



FLIGHT LINES

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

IT'S TIME TO BUILD AND REPAIR FOR NEXT YEAR

PREZ SEZ:

By Don Fitch

Howdy People! Well, here we are after another election and I'm still President (good news to some, bad news to others), Mark Livesay is Vice President and Chief Cook. Maybe I ought to appoint him Chairman of a Hospitality Committee. Things are coming along pretty well, EXCEPT, we need a Field Chairman. Without someone administrating the field work, the field will go to he--. WE NEED A VOLUNTEER. They don't have to do the work themselves. Their job is to decide what should be done and get someone, or several someones to do it. In the past, raising a work party for any project has not been a difficult thing to do. The field is in good shape now and I hope we can keep it that way. Put on your thinking caps, we need to lower our cost of mowing, maybe by not mowing the entire tract every week or something, come on get creative and tell me. I'll give a brass appreciation plaque and a \$50.00 gift card to whomever comes up with a winning idea. If I am the winner I don't get either one, wait a minute, that's no way to get rich. I'll give me \$500.00 in cash. Better get your ideas coming in before I run off with the club's money.(that's a joke, I'm too old to run, if I could run I'd run rum)

On a more pleasant note, I want to thank Carolyn Schlueter and all the people who pitched in and helped for a well-run Open House. Carolyn thanks you and says she couldn't have done it without your help.

MEETING MINUTES: OCTOBER 14, 2009

By Walt Wilson

Members signed in: Forty-two members, three new applicants, and a number of guests were present.

New Member: The following new member applicants were present at the meeting:

Name	Phone Number
Martin Farrell	314-504-9549
Jim Gersman	636-625-8622
Brad Joslin	636-477-1623

Election of Officers for 2010: Walt Wilson distributed ballots to all members eligible to vote. There were 25 absent-

tee ballots to be considered, along with 38 members voting at the meeting. Westy Westhoff and Don Hoelting were asked to act as judges and count ballots. There were eight candidates for four positions to be counted, so it took approximately 35 minutes to count and double check the number of votes. A big "thank you" to Westy and Don for their efforts.

The officers for 2010 are:

President:	Don Fitch
Vice president:	Mark Livesay
Secretary:	Walt Wilson
Treasurer:	Les Richman

Don immediately appointed the following board of Directors:

Membership Chairman:	Pete Stephens
Field Committee Chairman:	TBD
Contest/Event Committee Chairman:	Paul Geders
Safety Committee Chairman:	Lee Volmert
Newsletter Editor:	Walt Wilson
Webmaster:	Paul Geders

The BOD appointees were accepted by the members.

OLD BUSINESS:

Open House: Carolyn Schlueter thanked all who worked and made the essentially rained-out event as successful as it was. President Don Fitch thanked Carolyn for all her hard work putting it together and recruiting workers. Everyone who worked it received rounds of applause. Thanks to the Tim Ezell Show and Fox 2 News, we received several calls from spectators and potential members who were interested in attending our Open House and other Spirits' activities.

Photography: Paul Geders pointed out the great in-flight photography by Carolyn Schlueter at the recent Four-Star 40 and Warbirds races. The continuing great photography by Walt Wilson and Paul's outstanding efforts as Webmaster were also applauded.

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

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Treasurer's Report: *Treasurer Les Richman.* Les reported that we are currently in good condition financially. President Don noted that projections for 2010 by Bill Lindewirth (see page 3) indicate a shortfall in income due to the recent membership decision to lower full member dues to \$100.00. Bill and some BOD members feel the \$125.00 dues should be restored before any more members renew or join for 2010. Don felt we should leave the dues at \$100.00 for 2010 and see how it goes. No unusual field maintenance or improvement expenditures are expected in the next year. Everything anticipated has been done. The major field cost will be mowing, which is included in budget projections. Lee Volmert questioned the expenditure of close to \$7,000.00 on field maintenance which was not planned for in the 2009 budget projections. Paul Geders noted that such maintenance is a one-time expenditure and should be considered as amortised over the several years the repairs should last. The annual budget projections are simply an estimate and unexpected costs sometimes come up. The club has sufficient reserve to cover such expenditures, most of which which were approved by members at the meetings. Lee thought the BOD should have refused to spend the money even though the membership wanted the maintenance work accomplished. The BOD's job is to research costs and implement the wishes of the members, not make decisions counter to membership votes unless the vote is for something that can't be accomplished. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.



Dennis Skeeters displayed and discussed his miniature workbench with working overhead lights and bench grinder. He also brought four antique engines.



