



# FLIGHT LINES

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

## Spring Is Almost Here!

### **PREZ SEZ:**

*By Don Fitch*

Looking out my window I see robins. Usually, better weather follows them around, so I bet flying weather is on it's way. Some of us have been flying on and off all winter, depending on the wind and temperature. I guess the lucky guys will be coming back from their Florida sojourns into the warm weather. I look forward to seeing them and all the rest of you at the field. For my part, I need to fly pretty soon, I haven't crashed since the last time I flew and I'm afraid I'm out of practice. Be kind to each other and any visitors you may meet - we can't all be ace pilots, but we can all have fun.

### **MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 12, 2008:**

*By Walt Wilson*

**Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M.** by President, Don Fitch. Twenty-five members and one member renewal applicant were present. Jeff Chase was renewing his membership after the March 1 deadline.

**Secretary's Report:** *Walt Wilson, Secretary.* Minutes were accepted as published in this month's Flight Lines.

**Treasurer's Report:** *Les Richman, Treasurer.* As a result of last month's questions by Ralph Doyle, Les had given him a complete printout of the 2007 expenditures on field maintenance. Ralph had some more questions about a couple of entries, which Les explained to his satisfaction. The Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.

**Field Report:** *Field Chairman, Frank Nolle,* was not present. It was noted that Paul Geders did the research and John Matticker had replaced all the damaged fan blades in the pavilion with new weather-proof blades. In response to some queries about repair of driveway and parking lot chuck holes, that held water in incliment weather, Paul Geders made arrangements for free highway millings to be delivered when available, hopefully in late April or early May. In the meantime, Frank Nolle rearranged existing gravel to fill many of the holes.

**Safety Report:** No issues were presented.

**Training Report:** One trainee is currently receiving instruction.

**Membership Report:** We had 142 members effective March 1, not including the following people who paid their dues for 2008, but have not submitted copies of their 2008 AMA Licenses to the membership Chairman, to complete the requirements to become 2008 members. The following people joined the club in the latter months of 2007 and presented 2007 AMA cards, which were required at that time: Mark Parkinson, James Marshall, Neal Gray, Timothy Saxer, Rory Paul, Joe and Dakota Maxey, Ronald Mais, David Lucas, Brandon Rew, Chris Wollenberg, and Scott Linke. Please send copies of your 2008 AMA licenses to John Key, ASAP! If you don't have a current AMA license, you can not have flying privileges at our field.

### **Activities Report:**

**Contest Helpers:** At Pat Keebey's suggestion, volunteers will each personally call a short list of members to recruit helpers for club events. The lists were passed out at the meeting.

**Front Money For Contest Directors:** President, Don Fitch, offered to put up front money for Contest and Event Directors to get materials for their Fun-Flies, etc., out of the President's discretionary fund. Paul Geders reminded him that all contests are to be self-supporting. Don withdrew his offer.

### **The following items were not discussed, but may be of general interest:**

**Show 'N Tell, April 12:** Due to an untimely death and a rare illness, we have had three presidents in the first three months of this year. There have been many more pressing issues, so Show 'N Tell simply didn't get off the ground. Maybe we can have one next year.

**Four-Star 40 and Warbirds Races, April 26:** See the flyer on page 7 for full information. Rules are available on our web site. Call Paul Geders at 314-838-1350 for any other questions.

**Cox Warbirds Race, May 13:** A list of particulars is on page 6. Call Don Fitch at 636-441-0373 with any questions.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None was presented.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Newsletter Mailing:** Don Fitch noted that printing costs had increased from 5 to 6 cents per page, or 10 cents per newsletter for the typical ten pages. Automated collation and stapling remains at two cents per newsletter. Postage

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will go up one cent, to 42 cents, May 1. That's a total increase of \$1.32 per household, per year, for twelve newsletters.

Steve Cross submitted a proposal (in absentia) to Don Fitch and two other board members, to immediately stop mailing newsletters to club members. Don Fitch explained that the premise was anyone with an e-mail address could access newsletters on our web site. A small number of newsletters could be printed and mailed to members who do not have internet access. The saved cost of printing and mailing newsletters would be diverted to club activities. Discussion followed. It was noted that not mailing newsletters to our members would be a violation of our By-Laws. A vote was taken and the proposal was overwhelming rejected with only one "yes" vote.

