



FLIGHT LINES

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

Fun-Fly July 11, Races July 18

PREZ SEZ:

By Don Fitch

Holy Cow! Another addition to the By-Laws proposed. Ralph Doyle presented a proposal to limit the money the OFFICERS can spend, without having the members approval of said expenditure, when those expenditures exceed the budgeted amount by \$200.00. In general the officers don't spend money with the exception of the Newsletter Editor and he uses coupons to cut the cost of said newsletter. I'm not sure that, at this time, I fully understand how this proposed change will work. Personally, the only things I have spent money for are two plaques thanking members for doing a really good job. There was no money budgeted for this purpose. Oh, Oh! That's not exactly true! I spent \$62 of my own money to pay for free lunches for the people at the High Wing Trainer Race, which incidentally was A BALL. It is quite difficult to get things done for the club now. If we have to take two months to get the expenditure approved, it may well be that our flying season will be over and nothing gets done. Yes two months ... propose the expenditure, lead time to publish it in the newsletter, wait for the next meeting, get the vote and find out the bid was only good for 30 days. Oops, it don't get done. Most expenditures are brought up at a meeting and do not proceed unless the members vote in favor of it. I am in favor of getting members approval for *unusual* expenditures, but in less time than set out by this proposal. Boy, this sure disrupts my plan to get a Rolls Royce free.

MEETING MINUTES: June 10, 2007

By Walt Wilson, Secretary

The Meeting was called to order by President Don Fitch at 7:00 P.M. Eighteen members and three guests were present.

New Member Applicant Introduced himself:

Lyle Anderson 314-229-6967

He will submit his application to the Membership Chairman.

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

Treasurer's Report: *Les Richman, Treasurer, was not present.* The annual rent check for the field is ready to mail. The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: *John Matticker, Field Committee Chairman.* The mowing contractor has notified us that the cost will increase \$50.00 per mowing. The new price is still less than any of the other bids received when the service was present-

ed for proposals. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to accept the increase.

Safety Report: *Lee Volmert, Safety chairman was not present. No issues were presented.*

Membership Report: *Gary Bregant, Membership Chairman, was not present. We now have 154 members!*

Activities Report:

Contest/Event Committee Chairman Appointment:

President Don Fitch again appointed Mark Livesay for this position and asked if anyone was opposed. There were no opposing votes.

June 20 Four-Star 40/Warbirds/EP Warbirds Races: Ralph Doyle will be CD. The Four-Star 40 and Warbirds races will be run as usual, but this time the newly formulated Electric Warbirds race will be run as a separate class, if enough entries are present. The rules are available on our web site at: <http://www.spiritsofstl.com/rules>

June 23 Boy Scouts Learn-To-Fly Night: Les Richman is Event Director. The Scout Troop we entertained last year is returning again. Planes and pilots are needed. See Les to volunteer.

July 11 Fun-Fly: *Event Director Bob Fiely was not present.*

OLD BUSINESS: None was presented

NEW BUSINESS:

Free Lunches: Don Fitch proposed that the club provide free lunches for all participants at club Fun-Flies. Fun-Flies were selected because almost all participants are club members, as opposed to races where a number of entrants are from other clubs. Participants include flyers, workers, administrators, and photographers who regularly contribute to the newsletter and/or web site. A maximum limit of \$75.00 per event was set.

Gene Jones won the attendance prize of a \$10.00 gift card donated by Mark Twain Hobbies.

By-Law Change Proposal:

By Ralph Doyle

Pursuant to Article 10, section 1, of the Club By-Laws, Steve Cross, George Cooper, and Ralph Doyle are proposing the following amendment to the By-Laws. The reason we are asking for this change is to curtail any large expenditure by the club officers without the knowledge or approval of the membership. (Continued on the next page)

FLIGHT LINES

(Continued from the previous page)

Add the following section:

Article 11 Special Funds

Section 3. No expenditures exceeding \$200.00 may be spent by any club officer until the reason for the expenditure is published in the club newsletter and then approved by a simple majority vote by the members at the next regular monthly meeting. Mail-in ballots as well as e-mail ballots will be allowed and made available for those full members who cannot attend the meeting. Those ballots to be sent to the club secretary prior to the next regular club meeting. This amendment applies to expenditures exceeding the operating expenses of the club as proposed in the annual club budget.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:58 P.M.

Bulletin Board Rebuilt

By Pat Keebey

The bulletin board at the flying field has had the front rebuilt. Bob Lamb put a new yellow pine laminated front on the bulletin board and cut the 1/4 inch slides for the glass. Bob did an excellent job with the woodwork. Pat Keebey purchased 1/4 inch Plexiglas and replaced the 1/8 inch glass. Pat repainted the entire bulletin board and it has been replaced for club use. The bulletin board is now easier to access and the glass doors slide much easier. The bulletin board will contain AMA flying guidelines, safety suggestions and other Spirit of St. Louis R/C information.

