



FLIGHT LINES

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

ELECTION OF 2010 OFFICERS OCTOBER 14

PREZ SEZ:

By Don Fitch

Well, Fall and the election of officers for the Spirits fall about the same time each year, and Fall is about to, you know, fall. I am running against Steve Cross for President. We've both been President before, so the choice is yours. During my term, your dues have been reduced 20%. I instigated that. When I proposed the dues reduction, Paul Geders made a motion to do so, and the job was done. The field has had the grass treated to remove weeds and it looks better than ever, thanks to John Matticker, with my support. The parking lot and driveway have new gravel, thanks to Paul Geders. The runway cracks have been repaired and, by meeting time, the asphalt will have been resealed. I'm not responsible for all that. John and, again, Paul, pitched in and got the jobs done. Pete Stephens proposed a pad for helicopter hovering and flying area for small helicopters. Both were passed and are now a reality. No matter what needed to be done, or undone, I have supported improvements and tried to make the field and meetings enjoyable places for all. My opponent let it be known (vocally at the field and via e-mail) that he opposed most of these improvements. Speaking of enjoyment, I instigated having free hot dogs at lunch time during club contests and activities. Mark Livesay, when consulted, confirmed that if we sold soda, the income would offset the cost of hot dogs. The membership voted and it passed! I don't know if I should take full credit for that, but I enjoy the free food at lunch time and I'm sure the other participants at club functions do, too. Would you rather have meetings where we keep business to a minimum and discuss airplanes and technical matters, or one where the President, who has attended about a half-dozen meetings since abruptly resigning five years ago, drones on and on until the people who bring planes, or volunteer to do presentations, frequently don't even have time to discuss them? If I'm not elected, the club will survive, but don't look for much in the way of continued improvements.

MEETING MINUTES: SEPTEMBER 9, 2009

By Walt Wilson

Spirits' Field, St. Charles County, Mo. An estimated 45 members and guests gathered for the Spirits' Annual Member Appreciation Dinner. Bill Lindewirth and Mark Livesay barbecued fillet Mignon, hamburgers, chicken, brats, and hot dogs for the very appreciative attendees. Several also brought covered dishes, including salads, pasta salads, casseroles, and a wide variety of desserts. No one went away hungry! Meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by President Don Fitch.

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

New applicants in attendance were:

Bill Nelgner 636-667-9264

Will Nelgner 636-667-9264

Ken Wright 636-926-0752

The Spirits welcomed them.

Treasurer's Report: *Les Richman, Treasurer.* A total of \$340.00 has been received as donations in memory of Past President Cecil Whitrock and Jim Gerwitz. It was voted to donate that amount, in their names, to the Make-A-Wish Foundation. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: *John Matticker, Field Chairman,* was not present. **The field will be closed all day on Monday, October 5, and until noon on Tuesday, October 6, for sealing and striping.** There will be a fix-up, paint-up session at the field at 9:00 A.M., Saturday, on October 3, come help!

Membership Report: *Membership Chairman, Gary Bregant,* passed away on September 11. He had been in an induced coma for more than a month. He had pneumonia with many serious complications. Bill Lindewirth volunteered to temporarily take his place, then *Pete Stephens accepted the position of Membership Chairman* for the coming year. Please direct any applications or membership concerns to Pete.

Safety Report: No issues were presented. All flyers are observing the rules and flying as safely as they can. The AMA Safety Rules, posted on the club bulletin board, were pointed out by President Don Fitch. Discussion was offered, but there were no questions.

Activities Report: Open House: John Matticker, Paul Geders, and Carolyn Schlueter are trying to pull the event together. Open House workers are needed. Carolyn passed around a sign-up sheet and several people committed to working specific hours and jobs. More are needed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Helicopter Flying Area. Changes to the Safety Rules and operating procedures to create a flying area west of the pavilion for helicopters were proposed in last month's Flight Lines. *(Continued on the next page)*

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(Continued from the previous page)

Pete Stephens asked for a vote to accept them. A discussion followed, with some members expressing concerns about safety issues. It was the consensus that helicopters should present no greater safety issues than fixed-wing aircraft, if flown behind safety lines. A motion was made and seconded to accept the changes. A voice vote was taken with no opposing votes.

Runway Sealing Funding: It was voted at last month's meeting to have the runway sealed. Ralph Doyle and Lee Volmert questioned the approval of funding for the project. Paul Geders explained that, when it is voted to do anything, approval of the funding is given. To satisfy the question, a vote to appropriate funding was taken and approved, with only two "no" votes. The sealing will proceed as planned.

Spirits' Awards: Certificates of appreciation were given to a number of members for various services and contributions

to the club. All were thanked and appreciation expressed for their efforts.

