



# FLIGHT LINES

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE SPIRITS OF ST. LOUIS R/C FLYING CLUB

## Happy New Year

### PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

By: *Eric Langston*

Seasons Greetings to all. I hope that everyone has, or will be having, a great holiday season. At last month's meeting the membership approved the construction of our pavilion. The deposit has been paid and it snowed. I don't know when it will be built due to the weather. The construction is supposed to only take a week or less. So if any of you are out at the field and see strangers digging holes in the pavement, (where the pavilion is supposed to be), just stay out of the way and let them do their work. The total cost comes to \$6000.00 and we didn't have to do anything but sign some papers. I will be in contact with the builder and find out the scheduled time. We are also in need of someone that can spearhead our half of the Swap Meet with the Boeing club. If you can take this one, please contact me via phone or e-mail. The club needs your help!

This past Saturday night, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>, I received word that a long time member of our club, Carl Brandenburg passed away late in the week. His funeral was Monday the 11<sup>th</sup>. Carl enjoyed this hobby and had recently shared one of his planes with us at the November meeting. Our sympathy and prayers are with his family.

In keeping with holiday tradition, New Years day the field will be open to any member who wishes to fly. I will be there, along with other board members, with hot drinks for anybody that wishes to start the New Year with a cold flight.

*Serving you,  
Eric*

### MEETING MINUTES, DECEMBER 6, 2000:

By *Walt Wilson*

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by President Eric Langston.

**Members signed in:** 25. There were no guests present, but one applicant sent his paperwork in with Jim Rawlings.

New member applicant:

Demetrius Lewis 636-936-8361

The membership voted to accept the new applicant.

**Secretary's Report:** Accepted as published in the newsletter.

**Treasurer's Report:** Accepted as presented in the copies circulated for review.

### OLD BUSINESS:

**Field Report:** Field Chairperson, Anna Nolle, was not present. Her husband Frank reported in her absence. It's been cold and snowy so not much is happening. The field has not been disked yet. Anna will call the farmer who works the surrounding fields again and make arrangements, if possible.

**Safety Report:** Safety Chairman, Doug Thompson, was not present. There was a mid-air between two members recently. Everyone was reminded to fly the same pattern as dictated by wind direction. Also, Eric reminded us that batteries lose power in cold weather, so don't try to fly too many times on one charge.

**Activities Report:** Steve Ramoncuk reported that few people are flying because of the cold and windy weather. There was some discussion about the proposal by Don Ware of Rolla to formulate a series of races between the clubs. Warbirds, Four-Star 40's and AviaStar races would be run. This activity will be pursued.

**Swap Meet:** Eric has looked into the Swap Meet and the Boeing Club contacts are presently out of town on business. He will interface with

## FLIGHT LINES

them when they return. There is a possibility of delaying the meet a week to assure publicity in the AMA magazine. A Contest Director is still needed.

**Pavilion:** The contractor submitted his bid to build the pavilion to our specifications with modifications as necessary to meet St. Charles County requirements. He will acquire all permits and cover the fees for a total cost of \$6,000.00. Don Fitch made a motion to accept the bid and move on with the project. It was seconded by Jim Rawlings and passed unanimously by the members. Eric signed the contract and will get the down payment from Les Richman. Construction will take about a week after the permits are approved.

**Fuel Shelter:** There was more discussion about possible shelters and potential problems and costs. General consensus is that one will cost between \$200.00 and \$500.00. Eric will arrange for one.

### NEW BUSINESS:

**All meetings will be on the second Wednesday of the month next year.** Y2K Secretary Paul Geders made the arrangements. Some people had been waiting for up to three hours for the library to open to assure that they got the meeting rooms for their organizations.

