



Next Meeting  
April 9 th  
Bridgeton Library

# *Flight Lines*

Greg Bowles Baby Goblin



Photo by Vic Bunze

**Next event Swap meet April 26th at the  
Spirits Flying Field. Bring all your goodies.**



# Meeting Minutes

## Spirits of St. Louis RC Flying Club

### Monthly Meeting Minutes for March 12, 2014

By **Greg Bowles**, Secretary

President, Vic Bunze, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm.

#### **Attendance:**

26 members were present.

#### **New Members in Attendance:**

There was one new member present – **Bill Darnell**. Welcome Bill!

#### **Secretary's Report:**

**Greg Bowles**, Secretary

A motion was made to accept the minutes as published in the February's newsletter, and was accepted by the members.

Next monthly meeting will be on Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> in Room #1 starting at 7:00 pm.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

**Bill Lindewirth**, Treasure (Not Present); Presentation by **Vic Bunze**

Submitted to the members present were the finances for 2/01-28, 2014. In January, the Property and Federal Taxes were paid. A copy was passed amongst the members present for their review. Stated were this month's expenses, income, checking account balance and the club's CD's and savings accounts. Total assets were announced, with the club in the black. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented for February, and was accepted by the members.

As a side note, the club has purchased the model inventory from the Estate of Patricia Plummer for \$300. In the sale were numerous planes, motors and kits, along with assorted parts. See the March Flight Lines for photos or contact Bill Lindewirth for more information.

**Members please note:** *The Club now owns a projector that is available to the members for presentations. It is Windows compatible, so if you want to do a slide presentation at a Club meeting, save your slides on a Memory Stick, Jump Drive or Flash drive. Most important of all, please contact Bill in advance so he can bring it to the meeting.*

#### **Field Chairman's Report:**

**Jeff Becker**, Field Chairman

The Kubota Tractor's two front tires have deteriorated and will need to be replaced. They will taken to Art's Lawn Mower Shop for repair where we get a discount.

The flagpole has been repaired.

A project for this year is to repair and update the field's entry sign.

On the subject of the runway cracks, Jeff discussed the issue with a member of the Missouri State Highway Department who stated the cost would be about \$1000. We may wait for the lease to be renewed before money is budgeted to make a permanent fix of the cracks. Until then, Jeff will continue to use Portland cement for the larger cracks and sand for the smaller cracks, covering them with tar and sealant. Another project this year is to repair or replace the portable worktables. Jeff recommended we replace the legs on those tables where the tops are still in good condition. It was then suggest that instead of fabricating new wood tables, we purchase plastic 4X3' folding tables. These can be anchored at the electrical outlets and used as charging stations. A volunteer workday maybe required to fix these problems. Jeff also stated he rolls the field once a month.

Kudos to Jeff for all his hard work.



Meeting Minutes Continued

### **Safety Chairman's Report:**

#### **Brendon Weidinger, Safety Chairman**

Brendon states no reports of safety issues at the field last month. Pilots, please remember to keep your flights in front of the flight line. Only one report of an accident at the field with a member accidentally catching his fingers in a prop. Ouch! No stitches required. Only Super Glue.

### **Membership Chairman's Report:**

#### **Ralph Doyle, Membership Chairman**

Ralph reports, as of tonight's meeting, that there were currently 132 total members paid.

### **Event Chairman's Report:**

#### **Leo Steck, Event Chairman**

Event schedule for 2014:

Swap Meet - April 26th (Rain date May 3rd), Babe Raab/CD; Entrance Fee: \$5.00 per vehicle.

Four-Star & Warbird Races – May 17th, Ralph Doyle (CD).Ralph Doyle is making Lap Counters for the races.

Open House – June 21st (Rain date June 28th) – Brendon Weidinger/Vic Bunze (CD).

Four-Star & Warbird Races – July 12th, Steve Cross (CD).

Heli Fun Fly – September 6th, Steve O'Conner (CD).