Tom Foster showed his DW Foamies, Extra 330, large size outdoor, 9 mm Depron foamy with a 1000KV motor and 30 Amp ESC. It weighs 26 ounces and should fly very nicely when the weather stabilizes somewhat.

WALT WILSON PHOTOS



1938 Brown Junior

Contestor .60

NEW BUSINESS:

Meeting Place: Darren, of Mark Twain Hobbies, told Paul Geders that the shop is expanding and will soon include a meeting room. The Spirits were invited to meet there free of charge. The Spirits have been meeting at the Bridgeton Trails Library for 30 years. The current cost is \$10.00 per meeting. A vote was taken to meet at Mark Twain Hobbies starting January 13, 2010. This would work out nicely since more than 70% of our members are now residents of St. Charles County.

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Members of the Board of Directors looked at the MTH meeting room and found it to be too small for a group our size. It's the entry way and waiting room for the store to the east of MTH and is even smaller than meeting room two at the library. Members are invited to look at it at their leisure. We will address the issue again at the next meeting. We will continue to meet at Bridgeton Trails through the end of 2009. Walt Wilson had reserved the library meeting room



Synchro Ace

Dennymite



Dennis Skeeters, a retired carpenter, built this 1/12 scale workbench. It has working lights and a bench grinder. The doors and drawers all open and are full of tools and spare parts. Dennis has a collection of thousands of model engines, vehicles, toys, various scale model trains, and too much other stuff to even try to absorb in a visit to his house, let alone describe here!

for the first six months of 2010 and, after the meeting, a refund was requested. After further study, we reinstated the library reservation for 2010 until the issue can be reassessed.

Membership Report: We now have 162 members, some of whom joined early for 2010.

Meeting Activity: While the judges were counting ballots, Tom Foster and Dennis Skeeters showed a plane, some antique engines, and a beautiful miniature workbench. See the photos for details.

Bob Bennett also announced that the River City Flyers were going to have another Trainer Race on Saturday, October 31. See the rules on their web site at:

<http://rivercityflyers.com/Events.html> for further information.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

Income Shortfall, Deficit Looms Ahead;

By Bill Lindewirth

As a concerned member and past President, (2004 through 2007) I feel it is of everyone's interest to note the following concerns.

Since 2005, with the help of the "Budget Tracker", I have been able to crunch a few numbers and put together a projected budget for the upcoming year. With the constant increase in the cost of doing business, and with the approval of the membership, in 2005, membership dues were raised by \$25.00 to cover existing and future expenses.

Any money that was left over was put into a savings or CD to cover future expenses/improvements. In 2009, approximate \$3,400.00 was spent for field improvements, another \$1,700.00 for field maintenance, and another \$3,640.00 on mowing. Thus, finishing 2009, the club spent about \$3,400.00 more than was budgeted or brought in. So far, it's not a problem, that's why we maintain our savings and CDs. However, in 2010, if we keep our 2009 membership base of 157 members (as of 9/10/2009), with the \$25.00 reduction of dues, the income received from dues will drop from \$18,121.00 to \$14,846.00. (-\$3,275.00)

At the same time the cost of mowing has increased from \$130.00 to \$180.00 per mowing. At an average of 30 mowings per year and taking into consideration the \$50.00 increase per mowing, that alone will raise expenses \$1,500.00. Add the two together and we are already looking at an approximate \$4,775.00 deficit, not to mention any increase in costs of other items. Please keep in mind that membership dues is our only source of income because of the loss of revenue that was previously generated from the concession stand, Swap Meet and Open House. In my opinion, we should go back to the \$125.00 dues as soon as possible.

WALT WILSON PHOTOS

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October 10 Four-Star 40/Warbirds Race Report

By Paul F. Geders

This race report has to be more about the people than anything else. Received an e-mail on Friday afternoon from a man in Cahokia Illinois stating that he brought his family to our Open House and loved it...he wanted to know if spectators were allowed at our race. I replied that spectators were "Always Welcome" as stated on our entrance sign. He responded that he plans on bringing his family, his grandparents, his grandchildren to the race, and wanted to know if we had concessions. Checked with Mark Livesay that evening and he said he would be there. Thanks to Mark for a valiant effort...but he got sick Friday night and couldn't make it. We had lots of spectators that were asking members about the club, joining, etc. Lee Volmert had three separate people inquire of him about our club activities. After the race and clean-up (about 1:30) more spectators arrived and were asking questions about our club. It seems the Tim Ezell show has exposed our web-site to many interested individuals. We had a lot of spectators...maybe about 30. This also indicates that if we have concessions for each contest or event, and we can get more spectators coming, we could see an influx in income.

