



FLIGHT LINES

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

SPIRITS RACES APRIL 12

Hundreds Enjoy 2003 Swap Meet



More pictures on page five

FLIGHT LINES

PRESIDENT'S NOTES:

By Steve Cross

I sure hope you had a chance to go to the Swap Meet on the 15th. There were about 600 people that came through the door and they had some great planes and stuff to look at and buy. I think we made a record profit for this year's event! A great big Thank You goes to everyone who helped make the Swap Meet a success, in particular Ralph Amelung and George Cooper for cooking the hamburgers the night before, Don Fitch for organizing and scheduling the concession stand workers, and George Cooper and Steve Ramonczuk for helping set up the concession stand and for setting up all the tables in the room. And we can't overlook Les Richman who stayed well after everyone else was gone to settle up all the money between the Spirits and the Phantom Flyers. Great job, everyone!

Are you getting ready for our first Four-Star 40 race on April 12th? This race will kick off our season of contests and events, and don't forget that we have approved some changes for this year. We will no longer charge an entry fee for the races and we have allocated substantially more money for prizes for these events. And remember, we will also be awarding prizes at the end of the season based on points accumulated for participating in our events throughout the year. And it will not matter if you were a participant or if you were a worker. So come on out in April and either fly your Four-Star 40 or help with the races. You'll have a great time either way!

Better hurry up and finish those winter building projects! Spring has just about sprung and we are starting to have some really great flying days. I can't wait to see all the new planes. I've got three new ones of my own that are waiting for that maiden flight!

See you at the field!
Steve Cross

MEETING MINUTES: FEBRUARY 12, 2003

By Walt Wilson,

Members signed in: 29 members and three new member applicants were present.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were accepted as published in last month's Flight Lines. It was later noted by President Steve Cross that there will be no entry fees charged at any of our events this year. Last month's minutes stated that the amount of the entry fee would be left up to the Contest or Event director.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: George Cooper reported the first mowing is anticipated to be April 5th. He also asked for four more members to volunteer for grass cutting. We have seven teams, but one more would lighten the work load for everyone. See page four for the Field Report and other information about getting on a team.

Safety Report: Ralph Amelung was not present due to illness. Don Fitch reported that there are no safety issues to be discussed at this time.

Activities Report: Activities Chairman Vic Bunze noted that there will be a Warbirds and Four-Star 40 race on April 12. He also noted that we have a full schedule of diversified events planned that should offer something for everyone who wants to participate. See page ten for the scheduled events.

Swap Meet: Don Fitch reported that Ralph Amelung has the food ready to go. A few last-minute volunteers added their names to the work list at the meeting. Early admission will be limited to people working the early schedule and hobby shop personnel. Sellers will not be admitted until 11:00 A.M. and the general public will not get in until 11:30 A.M. A list of personnel who may enter before 11:00 A.M. is being established by Steve Cross and his Boeing counterpart. Others will not be admitted until the scheduled opening times!

OLD BUSINESS:

Contests: Paul Geders inquired about the planned entry fees. Steve Cross reiterated that there will be no entry fees charged for any contests or flying events and the Contest or Event Director is authorized to spend up to \$200.00 on prizes for each activity.

NEW BUSINESS:

None noted.

New Member Applicants:

Name	Phone Number
Dion Cini	314-935-3575
Bob Werderitsch	636-379-5974
Bud Becht	636-561-3377

All were unanimously accepted by the members present.

Meeting Activity:

Don Fitch gave a presentation on design and testing of potential designs for the upcoming "Build-N-Fly" contest. He showed how proper balance effected performance and how to find the correct center of gravity on various wing planforms.

(Continued on the next page)

FLIGHT LINES

(Continued from the previous page)

Claud Wade discussed his scratch-built Curtiss F9C-2, which was to be used to defend the U.S. Navy dirigible “Macon” in wartime.

George Cooper showed his “airplane of the month”, a Dynaflite Spitfire.

