



FLIGHT LINES

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

COME FLY WITH US

OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2002

At the Spirits' Field on Amrein Road, 1/2 mile south of Greens Bottom Road
St. Charles County

Open Flying, Aerobatic, Racing
and
Helicopter Demonstrations

A limited number of "hands-on" flying demonstrations
will be offered to spectators

AMA MEMBERSHIP IS REQUIRED FOR ALL PILOTS

Registration is required
Planes will be safety-checked prior to flight

ENTRY: FREE

Registration and flying from 9:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M.

Food and Cold Drinks Will Be Available

For more info call: Steve Cross at 636-458-3287
or e-mail at: sv.cross@att.net

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT: www.spiritsofstl.com

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President's Notes:

By Steve Cross

Another month has gone by, and along with it another month of great club activities and flying. Did you participate in any of them? Last Saturday we had another great day of Four-Star-40 races. It didn't rain, but the wind was pretty strong most of the day. We did have some casualties, but all in all it was another successful event. A great big thanks goes to Lee Volmert and Steve Ramonczuk for Co-CDing this race. We all had a great time and I think we had more spectators for this race than for any recent ones that I can remember. If you haven't been to one, come out in October for our last race of the season. We can always use racers and workers.

We have two other activities before the October race. On September 14th, our club will be putting on flying demonstrations and static displays for the Silver Swallows at Smartt Field. There's more info about it in this newsletter. On September 28th, we will be holding our Second Annual Open House at our field. This event takes a lot of effort from everyone in the club. Please call me to volunteer some of your time. If you were there last year, you know what a great success it was and how much publicity was generated for our club.

At the last club meeting (were you there?), we had a long discussion about things we can do to increase participation. Many topics were discussed, and a lot of them will be incorporated into next year's calendar of events. But the overriding consensus was that if a member chooses not to participate, additional money and/or prizes probably won't change that. Ultimately, it is the member who is missing out on a huge benefit of belonging to a club like the Spirits. Believe me, there is so much more to this club than just going out to the field and flying by yourself. Join in! You'll be glad you did.

See you at the field!
Steve Cross

Meeting Minutes: August 14, 2002

By Walt Wilson

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 P.M. by President Steve Cross.

Members signed in: 24 members and one guest.

Secretary's Report: The July minutes were accepted as published in the August Flight Lines.

Treasurer's Report: Some big expenses, like sealing the runway and real estate taxes are coming up soon, but we have them covered. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: George Cooper read the Field Report as published, starting on page four. He solicited bids for sealing the runway and pits. Details are covered under New Business.

Safety Report: Bob Rolf had no safety issues. George Cooper received an e-mail from a friend in North Carolina who belongs to a club with waist-high starting benches like the Scouts proposed. He says one of their members was seriously injured by a propeller when talking and waving his arms around near an airplane, on one of these benches, with the engine running. There was a discussion about possible safety issues with the running engines at waist height. This happens occasionally with the airplanes on the ground, too. ***Care must always be taken when near running engines at any height.***

Activities Report:

Warbirds and Four-Star 40 Races: At least eight helpers are needed for the races on August 17. Drinks and protection from the sun will be provided for workers. The workers' drawing will be for a transmitter case described last month. The race will be a "Cash Bash" and plaques will also be awarded. Racers are to provide their own 15% fuel, but use of club props will be mandatory.

Silver Swallows Air Show: This will be on September 14. R/C planes are needed for static display. The static planes will be in the Commemorative Air Force hanger, along with the "Show Me" B-25 that is kept there. It'll be a great photo opportunity. Initially, both static and flying planes must be set up by no later than 9:30 A.M. If you want to display a plane, but can't leave it all day, please call Walt Wilson, so the display times may worked out. There will be flying demonstrations at 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Flying is limited to designated personnel, including Steve Kissel and Jim Lanzendorf, who did the great large-

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scale 3-D aerobatics last year at our Open House. They say they've polished their act and will dazzle us even more this year.

Scott Cathey, who did the amazing helicopter aerobatics last year will also fly at this show. Designated Spirits' members will also demonstrate their specialties.

Helpers are needed for various tasks including talking to the spectators and spotting of full-scale aircraft that may come in while our people are flying. EAA members will be giving free airplane rides for children. If Dad or Grandpa wants to go along, the charge is \$25.00.

Open House: Event Director Steve Cross is getting materials together for the Open House. Ralph Amelung agreed to run the concession stand. We will have hot food this year. The helicopter and 3-D flyers are expected to fly again this year. Members of a glider club are expected to be there too. More details will be available at our next month's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

Starting Benches: George Cooper has drawn a proposed variation on the Model Aviation bench. The drawings are included in the paper copy of this newsletter that went to all Spirits' members. Nothing further has been heard from the Boy Scouts who proposed the benches, so it may not be an issue anyway.

