



FLIGHT LINES

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

Election of Officers for 2002

President's Notes:

By *Eric Langston*

Our thanks to Steve Cross, and all his helpers on the Open House. If you missed it you really missed something. The only way to describe it is "WOW!!!" See you at the meeting.

Serving you,
Eric

Meeting Minutes: September 12, 2001

By *Walt Wilson*

President Eric Langston called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Members signed in: 34 members and three potential new member applicants were present.

New Member Applicants:

Name	Phone Number
Denny Dreyer	636-458-8139
Dean Hadinger	314-427-3107
Bill Hartman	314-799-3817

Eric recommended that they wait until October and join for 2002.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were accepted as published in last month's Flight Lines.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: Anna Nolle reported that the corn has been harvested and the farmer is brush-hogging the fields to remove the stubble.

If you find something that a member has left at the field and don't know who it belongs to; take it to the barn and leave it on the table. If you know whose it is, take it with you and call them to make arrangements for it's pickup. Don't leave it in the pavilion or elsewhere at the field.

Safety Report: The Safety Chairman was not present again. It was noted that some flyers are flying behind the safety line identified by orange poles. Flying on the pit side of these

poles is forbidden.

Activities Report: Training will be on Saturdays only. Three students soloed and were presented certificates by Steve Ramonczuk, they are Frank Nolle, Ralph Amelung and Rick Ellis.

The September 15 races at Vichy and October 6 races at our field are cancelled due to low attendance.

OLD BUSINESS:

Open House: Steve Cross' son made a color flyer which has been distributed to local hobby shops and other clubs. Black and white flyers have been distributed to hobby shops for handouts. He also sent one to Frank Opinion of radio 550 who has visited our field and talked extensively about it on his radio show. A number of well-known pilots have agreed to come and fly helicopters, pattern and scale planes. Bill Lindewirth will fly his jet and trainers will be there for introductory flights.

We need a first aid kit at the pavilion. Paul Geders moved to buy one. It was seconded and voted unanimously to buy a \$50.00 first aid kit.

George Cooper will get it. Bob Rolf will do concessions, Eric will provide coolers, Lee Volmert will set up the PA and announce proceedings. Steve Ramonczuk and Gene Jones will man the buddy boxes and George Cooper will cut the grass on Friday, September 28 (The field will be closed). Les Richman and Walt Wilson will do registration and Frank Nolle will make up forms. Steve Ramonczuk will manage frequency control (Bill Lindewirth has since volunteered to set up a transmitter impound).

Walt Wilson contacted the St. Charles Post Dispatch and a reporter has contacted Eric for people to interview. Walt has also contacted all major local television stations with limited response. Help is needed for this event! Our future image will be affected by how this event comes off! Volunteer!

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NEW BUSINESS:

Barn: Steve Cross contacted the property owners about making more space available in the barn. The wagons and some of the contents will be moved to a new barn that is being built, so we can have more space. He also inquired about tree removal and the owner is not interested in doing anything about that. He will, however, brush-hog the undergrowth.

Superman fly-in: Bill Lindewirth talked about the great show in Metropolis, Illinois, on October 3 through 6. He encouraged all to go see it and offered to car-pool (See the article on page six).

Missing Planes: George Cooper told about going to the field and finding a plane sitting on the grass. It was obviously retrieved from the corn field. but had no identification. One of the farmers came by and asked who it belonged to.

George told him he didn't know but placed it in the pavilion. The farmer said there was another that his brother had at the company office.

When George went there, to see if he could identify it, the other farmer asked if there was a \$100.00 reward for it. To our knowledge, no one has ever seriously offered a reward that large. Most rewards are no more than \$25.00, if one is offered at all. George later found that the farmer had also taken the first plane to the oil company office in case the owner offered a reward. The farmers were under the impression that all lost planes have substantial rewards offered for their return. George figured out who the planes belong to and notified the owners.

We later were told that the owners retrieved their planes without any rewards being paid and the farmers were very nice about the whole thing. Flyers should never offer large rewards for lost planes unless they plan to pay them!

Most planes will eventually be found, frequently in very poor condition. Anyone searching for a downed plane in surrounding fields must be careful to avoid damaging the crops. The farmers depend on their harvest for yearly income. Steve Cross will contact John Ostmann to try to resolve any misunderstanding the farmers may have.

NOTE: *Always put identification on or in your plane!*

Club Trainer: George Cooper salvaged parts of a wrecked Avistar trainer from the trash can at the field and repaired it. Don Fitch, Rick

Ellis, Steve Cross, Eric Langston, and George himself donated parts and materials to build a club-owned trainer. The plane is to be used for demonstration flights, such as will be offered at the Open House.

Super Tigre Company moving: Paul Geders announced that Super Tigre was being moved from Italy to Taiwan. The purpose is cheaper labor and cost-saving. Engines will not be available for awhile until they get back in production.

Weed Eaters: As voted last month, Eric purchased two Weed Eaters and a leaf blower. The old units need repair and may be purchased by members for a small donation to the club.

Work Party: The long awaited barn work party will be at 10:00 A.M. on Saturday, October 13.

Trailer and Ramps: There was a discussion on the need for ramps and a trailer to transport the smaller lawn care equipment to and from the barn. Eric and Steve Cross will check on available loaners.

Nomination of Officers: The following members were nominated and accepted:

Steve Cross for President

Steve Ramonczuk for Vice President

Walt Wilson for Secretary

Les Richman for Treasurer

The balance of the Board of Directors will be appointed by the President, subject to membership approval.

Westy Westhoff moved to close nominations. Eric discussed his term as President. He cited the "10% Rule". Ten percent of the people do all the work in most clubs. Another 10% complain and the rest don't do much of anything. More open participation by members, in all activities, is needed for a successful and growing club.

