



FLIGHT LINES

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

ENOUGH WINTER!

PREZ SEZ

By Don Fitch

Geesmanees, winter's still here, but it won't last long. Get your gear in gear and get out there. I'd fly now except the deicers on my wings are iced up. So are my shorts! I gotta get some long underwear. Been working on a trainer, low wing, to crash in the Spring and the mud. Don't have to worry about corn, so it won't be hard to find the pieces. There I go being optimistic, will I never learn? I hope not, cause I love models, both kinds. If you're married don't tell your wife you're going to the field with a model, divorces are so expensive. Use the number of the model, you know, 36D. Oops, there goes another happy home. Well, don't worry, we still love you, especially if you bring a beautiful model, the flying kind. Things are looking good at the field, not crowded at all. On a more essential note, some of you have volunteered to help or run some events and we need more like you. Things don't take care of themselves, so we have to do it. These are the guys and gals that keep the field open and available. It would be nice if everything took care of itself, but it does not. When you see someone doing

WALT WILSON PHOTO



Paul Geders built this profile F-22 from published plans. It's made from 6 MM Depron and features vectored thrust, enabling it to turn in a very small radius. It has been flown and performs very well.

something of value, lend them a hand. The right one preferably. If we all pitch in everything is easier and more fun. Fun is why we fly, so keep 'em flying.

MEETING MINUTES: FEBRUARY 10, 2010

By Walt Wilson

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. President Don Fitch was seriously ill and unable to attend. Paul Geders volunteered to conduct the meeting so Secretary Walt Wilson could take notes and photographs.

Members signed in: 20 members were present.

Secretary's Report: *Walt Wilson, Secretary.* Minutes were accepted as published in last month's Flight Lines. Walt submitted the necessary paperwork and photographs to renew the Spirits' standing as an AMA Gold Leader Charter Club. He reminded the members that our club has to meet certain standards to achieve this status. Sound readings will be taken randomly throughout the year. Plans are already in place to donate the proceeds from the Tailgate Swap Meet to a charity. *(Continued on the next page)*



Chris Nenzel discussed this Hobbycity Online Mig 3 ARF. It has a fiberglass fuselage with built-up balsa wings and tail surfaces. He has a 36-30-1400 outrunner motor with a 60 amp ESC and two 2100mAh batteries. Weight is a bit over three pounds and it has a tendency to be touchy to turn or when landing..

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We comply with all the other requirements in the normal operation of our club.



Paul shows the spacious radio compartment in his pro-op driven F-22. The wing has a single carbon fiber spar.



Chris Nenzel discusses his Hobby Lobby foam Nemesis. It looks like a simple Park Flyer, but is actually very fast and not for inexperienced flyers.

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

Field Report: *Paul Geders, Field Chairman.* It has been pointed out that the flag, at the field, needs to be replaced. Don Whitrock has been asked to get one and put it up. There is some difficulty finding a good quality flag made in the U.S.A., but Paul will see that one is procured.

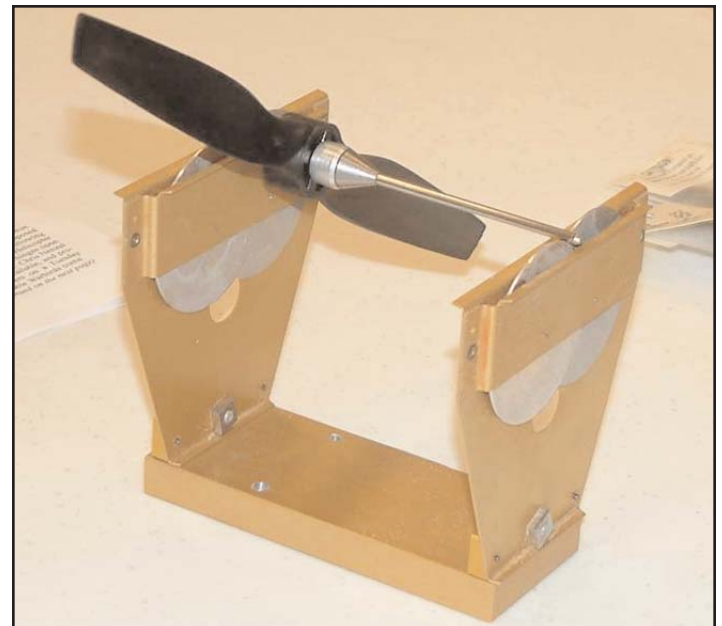
Membership Report: *Pete Stephans, Membership chairman.* We had 102 paid-up members at meeting time and

four more paid their dues at the meeting. We are 6% ahead of the paid-up membership last year at this time.



