



FLIGHT LINES

The Monthly Newsmagazine of the Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club

MEETING MINUTES, September 13, 2008

By *Walt Wilson*

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Don Fitch. Twenty members and five new applicants were present at the Meeting.

New member applicants are:

Tom McDonnell	314-921-3511
Dale Wentz	866-416-8026
Daniel Dickman	none
Thomas Davis	866-662-1963
Terry Schrier	866-262-4311

The applicants were accepted unanimously by the members present.

Secretary's Report: *Walt Wilson, Secretary.* Minutes were approved as published in the September issue of Flight Lines.

Treasurer's Report: *Les Richman, Treasurer,* was not present. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: *John Matticker, Field Committee Chairman.* There have been some complaints about the mowers leaving before completing the job. Discussions with the contractor revealed that some Spirits' members have been arriving to fly at 9:00 A.M., on mowing day, and telling them to stop mowing so they could fly. The mowers would leave as ordered, whether finished or not, and not return until the next week due to other commitments. In our **Spirits' Handbook, Safety Rule number 10** has prohibited flying during grass-cutting operations for many years.

"10. During periods of field maintenance and of grass mowing operations, the field is closed when indicated by a sign on the Frequency Control board. No flying will be permitted at that time.

"If the rule isn't understood, here is an expanded definition:

The field is closed for flying while mowing is in progress, regardless of the time of day. The mowers are to be allowed to finish the job without interruption. Flyers will wait until the mowing is completed before attempting to fly.

Activities Report:

Open House: We want to sincerely thank all who helped set up and work the Open House and made it the enjoyable event that it was. Attendance was down, partly because of conflicting events in the St. Charles area and elsewhere in the Metro Area. All who attended seemed to have a good time. The 50-50 drawing only netted \$21.50 for a donation to the Make-A Wish Foundation. On the Board of Directors' recommendation, a motion was made and unanimously passed to increase our donation to \$100.00.

Four-Star 40 and Warbirds Races, October 11: Paul Geders is CD and a good turnout is expected. Paul received an e-mail from a group in Bloomington, IL, discussing their Four-Star 40 races. They have about 20 racers and use Thunder Tiger Pro .40 engines, but otherwise follow our rules. They suggested a race between clubs.

OLD BUSINESS:

Election of Officers for 2009:

The following nominees were elected, unopposed, for 2009:

President:	Don Fitch
Vice President:	Gene Jones
Secretary:	Walt Wilson
Treasurer:	Les Richman



On behalf of the Spirits, Walt Wilson presented Don Fitch with a gavel in appreciation for his services as President in 2008. CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTO

By-Law Change Proposal: Paul Geders asked for a vote on the By-Law changes proposed in last month's Flight Lines. After some discussion, Rule Number 9 was changed to read: **"No flying of any kind (gas, glow, electric, free-flight, gliders, etc.) or engine operation before 9:00 A.M."** Otherwise, the rule changes were approved as proposed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Webelo Rocket Launch: Jeff Bohrer asked for, and received, permission for Webelo Cub Scout Pack 757 to have a rocket launch at our field on Sunday, October 26, between 2:00 and 5:00 P.M. **The field will be closed to R/C flying during this event.** In case of inclement weather, the event will be on Sunday, November 2.

Handicapped Accommodations: Some of our members are physically handicapped and it was suggested that we provide reserved parking spots. Lee Volmert will erect two handicapped parking signs adjacent to the pavilion in the near future. If a flyer, which is confined to a wheelchair, is flying, the other pilots are asked to stand back far enough from the fence, in front of the pilots' box, so the seated person can see their plane in flight and on the runway. It is not recommended that the handicapped flyer sit on the runway side of the fence.