**Bylaws:** A committee consisting of Eric Langston, Steve Cross, Paul Geders and Wayne Nenner have been modifying our bylaws as requested by the AMA's lawyers. The initial changes were made and have been reviewed by the lawyers. Further changes were requested and have been made. Specific points were discussed at the meeting. The changed bylaws will be returned to the lawyers and the AMA for further review. The AMA is vitally interested because they want to distribute our bylaws to every AMA sanctioned club as a recommendation for all to use. The final bylaws will be submitted to our membership at a future meeting for approval. Spirits handbook and publicity documents have been modified to comply with the bylaw changes.

**Meeting Activity:** Steve Ramonczuk and Don Fitch brought planes to show. Their planes are described in the captions below.



*Don Fitch shows his "Scrap Bin". The name indicates where he found the parts to put it together. It's powered by a Saito .26 four-stroke engine. It's designed for hand launching and flies very well. The wheel is to protect the prop when landing.*



*Steve Ramonczuk discusses his Sig Cap 1/4 scale 231EX ARF. It's powered by a Saito 1.50 four-stroke engine and has a 73-inch wingspan. He feels that the design, materials and workmanship do not meet his expectations for kits in this price range. He doesn't recommend buying it.*

## FLIGHT LINES

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

*By Bill Lindewirth, Membership Chairman*

Please keep in mind that your 2000 "Spirits" Membership expires on December 31, 2000. As of this writing, less than half of the membership has renewed. Membership renewals will only be accepted through March 1, 2001. After that time, NO renewals will be accepted without the \$25.00 New Member Initiation Fee.

*Thank You;  
Bill Lindewirth*

### GSLMA MINUTES, DECEMBER 6, 2000 MEETING

*By Pat Keebey*

**Attendance:** All clubs represented except Lone Eagles, Twin City Fliers, Boeing Phantom Flyers, and MVSA.

**Minutes:** Accepted from the November Meeting.

**Treasurers Report:** Field Fund: \$260.95

#### Buder:

- A. Cold for flying.
- B. Pete George uncovered some flying pads along the runway that had sunk below ground level and were overgrown with grass. These pads will need to be raised in the spring when warmer weather

#### Committee Report - Ron Carr:

A. No information has been received from Crestwood Shopping Plaza concerning a Static R/C Display this winter. Pete George, President of GSLMA will follow up on this situation.

#### Old Business:

A. All Buder Park permits for 2001 are due by the end of December 2000. A few minor changes have been made to the application for permits. SFA has been taken off the application and the statement that a FCC license is required for 6-meter transmitter operation.

B. GSLMA treasury is very low on funds due to the sealing of the runways this past flying season. The Lafayette Esquadrielle and St. Louis R/C Clubs have donated \$100 to GSLMA. The Sam NX211 Lone Eagles have pledged \$100. A big thank you to these clubs.

#### New Business:

A. The Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club invites the GSLMA to visit their new flying site in St. Charles County. Take Highway 94 to Jungs Station Road. Take that south to Greens Bottom road. Take Greens Bottom Road to Amrein Road, go south about one-half mile. The field is on the west side of Amrein Rd. Proceed through the gates to the parking area.

B. The Parks Department does not pay for resealing the runways at Buder. This is paid for by the members' contributions. A motion was made and seconded to put a statement on the Buder permits. The motion passed. Please read the attachment.

C. For the January 2001 meeting all clubs need to bring in the dates they would like to reserve for a contest at the Buder facility.

D. All clubs also need to bring a list of the officers serving their club in the year 2001. This should include name, title, address, and phone number.

**Meeting adjourned:** The next meeting will be January 3, 2001 at 8 P.M. at the St. Louis County Library, on South Lindbergh, in the East Room.

#### GSLMA Attachment

During the summer of this year the asphalt surfaces in the Control Line and R/C areas were resealed. This was done to prevent damage when the temperature drops below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. The cost of this was \$2800.00, paid for by GSLMA. The Park Department will not pay anything on these costs. These surfaces will need to be recoated in two years. The cost at that time will be approximately \$3000.00. If everyone who applies for a Buder Park permit would donate a minimum of \$10, the funds should be available for resealing in 2002.