Bill Hancock showed his plan-built Supermarine S-5 Schneider Cup Racer.

Steve Ramonczuk discussed his Great Planes Fokker DR-1 Triplane ARF. See the photos on this and the following page for details.



Claud Wade shows his scratch-built Curtiss F9C-2 parasite fighter. It was designed to be suspended from the bottom of the U.S.N. Airship Macon and used for it's defense, in the event of attack. While the aircraft flew well, the concept was soon abandoned. Claud's model is powered by a Fox .50.



New member applicants Dion Cini, Bob Werderitsch and Bud Becht. Welcome to the Spirits!



Bill Hancock built this Supermarine S-5 Schneider Cup Racer from scaled-up R/C Modeler plans. In 1931, the full-scale S-5 was the fastest airplane in the world at 404 MPH. The model has Gee Bee foam floats and is powered by an O.S. .46 FX. He overcame several design problems and is looking forward to the Wright Flyers' Float Fly at Innsbrook on Memorial Day weekend.



Steve Cross (left) assists Don Fitch in determining the center of gravity on a potential design for the “Build 'N Fly contest scheduled for October. It was noted that much preliminary design and testing must be put into an aircraft intended for this event, if it is to have any chance at winning.

(Continued from the previous page)



Steve Ramonczuk discusses features and problems associated with building his Great Planes Fokker DR-1 Triplane. It took a full afternoon to iron out all the wrinkles when he started work on it. He found the balsa to be inconsistent in hardness and the airframe to be very fragile. It's difficult to pick it up without breaking something. The Enya .80 Four-Stroke is expected to pull it very nicely. He flew the Realflight R/C Simulator Fokker and modified it until he was comfortable with it. He's waiting for milder winds before trying to fly this one!



George Cooper with his "airplane of the month", a Dynaflyte Spitfire that he built for Eric Riggs. It's covered with Monokote and powered by an O.S. .46 FX. He says it's a good kit and builds very nicely.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 P.M.

FEBRUARY 2003 FIELD REPORT

By George Cooper

We have 28 people signed up for mowing teams. That is only enough for seven four-man teams.

I would like to have at least four additional, and preferably more, sign up so we can have more teams and make less mowing for everyone. There are 28 weeks to mow. You do the math.

Mowing will start April 5 and I will get a few guys together to do that first mowing. The scheduled mowing will then begin April 12 and I will have the teams and schedule ready by the April meeting prior to that date.

C'mon, guys, it is your field. Twenty eight out of some 120 members is a poor turnout, only 23 percent. You will be flying there and want it nicely mowed. **VOLUNTEER.** Call George Cooper, 636-922-4060 or Pat Keebey, 636-928-3918 before April 6 and help maintain YOUR field.

George Cooper, Field Chairman

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

Another Swap Meet has come and gone. It was a great opportunity to see the kind of work other modelers can do and to see old friends from other clubs. When representatives are there from distributors or nationally known mail-order houses, you can see kits and other items that haven't been advertised yet, or that may not be stocked yet by our local hobby shops. I'm currently doing a kit review on a VQ Curtiss P-40 Kittyhawk, made in Viet Nam. The U.S. Distributor for that line is Morris Hobbies and they had a representative at the Swap Meet with other kits in that line. I've never seen any of the kits advertised, so it was very interesting to see them in the flesh (or balsa). You may also see other products you don't know exist and that may fit needs you didn't know you had. Swap Meets are great fun and very educational. If you sold something or found that long sought item, it's a bonus.

Many years ago, I began corresponding with an Australian R/C flyer who contacted me, by mail, after reading one of my articles. I lost touch with him for about fifteen years. He *called* me on the morning of the day I went into the hospital. He had seen one of my articles in RC Modeler which had my phone number! He called again when I got out of the hospital and we've been corresponding ever since, by e-mail. It's a small world, and you can find something to talk about with modelers everywhere. R/C Modeler sells for \$12.00 (Australian) per issue in Australia! Flying season is here! Go fly!