June 6 High-Wing Trainer Races:

By Walt Wilson

The day was beautiful with winds that started mildly and increased as the day progressed, but did not become a problem. Three guests from the River City Flyers, three Spirits, and one flyer with dual membership were entered. The planes varied from a BIY Sig Senior Kadet with an O.S. .40 LA, to a small Chinese-built ARF with O.S. .61 FX power. One entry even had a tuned pipe! CD Steve Ramonczuk and helpers did a terrific job and, though the speeds were as varied as the planes, there were some very close races. River City member, Ken Jewell was first, and Tom Galloway second. Our own Glen Gerken was third with, arguably, the slowest plane in the race. Speed is important, but you have to avoid cuts and finish every race, too! Tom Davis and new Spirits' member, Dick Williams, were tied for fourth. Bob Bennett and Rob Kowalczyk developed technical problems and withdrew. A sincere THANK YOU to all who worked as lap counters and pylon judges, as well as President Don Fitch, who paid for a free lunch for all participants out of his own pocket! Thank you to Mark Livesay, who spent the day preparing the food and Carolyn Schlueter, who brought a cake. Comments like "I'm going to get a trainer and kick some butt", were heard. We're looking forward to another High-Wing Trainer race! Pictures are on pages 3 and 8.

June 20 Four-Star 40 and Warbirds Races:

By Ralph Doyle

At the top of the list is my thank you to the seven volunteers who worked without expectation of reward so that the others could compete. So, it was with great satisfaction that I

was able to reward Tony Pozarich with a workers' prize of a \$100.00, 1/12 scale, P-51 ARF generously donated by Mark Twain Hobbies, St. Charles, Mo. I would also be remiss not to thank Mark Livesay for doing the barbecuing in the heat of the day.

There were thirteen pilots, with seventeen entries total, for both Warbirds and the Four-Star 40 races. We flew a total of 15 heats and were finished by 2:30P.M. and opened the field to anyone to fly. I guess, as it was Father's Day eve, that there was only one person who arrived and flew by the time I left at 4 P.M.

The first heat of the day in Warbirds showed that the racing was going to be hot and heavy as two of the four pilots finished the race in under 2 minutes (1:59 sec to be exact) thus disqualifying them. A later race had the winner finish in exactly 2 minutes and yet another heat had two planes cross the finish line in 121 seconds, in a virtual tie. They were that close! I strongly suggest to the 100 plus members who do not participate in club events to stop by and watch as they are missing some great flying. The winners of the Warbird portion of the contest were: Steve Ramonczuk, 1st, Ron Hesskamp, 2nd, and a tie for 3rd to Paul Geders and Bob Bennett.

The Four-Star 40 racing was also hotly contested. The four pilots who placed in the money were separated by a total of 4 points with Paul Geders flying 3 perfect races and thus deserving a 1st place finish. One point behind in second place was Jim Schilling who missed tying Paul only because Paul beat him heads up in one heat. In third place lurked Steve Ramonczuk with 13 points only because Jim beat him in a later race where Ron Hesskamp won. And in 4th was your lowly reporter, Ralph Doyle, with 12 points, who due to the luck of the draw and poor flying, was beaten to a pulp twice by Paul and others.

I hope that everyone who participated left feeling that they had a good time. Even Lee Volmert who, due to radio gremlins, had the dubious distinction of winning both the Warbird and Four-Star best crash prizes.

