

Springfield Radio Control Flying Club



AIRMAIL



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AMA CHARTER CLUB 394

JULY 2005

VOLUME 17 NUMBER 7

NEXT MEETING

Thursday
July 7

Community Room B
The Library Center
4653 S Campbell

NEW

Excelleron 90 (Rob Kruger)
EP P-51 (Ron Schanda)
Tiger 60 (Dan Copeland)
Decathlon (Barry Harper)
GeeBee (Josh Campbell)
Fun Star (Barry Harper)
Blue Hawk (Ron Hyde)
VMAR Stinger (Barry Harper)
Chipmunk (Rob Kruger)

Just a reminder for all persons opening the gate lock to spin the tumblers when they open the lock so the combination is not further compromised.

They're Back!

Thanks to Charlie Conlee and Josh Campbell, we have a new supply of FIREBALLS!



JOHN A. WESSLS

The Springfield R/C Club will host their 18th annual AMA sanctioned float fly at beautiful Springfield Lake (North Shore). Landing fee \$16 for both days or \$9 for one day. Fee includes lunch for the pilot. Registration will begin at 9:00 AM and the pick up boat will be available until 5:00PM on Saturday and 3:00 PM on Sunday. Saturdays flying will include a skills contest with prizes for the winner. Open flying both days. Lots of door prizes. Registered pilots will receive free tickets with their landing fee. Additional tickets may be purchased at the event. Concessions will be available both days. No overnight camping on site. Picnic area and kids play area available. See back for map. For more information contact:

SPARKY OR DOC WESSLS
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Phone: 417-859-3126 E-Mail: docspark@fidnet.com

2005 MEETING LOCATIONS

July 7
Community Room B
The Library Center
4653 S Campbell

August 4
Community Room B
The Library Center
4653 S Campbell

September 1
Community Room B
Library Center
4653 S Campbell

October 6
Community Room B
Library Center
4653 S Campbell



President's Corner by Barry Harper

It is no secret that the remaining life of our field is probably 5-10 years. As property values rise, the probability increases our flying field property will be sold out from under us. There are, however, other factors that can accelerate the demise of our field: complaints from neighbors. We got a "request" a few weeks ago from the people on the south not to fly over the their new rodeo arena. We should all take this request very seriously and see to it we do not violate

our southern property boundary. We've had a good relationship with this neighbor so far and we should do nothing to cause him concern. It is the responsibility of every one of our members to control their models in such a way as not to attract undue attention to their presence. The boundaries of our property are clearly and well defined. Flying well within these boundaries will minimize the potential for trouble with our neighbors. Let's not wait until there's a complaint! Do your part.

We are publishing some of the members' recent comments. My only comment about these is

this: we are all club members. Like it or not, we are all in this together. Let's stop the talk about one another, especially behind each other's backs, talking down about what other members fly, and create a spirit of respect for each and every one of our members regardless of what or how they fly as long as it is safe. Let's praise each other when we do well, and not be afraid to address violations of our field policies. Let's look for and appreciate the good qualities in our fellow fliers! Life is short: let's spend what energies we have left toward enjoying our sport!

THE FOLLOWING ARE SOME RECENT COMMENTS FROM VARIOUS MEMBERS:

I would like to comment on the Issue that was voted on, and passed at our June Club meeting. The Issue of Gas Powered Planes which was banned at our club. A member of our club said if we don't ban these planes we will lose the right to fly at our field. Well none of us wants to lose our flying field. We don't have a contract with the owner of the field, so he can remove us at anytime with out a reason. But my concern is the issue we voted on, the noise of Gas Powered Planes. Several members said that we haven't had any complaints on noise and haven't had for 3 - 4 years. Several members stated that we have had several Gas Powered Planes flying at our field in the last several years without any complaint. One member stated that Gas Powered Planes can be as quiet as any other plane with the right muffler and prop. Another member said that he had been to a 3D event a few weeks before and they had Electric Planes that made a lot of noise. He also stat-

ed that the props made the noise when they go Supersonic. There were a lot of club members who suggested ways to solve the noise problems. One was to limit the size of the gas engines, and to experiment with different props. One member said if we don't have a noise Issue why don't we wait till we have an issue first. Then, we can address the issue if we ever have one.

The person who brought this issue to the floor said we need to ban these planes now and did not want to consider the other club member suggestions on how to solve this problem. That's when he spoke of a person who had been flying the week before. He had a Gas Powered Plane. He also was asked if the plane he flew was loud and he said no. But he said that some club members had some issue with this man. The President of our club spoke and stated that he spoke to our board members and had come up with a compromise with the man. Our President said that the man had to write a letter of apology to our club before he could become a member and he said it was agreed to. Also the man stated

that if the club thought his Gas Powered Plane was too loud, he would try different props till he found one that was suitable to our club. The President of our club said he was at the field when he was flying and stated that he thought this man was an excellent flyer.

