



# FLIGHT LINES

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

## Big Turnout New Year's Day

### NEW YEAR'S DAY

#### FLY-IN

By Walt Wilson

The day was cold and a bit windy, but the weather was a lot friendlier than last year. A large number of Spirits and visitors came and flew, or just schmoozed, throughout the day. There were several planes flown, including gas, glow, and electric, but there was a lot more time spent just standing around visiting. A big "THANK YOU" to the members who provided coffee, chili, hot chocolate, cake, and donuts. The bonfire was a popular place to be. Overall, it was a successful and well-attended event to start the New Year. You'll find lots more pictures on pages 4 and 5.

#### PREZ SEZ

By Don Fitch

Boy, it sure was a pretty day today. John Matticker and I went down to the field. It was beautiful, the sun was shining, temperature 11 degrees Fahrenheit, cross wind 15 MPH, don't understand why no one was there. Generally you don't have to worry about your engine overheating in this weather unless it is water cooled and the radiator is low on antifreeze. John found the club a really good deal on concrete curbing blocks, \$10 each and even less if you buy more, which we just might do. We were there to figure out how many to get. If we get too many we could sell them as fishing weights, or to people who want to improve their swimming skills. Paddle guy, paddle...faster, faster. Oh, oh. Joe Stramaglia gave the club a brand new, in the box, 40 size trainer, Russ Watts gave us a ready-to-go trainer, servos and all. Now the only thing it needs is to get the OS .40 engine unfrozen. The engine looks like new, I suspect in this case frozen means congealed lubricant. I'll try to un-freeze it with some lacquer thinner. If that don't work I'll put 'er in the oven, or probably beg Walt or Paul for some help. The trainer has Airtronics radio stuff in it. I bought four adapters

### First to Fly in 2009



Joe Stramaglia was the first Spirit to take flight in 2009, with his Great Planes Electrostik EP RXR.

so the servo connectors can be mated to a Futaba, JR or Spectrum Transmitter. If the motor is OK, I will buy (with the club's money) a 6 channel Spectrum receiver. That's \$30 less than an eight channel Spectrum and we only need four channels for the trainer. He also gave us a second kit-built trainer in bare bones. We're going to need someone to finish it up, but there is no rush, we have trainers ready to use now. Well, that's about all the nonsense I have at the present. See you at the next meeting. Wait, how about a \$10 gift certificate to the person who brings in the smallest plane. I'll bring a magnifying glass. Any kind of plane, doesn't have to be R/C. After all this club is about

model airplanes, if you have one, bring it in. Give us all a chance to see it. Thanks to Russ and Joe. Now, if someone could just teach me how to fly.

#### MEETING MINUTES: January 14, 2009

By Walt Wilson

**The meeting** was called to order at 7:00 P.M.

**Members signed in:** Twenty-one members braved sub-zero wind chills to attend.

**Meeting Activity:** Prez Don Fitch was the only member to bring a flying machine. See the photos for details.

**Field Report:** Field Chairman John Matticker, John and Prez Don got two bids to repair cracks and reseal the asphalt areas. Other bids are pending and will be addressed at next month's meeting. There are some differences of opinion regarding what needs to be done. For best results, no work should be done on the asphalt until ground temperatures are in the 70's to 80's, or about May or June.

Paul Geders got several bids on gravel for the parking lot and driveway.

*(Continued on the next page)*

## FLIGHT LINES

*(Continued from the previous page)*

A 16' x 270' area along the pits will be covered with 1" clean rock, 2" deep. The balance of the lot and drive will be 1" minus rock, also 2" deep. The truck driver will spread the rock as it's dumped with minor adjustments to be made by a work party to be organized later. John suggested that the posts separating the parking area from the pits, which require frequent painting or replacement, be removed and replaced with concrete "curb" barriers, all the way. Six posts holding electrical receptacles will be left in place. Don asked for and received member consent for the Board of Directors to determine the best bids and proceed with getting the work done.