#### THE LAST WORD

*By Walt Wilson*

It appears that winter has arrived with a vengeance. We may have a good flying day from time-to-time, but it won't be very dependable. It's possible to fly at any temperature that you can stand being at the field, if you can get the engine started. If it's cold and the engine won't fire, you can usually help it along by finding a way to warm the cylinder head. Don't try to apply an open flame, such as a propane torch, to it unless you want to take home a pile of cinders. You can put

## FLIGHT LINES

it in the car and warm it up with the heater, or you can try some other tricks. Last year I came up with the idea of using chemical hand warmers available in sporting goods departments. Just open the package, follow the directions to activate them and then wrap them around the cylinder. Give it a few minutes then, when the head is warm to the touch, take the warmer off and quickly try to start the engine. We didn't have a field last winter, so I haven't tried it, but it sounds like it'll work. I'm also told that aerosol carburetor cleaner, or a small amount of lighter fluid, sprayed in the carb will help get the engine to fire the first time. So far this year, when it's been too cold for the engines to start easily, it's also been too windy to fly. If you have other ideas for getting frigid engines

started, send them to me and we'll publish them. Those of you who have explored our web site know that we have a picture gallery. If you haven't noticed, take a look. We would be happy to put pictures of your planes in there too, if you'll send us suitable photos and a description of the plane. Send clear prints or e-mail digital pictures to me, at the address on the back page, or e-mail them to Paul Geders at: [elmo@netscad.net](mailto:elmo@netscad.net). If you send them to me I'll scan or format them and forward them to Paul, who is our Webmaster. Try to include three or four photos from various angles. Now's the time to build and get a stable ready for next year!

*Gotta go build!*



*Don Vetrone, of the Wright Flyers R/C Club, flew at our field as a guest recently. He shows us his Tiger 60, powered by an O.S. .91 FS Surpass.*



*Your Flight Lines editor shows his Kyosho Supermarine Spitfire ARF. It's powered by an O.S. .46 FX and has Robart mechanical retracts. His kit review on this bird is in the January 2001 issue of R/C Modeler.*

## FLIGHT LINES

### *In Memoriam*

Carl Brandenburg had a Masters Degree in Engineering from Washington University and was a Section Chief in Engineering at McDonnell Douglas in charge of landing gear design. He was responsible for designing the landing gear for such aircraft as the F-15 and F-18. He retired about ten years ago. He was a modeler for more than 50 years and was very precise in building both scale model aircraft and plastic model cars. He also built musical instruments and once built a violin. He was a long time member of the Boeing Phantom Flyers as well as the Spirits. Carl had a heart bypass 14 years ago. In early December, he went into the hospital for another. He died on the operating table. He'll be missed.

*May all his landings be on clouds.*

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**FLIGHT LINES** is the Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club newsletter and is published on a monthly basis. Club members may submit personal classified ads for inclusion in the newsletter free of charge. Businesses wishing to advertise in the newsletter should contact the editor or an officer of the club for details.

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**Newsletter submissions** must be in by the Monday following the club meeting in order to make publishing deadlines. The preferred format for article submission is via e-mail. I have both PC and Macintosh computers and use QuarkXpress and Microsoft Word, so send the copy as the e-mail message (not an enclosure) to avoid cross-platform problems if you don't have the same equipment and

software. Typed or clearly written copy on paper or a Word or Word for Windows file on a 3.5-inch 1.44MB floppy disk are acceptable if you don't have access to the internet. Photos are welcome and may be in the form of glossy prints or, if scanned or digital, in jpeg, gif or tif format.

**General Membership meetings** are held the second Wednesday of each month at the Bridgeton Trails County Library Branch, 3455 McKelvey Rd. (1/4 mi. south of St. Charles Rock Road).

**Membership information** can be obtained from:

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**Flying Field:** Our new field is located on Amrein Road, off Greens Bottom Road in St. Charles County.