



FLIGHT LINES

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

Tailgate Swap Meet May 5, Scale Fly-In May 19

Stuff:

By Gary Pyles, President

By the time you read this the club will have finished its second event of the year, the first Four-Star 40/Warbirds Race. This event, like all others, requires a club member to be in charge, but cannot take place without the assistance of many other club members. Typically, the same 10 or 15 members show up to work and support every event. I urge everyone to lend assistance in one way or another to help support these events. Several of these events generate income for the club and help us to control our annual dues, so it's in all of our best interests to help these events do well.

Not all of us are capable of doing the cooking, running the concession stand, or running an event. That does not mean that we can't contribute in other ways. The success of many events is directly related to letting people know there is an event. You can help by checking the event schedule on the Spirits' website, downloading the flyers prior to the event, printing them at home, and placing them around your community. Almost all grocery stores, and many other businesses, have places that allow you to post these types of flyers. This is something simple we can all do to help all of our events be successful.

Of course, if you are capable of doing much more, contact the CD responsible for the event and volunteer your services. Every event is always in need of someone to register pilots or cook. Other events require assistance for parking, selling of raffle tickets, transmitter impound, and other general tasks, during set up and tear down. Your participation, in any capacity, is deeply appreciated by the event directors and the club.

The field looks great and mowing has started on a weekly basis. Remember, the flying field is closed during mowing. Absolutely no flying or run ups are allowed while the mowers are active at the field. Please refer to our website or e-mail alerts for the current mowing schedule.

Special thanks again to Gary Graul for all of his work at the field: Continually sealing cracks in the runway and taxiways, repainting the runway lines and X's, and painting new lines around the pilot's station. Gary is constantly looking for ways to maintain and improve our field. Anytime you wish to help, or have an idea, give Gary a call or send him

an e-mail. I'm sure that he will deeply appreciate any help that he receives. Next time you see him at the field give him a pat on the back and say thanks.

See you at the field.

Gary

MEETING MINUTES: APRIL 11, 2012

By Walt Wilson

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by President Gary Pyles. Twenty-six members and two applicants were present.

Announcements:

By-Law Revisions: A motion to accept the changes was made and passed without opposition.

Documentation: An updated tri-fold, application, and other materials reflecting the changes will be ready shortly.

Marketing: Gary Pyles tried unsuccessfully to reach someone at SSM and BJC who would take the responsibility and give permission to leave Model Aviation magazines, with our advertising materials, in doctors' offices. It's recommended that anyone who wants to pursue this ask his doctors for permission.

Monthly Meeting Dates: The May meeting will be on Wednesday, May 9. Starting in June, we will meet on the second Thursday of the month. The date of each upcoming meeting will be noted on the outside of Flight Lines and on the front page of our web site.

New Members: The following new members introduced themselves:

David Courte 314-308-1009

Ron Skippers 636-447-4499

The members unanimously welcomed them to the club.

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

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Treasurer's Report: *Bill Lindewirth, Treasurer.* The Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Field Report: *Gary Graul, Field Committee Chairman.* Gary has been doing some more crack repairs on the runway. He repainted the "X's" and lines on the runway, too. Five damaged plastic chairs were disposed of, leaving 14 in usable condition. Gary questioned the wisdom of providing club chairs. He feels that people should bring their own. Mowing started on March 29. The early spring will likely cause more mowings than were planned and budgeted for this year. Mowings will be on Thursdays, unless delayed by weather.

Gary sprayed weeds in the parking lot and Lee Volmert readied the Kubota tractor for use.

Sign At Greens Bottom and Amrein Road: The Board Of Directors will further investigate the legality of placing a sign there.

Training Report: *Gary Pyles, Chief Instructor,* reported that all training materials were completed and a meeting with Introductory Instructors is planned.

Safety Report: *Safety Chairman, Duane Youngman* was not present. All flyers are reminded to place their membership cards on the frequency board, even those flying on 2.4GHz.

Triangle Of Death For 72MHz? An employee of Mark Twain Hobby Center is rumored to have been telling tales of such an area at our field. *There is no "Triangle Of*



Tom Foster shows off his jacket denoting he is a member of the "Synergy Helicopter Team".

Death" at the Spirits' field! MTHC management has talked with the employee to stop such rumors.



Tom discussed design features of his new Synergy 700 Helicopter. It has a 700 mm (63") rotor and is the lightest and one of the least expensive helicopters on the market, in that size range. It weighs 10 pounds, 6 ounces and has a 12 cell LiPo battery driving a 6000 watt motor. The rotor is a unique design giving very good flying characteristics. Cost, with several used components, was about \$1500.00.