I personally think this was the whole reason behind the issue to vote out Gas Planes. We don't have a noise issue at our field. If our land lord wanted to take the field there's not one thing we can do about it. Also we do have some issues at our club field, but it doesn't have anything to do with noise. We need to address the issues we have, not make up others for personal reasons. I don't fly Gas Powered Planes. But it would be nice to fly one if it was possible some day. Lets look at the facts the next time and maybe what's really behind the issues. Remember the person who brought up this issue, stated that **WE DON'T HAVE A NOISE PROBLEM.**

SEE YOU AT THE FIELD
OL'E SPORT FLYER

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Continued on page 4

Springfield RC club Minutes for May 2005. Ralph Todd, Secretary

Minutes of June Meeting:

Springfield RC Club, Minutes of June meeting - Thursday, June 2, 2005. Ralph Todd, Secretary

The club met at the Library Center on South Campbell Street. Following the board meeting at 6:30 PM, the regular meeting was called to order by President Barry Harper at 7:00 PM.

Barry recognized a guest whose name we got as Gary Keloff (Spelling ??) He said he just inherited his son's airplane, and is eager to join the club and learn to fly it.

Last month's minutes were approved, without change, as were printed in the current newsletter. David Campbell gave a comprehensive treasurer's report of all the receipts and expenditures that have taken place during May. He told of many bills for field maintenance that we have had. The good side was that we do have a few more new members who have paid dues, and that the club's profit for the food and the use of our field last week amounted to over \$600 after expenses were paid. It was voted on to accept the report.

Old Business:

President Barry acknowledged the proceeds that our club had as a result of the South side club's Heli-fly. He then asked for comments we had, or have heard about, concerning the event. They were that: A lot of praise from the visitors on our beautiful field; They were good about picking up their trash; The pilots were very pleased with the food provided; There was con-

cern on whether it should be a 3 day, or just a 2 day event; Since the Helicopter flying continued on very late at night, along with loud music, there were suggestions that there be some limits established for next time.

David Campbell explained to the club about the Club's CDs. They are now drawing only 1.8 and 2.25 percent interest. He and other members felt that the CDs should be drawing 4 percent. He will check.

The club decided not to purchase any more starting stations for now, since there are just 3 flight stations.

There was discussion as to whether once a month is frequent enough for pumping out the portable toilets. Some felt that we should call and request this be done more frequently, especially after events.

New Business:

Barry named a couple of members which he felt should serve on a dues committee. There has been some interest and talk about the fact that the dues have remained the same for years, but the cost for upkeep has not. Any changes need to be made, presented, and voted on in November.

The Bi-laws state that there needs to be 3 members serve on a BI-laws review committee. George Ashley, Doug Bennett, and Mike Howard volunteered to serve.

Jerry Kutz thanked the club for sending flowers, and for members who have attended the funeral for his wife, Mary Ann.

The club also voiced our appreciation for the work she has done.

A motion was made and seconded to ban the use of gas engines at the field. There was a lot of discussion about the pros and cons of this issue. The importance of getting along with field neighbors, especially since society is closing in, was forefront. Several members made aware the fact that our site is one of the best - has had a lot of work and money put into it, and to acquire another site like ours, anywhere close to Springfield, would be virtually impossible. The vote was by ballot. The motion carried, with 18 members voting for, and 6 voting against the measure. This is to be effective as of now, but refunding of club dues will be given to anyone until July 31 of this year, who wish to fly their gas engines some place else.

Still considering neighbors, George Ashley suggested that we try posting someone occasionally, with a two way radio, at the perimeters of the field, to monitor the noise and any over flights.

The meeting adjourned about 8:30 PM, at which time Sparky Wessels held a raffle.

THE NEXT CLUB EVENT

**PRACTICE
FLOAT FLY
JULY 30TH**

Comments From Page 2

The club voted on and passed a ruling eliminating gas models. Wasn't this really about the potential of the loss of the field because of one negative personality? Isn't there still the potential loss of the field because of frequent violation of the rules (flying out of boundaries) by another negative personality? By the same reasoning, shouldn't we ban that type of model too?

■ ■ ■

It is amazing, sad actually, to see the club unwilling to spend another \$50 each on a couple more starting stands. These new stands would have a lot more potential of benefiting more members than the \$500 that was voted on and spent on raffle items at the last Christmas Party! And the club complains

we don't have any money?.....