Nomination Of Officers For 2010: The following members were nominated:

President:	Steve Cross (tabled, later accepted) Don Fitch Bob Gizzie (declined)
Vice President:	Mark Livesay
Secretary:	Walt Wilson
Treasurer:	Les Richman

(Steve Cross later nominated Steve Ramonczuk for Vice President and Ralph Doyle for Treasurer via e-mail)

Other candidates may be nominated at the October meeting or written-in on the Absentee Ballot on page 7. All Absentee Ballots must be received before the start of the meeting on October 14.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M. The next meeting will be on October 14, at the Bridgeton Trails Library.

September 9 Meeting Photos



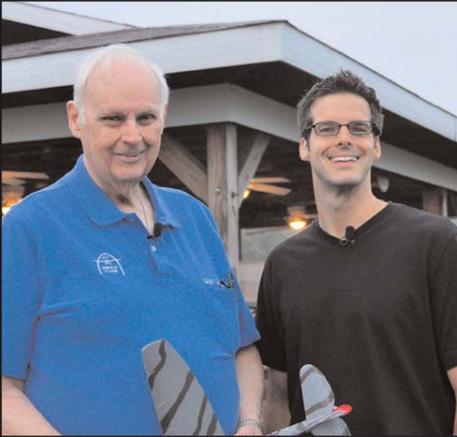
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Tim Ezell Does Morning Show Live At Spirits' Field: With help from Spirits' past member and president, Al Poole, Walt Wilson arranged for Tim Ezell, of Fox 2 KTVI, to do his morning show at our field on Monday, September 21. Everyone arrived while it was still dark, as the first spot was to be at 6:45 A.M. Tim did a "tease" and there was a "tease" shot of Walt's Waco Bipe before the first discussion. Tim and Walt talked about the sizes and cost ranges of planes while Paul Geders flew his indoor "foamie" in the background. Mark Trent did a great aerobatic show with his 40% Yak 55

while talking with Tim. Les Richman and Gene Jones demonstrated the self-starter and flew Les' Cub. Paul flew his 'Lil Stik, then Pete Stephens flew his helicopter. Bob Gizzie gave Tim and the Fox 2 crew flight training on, and off, camera. Patch Crouch wrapped up the show with a great aerobatic performance. There were a total of nine spots on the air over a two-hour period. Every time he came on, Tim named our club and frequently pitched the coming Open House. He finished by telling the audience to look on the Fox 2 KTVI web site for a link to our web site. Thank you Tim and Fox 2 News!



Tim Ezell Show At Spirits' Field



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Spirits' Ninth Annual Open House, September 26, 2009

By Walt Wilson

This was the first of our nine Open Houses that was, largely, rained-out. This year we were plagued by bad weather. Though it was probably the best publicized ever, thanks to Tim Ezell and Fox 2 News, unfortunately, the threat of rain and wind kept people away. We watched as very dark clouds converged on us from the west, and it poured down starting at about 11:00 A.M. About an hour later, it cleared up and flying started again. It rained again during the afternoon but all, who wanted to, got to fly. We had 26 flyers registered and all who attended had a great time. Several "Big Bird" flyers came and put on a great show for all who attended. Unfortunately, one of them crashed in the middle of the runway, right in front of the pilots' box! That was the only serious mishap all day. Carolyn Schlueter

did a great job of recruiting workers and all but two of the members, who promised to work, showed up and did their jobs conscientiously. Mark Livesay, Jim Moeller, and the Nenzel's did a great job of keeping everyone fed.

Mike Roederer won the drawing for a free Spirits' membership for 2010. Greg Friend won a \$20.00 gift certificate donated by the 94 South Bistro. The raffle winner of a Futaba 2.4 GHz radio was Jim Olivitt. Mike Roederer rounded out a lucky streak by winning the second place Four-Star 40 ARF. The \$100.00 gift card for Mark Twain Hobbies was won by Steve Ramonczuk. Kevin Barton, Scott Ducour, and Russell Griffith won the rest of the raffle prizes. Paul Geders won the 50-50 drawing for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. A good time was had by all who attended.



More photos on the next page.....

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More Open House Photos

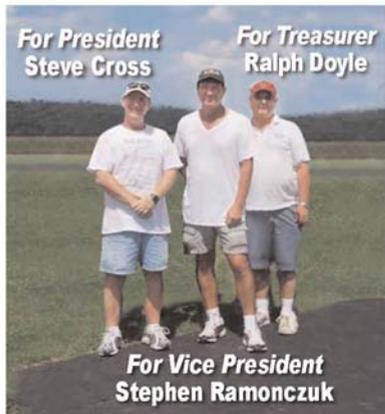


See our web site at
<http://spiritsofstl.com>
for lots more pictures.