John is looking for heavier duty fan blades to replace the



*Paul Geders described modifications made to cylinder sleeves at one time for added performance.*



*Port sizes were increased and tops raised to alter timing. This sleeve is from a K&B 6.5 engine. Paul says engines of this type sometimes turned 28,000 rpm, running on 65% nitro fuel.*



*Don Fitch holds a flying saucer he received for Christmas. He flew it several times at the meeting.*



*Don's saucer in flight. Directional control was very limited.*

frequently broken units in the pavilion. There is some opinion that the blades were broken due to vandalism rather than wind and weather, therefore a better quality of blade won't matter.

The Board agreed to a suggestion to add a rain gutter to the south side of the pavilion roof, to prevent water from running through the pavilion. Gene Jones got an estimate for a professional installation. Ralph Doyle volunteered to get materials and do the job, saving the club some money.

**Budget Projection:** In recent years, the Board of Directors has prepared a budget projection comparing anticipated income with experience-based estimates of annual costs. Copies of the budget projection were given out to the members present and suggestions solicited. The only suggested change was that the projected field maintenance costs should be included. *(Continued on the next page)*

WALT WILSON PHOTOS (RIGHT)

CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTOS (LEFT)

## FLIGHT LINES

(Continued from the previous page)

Prez Don feels that this is a one-time expenditure that will not be repeated for many years, and will come out of our reserves rather than 2009 annual income, so should not be included as a line item in the budget. There is no requirement for membership approval of the projected budget. It's a working tool for the Board of Directors and was shown to the members for information and to open the subject for suggestions.

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

**Treasurer's Report:** *Les Richman, Treasurer.* Payments for the field improvements will come out of our CD reserves. The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented.

**Activities Report:** The proposed Contest/Event Schedule was approved as presented. It's available on page 8 of this newsletter.

**Membership Report:** We have 80 members, which is almost exactly where we have been each of the past few years at this time.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None was presented.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None was presented other than already addressed.

**Meeting was adjourned** at 7:44 P.M. The next meeting will be on February 11.

### Membership Renewals Due

*By Walt Wilson*

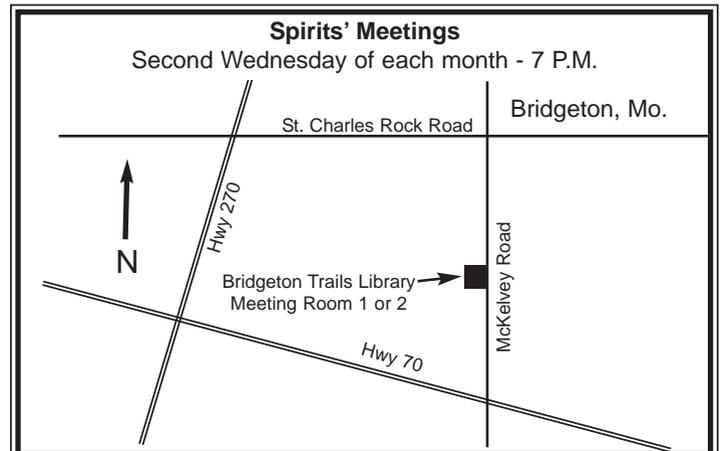
Just a quick reminder that your 2008 Spirits' membership expired on December 31. Members who don't renew by the conclusion of the March meeting will be considered new and will be required to pay an initiation fee. A membership application is included in this newsletter. A copy of your 2009 AMA card must accompany your renewal. If you are one of the new members who signed up for 2009 using a 2008 AMA card, you must submit a copy of your 2009 AMA card to the Membership Chairman Gary Bregant to retain flying rights.

### Measuring Control Throws

*By Don Fitch*

Most planes' instructions specify control throw in inches or millimeters. The photograph on the upper right shows an easy and accurate way to measure it. The base is a piece of 1" lumber, the vertical is 1/4" dowel. The base is held in a steady position by a weight of some sort. A piece of masking tape is placed on the dowel and the center point of the control surface is marked on it, the desired end points are then measured off and also marked on the masking tape.

When using a computer Transmitter, the throw can be readily adjusted or, if a less sophisticated radio is used, a linkage adjustment can do the job.



# FLIGHT LINES

New Year's Day Fly-In, January 1,



PHOTOS BY CAROLYN SCHLUETER AND WALT WILSON

# FLIGHT LINES



## FLIGHT LINES



Participants in the first Warbirds Unlimited Pylon Race included some present members and some who are no longer with us. The above picture includes flyers, callers, officials, and other workers.