Printing fewer than 1000 pages will increase the cost to 92 cents per newsletter plus 42 cents postage. Fewer than 500 would increase the cost even more. Newsletter Editor, Walt Wilson, has used coupons to save \$10.00 to \$20.00 off each month's printing cost. Printing small quantities will eliminate the possibility of using most coupons, and publishing costs could approach that of the present number of copies. Most savings would be realized on postage.

**Dues Change:** Ralph Doyle proposed that the initiation fee of \$25.00 for new members be eliminated. Lee Volmert seconded. It was noted that the initiation fee was implemented as incentive for renewing members to get their dues paid on time, rather than drifting in haphazardly throughout the year. The By-Laws specify that renewing members who do not pay their dues by March 1 will be considered as new members. The motion was withdrawn until a change in the By-Laws can be considered. Treasurer Les Richman noted



*Jeff Bohrer holds his scratch-built McDonnell F-4. It's constructed of foam board and "pink foam", with carbon fiber rod reinforcement. It has a pusher electric motor and weighs 28 ounces, ready to fly. The little bird flies well, and has been crashed into a tree with minimal damage.*



WALT WILSON PHOTOS

*Greg Bohrer discusses his Hanger 9 Sopwith Camel ARF. It has a Saito .80 four-stroke up front along with a full one-pound lead block for balance. It takes off erratically, but flies well on days with little wind. Greg says the kit is a bit "pricey" but worth it.*

that a dues reduction was a possibility, because the treasury is in very good condition. Greg Bohrer suggested that a dues reduction of \$10.00 be considered. The matter was tabled for further discussion and evaluation.

**Meeting Activities:** Greg and Jeff Bohrer brought their "airplanes of the month" to show and discuss. See the photos for details.

**Attendance Prize:** Westy Westhoff won the \$10.00 gift card donated by Mark Twain Hobbies.

**Meeting was adjourned at 7:53 P.M.**

**Participation equals a chance to win \$200.00!**

*by Paul F. Geders*

Thanks to a great idea by Gene Jones to help increase participation of pilots and helpers this racing season, Ron Hesskamp for initially putting up \$100.00 of his own money, and the club membership voting on putting up another \$100.00...you have a chance to walk away with \$200.00 at the end of the last Four-Star 40/WARBIRDS race this year.

Here's how it works. Every pilot that flies in a minimum of 4 Four-Star 40/ WARBIRDS races and every helper that works at a minimum of 4 Four-Star 40/ WARBIRDS races will draw two cards from two face-down decks of poker cards after each race day and return the cards drawn from the decks and reshuffle. Even if you attend all 5 races you will only get a maximum of 8 cards to make the best 5 card poker hand.

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All volunteer helpers on day of race will be given an opportunity to work. Helpers should work at least one round of racing in both Four-Star 40 and WARBIRDS. Gene Jones will keep a record of the cards drawn by each racer and each helper. The order of draw will be determined by finishing position in the Four-Star 40 race, Warbirds, then randomly. All racers and helpers will be required to attend at least 4 races to get the 5 cards needed for a complete poker hand. The ONE individual that has the best poker hand after the fifth and last race of the year will receive \$200.00 cash. In case of a tie/s another single draw will be made with high card being the winner.

I'll be tearing down my Super Tigre GS40 for measurement (micrometer, timing wheel, etc.) and comparison to a new out of the box one on April 19, starting around 10:00 weather permitting. I'll also give hands-on training on adjusting engines for maximum performance, how to fly the course, when to turn, etc. Be there and help pass on this wonderful form of modeling! Here's your chance to be a part of some fun racing, as this year we are also going to have a Novice class as part of the Four-Star 40 event.

Good luck one and all...and since I will be running the first race on April 26...consider this a request for helpers, and for you who have never raced, an opportunity to have a lot of fun. Once the racing bug bites...you are hooked.

Racers and helpers...remember we are going to start registration at 8:30 and close registration at 9:00. Tune-up flying will be from 9:00 to 9:30. Racing starts no later than 10:00.

### Ordering Spirits' Apparel

By Pat Keebey

Sports Energizer, located at 9627 St. Charles Rock Road, 314-423-6000, has our club logo on file, and would be glad to fill orders for our members.