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



For President
Steve Cross

For Treasurer
Ralph Doyle

For Vice President
Stephen Ramonczuk

**NOMINATIONS
FOR NEW
OFFICERS
FOR 2010**

**Come to the meeting Wednesday, October 14th
and VOTE for the NEW Nominees**

OR

**Mail in your absentee ballot with the above
NEW Nominees**

Vote For Your Incumbent President, Don Fitch



A vote for Don Fitch is a vote for continued field improvements and fun meetings. Don has used his expertise as a business owner to promote field development and provide entertaining and rewarding activities at meetings and at the field.

Vote For Vice President, Mark Livesay



Mark Livesay has voluntarily prepared barbecue lunches at most events and on many random days at the field for the past two years. He's dedicated to promoting enjoyable days at the field.

Vote For Your Incumbent Treasurer, Les Richman



Les Richman has been our Treasurer for thirteen years. He's carefully managed the club's cash and invested excess funds in certificates of deposit that have earned close to five thousand dollars interest during that period. He has personally loaned money to the club on those occasions when emergency funds were required.

**Vote for the candidates of your choice,
but attend the October meeting and vote!**



In Memorial

Long-time modeler and Spirits' Membership Chairman, Gary Bregant, was in the U.S. Air Force from 1974 through 1982. Upon discharge, he worked for McDonnell and Boeing for 30 years. He lived in St. Peters and was a member of both the Boeing Phantoms and Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Clubs. Gary was 63 when he passed away from complications related to pneumonia on September 11, 2009.

He now resides where runways are long and wide, and airplanes never crash.

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

For the first time in recent memory, we have more than one candidate nominated for each of three offices! This is a healthy condition! Usually, one member for each position will step forward and hesitantly volunteer to serve the membership. Finally, some more of our members are offering to do something other than pay dues. You can vote for the individual candidates of your choice. Whoever your choices may be, this time it's important to attend the meeting and

vote on October 14 or, if you can't be there, send in your absentee ballot so I receive it before the meeting starts.

I want to offer my sincere thanks to all the members who came out before dawn on Monday, September 21, to welcome Tim Ezell, of *Fox 2 News*, and put on a show to promote our club and the Open House. Tim and his crew were very congenial and easy to work with, making the whole experience very pleasant. Everyone who flew impressed Tim and the crew. In fact, some of them said they were coming to our Open House and bringing their families. They go somewhere in the area, five days per week, and do something of interest. Tim does everything from ballet dancing to driving a stock car. The amazing thing is, even though he plays it for laughs, Tim does most things well after a few minutes of training! Under Bob Gizzie's guidance, he flew an already airborne trainer with no mistakes and even looped it. Once he turned it over to Tim, Bob didn't touch the sticks again until time to land. Every time he went on the air, Tim named the Spirits and promoted our Open House several times. He had them put a link to our web site on the Fox 2 KTVI web site, too. I got us on *Show Me St. Louis* twice in years past but, at nine spots totaling about 12-1/2 minutes, this was the most airtime we've ever had.

Gotta Go Build

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

**Four-Star 40* and WARBIRDS* and
E-WARBIRDS* Pylon Races**

Saturday, October 10, 2009



Spirits Field on Amrein Road, 1/2 mile south of Greens Bottom Road, St. Charles County

ENTRY FEE: \$10 for Four-Star 40 and \$10 for WARBIRDS

Registration starts at 9:00 a.m.

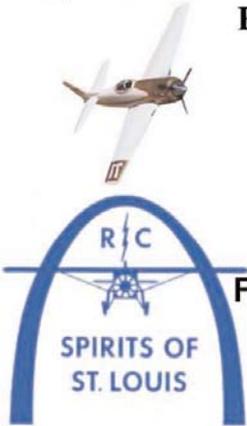
Racing starts at ~ 10:00 a.m.

*Class rules are available on our website:

<http://spiritsofstl.com/contest.htm>

For more information call: Paul Geders at 314-838-1350

or e-mail him at: pgeders@charter.net



Official 2010 Absentee Ballot

The following candidates have been nominated for officers for the year 2010. If you will be unable to attend the October meeting, place a circle around the name of your choice for each office. If you want to write in another candidate, draw a line through the printed name(s) and use the line below the name of the candidate(s) already nominated for that office.

President

Don Fitch
Steve Cross

Vice President

Mark Livesay
Steve Ramonczuk

Secretary

Walt Wilson

Treasurer

Les Richman
Ralph Doyle

If you cannot attend the October meeting, complete your ballot and mail it to:

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

Absentee ballots must be received no later than 7:00 P.M., October 14, to be counted.

Sign Here: _____

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WALT WILSON PHOTO

Mark Trent hovers his 40% Yak 55 during one of his flights at the Spirits' Ninth Annual Open House. It weighs 38 pounds and has a 20 horsepower engine turning a 30-inch prop. He also flew for the Tim Ezell Show on September 21.



FLIGHT LINES

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

www.spiritsofstl.com

**Meeting is on
Wednesday,
October 14
at 7:00 P.M.**