WALT WILSON PHOTOS



Paul Geders discussed his kit-built Boeing "Bird of Prey" foamy electric-powered profile. It's a model of an experimental design built by Boeing a few years ago. It has a lifting fuselage and is difficult to fly even though Paul modified it in an attempt to improve airworthiness.

Membership report: *Ralph Doyle, Membership Chairman.* We presently have 160 members, sixteen more than this time last year!

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Activity Report: Tom Foster, Contest/Event Committee Chairman, reported that sanctions have been received for all but the events being CD'ed by Steve Cross and Curt Milster. They are getting their own sanctions.

Free Four-Star 40 and Warbirds Races, April 28: Paul Geders, Contest Director, asked for helpers to count laps and act as Pylon Judges.

Tailgate Swap Meet, May 5: Event Director, Steve O'Conner. Helpers are needed to collect admission fees.

Scale Fly-In, May 19: Contest Director, Curt Milster was not present.

OLD BUSINESS: None was presented.

NEW BUSINESS:

Raffle Prizes: Greg Bohrer suggested that members who have new, but un-wanted items, donate them to be raffled off at contests and other events, with proceeds going to the Club. The idea was well-received. If you have such an item(s), contact your favorite Contest or Event Director.

Meeting Activities: Two members brought aircraft. See the pictures on this, and the previous page, for details.

Best Presentation: The Mark Twain Hobby Center gift cards were given to both Tom Foster and Paul Geders, who received an equal number of votes.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Donations?

By Jeff Bohrer

The Spirits of St. Louis' Club events are starting up again for the year. The event coordinators for the Electric Fun Fly, Greg Bohrer, Jeff Becker and I, have come up with a raffle idea that will need support from our club members to work.

What is needed are new or used RC items, in good condition, for raffle bags to be raffled off at the Electric Fun Fly event. Items could be, for instance, servos, motors (electric or gas), hardware, like gear/wheels struts, EDF components, props and spinners, and maybe even complete planes.

We ask that items are in good working condition that others could use. Here is a chance to clean up some space and support the club.

Items can be given to Greg (314-330-5351), Jeff (636-577-0519) and Jeff Becker at (636-734-6805). Call to arrange item collections.

April 28 Four-Star 40 and Warbird Races:

By Paul Geders

This race day was a day of surprises. We had great worker support and they come first, or we couldn't have the fun that we had. Many thanks to Tom Murphy and Wil Hopkins as

cut judges, Russ Watts, Ken Brock, Don Fitch, Gene Jones, and Walt Wilson as lap counters. Mike Bien and Bob Fiely volunteered to provide concessions for the race and they, too, deserve a big THANK YOU. The concessions served over 31 individuals and there was again around 45 people total, racing, helping, and spectating.



WALT WILSON PHOTO

The weather was fantastic, and made for some great racing. We had a total of nine entrants, six in Four-Star 40, three in Novice Warbirds, and four in Expert Warbirds. Jeff Becker raced for the first time in Four-Star 40 and was learning and having a lot of fun. He unfortunately had a wing fold due to no glue on the wing attachment joiner in his SIG ARF. Airplane No. 1 bites the dust. Les Richman and Bob Gizzie teamed up in Novice Warbirds and were doing just fine when, after the heat race, the airplane rolled inverted and spiraled into the dirt. Airplane No. 2 bites the dust. In the same heat Lee Volmert had an engine quit after the heat and the wing departed on a hard landing/cart wheel in the grass. Airplane No. 3 bites the dust. Lee Volmert and I, in the last heat of Four-Star 40, attempted to occupy the same space coming around the West pylon. The props on each plane ate the other's wings up. Airplanes No. 4 and No. 5 really bit the dust.

Warbirds Expert Class saw Vic Bunze fly the fastest electric airplane ever flown in Warbirds. He won his heat going away. However, his ME-109 ARF, with a fiberglass fuselage, had a poor glue joint on the motor mount bulkhead, which separated, and he couldn't fly it again. Ron Hesskamp flew his electric Voodoo in the first heat. Both he and Vic went to backup airplanes. Ron flew his O.S. 1.50 supercharged Stiletto in the second and last heats. Vic flew his Spitfire as a backup and didn't place as well as he did with his AWESOMELY FAST Me-109.

Final results are; 3rd place in Four-Star 40 went to Bob Gizzie. We had a tie for 1st and 2nd and the winner by scissors, paper, and rock was Jim Schilling with Ralph Doyle in 2nd. Warbirds Novice results were; Lee Volmert in 3rd, The team of Bob Gizzie/Les Richman in 2nd, and Bob Bennett taking home 1st place bragging rights.

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Warbirds Expert is always fun when the 'Heavy Metal' boys get it on. 3rd place went to Ralph Doyle, 2nd to Paul Geders, and Ron Hesskamp took home 1st place bragging rights.