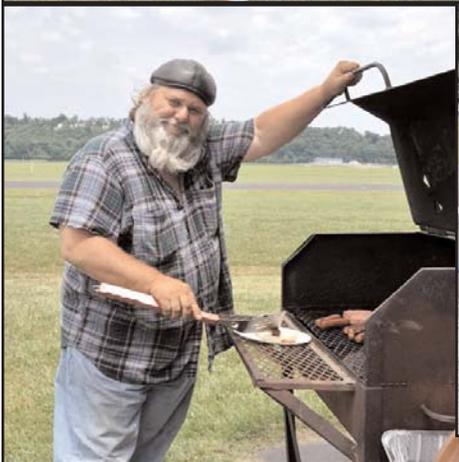
Boy Scout Learn-To-Fly Night, June 23

By Don Fitch

It was a hot, but fun evening. The Boy Scouts were back at the field this year. Scout Troop 11, from Temple Israel in Creve Coeur, with contact man Marvin Goldfarb, Scoutmaster Joel Schwartz and Scoutmaster Emeritus Sandy (Bozo) Silverstein, who has been a Scoutmaster for 50 years, were rounded up by Les Richman for a flying demonstration and experience. Bob Gizzie orchestrated the evening's activities. Pilots Bill Lindeworth, Gene Jones, Bob Gizzie, Don Whitrock, Curt Milster, Mike Roderer, Greg Bohrer, Pete Stephens, and Pat Keeby gave the guys a taste of flying that was enjoyed by both the instructors and the Scouts. Helping out were Frank Nolle, Bill Schulthies, Jordan Milster, Jeff Muhs, Jeff Bohrer, John Smith, and Chris Nenzel. Jeff showed off his controllable parachutist, that was retrieved, still undamaged. Chris flew his beautiful, and fast, electric doing vertical rolls right after take off. Mark Livesay did his magic at the grill. Is it my imagination, or do his hot dogs taste better than when I do them? Silly question, of course they do. There were 15 Scouts accompanied by six adults to feed and entertain and the club did it in spades. A fun evening had by all.

FLIGHT LINES

High-Wing Trainer Races June 6, 2009



FLIGHT LINES

Four-Star 40/Warbirds Races June 20, 2009



FLIGHT LINES

Boy Scout Learn To Fly Night June 23, 2009



Low Key Gumball Fun-Fly

July 11, 2009

REGISTRATION: 9:00 A.M.

FLYING: 10:00 A.M.

ENTRY FEE: \$5.00

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CALL: ROBERT FIELY AT (314) 434 - 0206
OR E-MAIL AT BFIE@SWBELL.NET**

The Last Word

By Walt Wilson

For the past few years, as good business practice, the President, with help from some of the Board of Directors, has used the previous year's expenses, and known upcoming costs, as a guide to plan the coming year's expenditures. These estimates are compared with expected income and, hopefully, balance out. They usually keep working at it until they do. As a courtesy, and to keep everyone who is interested informed, the President presents the planned budget to the members, at a meeting, for approval, even though there are no Constitutional or By-Law requirements to do so. Throughout the year, club officers and committee chairmen try to work within the estimates, hopefully saving money where possible. Sometimes unexpected situations, or cost increases, come up, which require deviations from the budget.

Ralph Doyle has made a proposal to change the By-Laws as defined on pages 1 and 2. I agree that large, unplanned expenditures should be voted upon by members at a meeting. Whether \$200.00 should be the threshold, is debatable. I do not agree with the rest of the By-Law change proposal. Here is an example of why the rest of Ralph's proposal could seriously impede operation of the club: We learned a few days before the June 10 meeting that mowing

costs are going up from \$130.00 to \$180.00 per cutting. The new price is still less than any of the other bids submitted at the time we contracted our present service. A motion was made, and passed, at the June meeting to accept the change and move on. Under Ralph's proposal, we would have had to post the upcoming vote on a cost increase in the newsletter, which wouldn't be published until after the June 23, Boy Scout Learn To Fly Night. The price increase would then be voted upon at the July meeting (and approved, no doubt). In the meantime, the grass could not be cut for up to **four weeks** or more and our contractor may move on to other jobs and decline ours when finally approved. Then, the Field Chairman would have to get other bids. The BOD would have to select one and publish it in the August newsletter, with another absentee ballot. The vote would then be taken and passed at the August meeting. In the meantime, the grass could not be cut for **eight weeks** or more. Can you imagine what our field would be like?

Our By-Laws require that we include an absentee ballot in the newsletter for election of officers and changes to By-Laws. In more than nine years as Secretary, I've received a total of three absentee ballots!

Enough said!

Gotta go finish this newsletter!



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

Four-Star 40 * and WARBIRDS *

Pylon Races

Saturday, July 18 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: Ron Hesskamp at 314-330-1734
or e-mail him at: sixcube@sbcglobal.net



Spirits' 2009 Activities Schedule

Date	Contest/Event	CD/ED	Notes
July 11	Low Key Fun-Fly	Bob Fiely	
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	

Mail-In Ballot

In accordance with club By-Laws, where By-Law revisions are proposed, this mail-in ballot is provided for members who cannot attend the July meeting. Mail to: Walt Wilson, 3000 Persimmon Drive, St. Charles, MO 63301. Must be received no later than **July 8, 2009**. Circle one of the following:

I vote for the revision I vote against the revision Signed _____

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(left) Tom Davis and Ken Jewell round pylon 2 and (right) Tom (high) passes Glen Gerken in some of the close racing action at the first Spirits' High-Wing Trainer Race on June 6.



www.spiritsofstl.com

FLIGHT LINES

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

**Meeting is on
Wednesday,
July 8
at 7:00 P.M.**