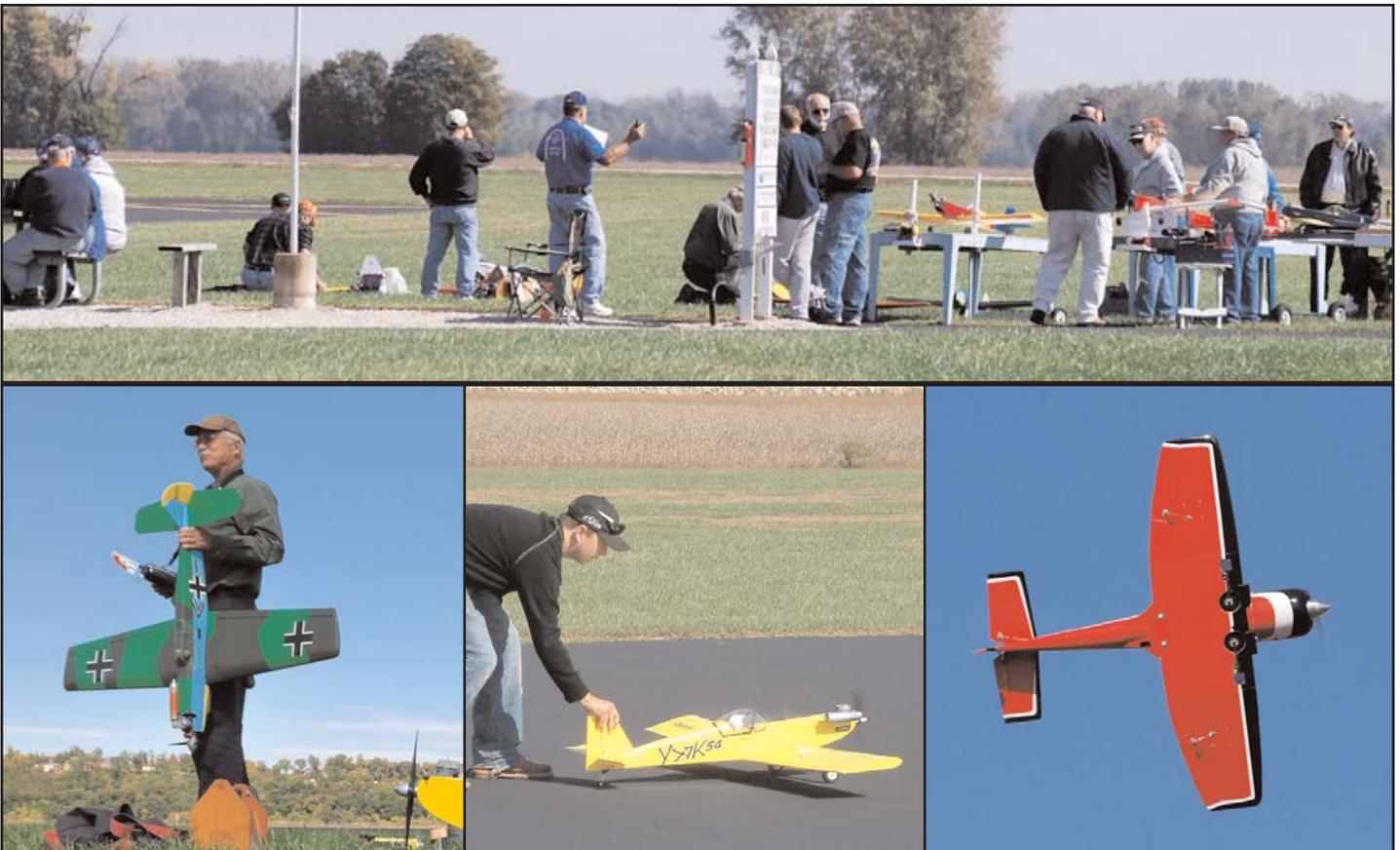
The next group of people to thank is the volunteer workers who always make the contest a success...without them there would be no contest. I received e-mail responses from the following that far exceeded my expectations...way to go guys. It's always nice when you get more volunteers than

needed. A personal "thank you" from all of the contestants to each one of you, who volunteered, shared the work load, and just plain showed up. Will Hopkins, Jim Moeller, Ken Brock, Tom Murphy, Curt McIntyre, Chris Nenzel, Dave Oswald and Gene Jones.