Many thanks to all who came out, and supported the racing in one form or another.



WALT WILSON PHOTOS

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WALT WILSON PHOTO (LEFT)



CAROLYN SCHLUETER PHOTOS

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

Welcomes you to a

TAILGATE SWAP MEET

When : May 5th, Rain Date: May 12th.

Where: Spirits' Flying Site

Start Time: 9:00 a.m. till ?

Fee: \$5.00 per car (Swapping, or Flying)

Concessions: Food and Drinks Available

A donation from the proceeds will be made to a charitable organization

Point of Contact: Steve O'Connor, 314-616-6606 cvezip@yahoo.com

Field Open for Flying

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Spirits' Introductory Pilot Instructor Program:

By Walt Wilson

Throughout the 47 years of the Club's existence, virtually thousands of members have learned to fly radio-controlled aircraft. A few were self-taught, at great expense in nerves, aircraft, and money, but most were taught by someone with more experience. In some instances, it was a matter of friends helping friends, but an organized training program has been in place much of the time. Typically, new members may contact an instructor and arrange lessons. Spectators, who simply drive up to the field, are sometimes given introductory flights by members, or instructors, who may be flying. This could be a dangerous practice if the member is not an AMA Licensed Introductory Pilot Instructor.

When a Spirits' instructor teaches another member to fly, both must belong to AMA, so they are covered by that organization's insurance.

At special events, such as our Annual Open House, or when Boy Scouts are our guests, introductory flights are given and the student is not normally a member of AMA, so did not have the liability insurance coverage AMA membership includes, unless the instructor was AMA licensed.

For the past few years, we have had a very small number of AMA recognized Introductory Pilot Instructors. Gary Pyles volunteered to become Chief Flight Instructor and has put together a beautifully organized Flight Training Program. He has recruited nine Introductory Pilot Instructors who are now AMA licensed for 2012. This means that, if the proper forms are submitted to the AMA, even walk-in spectators who receive introductory flights are covered with AMA liability insurance for up to 60 days of instruction by one of the licensed instructors.

Gary has taken great care to try and make instruction methods consistent and avoid confusion if more than one instructor works with a student. He has created handout materials



Introductory Pilot Instructors Bob Gizzie (left), Mike Roederer, and Ron Mais review training manuals at the Instructors' meeting April 21.



Some of the colorful documentation Gary Pyles has prepared to attract, assist, and instruct potential R/C flyers and future members of the Spirits.

to be given to the students and, in cooperation with Mark Twain Hobby Center, has assembled recommended combinations of aircraft and supporting hardware for beginners. His well-thought-out instruction manual discusses teacher and student psychology as well as many other facets of the teaching and learning process. Handouts include several possible aircraft and hardware combinations and prices that fit the flight-training process as well as applications for the AMA and Spirits.

For further information about learning to fly, contact Gary at; 314-680-2786 or e-mail at: GP@GTPLTD.COM

Chief Flight Instructor, Gary Pyles (center) explains his Flight Training Program to Instructor Bill Lindewirth (left) and the other Introductory Instructors while Gene Jones looks on.

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

SCALE FLY-IN

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2012

No Landing Fee



**Event Director: Curt Milster
636-699-8068**



2012 SPIRITS CONTEST AND EVENTS SCHEDULE

Date	Contest/Event	Contest/Event Director	Notes
May 5	Tailgate Swap Meet at Field	Steve O'Conner	
May 19	Scale Fly-In	Curt Milster	Field is Open for General Flying
June 9	Boy Scout Day	Les Richman/ Steve Cross	Field is Open for General Flying
June 23	Helicopter Fun Fly	Tom Foster	All Day Event
July 21	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Ralph Doyle	Field Open for General Flying Until 10:00 or 10:30 A.M.
Aug 4	Electric Fly-In	Bohrer Bros./Jeff Becker	Field Open for General Flying After 2:00 P.M.
September 8	Four-Star 40/Warbirds	Steve Cross	Field Open for General Flying Until 10:00 or 10:30 A.M.
September 12	Meeting at Field	Bill Lindewirth	Member Appreciation Dinner
September 22	Helicopter Fun Fly	Tom Foster	All Day Event
September 29	Open House	Committee	

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JEFF BECKER PHOTO

The Spirits' AMA-licensed Introductory Pilot Instructors. from left, Walt Wilson, Bob Gizzie, Babe Raab, Pat Keebey, Bill Lindewirth, Mike Roederer, Steve Ramoncuk, Ron Mais, and Chief Flight Instructor, Gary Pyles.



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Walt Wilson
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www.spiritsofstl.com

**Meeting is on
Wednesday,
May 9
at 7:00 P.M.**