Meeting Room: On Saturday, October 4, Walt Wilson was first in line, as usual, to reserve meeting Room 1 for our meeting dates during the year 2009. The St. Louis County Library system requires potential users to stand in line, on the first Saturday in October each year, to reserve the room and time slot of their choice. We currently pay a fee and there isn't as much competition as when the rooms were free, but it's still necessary to line up about an hour before they open to be assured of first choice. When the rooms were free, people have been known to start lining up as early as 2:00 A.M. The room is reserved and the fees paid. ***The Spirits have been meeting at this library for 30 years!***

Meeting Activity: Lee Volmert analyzed the causes of his two crashes at the Open House. One was a defective flight pack battery and the other was due to reversed aileron controls.



Don Fitch tells about the potential winnings with his Radio-Controlled Crap Shooter, that only rolls sevens. The fact that one die had only 5's and the other had only 2's was very helpful.

CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTO

Don Fitch was the only one to bring a unique Radio-Controlled device that could be operated in the meeting room.



Greg Bohrer discusses his "Paper Airplane". It has electric power and is built along the same lines as a traditional folded paper airplane. Unfortunately, he couldn't fly it in the meeting room.

WALT WILSON PHOTO

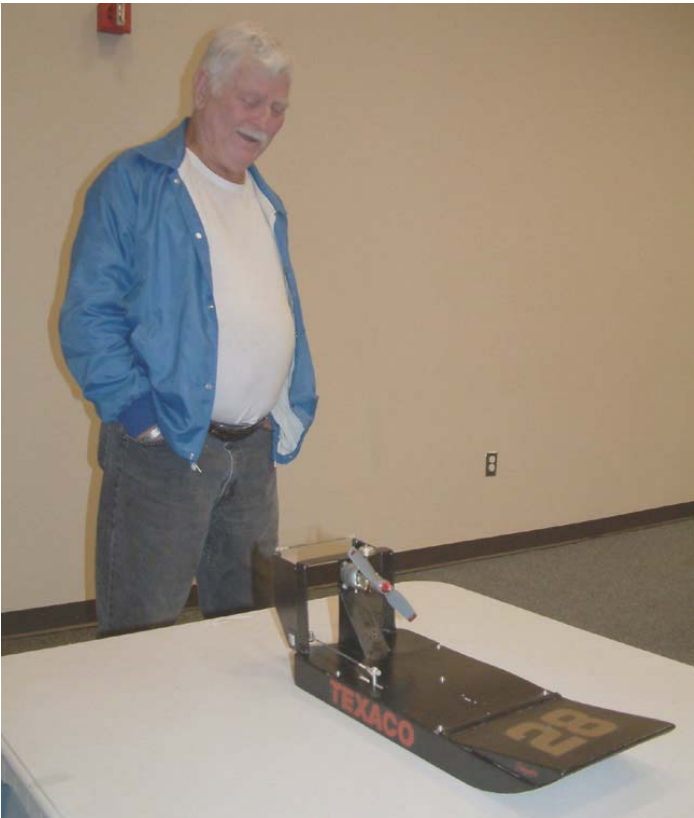


Jeff Bohrer shows his new F-15. It has electric power and is constructed of foam with carbon fiber reinforcements in critical areas. It has a pusher motor that turns about 40,000 RPM! Very nice job!
WALT WILSON PHOTO



Tom Davis, one of four new members who are hearing impaired, demonstrates hand signals that may be used to announce intended actions while flying. A document defining the signals is in the works.
WALT WILSON PHOTO

The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 P.M.



Lee Volmert discusses his Cox .049-powered airboat. It runs on water or wet grass, but steering is less accurate than desired. A water rudder would be beneficial.
WALT WILSON PHOTO



FOR SALE:
REALFLIGHT

Professional R/C Simulator
with USB Interlink Controller
by Great Planes
Includes 19 Airplanes & 12 Helicopters
And 5 Flying Fields
Windows XP Ken Brock 314-567-5184 \$120
ALSO includes
4 sets of add-ons consisting of
40 airplanes, 4 helicopters and 20 flying fields
(List Available)

FOUND:

Futaba 4 Channel Radio found at field
Contact: Gene Jones

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

I haven't written this column for a few months, but here I am again. Fall is here and, to my way of thinking, this is the best time of year for flying. The corn has been harvested, the mornings are cool, the afternoons pleasant, and winds are mostly mild. We were fortunate to have escaped the floods unscathed, even though precautions were taken by removing all of the important equipment from the field and barn. The people who removed, stored, and brought the tables and other equipment back are to be sincerely thanked.