Submit the filled-out Spirits ORDER FORM on page 4, along with a cashier's check, money order, or personal check for the grand total amount, made out to Sports Energizers to:

Pat Keebey  
#4 Country Creek Dr.  
St. Peters, MO 63376

Pat has volunteered to do this for the club and all orders are to be placed through him to assure quantity discounts which are reflected in the prices on the order form.

Pat's phone number is 636-928-3918.

- The club will keep about a dozen caps available at a time and when out, will renew the order.
- Jackets, Golf Shirts, Sweatshirts and Hats should be paid for by the member when placing an order.
- Pat will collect orders and place them when he has a sufficient amount of orders.
- The merchandise will be brought to the meeting for pick up by the members.
- No deliveries will be made to the field.



*Leo Steck prepares his Super Tigre GS40-powered Four-Star 40 for flight.*



*Pete Stephens and Gene Jones pose by Pete's LA-1 pattern ship. It's powered by an O.S. .61 "Hanno Special" engine and has logged more than a hundred flights.*

### FOR SALE:

I have a few items that I no longer use and would like to see if the world at large has any use for them.

**Lanier 1/3 Scale Laser 200** with an **OS 300 4 Stroke Twin**---\$450, The Laser is flyable, however, needs some covering patch work on the bottom front around the landing gear.

**Saito 150 4 Stroke**---Less than 1 hour run time---\$230

**OS 300 4 Stroke Twin**---\$300

**Super Tigre 2500**---Less than 1 hour run time---\$50

Call Bob Underwood at 636-447-4235 or 636-939-3394 or email at: [bobrae53@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bobrae53@sbcglobal.net)

WALT WILSON PHOTOS

**FLIGHT LINES**

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

**Spirits Apparel ORDER FORM**

**JACKETS:**

<u>Blue lined:</u>	Quantity	Price: \$22.00 each + \$1.51 tax = \$23.51	Total
Small	_____	Logo on front only _____	_____
Medium	_____	Logo on back only _____	_____
Large	_____	Logo on front & back _____	_____
Extra Large	_____		_____

**JACKETS:** Name on front will be located on right chest area. Put the name you want on the jacket below:  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GOLF STYLE SHIRTS:**

White with blue logo and lettering:

	Quantity	Price: \$18.00 each + \$1.23 tax = \$19.23	Total
Small	_____	Logo on front only _____	_____
Medium	_____	Logo on back only _____	_____
Large	_____	Logo on front & back _____	_____
Extra Large	_____		_____
2X Large	_____	\$20.00 per shirt + \$1.38 tax = \$21.38	_____
3X Large	_____	\$21.00 per shirt + \$1.44 tax = \$22.44	_____

**GOLF SHIRTS:** Name on front will be located on right chest area. Put the name you want on the Shirt below:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Blue with white logo and lettering:

	Quantity	Price: \$18.00 each + \$1.23 tax = \$19.23	Total
Small	_____	Logo on front only _____	_____
Medium	_____	Logo on back only _____	_____
Large	_____	Logo on front & back _____	_____
Extra Large	_____		_____
2X Large	_____	\$20.00 per shirt + \$1.37 tax = \$21.37	_____
3X Large	_____	\$21.00 per shirt + \$1.44 tax = \$22.44	_____

**SWEATSHIRTS:**

White with blue logo and lettering:

	Quantity	Price: \$12.00 each + \$.82 tax = \$12.82	Total
Small	_____	Logo on front only _____	_____
Medium	_____	Logo on back only _____	_____
Large	_____	Logo on front & back _____	_____
Extra Large	_____		_____

**SWEATSHIRTS:** Name on front will be located on right chest area. Put the name you want on the Sweatshirt below:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Blue with white logo and lettering:

	Quantity	Price: \$12.00 each + \$.82 tax = \$12.82	Total
Small	_____	Logo on front only _____	_____
Medium	_____	Logo on back only _____	_____
Large	_____	Logo on front & back _____	_____
Extra Large	_____		_____

Hats:

	Quantity	Total
Blue/white summer caps	_____	\$6.00 each + \$.41 tax = \$6.41
Solid blue winter caps	_____	\$6.00 each + \$.41 tax = \$6.41

