offices of MAHEC and MAHOF and the Hamilton Metal plane.

Picture by Kevin

## MAHEC Meetings.

Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month except December and July at 7:30P.M.

Email notices sent prior to the meeting as a reminder and notification of changes.

Meetings held in the So. St. Paul Airport (Fleming Field) Terminal Building.

## Thinking future

by RWW

**F**uture is just a step ahead of today and not that far in beyond tomorrow. The past is of course history. The future brings fall and winter here in MN and being August it is just around the corner. Terrible thought is it not.

But, what are your plans for the future, this fall and winter which is close despite the current heat wave.

Looking for something to occupy your days, evenings, weekends what is out there? Consider the items in the following list:

Enjoy writing, aviation, history and Minnesota. Consider writing for the MAHEC newsletter. Aviation people, companies, organizations, places and events within State of MN present numerous opportunities.

Enjoy being in a Library spending time with books, magazines, scrapbooks and organization according to author and topic, assist people with research,.

Give talks to community organizations, schools, governing bodies to wake them up to the Past, Present and Future of aviation and its value to their community

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## Just where did they go? by RWW

**A** topic that continues to come up during discussions among pilots is about “old days”. What are they, generally airports or private landing strips that used to be?

I know that recently I have participated in discussions regarding Onion field that used to be near Beaver Lake east of St. Paul, what was probably an emergency strip near the intersection of 40<sup>th</sup> and the railroad tracks and Nolan’s Corner landing strip that probably was on a farm. Both of these locations were near the present Lake Elmo Airport. The Nolan’s Corner one came up for discussion when Gary Kuhn pointed out a picture in a book titled “The Pietenpol Story” by Chet Peek. The strip was closed down by the State of MN when they discovered a group of unlicensed Pietenpol home builds there back in 1940, strangely as happens today for other reasons the owners fled to Wisconsin.

The picture below might be of the hangar at what was the Nolan’s Corner strip.



Of course there have been a number of others that have closed for one reason or another such as Northport, for housing, Pine City, for commercial development.

Freeman.com has started to list inactive or closed airports within the United States and the MN Dept of Aeronautics maintains a list of MN airports.

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## Officers

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## Volunteers

*Newsletter*  
Richard W. Wicklund - Editor

### *Museum Projects*

*Gary Kuhn*

*Ron Voelker*

*Earl "Torch" Dorn*

*Dale Johnson*

*Steve Atkins*

*+ You*

*And you*

*And YOU*

## **Just where did they go?**

Continued from page 3

How about in your city have airports disappeared or moved the 3Ws and an H comes up. Where, What, When and How questions come up. Where was it? What happened to it and why. When did it close or move. How come, better usage for the land no activity to justify the cost or was it just something the military used during WWI or WWII.

What you know someone else may want to know today tomorrow and next year. Please share your knowledge by writing a article or just drop a line to MAHEC care of P.O. Box 7884, St. Paul, MN 55107-7884 or better yet visit MAHEC at Fleming Field, South St. Paul, MN BUT please call to 651-247-1895 to be sure someone will be there. Currently, Tuesday and Thursday mornings are covered but you know how things do change. Would enjoy visiting with you.

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## **Thinking future.**

Continued from page 2

Enjoy designing consider using this interest in development of displays for the museum. Think up ideas, research what is available to create a display.

Have computer interests give thought to doing input into the museum system learning and using the software purchased to create processing flow of donations and volunteer efforts.

Or do you have need to clean out the hangar, garage or basement, a need of mine for sure, think about just how your excess could be just what MAHEC might be looking for.

Have some of the above created an interest and want more information just contact Richard Wicklund, President or any of the officers via email, telephone or letter. Thinking that the South St. Paul Airport is a long costly drive, well give thought as to how you could participate without making the trip making use of your computer or even the good old U. S. Post Office.

One item that is of important value to any and **all** organizations just happens to be YOU.

## MAHEC happenings.

As mentioned on page 1 the Minnesota Flying Farmers records have arrived. Gene Payson did the hauling and unloading.

Wonder where my picture of Gene unloading the boxes went?

Than Torch Dorn and Gary Kuhn took over and began the task of sorting and organizing which will be on going for an undetermined time.

On August 14 the Wright Flyer taxied, actually was pulled, from where it has been in storage over to Hangar 5 for preparation to assemble, build a 10' tall support and becoming a display item. Not as simple a project as it may sound but with help of various volunteers it should be on display around September 1<sup>st</sup>.

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## Recap of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter meeting minutes.

April 2008

New Business.

Landlord request.

Gary requested that MAHEC write a ltr to City of S. St. P. regarding his donation of space to MAHEC. President wrote ltr.

Newsletter schedule.

Editor working at publication of newsletter middle month of each quarter. Has almost made this goal.

Old Business

Variety of office needs discussed as MAHEC expands and solutions.

May 2008

New business.

Newsletter mailing expanding to include local government office, chamber and others.

Web page.

Discussed the need to set up the web page to include the newsletters. John stated no problem.

## Recap of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter meeting minutes.

continued

May 2008 continued.

Old Business

Office needs.

Computer needs updating.

Museum software.

Treas. Kevin Sliwinski presented proposal to purchase PastPerfect Software for Museum.

Approved.

June 2008

New Business

MAHOF display case. President contacted Noel Allard, President MAHOF informing him that locks have been installed on the display case doors.

WiFi. Treas. Kevin Sliwinski investigating the potential of having MAHEC office connected to airport system.

Old Business

Library. Always things to do.

Office items.

MAHEC retained 3 old Hall of Fame file cabinets for future use.

Now have keys for all MAHEC cabinets.

With approval granted at the May meeting MAHEC will soon be ordering PastPerfect Software for Museum Collections.

Wright Flyer. To be moved from storage to hangar 5 for repairs.

Treasurer report.

Report for period 1/1/2008 – 6/24/08

Total Inflow	\$ 153.66
Total outflow	70.00
Overall Total	\$ 83.66

Accounts as of 6/24/08

Am Bank – MAHEC – Ck	\$ 847.07
Am Bank-MAHEC – Savings	\$5,012.47