



FLIGHT LINES

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE SPIRITS OF ST. LOUIS R/C FLYING CLUB

Happy New Year

President's Notes:
By Steve Cross

As George Cooper notes in his field report, there are still a few of us hardy souls who go out every weekend and fly. It may be a little colder and windier, but the camaraderie and friendship is ever present. Come on out!

At our December club meeting we finalized our events for the upcoming year. As usual, we have a full schedule of fun activities planned starting with the New Years Day Fun Fly. If you weren't there last year, you missed a great, albeit cold, time. The long term forecast for this year says warmer than normal, so it should be a great day to come out, enjoy some chili and hot chocolate, and maybe even get in a flight or two!

By the way, if you get a chance, check out the January 2003 issue of R/C Modeler magazine. There's a great write-up about our club starting on page three.

That's about it for now. I would like to wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and a prosperous and healthy New Year. And thank you all for your help and support in making our club the best!

*See you at the field!
Steve Cross*

Meeting Minutes: December 11, 2002

By Paul Geders, Walt Wilson was unable to attend

Steve Cross called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

21 members signed in. No new members present.

Secretary's report: Accepted.

Treasurer's report: Accepted.

Field Committee Chairman report: George

Cooper gave his report. See page two of this newsletter.

Safety Committee Report: Ralph Amelung reminded everyone that they should run a little richer on the low speed idle mixture screw. Wintertime is a good time to do a thorough check of all your airplanes and equipment. Don't forget the batteries. See page five for a full report.

Activities Report: Vic Bunze presented a proposed schedule of contests and events for 2003. The membership unanimously approved the schedule of contests and events. In the case of rain, or other unknowns, the schedule may be modified as required. The complete schedule is on page six.

All events and contests will be on Saturday and will start at 10:00 A.M.

There will be awards for winners and participants, including workers, in all events and contests. More information will be forthcoming.

Old Business: Voted on four additional safety rules published in last month's newsletter and they were unanimously approved.

New Business: Jim Rawlings reported that Mark Twain Hobbies has Super Tiger GS40 engines in stock with the economy muffler. The older, more efficient, mufflers favored by many for the Four-Star 40 races are available on Ebay, at swap meets, and from other sources.

Meeting Activities: See page two for photos. George Cooper showed his latest creation. It is an F-20 Tigershark built from a Direct Connection kit. George has an O.S. 46 FX installed, and it weighs 5 pounds. Beautifully covered in Ultra-Cote, George highly recommends this well made kit, if you can find one since they are now out of production.

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Paul Geders talked about the repair of Pat Keebey's Super Tiger GS40 engine. It had rust on all the steel parts (crankshaft, sleeve, etc.). Paul explained how he removed the sleeve, completely disassembled the engine, and replaced the bearings. He also removed all rust and polished the interior of the engine. Paul then answered questions from the members on how to ensure the engine had been run dry and then properly lubricated after a flying day. He also addressed long-term storage.



Paul Geders discusses the fine points of disassembly and cleaning of engines that haven't been properly prepared for storage. Always run all the fuel out and oil your engine, before putting it away, after a day's flying!



Paul also showed video's of the new Boeing "Bird of Prey" (above) and the F-18 Super Hornet.



George Cooper with his new "airplane of the month", a Direct Connection F-20 Tigershark. It has O.S. .46 FX power and flies very well.



Vic Bunze presented a schedule of events for 2003, which was approved. The schedule is on page six. One event involves competing teams building and flying a foam-core plane, against the clock. It has been accomplished in less than 20 minutes!

November Field Report:

By George Cooper

The field is asleep. All the machinery has been winterized. There are still good flying days. When the temperature is above 40 and the wind is below 15 mph, we "diehards" are out there.

*See you in the spring.
George Cooper, Field Chairman*

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2002 in Review.....



These photographs were taken at various Spirits' activities throughout 2002 and were not used previously in Flight Lines due to space limitations. Carolyn Schlueter, Don Fitch and your friendly Editor, Walt Wilson took these pictures.

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An extensive array of photos of this year's activities are available in the photo gallery section of our web site. That's all the room we have in this issue of Flight Lines.

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December At The Field....



Mike Lindsey's helicopter hovers before an exciting flight!



Mike Lindsey looks on while Steve Ramonczuk runs up the O.S. .90 FS in Steve Cross' much modified, and often repaired, Royal Pitts Special.