Paul gave a presentation on prop balancing and "blue-printing". He recommends removing the flashing around the edges of plastic props for initial balancing. If further balancing is required, use a razor blade to scrape material from the trailing edge of the front of the prop. If further material is to be removed, scrape the rounded leading-edge of the front of the prop. Never try to balance a prop by modifying the back of the blades.

WALT WILSON PHOTOS

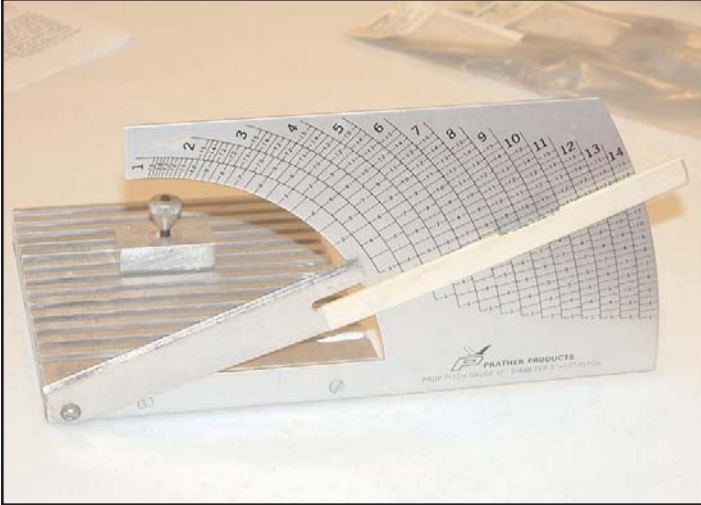


Numerous types of prop balancing devices are available. Paul uses this precision balancer, which can also be used for spinners and other parts.

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(Continued from the previous page)



WALT WILSON PHOTO

When blueprinting or customizing props for racing and maximum performance, a pitch gage is also recommended. This one is by Prather Products. Paul covered far too much material to try to present here. If you're interested in learning from the experts, it's recommended you attend the monthly meetings.

Activity Report: Paul Geders, Contest/Event Chairman.

The Tailgate Swap Meet is set for May 15. Admission will be \$5.00 per car with proceeds going to the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Missouri. Chris Nenzel is the Event Director and volunteers are needed. Contact Chris at 636-244-2253 to volunteer or get info. A flyer is on page 6.

EP Warbirds Races. The upcoming EP Warbirds Races will have free entry and no prizes. Winning will be for "bragging rights" only.

Cox Warbird Races: Chris Nenzel reminded members that Cox Warbirds are once again available and a race is scheduled for a Tuesday evening in April. Eight different planes are available. They come with a brush-type motor for \$15.99. The price has gone up \$2.00 since they first became available again a couple months ago. They require an ESC, LiPo battery, mini-receiver, and two servos to complete. One can be set up for slightly over \$100.00 (Not including transmitter).

Safety Report: Duane Youngman, Safety Chairman. There has been little flying due to the weather and no safety issues were presented.

OLD BUSINESS:

Runway Cracks: Paul Geders has been in touch with the

contractor who did the current repairs and further work will be done when weather gets a lot warmer.

NEW BUSINESS: None was presented.

Meeting Activity: Chris Nenzel and Paul Geders brought three airplanes for discussion and Paul gave an extensive presentation on balancing, blueprinting, and customizing propellers. See the photos for details.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M. The next meeting will be on March 10.

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

By Walt Wilson

Membership renewals must be received no later than the end of the March meeting. Renewals received after that must include the \$25.00 New Membership Application fee. ***This is the last issue of Flight Lines you will receive if you don't renew your membership.***

For Sale:

Microsoft Flight Simulator 2004 with Flight Simulator yoke. It works with Windows 95 through XP. I now have Vista and it's not compatible. I'll take \$65.00 for it. Les Richman, 314-434-8080 or e-mail at: citabria77@aol.com