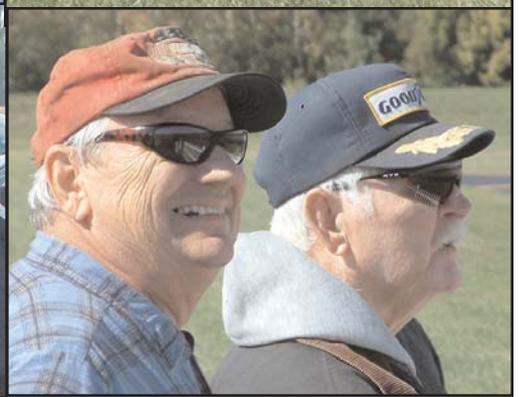
We had nine contestants in Four-Star 40, and no one on the same frequency, which made for a perfect race matrix. We also had a tie in Four-Star 40 for 2nd place, between Jim Schilling and Ralph Doyle. In a fly-off, Jim Schilling prevailed. Ralph placed 3rd, Jim 2nd, and this writer 1st with a lot of luck...seems there were a lot of cuts in the heats the writer flew in. That also can be taken as a good sign as the racers are trying to "get on the poles". The racing is getting closer and closer as indicated in the scoring, with multiple ties, i.e. two way tie for 2nd, and a three way tie for 3rd.

Warbirds were plagued with cuts, no landing points, exploding spinners, bumping antenna into safety fence which causes strange flight excursions, and a dying battery...but we still had fast and competitive racing. Ron Hesskamp placed 3rd, Curt Milster 2nd, and this writer, again with a lot of luck took 1st, and crashed his plane due to a dying battery on final approach. See photos of it standing on its nose on the next page and in the photo section of our web-site.

We had several electric Warbirds show up and some test flights, but no one entered. We will probably see a greater influx next year. One spectator asked if you can run electrics against the glow powered airplanes to which we responded...of course. Look forward to next racing season!



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The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

Here we go for another year! Let us know what direction you would like the club to take. Paul Geders is assembling a schedule for club activities in 2010. If you want something other than the events we've had for the past several years, let Paul, or one of the club officers, know and make suggestions. Don't just say you don't like something without suggesting a way to fix or improve it. The Trainer Race we had last year was a welcome addition and seemed very popular. The River City Flyers are having a Trainer Race on Saturday, October 31. If you have doubts about the idea of having more at our field, go take a look at theirs!

As most of you probably know, I write and wife Suzi and I illustrate a "Here's How" column for R/C Report online. Take a look at it at: <http://www.rcreport.net> Where it says "Select Feature" click on "Here's How". I need ideas! Each idea accepted will earn a one-year subscription. The PDF download is the best way to view it, as all text and photos are higher definition than the html version and very printable, if you're so inclined.

Gotta Go Build!

PHOTO BY CHRIS NENZEL



Greg Bohrer's EPDF Mig 21 takes off at a Tuesday evening electrics flying session. It weighs 70 ounces, is 56" long, and has a 70mm Wemo fan running on 3S (11.1V). It took 7 months to build.



PHOTOS BY DON WHITROCK



In accordance with tradition, Instructors Bob Gizzie (left) and Gene Jones cut the back out of Bill Elmore's shirt after he soloed on September 16. Never wear a good shirt on a day when you expect to solo!

Gene Jones (left) and Bob Gizzie proudly display the remains of Bill Elmore's shirt after he soloed. He flew a Great Planes PT-40.



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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. _____

Your e-mail address: _____

Additional Family Members:

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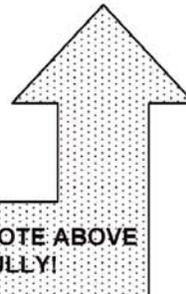
NOTE: ANY MEMBER WHO ALLOWS THEIR MEMBERSHIP TO LAPSE BEYOND THE END OF THE MARCH MEETING OF ANY YEAR SHALL BE CONSIDERED A NEW MEMBER WHEN RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP. SOURCE: ARTICLE 7 SECTIONS 1 THRU 4, CLUB BYLAWS. DUES ARE PAYABLE NO LATER THAN THE JANUARY CLUB MEETING.

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

Pete Stephans
420 Mason Ridge Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63304
636-926-3087



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 Date: _____

Family Member Signature Date: _____

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!

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CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTO

*Curt Milster's P-51 leads Ron Hesskamp's "Critical Mass" around a pylon in one of the races on Saturday, October 10.
It was the most beautiful day of the year for flying!.*



www.spiritsofstl.com

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

Meeting is on
Wednesday,
November 11,
at 7:00 P.M.