



FLIGHT LINES

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

Happy Thanksgiving

PREZ SEZ

By Don Fitch

Spring has come and Fall has fell, Winter's here fur quite a spell. However, that doesn't mean you can't fly. Seems that most winters there are several people who show up to fly on the first snow of the winter. We also have a tradition of flying on New Years Day. If you're flying electric it's a good idea to keep your batteries warm in your pocket until just before you put them in your airplane. Wrapping 'em in foam helps retard the cooling while in the plane. Hey, I sound like I know what I'm doing...don't let it fool you. I'm just making the point that you can fly when it's below 80 degrees Fahrenheit. I remember Gene Jones saying that he won't be at the field until the temperature equals his age. He's flying less every year. On a different subject, I talked to the grass cutters and they agreed to mow on the 10 day schedule instead of 7 days. That earns Walt Wilson the \$50 gift certificate that was offered in the meeting to anyone who came up with a good idea to save the club money. How about another money saving idea from anyone. The reward stands as is. All of the officers have volunteered to serve with no salary. Seriously we really need a Field Maintenance Chairman. Hey! You don't have to do the work yourself, call for a work party, that has never failed to get help. Well, time to shut my big mouth and go glue my fingers together (hate CA).

Meeting November 11, 2009

By Paul Geders

Meeting called to order at 7:03 P.M. by President Don Fitch. 22 members signed in.

Secretary's Report: *Walt Wilson, Secretary, was out sick with a cold. Paul Geders was acting Secretary. Last month's minutes were accepted as published in Flight Lines.*

Treasurer's report: *Les Richman, Treasurer. Report was accepted as presented.*

Contest/Event Chairman Report: *Paul Geders, Chairman. A draft for the 2010 Contest/Event Calendar is included elsewhere in this newsletter. It was put together by participating CD's, recommendations from the Board of Directors, and input from other members. We are seeking inputs, recommendations, deletions, or additions from all*

members. Send your inputs to Paul. His e-mail is pgeders@charter.net After the meeting, it was also suggested that we have a helicopter event of some kind.

High-Wing Trainer Races: Incorporation of High-Wing Trainer Races to increase participation was discussed at length. It was stated that it is an event sort of like a Run-What-U-Brung, as long as it is recognized as a High-Wing Trainer. Some questioned what the rules are. Paul will contact River City Flyers to see if they have a written set of rules and report back to the members.

Field Report: Runway and pit area sunken cracks were repaired to a tennis court finish condition Tuesday.

Don Fitch contacted Oasis Lawn Management, the firm that has been cutting our grass for several years now. They have agreed to mow every 10 days, instead of every 7 days, in an effort to save mowing costs. They will cut on a Tuesday, then Thursday of the next week schedule. The normal number of cuttings averages around 30 per year, if cut once a week. That equates to \$180 per mowing times 30, or \$5400. By scheduling every 10 days it reduces the number of cuttings to 21. Twenty one times \$180 is \$3780, for a net saving of \$1620. The idea came from Walt Wilson. This is reflective of cost cutting measures to offset the reduction in dues

Winterizing Equipment: Bob Gizzie pointed out that we need to get someone to winterize our equipment. The roller still has water in it, and needs to be drained before it freezes. The Kubota also needs to be checked and winterized (this usually entails checking the anti-freeze and removing the battery).

Safety Report: *Lee Volmert, Safety Chairman, stated there have been quite a few crashes lately, without finding a common denominator.*

Lee brought up the point that he has seen at least six instances of exposed handguns being carried by our members at the field. Lee was a policeman for 35 years and questioned the need for handguns at the field. He suggested an option of leaving them in a glove box. He asked if we should post a sign stating "No Firearms Allowed". Spirits' Handbook Safety Rule #37 states: "No hunting, or discharging of firearms, on club property". Bob Gizzie recalled that he thought a sign stating "No firearms on club property" to be posted (Continued on the next Page)

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at the four corners of the property was in the club minutes. It was tabled by LeeVollmert until a search of past minutes was performed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Meetings will continue to be held at our current library location due to inadequate space at Mark Twain Hobby Center for our needs. A motion by Ralph Doyle to keep meetings at the Bridgeton Trails Library was seconded, and unanimously passed by the members. **Thank You to Mark Twain Hobby Center for the offer!**

Board Of Directors Appointment: Tom Foster accepted the position of Appointed Member to the Board.

Budget was briefly discussed with no adverse comments.

NEW BUSINESS:

Control-Line Circle: Discussion on a Control-Line circle located next to Amrein Rd. and our entrance driveway to increase participation by younger (and older) members was brought up. Members did not want it in the helicopter area as 60' lines would put the airplanes too close to the pavilion, drainage ditch, and crops.

Russ Watts suggested we put a "How many are really interested?" question in the newsletter and see what the feedback is.

Bob Gizzie will consult with the Orchard Farm Flying Club on how their newly installed Control-Line flying circle is being utilized.