BABE RAAB PHOTO

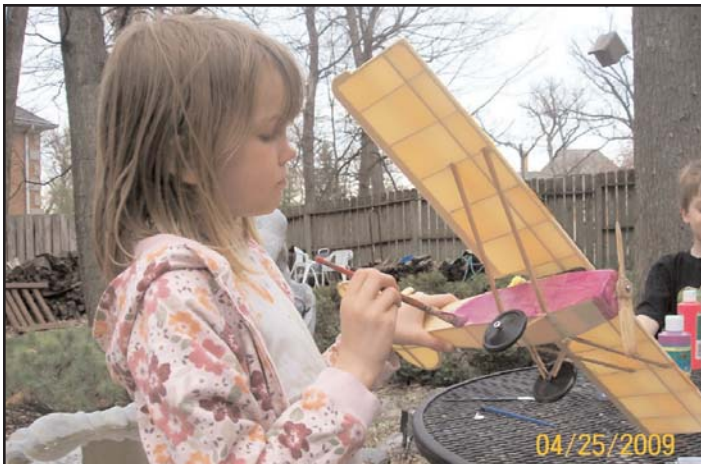
Babe Raab is building this 40 size, 3D, Upr oar from Tower Hobbies. He plans to offer it for sale, as Almost Ready to Cover, at the swap meet in May. He'll install the hinges, but not glue in the wing or tail. The kit was very complete and easy to build.

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Spirits' Winter Projects



(Above, right, and below) Babe Raab's Grandchildren, Aaron and Renee, with planes Babe helped them build.



BABE RAAB PHOTOS (LEFT)



CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTOS (RIGHT)

Here are two solid models Babe created for his Grandkids. He uses bass wood from Home Depot for the wings and tail along with 2x4 or 1x4 cut down for the body. Some wood screws, Gorilla Glue, paint and you're done. Babe doesn't use plans, just goes by what looks right.



Carolyn Schlueter



Jeff Muhs found this new-in-the-box GI Joe 1/6-scale Jeep on Ebay and purchased it. He then installed electric power and Radio Control. He plans to use it for display along with his 1/6-scale Corsair.



Steve Ramonczuk and Jeff inspect Jeff's Jeep at one of the Spirits' Tuesday lunches at 94 Bistro. Very nicely detailed and cool project!

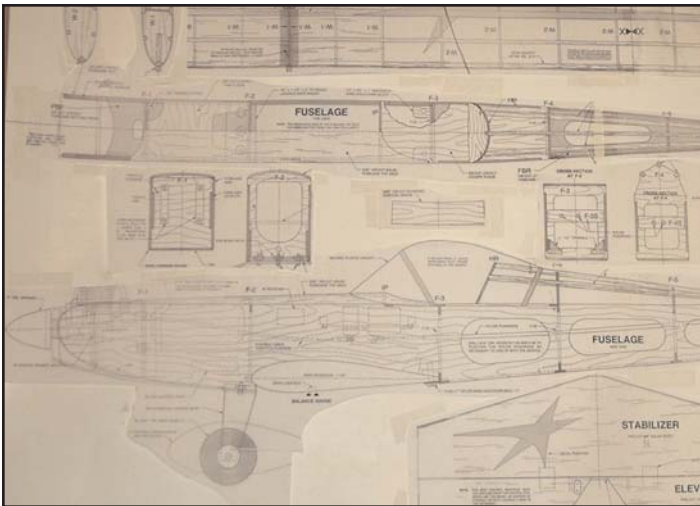
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The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

Many of you have never built a plane from a kit, but have only assembled ARF's and RTF's. There's a lot of satisfaction to be gained from building an airplane that flies from a pile of balsa and plywood. If you've never done so, I recommend you select a kit and build it. A Four-Star 40 is a good, easily-built kit. If you've accomplished kit building and want to go a step further, try scratch-building!

One reason for scratch-building is to have something unique, that no one else has. If you're not an aerodynamic wizard, don't worry about it. Borrow from an established design! Reducing a favorite type of plane and converting it for electric power, or a different size glow engine, isn't as difficult as it may sound. First, decide what size you want it to be and what power system you may have or want to use. A 36" to 40" wingspan is nice to work with for electric power. The plane is still big enough to fly well and the components can usually be fitted with little difficulty. Reduce the plans to the size you want, on a Xerox machine, at a local Office Depot or Office Max. Use 11" x 17" paper. The reduced plans will be in pieces, so overlap the segments



WALT WILSON PHOTOS

and be sure all major parts are covered. Trim and tape the segments together, with outlines and center lines aligned, and mount them on a piece of white cardboard, sometimes called poster board, available from most "Dollar Tree" or other stores of that type. A piece of vellum or similar translucent paper, large enough for the project, will be required. Tape it over the reduced plans. If you want to modify anything, such as the shape of the fuselage, now is the time to draw the changes. Trace the significant parts and draw any details you may want to change. Start with the fuselage.