Membership Appreciation Dinner – September 10th.

\*Four-Star & Warbird Races (Open depending on participation of earlier races).

\*Additional Heli Fun-Fly event date to be determined.

**Ralph Doyle** informed the members, that a fellow AMA pilot from Cleveland, Ohio would be coming to our field to fly the following week. Apparently he was seeking a location free from ice and snow to practice. ( **Bob Caglia** )

**Vic Bunze** was contacted by an agricultural science group that specializes in quad-copters for use in the agricultural community to monitor crops, soil conditions, etc. They are seeking permission to use our field on Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup> for two hours to perform demos of their products. Legal issues were brought up that the demonstrators contact the AMA and the surrounding landowners for permission to fly.

Friday, March 7 Mr. Gene Myers was at the field, practicing parasailing. Information from other members, state that he has been using our field without the Club's permission to practice. If you see Mr. Myers, please kindly ask him to leave and report any instance to a member of the board.

(A letter has been sent to Mr Myers by Vic Bunze requesting he cease using our field.)

Minutes continued

## Flight Training Report:

**Gary Pyles**, Chief Flight Instructor

We are looking into updating our radio equipment with a Hobby King 6-channel transmitter. Greg Bowles is also donating a Tactic 600 radio of which the Club already has a compatible buddy box.

**Vic Bunze** told us the story (as printed in the March 2014 Flight Lines) of Al Grossman who befriended Carly, Dani Jo and Devin Stevenson, and has for the last two years assisted each of them in building an electric ARF plane. They are all members of the AMA and will be joining the Spirits. It was suggested that Al Grossman be given and associate membership in the Club, and the Stevenson's a family membership. If you see Al or the Stevenson's a field, please give them a warm welcome.

Gary stated that last year the club had 38 students in the Flight Training Program. (That does not include those privately taught by Bob Gizzie.) Thanks Bob and Gary!

**Leo Steck** is also donating to the training program a case of fuel. Thanks Leo!

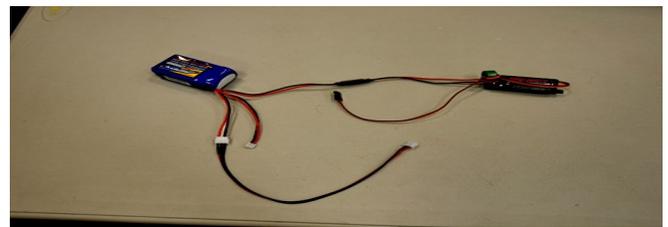
## Technical Presentations:

**Presentation #1** – Kenny Barstow presented his Quickie 500 pylon racer with a Super Tigre 40.



Kenny Flew his Quickie on 3/31/2014. It was groovy and fast. Nice Job.

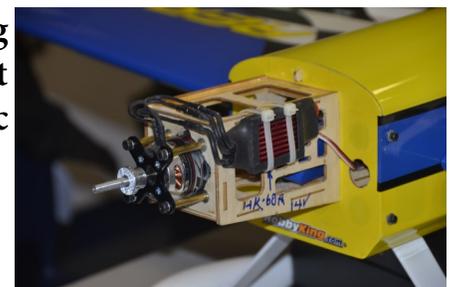
## Presentation 2 by Ralph Doyle



Ralph showed an extended battery balancing cable for balancing battery inside the plane while charging.



Ralph's Hobby King Katana. Fast build, but took some doing to mount the electric motor.



Photos by Vic Bunze



## New Business

Three members in attendance inquired about the reasons for denial of membership to a prior long standing member. Each had opportunity to express his views. A chronology of events going back several years was provided by Vic Bunze and was further amplified by other board members and confirmed by Gary Pyles, previous President.

The bottom line was a pattern of interference in the operation of the board in the form of excessive and often unnecessary agitation and accusations. ( 1500 emails for example )

It was apparent that the membership at large was not aware of the degree to which this was happening, and the efforts put forth by their board to provide a smooth and fun operating environment for the club.