### The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

2009 marks the thirtieth anniversary of the Spirits' Warbirds Unlimited Pylon Races. The event was first conceived by then Spirits' President, Al Poole, Joe Lunt, and local hobby shop owner Forest Trent. A committee chaired by Don

Hoelting and including Al, Joe, Westy Westhoff and Walt Wilson, formulated the rules. The event consisted of a scale judging by qualified judges, which comprised half of the score. The second half of the event was pylon races, where a perfect score equalled a perfect score in the scale judging. Al solicited donations from local hobby shops and manufacturers, which amounted to approximately \$1500.00 worth of prizes. A gigantic travelling trophy was purchased by the club. The event was widely publicized in Model Aviation and by mail and flyers in the shops. Entries in the first Warbirds Unlimited was not large, but came from several cities around the Midwest. Prizes were awarded for several categories and the final results were very close. Fliteglass Models owner Ralph White was the overall winner, with one of his Super Tigre-powered P-51's, which also took Best Scale. He was followed closely by Mark Been, flying Don Allen's K&B 7.5-powered, scratch-built, Martin Baker MB-5, which turned the fastest time. I won the "Best Finish" prize with my Ikon Northwest Hawker Hurricane. Prizes were also awarded for second and third places in both Scale and Racing.

During the 1980's, the Spirits' Warbirds Races drew such well-known contestants as Hal Parente and Horace Cain, from all around the Midwest and as far east as Georgia. Today, the Spirits' Warbirds races are pure racing events, only requiring that the planes resemble "Warbirds". ARF's are dominant.

Many other clubs throughout the country still have Warbirds races using rules similar to those originally formulated by our club thirty years ago.

It's cold out, send me some pictures and descriptions of whatever you're building!

*Gotta work up some ambition to go build!*

## **Belleville R/C Flyers 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Swap Meet February 21<sup>st</sup> 2009**

Queen of Peace School 5915 N. Belt West, Belleville, IL  
(Corner of N. Belt West and Frank Scott Parkway West)



**Admission \$5 Tables \$5**

(Children under 12 free)

Vendors w / reservations @ 7:30 am  
Table Sales @ 8:00 am



**General Admission 9am - 1 pm**

Door Prizes and concessions!  
For more info - [www.bellevillereflyers.com](http://www.bellevillereflyers.com)

FOR RESERVATIONS OR INFO CONTACT TED ELLICOTT @ (618)233-1171 OR  
LARRY DAWSON @ (618)806-5664  
(PLEASE DO NOT CONTACT THE SCHOOL)





# 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 #
----------------	----------------	----------------

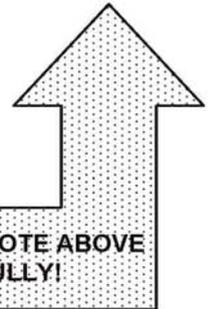
**NOTE: ANY MEMBER WHO ALLOWS THEIR MEMBERSHIP TO LAPSE BEYOND THE END OF THE MARCH MEETING OF ANY YEAR SHALL BE CONSIDERED A NEW MEMBER WHEN RENEWING THEIR MEMBERSHIP. SOURCE: ARTICLE 7 SECTIONS 1 THRU 4, CLUB BYLAWS. DUES ARE PAYABLE NO LATER THAN THE JANUARY CLUB MEETING.**

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**

Gary Bregant  
1129 Spencer Rd.  
St. Peters, MO 63376  
Phone No. 636-922-0168



**READ NOTE ABOVE CAREFULLY!**

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

### Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club, Inc. 2009 Event Schedule

Date	Contest/Event	CD/ED	Notes
April 25	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	
June 6	M&M/Gumball Fun-Fly	Les Richman	
June 20	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Curt Milster	
July 11	Fun-Fly	Bob Fiely	Low Key
July 18	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Ron Hesskamp	
August 22	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Steve Cross	
September 9	Meeting at Field	Board of Directors	Member Appreciation Dinner
September 26	Open House	Committee	
October 10	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Paul Geders	



## FLIGHT LINES

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

[www.spiritsofstl.com](http://www.spiritsofstl.com)

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