Determine the thicknesses of the balsa, plywood, or other materials to be used. If the plane is to be electric-powered, most parts can and, for weight savings, should be somewhat lighter than those used for glow power. Sometimes ply-

wood can be replaced by balsa. Measure your components, motor, battery, ESC, servos, and receiver, and figure out where they are to be located. If necessary, add, remove, or change the locations of formers to accommodate the components. For the most part, formers can go where the original design had them. Usually, the motor will be in the front (don't laugh, some planes are pushers), so measure the distance from the prop drive surface to the mounting plate, and subtract about 1/16". That's how far the firewall must be from the front of the fuselage. The thickness of plywood used for glow engines can be reduced somewhat for electric power. Formers are usually required at the front and back of the wing, and have to bear loads, so should also be plywood. The rest of the formers can usually be balsa.

Most electric motors are fairly light in weight, so the battery must be located as far forward as possible in the fuselage for balancing. Is the forward fuselage large enough to accommodate the required battery? If not, modify the height or width so it will. Most plans have the formers and wing ribs shown, so tracing the outlines is easy enough. If formers are not shown, or must be moved fore or aft, measure the height and width of the fuselage, in each location, and adjust dimensions as necessary. Consider what size holes must be cut in the formers to accommodate the components, pushrods, etc. The formers can be figured out fairly easily, based on making everything fit. If pieces of triangular stock are needed to round off the fuselage, figure clearance for them at the corners of the formers.

The wing saddles usually need some added thickness or reinforcement, so add thin plywood or an extra layer of balsa in those locations. The firewall and landing gear mounting can usually use some reinforcement, too. On the Four-Star EP shown, the 1/16" plywood reinforcements run from the trailing edge of the wing to the back of the firewall, and are used for mounting the landing gear. The firewall is 3/16" plywood and the other formers are 1/16" plywood. The fuselage sides and miscellaneous parts are 3/32" balsa. Trace the parts onto the appropriate wood and cut out all the required parts to make a "kit" before assembling anything.



If you find this article to be worth while, let me know and I'll continue it next month.

Gotta go build!

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The Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club, Inc
 Invites you to a

***TAILGATE
 SWAP MEET***

May 15, Rain Date: May 22.

Spirits Flying Field, St. Charles, County, Missouri

See our web site at: <http://spiritsofstl.com> for directions to the field.

9:00 A.M. till ?

\$5.00 per car (Swapping, or Flying)

Concessions Will Be Available

All Proceeds Go To The

Make-A-Wish Foundation of Missouri

For more Info: Call: Chris Nenzel: 636-634-8888

Field will be Open for Flying

AMA Membership Required For Flying

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

Date	Contest/Event	Contest/Event Director	Notes
Tuesday April 13, 20, 27	Cox Warbirds Race	Chris Nenzel & Paul Geders	* Single date TBD later
Saturday, April 24	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	
Saturday, May 15	Tailgate SWAP Meet at Field	Chris Nenzel	
Saturday, June 5	Fun Fly	Bob Fiely	
Saturday, June 19	High-Wing Trainer Race	Paul Geders	
Saturday, June 26	Helicopter Fun-Fly	Tom Foster	
Tuesday, July 13, 20, or 27*	Tuesday Night E-Warbirds Race	Chris Nenzel & Paul Geders	* Single date TBD 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	* Single date TBD later
Saturday, Aug. 21	High-Wing Trainer Race	Curt Milster	
Wed., 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	



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:

Check appropriate below!

Full Membership (\$100)

New Member Initiation Fee (\$25)

Family Membership (\$125)

Junior Membership, under 16 (\$25)

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

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

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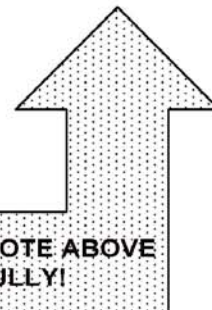
NOTE: ANY MEMBER WHO ALLOWS THEIR MEMBERSHIP TO LAPSE BEYOND THE END OF THE MARCH MEETING OF ANY YEAR SHALL BE CONSIDERED A NEW MEMBER WHEN RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP. SOURCE: ARTICLE 7 SECTIONS 1 THRU 4, CLUB BYLAWS. DUES ARE PAYABLE NO LATER THAN THE JANUARY CLUB MEETING.

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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Chris Nenzel has come up with a bit different entry for the upcoming EP Warbirds Races with this Mig-3 ARF, from Hobbycity Online.



FLIGHT LINES

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

www.spiritsofstl.com

**Meeting is on
Wednesday,
March 10
at 7:00 P.M.**

March 2010