Gene Jones voiced a concern of not being able to hear his engine idle with the sound of a Control Line airplane going round-and-round behind him. He was asked what he would do if someone with an R/C airplane was going round-and-round in front of him and he still couldn't hear his engine.



Russ Watts discussed his new kit-built Sig Smith Mini-plane, modeled after Glen Sigafoose's full-size airplane. It is powered by a Saito .56 and covered in Ultra-Cote.

Some were concerned about control-line airplanes breaking off the lines. It was pointed out that the aircraft needs to be pull tested before each flight and in compliance with current AMA control line size guidelines (*Editor's note: A Control-Line airplane is probably much less likely to have the lines break than a Radio Control aircraft is to go out of control.*)

Meeting Activity: Russ Watts showed a kit-built Sig Smith Mini-plane. See the photo for details.

Membership Report: *Membership Chairman, Pete Stephens was not at the meeting.* We ended the 2009 fiscal year with 163 members, some of whom joined early for 2010.



Tom Foster is the newly Appointed member of our Board of Directors.

CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTOS



Dennis Skeeters won the drawing for a \$10.00 gift card donated by Mark Twain Hobby Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M.

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 <p>TOYS FOR TOTS</p> <p>DECEMBER 6th</p> <p>FLY IN !!</p> <p>The St. Louis R/C Flying Association is sponsoring a Toys for Tots Fly-in! Sunday, December 6th at our field in Eureka <u>Everyone is welcome; please bring an unwrapped toy.</u> <u>Flyers bring AMA card, unwrapped toy & aircraft.</u></p> <p>Directions to field and other information... www.slrcfa.com</p> <p>Landing fee: One (or more) new, unwrapped toy(s) <i>A value of \$10 or more recommended</i></p> <p>Start time: 9:30 (no engine running before)</p> <p>Noise limit: 95dB at 25 feet</p>	<p>St. Louis Radio Control Flying Association</p>  <p>Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Missouri St. Louis Headquarters 8251 Maryland Ave., Ste. 10 St. Louis, MO 63105 (314) 721-WISH (9474) (800) 548-5055 (314) 721-9475 fax www.mo.wish.org</p> <p>Board Chair Ben Bishop, Jr. Chief Executive Officer LuAnn Bott</p> <p>MAKE-A-WISH</p> <p>November 12, 2009</p> <p>Mr. Walt Wilson Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club Inc 3000 Persimmon Dr Saint Charles, MO 63301</p> <p>Dear Mr. Wilson,</p> <p><i>"We're back from NY and we had the time of our lives. Monica was in heaven! We can't thank you all enough!!! Truly, we are grateful to all who helped make this trip a reality."</i> <i>Wish Mom Emily</i></p> <p>Thank you so much for your organization's gift of \$228.00 in memory of Jim Gerwitz and Cecil Whitrock, which will help grant more wonderful wishes like Monica's. Your gift was received on 11/6/2009 and no goods or services were provided to you in exchange for this gift.</p> <p>As you know, the Make-A-Wish Foundation® of Missouri grants wishes to children who are battling life-threatening medical conditions to enrich the human experience with hope, strength, and joy. A wish empowers a child to think about the future and all the wonderful possibilities that come with it. It truly is a magical experience!</p> <p>We grant the wishes, but it is donors like you who actually make them happen. On behalf of the more than 4,000 Missouri and eastern Kansas children whose lives have been forever changed by a wish, we thank you for your generosity and look forward to your continued support.</p> <p>Sincerely,  Laura Boone Development Supervisor</p> <p><i>Serving Missouri and Metro Kansas City</i></p> <p>Share the Power of a Wish®</p>
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Toys For Tots Fly-in:

By The SLRCFA Board of Directors

We would like to invite you and your club members to our first Toys for Tots Fly-In! At our last Board meeting it was suggested by one of our Board members whose previous club in Texas had an event sponsoring Toys for Tots. There will be a U.S. Marine present to take charge of the contributions! We know we are throwing the dice here weather-wise since September & October had such lousy flying weather, but what the heck, and of course its a great cause! **We hope to see you there!**

Membership Renewals Due

By Walt Wilson

Just a quick reminder that your 2009 Spirits' membership expires on December 31. A grace period lasts until the March meeting. Members who don't renew by the end of the March meeting will be considered new and will be required to pay an initiation fee. A membership application is included in this newsletter. A copy of your 2010 AMA card must accompany your renewal. If you joined the club for the first time in the latter months of 2009, and submitted a copy of your 2009 AMA card, you must now submit a copy of your 2009 AMA card, you must now submit a copy of your 2010 AMA card to the Membership Chairman, to continue your full membership and flying rights after December 31.

Proposed Contest/Event Schedule for 2010

By Paul Geders

A proposed schedule is on page 4. Since this is your club we would like to hear from you on any suggested contests or events that you would like to see. If you have an idea, let Paul Geders, our Contest/Event Committee Chairman, know. You may even be given the opportunity to run the contest or event.