Gotta go build

FLIGHT LINES

More Swap Meet Pictures



FLIGHT LINES is the Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club newsletter and is published on a monthly basis. Club members may submit personal classified ads for inclusion in the newsletter free of charge. Businesses wishing to advertise in the newsletter should contact the editor or an officer of the club for details.

Newsletter Editor:

Walt Wilson
3000 Persimmon Dr.
St. Charles, MO 63301-0131
Phone: (636) 946-6167
e-mail: rallyo@charter.net

Newsletter submissions must be in by the Monday following the club meeting in order to make publishing deadlines. The preferred format for article submission is via e-mail. I have Macintosh and PC computers and use QuarkXpress and Microsoft Word, so send the copy as the e-mail message (not an enclosure) to avoid cross-platform or incompatible software problems if you don't have the same equipment and software. Typed or clearly written copy on paper, or a Word or Word for Windows file on a 3.5 inch 1.44MB floppy disk are acceptable if you don't have access to the internet. Photos are welcome and may be in the form of glossy prints, or if scanned or digital, in jpeg, gif or tif format. Photo credits will be given.

General Membership meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at the Bridgeton Trails County Library Branch, 3455 McKelvey Rd. (1/4 mi. south of St. Charles Rock Road) at 7:00 P.M.

Membership information can be obtained from:

Bill Lindewirth
1046 Pinecone Trail Drive
Florissant, MO 63031
Phone number (314) 839-0282
e-mail: MrBillSTL@aol.com

Flying Field: Our field is located on Amrein Road, off Greens Bottom Road in St. Charles County. It's open for flying daily from 9:00 A.M. to dusk. Flight Training may be arranged by appointment. Call Ralph Amelung at: **636-939-3331** or see our web site at **http://www.spiritsofstl.com** for a list of instructors and times when they may be available.

Fun-Fly/May 17, 2002

Registration: 10:00 A.M.

Flying begins: 11:00 A.M.

*Please read *Note at the end of events.*

Fun-Fly Events:

Glyde-Clyde: Timed event, longest glide time. Take-off and climb for 30 seconds. At the end of thirty seconds cut the engine and glide. Time starts at the end of the 30-second climb out. The judge will say shut engine down at the end of 30 seconds and engine must stop running. If the engine does not die, the contestant receives a zero score. The clock stops when the aircraft comes to a complete rest.

100 points + _____ = _____

Taxi Balloon Bust: A balloon will be tethered at a given distance from a starting point. Fast taxi the aircraft to the balloon and break the balloon. Time begins when the judge gives the command to start and ends when the balloon has exploded. The contestant may not have any puncturing attachments anywhere on the aircraft other than the rotating propeller.

100 points - _____ = _____

Lucky Seven: The time begins when the pilot picks up a set of dice at the starting line. The pilot throws the dice until he throws a seven. The pilot then starts his engine, takes-off, loops two times and lands. Clock stops when aircraft comes to rest.

100 points - _____ = _____

Spot Landing: A spot with a diameter of three feet will be located on the field. Each pilot will take-off and climb out to a minimum of 50 feet. The pilot when ready will say "Start Now" to the judge and cuts his engine (engine must stop). If the engine does not die, the contestant receives a zero. The pilot will then land his aircraft as close as possible to the spot. To eliminate any judgment calls, measurements will be made from where the aircraft comes to rest, not where it first touches the ground. All measurements will be from the nose wheel, tail wheel, wing tip, etc. (point closest to the center of the indicated spot to the nearest foot).

100 points - _____ = _____

Three Minute Flight: The pilot is not allowed to use any physical timing device. (Watches, timing devices on computer, radios, etc.) The time starts when a plane's wheels clear the runway on take-off, stops when wheels touch down on runway.

100 points - _____ = _____
(Difference from 180 seconds)

***Note: Only one flight line will be in operation.**

Contestant must use the same aircraft for all events. Zero score for flight over the pits, spectators, or parking area. NO WARNINGS WILL BE GIVEN!

!