Helicopter Hover Area: Paul Geders sent drawings and a description of the proposed helicopter hover pad location to Carl Mahoney at AMA for a legal opinion about safety issues. There has been no response, so we take this as acceptance of the plan. Helicopters may hover in an area a minimum of 100 feet west of the pavilion. A small pad will be placed in the ground to mark the designated area. Helicopters are to be taken to the designated hover area for starting, too. ***No engines of any type are to be started in the pavilion.*** Helicopters in flight, other than hovering, are to be flown over the runway and in the flying areas designated for fixed-wing aircraft.

Spirits Caps: No more caps are needed at present.

NEW BUSINESS

Sealing the Runway: George Cooper solicited bids from three contractors for sealing and re-striping the runway, pits and

pavilion asphalt. Two contractors responded. He also priced materials to do it ourselves, though few members were expected to volunteer. The lowest bid was only \$400.00 more than material costs for doing it ourselves. After some discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept the low bid and proceed. The contractor will wire brush and clean the asphalt with blowers before sealing. It will be done ASAP and the field will be closed for one day after sealing.

When fueling your plane, always use an overflow bottle to save that expensive fuel and avoid damage to the asphalt.

New Members: One potential applicant introduced himself. Jim Parker, 636-946-8814, is interested in joining and wants to visit our field before taking further action. He will be considered for membership by the members at a future meeting.

Boring Club? In answer to last month's challenge by our President, one member suggested a Fun-Fly with three levels of flying, based upon skill. Each level would require a more difficult maneuver. The member who thought the Spirits were boring explained his thoughts on the subject. He noted that, whenever we have a race, only a small percentage of the membership participates. The only events that have brought out a large number of flyers in recent years were the Open House and Gum Ball Fly-In. At any given time, only a handful of flyers, if any, are present at the field. Sometimes, he is the only flyer present. He feels that members should be active and participate in flying activities to justify the cost of belonging to the club. In the ensuing discussion, it was noted that members belong to a club for a variety of reasons, only one of which is flying. Very few flyers are interested in serious competition. Most just enjoy flying for personal satisfaction and the camaraderie of being with people who have similar interests. It was noted that our situation is much better than having to wait in line for a chance to fly for a few minutes, as is the case in some large clubs in densely populated areas of the country. At the present time, the Spirits are big enough to be financially solvent and there's no waiting to fly. We have flying competitions for those who want them. Most members seem to think that's a pretty good situation.

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Meeting Activity: Walt Wilson had the only plane for "Show and Tell". See below for details.



Walt Wilson shows his newly finished Top Flite Elder 40. It's an old design that has been upgraded to incorporate Top Flite's new CAD drawings, laser, and die-cutting techniques. It's powered by an O.S. .46 FX and flies like a well-designed trainer (In-flight photos are available in our web site Photo Gallery). It's a kit review for R/C Modeler magazine.

The Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Jets at Sullivan, Missouri, on September 6,7, and 8

By Steve Collins

On behalf of the River City Flyers, I would like to personally extend an invitation to the Spirits of St. Louis to participate, either as pilots or as spectators, at the Ozark Mountain Jets event coming up September 6th, 7th, and 8th in Sullivan, Missouri, at the Sullivan Regional Airport. Please pass this invitation on to your membership. For more info, call Steve Collins at: 636-493-2681

More Jet Rally information can also be found at: http://www.rivercityflyers.rcclubs.com/jet_rally.htm

JULY FIELD REPORT

By George Cooper, Field Chairman

The weeds in the parking lot and driveway were eliminated this month. Ozzie Barron got us some weed killer through his son for \$40 and Pat Keebey, Harold Mantz and I sprayed it with hand sprayers. The weeds are dying and should stay down for the rest of the season.

Weedeating required is at a minimum and almost all the mowing can be done on the riders. We had lots of repairs to equipment this month. The Lawnboy mower needed all new wheels

and supports on the mower deck for \$57 and then the drive belt wore out. It needed a new blade as well, so I took it home and went through the whole mower replacing the belt, blade, and brake pads for \$144 and readjusted the whole mower. It now starts easily and runs like a new one. The Farmall with the rusty rim finally gave up and we had to buy a new rim. I found a new one in Iowa and had it shipped in. Pat and I took the wheel off and I had Child's Tire swap the rim and put in a new tube for a total cost of \$267.35. It was out of service for one mowing, but is back in now. It is time to prepare for fall seeding, but all the asphalt needs to be sealed before winter. The Board of Directors feels that it is more important to protect our large investment in the asphalt than to put more money into seeding this year. I contacted three companies for bids on sealing all the asphalt and restriping the runway. The bids received will be presented at the August meeting for authorization to proceed with the sealing. It must be done before the night temperature is 40 degrees and the companies are busy so we need to get in line with the company chosen. One company I talked to said it does really need sealing as there are many small pock marks appearing and over the winter they will freeze and become bigger. Sealing it properly now should last 4 to 5 years he said, or maybe more considering the light use our runway gets. I have one bag of grass seed left over from the spring seeding and will spread it in the pit area this fall. The rest of the field will have to wait until we have less expenses and less urgent priorities.

