



BLAINE AIRPORT PROMOTION GROUP
8891 AIRPORT ROAD BOX 2C
Roger Hansen, Education Coordinator

In the first week of December Craig Schiller called to tell me about the Adopt-A-School program so I picked up the kit and made a review of the material and agreed that it would work to provide tools for teachers to teach Aeronautics, Math, and Science.

I attended the Aviation Career Night at Key Air on December 7, 2010 to get a look at the potential of bringing the Adopt-A-School to the attention of the businesses based at the Blaine Airport. The response was favorable as I made contact with Malibu Aerospace Chad Menne, MSP Aero Jon Ness, Life Link Jesse Simkins, and Metropolitan State University Kim Doebbert, and Northland Community & Technical College Biggi Haraldson.

Craig had a tour with Mark Voigt and 50 students from Spring Lake High School so I made arrangements to meet Mark and show him the program. Mark was delighted with the program and wants to begin now to prepare lessons for this coming spring curriculum.

I also wanted to learn about Mark and how he arranged his tour of the airfield. Mark has a good advantage over other teachers that we may approach to use the material. Mark has been doing Aeronautics in his classes for the past 10 years. Teachers in general will be reluctant to move into a new area of study and develop curriculum around our material. Mark has two projects in mind. He wants a few of his students to enter a contest of wing design. The second project will be air to ground photography providing a series of photos of the Spring Lake Park High School Campus that would be displayed in the school to show achievement of the class work.

Mark is asking for help in finding an engineer that can help in wing design and Arial Photography.

Mark was introduced to Janese Thatcher at Mn/DOT Aeronautics. Janese will set up a meeting to introduce the entire Adopt-A-School program to Mark at his school sometime in January. Shelly Supan of the Civil Air Patrol has additional ideas for mark and will also have direct meetings with Mark and I to give Mark a good start on his Spring Curriculum.

Spring Lake Park also has a Community Education office. Summer programs are available from June through August called Learning Ventures Child Care. Their 2011 schedule is posted in the District 16 Winter/Spring publication published by the Community Education Department. Careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, Careers in the Military, and Careers in Government are some of the class titles in the 2011 calendar of events.

On January 2, 2011 I had a discussion with Lori Dykstra, Curriculum Integration Coordinator, *Center for Engineering, Math, and Science, Blaine High School*. Lori will forward information to Amy Oliver at University Elementary K-5, Dee **McClellan**, Jackson Middle School Observatory 6-8, and a District Contact, Lynn Jaeck. An Aerospace program is in development. I will be coordinating my efforts to present the Adopt-A-School program as well as introducing Shelly Supan, Commander, Civil Air Patrol, to Lori Dykstra's group. Shelly has a complete Aerospace curriculum K-5 and other programs that have been developed for 6-12. (Shelly Supan has already been working with Amy Oliver, one of Lori Dykstr's group) STEM (Science,Technology,Engineering,Math)school for aerospace program

I am planning a meeting with a small group of teachers and Curriculum Integration Coordinators from our regional high schools to be introduced to the programs that are available at the Blaine Airport. On my suggested short list of participants are:
Lori Dykstra, Curriculum Integration Coordinator, Lori.Dykstra@anoka.k12.mn.us
Amy Oliver, Curriculum Integration Coordinator, University Elementary, Blaine
Dee McClellan, Jackson Middle School Observatory, Blaine
Mark Voigt, Spring Lake Park Hig School, mvoigt@district16.org
Peter Yelle, Community Education Department of the District Services Center,
Spring Lake Park, pyelle@district16.org

Representing Blaine Airport Promotion Group:

Harvey Karth, hkarth99@comcast.net

Roger Hansen, rogerhansen49@gmail.com

Representing Blaine Airport:

Joe Harris, Blaine Airport Manager

Presenters will be:

Janese Thather, Mn/DOT Aeronautics, Aviation Safety, Education, and Training,
Janese.Thather@dot.state.mn.us

Shelly Supan, Commander, Civil Air Patrol, skylimited@comcast.net

Anoka County has 28 Public High Schools. 7 Private High Schools. 60 Elementary/alternative/charter schools. Student populations are from around 40 and a high around 3000. Schools with populations of 1600 to 3000 have a student to teacher ratio of 20.

County Statistics:

Population 282,579 Median Household Income \$56,705

w/Collage Degree 29% Average Age 34

82% Own Their Home

According to economists at Washington's Brookings Institution, "Among children born into low-income households, more than two-thirds grow up to earn a below-average income, and only 6% make it all the way up to the affluent fifth of income earners." Fewer jobs are now available in middle-income jobs for workers with only high-school diplomas, thanks to globalization. Currently adults with collage degrees have an unemployment rate of 5%, steady or rising incomes, and relatively stable families. Adults without a high school education face unemployment of 15%.

I see some objectives to be met: I believe that the Adopt-A- School program has merit as a solid teaching tool but there are other programs that need to be considered as well.

Develop a check list that would be sent to the teacher to gain information and goals the teacher has in bringing students on a tour. We will always get the tour just because, “It’s a good day to get a field trip in” but we need to discourage that approach if we expect the airport businesses to share their business time for tours.

We need to locate the companies that wish to participate.

We need to establish what our objectives are through the media and brochure publications.

Hold a career night with a pre-registration.

Consider approaching the Community Education office in Spring Lake Park to host a one week summer program located at Blaine Airport, with registration through the Community Education office. (STEM) Science, Technology, Engineering, Math.