Field Safety Report:

By Ralph Amelung, Safety Chairman

No new safety related issues have been brought to my attention this month. Perfect flying days are becoming more difficult to find. The success experienced by those who have safely challenged the elements is noteworthy. These "die hards" carefully considered the adjustments (throttle/mixture/attitude) that would have to be made given the conditions. Congratulations to these pilots.

This is the perfect time of the year to be

conducting an extra-thorough airframe and power plant inspection. Pick-up lines inside fuel tanks, foam padding, hinges and hinge adhesives shouldn't be overlooked. All of these items (and many more) are subject to deterioration. Now is the time to remove the fuel tanks, remove clevises and many other parts so that each component can be thoroughly inspected.

One additional note: I've checked with the experts and they say that the body jewelry associated with nipple /navel and ear piercing DOES NOT cause radio interference. It's just an old wives tale! So have fun boys and Let's Be Careful Out There!

Ralph Amelung, Field Safety Officer

The Last Word:

By Walt Wilson

A big thank you to Paul geders for filling in as Secretary and to Carolyn Schlueter and Don Fitch for taking pictures for me at the December 11 meeting!

It seems that most of the Metro-Area clubs are going to have Fly-In's on New Year's Day. So far, I've received publicity from The Wright Flyers and The River City Flyers. The Spirits' success at this event has been spotty, but is improving measurably. On January 1, 1999, we had a blizzard, but a couple of members flew, with the planes barely visible beyond the end of the runway. In 2000, we didn't have a field and in 2001, we had deep snow, but one member flew. Finally, on January 1, 2002, we had the largest New Year's Day Fly-In in the Spirits' recorded history. It was a great time in spite of very cold temperatures and more than average wind. Thirty or more flyers were able to get their engines started and fly, at least once, through the course of the day. If the weather holds up, we may surpass that number this year! With the onslaught of winter weather, it's building time! Several people have called to discuss some aspect of their new projects and it sounds like there are a bunch of interesting birds in work.

If my photos (left) look better than in previous issues of Flight Lines, it's because I have a new digital camera!

Merry Christmas and Happy New year to all of you!

Gotta go build!

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SPIRITS 2002 EVENT SCHEDULE

Polar Bear Fly-In	January 1	Ralph Amelung, E.D.*
SkFly	Jan. or Feb.	No Director required
Spirits/Boeing Annual Swap Meet	March 15	Steve Cross, E.D.
Warbirds/Four-Star 40 Races	April 12	Paul Geders, C.D.**
Fun Fly	May 17	Pat Keebey, C.D.
Learn to Fly Day	May 24	Steve Ramonczuk, C.D.
Warbirds/Four-Star 40 Races	June 14	Paul Geders, C.D.
Low Key Fun-Fly	July 12	Bob Fiely, E.D.
Warbirds/Four-Star 40 Races	September 6	Paul Geders, C.D.
Open House	September 27	Steve Cross, E.D.
Build 'N Fly	October 11	Vic Bunze, C.D.
Participation Awards	November 12	Monthly Meeting

Other events may be added as the year progresses.

* Event Director

** Contest Director

FLIGHT LINES is the Spirits of St. Louis R/C Flying Club newsletter and is published on a monthly basis. Club members may submit personal classified ads for inclusion in the newsletter free of charge. Businesses wishing to advertise in the newsletter should contact the editor or an officer of the club for details.

Newsletter Editor:

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Newsletter submissions must be in by the Monday following the club meeting in order to make publishing deadlines. The preferred format for article submission is via e-mail. I have Macintosh and PC computers and use QuarkXpress and Microsoft Word, so send the copy as the e-mail message (not an enclosure) to avoid cross-platform or incompatible software problems if you don't have the same equipment and software. Typed or clearly written copy on paper or, a Word or Word for Windows file on a 3.5 inch 1.44MB floppy disk are acceptable if

you don't have access to the internet. Photos are welcome and may be in the form of glossy prints or, if scanned or digital, in jpeg, gif or tif format. Photo credits will be given.

General Membership meetings are usually held the second Wednesday of each month at the Bridgeton Trails County Library Branch, 3455 McKelvey Rd. (1/4 mi. south of St. Charles Rock Road) at 7:00 P.M. The January meeting will be on the third Wednesday, January 16th

Membership information can be obtained from:

Bill Lindewirth
1046 Pinecone Trail Drive
Florissant, MO 63031
Phone number (314) 839-0282
e-mail: MrBillSTL@aol.com

Flying Field: Our field is located on Amrein Road, off Greens Bottom Road in St. Charles County. It's open for flying from 9:00 A.M. to dusk. Flight training has been discontinued until spring but may be arranged by appointment.

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