We are an AMA Gold Leader Charter Club. Several accommodations and activities are required to meet the requirements for this status. One such requirement is a community service activity or one that results in a contribution to a charity. The 50-50 drawing at Open House has been the fund-raiser for this purpose in the past. This year, due to low attendance or whatever, the take was only \$21.50. The Spirits voted to supplement this amount and make a contribution of \$100.00. We have conducted introductory hands-on flying events for Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts on past years. This year, we are also hosting a rocket launch for Webelo Cub Scouts on October 26. This, too, helps qualify us as a Gold Leader Club. We are, to the best of my knowledge, the largest R/C club and the only Gold Leader Club in the St. Louis Metro Area! It's time to renew our AMA memberships and, soon, rejoin the Spirits for 2009. Some new members have taken advantage of the opportunity to enjoy a three-month membership bonus by joining the Spirits in October for the following year. At the time you joined, a copy of your 2008 AMA card had to be included with your application. Please remember that you must submit a copy of your **2009** AMA card to the Membership Chairman by December 31 to retain flying privileges after that date. You must have a current (2009) AMA membership to be a full Spirits member and fly, starting January 1!

Enough rambling for now. *Gotta go build!*

BUILDER'S CORNER: By Ralph Doyle

Have you ever tried to install blind nuts in a firewall? I have and have also banged my head against the wall because I couldn't get my hand in the confined space or was unable to see what I was doing. I discovered, invented, and remembered, whatever, a neat little trick to install these pesky blind nuts easily.

Photo one shows the 3 items I used to fabricate the tool (feel free to substitute): an appropriate length of Nyrod, a length of fuel tubing that allows the 3rd item, the correct size bolt (with the head removed), and insert into the fuel tubing.

Photo 2 shows the completed tool with the blind nut attached. Feed the tool through the firewall, screw the blind nut to the bolt and gently pull the tool back out until the bolt appears. Now gently remove the fuel tubing, put a washer and nut on the bolt and tighten down until the blind nut is firmly drawn into the firewall. See photo 3. And that's it. Takes about 5 minutes to install the 4 blind nuts in the firewall.



FOUR STAR 40 WARBIIRD PYLON RACES

by Paul Geders: The last race of the year was well attended, but down a little for some unknown reason. We had perfect weather with almost zero wind for most of the race. There were more different first place winners spread out through Four-Star 40 than ever before. Newcomer Don Whitrock won a heat by flying his heart out. He now knows what the adrenaline rush is. He said he has never been more excited...and afraid to crash at the same time. Comments like...I can't believe the season is over, it went so fast, Can't wait for next year. Mark Livesay provided hot dogs, brats, and cold soda for a nice lunch concession. As always the most important people or those who give of their time to help run the race, make food and help wherever needed...to those members a sincere THANK YOU for everything. We had three rounds of racing and were finished by 1:00. The winners in Four-Star 40 were, Paul Geders 1st, Stephen Ramonczuk 2nd, Ralph Doyle 3rd, and Don Whitrock 4th. The racing was again very close as can be seen on the website by the many pictures of 3 or 4 airplanes in the same frame lap after lap. There was a three-way tie for 2nd and was decided by pulling numbers out of a hat. WARBIIRDS was won by Paul Geders, with Curt Milster in 2nd, and Steve Ramonczuk in 3rd. All-in-all a pleasant day for the last race of the year, and as usual there was a lot of kidding, laughing, and general fun had by all in attendance. Thanks for making my job as CD and enjoyable one...Are you ready for next year?



Steve Ramonczuk won the money by working, and participating in the races this year with the best Poker hand - a full house.