At this point, this matter has occupied too much attention behind the scenes and is considered closed.

## Tires for the Kubota Tractor

**New inner tubes** were obtained for the club's Kubota tractor by **Leo Steck** at discount, **Jeff Becker** and **Bill Lindewirth** provided the labor and running about to get the job completed. Well done and thanks!

## Another Racing Class besides 4 Star

At next race, bring out any high wing trainer to race. Only restriction is no tuned pipe. Lets have some low key racing fun. Glow, gas or Electric is fine

## New Racing Rules Ralph Doyle CD

Hey all you racers out there, since the first race of the season is a non-sanctioned event, as CD I am planning to change the scoring a bit so that the penalty for cutting pylons is less objectionable and there is more emphasis on scoring and less on cuts. This may make the racing more intensive and the point total a lot closer which would increase the excitement. The change is two fold: The 1st change will allow a landing point even if the pilot has a double cut. The reason behind this is: why penalize a racer for a good landing, which has nothing to do with the race results. The second change I would like to try is a change in the scoring. A quick example would be: assume a plane crosses the finish line first but had a cut. Current rules say that that plane will receive one point and the plane coming in second would receive 4 points (assuming a 4 plane heat), the rest of the flyers getting their respective finishing points. The biggest problem with this scoring is that it leaves NO incentive for the plane receiving the cut to continue racing and is therefore more likely to fly wide and long in order not to get the dreaded 2nd cut. This condition also affects the 2nd place plane as he now knows he has 4 points assured .

Don't forget there is a New racing class - Electric Warbirds- . Bring out that WWII beast and go for it. Remember, no restrictive time limit.



## *In Memoriam*



It is with much sadness and a heavy heart that I write this memoriam for Walt Wilson's late wife, Suzanne H. Wilson. Suzi passed away peacefully in her sleep at home on March 16, 2014, at the age of 76 from kidney and heart failure.

Walt and Suzi were soul mates from day one when their paths crossed at Emerson Electric, where they both worked as Technical Illustrators. They had 57 wonderful years of marriage, two children and two grandchildren. They were one of the rare couples who were totally devoted to each other and their family and did everything together, yet each encouraged the other to do whatever hobbies they wanted.

Many of you may not be aware of this as far as the Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club Newsletters were concerned, but when Walt was the Newsletter Editor and Club Secretary, Suzi was the 'power behind the throne' so to speak and did the final quality check on every newsletter and magazine article Walt wrote. She had her own column in the 1975-1979 version of the Spirits' newsletters Walt published. She helped Walt fold, tape, address and stamp up to 175 newsletters every month for a total of 19 years. Wow! Talk about countless hours of devotion dedicated to their both making the newsletter the best it could be. Suzi also inked all the drawings Walt did for his monthly column in the R/C Report Magazine.

Suzi and Walt did everything together ... from boating, quarter midget car racing, stock car racing, drag racing, road rallying, working the SCCA (Sports Car Club of America) races at Gateway International Raceway, belonging to and doing newsletters for the St. Louis County Rally Club and Southern Illinois Region of the SCCA, just to name a few. Suzi was a woman of many talents ... a published author of several great suspense-filled novels (check out "Legacy" at Amazon.com by Suzanne H. Wilson), created and published her very own cookbook, was a gifted pencil and watercolor artist, and she also designed her own line of jewelry and ceramics. She was also instrumental in founding the fun Bunco Babes bunco club in St. Charles, of which I belong, and she was a leader in the local TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) organization and her dynamic, vivacious and vibrant personality just shined in everything she did and everyone her life touched. She is already deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. Rest In Peace Suzi.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolyn Schlueter



*By Bill Lindewirth*

Have you been to the web lately? If not then you owe it to yourself to give it another look!