■ ■ ■

I was really happy with the leadership of our president until this last meeting. Where has his leadership gone now? When we are facing such an important issue as was voted on at the last meeting, shouldn't he have formed a committee to investigate the noise issues and have them present a proposal to the club like we do on other important issues? It looks like the same people who required close examination of other important issues didn't on this one. Why? I guess we'll never know. I appeal to all of you other members out there who don't go to the meetings. Yes, they're boring and not particularly the best way to spend a Thursday evening, but the fate and future of our club is in your silent hands. If it's important enough

for you to spend hundreds of your hard earned dollars on models, then certainly you can spend a couple of hours a month on determining the direction of our club. Stand up and be counted.

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Regarding the ruling voted on and passed in at our last meeting: this was nothing more than a railroad attempt to keep one person out of the club. There was no advance notification of such an important vote/meeting. The least we could have done was to publicize the issue in advance so the rest of the club membership could have had an opportunity to attend the meeting and vote. Shame on us! Was the ruling even legal? What do the bylaws say about the number of votes required to pass such a ruling?

HOW TO LOSE A FLYING SITE

1. Don't make any ground and flight rules for the use of the club field, since modelers are intelligent and not selfish or self-serving, field rules are superfluous.
2. If there are rules governing the conduct of field activities, don't enforce them. Take for granted that all club members can read and will surely adhere diligently to the posted edicts without any reminders.
3. Should the group decide to appoint field marshals, managers, or safety officials to enforce the rules, volunteer to assist but never call another member down for improper flying, or for littering – some hard feelings and resentments might

result. It's also helpful if field marshals or safety officials are absent most of the time flying is taking place.

4. Don't be concerned about noise. Be complacent because mufflers aren't that effective anyhow, and there probably aren't enough homes around the field to worry about.
5. Treat any noise complaint belligerently. Let it be known that it's your field and you can darn well do anything you like on, or over, or around it!
6. Forget about staying away from neighboring homes and fly your model without regard to direction of property lines.
7. Ignore your landowner. Since he said you could use the property, don't offer him

anything above or beyond the lease cost. Don't invite him to any field function, especially a banquet, party or barbecue.

8. Don't worry about flying demonstrations for local charities or young hospital patients – your fun and contests come first. Even though demonstrations create better understanding between the "uneducated" non-modeling public and your club, don't waste time on such efforts. Similarly, don't bother with a miniature aircraft show because that's simply a public gimmick to give the public a good image of your favorite sport and who needs it? PR is not the responsibility of a local model club, right? Let AMA worry about the PR.
9. If one of your models flies into a neighbor's property,

dash right after it. Don't knock at their home, explain what happened, and ask permission to retrieve. Plunge right onto their property and don't worry about mashing down farm crops and the like. It's not really trespassing if you're going onto their property after your property, is it?

10. Don't have a junior training program for new comers to the sport. You came up the hard way and there's no need to pass along any of your knowledge and experience. Collect their dues, but let them learn by their own mistakes. Let them crash on neighboring property and maybe they'll drop out of the club.

11. If members start dropping out, don't take it upon yourself to plan special events and programs in order to stimulate interest. Somebody else will probably come to the rescue. If they don't the membership may just taper off to nothing and you'll have no need for the flying site.

12. Apply the above suggestions with any diligence whatsoever, and you'll surely find yourself without a flying site. When you lose your field, complain that all the others involved let you down.

Reprinted from AMA publication "Getting and Keeping Flying Sites" 5th edition.

TRESPASSING

It was stated at our last meeting that if one of our models lands in/on a neighbor's property, we have the right to retrieve it. It was also stated that air space above their property is free space for anyone. With a little research, according to AMA documents, this is not true. According to statements made by AMA's attorneys, a land owner does not have to return a model landing on their property (the landing/crashing in of itself is trespassing) and an attempt to retrieve it without permission is also trespassing. Additionally, flying into the air space above another's property is also trespassing.

BLACKSHEEP SQUADRON FORUM

A new internet forum has begun. This is the place where we can exchange information, ideas and knowledge with other members. I started this with the hope that we can get club information out and to help that can't make the meetings or those members that are new and have questions. I have designated and Blacksheep Squadron Members ONLY section, only club members will

have access to this section. This area is a tool to use for our events, sign-ups, Christmas party, question and answers and things that are going on in the our club. Which will help pass accurate information along to club members.

The Board of Directors have a section that ONLY they can use, this will help them with their information for meetings and their issues that arise. They will be able to communicate with each other on this board. I am also looking into a

picture forum as well, but as of yet haven't found one that will suffice.

We must also remember that there are other registered people on this site that access the public use forum and the classified sections too. This is not just for Blacksheep Squadron members, but is for anyone that finds us on the net.

Hope you enjoy it. If you have any questions contact me Jon White email address: whitedvr@mchsi.com

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