It was voted to close nominations.

Meeting Activity: Claud Wade showed his scratch-built test bed for radios and equipment. It's powered by an O.S. .40LA and hasn't been flown yet.

Russ Kuhn won the drawing for a roll of Monokote and an accessory item.

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Claud Wade shows his scratch-built test bed for radio components, first flight of the year, etc. It's powered by an O.S. .40 LA and hadn't been flown as of meeting night.



George Cooper holds the rebuilt Avistar club trainer. A number of members contributed parts or money toward it's recovery. It's powered by an O.S. .40 FP and, I'm assured, has more rubber bands on it when flown.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:49 P.M.



Bill Hancock prepares his Sig "Somethin' Extra" for flight. It's powered by a Magnum .46XL and is a great flying bird.



Jack Owens shows us his Sig Senior Kadet. The O.S. .35 up front pulls it very capably. He says it's such an easy flyer, he could probably fly it with rubber band power!

Spirits' Open House

By Walt Wilson

The Open House on September 29 brought out hundreds of flyers and spectators for a fantastic day of flying and showing of R/C planes and helicopters. The following pages show photographs of the planes, people and activities. See our web site for more pictures.

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Superman 2001 Update

By Bill Lindewirth

When: October 3 - October 7, 2001

Where: Metropolis Regional Airport, Metropolis, IL,

If you have never been to a major event, then you can't afford to miss this one. Metropolis, Illinois, is about a three hour drive from St. Louis. Pilots from all over the world will be there with their remarkable aircraft. Names like; Terry Nitsch, Expert Scale class winner for the third straight year and Mr. Top Gun for 2001, with his impressive Rafale. Bob Violet, Best Jet winner at Top Gun with his F-100 D, and over 400 more pilots. If you are interested in carpooling, or have any other questions, call me and leave your name and phone number. (314-839-0282) I will contact all interested parties and will try to work something out. If you are planning on spending the night, all the hotel rooms in Metropolis are sure to be taken. Paducah, KY is only 5 miles south. There is a Drury Inn, Drury Suites, Holiday Inn Express and a Pear Tree Inn just to name a few. Admission to Superman is "FREE". A pit pass usually costs \$10.00 per day and is worth every penny. Be sure to bring some extra cash. There are some real deals to be had. Dozens of vendors will be on hand as well.

See you there!! Bill



Frank Hunleth holds his Lanier Stinger. The O.S. .91 Surpass four-stroke really hauls it around.

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

It's election time again. The club owes Eric Langston a debt of gratitude. He stepped in to the Presidency when no one else would. The club had no field and other serious difficulties that could not be ignored. Eric assumed the responsibilities of bringing the club back. He didn't do it by himself, but he was there to hold

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things together when no one would do the job.

Now family and business responsibilities dictate that he move on. The club is back on track with the best field in the area and, while already the largest club in the area, we have potential for an even larger membership. Thank you Eric, well done!

Speaking of a growing membership, in the past month we've had coverage in the St. Charles Post-Dispatch and on the Show Me St. Louis show on KSDK TV. If there's anyone in the area now who doesn't know about us, they're not paying attention! Adam Jarman interviewed several members and wrote a great article about the club, our members and the Open House.



St. Charles Post-Dispatch reporter Adam Jarman flies R/C for the first time. Les Richman (left) and Gene Jones man the buddy box and talk him through flying Les' 1/4-scale Piper cub.

With less than 24 hours notice, I gathered Bob Underwood, Paul Geders, Les Richman, Gene Jones and Mark Been to fly and demonstrate capabilities of their planes for the cameras of the Post and KSDK TV. The TV photographer shot

about thirty minutes of flying, which was edited to thirty seconds of airtime. The very abbreviated TV segment aired on September 27 at 3:00 P.M. and the Post article was published on September 28. Thanks to the Post, KSDK and all who participated in the demonstrations. The publicity in the Post-Dispatch, on KSDK TV, this newsletter and from the handouts Steve Cross distributed throughout the area really brought out the flyers and spectators! Jim Lanzendorf and several other flyers from the St. Louis R/C Association and other area clubs brought their large-scale Edge 540's, Pitts and other aerobatic aircraft and put on a demonstration that dazzled everyone. Scott Kathey brought a whole stable of helicopters and put them through aerobatics that seemed beyond belief. He did loops, four-point rolls, tail slides, and other maneuvers most people would think impossible for that type of aircraft.

He hovered, inverted, over the runway and touched the asphalt with his rotor blades! Several people were given the opportunity to fly an R/C plane for the first time, thanks to our instructors and the new club trainer. On behalf of the Spirits I would like to extend our sincere thanks to all who organized, advertised, worked, flew, showed their planes, instructed and came to watch the activities. This event and the advertising leading up to it have brought the club to the attention of the Metro Area. This should help restore our membership to levels we attained before the loss of our old field. This has been the sort of happening that we will be talking about for years to come. As a matter of fact, it's already been suggested that we make it an annual affair!

Gotta go build!

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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.

Newsletter Editor:

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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 Macintosh and PC computers and use QuarkXpress and Microsoft Word, so send the copy as the e-mail message (not an enclosure) to avoid cross-platform or incompatible software 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) at 7:00 P.M.

Membership information can be obtained from:

Bill Lindewirth
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Florissant, MO 63031
Phone number (314) 839-0282
e-mail: MrBillSTL@aol.com

Flying Field: Our field is located on Amrein Road, off Greens Bottom Road in St. Charles County. It's open for flying from 9:00 A.M. to dusk. Flight training is still available on Saturday mornings from 10:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.