MISC OPEN HOUSE PICTURES



TUESDAY NIGHTS

CO-EDITORS THOUGHTS by Greg Bohrer

I want to thank every one who participated this year. This was the third year and it is getting BIG. I think electrics are at the cutting edge of this hobby, and the future looks very bright. I would like to thank the regulars, Bob Gizzie, Feroz Kahn (keep the scale jets flying,"afterburners"), Bob Lamb, John Matticker, Greg Grumich (your F-16 flights were incredible), Don Velasco, THE GURU Chris Nenzel (thank for all the help and we love the scale WW II Fighters), my brother Jeff Bohrer (you make the scratch build scale foamy look so easy "you suck"). Last but not least, our GRAND PUBA Don Fitch (thanks for backing the electrics and helping Tuesday Night be such a success). Next year is going to be a great one.

THERE WERE GIRLS AT



THIS HERE FIELD!





SPIRITS OF ST. LOUIS R/C FLYING CLUB, INC. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



FOR YEAR _____
(PLEASE FILL IN YEAR ABOVE)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____

AMA No. _____

Check appropriate below!

Full Membership (\$125)

New Member Initiation Fee (\$25)

Family Membership (\$150)

Junior Membership, under 16 (\$25)

Associate (Non-flying) Membership (\$25)

Temporary Membership (\$10/Month, Max 4 Months & Lives more than 75 miles from field)

Your e-mail address: _____

Additional Family Members:

Name: AMA #	Name: AMA #	Name: AMA #
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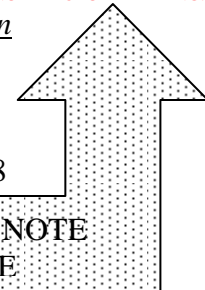
NOTE: ANY MEMBER WHO ALLOWS THEIR MEMBERSHIP TO LAPSE BEYOND MARCH 1 OF ANY YEAR SHALL BE CONSIDERED A NEW MEMBER WHEN RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP. SOURCE: ARTICLE 7 SECTIONS 1 THRU 4, CLUB BYLAWS. DUES ARE PAYABLE NO LATER THAN THE JANUARY CLUB MEETING.

To become a new member or renew your membership, please do the following:

1. Fill in the above information, even if this is a renewal.
2. Photocopy this application with valid AMA license of each flying member in the spaces below.
3. Make out a check payable to SPIRITS OF ST. Louis R/C FLYING CLUB, INC (*NO CASH PLEASE*)
4. Send completed application and check to the membership chairperson: →→→→→

Membership Chairperson

Gary Bregant
1129 Spencer Rd.
St. Peters, MO 63376
Phone No. 636-922-0168



If you apply at a club meeting, be sure to have all three of the above items. Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m., at the Bridgeton Trails County Library Branch, 3455 McKelvey Rd. Note: New Members shall be introduced in person OR, by their sponsor, to the club before joining. This allows new members to join the club, even though their schedule doesn't allow them to attend club meetings. **New members who join in August or September will pay \$10.00 each for August and/or September, and will also pay next year's dues and initiation fee at the same time.** New members who join on/after October 1st pay only the annual membership amount and the initiation fee, but get the next year and the end of the current year included. **Junior members pay no initiation fee and \$2.50 each for August and/or September!**

MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT:

I agree to abide by the SAFETY RULES and CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS of the SPIRITS OF ST. Louis R/C FLYING CLUB, INC

Signature

Family Member Signature

Membership rejected if not signed and dated, or AMA card NOT VALID FOR YEAR APPLIED FOR!

Spirits Web-site Address is: <http://spiritsofstl.com>

Place AMA card here when
photocopying

Place AMA card here when
photocopying

AMA "Introductory Membership" Program NOT VALID for membership to our club!



Steve lost his brand new 4 star 40 just before the last race suspected of being hit from the Radios that the Farmers are using for communications while cutting the corn!
Steve has roasted them before like this and is an expert at it! Picture by Bob Gizzie



FLIGHT LINES

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