**Grand Total** \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Send this filled out *Spirits* Apparel ORDER FORM along with a cashiers check, money order, or personal check for the Grand Total amount made out to Sports Energizers and send to:

Pat Keebey  
#4 Country Creek Dr.  
St. Peters, MO 63376

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## Proposed By-Law Changes

By Ralph Doyle

There is an inconsistency in Article 7 of the By-Laws concerning dues and membership. Therefore, pursuant to article 10 regarding amendments to the By-Laws, I am proposing the following changes:

**The current By-Laws read as follows:**

### Article 7 Dues and Membership

**Section 1.** The annual dues to be paid to the Club shall be determined by the Club officers with the approval of a simple majority vote. Dues are not refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the Board of Directors. Dues are to be paid no later than the January Club meeting.

**Section 3.** A member shall be in arrears and shall not be considered active if his or her dues have not been paid as provided in Article 7, Section 1. Any member who allows their membership to lapse beyond March 1st of any year shall be considered a new member when renewing their membership and will not be given preference over any other applicant should a membership waiting list be in existence.

**Proposed changes** (highlighted in bold italics):

### Article 7 Dues and Membership

**Section 1.** The annual dues to be paid to the Club shall be determined by the Club officers with the approval of a simple majority vote *of the members in attendance at a regular meeting*. Dues are not refundable, except under extraordinary circumstances, which will be determined by the Board of Directors. Dues are to be paid no later than the January Club meeting. *A grace period shall be granted for payment of dues that will extend to the end of the regular club meeting in March.*

**Section 3.** A member shall be in arrears and shall not be considered active if his or her dues have not been paid as provided in Article 7, Section 1. Any member who allows their membership to lapse beyond *the end of the regular March club meeting* shall be considered a new member when renewing their membership *and will be subject to any additional fees the Club has approved*. The member will not be given preference over any other applicant should a membership waiting list be in existence.

<b>Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club, Inc. 2008 Event Schedule</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Event director</b>	<b>Notes</b>
April 26	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	
May 13	Cox Warbirds Race	Don Fitch	Tuesday @ 5:00 p.m.
May 17	Run-What-U-Brung	Don Fitch	Separate classes
June 7	M&M/Gumball Fun-Fly	Les Richman	
June 21	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Curt Milster	
July 12	Fun-Fly	Bob Fiely	Low Key
July 19	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Ron Hesskamp	
July 26	Anal Osculating Race	Don Fitch, and others	
August 2	Fun-Fly	TBD	
August 23	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Steve Cross	
September 10	Meeting at Field	Gene Jones	Member Appreciation Dinner
September 27	Open House	TBD	
October 11	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	

## FLIGHT LINES

**COX WARBIRD RACES**  
Tuesday Evening, May 13, 2008

### Cox Warbird Race Rules

**\*The whole point of this race is to have a good time\***

**There will be only one class, so if you've got a screamer, put it in your plane now.**

**All planes shall be Cox Warbird Foamies, the ones with 20" wingspans.**

**Planes will be launched from the pilot's fence 4 (four) at a time. The contestant, if desired, may have an assistant hand launch the plane for them.**

**Pylons will be 150 feet apart.**

**The scoring will be based on time.**

**The timing will begin when the event director says, "GO!"**

**The planes will fly 5 laps.**

**The timing will stop when the plane completes its 5th lap.**

**All scores will be sorted by total 5 lap time.**

**We don't have control of the wind, so if it is windy, heats will be run and the winners will be scored on their placing.**

**Remember, the point of this race is to have a good time.**

**If the race ends before the sun sets we will have another race.**

**If you have any questions, call Don Fitch at  
636-441-0373 or e-mail him at [dfit4@charter.net](mailto:dfit4@charter.net)**

### **Racing Engine Demonstration, April 19**

*By Paul Geders*

I would like to remind all interested and potential Four-Star 40 racers that we will start mentoring sessions on Saturday, April 19, at 10:00 A.M. Please bring all your questions. Let's go about helping each other, in any way we can, and make racing fun for everyone! Other experienced racers, please come and share your expertise. The following Saturday, April 26, is the first race of the year.