Promotion:

Tim Hennagir of ABC Newspapers suggested that Shelly Supan write an article about the Civil Air Patrol program that is similar to the Adopt-A-School program and is being introduced to University Avenue Elem School to start an aerospace program that includes math and science in that curriculum for grades K--5. The teachers involved at Elm will be brought to the airfield for a tour and introduction to the businesses. That plan is on going and should be in a firm proposal by February, 2011.

Shelly Supan is preparing a news release for January release to announce the introduction of the Aerospace curriculum at the University Elementary School in Blaine.

If we introduce the teacher first we will be able to bring a more refined group of students into the program because of the teacher’s awareness of what is available to the student for career development.

The recent article and interview with Joe Harris by Eric Hagen provided a good show case of the Blaine Airport. There are several venues in our area that the airport supports in some way. The Championship PGA tours sponsored by 3M is an annual event held at TPC Twin Cities in Blaine. TPC is a member of the Anoka County Airport Wildlife Commission.

The hotel industry in the Blaine area is host to several area events that bring guests to our area as well as airport use during the large national events. Craig already has good working relations with area hotels and Key Air also recommends hotels in the area for their clients. These area businesses can be a good resource and promotional opportunities for Aviation Days and other national fly in events.

Airport activities:

- Promotion of the *Blaine Airport Promotion Group* is essential.
- Aeronautics and Aerospace industries are beginning to grow.
- Establish a business plan and awareness that businesses on the airfield can relate to and be responsive to our need for support of student tours, and educational values we can provide to our regional schools.
- Create community exposure that will showcase the economic value the airport brings into our local economy.

Three Things I have learned!

1. Never judge a person on appearances alone; they may be your next big client.
2. Choose your words of criticism carefully; your words may become front page.
3. You never know who your next boss will be.

Prepared by
Roger Hansen January 11, 2011



BLAINE AIRPORT PROMOTION GROUP

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I was recently asked how I became interested in flying and involved at the airport. That is probably the best way to introduce myself today.

In 1952 the US Air Force revised the Ground Observer Corps, dubbed “Operation SKYWATCH.” Over 800,000 volunteers stood alternating shifts at 18,000 observation posts and filtering centers located on all borders of the US. The Ground observer Corps traced its roots to WWII when 1.5 million civilians volunteered and were enrolled by the Army Air Forces to man 14,000 observation posts. I joined and had a part in this bit of Aeronautical history that shaped my interest in airplanes. My memorabilia of that time was lost when the museum at Flying Cloud Airport closed. My neighbor was there at the right time and recovered my WWII ship display just as the doors closed.

I am one of five brothers that were in the army over a 20 year span of time. I am the youngest of nine children so my older brothers were quite an inspiration for me as I grew up during WWII. My oldest brother lives in Oregon and was a paratrooper in the Philippines with the 11th Airborne. The 11th Airborne was called upon to rescue 2300 prisoners of war, 30 miles behind enemy lines at Los Banos, Philippines. The troopers jumped at 500 feet above the tree line and rescued all prisoners with the loss of one man. One of my brothers served stateside, trained as a paratrooper and tank mechanic. One served in Germany during the Berlin Airlift. One served in Korea and I served stateside and was deployed for nine months to Fort Sill Oklahoma during the Cuban Blockade.

The Cuban Crises was not just a 13 day event. The invasion of Cuba was on the table during the Eisenhower presidency and the plan remained active during Kennedy’s presidency

The invasion that we now know as the Bay of Pigs was a CIA blunder. 8 B-26 bombers disguised as Cuban aircraft, were launched from Guatemala, dropping their wing tanks before entering Cuban waters, they then went on to bomb Cuban air bases. A second bomb run was planned but the plot was exposed and that bomb run was cancelled.

A U-2 was brought down by a SAM missile.

200,000 troops were in Florida

Carriers were present in Cuban waters.

Marines were stationed off shore.

Tanks were moved from Texas to Georgia.

Fort Sill and White Sands were in the ring of fire.

Very little of this information was reported. Even now there are some Kennedy papers that have not been declassified.

I was trained as a radar technician and held MOS of Radar Section Chief, Combat Engineer, and Heavy Vehicles Driver.

I worked for MTS Systems Corporation, located in Eden Prairie, Minnesota as Drafting Engineer and Graphic Artist. MTS designs and builds Electro-Hydraulic systems for Aerospace, Automotive and Military, testing metal fatigue in real time controlled laboratory settings. One project was a request from the Canadian Government to test surplus aircraft from the Korean era to see how many flight hours could be expected under combat flight conditions. One test involved an Arden Hills project. The Radio tower fell while men were replacing bulbs. A plane was in the area taking photos and the study was to determine what caused the failure of the structure. The conclusion was that it was metal fatigue and not the air turbulence caused by the photo plane.

My next career was in the medical field with CPI (Cardiac Pacemakers) what is now owned by Boston Scientific. I was Graphic Artist and Exhibits Manager for CPI and developed booth and display material that gave me the opportunity to travel to the Orient, Europe, Canada, and South America. I served as chairman of the NASPE Exhibitors Advisory Council, North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology, for a tenure of two years.

I came to the Blaine Airport during an air show at Polar Air and immediately liked the volunteer group and began getting involved as much as possible. This became a regular pattern and I enjoy doing the tours at Golden Wings, photography of the events and some involvement with American Wings as well.