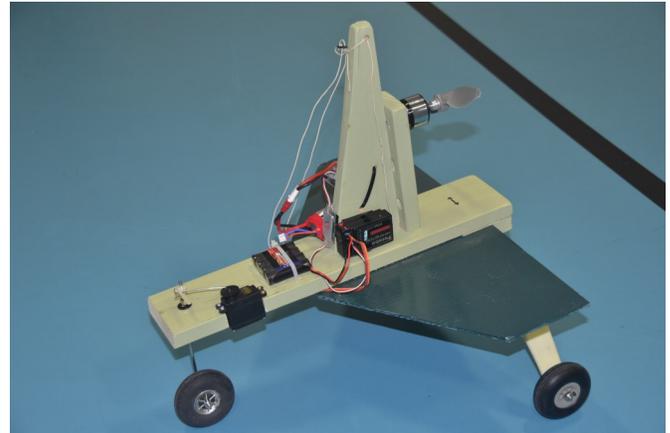
The “Spirits” website (<http://spiritsofstl.com>) took on a new look a little over a year ago. Since then we have had over 22,000 visitors from all over the world. We have had visitors from as far away as England, France and even Africa.

As your clubs official “webmaster” I have tried to add new items 2 – 3 times per week. I have added several interesting articles such as: “The Farmer and the Drone”, ‘Fly the friendly crowd skies”, “Thirsty? Need a beer? Drone to the Rescue” and several others.

There are links to other clubs in the area who are hosting events. There are also links that will take you inside the “Spirits” flying club. The club’s newsletter, event schedule, photo galleries are all just a click away. There is also a new link that has been added that will take you to the “Greater St. Louis Air and Space Museum”

If you have something that you would like to share with the ‘world’, please contact me at: [webmaster@spiritsofstl.com](mailto:webmaster@spiritsofstl.com) or click the “WEBMaster” link at the bottom of the home page. Thanks!

## Whats this?



Dan Ahlvers invented this “taxi trainer” It really scoots and if you turn too sharp it will capsize. It’s a candidate for nose-wheel to throttle mix.



**Bob Caglia’s** awesome Axiome plus.

Powered by Plettenberge 30-10

Prop 21.5 x 13 CF Falcon , very very quiet

ESC JETI SPIN 99A

Battery 10S 5800 MaH ( 8 to 9 minutes)

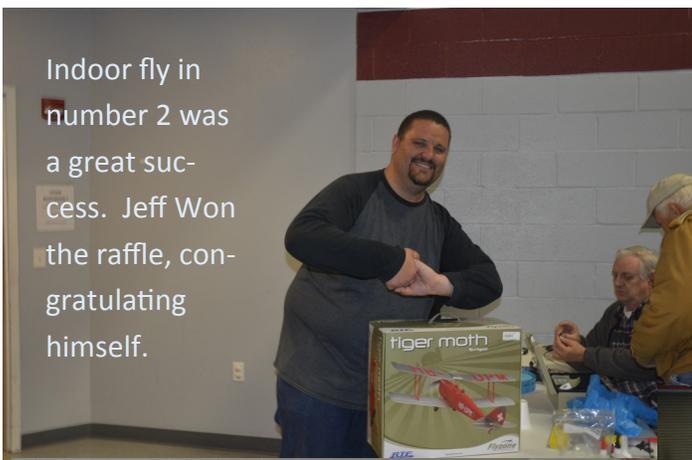
Weight 4882 grams

Unlimited vertical at 50% throttle



Top Cannard enhances knife edge performance .

Bob Caglia, former Nationals Aerobatics Champion, came to our field for his spring break from Dental school in Cleveland, to practice for this years Muncie Nats in July. His Fiancee Jennifer flew out to join him and got some high quality flight instructor time from Bob Gizzie. They were both delightful people to have at our field and we wish them success at the Nats.



Indoor fly in number 2 was a great success. Jeff Won the raffle, congratulating himself.



Bill Lindewirth Retrieved the balloon with his Qual from the ceiling



Let the race begin

Photos by Vic Bunze