### **The Final Word**

*By Walt Wilson*

In 1997, I rejoined the Spirits after a ten-year hiatus from R/C flying. I didn't want to get involved with administration of the club, I just wanted to have somewhere to quietly fly and enjoy the sport. At that time, the newsletter was edited and published by a member who was apparently more interested in developing a web site. While nicely done, the newsletter consisted of two to four pages featuring a short message from the president and meeting minutes. The same graphics were used month after month and there were no photographs. 200 copies were printed each month, to get a price break, regardless of the number mailed. The club paid \$20.00 per month to the Editor's mother-in-law for folding, addressing, stamping, and mailing the newsletter. In April

of 1998, the Webmaster/Editor moved out of town. A replacement Webmaster stepped forward (then was quickly replaced by Paul Geders) but there were no takers for the newsletter. Because I had the expertise and a desire to help the club in a way that I knew well, I volunteered to take over as Editor.

Articles from Flight Lines have been published in the AMA National Newsletter and repeated in dozens of other club newsletters throughout the country.

Now, because of other commitments and the desire to have time to design, build, and fly model airplanes, I am retiring as your friendly newsletter editor. I've done the job for ten years. That's almost 1200 pages of copy and more than 17,000 newsletters mailed out, since 1998. I also published and edited the Spirits' newsletter for five years from 1975 through 1979.

I fully intended to retire at the end of the 2007 elected year, but stayed on for a few months because Cecil asked me to. Now, I feel that it's time for one of the other 150 or so members to step forward, hopefully implement new ideas and contribute more to the club than their dues.

I want to sincerely thank my wife, Suzi, for hundreds of hours of final quality-control checks and helping to prepare the newsletter for mailing, when I needed it. I want to thank Carolyn Schlueter, Don Fitch, Paul Geders, Bob Gizzie, and the many others who contributed news, articles, and photographs for the newsletter. You made part of my job easier and your help was very much appreciated.

Thanks, too, to Paul for posting the newsletter on our web site in a timely manner.

Newsletter Editor is a Board of Directors position, so the Editor must be a member of the Spirits. I will be happy to pass on any information that a new Editor may ask for.

I feel that it's extremely important that the club have mailed newsletters to remind the dozens of members who seldom, if ever attend meetings or go to the field to fly, that we still exist. Whether or not they read the whole thing, without a reminder of this sort and the handy membership applications included at the appropriate time, many of them would probably never think to look it up on the internet and then soon forget to renew their membership each year. If the few members who may prefer to see the newsletter on the web, or not receive it at all, would notify the Editor, then he, or she, could simply drop them from the mailing list. I've enjoyed doing the newsletter and serving my many friends in the Spirits. It's time to move on...

*Gotta go build and, hopefully, see you at the field more often*  
*Walt*

### **Correction:**

Due to a production error, last month's Flight Lines did not list the fifth 2008 Four-Star 40/Warbirds race scheduled for October 11. Our sincere apologies to anyone who this may have inconvenienced.

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



Presents



**Four-Star 40\***

**and**

**Silver Class WARBIRDS\***

**Races**

**Saturday, April 26, 2008**



**At Spirits Field**

**on Amrein Road, ½ mile south of Greens Bottom Road  
St. Charles County**

**Paul Geders, Contest Director**

**ENTRY FEE:**

**\$10 Four-Star 40**

**\$10 WARBIRDS**



**Registration starts at 8:30 a.m.**

**Racing starts at ~ 10:00 a.m.**

**\*Class rules are available on the Spirits' Web Site at:  
[www.spiritsofstl.com](http://www.spiritsofstl.com)  
under the Contest & Events link on the first page!**

**For more information call: Paul Geders at 314-838-1350  
or e-mail him at: [pgeders@charter.net](mailto:pgeders@charter.net)**

## FLIGHT LINES



CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTO

*Bob Bennett's Pica Focke Wulf FW-190 on final approach. An ancient Veco .61 powers it very nicely.*



## FLIGHT LINES

Walt Wilson  
3000 Persimmon Drive  
St. Charles, MO 63301-0131

[www.spiritsofstl.com](http://www.spiritsofstl.com)

**Meeting is on  
Wednesday,  
April 9  
at 7:00 P.M.**