The mowing teams are still doing a great job and the field always looks good after the Saturday mowing.

George Cooper, Field Chairman

Airplane Trailer For Sale

This special-built trailer will hold a seven (7) foot wing span plane, plus wings and field box. It's fully padded, lined with rug material and has tie-downs. It's licensed, inspected and titled. It includes lights, U-Haul plug, fits a 1-7/8 inch ball and has a spare wheel and tire.

Must sell, make an offer!

Call Les Richman at 314-434-8080 or e-mail at: citabria77@aol.com.

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Four-Star 40 Races
August 17, 2002
By Walt Wilson



Except for a strong, southwesterly wind, it was a great day for mid-August. It was mostly cloudy and the temperatures didn't exceed the low 80's until after the end of racing. Enthusiastic

entrants raced Four-Star 40's for four heats and there were no serious crashes.



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Matt Geders flew his first perfect race with four wins and landed with the engine running every time, earning 20 points! Steve Cross won a heat race in his very first day of racing and finished second overall with 16 points. Tony Vitiello



was third with 14 points. Two planes suffered minor damage, on takeoffs and landings, and were unable to continue, but everyone had a good time. As always, the workers made it possible for a few flyers to have an enjoyable day of racing. Jim Rawlings won the workers' prize of a Task Force aluminum tool and transmitter case. C.D. Steve Ramonczuk assured there was a lot of kidding and no one took themselves too seriously. It was a relaxed, low-pressure day of fun racing.

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seen pictures like this of these planes in any of the magazines, so thought they were worth a look. The sheer size of the B-29 is dazzling!



Ralph's very bad, bad day! Ralph Amelung shows the results of running out of altitude, airspeed, and ideas, all at once!

More Pictures from the Top Gun Scale Contest

Pictures by Tony Pozarich

Text by Walt Wilson

Tony Pozarich sent some more pictures, via Ralph Doyle, from his trip to the Top Gun Scale Contest in Lakeland, Florida. While these are not Spirits' airplanes, photos of impressive scale models are too interesting to ignore. I haven't



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The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

The Spirits' contest and Fly-in activities for the latter half of 2002 started with the Four-Star 40 race on August 17. The number of entrants was held down by several untimely crashes in the weeks immediately prior to the race and some technical problems on race day, but the people who did fly had a ball! The Spirits have been personally invited to attend the Ozark Mountain Jet Rally at Sullivan, Missouri on September 6, 7 and 8. If you've never seen turbine-powered jets fly, you HAVE to go! They're amazing! The next Spirits' event is the Silver Swallows Air Show on September 14, followed closely by our Second Annual Open House on September 28. Some of the best aerobatic flyers from the area will be there! The Annual Jet Fly-In at Metropolis, Illinois, is on October 1 through 6. This is one of the biggest jet Fly-Ins in the country. All the big name jet jockeys will be there. If you want to see model airplanes costing \$20,000.00 and up, this is the place for the action! Talk to Bill Lindewirth for details. For those who missed our August race, another

is scheduled for October 19. If you can't find something to enjoy in the R/C world, you're not paying attention!

Gotta Go Build!

Getting Divorced, Must sell everything.

Have radios, planes, engines, building supplies, etc;

*Quadra 42cc on Byron Glasair, almost completed.

*K&B .65 Sportster on Goldberg Cub.

*O.S .65 on a Sterling Stearman.

*O.S. 35 w/muffler.

*K&B .40 w/muffler.

Call to see if I have what you need and/or make an offer. Contact Don Busken @ 314-960-6153. If no answer, leave a message. I will get back to you.

The Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club, Inc.

PRESENTS

The Ozark Airlines/
Silver Swallows Reunion

R/C AIR SHOW

Saturday, September 14, 2002

At: Smartt Field, on Grafton Ferry Road, Portage DeSioux, Missouri

Some of the best R/C flyers from the Spirits and the St. Louis Metro Area will put on flying demonstrations at 11:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M.

Public admission is \$3.00 per person. Parking is free.

Admission is free for Spirits and other R/C related personnel.

Tell them you're with the Spirits.

Planes are needed for static display from 9:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Static planes will be in the Commemorative Air Force hanger with the CAF B-25 "Show Me". It's a great photo opportunity! If you can't stay all day, call Walt Wilson at 636-946-6167 to work out a partial-day schedule for the time you can be there.

The EAA will offer free airplane rides for kids. \$25.00 for adults!

For more info: Call Walt Wilson at: 636-946-6167
or e-mail at: rallyo@charter.net

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 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. Photo credits will be given.

General Membership meetings are on 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
1046 Pinecone Trail Drive
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.