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

Paul Geders and the Contest Directors and Event Directors have put together a tentative schedule for the year's activities in 2010. If anyone has additional ideas or questions about any of the events planned, now is the time to make yourself heard. The High-Wing Trainer races are patterned after some put on by the River City Club, with variations we think should be incorporated. The one H-W Trainer Race we had last year was a lot of fun and was enjoyed by all who participated. Third place was taken by the slowest plane entered, by just finishing all the heats!

It has been proposed that we incorporate a Control Line circle in the area adjacent to Amrein Road, between the driveway and safety line for R/C flying. This could induce some people to join our club who don't have a dedicated place to fly at present.
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(Continued from the previous page) Many of our older members got their start in gas-powered model airplanes with Control-Line aircraft. I built my first CL plane in 1946. In those days you had to build an airplane before you could fly, no ARF's were available. My first CL model was a Messerschmitt bf 109, and had a Bullet .27 for power. It lasted about two laps, then back to the shop for repairs. In those days, we had to use battery ignition, with a coil, condenser and spark plugs. All starting was accomplished by flipping the prop by hand. Needless to say, I have many scars from props! The engines were frequently hard to start, too. We used a mixture of gasoline and oil. Glow plugs didn't come along until about 1948, and weren't very reliable. Alcohol/nitro/castor oil-based fuel came along with glow plugs and was more powerful, even with ignition. It was relatively expensive, and some of the earlier glow fuel ingredients were later suspected to be carcinogens. I made the mistake of buying a Drone Diesel engine once. I suffered lots of beat-up fingers trying to start it! I never did get it to run and quickly traded it for an ignition engine! In those days, the hobby shops took trade-ins and it was fun to haggle over trades or prices. An older (to me) gentleman named Virgil Swift had the best hobby shop in the St. Louis area. His shop was on Delmar, between Union and Kingshighway. The ceiling was completely hidden by dusty model airplanes. Virgil's was the place to go to spend an hour or two, just looking and shooting the breeze. There was usually someone there that you knew. Whatever you needed, just ask, and he would think for a minute, then go somewhere in the back and find it. You could fly on any ball diamond, park, or empty lot big enough to take off and clear



BOB GIZZIE PHOTO

Bob Gizzie had the pleasure of flying with Fred Switalski on November 14, on a buddy box. He did really well and Bob didn't have to help or save him! Fred just turned 88 years young in October. He built the plane himself and it flew great.

the obstacles. We had no mufflers, but complaints about noise were rare. By 1947, my dad and I got into Tether Cars and raced them for the next 12 years, but I continued to build and fly CL planes until I got into R/C in 1971. Memories.....
Gotta go build!

Proposed Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club, Inc. 2010 Event Schedule

Date	Contest/Event	Contest/Event Director	Notes
Friday, Jan 1	Annual New Years Day Fly-In	All	
Spring	Tailgate SWAP Meet at Field	All	
Saturday, April 24	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	
Saturday, June 5	Fun Fly	Bob Fiely	
Saturday, June 19	High-Wing Trainer Race	Les Richman	
Tuesday, July 13, 20, or 27*	Tuesday Night E-Warbirds Race	Chris Nenzel & Paul Geders	* Date to be decided later
Saturday, July 17	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Ron Hesskamp	
Tuesday, Aug 10, 17, or 24*	Tuesday Night E-Warbirds Race	Chris Nenzel & Paul Geders	* Date to be decided later
Saturday, Aug. 21	High-Wing Trainer Race	Curt Milster	
Wednesday, Sept. 8	Meeting at Field	B of D	Member Appreciation Dinner
Saturday, Sept. 25	Open House	Committee	
Saturday, Oct. 9	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	



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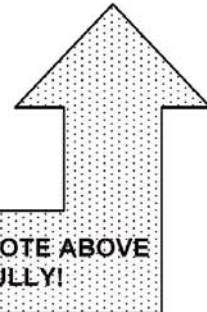
NOTE: ANY MEMBER WHO ALLOWS THEIR MEMBERSHIP TO LAPSE BEYOND THE END OF THE MARCH MEETING OF ANY YEAR SHALL BE CONSIDERED A NEW MEMBER WHEN RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP. SOURCE: ARTICLE 7 SECTIONS 1 THRU 4, CLUB BYLAWS. DUES ARE PAYABLE NO LATER THAN THE JANUARY CLUB MEETING.

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!

FLIGHT LINES



COME JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL
New Year's Day Fly-In

At Spirits' Field!

Friday, January 1st, 2010

10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Regardless of Weather!

FREE Landing Fee

FREE Coffee, Hot Chocolate & Donuts

For more information contact: Don Fitch, 636-441-0373,

E-mail at: dfit4@charter.net,

or visit our website at: <http://www.spiritsofstl.com>

Open to all AMA Members



FLIGHT LINES

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

www.spiritsofstl.com

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